

SESQUICENTENNIAL



1823



1823



1973



1860



1973

MARION COUNTY-SALEM

Robert E. Ford

1823



Sesquicentennial

Marion County

Salem



1973

The Gateway to Little Egypt

The City Of
SALEM, ILLINOIS



CHARLES L. McMACKIN, MAYOR
LAWRENCE A. ASARO, CITY MANAGER
DAVID E. HEAVENER, CITY TREASURER
ALFRED S. PFAPP, CITY ATTORNEY

COUNCILMEN
WILLIAM C. DIETRICK
M. C. ROSS
GERALD D. PENROD
JOHN VANLANDINGHAM

Birthplace of William Jennings Bryan and the G. I. Bill of Rights

P R O C L A M A T I O N B Y T H E M A Y O R

WHEREAS: The Town and Community of Salem, Illinois, was founded as the County Seat of Marion County, Illinois the 24th of January, 1823, and

WHEREAS: Then for 150 years the Town has become a City and the City has grown and prospered from an original population of 325 to 6,359, and

WHEREAS: The City Council of the City of Salem, Illinois has proclaimed this year of 1973 as the Sesquicentennial of the City of Salem, Illinois; I, Charles L. McMackin, the Mayor of the City of Salem, call on all the citizens thereof to join in the festivities arranged under the guidance of the Salem Historical and Patriotic Commission and the Salem-Marion County Sesquicentennial Committee, programs of which are being announced daily through the local news media.

NOW, THEREFORE, let it be proclaimed that September 29-October 6, 1973 is Salem Sesquicentennial Week, and that all citizens are again urged to participate in celebrating the 150th birthday of the City of Salem, Marion County, Illinois.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Salem to be affixed.

Done at the City Hall in the City of Salem, Illinois, this thirteenth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventy-three and the one hundred and fiftieth year since the founding of Salem, Illinois.



Jerry L. Miller
City Clerk

C. L. McMackin II
Mayor

Sesquicentennial Schedule of Events

September 29, 1973

9:30 A.M. — Baby Contest

8:30 P.M. — Celebration Ball
Jack Scott Orchestra — Salem Elks Club

September 30, 1973

6:30 P.M. — Evening Church Service
Salem Community High School Auditorium

October 1, 1973

7:00 P.M. — Beard Judging Contest
Marion County Courthouse, Salem

8:00 P.M. — Area Band Concert

October 2, 1973

7:30 P.M. — Teen Dance
Arem Bay — Salem National Bank Parking Lot

October 3, 1973

4:30 P.M. — Pet Parade
Salem National Bank Parking Lot

October 4, 1973

All Day — Kiddie Carnival

6:30 P.M. — Style Show

7:30 P.M. — Square Dance
Marion County Courthouse, Salem

October 5, 1973

All Day — Kiddie Carnival

7:30 P.M. — Rodeo
Marion County Fairgrounds, Salem

October 6, 1973

All Day — Kiddie Carnival

All Day — Antique Show and Sale

9:00 A.M. — Antique Car Show
Community State Bank Parking Lot

1:00 P.M. — Parade Led By Governor Dan Walker

7:30 P.M. — Rodeo
Marion County Fairgrounds, Salem

Sesquicentennial Committees

General Chairman Gerald Penrod
 Treasurer Tony Shook
 Secretary Bonnie Dial
 Headquarters Chairman Peggy Quick
 Carol Snell, Dorothy Brubaker, Stella Hollenkamp,
 Carolyn Zurbriggen, Senior Citizens
 Student Activity Coordinator Robert Raver
 Revenue Division John Wright
 Novelties Roy Woodward
 Charles Rankin, Junior Woman's Club, Carol
 Loomis, chairman
 Book Leon Chapman
 Frank Brinkerhoff, Mary Jo Whittaker, Connie
 Myers, Darlene Oulrey, Hospital Auxiliary
 Dance Barbara Bercutt
 Tina Olden
 Carnival and concessions Paul Klaer
 Dick Fairchild, John Andrews
 Women's Division Betty Scrivner
 Salem Captain Margaret Young
 Omega Captain Ruth Marlow
 Odin Captain Mrs. Ken Robinson
 Kell Captain Darlene Wyatt
 Selmaville Captain Mrs. Marvin Jenkins
 Iuka Captain Sandra Stanford
 Mrs. Dorothy Brasel
 Stevenson Township Emerson Smalley
 Omega General Chairmen Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wright
 Baby Contest Sarah Scrivner
 Float Chairman Mary Belle Feldman
 Little Miss Belles Chairman Jan Foss
 Pie Baking Contest Mrs. Sidney Gooch
 Kathy Rakerd, Erma Schanafelt, Billie Smith,
 Mary Freeman, Agnes Strabus, Mrs. Bob Jones,
 Bee Borsenberger
 Ticket Division Dutch Klosterman
 Parade Division Doyle Combs
 Publicity Division . WJBD, Salem Times-Commoner,
 Connie Myers
 Antique Cars Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Parker
 Men's Division Sherm Doolen
 "Brothers of the Brush" Chairman ... Jim Martin

Hats and Ties Chairman Bob Johnson
 Keystone Kops Chairman Maurice Fry
 Caravans Chairman Jerry Holsapple
 Special Events Bill Bachmann
 Lloyd Turnbull, Halice Lewis, Maxine Easley,
 Russell Easley, Bill Deadmond, Everett Wilker-
 son, Marion County Sheriff's Department, City
 of Salem Police Department, Civil Defense

List of **Senior Citizens** who have participated in
 and rendered assistance to the Salem-Marion County
 Sesquicentennial Inc.:

Pearl Wright, Ida Branson, Irene Chambliss, Vina
 Thurston, Elma Mercer, J. L. Weidner, Thelma
 Eckman, Gladys Squibb, Lena Hayes, Mr. and Mrs.
 Earl Reeves, Alverna McCann, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde
 Nevergall, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Baldrige, Mr. Arch
 Sorrell, Mrs. Helen Cantrell, Mr. and Mrs. O. J.
 Alberson, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Watson, Mr. and Mrs.
 J. O. Hyde, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Shufeldt, Mr. and
 Mrs. C. C. Connolly, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Schilling,
 Mr. H. S. Burroughs, Mr. and Mrs. Steen Munter,
 Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Kell, Mr. and Mrs. Arvel Ander-
 son, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kohrig, Mr. and Mrs.
 Clyde Smith, Dorothy Spitler, Maude Randolph,
 Beulah Phelps, Mabel Key, Robert Nicholas,
 Lucille Duncan, Mrs. Deva McNeil, Mrs. Sara
 Griggs, Mr. and Mrs. Dale Bean, Mrs. Grace
 Stafford, Jewell West, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Farth-
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 Mr. and Mrs. Hilmer S. Cottingim, Mr. and Mrs. C.
 P. Latting, Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Atkins, Mr. and
 Mrs. Adolph Dietrick, Mr. Ted Kell, Mrs. Mabel
 Holler, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Stokely, Mr. and Mrs.
 Harold Henne, Mr. and Mrs. Musgrove, Mrs. Irene
 Stogsdill, Mrs. Marie Morton, Miss Ethel Farthing.

Special thanks for their assistance also goes to:

Dr. James M. Baldwin, Mr. George Black, Rev.
 Jack Busby, Mr. Tom Carney, Mr. Bryan David-
 son, WJBD Radio Station, Mr. Sherm Doolen,
 WJBD Radio Station, Mr. Gregg Evans, Rev. Marion
 Ford, Rev. Billy Howell, Rev. E. N. Jones, Mr.
 Ed Jones, Salem Times-Commoner, Hon. Charles
 McMackin, Mrs. Peggy Quick, WJBD Radio Station,
 Mr. Charles Roberts, Salem Times-Commoner,
 Salem Rotary Club, Father Harry Schumacher,
 Mr. John Scrivner, WJBD Radio Station, Mr. Tony
 Shook, Mr. Gerald Sinclair, Mr. John Stanford,
 Mr. W. T. Stanford (deceased), Mr. Lloyd Turn-
 bull, Mr. John Wright, Xi Eta Chapter Beta Sigma
 Phi.

To All Readers

A special thank you to all who contributed information, pictures, money, time and effort to compile this Marion County Sesquicentennial Book.

Every effort has been made to include all of the information which we received. To allow space to include all material, editing was done to present pertinent and uniform information.

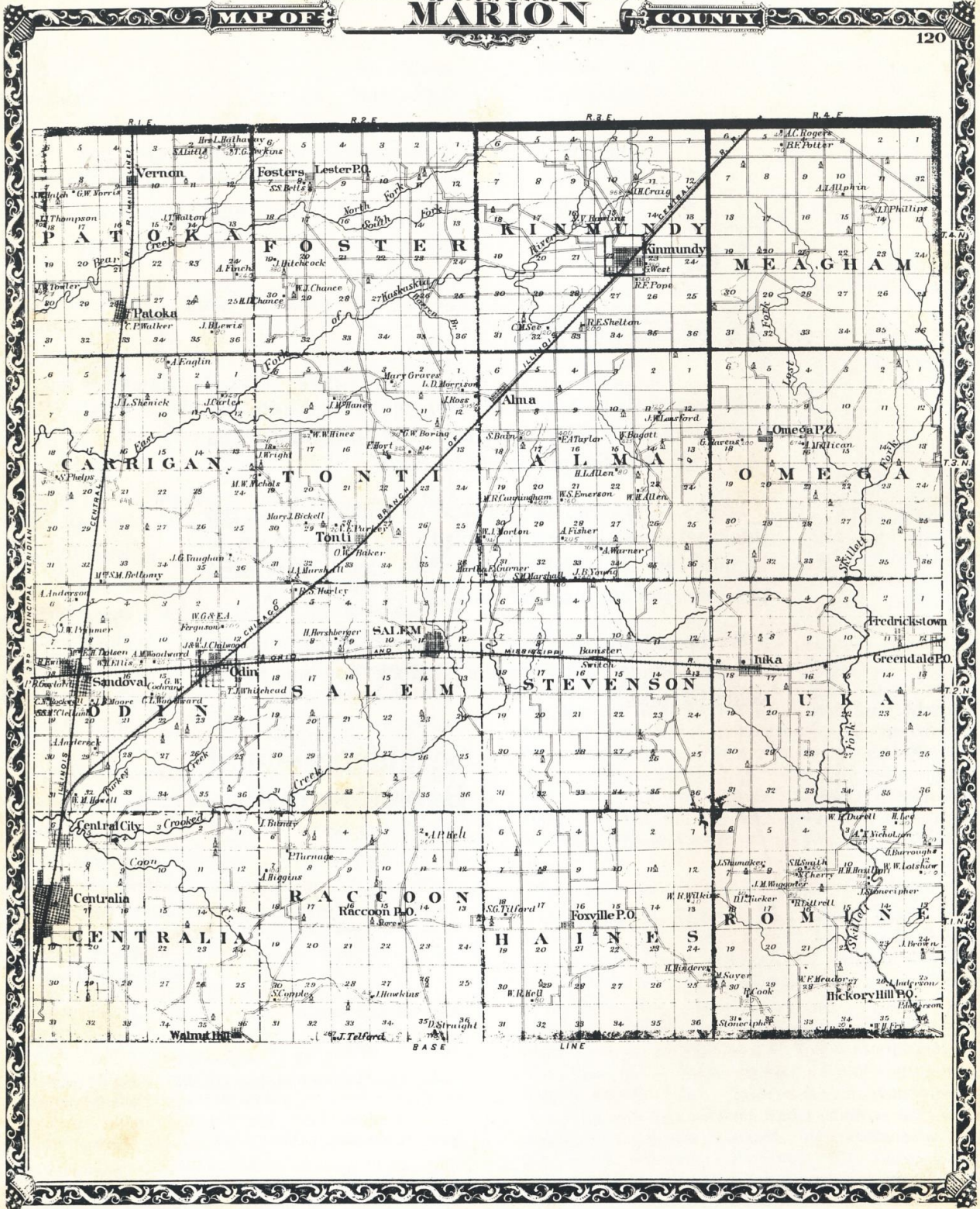
We hope that everyone will enjoy their copy of the Marion County Sesquicentennial Book, now and in the years to come.

**Sesquicentennial
Book Committee**



MAP OF MARION COUNTY

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History Of Marion County

By John Allen

Marion County, as a separate political division, came into existence on January 24, 1823. At that time, the Illinois legislature detached the northern part of Jefferson County and a part of the south end of Fayette County to make a new county and named it Marion. This name was given in honor of General Francis Marion of Revolutionary War fame.

Before being established as a new county of the State of Illinois, the territory now included in Marion had been a part of numerous other counties. In 1790 while still a part of the Northwest Territory, the present state of Illinois was divided into two counties - St. Clair and Knox. The line dividing these counties placed all but a small portion in the southwest corner of the present county of Marion in Knox County.

Marion County's territory remained divided between Knox and St. Clair Counties until 1801 when the creation of new counties and the changing of the boundaries of old ones placed all of present-day Marion County in the county of St. Clair, which then included about four fifths of the present day state of Illinois.

Two years later county boundaries were again changed and most of Marion became a part of the enlarged county of Randolph. This division remained until 1812 when new counties were created and old boundaries were again changed. This change of 1812 divided present day Marion County into four parts. By this arrangement, it was divided between Madison, St. Clair, Randolph and Gallatin Counties.

The next year, 1813, additional changes in county boundaries placed the north half of the county in Madison County and the south half in Gallatin. Two years later another change in county boundaries placed all of Marion County in the newly created county of Edwards, that then included about a third of the state of Illinois.

In 1816, the establishment of several new counties divided the territory of Marion County between Edwards and the newly created county of Crawford. The next change was in 1819 when Jefferson County was established and the south three quarters of Marion was included in it. The north one fourth remained a portion of Crawford. This division was in effect until Marion County became a separate division. Since its creation as a separate county, its boundaries have remained unchanged.

It is thus seen that Marion County has in turn been parts of Knox and St. Clair Counties, the Northwest Territory, parts of St. Clair, and Randolph Counties, Indiana Territory and parts of Madison, St. Clair, Randolph, Gallatin, Edwards and Crawford Counties, Illinois Territory.

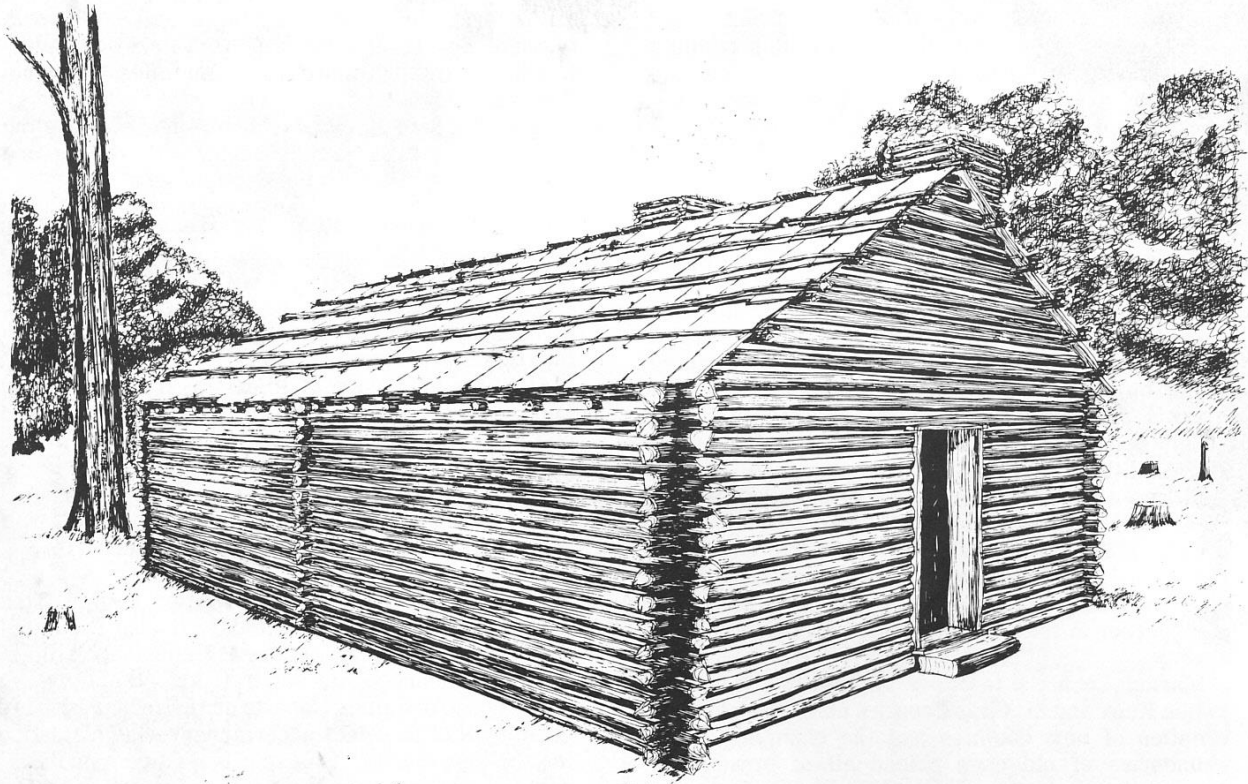
After the admission of Illinois as a state, Marion County was parts of Edwards, Jefferson, Crawford and Fayette Counties before its establishment as a separate unit. The accounts of earlier events in the history of this county will thus be found in the records of numerous earlier counties. Only since 1823 will they be found in approximate completeness in the county records at Salem.

The legislation establishing Marion County fixed its boundaries as they are today. It also appointed three commissioners, Andrew Bankston, William Hicks and John G. Fitch and instructed them to meet at the house of James Roberts on the second Monday in May, 1823 to select a permanent seat of justice for the new county. This seat of justice now designated as a county seat, was to be so located as to best serve the people of the settlement with an eye to the future population. For their services, the commissioners were each to receive two dollars per day while in session.

The new seat of justice was to be located at some place where an individual was willing to give land, at least twenty acres, to be laid off in town lots and sold by the county. The proceeds of these sales were to be used to meet the cost of erecting necessary public buildings. Until necessary buildings could be erected, all official meetings were to be held at the house of James Young in the county.

It was also provided in the law establishing the county that James Roberts, Joseph Hensley and Joshua Piles were to serve as judges of an election to select a sheriff, a coroner and three county commissioners. The task of holding this election was not so great since it was estimated that there were not more than one hundred and seventy voters in the county.

The election for county commissioners having been held as directed and John Edington, Benjamin Vermilion and John Walling elected to the offices, a meeting of the newly chosen officers was held on June 13, 1823. The commissioners accepted the offer of thirty acres of land made by James Roberts and thus completed the process of locating the county



van Landuyck

The first Marion County Court House: A log cabin without windows. It was 20 X 30 feet. The logs were partions 7" thick and the building was a story and a half tall. It consisted of two rooms and only had one door. The roof was covered with boards and weighted pools. The floor was made of loose planks and the cracks between the logs were chinked and dab. The court house was completed by June 1st, 1824 at a cost of \$499.00. The builder's name was Aaron Hicks. According to T. E. Merritt, when he spoke at the dedication of the present court house in 1912, he described the building as a two story shack with the upper story service as a jail. Hogs, geese, ducks and all manner of livestock ran at large in those days, as the only door from the court room stood open most of the time. During the intervals between court sessions and when court did convene it required half a dozen citizens to drive the wild beasts from the temple until justice could be done to the suffering public. One young lawyer, who came over from St. Louis, dressed in a pair of white pantaloons, accused some one of sprinkling ink on his trousers until he ran his hands down over his legs and started the fleas jumping, and in a few seconds his breeches were white again. In these days the Judges and Attorneys came here in stage coaches or on horseback. Those who rode always carried with them an old fashioned pair of saddle bags. They carried law book or two and a lunch, and in the other bag was a change of socks, a shirt and a bottle. This building soon grew too small for the growth in population. This court house was used until 1838 when it was sold to the Methodist church and moved off the courthouse square.

seat. The name of Salem having been selected as that for the new town, the commissioners turned to what might be termed the routine business of the county. They issued a license to Jesse Roberts allowing him to keep a tavern for one year. For this privilege, Roberts paid a fee of four dollars. They also fixed the rates that taverns might charge. They were as follows:

Meals	25¢
Keeping horse all night	50¢
Lodging	12 1/2¢

Whiskey 1/2 pint	12 1/2¢
Rum 1/2 pint	25¢

At this same meeting, a man named T. Baldrige was also licensed to keep a tavern. This license cost Baldrige only two dollars, fees being charged according to the size of the tavern.

A second meeting of the county commissioners was only on July 7, 1823. This meeting authorized the building of a new courthouse twenty by thirty feet, one and a half stories high, with one log partition. The walls and partition were to be of hewed

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and JOHN McMACKIN — McMACKIN HARDWARE CO., Salem

logs and the roof was to be made of clapboards held on by weight poles. The contract for this building was awarded to Aaron Hicks and the price agreed upon was \$499.00. The new courthouse was completed and received by the county in April, 1824. It was used until August, 1837 when a frame building was erected. This frame building served for many years.

The taxes assessed in 1823 amounted to \$73.44. After deducting \$3.00 for the assessor and a commission of \$4.69 for the collector, there remained a balance of \$68.75 for the county treasury. This, with \$12.00 from licenses and fines gave the county \$80.75. The amount of taxes levied in 1825 had risen to \$82.08. To this amount were added the proceeds of licenses and fines. The county was operated on the small amount thus made available.

Some months later, more lots were sold and a log jail was built. The walls of this jail were two feet thick and were in reality three walls. The outer and inner walls were laid with hewed logs in the usual manner of log walls. The center one was made of hewed logs standing on end between the inner and outer ones. It seems to have served its purpose well, since no record of jail breaks was found.

The affairs of the county moved along in the usual pioneer manner. Licenses were levied and collected on taverns, groceries and other ventures requiring such. Dams for the operation of watermills were authorized. Roadways were laid out across the prairies and through the woodlands. Justices of the Peace, Road Commissioners and Overseers of the Poor were appointed, performed their duties and reported to the county commissioners. The establishment of schools was authorized and county bills were paid. Taxes were levied and collected. The population of the county showed a steady growth and a definite progress was evident.

There are no records of a white settlement in Marion County until after the War of 1812. Hence, there were no men going from this county to serve in that war nor in the earlier Revolutionary War. However, there are records of the veterans of those wars later coming to live in the county.

In 1823 when the Black Hawk War came there were more than 2,000 people living in the county -- enough to make its contribution to that conflict a noticeable one.

A company of men, commanded by Captain William M. Dobbins, was recruited and sent against the Indians. Each of these men furnished his own horse, equipment and arms. It is recorded that there was not a pistol or a sword in the entire company. Each man also took along his own stock of provisions.

In the Mexican War, a company or more of men were recruited in Marion County. These men were

in the forces that marched from Fort Leavenworth to Sante Fe, New Mexico and back to Fort Leavenworth, a journey of more than 2,000 miles, through a then desert country with many hostile Indians. Several of the marchers died and were buried along the trail. The story of their march is interesting and deserves more than this passing mention.

With an increased population, the war between the states took more than 1,500 men from the county. Many Marion County men died in the service. Many others returned and attained eminence in various fields. The returned veterans of the Civil War, organized as the Grand Army of the Republic, were long of great influence in public affairs. Their annual reunion at Salem became widely known seventy-five years or more ago.

First Settlers Arrive

In 1818 Marion County had not been created; it was still parts of Jefferson and Fayette Counties. The first permanent settler in the county had arrived seven years before statehood. Late in December, 1811, Captain Samuel Young and his 9 year old son, Matthew, made their way from Kaskaskia to Vincennes along the trace. A heavy snow was falling. The two decided to make camp for the winter near a band of friendly Indians. They built a camp of poles and brush against the trunk of a fallen tree leaving the south side open. A fire was kept burning all winter before the open front. This camp was located six miles southwest of Salem on Crooked Creek.

Samuel Young was born in Virginia. During the Revolutionary War he served as private in Campbell's Virginia Regiment. He removed "at an early day" to Tennessee. Young again moved in 1803 to near Shawneetown, Illinois; later he moved to New Madrid, Missouri where his home was completely destroyed by the great earthquake of November 16, 1811. After the terror of this quake which created Reelfoot Lake, Tennessee, and caused the Mississippi to run wild, Young determined to go back to Shawneetown. He and his son decided to do some exploring of the Illinois country on the way back.

Little is known of Mrs. Young except that she bore Samuel six children and died either before her husband moved to or from Shawneetown.

Samuel Young liked the land around the camp site. (At that time Salem Township was half timber and half prairie.) He decided to return to Tennessee and bring the remaining part of his family to Illinois Territory.

The Young family arrived in Marion County in August of 1813. In the party were James Young and his brother-in-law, Robert Snodgrass, as well as the other children. They came by wagon in which

was loaded "all such conveniences and necessities as the time afforded or demanded: a few farm implements, spinning wheel, seed, provisions, and salt." They also brought with them some stock which was driven on foot.

The family camped on the ground now occupied by the city of Salem and built their campfire where the courthouse stands. This location was on the timber break; everything to the west was prairie. This prairie was infested with green-headed flies which were a constant torment to horses. In order to get rid of these pests Young and his sons set fire to the timber. This fire spread over several hundred acres of prairie and timber.

Matthew Young, recalling in 1880 that summer of 1813, tells of a hail storm of 2 hours duration. Hail stones were the size of hen's eggs, and damage to the timber was extensive. (He doesn't say if this was before or after the fire.) Some of the horses were crippled. After the storm there were several inches of ice on the ground.

Samuel Young squatted on section 16 of Salem Township along Vermilion Creek, better known today as the "death valley" creek. He built a small log cabin with a puncheon floor. But Young did not keep his squatter's rights to this land and it was entered by others. Samuel Young did not hold legal title to any land until 1837 when he entered 40 acres in section 34.

The family did not plant any crops in 1813. They lived off the products of the forest -- jerked venison, bear bacon, and wild honey. They had to buy what corn they needed in St. Louis.

Matthew Young says that the winter of 1813-14 was severely cold. Streams were frozen solid and the stock suffered from the lack of water. In the spring Samuel Young and his sons planted the first crops in Marion County.

The last account of Samuel Young appears in the Brinkerhoff's History of Marion County. "James Young was his eldest son, and was a married man, and soon the old man turned over to him the cares of the farm, while Captain Samuel put in his time hunting and fishing, and in other back-woods occupations. He was an original character and like all backwoodsmen, he had a strong aversion to anything that smacked of style, which, in his later years, was sometimes seen in the travelers on the highway from Vincennes to St. Louis. It is related of him that being in Salem one day they offended his sense of taste by their slighting remarks. They were easterners who were going to St. Louis. Young hastened home and getting his gun watched for the youths and as they arrived about where Ike Shanafelt's house now stands, confronted them with his gun and made them dismount and dance a hornpipe for the amusement of the backwoodsmen, which he made

them keep up until well-nigh exhausted, after which he permitted them to proceed on their way, while the old man went chuckling home, but he who laughs last laughs best, and the old man was not done with dancing. The youths arriving at Carlyle related the circumstance and learning of the intentions of a couple of travelers to Vincennes, prevailed on them to pay the old man in his own coin, which they did by watching for him, and at the muzzle of a pistol made the old man give a half-hour exhibition dance in the middle of the road and then rode away leaving the old man in doubt as to who had the best of it.

Samuel Young died in 1846. A military marker has been erected on his grave in an ill-kept family cemetery south of Young's Chapel Church.

An Act Creates Marion County

On January 24th, 1973 Marion County was 150 years old. On this day the legislature created a county of 16 congressional townships out of the northern part of Jefferson County and the southern part of Fayette County. The bill creating Marion County was introduced by Zadoc Casey, Representative in the Third General Assembly from Jefferson County. He was instrumental in having the new county named for his father's commander in the Revolutionary War, Francis Marion.

The full text of the act creating the county is as follows:

AN ACT ESTABLISHING MARION COUNTY

SEC. 1. Be it enacted by the people of the state of Illinois represented in the general assembly. That all that tract of country lying within the following boundaries, to wit: Beginning where the base line intersects the third principal meridian; thence north along said third principal meridian twenty-four miles; thence east along the lines dividing townships four and five, twenty-four miles to the range line dividing ranges four and five, east; thence south with the said range line, twenty-four miles to the base line; thence west to the place of beginning, shall constitute a separate county, to be called Marion.

SEC. 2. **Be it further enacted.** That for the purpose of fixing the permanent seat of justice for said county, the following persons are appointed commissioners, viz.: Andrew Bankson, William Hicks, and John G. Fitch, which said commissioners or a majority of them, being first duly sworn before some judge, or justice of the peace, in this state, faithfully to take into view the convenience of the people, the situation of the settlement, with an eye to the future population, and the eligibility of the place, shall meet on the second Monday of May next, at the house of James Roberts, in said county, and proceed to examine

and determine on the place for the permanent seat of justice, and designate the same; **provided**, the proprietor or proprietors of the land shall give to the said county for the purpose of erecting public buildings, a quantity of land not less than twenty acres, to be laid out in lots and sold by the county commissioners for that purpose; but should the proprietor or proprietors of the land refuse or neglect to make the donation aforesaid, then and in that case, it shall be the duty of the commissioners to fix some other place for seat of justice of said county, which place being fixed and determined upon, the commissioners' court in the county aforesaid, which court shall cause an entry thereof to be made in their books of record.

SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That until public buildings shall be erected for the purpose, the courts shall be held at the house of James Young in said county.

SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, that the said county shall constitute a part of the second judicial circuit, and circuit courts shall be holden therein, at such times as may hereafter be fixed by law.

SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, that an election shall be held at the house of James Young on the second Monday of April next, for one sheriff, one coroner, and three county commissioners for the said county, who shall hold their offices until the next general election, and until their successors be qualified, and that James Roberts, Joseph Henley and Joshua Piles be judges of said election: **Provided**, that said judges may appoint their own clerk, and that said election shall in all respects be conducted according to the provisions of an act regulating elections, passed at the last session of the general assembly.

SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, that the citizens of Marion County shall vote for senators and representatives to the general assembly, in conjunction with the citizens of Jefferson and Hamilton at such precincts as may be laid off by their county commissioners agreeable to law.

SEC. 7. Be it further enacted, that each of the commissioners appointed to fix the county seat of Marion County, shall receive a compensation of two dollars per day, for each day that they may be necessarily employed in performing that duty.

**Approved January 24, 1823,
Edward Coles, Governor.**

The election was duly held at the house of James Young which was located in section 16 of Salem Township. Those elected were: Sheriff, Jesse Roberts; Coroner, Mark Tully; and Commissioners, John Edington, Benjamin Vermilion, and John Walling. These officers served until August 2, 1824.

On May 13, 1823 the commissioners to locate the

county seat made their decision. John G. Fitch and William Hicks viewed the situation of the county, and after examining the different donations offered, decided to fix the permanent seat of justice in the east half of section eleven in township two north, range two east on the thirty acres offered by James Roberts.

The first meeting of the commissioners was held at the home of James Young on Monday, June 2, 1823. The three commissioners took their oath of office before Rufus Ricker, whom they at once appointed clerk of said county commissioners' court. William Marshall was appointed treasurer, his bond (\$2,000) was signed by Jesse Roberts and John Edington. William Marshall was also recommended to the governor for appointment as justice of the peace for the East Fork area; John Walling was recommended for the "middle settlement."

The county was divided into two districts (north and south); the dividing line began where Crooked Creek crossed the west county line, then up that creek to the line between Salem and Stevenson Townships and then east to the county line.

It was ordered that the inhabitants subject to militia duty be divided into two companies in conformity with the two districts, and that an election of officers be held on June 28, 1823.

The commissioners appointed Samuel Huff and John Wilson overseers of the poor for the south district and William Nichols and William Davidson for the north district.

The assessor who was also the treasurer was instructed to make an assessment for taxation on horses, cattle, sheep, hogs, distilleries, pleasure-carriages, indentured servants and slaves. He was also instructed to extend a tax of one-half of one per centum. Marshall was paid \$3.00 for his assessment.

The report of the commissioners appointed to locate the seat of justice was accepted and the court ordered that this seat be known and designated by the name of Salem.

The clerk was instructed to advertise in the state's leading newspaper **The Illinois Intelligencer** of Vandalia the sale of thirty lots in the county seat. This sale was subsequently held on March 2, 1824. The sale brought the county \$986.50 in Illinois state notes which was equal to \$328.83 in specie.

Jesse Roberts and T. Baldrige were issued licenses for taverns. Roberts' tavern was located on the St. Louis-Vincennes road which is now East Main street in Salem.

The clerk, Rufus Ricker, was allowed the sum of \$18.00 in state paper in order to purchase record books and other supplies for his offices.

After conducting all this business the commissioners' court adjourned until July 7, 1823.

Named for Francis Marion

The general of the Revolutionary War for whom this county was named, was born in 1732 at Winyah, near Georgetown, South Carolina, of Huguenot ancestry. In 1761 he served in a campaign against the Cherokees. In 1773 he acquired Pond Bluff Plantation on the Santee River, where he established himself as a planter. He was elected to the South Carolina Provincial Congress of 1775. When that body provided for two regiments of troops, he was made a captain in the Second Regiment. Marion took an active part in the defense of Ft. Moultrie in Charleston harbour (1776). As a lieutenant-colonel in the continental service, he commanded the 2nd Regiment during the British assault on Savannah (1779). In 1780 the British captured Charleston and overran South Carolina. Made a brigadier general by Governor John Rutledge, Marion showed his genius in organizing a band of guerrilla volunteers; he gained recruits and trained them to be fearless raiders and good marksmen, and "Marion's brigade" became known far and wide for its successful exploits against the British.



From 1782 to 1790 Marion served in the South Carolina State Senate where he opposed harsh treatment of the Tories. He was made commander of Ft. Johnson with a salary of 500 pounds per year, in recognition of his services. He died on his estate in Berkeley county on February 27, 1795. As a soldier he was quick, resourceful, and calm, a great partisan leader.

Population Of County Varies

Preliminary figures, released by the U. S. Census Bureau, showed that Marion County had a reduction in population during the decade since the last census.

The preliminary count (which is usually confirmed by the official figure, released in the fall) shows the 1970 population of our county as 38,119.

That was a drop of 1,230 persons from the official 1960 census figure.

County population totals for all of the past census periods:

1830	— 2,125.
1840	— 4,752.
1850	— 6,720.
1860	— 12,739.
1870	— 20,622.
1880	— 23,691.
1890	— 24,340.
1900	— 30,446.
1910	— 35,094.
1920	— 37,497.
1930	— 35,635.
1940	— 47,918.
1950	— 41,510.
1960	— 39,349.
1970	— 38,119.

"ALL I AM OR EVER HOPE TO BE I OWE TO MY DARLING MOTHER" Class of 1935



This building located at the southwest corner of McMackin and Rotan streets was the second Marion County Courthouse. This two-storied frame structure was built in 1837 to replace the log building which served the county from 1824. The building of this second courthouse was given in contract to Mark Tully by the County Board of Commissioners, Benjamin Vermilion, Isaac McClelland and Mark Tully. The amount of the contract was \$655.00, and was to be completed August 1, 1837. Tully gave up the contract in March, 1838, but was excused from paying damages. The contract was then awarded to Nathaniel Adams who completed the building, the total cost of which was \$799.43. The log courthouse was sold to the Salem Methodist Society who moved the building from the square and used it as a church until 1850. This frame courthouse was located on the square until the County Court, the successors of the Commissioners, decided to erect a brick building in 1857.



Tree planting ceremony on the Courthouse yard 1931.

This page sponsored by:
SALEM NATIONAL BANK "Growing With Salem Since 1870"



Marshall



The third Marion County Court House: Taken in the early 1860's. This building was begun in 1858 and completed and received in April of 1860. The first contractor was Mr. J. A. Miller, who tried to use inferior building materials, so the county ended the contract and took possession of all the building materials. Another contract was awarded to Moore and Morrow of Salem to complete the building according to plans and specifications. The total cost of the building was \$35,104.75. Its architecture was Greek Revival. It was used by the County until it was outgrown in the early 1900's. It was sold to Mr. John M. Schultz, February 21, 1910.



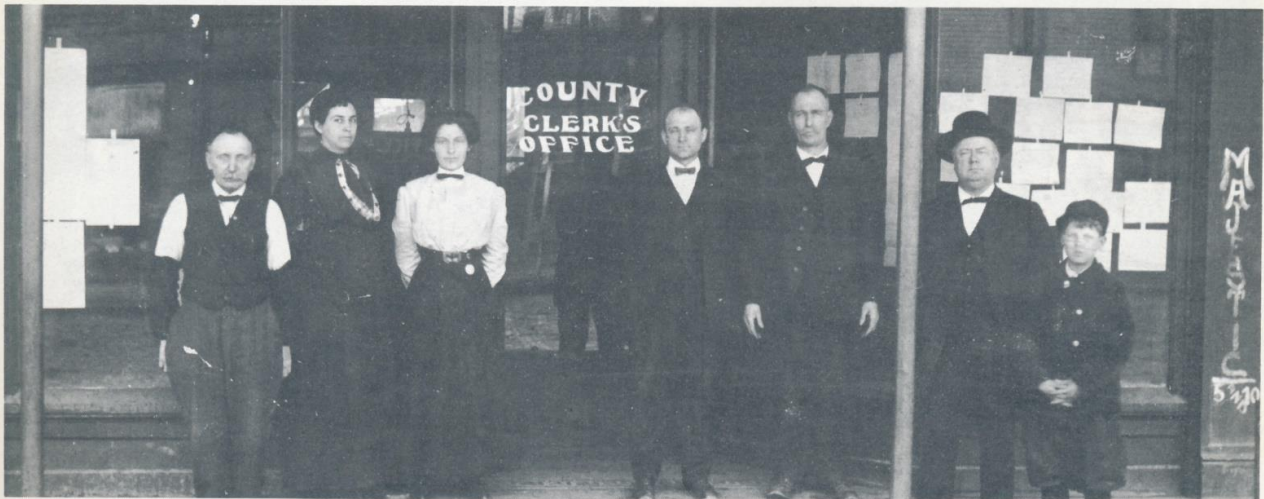
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, MARION COUNTY. Standing: 1. Matthew B. Wells, Sheriff; 2. . . . White; 9. Dwight Purcell, Alma; 12. Grover Betts; 13. Frank Rogers; 14. . . . Morton. Seated: 1. D. W. Holstlaw, Iuka; 2. John W. Larimer; 5. George Simcox.

"BUILD FOR CHARACTER — NOT FOR FAME" Class of 1938





The Marion County Jail: The third jail built in December of 1854. It was the first county building to be built of brick. The jail was located in the same block as the present jail. The jail was built at a cost of \$3,937.00. The first two jails were made of logs. The first jail was an unheated, unlighted log structure with a cell in the interior. The cell resembled a huge box which had a trap door in the top by which the prisoner was lowered in from the ceiling.



The County Clerk's office: Standing in front of the office, left to right; George Cox, Jennie Young, unknown, R. J. Branson, County clerk, W. J. Tweed, and Edgar Jennings. The young boy is unknown.

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COMMUNITY STATE BANK "The Bank with the Red Carpet Treatment"



The Marion County Jail: The third jail built in December of 1854. It was the first county building to be built of brick. The jail was located in the same block as the present jail. The jail was built at a cost of \$3,937.00. The first two jails were made of logs. The first jail was an unheated, unlighted log structure with a cell in the interior. The cell resembled a huge box which had a trap door in the top by which the prisoner was lowered in from the ceiling.



The fourth Marion County Jail: Built in 1884. The sheriff or his deputy and their families lived in the house in the foreground. The rear area was the prison area. In the background to the right is a view of the third jail, which was later torn down. This building was used until the present escape-proof jail was erected.



Interior of the County Treasurer's office, the man on the left is Frank A. Rogers, Treasurer from 1906-1910. The man seated is J. H. G. Brinkerhoff the Deputy Treasurer.



Marion County Board of Supervisors 1932-1933.



Taken 1899 at the side of the Marion County Jail, Mr. Wells was sheriff of Marion County. Left to right: Belle McMackin, Ethel Jenson, Mrs. Mary E. Wells. Standing: Lillie Bryant, Matthew B. Wells, Sheriff, Eva W. White, Ida W. Howard, Hugh Wells, Matt Wells, and Jessie Howard. These are all of the Wells children.

This page sponsored by: **TOM'S AUTO PARTS**
and **A FRIEND**

History Of City Of Salem

By Frank Brinkerhoff

The City of Salem was founded in 1823 as the place of government for the newly formed Marion County. The location was chosen by the commissioners, appointed by the state legislature, after examining the different locations offered. James Roberts, the owner, donated the 30 acre town site to the county. The town was surveyed and platted by Arba Andrews in July 1823. The original town embraced the southeast quarter and the northeast quarter of Section 11 in Salem Township (T2N, R2E). The original towns were square in shape, divided into quarters by Broadway and Main Streets. Each of the quarters was divided into four blocks, each block having eight lots. Block #3 in Square #2 was designated for the "publick" square, which it has been since 1823. The land donated by Roberts was deeded to the county by his successors to the property, Rufus Ricker and Mark Tully, on September 5, 1826.

The plat of the Original Town recorded on May 2, 1825 designated "Salem" as the name of the county seat of Marion County. Tradition says that it was first named Decatur, but before it assumed this name it was renamed Salem, by Mark Tully, in honor of a town in Indiana, near where Mr. Tully lived before coming to Illinois.

The first attempt toward incorporation was made on July 1, 1837. The organizational meeting was held in the store of Colonel W. N. Dobbins.

The following are the minutes of that meeting:

"Uriah Mills, Esq., was chosen president, and Thomas Ray, clerk, being duly sworn to discharge the duties of said offices.

"On motion of Col. W. N. Dobbins, W. D. Haynie explained the object of the meeting; and on motion of N. B. Nelems, the House proceeded to ascertain, by voate, the sence of the meeting.

"Whareupon, William D. Haynie, Jas. Marshal, N. B. Nelems, William N. Dobbins, Uriah Mills, W. H. H. Barens, John Hamer, George W. Pace, and Thomas Ray voting in favor of incorporating the said town -- no opposition Voates.

"We certify that thare ware nine voates in favor of incorporating the town as above, and none against it.

"Uriah Mills, Pres.
"Thomas Ray, Clerk."

According to John Clayton's, **The Illinois Fact Book and Historical Almanac**, Salem was incorporated by the General Assembly on February 10, 1837.

Incorporation 1855

In accordance with an Act of the Illinois Legislature, approved February 14, 1855, a meeting of the citizens of Salem became necessary for the purpose of voting for or against incorporating the town of Salem.

On August 10, 1855 the citizens of Salem assembled at the courthouse, elected a president and clerk for the election, and opened the polls. When the votes were counted there were 76 for and 13 against incorporation. The favorable results of this election necessitated the election of Trustees on August 17. At that election the five chosen for one year terms were: B. F. Marshall, Thomas Day, Samuel Hull, F. O. Leffingwell, and S. W. Cunningham. On August 24 the Trustees held their organizational meeting. Samuel Hull was chosen President of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Salem. Granville R. Pace was elected Clerk and Treasurer. At their first regular meeting the Trustees extended the corporation limits one mile in all directions from the intersection of Main and Broadway.

City In 1865

Again in the spring of 1865 a city charter was obtained by an act of the state legislature granting further privileges to the town of Salem. At a special election on February 16, 1865 The New City Charter was unanimously adopted, providing for a Mayor and two Aldermen from each of the four wards of the city. Warren E. McMackin was elected Mayor. The following were elected Aldermen: A. R. Bryan, B. D. Lydick, R. W. Pratt, Ephrain Schultz, J. L. Draper, M. Schaeffer, W. M. Elliott, and J. M. Jones. The first meeting of the Salem City Council was held in the Marion County Courthouse on April 20, 1865, three days after the Mayor had received his commission.

Salem Firsts

The first house built in what is now the city of Salem was a log dwelling erected by James Roberts in 1820 and was situated on the south side of the Vincennes and St. Louis road, now Main Street, a few blocks east of the square. The next building was the stage house, built by Mark Tully, in 1821 or '22.

I AM ONLY ONE, YET I AM ONE. I CAN'T DO EVERYTHING, YET I CAN DO SOMETHING AND THAT WHICH I CAN DO,
I SHOULD DO AND THAT WHICH I SHOULD DO I WILL DO" Class of 1960

It was a log structure, and situated on the north side of the Vincennes and St. Louis road, later the 300 block of East Main where the IGA parking lot is now located. The location is marked by a historical marker. In later days it was covered by weatherboarding and was the home of A. R. Bryan. The first business house was a frame building situated on the north side of Main Street not far from the southwest corner of the square. Martin Hill opened this business about 1820 and kept a small stock of groceries and notions. Thomas Higgins was the first merchant who sold dry goods, and his store was situated on the southwest corner of Main and Broadway where the City Hall now stands. The first church building was built by the Presbyterians in 1846. It was a frame building located on east side of the 300 block of North Washington Street. The first school building was built about 1840 and situated in the same block as the first church.

Assessments, 1837

"Below we give the first tax Assessment of the town of Salem which was authorized by the first Board of Trustees August 3rd, 1837 together with the names of all the taxpayers and amount paid by each. The taxes collected were on a basis of 25 cents on every \$100 of valuation.

Wm. N. Dobbins	\$2.2500
N. B. Nelms .....	.6250
John W. Nichols .....	.9375
Uriah Mills	1.0000
W. H. H. Barnes .....	.3125
Henry Mills .....	.1875
David Stormont .....	.7500
Thomas Ray	3.6250
Abraham Williams .....	.1500
Benj. Bond	2.9375
Isaac Dement .....	.2500
Gatewood & Scates	2.7500
Mark Tully .....	.9000
George W. Pace	1.2500
W. W. Pace	2.2500
James Marshall .....	.3750
Lewin Wright .....	.2500
John Briggs .....	.2500
James H. Dickens .....	.2575
Wm. D. Haynie	1.5000
John Earnheart	1.0000
Bryan W. Lester	5.1250
Extate, Lewis Pritchett	3.8000
James H. Dickens .....	.6350
Rufus Ricker	2.1250
John Young	1.0000
Justice R. Ryman .....	.6250
A. K. King .....	.6875
Warburton & King .....	.6250
Total	\$37.6025

Herald-Advocate 3-31-1899

Salem 1829 Description

Mr. Britton Smith, in an article of early days, published in the Salem Advocate, of December 4, 1879, says: "Fifty years ago, 1829, there were but five families living inside of the area now embraced in the corporate limits of Salem. The names of the heads of these families were -- Rufus Ricker, Mark Tully, James Chance, James Pyles, and Martin Hill. Mr. Ricker was clerk of both courts, post-master, and probate judge. Mark Tully was sheriff; James Chance, blacksmith; Martin Hill, merchant; James Pyles, farmer."

Description Of Salem

November 20, 1851, Advocate

"The town of Salem is beautifully situated on the eastern border of the Grand Prairie.

It is the County seat of Marion and is distinguished for its healthiness, good water and salubrity of climate. Salem lies upon the Vincennes and St. Louis Stage road; one of the great thoroughfares of the Union: it has a population of about five hundred; two churches, two schools, a Court House, five stores, three taverns, and we are glad to say no groceries. The morals of the people are excellent, and although we have a jail, it affords a real pleasure to say, that generally there are few, if any inmates. The Sons of Temperance have a flourishing Division numbering at least one hundred members. The young people of the Town have also a Lyceum, in which intellectual improvement is consulted, the meetings being held regularly every Monday night and numerous attended.

An abundance of bituminous coal is found in the vicinity of Salem, which in the absence of other fuel, will afford an inexhaustable supply. As yet however, stone coal is but little required, as a considerable variety of excellent timber skirts the town.

There are three mills in Salem, two of which are grist mills and the third a steam saw mill. Our friend J. T. Dwyer Esq. is the proprietor of the last, which is the best circular saw mill we have seen in Illinois. The engine is of great power and the saw can cut the enormous quantity of four thousand feet of lumber per day.

Salem has a reasonable sprinkle of physicians and although our town is blessed with good health, the natural increase of population, together with the necessity of the adjacent country, furnish sufficient employment for the present number of the healing art. Being the seat of justice of Marion county, Salem has the requisite number of lawyers, whose intelligence and skill in their profession command the esteem and respect of the community.

Advocate, Thurs., Nov. , 1851

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THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF SANDOVAL

Description Of Salem — 1909

... Today Salem has three thousand five hundred people, three railroads, three miles of brick paved streets, about ten miles of granitoid sidewalk, a large three-story school building, two bank buildings, the finest in Southern Illinois; four hotels, two steam flouring mills, steam brick-making plant; two large and six medium dry goods houses; the larger carrying a thirty thousand dollar stock, the others from six thousand to ten thousand dollar stocks; three millinery stores; one china store; two clothing stores, each with large stock; one machine shop, four butcher shops, two furniture stores, one of which is the largest establishment of its kind south of Springfield; ten grocery stores, one poultry house, two jewelry stores and two drug stores. The city is lighted by electricity, the city owning its own plant. Until 1905 the city's growth was very slow, the census of 1900 giving it but one thousand six hundred and forty-two inhabitants, but in 1905 the C & E. I. Railroad removed their repair shops from St. Elmo to Salem, a company of citizens buying and giving to the company a strip of land one thousand feet wide and two miles long for a yards. The company also made Salem a division headquarters with offices of superintendent, engineer, freight and dispatcher's headquarters of the division, thus doubling the population in less than a year. Salem still needs two things to make it an ideal city: waterworks and good country roads leading to the city limits. Both are being agitated and both will come and that, too, in the near future.

Salem City Council — 1865

Warren E. McMackin, Mayor. ALDERMEN: A. R. Bryan, B. D. Lydick, R. W. Pratt, Ephraim Schultz, J. L. Draper, M. Schaeffer, W. M. Elliott, J. M. Jones. M. Schaeffer, City Clerk; Ander Tully, Street Commissioner; Thomas Jack McMackin, City Collector; R. H. Whittaker, City Engineer; R. W. Pratt, City Treasurer; Ander Tully, City Marshal; M. Schaeffer, City Attorney.

The first meeting of the Salem City Council was held in the Marion County Courthouse on April 20, 1865, three days after the first Mayor, Warren E. McMackin, had been commissioned by Governor Richard J. Oglesby and Secretary of State Sharon Tyndale.

Salem City Council — 1965

Homer C. Clark, Mayor. COUNCILMEN: E. L. Black, D. W. Larimer Jr., L. H. Sweney. J. A. Davis, City Manager; Ted Slack, City Treasurer; Harry Goldsborough, Chief of Police; Mildred Martin,

Assistant City Clerk; Frederick E. Merritt, City Attorney.

Incorporated As A City

The first officers after incorporation in 1855 were Samuel Hull, President of the Board of Trustees of The Town of Salem, Granville R. Pace, Clerk and Treasurer, B. F. Marshall, Thomas Day, F. O. Leffingwell and S. W. Cunningham, Trustees. The town or village limits were set at one mile in all directions from the southwest corner of the public square. The village was divided into four districts for road construction. All male citizens were required to work two days each year on the streets. The clerk was ordered to notify each district supervisor of the number of days each man was to work or the amount he was to pay if he failed to work. John S. Muzzy was appointed as constable with a salary of \$6 per month, plus fees.

The first public works project of the corporation was to build wooden sidewalks (4 feet wide of planks 1 1/2 inches thick laid on cross ties 4 1/2 feet long by 4 inches by 4 inches thick and four feet apart) on the north side of main from the Black & Cunningham Store (now Main and Washington) to the Methodist church (where St. Thomas Episcopal Church is), on the east side of Broadway from the Finley Hotel to the O & M Railroad (B & O) and beginning at the intersection of East and Main (now Washington and Main) north to the Presbyterian Church (300 block of N. Washington). The construction was completed in April, 1857 at a cost of \$370.25 paid to the low bidder, Thomas Day. The usual arrangements for building sidewalks was that the corporation furnished the lumber and nails and the property owners laid the walk in a "good and workmanlike manner." At almost each early council meeting someone was present petitioning the city to construct him a sidewalk.

The early streets were all dirt. Maintenance was done by "each male person over twenty-one and under fifty. If this work was not done, the man was assessed 75¢ per day if paid when or before notified to work, otherwise \$1.00 per day." This street labor continued into the early part of the 20th Century, although it was much ignored in later years. During months when the streets became impassable the council often laid ten foot planks across the street. In 1858 G. R. Pace was paid \$2.25 for filling a pool at the southeast corner of courthouse square.

Problems arising from the liquor licensing ordinance began in 1859, "it was ordered that the Street Commissioner be instructed to have the Grocery (saloon) on the Mt. Vernon Road removed a half mile farther from town" and "to prosecute the owner for selling liquor without a license." In

1865 a group of citizens led by Silas Bryan petitioned for a referendum to be placed on the ballot at the next election prohibiting saloons; none was held. At the turn of the century the anti-saloon ordinance was being voted upon each year -- 1900, 01, and 05 were dry. The years 02, 03 and 04 were wet. In 1906 the city voted wet again with license fees set at \$1,000. By 1918 the City Council was requesting the Congress to pass a "bone dry" prohibition law. On May 9, 1933 the council passed a Malt and Vineous Beverage Ordinance ending prohibition in Salem. Other types of licenses were sold in the early days for in 1866 Mrs. Gibbs was granted a license to keep an oyster saloon. Peddlers and amusements were granted licenses -- on October 12, 1858, Mr. Humbug obtained a license to exhibit Indians for one day at \$4.50 and on June 24, the same year Joseph Gottleib obtained a license for a dollar to peddle jewelry and fancy goods.

Salem had a spurt of growth in the decade of the Civil War. An election was held on March 21, 1865, for the purpose of adopting or rejecting the New City Charter granted to the Town of Salem in February, 1865. The new charter, unanimously adopted, provided for a Mayor and two Aldermen from each of the four wards of the city. At the election, held May 3, 1865, Warren E. McMackin was elected mayor. Aldermen elected were A. R. Bryan and J. L. Draper of the First Ward, M. Schaeffer and J. B. Lydick of the second; R. W. Pratt and William Elliot of the Third; and E. Shultz and

John Jones of the Fourth Ward.

Early in 1869 a meeting of prominent educators was held in Salem to agitate for the construction of a teacher training instruction in southern Illinois. Salem became one of the towns in the running to secure Southern Illinois Normal University. An ordinance was passed to hold an election to issue 100 thousand dollars worth of bonds for the purchase of land and building of buildings to induce the commissioner to locate here. Salem citizens voted 87 to 30 to issue the bonds, but this was not done because the commissioners chose Carbondale.

One of the early problems faced by the City was the practice of allowing hogs and other stock to roam the streets. An early item of expense on the city books was the payment to have dead hogs removed from the village. In 1860 the trustees decided to pass an ordinance "prohibiting hogs, shoats and pigs from running at large within the platted limits of the town of Salem" and also an ordinance prohibiting horses, cattle, mules, jacks, jennies from running at large between the first day of November and the first day of April each year." There was a sizeable body of opinion led by Silas Bryan against the passage of this ordinance because keeping animals in pens was considered against nature. The trustees passed the ordinance over all the protest. This ordinance was not vigorously reinforced until 1879 when a referendum was held upholding the laws. In June, 1879, many hogs were impounded but the cost of the fines was remitted to five men residing



Entrance East Lawn Cemetery.

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THE IUKA STATE BANK, Iuka

outside the city limits because this was their first offense and open range was then unquestioned. In 1866 the council decided "on account of so much fine weather twas agreed to let cows run until the first of December. This problem gradually disappeared but not the problems of dogs and chickens. In the 1940's, the problem of dogs destroying Victory Gardens was considered a danger to the war effort. At various times chicken pens and chickens running at large were declared a nuisance and ordered stopped.

The City council began a number of public works in the late 1860's. The cemetery was enclosed in a plank fence of 2062 feet built by Robert Moore for \$2.80 per panel of 14 feet.

In 1866 the Committee on Calaboose was given permission to build a lock up on the lot back of John Rynyans stable on S. Broadway. The building was "ten feet square of oak plank two inches thick double laid crosswise well spiked together and according to plan," the cost was \$107.50. But this calaboose did not seem enough because the City Marshal O. J. Rogers was given permission in 1869 to send to St. Louis and procure six ball and chains for use of the City. In 1885 arrangements were made for city prisoners to be housed in the new county jail. The old calaboose ws condemned and sold for ten dollars. These arrangements lasted only until 1889 when the council decided to secure a city hall.

May 25, 1866 the council committee on the fire department reported "that 4 ladders be provided made of clear pine lumber with pikes in the lower end, two said ladders be 24 feet in length, two to be 16 feet in length each. Also six pike poles varying in length from 16 to 24 feet with good and sufficient pikes and hooks in the end of each. Also 2 dozen wood buckets at the public well at the S. E. corner of the public square be repaired and two new wells dug for public use." The part of the report on new wells was referred back to said committee for further report -- not enough funds. Two years earlier the City had placed a pump in the well. In 1876 a communication was read from the Bigelow Co. in regard to furnishing the City with a fire engine. The council decided not to purchase at present -- being too short of funds. The council finally found funds for an engine in 1904.

As early as May, 1876 the street committee was instructed to assist in the expense of lighting up the streets with oil lamps. The big push for street lighting came in the winter of 1883-84 when the City reported that 30 street lamps had been furnished by the Citizens and put up by the City. The street commissioner was in charge of lighting lamps. In August the council purchased enough lamps to place one in each block on S. Broadway from the Bank

Corner to the O & M Depot (from Main to the B & O). In April, 1885 A. A. Purcell was chosen as official lamp-lighter for the low bid of \$10 per month. Daniel P. Meyers received the contract for furnishing coal oil at 13¢ per gallon.

In July, 1876 a bill of \$249.75 for lumber for hitching racks around the courthouse was presented, the bill was shared with the county. Often the business with the county was complicated by ill will and accusations that the City overstepped its authority. There have been many arguments about the ownership and maintenance of the streets and sidewalks around the courthouse. In 1877 the City received a petition from various citizens of the City complaining about the courthouse privy as being a nuisance. The council ordered it taken care of.

In 1879 the City purchased 140 shade trees for \$17.50 for community betterment. That same council appointed the Board of Health for the City.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Southwestern received permission to plant pole and string telegraph lines to the courthouse square in 1881. Two years later lawyer H. C. Feltman received permission to construct a private telephone line from his home to his office. In 1897 the City granted a franchise to the Southern Illinois Telephone Co. to erect and maintain an office to give the citizens telephone communications with the principal towns of Southern Illinois. In April, 1903, the City granted C. E. Hull permission to furnish public communication by telephone to the people of Salem, but this right was not



Picture of the two operators of the Central office of the Hull Telephone system. Lucy Hull Parks, standing; seated unknown.

"GO AS FAR AS YOU CAN SEE, AND WHEN YOU GET THERE YOU WILL SEE FARTHER" Class of 1973

exclusive and the next year the same right was granted to the Marion County Telephone Co. This arrangement continued until Illinois Bell purchased both and received an exclusive franchise.

The City owned no real property except the cemetery until 1889. City council meetings and the clerks office were in rented rooms for the first 35 years of the City's existence. On June 4, 1889, by a six to two vote, the council voted to purchase the Dursky & Co. Building from the Merz Brothers for \$2,600, payments in four installments. The contract included the "space of grounds immediately back of said brick building also Merz Bros. The Merz Bros. agree to construct two suitable prison (sic) cages in the back part of said building. Each 6 1/2 by 8 feet and 7 feet high with solid plate top and bottom and sided excepting doors and windows which are to be cross bars 2 x 3/8 inches with a good and secure locks all complete in good order ready for use. Merz Bros. further agree to rent the lower room for which they agree to pay one hundred dollars per year." This building was used by the City as a hall, fire department and police station until when the present hall was purchased from the Salem National Bank.

In 1883 after some severe fires in the central business district, an ordinance was passed preventing further construction of frame buildings within the boundaries of said district.

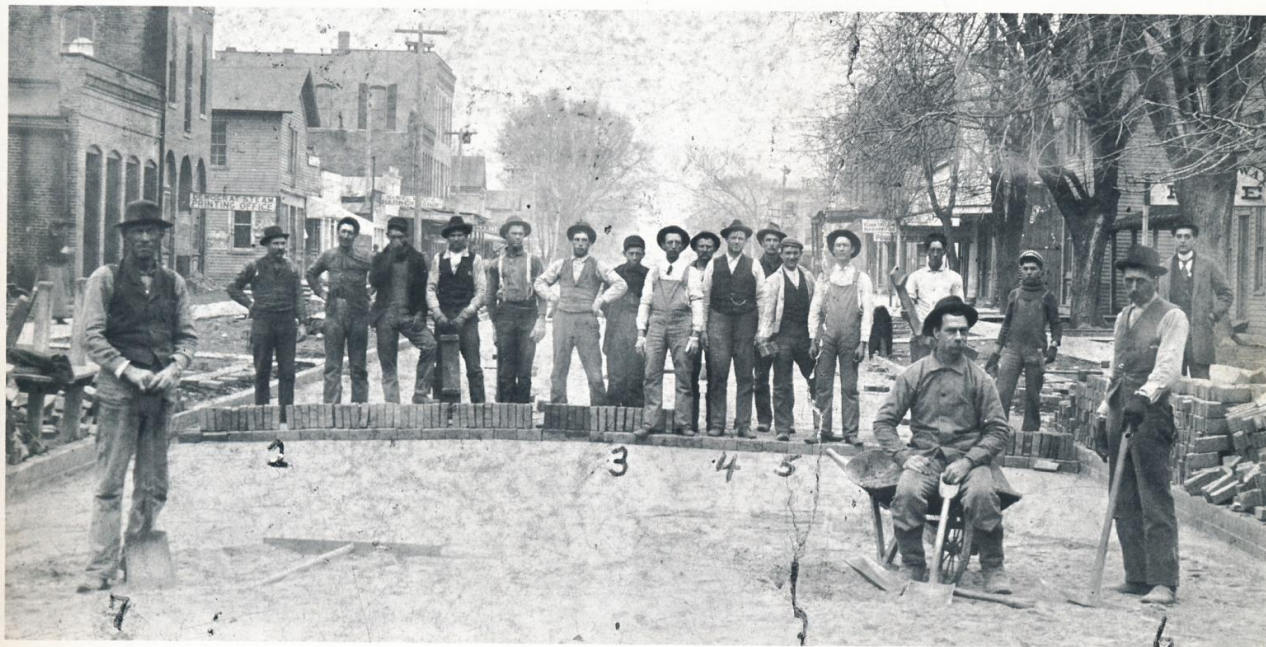
An election was held on February 19, 1894 by which the City was reorganized under the act of

Legislature of 1872. The city was reorganized into three wards with two aldermen from each.

In 1895 an ordinance for \$15,000 of bonds for a waterworks was defeated by the council. A year later the City council passed an ordinance to grant a franchise for electric lights plant. This proposition was defeated by a referendum. In 1897 another special election was held and the citizens by a 29 vote majority approved the construction of a water works. But when the council voted on the



Electric light plant, Salem, Ill. Constructed in 1898.



An old picture taken in 1899 when the brick pavement was being laid on South Broadway. L. Frank Houchen, 3. Dave Houchen, 4. John Redferin, 5. Claude Tully, 6. Gabe Joines, 7. Frank Tully.

This page sponsored by: **OLD NATIONAL BANK OF CENTRALIA**
and **WILSON FUNERAL HOME**, Odin, Ill.

need for a special assessments on property owners the council split three for and three against assessment. Mayor Julis Keip voted with the opposition and the waterworks was not built.

However, the next May, under Mayor Keip, the City issued \$9,000 of bonds to purchase an electric generating plant. The light plant went into operation in February 1899. The residential rates were "no residence shall be wired up for less than \$1 per month:

Above six (6) and up to nine (9) lights inclusive \$1 per month.

From ten (10) to nineteen (19) lights inclusive 15¢ each light per month.

From twenty (20) to twenty-nine (29) lights inclusive 12 1/2¢ each light per month.

From thirty (30) lights or more each light 10¢ per month.

In July, 1899, Mr. W. H. Houchin of Missouri was employed at \$60 per month to "take charge" of the light plant and W. A. Monroe as his assistant.

In December, 1896, the merchants of the 100 block of East Main asked the council if they could construct stone sidewalks in front of their stores. The council countered with a proposal to build granatoid

sidewalks with the City paying 1/3 of the construction. In the summer of 1897 the first concrete walks were laid by the Geisel Construction Co. for \$19.95 per square foot. This began a boom in sidewalk building in the business district until all the downtown sidewalks were constructed. The residential district sidewalks were gradually made permanent, and as new subdivisions were opened they received concrete sidewalks at the expense of the property owners. General sidewalk building ended with the onset of the 1929 depression.

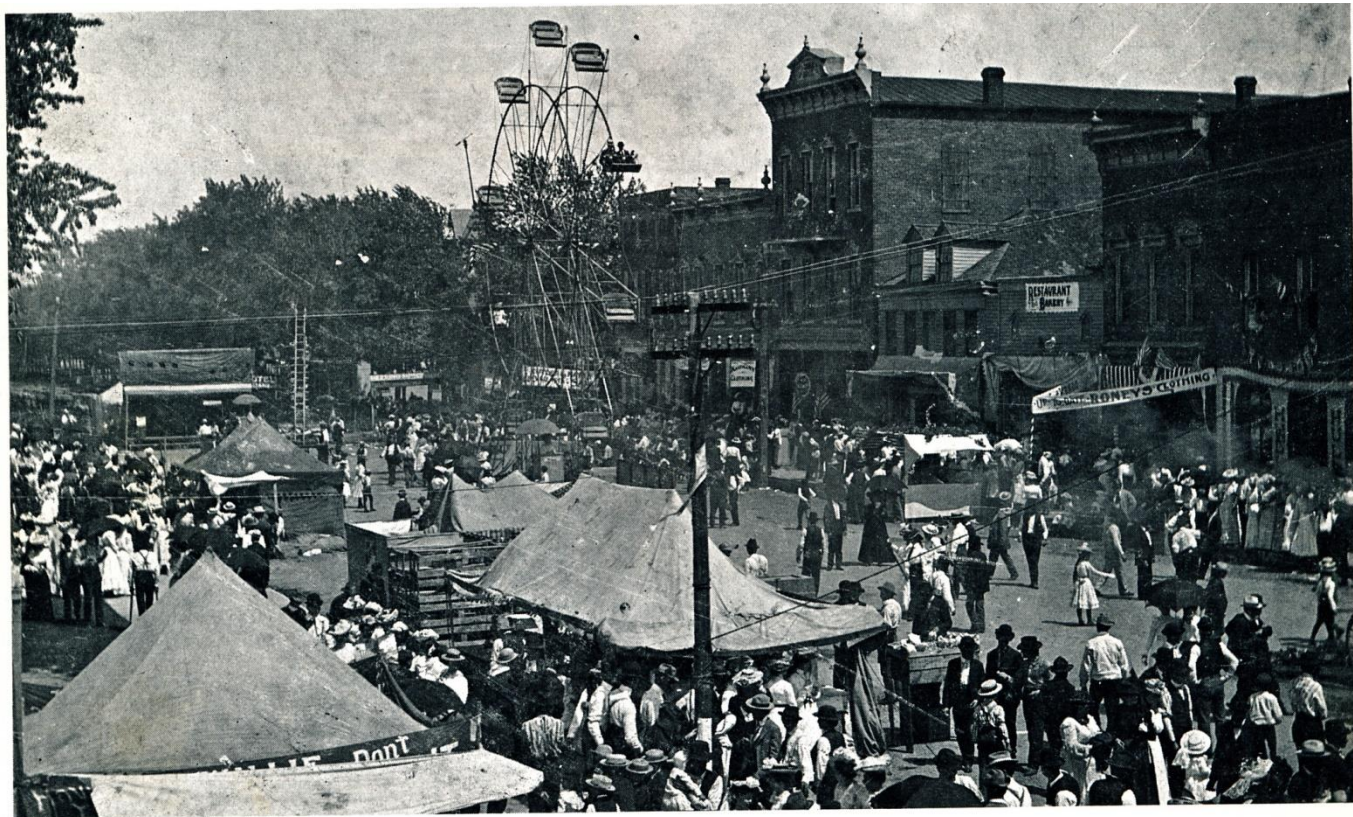
At the turn of the century street construction was lagging behind sidewalks. In 1898 South Broadway received a coat of macadam. In 1899 an ordinance was recommended by the newly organized Board of Local Improvements, Alderman H. T. Sweney, C. L. McMackin, and Mayor T. S. Marshall, for the paving of Main Street from Washington to Walnut and Broadway from Schwartz to McMackin. In November, 1899 the contract for paving was let to Mr. Pruittsman of Evansville, Ind.; the same month another ordinance was passed for paving Broadway from Olive to the B & O.

However, the traffic on the major thoroughfares was not too great for the Council to reroute traffic



The Salem Free Street Fair and Merchants Carnival. June 30th through July 5th, 1902. This picture was taken on the 4th of July, 1902 in front of the Courthouse. It shows many of the business stores across the street and the carnival stands and ferris wheel.

"NOW WE LAUNCH — WHERE SHALL WE ANCHOR?" Class of 1951



The Salem Free Street Fair and Merchants Carnival. June 30th through July 5th, 1902. This picture was taken on the 4th of July, 1902 in front of the Courthouse. It shows many of the business stores across the street and the carnival stands and ferris wheel.



The Salem State Bank Building built in 1904. The third floor was occupied by the Division Headquarters of the C & E I Railroad. The second floor by D. Jones, a dentist. This building was once The Corner Tavern, Walgreens Drug Store and is now Topper's. The building next door was Irwin's Drug Store and later the Kandy Kitchen, operated by Mr. and Mrs. Pete Paus.

from June 30 - July 5, 1902. The occasion was the Great Indiana Carnival Company's free street fair and merchants carnival.

A year later the Southern Illinois Electric Railway Co. wanted to run its cars over Main Street. But the company didn't get as far as Salem.

In 1905, the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroad moved their repair shops from St. Elmo to Salem. A group of citizens purchased and gave to the company a strip of land 1000 feet wide and two miles long for a yards. In December 1905 Salem was made a division headquarters with the offices of the superintendent, engineer, etc. located in the State Bank Building. The estimated investment was \$195,000. The population of the City doubled and there was a housing boom. Several new subdivisions were opened within the City and at a special election the Frisco Addition was annexed. The City Council went on record that at no time would the yards be

annexed.

In 1912 the City built the reservoir and water system. Building code was adopted, the houses were numbered and the streets were given names by ordinance. Ornamental iron lighting standards were purchased for the business district which were to last until the spring of 1951 when 80 Whiteway Safety Street lights were purchased and the iron lightpoles were placed in the park.

In 1916 the progressive Commission form of municipal government was adopted for the City. The first City Commissioners were: Dr. O. A. Kell, Commissioner of Public Affairs; Dr. H. L. Logan, Commissioner of Accounts and Finance; C. E. Chance, Commissioner of Public Health and Safety; O. J. McMackin, Commissioner of Streets and Public Improvements; John Chassels, Commissioner of Public Property.

In 1917 the City built its sanitary sewer system.

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SALEM LIONS CLUB



Brown Shoe Company.

The filtration plant costs were \$8,265.00.

In 1913, the City granted industrial utility rates to the C & E I Railroad, the new ice plant, the Sexton Manufacturing Company and in 1923 to the Salem Sanitorium.

In 1911 the council posted signs at the east and west ends of town warning automobile drivers to be aware of the speed ordinance. In 1916 the speed limit was 10 mph in the business district and 15 mph in the residential areas. In earlier times it was illegal to ride or drive an animal through the streets of Salem at a rate in excess of 8 mph. 1925 brought boulevard stops on all streets approaching Main and Broadway and parking spaces were marked off downtown.

The Brown Shoe Company of St. Louis opened its branch factory in Salem in June, 1925. The factory specializes in the production of "Airstep" shoes for women. In 1937, the factory was producing one million shoes per year. And in the 1950's the firm was employing 600 people at its plant on S. Maple. The City vacated a street for the factory site and donated \$2,000 to the Factory Fund.

In 1928 the City purchased from Dr. Finn the property known for years as Hull's Grove for \$12,000. The new park was named Bryan Memorial and a statue or monument was proposed. Professor Blair of the University of Illinois prepared the plans for the park. The Rotary Club furnished equipment for two clay tennis courts at Boone and Vail Streets.

In 1931 the Municipal Swimming Pool was built

out of surplus earnings from the light and water departments. Pool attendance for the first two months was 5,612 with receipts of \$1600.04. For the first two free days attendance was 432. In 1932 a carnival was stranded in Salem and the City acquired monkeys in a settlement with the company. Later badgers and bears were added to the menagerie.

The council appointed a group to cope with the unemployment problems of the Depression early in 1930. The city spent \$2,131 of its own funds to pay the unemployed for clearing brush and other



Life guards of the Salem pool Bernard Scott and Van Howe.

"WE THINK, THEREFORE, WE ARE" Class of 1962



Salem Municipal swimming pool 1931 on the first free day.

such improvements. In 1933, the city began cooperation with the state and federal governments in relief and public works projects. Loans were obtained to enlarge and improve the city utilities. A WPA Recreation project was established in 1936. And in 1937, with WPA and the new motor fuel tax revenue a blanket project was begun to build streets. Those improved before the project ended in 1942 were S. Marion, S. Franklin, S. Lincoln, W. Whittaker, Church, Bennett, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Allmon, and S. Washington.

In 1938, Salem was shaken out of the Depression

by the "oil boom." Salem soon awakened to the reality that along with fat payrolls, royalty checks and booming business, there was not enough housing and the public utilities were too small. The City faced the problem of making its water system, electric plant and sewage plant serve over 8,000 people instead of the 5,000 for which it was built. Lights went out due to overload circuits and low voltages; the reservoir, which was deemed too small in 1932, began to go dry; and similar problems plagued the sewage plant.

In 1939 installation began on a new 2,500 KW turbine, necessary boilers, cooling towers and ap-



Salem Reservoir during the drought of 1931.

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The fire at the Illinois Power Co. office recalled the days when that building was used as Salem's post office. Before that it had been a church. The above picture was taken about 1905 and shows the postmistress, Mrs. Molly Webster, and other postal employees. The photograph belongs to Mrs. Virginia Zupcich and Miss Naida Telford, daughters of the late Omar Telford, who appears in the picture as a rural carrier. This building on 200 East Main served as the post office until the present building was occupied in 1937.

purtenances at the light plant. The cost was \$225,000. But a fire at the plant in 1941 and breakdowns through the war years caused some doubts about a public-owned electric plant. After the war increased cost and climbing rates caused the council to sell the utility to the Illinois Power Company in 1956.

Engineers reported that the most feasible water supply could be developed by building a 19-mile pipeline to a pumping station built on the Kaskaskia River. The project was begun in 1940 and water was flowing into the reservoir Sept. 23, 1941. The water filtration plant was more than doubled. Also, additions were made to the sewage plant.

In 1940 two special elections were held. The citizens refused a \$150,000 bond issue for street improvements in February. But in April they approved the building of a gas system 525 to 36. A contract was made with Warren Petroleum to purchase gas from the Salem Oil Field. In 1951, the City terminated this contract and built a 13-mile pipeline to the Texas Illinois Natural Gas Pipeline.

The impact of the oil industry can be measured in the stress placed on the community's resources and the response to this strain. Within the ten years after the onset of the boom, the City had doubled its utilities, a new post office was erected,

city garbage collection begun. In 1939 a zoning ordinance was passed.

In 1940, the Lions Club reached agreement with the City to lease land in Bryan Park to construct a hospital. In 1942 the 45-bed Salem Memorial Hospital was constructed, entirely financed by donations from the community.

Through the efforts of V. A. Williams and others, an airport was begun in 1941. Salem Municipal Airport was established northwest of the city limits. In 1942, the name of the airport was changed to Leckrone Field in honor of Phillip Leckrone, one of the first American airmen to die in World War II, who was killed during the Battle of Britain. The Westfield Air Service of Georgy Lytle operated the field for several years. In June of 1946, the City transferred the ownership to the Airport Authority.

Several problems were not solved during this period because of the onset of World War II. The acute housing problem begun with the boom heightened during the war-time restrictions. People were living in remodeled garages and chicken coops. Tully Park was used as a trailer park. In 1945, metal homes were authorized by the Council. Also that year the Marion County Housing Authority began the first public housing project in the Bryan Park Addition.

"WE ARE NOT AFRAID OF TOMORROW, FOR WE HAVE SEEN YESTERDAY AND WE LOVE TODAY" Class of 1956

The concern over a growing juvenile delinquency problem sweeping the county led the City to appoint a Community Center Board. A teen center, "The Hangar" was begun in the old armory building. This project continued until the Moose Lodge purchased the building.

In answer to a questionnaire from the Illinois Post-War Planning Commission, the City Council in 1944 listed the following as priorities for action after the war: Street Improvements, Sidewalk Improvements, Airport Improvement; new City Hall, new Community Center, City park improvements.

In 1944 the City Zoning Ordinance was declared void because it did not cover the entire city. For several years there was no effective zoning. In 1946 the City received \$3,500 from the national government for planning. The plan was formulated and presented by C. M. Ramer in November, 1946.

Transportation problems were plaguing the community in the 40's. Several accidents at the B & O Broadway crossing led to the placement of gates. The state required the City to institute parallel parking. In 1949 parking meters were installed in the business district. During this period of time there were eleven taxi cabs and a bus line operated by Dean Rogers.

In 1959, the City voters approved the reorganization of the city government to the City Manager form.

History Of The Salem Fire Department

By Jack Storment

The Salem Fire Department was first officially founded by the Salem City Council on August 17, 1892,

by the appointment of a Mr. Joines as Fire Night Watchman to patrol the city during the dry months of that year. Water from local wells had to be used, as the city did not have a reservoir or city water system.

Some time between 1892 and 1900, a hand drawn handpumper was purchased and the Fire Department was officially organized with George Simcox as the first Fire Chief.

After the installation of the Salem Water System, a horsedrawn fire wagon, chemical and hose was purchased from the city of Webster Grove, Missouri, and given the designation of Number 2. Since that date to the present, every succeeding piece of apparatus has been numbered with the next highest number.

In 1917, the Fire Department became motorized with the purchase of a Model T one-ton truck; all the equipment from Number 2 was transferred to Number 3, and it was the sole defense the City of Salem had against fire until February, 1928, when Fire Engine Number 4 was placed in service. The Fire Department was revitalized at this date under the direction of Mayor Joseph Schwartz and the Fire Station was moved from McMackin Street to 201 South Broadway. Until the administration of Mayor Schwartz, the Fire Department was "on its own," receiving very little help from any of the city administrations since its founding. The Fire Chief and his members kept the ball rolling as best they could, and much credit is due H. E. "Stoney" Vogt, Sr., who was chief from 1900 to 1935. He was succeeded by Orville Hanes, who served until 1937 when he was succeeded by H. Y. Storment.

Under Chief Storment the Fire Department had in service Engine Number 4, Number 5, Number 6, and Auxiliary Pumper No. 8. These were the years of the Salem oil boom, and every month saw at least



Salem fire department in early 1930's.

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and **MARION COUNTY ABSTRACT CO., Salem**

six calls to the Salem-Centralia oil field with Number 5, which was converted to a Foamite Truck. In 1939 the Fire Department responded to 265 alarms, the most of any year to date.

Chief Storment was followed by Clarence Leshner, who resigned in 1947 to be succeeded by H. Paul Sweney, Jr., who is the present Fire Chief.

The Salem Fire District came into being December 15, 1955, which as of the date of this writing comprises 104 square miles surrounding and including the City of Salem. It has been eighteen years since becoming a Fire District and many great strides have been made. In the 63 years prior to 1955, Salem had purchased eleven pieces of fire equipment. Since 1955 the Salem Fire District has acquired ten pieces, as well as building a modern Fire Station which at the present time houses the following trucks. Pumper Number 12, Brush Fire Jeep Number 13, Rural Pumper Number 14, Brush Fire Jeep Number 15, Brush Fire Pumper Number 16, Diesel Pumper Number 17, Aerial Ladder Number 18, Rescue Number 19, Tank Truck Number 20 and Tank Truck Number 21.

All but two of the trucks are radio equipped and are in constant touch with Headquarters wherever they are. All firemen have radio receivers in their homes, and this is the prime method of alerting and directing the firemen to a fire.

Representatives from different Fire Departments throughout the country have stopped by to inspect the Salem Fire District Headquarters, and in particular, the unique hose and training tower.

Rescue Truck Number 19 was received this year (1973) and is probably the best equipped rescue truck in the State of Illinois. In addition to each man on the fire department having a private locker for his fire gear, the truck also carries all types of rescue, first aid and resuscitation equipment. Also a large smoke ejection fan, four hundred feet of hose and in case of disaster this truck can carry twelve victims to the hospital at one time.

One point of interest about Truck Number 20. It is basically a water tank truck, but it carries a Foam Generator (for fighting oil fires) that has been in continuous use on the Salem Fire Department since 1929.

An interesting side light of the Salem Fire Department is the use of its apparatus bells. As a new piece of apparatus replaces an old one, the bell is moved to the new engine or truck. One apparatus bell has been in constant service since 1916. Another vital factor is the Salem Fire Alarm System. In 1892 a large fire alarm bell was placed in service and used until 1957 when it was replaced after developing a crack. A steam fire whistle was used as a parallel alarm in 1898, being blown from the City Electric Light Plant. This was

replaced by an electric siren in 1949.

The Trustees of the Salem Fire Protection District have served since the District was organized eighteen years ago. They are: Kenneth Milam, John Hoover and Omar Squibb. Department Officers are: Fire Chief Paul Sweney, Jr., Assistant Chief Thayer Daymon, Deputy Assistant Chief Harper Sweney, Fire Captain Charles McMackin, Fire Lieutenant Orval Mahon, Secretary Leon Geary, Fire Marshal Jim Somer, and Communications Officer Jack Storment.

In addition to the past Fire Chiefs named, the following men have been the Assistant Chiefs, dating from 1892: Jake Holmes, H. E. Vogt, Sr., Lucien Beasley, Hammond White, Orville Hanes, H. Y. Storment, John W. White (also secretary) Omar H. (Bill) Purcell, Charles L. McMackin (also first city fire marshal).

Centennial Recalls How Bryan Helped To Found Salem Library

(Note from the article that the library, back in those days, was referred to not as Bryan-Bennett but as Bennett-Bryan.)

The Bennett-Bryan Library, located on South Broadway and situated on the site at one time occupied by the birthplace of William Jennings Bryan, was made possible through the generosity of Philo Sherman Bennett of New Haven, Conn., and William Jennings Bryan. The former was a friend of the latter and in the disposition of his estate, provided \$1,500 towards the erection of the library, Mr. Bryan duplicating that amount. On the settlement of the Bennett estate, the inheritance tax took up to \$120, which sum was made good by Mr. Bryan out of his personal funds.

The following letter from Mr. Bryan explains itself:

"THE COMMONER

W. J. Bryan, Editor and Proprietor

Lincoln, Nebraska

May 1, 1905

"To the mayor and city council of the City of Salem, Ill.:

"Gentlemen: Some five years ago Mr. Philo Sherman Bennett of the city of New Haven, Conn., consulted me in regard to the disposition of a part of his estate. After remembering a number of charities and making certain educational bequests he had a small sum left, and I suggested to him that he join me in the building of a library at Salem. This he gladly assented to, and the will contained a bequest of \$1,500 -- the total sum, \$3,000, to be given to the City of Salem for the erection of a library.



Bryan Bennett Library constructed 1908.

"Mr. Bennett died by accident a year ago last summer and in the settlement of his estate I have already sent to the city of Salem \$1,380, being the \$1,500 less the inheritance tax. There is some accrued interest upon the bequest, and I shall add to it enough to cover the inheritance tax, so that the city may have the benefit of the full amount . . ."

The board was organized in 1905, while C. L. McMackin was mayor, with the following members: H. C. Feltman, F. S. Marshal, Mrs. Alice Kagy and Mrs. Anna Torrance.

Ground for the new building was broken Tuesday, Sept. 9, 1905, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon with appropriate exercises. Rev. T. E. DeWitt offered prayer, "Illinois" was sung by the Allmon-Garner trio, and the Egyptian Quartette rendered selections, as did the Odin band.

A cane made from some of the original timber of the dwelling by Jasper N. Jones was presented to Mr. Bryan by Mrs. Anna Torrance.

The first sod was turned by Mr. Bryan, who delivered an address in the presence of 5,000 people.

E. H. Barenfanger was the contractor who erected

the building and while the exact cost is not revealed in any record from bills paid, it is figured that the total cost of the structure was \$3,500.

In August, 1908, Mr. Bryan donated an additional \$500 to meet the expended \$800 in remodeling and renovating the interior of the building and making it more modern in its effects.

Miss May Davenport, a daughter of Mrs. Nan Davenport, and therefore cousin of Mr. Bryan, is the efficient librarian.

The organization of the board of directors for this, the centennial year, 1965, is as follows:

Mrs. Anna Baker, president; Dr. H. L. Logan, vice president; Mrs. Ernest Charlton, secretary and treasurer; Mrs. John C. Martin, assistant secretary and treasurer.

After the building was completed, there being no funds to buy books, Mr. Bryan came and gave a lecture in the first Methodist Church and agreed to duplicate the collection, which amounted to \$660, and this he did.

The subject of the lecture was "The Price of a Soul" and the date of its delivery was June 9, 1919.

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and **JOHN M. KAGY**, Salem, Ill.



Miss May Davenport, Salem's first Librarian



First Church of Christ Scientist purchased in 1935 originally a home owned by Dave Marshall.

While this edifice was being constructed we held services in the County Court House. In the little frame building we were just a Society and while in this building we were organized as a Church. We had a membership of around 60 people.

Later this building was sold and moved away and is still standing occupied on the Selmaville Road in Salem.

Our present edifice was constructed in 1948. There were many necessary obligations to care for before we could move in. The first meeting held in the new Church was on Easter Sunday, April, 1949. We had an over flow attendance. Folding chairs were used (by the kindness of the Elks Club) till we installed pews. A new organ was purchased, readers desks, Sunday School equipment, and numerous articles. We have had many Christian Science lectures in this edifice and are gratified for all help at this time.

The Church has been dedicated, therefore, free of all debts on the Church.

CHURCHES

Christian Science Church

In the early 1900's those interested in the healing ministry of Christian Science held services in their homes. Then later rented a room upstairs in the old original National Bank building in Salem, and later we moved to another location in the Martin Building joining the Salem State Bank. We were at this location till 1935 when Salem Christian Science Society purchased a dwelling on West Main Street from Mr. Dave Marshall, the owner of said property.

Services were held in this building till 1948, when the present Church was built.

First Baptist Church, Salem

By Dr. James Baldwin

Illinois had been admitted to the Union just nineteen years before the organization of the First Baptist Church in Salem. Into a "rip-roaring" frontier town came John Mason Peck, STD, a Harvard alumnus and employee of the Baptist Missionary Society of Massachusetts to establish a Sunday school. He was driven out by ruffians and dogs set upon him. Dauntlessly, he returned and defied them to "hinder further." He established his school in the log courthouse in 1832.

Dr. Peck, also active in education and founder of Shurtleff College, Alton, continued this school on weekends until he called for the organization of a church. On November 9, 1837 a church was organized.

"WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH, THE TOUGH GET GOING" Class of 1954

The council consisted of three preachers: Dr. Peck, Nathan Arnot and W. F. Boyakin, M.A., the latter becoming the first pastor. (He lived to be a centenarian, dying five days past the hundred mark). Twelve charter members constituted the whole congregation. A lot was secured and a building was erected at the corner of College and West Warmouth where the Armory now stands.

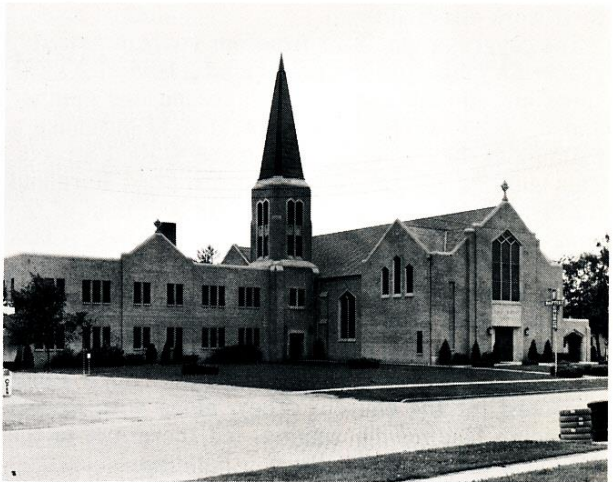
The church led by Pastor Boyakin organized a "female seminary" and one of the charter members, Mary Putnam Rand, B.A., became its principal. She later married Benjamin F. Lemen, son of another member, James Lemen, the illustrious abolitionist, educator and personal friend of Abraham Lincoln.

The school prospered and was finally destroyed by fire in the midst of a tornado. It was never rebuilt. A new church was built only to be destroyed by fire in 1865. In 1870 a new building was built at the corner of Church Street and South Broadway. This brick building was not to be replaced until 1926. Judge Silas L. Bryan, father of W. J. Bryan, was a generous and faithful member of the church and was a deacon there for thirty-five years. The Bryan family was a notable one, and at the death of William J. Bryan a gift of five hundred dollars from the family came to the church. John M. Billingsley, M.A., Bowling Green, Kentucky, was the pastor who led in the erection of the building.

In 1926, under the leadership of Pastor Ira J. Smith, another building was erected. It was of buff brick and larger than the previous one. In 1940 an educational unit was added. This was during the notable pastorate of C. Y. Dossey of Texas. He served until November 1943 and went to Port Arthur, Texas, to become pastor of Proctor Street Baptist Church.

The oil boom of the late '30s and early '40s brought on a problem -- space for Sunday school and worship. When Dr. James M. Baldwin arrived in Salem to become pastor he found that the church had growing pains. Accordingly, a long-range committee was organized to study space and other needs. When it reported in 1945, the report was in two parts: Church rental of the Masonic Temple and Marion County Court Room for Sunday use, and consideration of a new building and larger properties.

In 1949 property on West Main Street was purchased for \$18,500.00. In 1950 construction of the present building was commenced. For the next three years constant activity took place there. Men and women donated their time and skills. It was a strenuous three years, but on October 5, 1953 the congregation "moved in." It was a great day. The following year the building was dedicated. Dr. Paul M. Stevens, Director of Radio and Television for the Southern Baptist Convention, preached the dedicatory sermon. The building project was financed by



First Baptist Church, West Main, Salem, Illinois

the sale of \$175,000.00 in bonds at 4%, a good rate at that time. It was a fifteen year issue, but was paid off in 13 1/2 years.

Missionary gifts were increased in spite of the indebtedness and a motion was made and seconded that the church establish a mission in the northeast part of the city. This was on March 13, 1957.

Dr. Baldwin resigned July 1, 1957 to become Secretary of Evangelism for Illinois Baptists and left Salem. About a year later, 1958, Rev. Olive Rice, new pastor, issued a call to proceed on the Dawley Point lot with the construction of a new mission. It was to cost \$12,000.00. Later on this mission became the Emmanuel Baptist Church (1969).

At the resignation of Rev. H. Ralph Gill, the church recalled Dr. James M. Baldwin, then pastor of the First Baptist Church, Bartlesville, Oklahoma. He returned to Salem on November 25, 1968 and is the present pastor.

The church records 1380 members and has properties in excess of one million dollars. It is fully organized, has a bus ministry and is one of the leading Baptist congregations in Illinois.

Church Of Christ

The first organized congregation of the Church of Christ at Salem began meeting in August of 1939. Organization was made possible at this time by the arrival in Salem of members of the church from the South and Western part of the nation. These families, as part of the oil industry, along with a few natives of Salem who had been meeting in local homes, began holding services in the K. P. Hall. Membership in the first few months varied considerably due to the fact that families working in the oil industry were ever moving in and out of town as

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their work directed them.

The congregation, in its first four years of activity, reached a high of 60 members, and a low of 20. The spirit of determination was high among this number and by June of 1943 they were able to purchase a building at the corner of Church and Walnut Streets. This building was the former French Food Store and much remodeling work was done by the men of the congregation to fit the building for services. Class rooms were constructed and an auditorium was completed with a seating capacity of 125.

Membership at the time of completion of this work was 35 with an attendance of 40 to 50 at each service. In these early years Ray Wright and Hugh Piper preached for the church. They, along with Robert Randolph leading the singing, led the effort in the first years of meeting in the new building.

Though the congregation experienced many losses in number, not only by young men moving out, but also by families moving to other cities, it continued to grow to such an extent that the building in which they were meeting became inadequate, and it was necessary to obtain larger quarters in which to meet. The men of the congregation made plans to build the present building.

After the sale of the building on Walnut Street, the congregation met in the Oak Park School Gym until the present building at 1213 East Main was completed enough to allow services to be held. This building was constructed from a design completed by men of the congregation and has received excellent comment by many for its efficiency and lost cost construction. A great saving was experienced by the effort of the members in doing a great amount of the actual construction. The building was completed at a cost of \$30,000. It contains a full basement, with eight class rooms and a study. The building is fully air-conditioned, and off-street parking has been provided.

Jack Caraker is presently serving as the local minister having served in this position since 1969. The membership now includes 54 families with an average attendance of 120 for Sunday morning services.

Plans are underway to expand the present facilities.

First Christian Church, Salem

By Charles H. Roberts

Memories of the First Christian Church date back to December 18, 1866 when the Church became a constituted body at the home of John A. Williams. A small frame building was purchased and occupied



First Christian Church, which was built in 1879 and was used until 1906. Located where the present Peoples Church of God now stands, across from the library. Picture taken in 1903.

from 1867-1879.

In 1879 a plot of ground was purchased at Elm and South Broadway and the second building was erected. The second building was torn down and the third building erected in 1906. This building was dedicated in September 1907 and now stands on South Broadway and was occupied by the First Christian Church until March 19, 1972 when it was sold to the Peoples Church of God. Ground breaking ceremonies were held June 20, 1971 and present building occupied one year later.

The present new building at Boone and Hawthorn was first occupied for services March 26, 1972. This new building has 19,732 square feet, and has an auditorium seating capacity of 408, a choir capacity of 36, and an overflow capacity in an adjoining fellowship hall up to 200. In addition to offices there are 25 class rooms all equipped with new equipment. Basic construction is of brick and concrete blocks with laminated wood beams. The steeple rises up to 30 feet above the roof. The chapel has a seating capacity of approximately 100.

"WE ENTER TO LEARN, GO FORTH TO SERVE" Class of 1955

A new computerized Allen organ was installed along with a new Grand piano and three other new pianos.

The present building was dedicated Sunday, June 18, 1972, 2:00 p.m. Brother Walter Goodman delivered the dedicatory address. The building committee consisted of Robert Cone and Charles Roberts, co-chairmen, Arthur Baker, John Helm, Murl Skaggs, Maurice Fry, Fred See, and Charles Sarnes. Refreshments were served in the fellowship hall.

On June 17, 1973, the old cornerstone was set in place along with two boxes, one from the 100th anniversary of the old building and certain documents in connection with new building.

At this particular point in time in the writing of this very brief history of the Christian Church, and I assure you many volumes could be written, I would like to list the names of the men who have served the Lord in the capacity of ministering to this congregation: J. A. Williams, J. W. Manaham, John Bradley, Elder Hite, Elder Mulkey, Henry Van Dusen, John Ross, H. R. Tackett, J. M. Hawley, Jacob Wright, Lemuel Martin, Abraham Harrell, R. B. Henry, F. M. Phillips, J. G. Burroughs, Taylor Maupin, J. H. G. Brinkerhoff, James Rowe, Jerome Smart, Elder Mosley, J. H. Tosborough, Elder Black, Clark Braden, F. O. Fannon;

Galem Morton, H. W. Schwaan, R. O. Rogers, T. A. Lindenmeyer, J. F. Rosborough, B. L. Morris, C. E. Morgan, R. F. Bristol, Oscar Hawkins, Mason Gragg, Orville Hawkins, Floyd Lovell, A. A. Millican, J. D. Waters, C. A. Underwood, E. W. Barbee, William Kruger, J. Edwin Smith, Gerald E. Durre, Charles R. Hamilton, James Flannigan, Jack E. Busby present minister.

This does not by any means cover a complete history of the First Christian Church. Plans are in progress for a historical center for items pertaining to the church history, we would like to have the old church bell, pictures, programs, and any news items of history. They will be assembled and placed in the new building. Those who participate in this sesqui-centennial of Salem, Illinois may have or know of the whereabouts of any of the above items. Give to Church office.

First Church of God, Salem

Our general offices are in Anderson, Indiana.

Our work in Salem began in 1926 when Rev. Jay Irwin came to town and held two revivals. One of these was held in a tent on the corner of Walnut and McMackin Streets. Our present church on the corner of Clark and Hamilton was built in 1928.

The Pastors we have had since 1934 are: Hubert Cross, R. T. Page, Heber Cherry, Albert Perry, James Noble, Earl Fisher and our present Pastor,

Hobart P. Dulaney.

First Pentecostal Church

In August 1931, Rev. and Mrs. Basil Parish came to Salem from Decatur where they had been pastoring the past four years. They pitched a tent on the corner of Shelby and Friscoe Avenue in the city park. Large crowds attended and about 75 or 80 were baptized.

In October a frame building was built on Trenary and Lyford and we worshiped there until 1934 when they purchased the location on Shelby and Warmouth and moved the building from Trenary.

In 1940 we built the present building on Shelby Street. Five Sunday school rooms in the basement and one in the main building were later added.

Rev. and Mrs. Basil Parish were ordained ministers and pastored the church until Rev. Parish passed away in February of 1972. Since that time Mrs. Parish has been the pastor and the church is still going on.

Grace Methodist Church

In 1830 the seventh session of the Illinois Conference formed a new area of work called the Grand Prairie Mission; including all the area between the Kaskaskia and Little Wabash Rivers and stretching from Vandalia in the north to Maysville (Clay City) in the south. It is believed that a year or so later Simeon Walker, a circuit rider of the day, preached in Salem; this was the first service held by a Methodist minister in the settlement of less than 100 souls. During this same period, a society was organized and met in the home of Sister Jones.

In 1833 the Grand Prairie Mission became the Salem Mission and the next year it became the Salem circuit. Included with Salem on the Circuit were such points as Sandy Branch, Fosterburg and Walnut Hill. In 1834 James Harsha was appointed to the Circuit; his preaching was done from private homes. When he was in Salem, he stayed in the home of Rufus Ricker, the local tavern keeper, and one of the founders of the City of Salem.

In 1836 Justus R. Ryman was sent to the circuit, and his brother-in-law, James Dickens, was appointed as his colleague. The society had almost disappeared, save two or three drunken backsliders. During this year the old hewed log courthouse, which had been built by the county in 1824, was bought by the church and became fitted as a place of worship. As a result of a protracted meeting, there were over two hundred added to the membership of the circuit, of which twenty were added to the Salem church.

1850 was a banner year for the Methodists in Salem, for that year under the leadership of Rev. Isaac Groves the first frame building was constructed

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and **SWENEY DRUG STORE**, Salem

on the site of the present St. Thomas Episcopal Church. The building was dedicated by Rev. James Leaton D.D. and was used for fifteen years. 1850 also saw the organization of the first Methodist Sunday School; prior to this time the school had been held in union with the other denominations.

On October 1, 1856 the Annual Conference met in session in Salem with Bishop M. Simpson presiding. At this session of the Conference Salem was made a station or a charge with one church. Rev. T. A. Eaton was appointed to the charge, and this was one of the most successful years for the church for over 100 were converted during the winter of 1856-57. Brother Henry Moore was the class leader.



The Methodist Church now the Grace Methodist Church, 1867 to 1906. It was located on West Main Street where the Episcopal Church now stands.

In 1867 the two story brick church was erected on the same site as the frame church. The building was begun under Rev. Joseph Harris and completed under Rev. W. H. Reed. The building contract was awarded to Robert Moore for \$6,850.97 of which \$6,156.62 was received on regular subscription. The building was dedicated in March 1868 by Thomas

Bowman, D.D., President of Asbury University, now DePauw University.

In 1875, the Trustees purchased the first parsonage; the house and lot cost \$600. The Trustees were authorized to spend an additional sum, not exceeding \$800 to enlarge and improve the property. Rev. Reynolds must have been the first to occupy this parsonage; before this time a home was rented from Bro. William Wallace at the rate of \$12.50 per month.

For the portion of the history dealing with the period 1883 to 1939 one can improve little on the paper written by one of the legendary members of the church, Miss Mattie Knight. Miss Mattie, longtime Secretary of the Official Board and teacher of the Gleaners Sunday School Class, seems to be the official keeper of the records of the church for over 40 years; the pithy statements for which she was famous punctuate even her historical writings:

"In 1883 J. B. Reynolds came. This pastor died in the middle of his third year. There is no record of who finished out the year. In 1885 J. B. Ravenscroft came for two years.

"In 1887 L. W. Thrall came as pastor and served for two years, and was followed in '89 by N. Crow, who stayed three years. In 1892 J. B. Thompson came passing away during the third year of his pastorate. He is buried in the Salem cemetery. Following his death, S. P. Young was immediately sent to fill the vacancy and remained for a period of service that lasted until 1901.

On Sunday, March 1905 the subscriptions for the present edifice were taken. This date was the thirty-seventh anniversary of the building of the old church. The new church was to have cost \$17,000.00 and subscriptions were accepted to cover that amount.

Plans went forward for the new church and the building was dedicated on June 14, 1908 at a cost of \$40,000. The congregation was left with an unpredictable debt. In the time that followed there was not a preacher in the Southern Illinois conference who was willing to come to Salem to grapple with the debt. That fall J. G. Tucker went to other fields and W. T. Morris came and stayed two years.

"During this whole period of time until 1916, the church was still heavily in debt which was a great burden. In December of 1918 Mr. A. H. Bachman passed away leaving a legacy of \$5,000.00 to the Church. This with some careful planning by Bro. Flotfelty brought about the payment of the last \$10,000.00 in February 1919 by the contribution of Liberty Bonds."

In 1937 Herbert R. Bennett, the youngest man ever to serve the charge came to be pastor. Dr. C. C. Hall, District Superintendent, requested that Salem hold the Annual Conference in 1939, but the church later had to refuse because of the shortage of housing facilities caused by the oil boom.

"WE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH, AND THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE US FREE" Class of 1940

With the approach of union among the three Methodist bodies in 1939, it became necessary to change the name of the Church from Salem Methodist Episcopal Church to something more appropriate. The official board appointed a committee of the Ladies Aid Society to select a list of names from which to choose. On March 6, 1939 the Official Board voted unanimously for the name Grace Methodist.

In 1945 Rev. E. M. Dycus, presently Superintendent of the Methodist Home in Lawrenceville, became our pastor. Under his leadership the church properties greatly improved, and the new lighting system was installed by the men of the church under the direction of C. A. Deckert and Howard Orr.

In 1948 Rev. H. E. Burge began a three year ministry. He was followed by Rev. C. V. Tolley, who stayed for four years. Alfred Pfaff was conference lay leader.

One cannot recall the pastorate of Carl E. Hearn without remembering his talent as a pianist. In 1956 the Sunday School classes were meeting in all parts of the church, in the hallways, in the kitchen, later in the parsonage and finally even in the Park Hotel. In 1957 Rev. Hearn requested that serious consideration be given to building a new educational building. In June of 1957 a special building committee was selected to serve during the program. Gatewood and Fields of Mt. Vernon were chosen to be architects for the addition which was to be constructed on the lot west of the church where the parsonage was located. In April 1958 the old parsonage was vacated by the minister's family, who moved to a new home that was purchased at 503 North Broadway for \$25,000. The old parsonage was demolished during the winter of 1959.

Rev. Carl D. Mitchell became the minister in a 1960 mid-year transfer from the First Church in Greenville. The construction of the new educational building began in April 1960, and was completed in March 1961. The general contractor for the \$225,000 building was Lewis Barenfanger, whose father Edward Barenfanger constructed the main part of the church. On September 10, 1961 the official opening of the building was held for the public.

Beginning in the summer 1961 and continuing until September, 1962, Sunday morning worship services were broadcast over Radio Station WJBD.

Rev. Julius J. Webb came to Salem in 1963. It is believed, although records are not clear at this point, that Rev. Webb is the first Theological Seminary graduate to serve the church in its history.

Rev. Webb left Grace Church January 30, 1966 to serve with the National Board of Missions. Rev. John Curtis, Chaplain of the McKendree College served as interim pastor until he received the appointment by the conference. He served Grace Church until June, 1968.

Two highlights of the pastorate of Rev. Ivan Lirely were the renovation of the sanctuary and the introduction of a new form of evangelism with the Lay Witness experiences of 1970.

The present pastor is Rev. Dwight Jones.

In 1964 the Board of Trustees purchased the Park Hotel property just west of the church for \$21,000. The building was razed and the lot seeded. In time shrubbery will be planted to beautify the lot. Sidewalks and a parking lot for seven cars have been added, under the direction of a committee from the trustees: Charles Jones, Brad Brinkerhoff and Fred Tresslar.

Presbyterian Church, Salem

Salem's First United Presbyterian Church, (USA), originally organized as the Cumberland Presbyterian in 1830, was not formally founded and officially recognized until 1846. This is credited to the pioneering energy of the Rev. William Finley.

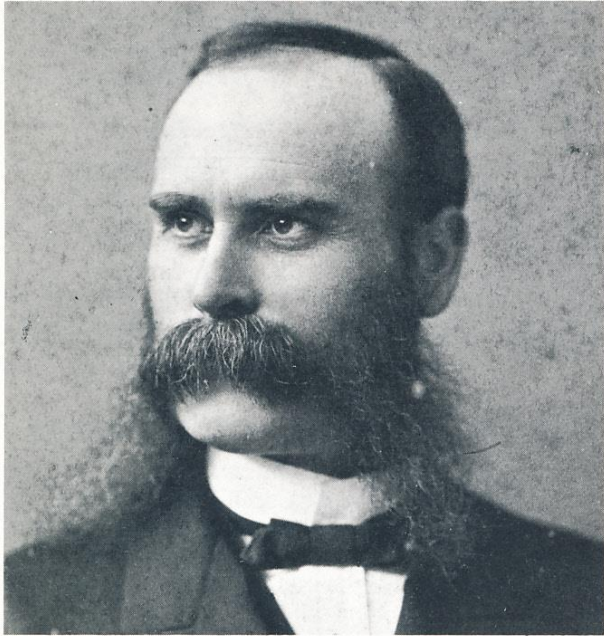
Prominent among the charter members was W. T. (Uncle Billy) Lackey, who organized the "Sabbath School," led the congregational singing, and personally assisted in the erection of the first church edifice. It was located just north of the present home of Mrs. J. W. (Button) White on N. Washington. The present location of the church on S. Washington was selected and the edifice begun in 1858. The cornerstone was laid and the building completed in 1900. Several improvements and the Christian Education building addition have been made over the past 40 years.

During the 125th anniversary observance, the local congregation joined with clergymen and lay



Dr. and Mrs. Sprouls, the pastor of the old Presbyterian Church. The picture was taken on Children's Day around the turn of the century.

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and **THE BROWN SHOE CO.**, Salem, Ill.



Dr. and Mrs. Sprouls, the pastor and wife of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.



The Cumberland Presbyterian Church -- now the First United Presbyterian Church. Picture taken in 1903.

leaders in celebrating the significant role and progress of the church in this community from 1846 to 1971. Many of the church's members were honored for their active participation in both church and community.

The Church is justly proud of its specially-constructed organ, which resulted from the early diligence and knowledge of the late J. M. Chance. A gift from W. J. Bryan was the pulpit, which features a mother-of-pearl inlay depicting the Biblical burning bush. Many others have donated gifts that have assisted the church with necessary improvements.

St. Theresa's Church, Salem

The Churches of Salem and Marion county have played an integral part of the history of this community, and St. Theresa's Parish has been a part of this history and has grown with the community.

The building of the Mississippi and Ohio Railroad (later named the B&O) through Salem from the east to St. Louis brought the first Catholic settlers to the area. The railroad was established here between 1850-1855 when the first round trip was made from Cincinnati to St. Louis. Most of these Catholics did not settle here but moved on to St. Louis from the

"THE HIGHER WE CLIMB, THE BETTER THE VIEW" Class of 1939

east, seeking newer and better livelihoods. They were not enough members to warrant any parish.

The first page of this history was written on August 13, 1866 when Jacob O. Chance and Emma Chance deeded a tract of land to the Diocese for a church -- and St. Theresa's history begins.

The first Church was erected in 1868 on South Washington Street. It was a frame structure. Up to that time Catholics attended Mass at Odin. Bishop Baltes appointed Bernard Schwartz and John Wibel as first trustees. Presently Emmett Kane and Virgil Wilson serve as trustees.

St. Theresa's began with eight families. At the turn of the century, Henry Lee Borden, of the Borden Milk Co. moved here from Chicago and began a vast farm experimental station for processing milk. The Borden family was Catholic and attracted additional Catholic families because of the business. By 1920 the Bordens were instrumental in attracting some 104 Catholic families to the area.

Prior to 1930 the Catholic families had the privilege of Holy Mass only every other Sunday. They alternated with the Kinmundy Parish. After highway 37 was completed in 1930, St. Theresa's had Mass each Sunday and Holy day.

For a number of years the parish was served by the priests of the Franciscan Society at Teutopolis, Illinois. Later the Parish was served from Flora and Sandoval. It was not until June 27, 1940 that the first resident pastor was assigned. On that date Father A. B. Schomaker was appointed pastor. The present Pastor, Father Harry J. Schumacher was appointed in July of 1971.



Sketch of St. Theresa's Catholic Church.

On April 26, 1940 a giant step forward was taken by the Parish. Final plans were made for construction of the present Church on the corner of West Main and Ohio streets. The home of Adolph Dietrick at 812 West Main was purchased and was to serve as a rectory. The corner lot had been purchased by P. L. Guth and donated by him to the parish. Mr. and Mrs. Guth not only donated the corner lot but also financed the construction of the building of the Church.

Education has always been an important part of Catholicism. Each Sunday after Mass the priest in attendance gave religious instructions and Bible study.

In 1954 plans were initiated for the construction of a parish school and convent and the school was dedicated in 1955. In 1969 the School was converted to a CCD Religious Education Center. Today, besides serving as a CCD Center, it is also used by many community organizations and recreational programs.

One hundred five years has passed and the parish has grown from a small mission to a vibrant, modern Christian Community.

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

St. Thomas Parish in Salem, Marion County, Illinois was established in the year 1857 in what was then the Diocese of Illinois, and is now the Diocese of Springfield. The immediate cause of the founding of the parish was the construction of the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad, now the Baltimore and Ohio, since the railroad brought several families from the east and south to the community. The Rev. John W. Osborne came from Chicago once per month to hold services in the Presbyterian Church. The original members are said to have numbered twelve.

The first recorded Wardens of the Parish were John W. Merritt and R. H. Whittaker. The first recorded Clerk was Lewis W. Drake, and other first Vestrymen were James Trimble, Thomas Prior, John Gibbons, Thomas Lawrence, Richard Atkins, a Mr. Brown and a Dr. Cooper. The first chalice for the parish was given in 1860 by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis W. Drake.

The Civil War took a heavy toll and at its end the parish fell dormant as an organization. The first chalice was given to a parish in Bristol, Pennsylvania, and services continued on an irregular basis. During this post-war period the Vicars of Christ Church, Carlyle, served the congregation in Salem, first the Rev. William J. Frost and then the Rev. Clarence D. Frankel. Services were held in various places including the Moser & Hart Jewelry Store and the Park Hotel, whose Host, Captain Johnston, was a churchman. Mr. Hart gave an organ to St. Thomas which was used up until 1951 at which time a new organ was purchased.

Following Evening Prayer on July 13, 1899, the parish was reorganized by the Rev. Edward F. Seymour, Vicar of Christ Church, Carlyle, with 22 in attendance. Miss Harriett Merritt was elected Clerk. In August 1899 plans were made for bi-monthly services in the G.A.R. Hall. A choir was organized under the direction of Mr. James Castle. On September 3, 1899, a Sunday Church School was organized with Mrs. Eugenia Drake McMackin as Superintendent

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and Mrs. James Castle and Miss Harriett Merritt as teachers. St. John's Church, Centralia, and Christ Church, Carlyle, supplied Prayer Books, altar linens and a chalice for services. St. Thomas' Guild of Episcopal Church Women was organized on September 5, 1899, with Mrs. James S. Martin as President. The Guild met every Tuesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Martin.

On February 11, 1900, ten persons were confirmed by the Rt. Rev. George F. Seymour, first Bishop of Springfield. At this time the communicant list numbered 16.

An interesting sidelight at this time is the Treasurer's Report for January, 1900. It lists a total of \$6.50 collected and the following paid out: \$1.00 to Father Seymour, \$3.00 Rent, \$1.50 to the janitor, leaving a balance of \$1.00. Oh, for the simpler days!!

In the spring of 1900 it was arranged for Father Seymour of Carlyle to hold one Sunday service and one Thursday evening service per month, for which he would be paid \$125.00 per year. His finances were improving!

On May 11, 1905, a meeting was held to form a building committee to plan the construction of a church building. The committee consisted of the Rev. Alexander A. Cairns of Carlyle, James E. Castle, C. L. McMackin, Dr. T. F. Spencer, Francis G. Hart, James S. Martin and F. C. Goodnow.

The cornerstone was laid on July 1, 1908, at 512 West Main Street, on ground purchased from the Methodist Church, which had moved from the lot to the courthouse square. Bricks from the old Methodist Church were recently uncovered during the construction of the new parish hall. **The Springfield Churchman**, diocesan magazine, reported in its July issue, "The contract for the new church has been let, and the lumber is on the ground. It is expected that it will be finished by St. Michael's Day, if not before. The cost will be about \$2,500.00, the church being designed by Mr. John Sutcliffe, the Diocesan Architect, on the same general lines as the beautiful little church lately built in Carlyle."

The contractor for the building was Mr. Edward E. Barenfanger, a member of the parish and the father of Lewis E. Barenfanger, contractor for the new parish hall. The stone used was from the same load of stone used to build the new Grace Methodist Church, from which St. Thomas Parish had purchased the lot on Main Street.

The new church building was consecrated (cleared of debt) on March 5, 1922, by the Rt. Rev. Granville Hudson Sherwood, Third Bishop of Springfield.

The next thirty years showed a stable membership figure, but a rather rapid change in the priests who served the parish, the priests always serving more than one town, and seldom living in Salem.



St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Oct. 22, 1933, O. A. James, Supt.

In 1950 St. Anne's Guild of Episcopal Church Women was formed, meeting in the evening for those who could not meet in the afternoon. And in 1957 the lot and house just east of the Church were purchased, to be used as a parish hall or as a Vicarage for a resident priest. The lots to the west and north of the Church were left to the parish by Miss Nancy B. Martin.

In 1971 the construction of a new parish hall was begun across the back of the church, providing a large hall, a kitchen, Vicar's office, meeting room and nursery and restroom. It was planned so as to provide an orderly plan for future building expansion, either of the church or parish hall as needed.

At present the parish numbers 86 Baptized persons and 55 Communicants in good standing.

Salem Free Methodist Church

On Sunday, February 12, 1956, Rev. C. A. McDonald, Dist. Sup't. of the Cowden District of the Central Illinois Conference of The Free Methodist Church, conducted the first Free Methodist Services, at Salem, Illinois. There were 68 persons present at this meeting in the V.F.W. Hall. At a family night program held in April it was decided by those present to associate with the Free Methodist Church as the parent organization.

Rev. McDonald supplied the pulpit each Sunday

with the exception of a few, when other pastors would fill in. At a society meeting held in July of 1956, the congregation voted to ask the Central Illinois Conference to send a full time pastor beginning with the new conference year.

During conference it was decided to buy a parsonage and an offering was taken at the church with the initial contributions amounting to \$500.00. The parsonage was purchased at 519 S. Jefferson Street and made ready for the new pastor appointed by the annual conference, Rev. and Mrs. Myron B. Henry.

On Sept. 30, 1956 it was decided to purchase two corners of McMackin and Marion Streets from C. M. Brinkerhoff for \$2,500.00 on which to build a new church. In less than two weeks the city began to clear the lots for the construction of a new church. The excavation for the basement began on the 17th of October and progress continued sometimes slowly but with hope that before long a beautiful structure would be on this corner.

The first services were held in the basement of the new Church on March 17, 1957 with 93 persons present. On July 17th, 1957 the church was officially organized with Rev. C. A. McDonald, D.S. as the presiding officer. 13 charter members were received into the church.

The congregation worshipped in the basement of the church while work progressed until the building neared completion and the used pews and furniture from the basement was moved into the upstairs sanctuary in the spring of 1961. The Annual Conference of 1961 in the pastoral changes appointed Rev. and Mrs. A. W. Mathias, who had been pastor at Eldorado, Ill. as pastor of the Salem Free Methodist Church. Rev. Mathias recommended to the Board of Trustees that we take immediate steps to complete the church and secure the much needed church pews and chancel furniture.

The remaining carpenter and electrical work was soon completed and a general clean up of construction materials followed. The pastor asked the congregation to express their desire of securing immediately the furniture and a near unanimous consent was given. Several furniture manufacturers were considered and the samples were examined. It was decided to purchase the pews and the furniture from the Ossit Mfg. Co. of Janesville, Wisconsin at a cost of \$2,775.00 and the order was placed for installation by Christmas of 1961.

The new pews and pulpit furniture arrived and were installed by December 15th, 1961. The next big step in our progress was the dedication service March 18, 1962 with Bishop L. R. Marston. We were hosts to the Cowden District Quarterly Conference preceeding the dedication. Prior to the dedication a fine public address system was installed with speak-

ers in sanctuary, cry room, and basement. 291 persons attended the dedication.

In February of 1962, the Conference Committee on Buildings and Location met at Salem to look over some property for a parsonage. The house directly across McMackin was considered but the committee felt the proper thing to do was to build a new parsonage on the lot west of the Church. April 23, 1962 the excavation was begun and on August 8, 1962 the parsonage was completed. Rev. and Mrs. Mathias did the painting and decorating on the parsonage to save labor costs. A beautiful structure of stone and frame with 6 rooms, it adds much to our property.

Salem General Baptist Church

Following two successful tent Revivals in 1937 and 1938, the First General Baptist Church of Salem, Illinois, was organized on Wednesday evening July 6, 1938, in the Union Grove Associational tent in the city block just west of where the Church now stands.

There were 21 charter members.

The acting Moderator was Rev. R. C. Butcher of Iuka. Clerk was Rev. G. E. McConaughay of Kell. Before the first Church was built services were held in the homes.

The Salem Church was accepted into the Union Grove Association at Mt. Pleasant Church October, 1938. The Union Grove Association was organized in 1863.

The first services were held in the new church building March 4, 1939.

The first Sunday School was organized December 2, 1939. The Ladies' Jolly Workers was organized May 4, 1945. Men's Fellowship was organized in 1943.

A second and larger church was erected 1948. In 1972 classrooms and baptistry were added to the building.

Our membership now stands at 125. Five of our charter members are still living.

Salem Lutheran Church

The first Lutheran service was conducted in Salem on January 25, 1925 by Rev. O. Keyle, pastor of the Lutheran Church in Iuka. In September of that year the group of Lutherans began meeting twice a month in the Southern Methodist Church. E. C. Zimmermann, a theological student, was called to conduct services. The undertaking was turned over to the Central Illinois Mission Board of the Lutheran Church.

Mr. Herman Neitzel, also a Seminary student, continued the preaching services and confirmed the first class of catechumens on June 5, 1927.

In March, 1928 services were moved to the third floor of the Salem National Bank building. This enabled the group to have morning services and Sunday School.

On April 22, 1928 Salem Lutheran Church was organized with six charter members. The newly organized congregation called Rev. F. Henning to be their pastor. He served the congregation until 1935. At this time services were conducted in the American Legion Hall.

During the pastorate of Alfred Winter the congregation grew to the size that the group decided to erect their own church building at the corner of Ohio and Cedar Streets. The church was dedicated on Oct. 26, 1941.

The other pastors who served the congregation are: L. A. Wolf; A. H. Brutlag; C. T. Knippel; M. L. Albers; R. J. Mueller; Reinhart Steinley; Jacob Esslinger, and the present pastor, O. J. Klinkerman, who was installed in December 1966.

In January 1947 the congregation, numbering 143 members, became self-supporting. The church's 25th anniversary was observed on Oct. 15, 1950, with Prof. E. C. Zimmermann as speaker.

The congregation also erected a parsonage adjoining the church. For a while Sunday School classes and other church activities were carried on in the parsonage basement. But when this space became too small to handle the increasing number of members, the congregation added a Sunday School annex to the church, which includes four classrooms, a large meeting room, the pastor's office, a complete kitchen and a large basement meeting room.

In December, 1966 the congregation entered into an experimental arrangement with Faith Lutheran Church, Flora, to have the Salem pastor serve both congregations. Plans are now under way to dissolve this dual parish arrangement so that Salem Lutheran Church can function as an independent congregation, with the pastor serving the local church on a full time basis.

The congregation maintains the usual auxiliaries and organizations, such as Sunday School, Vacation Bible school, Bible classes for all ages, a ladies' society, couples' club, youth group.

In the past five years extensive improvements have been made to the property, such as siding on all buildings, paneling of the sanctuary, new carpeting, additional pews, acoustical ceilings and the like.

As a memorial to James Ogg, his family provided all new chancel furnishings, including pulpit, altar, lectern, baptismal font, chancel cross and dossal curtain.

Some of the present facilities are becoming inadequate and last year a special long range planning committee was appointed to plot the future course

of the congregation regarding church enlargement or relocation.

Trinity United Methodist

The Trinity United Methodist Church presently located at 1000 West Boone Street, Salem was established in 1860 and was known as the Southern Methodist Church until the unification of the Methodist Episcopal, the Methodist Protestant and the Southern Methodist Churches in 1939. The Congregation then chose the name Trinity to designate it from the other Methodist Church in Salem which chose the name, Grace.

The Trinity Methodist has occupied three buildings, the first being at 207 East Main Street. The second location at 502 East Washington was destroyed by fire in February, 1955. The new church building located at 1000 West Boone had its formal opening day on April 7th, 1957. Five years later a new parsonage home was built on one of the nine lots located east of the church.

The first church records available list the Rev. R. J. Jones as pastor of the church from 1872 to 1873. The Rev. J. F. Watson was pastor when the new Church and parsonage was built on West Boone Street. The present pastor, the Rev. Marion C. Ford was appointed to Trinity in June, 1971.

Zion Methodist Church

On Saturday afternoon, August 11, 1867, under an oak tree at a crossroad about 3 1/2 miles north east of Salem, a small group of men gathered to make plans to build a church in which they could worship their Lord. At that time services were held in the Union School House, a half mile north of the present location.

The following Monday, August 13, work began. On Thanksgiving Day of that year, Rev. T. N. Johnson conducted the first service there and a large group of thankful people met for the evening meal.

On December 21, 1867, a warranty deed was recorded at Salem, Illinois, county seat of Marion County. The deed reads from William and Margaret McKibben to trustees of Zion Methodist Episcopal Church, of Salem Circuit, Salem District, John T. Whitlow, E. M. Shrigley, Matthias Leckrone, William Leckrone and Joseph Crist. The land was donated by the McKibbens. The first church cost \$1,500.00 and was completely paid for when the deed was given. It was not dedicated until June, 1868. The first quarterly conference was held on December 28, 1867. At that time there were 8 churches on the charge of Salem circuit: Antioch, Alma, Adams, Union Grove, New Middleton, Loomis School House, Blackburns House and Zion.

"TO EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON, AND A TIME TO EVERY PURPOSE UNDER HEAVEN" Class of 1945

The minister was paid a salary of \$600.00 with \$100.00 being paid by Zion. The parsonage was in Salem at that time.

In 1869 it was changed to Vandalia District, Salem circuit and Blackburns had been moved from the charge and in 1870 Phenix was added and Woodard School House mentioned as a Church. In 1880, Zion was transferred to Iuka circuit with Iuka, Siloam, Union Grove as churches on the charge. In 1889 Zion was transferred to Alma circuit with Alma, Pleasant Grove, Zion and Cabbage Chapel.

The pastor Chester Burke received \$380 yearly including house rent necessary for pastor then. Alma paid \$130 for services once every two weeks and to look after parsonage, Pleasant Grove had afternoon preaching every two weeks \$85, Zion a morning service \$105, and Cabbage afternoon service \$60.

Epworth League was organized at Zion in 1891.

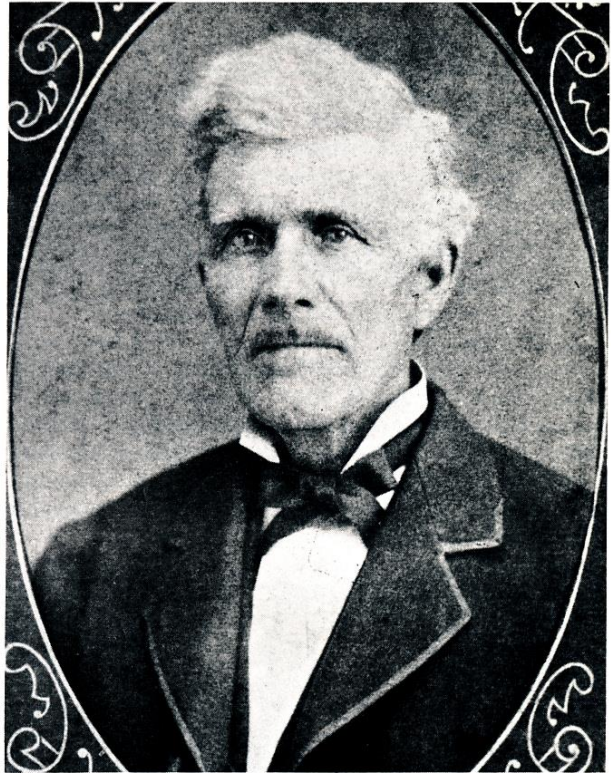
The circuit was transferred to Centralia district later transferring to Olney district. In 1964, we were returned to the Vandalia District. In 1964, Cabbage Chapel was moved from Alma Charge except for the Methodist Men Organization. The Methodist Men Organization was organized in 1946. In 1963 they built permanent tabernacle for charge revivals at the crossroads two miles north of Zion Church.

SCHOOLS

The first school taught in Salem was taught by Alexander Kell, in the old log court house about 1828. Until the School Law of 1855 was passed, education in Salem was by private tutor, conscription school or in one of the Female Seminaries. Rev. William Finley advertised in the Salem Advocate that his spring session would commence April 4th with the rate of tuition of \$2.50. Students from the county or a distance were encouraged and private boarding was to be had at the low rates of from 70 cents to \$1.50 per week according to the age of the child.

In 1873 the Salem Schools became a graded school; i.e. one grade for each year of chronological age for the years six through thirteen. This was a definite step forward from the departmental system used up until that time. The first graduation of the Grammar Department was held on May 10, 1897 in the school hall. Thirteen graduated from the eighth grade that year.

Because of the influx of population with the moving of the C & E I Railroad shops to Salem, the school building became quite over crowded. The citizens petitioned the school board of District #111 to build a four room addition to the existing building. On June 7, 1910, the citizens voted 190-99 in favor of building an addition to the west side of the building.



Mr. Alexander Kell, the first teacher in Salem.

The plans were drawn up by Wm. Morrow and the contract was let for \$7,735.00.

This building was designated Oak Park School and is still being used by District #111 as a Junior High School Building. Miss Mary Burn was assigned the job of Principal and seventh grade teacher of the old building. Her salary was set at sixty dollars per month. On Sept. 10, 1915 there was a selection of students in the first grade for the new school.

The first public school of Salem began the first instruction in April of 1858. The Salem Public School was divided into three departments: The Higher Department, the Preparatory Department, and the Primary Department. The Higher Department, taught by the Principal, Mr. G. M. Cole, had an enrollment of 110 during some part of the year. Not all students took all the course offerings.

The school building was a frame two story structure located in the 300 block of North Washington. The rate of tuition was 5¢ per day or \$3.00 per term. The scholars were charged only for the days in actual attendance; languages and higher math were taught without charge. Scholars from abroad were able to board in Salem in good families for \$1.50 to \$2.00 per week.

In 1871 the directors of the Salem Public School,

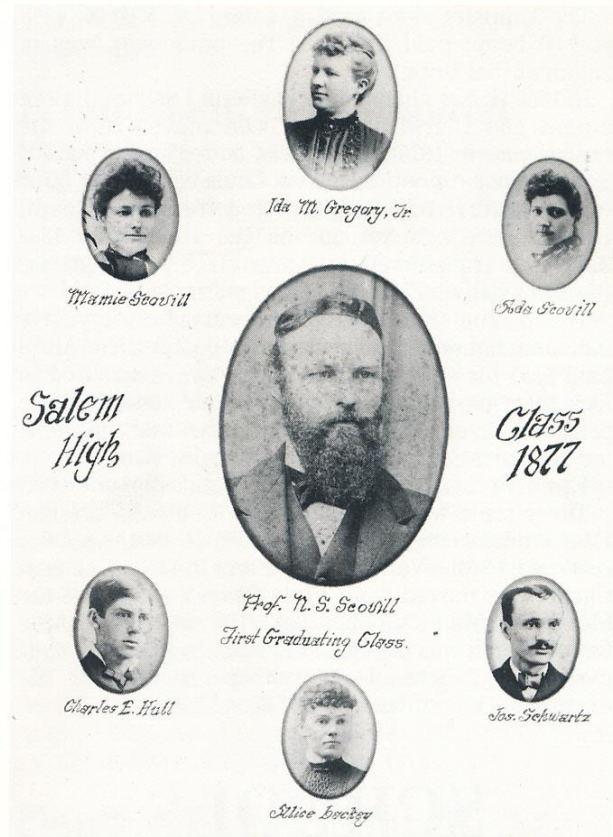
B. F. Marshall, G. R. Pace, and J. Schultz, published a pamphlet, "Rules, Regulations and Course of Instruction." The following are some of the rules unique to that date of publishing. "The school shall be opened at 9 o'clock A.M., and closing at 12:00 P.M. re-opening at 1:30 P.M., and closing at 4:30 P.M." except on Friday when closing was a half an hour earlier for the weekly teachers' meeting. Section 9 under Assistant Teachers says "All teachers shall exercise a firm and vigilant but prudent discipline... chastisement with the rod, and reporting to the Principal all deemed modes of punishment." At this time the present grades of 7, 8 and 9 were considered the High School Department. The course offerings of the third year of high school were: Latin, Greek, Mental and Moral Philosophy, Political Economy, Trigonometry and Surveying, and Bookkeeping. The Principal, Mr. H. A. Coolidge and his assistant, Miss Delia Drapar were the complete faculty.



The Salem Public School from 1872 to 1968. Located where the Central Grade school building is now standing.

In the early 1870's the school outgrew its buildings, and the school later known as Central School was erected at a cost of "upwards" of \$30,000. Any debt incurred in the building project was paid by 1880. The Salem Public School Building was located in the central part of the city, southwest of the square. It was a red brick, three story building with a mansard roof. It contained eight rooms and the third story was fitted up as an assembly hall seating 700 people. It was in this third story that the high school classes were held for the next 50 years.

The course of study leading to graduation from a three year high school was instituted in 1873. The first graduating class of three girls and two boys completed the course under N. S. Scovill, Superin-

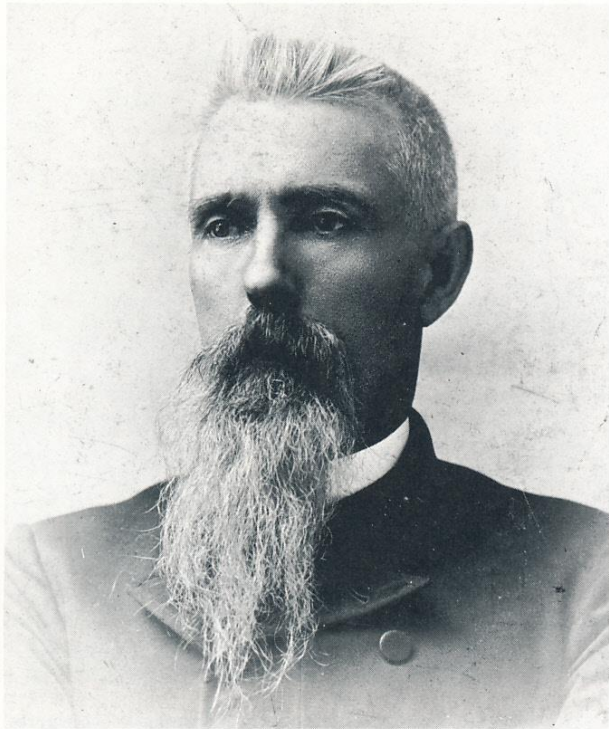


The first graduating class from Salem High School class of 1877. The Principal is pictured in the center. The high school was a three year course at that time.



The first four year graduating class consisted of five boys. From left to right, Mr. Alex Telford, Mr. Fred Merz, Mr. George Van Treeese, Mr. Erasmus Telford, and Mr. John Storment.

"WE BUILD A LADDER BY WHICH WE CLIMB" Class of 1958



Prof. J. H. G. Brinkerhoff, Superintendent of Salem High School for seven years starting in 1886. He changed Salem High School from a three year course to a four year course. He persuaded five boys to stay the fourth year in 1890. They were John Storment, Erasmus Telford, Alex Telford, Fred Merz and Mel Van Treese. Mr. Brinkerhoff was the author of Brinkerhoff's History of Marion County which is used a great deal as a reference book. When Prof. Brinkerhoff came to Salem in 1886 the High School Staff consisted of Miss Laura Meyers and himself. Brad Brinkerhoff who has been a member of both school boards is a grandson.

tendent, and Miss Ida Gregory, Teacher, and were graduated on May 18, 1877. The high school classes continued interrupted; however, classes were not

graduated in the years 1880 to 1884.

In 1889 Professor J. H. G. Brinkerhoff persuaded five of the graduating class to continue in the high school for a fourth year. This all male class completed a course of study with a grade of 75 per cent or more.

At the turn of the century the Salem High School remained in the same location. The third story of the school building was reached by three different flights of stairs. The central part of the floor was occupied with an assembly hall; each of the approximately 110 students had his own desk and chair firmly fastened to the floor -- the boys on one side and the girls on the other. In the south wing, there were two recitation rooms; one room for each of the teachers. Originally the building was heated with "potbellied" stoves; however, around 1900 these were replaced by a furnace that did not adequately



The entire school faculty in 1905: the two high school teachers and all of the grade school teachers. Front row: Jessie Kagy Lovell, Lottie Kell Pribble, Prof. Gilpin, Supt., Alice Lackey. Second row: Anna Bryan Torrence, Ella Spencer (only teacher in the high school besides the Supt.), Ida Wells, Maude Cunningham Jennings, Florence Warmoth, and Mary Burns.

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This sober group was the fifth grade class of the Salem school in 1896. Bottom Row: Cellie Hunter, Edith Kell, ---- Martin, ---- Martin, Lyda Caldwell, unknown, Will Hester, Walter Periman, Hasty Harrison. Middle row: Leona Lord, Eva Williams, Lottie McMackin, Dora Helm, Julia Steen, Charlie Rogers, Dwight Morris, Ed Green, ---- Francis, unknown, Gordon Crossett, Wildy Groves, unknown, George Crowell, unknown, Press Johnson. Top Row: ---- Arnold, Bob Kaiser, ---- Young, Florence Crossett, Mary Wible, Myrtle Hull, Mellie McWhorler, Ella Dixon, Maude Bachman, Ella Meredith, Loren Knight, Everett Williamson, Mrs. P. K. Johnson (teacher).

heat the third floor. Often the students were forced to wear their coats in the classrooms, occasionally school was dismissed because of the cold.

The building was furnished with electric lights shortly after the city hall built the light plant in 1898. City water was installed in 1913 and the schools were connected with the sanitary sewer in May of 1918. One of the things that the alumni of the class of 1907 remembered were the privies on the south side of the schools. One of the ladies interviewed said, "I can still smell them." The building was not beginning to show its age and in 1908 a fire escape was added to the north side and four metal rods were installed through the building.

The school day consisted of opening exercises led by the Professor -- the pledge to the flag and songs such as "Flow Gently Sweet Afton."

Everyone went home for meals except those who lived two miles or over. Some of the high school students who lived outside the town boarded with local families. Only those living along railroads were able to commute to school from the county.

The most important events of the high school year took place near graduation. At this time there were

"Intellectual Meets' both intra and inter varsity. In 1900 the Honorable William J. Bryan offered an annual prize of \$10 for the best written and delivered oration. Prizes were also given for essays and declamation. Each graduate was required to give an oration at graduation.

Graduation requirements were quite rigid and there was no election of courses. One young lady refused to take geometry; she did not graduate.

On March 29, 1910 the High School inspectors from the University of Illinois reviewed the school and accredited fully the Salem High School. Graduates could now enter the state university without examination and the moral and intellectual tone of the school was lifted. In the fall of 1910, the first modern foreign language, German, was added to the curriculum. All of this was accomplished under Supt. M. A. Thrasher.

In 1911, quite a discussion was had in the school board meeting over the proposition as to whether or not there should be recess in the High School. The matter was left to the Principal, J. C. Chamberlin. In 1913 caps and gowns were adopted for Baccalaureate and Commencement. In 1914 the first dup-

"STUDY AS IF YOU WERE TO LIVE FOREVER, LIVE AS IF YOU WERE TO DIE TOMORROW" Class of 1936

licator machine was purchased for the office. On February 22, 1914 the Schwartz Brothers donated 4 barrels of apples from their orchards for the entire school; a custom which continued for over 50 years.

On February 14, 1914 a special election to form a Township High School District was held. The proposition was defeated. On July 16, 1914 another special election was held to consider buying a site and building a new school. This proposition carried 322 to 210. The proposition to issue \$20,000 in bonds carried 318 to 219. On August 17, 1914 the contract of \$17,775.00 was let to E. H. Barenfanger and C. W. Mans. The new building was occupied at the beginning of the 1915-16 school year.

In September of 1915, the Board allowed the third floor at the Central building to be fitted as a basketball court provided "The windows be properly guarded and the building be properly cared for and that the ball team pay the light bill." In October the band boys were also given the use of this same hall and under the same circumstances. In October 1918 the first basketball coach, Lee Blair, was hired at \$20 per week. Before this time, the principal's duties also included coaching.

During World War I, German was dropped from the curriculum. On May 8, 1918 there was a special meeting to investigate the rumor of disloyalty among the faculty. The board adjourned after voting its "unquestioned" loyalty in the patriotism of the faculty.

After World War I, the curriculum was significantly changed for the first time with the addition of commercial arithmetic, domestic science and manual training. In 1921 a cloakroom was converted into a laboratory and chemistry was introduced. Also, a half unit of chorus or orchestra was required of all students.

January 10, 1920 six of the nine teachers petitioned the board for an increase in pay due to the cost of living. The board considered this as an ultimatum and denied the request. Teachers in 1920 (50 years ago at this writing) were making on the average of \$850.00 per year.

Mr. C. L. Edwards was hired as superintendent in 1922 at a salary of \$2,500.00 a year.

On May 12, 1923 a special election was held on the proposition to build an addition to the school in the amount of \$65,000. This carried 524 for -148 against. The addition was completed in 1923. The first floor contained a large gym; the second floor housed an assembly hall, library and classrooms. In 1924 the district tournament was held in the newly finished gym.

Mrs. Eva Kagy was employed as secretary to the Superintendent in 1923 at a salary of \$15.00 per month. In July of 1925 Superintendent Edwards requested his pay in 12 monthly installments.

In 1925 a commercial course of shorthand, typing and bookkeeping was added to the curriculum. And in 1927 the first football coach, Mr. Fred Conay, was hired. Also that year the practice of mid-year promotion was adopted by the board; a policy which was continued for a number of years.

The graduating class of 1926 refused to agree to wear caps and gowns as instructed. The Board voted not to hold graduation exercises. A P.T.A. group asked to hold its own baccalaureate, but the board refused to attend. According to the third special board meeting minutes, the class asked permission to have a certain document presented to the board and agreed to wear caps and gowns. The board assented to their request for the usual exercises.

In 1929 the University of Illinois approved a schedule of credits for 26 course offerings including: economics, business law, French, and agriculture. Also in 1929 the Board purchased the present athletic field (8 acres) for \$1,000.00 to be paid out of athletic funds if possible. In 1931 lights were installed on the football field.

At the beginning of the depression, much of the business of the Board was concerning how to meet expenses and cut costs. In September, 1932 there were 359 students enrolled; 115 of these were non-high school tuition students. But not all non-high school districts were paying 100% of their claims. In 1933 the board began issuing anticipation warrants. In April of 1933, the high school teachers salaries were cut by 4%. Taxes were being collected at about 80% and the county superintendent would not even guess as to what would be available from the State Distributive Fund.

In 1935 the board entered into a contract for two years at \$150.00 per month with a bus owner providing he enrolled an average of 25 students. He was to furnish the bus and insurance. At the next meeting, there were four more requests for contracts. The board awarded another contract to Earl Taylor at \$175 per month. Mr. Taylor agreed to make athletic trips and charge for gas and oil only.

On August 14, 1935 the board authorized Mr. C. L. Edwards to make application to join the North Central Association.

In 1936 Mr. C. L. Edwards resigned and the board passed a resolution not to hire another person who did not have a master's degree and who did not meet North Central requirements.

Mr. Clyde Campbell was hired to fill the vacancy. From reading the board minutes, one gets the impression, that under Mr. Campbell's tenure, new administrative techniques would be the order of the day. He gave the board an agenda for the meetings. He instituted a public relations program with a committee to promote interest in education. He

promoted interest in the band, and a petty cash fund was instituted.

Howard Tempers of the University of Chicago gave intelligence tests in the Salem Schools. In April of 1937 Salem High School was admitted to the North Central Association, fee of \$5.00.

In 1937 the total budget for education purposes was \$54,273.55.

On September 17, 1937 Mr. Campbell resigned to accept a position as high school inspector with the University of Illinois. On September 21 B. E. Gum was unanimously elected superintendent.

With the institution of bus transportation in 1936, the enrollment increased from about 350 to 500. Another sharp rise in enrollment came in 1937 with the development of the Salem oil fields. In 1938 the high school population increased to 780 which was housed in a building which had been built for 350.

The year 1941 was a great year for the community because it led to the complete reorganization of the local schools. The Salem Community High School District #600 was organized. The district consisted of an area of 200 square miles, and there was another increase in enrollment. A bond issue of \$850,000 for building purposes was passed in 1941. The bonds were delivered in Chicago the day before Pearl Harbor; all construction was postponed for the duration. The inflation resulting from the war was responsible for forcing another bond issue of \$800,000.

B. E. Gum served as the first Superintendent of District #600 at a salary of \$3,600 -- half of which was paid by the grade school district of which he also served as superintendent. The new high school district entered into an agreement with its' parent district #111 for rental of facilities until a new building could be completed.

During Mr. Gum's administration, several additions to the regular academic schedule were made. Among those subjects added were aeronautics, occupational civics, Spanish, driver education, interrelated work experiences and additional courses in industrial arts and agriculture. In 1946 the high school offered to returning veterans the first year of college under the auspices of the University of Illinois. In October the college enrollment reached 80; this program was discontinued in 1947.

The Board adopted a salary schedule in 1947: minimum with no experience and the B.A. degree \$2,400 -- with the M.A. degree \$2,600. The maximum salary was \$3,350 with 15 years experience and the M.A. degree.

In September 1948, an additional \$800,000 bond issue was passed in order to complete the 1941 plans. But even with this additional money, the auditorium wing of the building had to be eliminated from the

construction schedule. In 1949 the construction work began. On September 20, 1951 the dedication of the \$2,000,000 school was held with Vernon L. Nickell, Supt. of Public Instruction, as the main speaker.

For the next fifteen years Salem Community High School progressed under Mr. Gum's leadership. In 1966 the schools adopted the educational programs offered under the provisions of the Title I and II of the Elementary and Secondary Educational School Act.

In July 1, 1967, B. E. Gum resigned after completing 30 years as superintendent of the Salem schools.

On March 23, 1934 an election was held to issue bonds, \$50,000 for the construction of a new grade school building. The propositions carried, 813 in favor and 126 opposed. With the assistance of a PWA grant from the Federal Government the present Oak Park Grade School was built. B. E. Gum remained as Superintendent of District #111. For several years several members of the District #111 board also served on the Board of District #600. Mr. John L. Kagy served as president of both boards until 1952. In the fall of 1951 District #111 occupied the old high school building as the Salem Junior High School. Up until that date departmentalized junior high, had been held in the two grade school buildings. Mr. Charles Kile became the first principal of the junior high school.

Additions to the Central School and Junior High School buildings were authorized in 1957.

At the close of the 1965 school year B. E. Gum resigned as superintendent of District #111. He remained as superintendent of District #600 for one additional year, retiring on July 1, 1967 after completing 30 years as superintendent of Salem Schools.

Mr. Robert D. Raver was employed as superintendent on July 1, 1967 by a four to three vote among the board members; however, at a following board meeting a unanimous vote of confidence was given in support of the new superintendent.

During April of 1967, Mr. Harold Bookhout resigned as Principal to assume his duties as the newly elected Marion County Superintendent of Schools. His replacement was Mr. Kerry McClain who previously served as superintendent at Dongola, Illinois.

During Mr. Raver's administration several changes were initiated in the area of services, organization, curriculum and remodeling.

In 1967, the traditional nine, forty-minute schedule was changed to a six, fifty-five minute schedule. Three additional buses were added for transportation, and in 1973 another bus was added to make a total of nine buses as well as two vans that were purchased by the school. Other services included an expansion of the guidance department.

Since 1967 the curriculum was expanded from 65

course offerings to 120 course offerings and eight additional teachers were employed. Among new courses added, were: art, electronics, welding, machine shop, farm mechanics, agri-business, special education, child care, consumer education, drafting for girls, general science, advanced math, independent study in political science, team teaching in social studies, vocational nursing, building trades (later dropped), Special English classes, high school language arts and several elective English courses.

In April of 1971, a \$250,000 bond issue was passed to construct a new vocational building and music addition. The new music addition is a spacious, colorful, and air conditioned facility which greatly enhanced the vocal and instrumental programs.

Also during the past six years, the cafeteria was remodeled, the building was tuck pointed, and all classrooms were redecorated.

The budget for the 1973-1974 school was over \$1,000,000 for approximately 900 students. All indications promise continued growth and progress over the next several years.

The Board of Education of District #111 set up its own offices at the junior high school building in the summer of 1966. Richard F. Farmer was employed as the district's first superintendent exclusively by and for the elementary grade.

The physical condition of the school buildings was a major concern at this time. After interviewing six architectural firms, the Board selected Fields, Goldman and Magee of Mt. Vernon to conduct engineering evaluations of all the school plants and to recommend a program for their improvement and/or replacement.

The F. G. M. report recommended the abandonment of the junior high school except for the 1959 addition, Oak Park school and Central school except for the 1959 addition. The architects estimated the repair costs to the old structures to be so severe as to be a gross waste of tax money. After another engineering evaluation of Central School by Oglesby, Rebok and Bartolomucca, Consulting Engineers of Springfield, the Board of Education condemned the 1872 portion of Central as too dangerous for occupancy and no classes were held in it beginning in the fall of 1968.

Two bond issue elections were conducted by the Board which proposed to tear down all the old buildings except the 1959 additions and to build new buildings on a central campus near the high school which would house grades 1-8. The issue failed 747 to 706 in September 1967 and by 1273 to 969 in February 1968. Hawthorn School was proposed as a new neighborhood school in a third vote along with the rebuilding of Central School on a smaller scale

and a substantial remodeling to S.J.H.S. and Oak Park. The election was held on September 21, 1968 and passed 760 to 636. The new and remodeled schools were ready for occupancy in the fall of 1970.

The Hawthorn School is a modern concept building emphasizing flexibility of academic program. The building has few fixed internal walls and several folding walls. The school is carpeted throughout as a noise damper and to encourage the floor space to also be used for instructional purposes requiring more space than a desk top. Both Hawthorn and new Central are fully air conditioned.

With the new and remodeled buildings also came educational program growth. Special education for handicapped children increased from a teaching staff of one to nine teachers in 1973. The mathematics curriculum continues to reshape gradually under the influences that started with Sputnik. Paraprofessional teacher aids have been added to the Oak Park and S.J.H.S. teaching core to supplement the teaching of reading. The teacher aid program is financially supported by federal aid. Educational television is a proven innovation to the curriculum of Central school and will be spread throughout the school district when finances permit. In 1966 the library books of the grade buildings were maintained in each room. They have been gathered into central libraries of each building in order that all library material may be readily available to all teachers and pupils. All libraries have had their books and material inventories increased significantly as our modern elementary education increases its emphasis on independent research and study skills for young students.

Superintendents Salem School District #111

1873-75	Professor Nixon
1876-78	N. S. Scovill
1879	Lloyd Cossett
1880-82	T. B. Greenlaw
1883-85	G. V. Buchanan
1886-1892	J. H. G. Brinkerhoff
1893	E. F. Wilson
1894-1895	J. H. G. Brinkerhoff
1896-98	D. B. Fager
1899-1903	J.S. Curlee
1904-07	A. E. Gilpin
1908-12	M. A. Thrasher
1913-16	H. J. Blue
1917-18	J. T. Dorris
1919	M. A. Thrasher
1920-21	N. E. Jaycox
1922-36	C. L. Edwards
1937	Clyde M. Campbell

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1938-1965 B. E. Gum
 1965- Richard Farmer

Salem Community High School

District #600, formed 1941

1941-66 B. E. Gum
 1967- Robert Raver

Sports History of Salem

Earlier sports history is vague for Salem, but one fact is clear. The participants in any sporting adventure, which came into prominence just before the turn of the century, entered into the activity with all the vigor of our present day athletic enthusiasts.

Thrilling contests, all-state football players, fueds, future college players, and eventual graduates into the ranks of professional sports -- name it and you can probably find it in the history of Salem sports. Humor, glamor, and heroic feats, some of whic are hard for the present day sports fan to follow, are intermingled with the run of the mill happenings.

Anyone attempting to write a history of Salem would probably leave the chapter on athletics out after attempting a search for the facts back into the dark past. Back prior to the start of football on the local scene, there just isn't any written record. Some of the tales of the feats of athletes of long-ago days might be best forgotten anyway. Some of the hard found sport's stories are not.

Generally speaking, the further back you go into the history of athletics, the more glamorous the tales become. Some of them, while a point for a heated

argument in their day, now have become humorous stories.

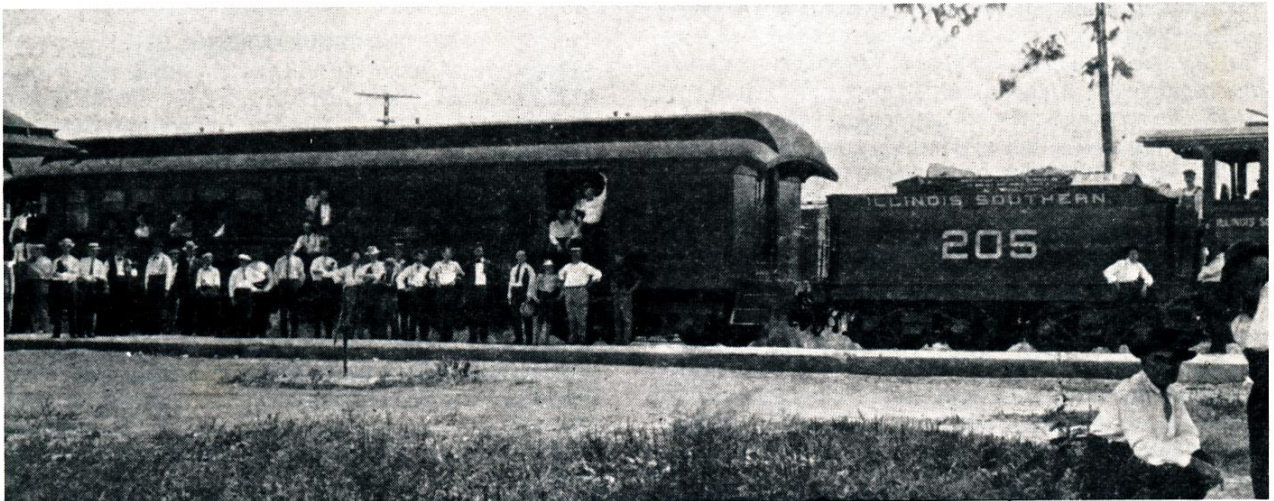
Sporting events in Salem's past run the whole gamut of sports -- football, track and field, bike races, basketball, baseball, softball, girl's softball, and youth baseball of the "Little League" age. Salem residents were interested in national sports back in the early days, principally major league baseball, but, for obvious reasons, the interest didn't reach the sometimes fever pitch of present day "sports nuts." Radio and television have done much to heighten the interest in the major league races in baseball and the weekly endeavors of the National Football league, the National Basketball Association, the America Basketball league, the National Hockey league and the major colleges in football, basketball and track.

However, the local newspapers, then about the only contact had with national news as well as the national sports activities, carried the daily standings and results of the major leagues.

Locally, football seems to be the first sport that gained any organized prominence in your and my town. Basketball came on the scene later. Baseball may have been on a par with football, but there is no recorded accounts of any contests. Track and field, which included bike races, on the high school level were also early activities for the local scene.

Digging around for the history of football in Salem establishes a few facts. First, the start of football in Salem was in 1898. The first game played in Salem was in 1899. Second, after the early 1900's football was more or less abandoned until it was revived in 1925 with the first full season being played in 1926.

Even since 1926, football has come a long way in



Special train carrying Salem Basketball team and rooters to Centralia Aug. 11, 1907.

"SO LITTLE DONE — SO MUCH TO DO" Class of 1915

Salem. Generally speaking, the won-lost record from 1926-1939 is just about the reverse of the won-lost record from 1939-1951. Prior to the 1939 season, Salem football teams won 31 and lost 62. Starting in 1939 and coming up to the end of the 1951 season, the record was 76-20. Since 1951, the record has been better than average, with a 116-78-5 mark to start the 1973 season.

Basketballwise, Salem has been more fortunate. While a Salem team didn't make it to a state tournament until 1940, they did win a lot of basketball games. And the sport, here, has a longer continuous string. Records of games prior to 1923 are practically nil, but there are many people who can recall basketball being played in the 1910-20 era.

Salem High School, the principal scene of most sports activity has been in three locations -- the old Central School building, recently torn down, the present junior high school plant, and the Salem Community High School, opened in 1951.

In fact, as some of the older boys are prone to inform you, it wasn't until the 1923-24 season, that Salem moved into the gym that is now the junior high school gymnasium. Prior to that time, Salem basketball games were played on the third floor of

the Central School that was torn down to make way for the present structure.

To say that those games atop Central School were thrilling would be gross understatement. Try dribbling a basketball pell mell down a floor dodging posts and pot-bellied stoves, in addition to opposing players and see if the thrills don't come roaring at you.

Some of the football tales of years gone by are really tales for the books. Athletes of every era must be put in a special category. From the athletes come the heros, along with Hopa-long Cassidy, Tom Mix and Hoot Gibson, of the younger generation of the day.

Some of the athletic adventures of yesteryears have facts to back up their fictional traits. Take, for instance, Ade Donoho's 125-yard touchdown run in 1899. Remember it, or believe it? Well, the feat is recorded in an issue of the "Republican" of the day. It was the "highlight of the game" when Salem beat Kinmundy, 36-0, on Thanksgiving day.

Whether someone was exaggerating the distance of that run or whether it just seemed like 125 yards to Donoho, can't be determined. Unless football fields were longer than the present day 100 yards, Donoho



The Salem High School football team 1905, R. end Hammond White, R. Tackle Allie Boughby, R. Guard Ray Fred, Center Red Storment, L. Guard Red Arnold, L. Tackle Arthur Boughby, L. End Frank Shack, R. Halfback Ben Sweney, Fullback Hap Bele, L. Half Button White, Quarterback Dean Merritt. In the back, J. D. Telford, Charles Durst, Jim Donoho, Margaret Kennedy at the door, Ella Spencer on the steps were teachers.

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THE SALEM TIMES-COMMONER

must have started his run from across the street someplace.

Oldtimers yet will tell you, when the subject of injuries is brought up, about the type of equipment in the old days. Back in about 1906, the late Willie "Button" White had a rib or two broken and for the Mt. Vernon game of that year, he played with a pillow stuffed inside his uniform vest. That's right -- the top half of the uniform looked about like an over-stuffed vest. White was the bad luck boy of the day. He broke his shoulder blade against Centralia playing in the 16-year old class.

Another story that has been passed down about the afore-mentioned Mt. Vernon game that, while Salem lost, 54-0, the outcome might have been worse. The story goes that one of Salem's young blades was keeping time and he shaved off five minutes from each half of the game. Mt. Vernon had more or less mastered the art of forward passing, a relatively new feature of the game at that time and they really whopped Salem.

They tell that in some games they didn't stick strictly to high school players -- calling one some of the mightier young men of the town for able assistance. However, it never quite reached the point as it did for one Flora game around the turn of the century. Playing at Flora, the Salem boys limbered up on one side of the field and Flora on the other. When game time came, however, up rode "a bunch of hardened men" on bicycles and that was the Flora team. Salem lost.

Along there someplace, the report of the Flora game was that the odds were against Salem. The newspaper account of the game was "that had Flora not been composed of five or six college players and several who were professionals, our boys might have made a better showing." Even at that the locals only lost 10-0. That was in 1899.

Basketball, too, makes its spot in Salem athletic history. Take, for instance, back in the mid-1920's when Tommy Crittenden was the basketball star. Crittenden had injured a shoulder in a previous game and the district tournament was coming up with Salem to meet a strong opponent and an age-old rival. For the game, Crittenden's other shoulder was taped up, leaving the injured one free. Early in the game, one of the opposition leaped into Crittenden's taped shoulder and sent him down. Naturally, it was a jolt, but Crittenden wasn't hurt nearly as badly as if it has been his previously injured shoulder.

After the game, a prominent citizen from the opposing town remarked that he "thought it was mighty poor sportsmanship to tape up the wrong shoulder!"

A group of Salem lads, led by the late Ernest

Charlton, attended the Centralia-Sparta game a few weeks prior to Salem's first football adventure to see what the game was all about. Showing great enthusiasm for the game, they took on Centralia, losing 35-0. More was to be learned.

Basketball didn't come on the scene until years later. The big thing in the early years of Salem sports were the track and intellectual meets.

The big annual affair was the South Central Illinois Association meet held at a different school each spring. Besides Salem, members were Flora, Kinmundy, Sandoval, Carlyle, Centralia, Trenton and Lebanon. Centralia was ousted in 1903 because they became a township high school.

Interest ran high for these events with special trains being run on the Baltimore & Ohio for meets at Flora, Carlyle, Trenton and Lebanon. For the 1905 meet at Kinmundy, 275 tickets were sold in Salem alone.

Salem's track athletes gained second with 52 points. Ross Smith was the top weights man, heaving the shot 42 feet, 4 inches and the hammer, 145 feet, 3 1/4 inches. His hammer mark was, as the "Republican" stated, "a trifle more than the combined distance of two other contestants." Salem didn't win the half mile race, as expected. The newspaper account said, "Floyd Tully was unfortunate, for, not knowing the track rules in regard to passing the man ahead, he endeavored to push him," and thus was ruled out.

Back in 1902, Salem had a crack cyclist in Marcellus N. Goodnow and the bike races were part of the track meets. Goodnow won the mile race in the big meet in 2:56 and finished third in the quarter mile, after being rammed at the start by, of all people, the entry from Centralia.

In 1903, as in 1902, Salem was third with 25 points. Smith's hammer mark was 114 feet and Grover Betts was broad jumping 19 feet and 11 inches.

The fall of the year, when this celebration is being staged, is the football time of the year, so maybe a little more attention should be given to early Salem football.

After the disastrous football beginning in 1898, things didn't perk up in 1899. That year they lost twice to Centralia, 17-5 in the first game to be played in Salem, and 35-0. Salem, wearing orange and black in those days, lost also to Flora in that "professionalized" game and to Kinmundy, 16-0.

The locals came back with two wins over Kinmundy, though, 37-0, and 36-0. The latter game featuring Donoho's 125-yard touchdown run. Kinmundy quit before the second half was finished.

Since 1973 is to feature the last football game between Salem and Mt. Vernon teams, it might be well to delve back into the history of that rivalry a bit more. The first game with Mt. Vernon was to

be played December 16, 1899, with a collection to be taken to help defray their traveling expenses. But, Mt. Vernon didn't show up. The paper account was "that Mt. Vernon evidently knew that a drubbing awaited them and they were 'skeered'." Safe to say when they didn't show.

An 1899 starting lineup read like this: ends, Williams and Merritt; tackles, Smith and Grover; guards, R. Kaiser and Chandler; center, Jones; quarterback, Flint; halfbacks, Adams and Rogers; fullback, J. Kaiser.

"If the game of football could be played by talk, our boys would always be successful," was the paper comment following a 10-0 loss to Flora (Orchard City college). Salem also lost to Fairfield, 5-0, going down Friday night and returning Sunday morning, and to Vandalia, 10-0, with only half the game being played as "the Vandalia boys had to catch a train for Sandoval."

Salem lost again, 6-0, to Mt. Vernon, with John Kaiser starting at fullback, and Salem won their first game, beating Moore's college of Trenton, 21-0, Thanksgiving day.

Records begin to get sparse in 1902 and completely fade until 1925. In 1902, the colors were now scarlet and black, they beat Centralia, 10-5, and lost, 10-0, to Brown's Business college of Centralia. In 1903, they beat Brown's Business college, 10-0.

In 1906, the late Ben Sweney ran 50 yards for Salem's first touchdown in a 16-5 win over Sandoval. The football fade-out is complete then until the re-starting of the sport in 1925, when they played four games -- winning one, losing two and tying one.

Probably one of the most memorable games in Salem's long football history and certainly one of the most widely publicized games was Salem's 184-0 win over Fairfield in 1943, a year that Salem had a 7-0-1 record. That outcome, being played during the World War II days, was reported around the world as GIs from Salem have reflected of reading of the game in England, India, Australia and the Southwest Pacific.

Another memorable game in Salem's more recent past was the 16-0 victory in 1939 over Centralia -- the first victory in "modern" times by a Salem team over Centralia in football. That came after some very lean years during the 1930s, the leanest of which was 1937 when Salem lost all six games by scores of 37-0, 61-0, 24-0, 19-0, 26-0, and 19-7, scoring only against Eldorado.

Since then Salem teams have won or tied for North Egypt conference football championships in 1940, 1941, 1943, 1944, 1947, 1949, 1952, 1956, 1961, 1965.

Since 1923, Salem's basketball record has been 608 wins and 551 losses. Basketball teams have met with varied success on the local scene. Only twice

have Salem teams been represented at the state tournament, 1940, under Mike Lenich, and in 1943, under Quinn Constanz. Salem teams have won the North Egypt conference basketball title in 1943, 1944, 1947, 1948, 1952 and 1956. An equally important feature of Salem's basketball history is one of the strongest mid-year tournaments in the state of Illinois. The eight-team meet, started in 1952 has been running steadily since. Salem, winning their way to the championship game five times, has won the championship twice -- in 1966 and 1972.



This picture comes to us from Mrs. Hershel Rogers of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. The picture was given to Mrs. Rogers by her cousin, Norman (Poss) Hanes Sr., in 1912. Poss Hanes is the middle man in the second row. Also, in the back row in the center is Lou Beasley.

Baseball, a relatively new sport on the high school scene, has met with some success for the Wildcats. They have won the conference championship in 1954, 1955, 1956 and 1957. Baseball is a favorite summer-time recreational outlet for the young men, boys and girls of Salem. A strong junior American Legion program has been in operation for the past few years. Babe Ruth baseball is available in a four-team league for boys of the 13-15 age group and Little League baseball, with two four-team leagues in operation, is available to boys of the 9-12 age group.

The girls softball program reached a milestone in 1973. Previously, at most, four or five teams in a loosely organized program, the girls program blossomed out into two four-team leagues -- one for older girls of the seventh, eighth and ninth grade age group and one for girls of fourth, fifth and sixth grade age group.

A strong program for men's slow pitch is in operation too, with earlier softball being fast pitch with a men's league and a junior boys league.

Salem has had their track champions in more modern times, too. The high school team has won

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North Egypt conference titles in 1946, 1947, 1957 and 1958. Although the team hasn't had the depth to capture conference titles in recent years, several conference records are held by Salem athletes of fairly recent vintage. Bob Turnage (1970), 440-yard dash; Mark Daniels (1972), mile run; Mark Daniels (1972), 2-mile run; Bob Carter (1970), high hurdles; Dan Jones (1959), low hurdles; and the mile relay team of Bob Turnage, Dick Kagy, Louie Bryant and Jim Willhite (1970).

Little League baseball got its start in Salem in 1951 with barely enough boys for five teams. In 1952 it leaped to eight teams of 15 players each and has remained at that level since.

Salem Little Leaguers moved into their first park on July 15, 1951. Constructed mainly by volunteer labor, the park was located in the northeast corner of the Marion County Fairgrounds. That park was abandoned when the present little league park was built in the northwest part of Bryan Memorial park in 1953 and lights added to allow for two games to be played each night.

Many people helped with the organization of Little League baseball in Salem and many have been responsible for its continuing success. But, the originator and chief motivator of the program for Salem was James C. Frala, who finagled, cajoled and wangled people and material into getting the program off the ground.

Salem B&PW Club

Due to the interest of the late Helen McMackin, the Salem B&PW Club was organized in December 1928 with 70 Charter members. The first meeting was held at the Odd Fellows Hall in January 1929 with Helen as President. Due to the loss of the secretary's book containing the minutes of the first ten years, the information on the club during said time, is rather vague. In talking to past presidents of that era and searching old newspapers, the following information was assembled for the history.

Edith Purdue was the second president and presided during 1930-31 and 32. Some of the highlights of her first term were joining with the Rotarians in entertaining the Salem High School Seniors at the American Legion Hall and a second birthday party. During Edith's second term a debate was held on the subject, "Resolved the Women have not taken Men's places in the Business World." The history shows that an Emblem meeting was held during the year; we had a birthday cake in January with 3 candles and ten more names had been added to the membership list.

Sarah Squibb, our last surviving charter member with continuous membership, also served 2 terms, 1934-35, 1935-36. During her first term, Helen Mc-

Mackin State President and Louise Davidson, State Corresponding Secretary, were honored. As early as 1935-36 (and probably before) we were trying to improve Salem. The Public Relations Chr. presented her program and heads of different departments spoke on, "What Salem Needs Most."

Peggy Perrine was the 10th president of the Club, all previous presidents having served two terms each. Peggy was president in 1946-47. The Marion County Fair programs netted \$1,285.11. Seven new members were added to the club. At the close of the year \$500 in bonds were added to the Educational Fund and \$200 to the Building Fund, (matured value). Past Presidents were honored during the year, dues were raised from \$3.00 to \$5.00 and it was voted to revise the by-laws.

Florence Compton was president in 1949-50. On Saturday of Nation B&PW week, the Club took over the City Hall with all fines going into the Education Fund. A donation was taken for Christmas gifts for a family of 8 children under care of Child Welfare Society.

Edna DeFrates was 1950-51 president. \$520.24 was collected from the Marion County Fair project. A Bake Sale was held after the February meeting with proceeds going to the Celia Howard Fellowship Fund.

1952-53 was president Thelma Schoonover's year. During the year, the Club was hostess to the Southern Sectional Leadership Conference and dinner was served by the Club. We entertained the 10th District meeting twice. Projects for the year were: to sponsor a girl in nurses training; make the final payment on our pledge to the Celia Howard Fund and sell advertising for the Horse Show programs and programs at the Marion County Fair. This year was the Silver Anniversary for the Salem Club.

Constance Hancock -- "Tish" -- was the **drafted** president of 1956-57, due to the resignation of the elected president. We did well as \$700.50 was cleared on the Fair project. Desk and Derrick observed "Oil Progress Week" and we had a demonstration of the "Magic Suitcase", and had a decorated car in the parade. The Club was honored in having Florence Compton appointed Editor of the Illinois Bulletin.

Kathryn Thomas was our 22nd president, 1960-61. The Leadership Conference was in Olney with 16 members from Salem attending, the Fall District meeting was in Nashville with 12 members attending and Spring District meeting in Mt. Vernon with 19 in attendance. Nellie Sergeant was appointed promotional chr. for the 3rd Vice chr. of the National Federation. We had several fund raising projects, 30 new members were added to the Club and dues were raised from \$5 to \$8. A Christmas party and

donations for a food basket for a needy family were included in the December meeting. Our Club Bulletin "The B&PW Party Line" made its initial appearance.

Flora Jane McMackin served as president 1964-65. Our two main fund raising projects during the year were selling ads for the Marion County Fair Race sheet and the flag contracts. We sponsored a High School girl financially, and have a \$500 Educational Loan Fund available to a High School senior girl. A \$100 scholarship is presented to a senior High School girl on Class Day. We gave an American Flag to the City of Salem, placed 3 books on the book shelf and had a membership in the Chamber of Commerce.

Virginia Shook was president in 1965-66. Salem was host club for the Fall District meeting with secretary of the Illinois Federation as speaker. We purchased a portable B&PW Emblem podium in memory of Ruth Ruble and placed a perpetual calendar on the desk of the Salem Memorial Hospital in memory of Dorothy Leach. We were presented a citation for civic participation in having the flags displayed on holidays in Salem. We awarded a scholarship to a high school senior girl and sent a girl to Egyptian Music Camp. It was voted to make the TV set, purchased during Mona Watson's year, available to any patient. The flag project netted \$187, \$511 from the Fair project and the spring wardrobe project netted \$352.

Maxine Lombard was installed president at the Masonic Temple in April 1966. Our fund projects were a candy sale and the flag contracts. A Memorial service was held for two past Presidents, Inez Hancock and Helen McMackin. A farewell reception was held in the Hospitality Room at the Bank for Nell Sergeant. We sponsored a high school girl, sent a girl to Music camp and awarded \$100 scholarship to a senior girl. Christmas favors were distributed to the Salem Hospital and the two nursing homes. We pledged \$100 toward the purchase of Christmas decoration to the City of Salem.

Cecelia Schaeperkoetter, President for 1967-68. Fund raising projects -- we sold Watkins vanilla and ads for the reunion book. As our bank balance was low, \$500 was taken from the building fund and placed in the general fund. We sent Kathy Doolen to Egyptian Music Camp, selected Pam Davidson to receive the \$100 scholarship and again sponsored a high school girl. \$240 was sent to State Headquarters in memory of Helen McMackin. We voted to give \$1500 to Salem Memorial Hospital to furnish a room.

Virginia Shafer, our 1968-69 president. Again, our fund projects were: reunion book ads, and flag contracts. We sent a girl to Music Camp, sponsored

a high school girl and sent a girl to Youth World, a youth program held in Carbondale each year. We donated \$255 to a state project and have had continuous membership in the Chamber of Commerce for 20 years. Virginia was appointed to serve as Vice Chr. for Dist. 14.

Betty Stanford, our Jr. Past President. She served during 1969-70. We netted \$500 from the Reunion books, the proposed budget was presented and it was voted to omit 3 donations of \$10 each but to continue membership in the Chamber of Commerce, which is now \$50 per year. Again, we sponsored a student to Music Camp, gave our annual \$100 scholarship and sponsored a high school girl. A Tupperware party netted \$45, a flea and bake sale \$189 plus the flag contracts. The National Convention was held in St. Louis, the State Convention in Chicago and the Leadership Conference in Carbondale.

Melba Williams was installed as president for 1970-71. One of the highlights of the year was the public meeting held at Salem Community High School gymnasium with Dr. Nyaradi, Bradley Univ. professor as speaker. This was part of the B&PW Week activities. Interesting history of each past president was compiled and given by Mary Bookhout. Past presidents honored: Edith Purdue, Sara Squibb, Kathryn Thomas, Maxine Lombard, Virginia Shafer, Thelma Schoonover, Constance Hancock, Flora Jane McMackin, Cecelia Schaeperkoetter, and Betty Stanford. Election of Officers in March brought the year to a close. Total membership 43. The President Melba Williams attended National Convention in Hawaii as a delegate and Sandra Stanford as alternate. Youth projects sponsored: student to Egyptian Music camp; \$100 Scholarship to high school senior on Class day; necessities for a high school girl through the year; 4 students from high school to Annual Youth Conference Meeting at John A. Logan College at Carterville. Continuation of Membership in Salem Chamber of Commerce.

1971-72 Helen Kane had a very successful year, serving as hostess to the Spring Convention.

1972-73 Sandra Stanford, president had the loss of an esteemed member -- Nell Sutherland -- 2 books were added to the Book Shelf at the Library in her memory.

1973-74, the president is now Jewel Featherly.

There have been many accomplishments by the Salem B&PW Club. Through the years we have contributed to all local causes as finances and budget allowed. Have given to Scouts, Red Cross, Cancer, Heart, TB Associations, March of Dimes and Salvation Army, Bryan Memorial Home, Community Chest, Marion County Fair Association, Fireman's Association, Salem Memorial Hospital, Salem High

School Band, Chinese Nursing Relief, Baskets of food for needy families, Ice Cream for the Girl Scout Camp, Donated to Welfare Council, Party for Veteran's Hospital in Marion.

Marion County Chapter of Red Cross

The Marion County Chapter of Red Cross was first organized in May, 1917 and consisted of all towns in Marion County with the exceptions of Centralia and the Raccoon area. Under the leadership of Mr. C. E. Hull, Chairman, Miss C. Schwartz, Vice-Chairman, Mr. B. M. Smith, Treasurer and Miss M. E. Knight, Secretary, the chapter knitted for the soldiers and contributed money for over-seas services during World War I.

Between World War I and World War II, the chapter was relatively inactive. In 1938 Mr. B. E. Gum took over the Chairmanship with Ed Jones serving as his Home Secretary. The Bloodmobile was very active during World War II as was the Service to Military under the direction of Mrs. Earl Taylor.

Mrs. Taylor served for 17 years, when Mrs. Robert Bell took the chairmanship of that department. When Mrs. Bell resigned, Miss Mary Reed took over as Service to Military Families Secretary. The name of the office changed and the services rendered grew in scope but the purpose has remained the same -- to help people.

The Red Cross chapter contributes actively to National and local disasters. The Blood program provides many pints of blood to military and civilian population.

Training in Life Saving, First Aid and Safety programs have been organized and conducted in Salem and surrounding communities.

Red Cross is now seeking ways to meet drug and delinquency problems through youth activities in schools and other organizations.

Salem Chapters of Beta Sigma Phi

Since its founding in 1931, Beta Sigma Phi has grown to be an International Organization, from seven members in Abilene, Kansas, to its present 200,000 active members in more than 9,000 Chapters all over the world. Beta Sigma Phi was created for women in search of culture, social activity and service to their communities.

In Salem, there are three Chapters, one of each Degree with fifty-five active members. Alpha Iota Chapter was formed in 1935 as a Ritual of Jewels Chapter, which is the Second Degree of Beta Sigma

Phi. Xi Eta, an Exemplar Chapter and a Third Degree in Beta Sigma Phi was founded in 1944. Alpha Rho, an Exemplar Preceptor Chapter and Fourth Degree in Beta Sigma Phi is the newest Chapter in Salem, receiving its Degree in 1972. Some of the projects which have been of service to the Salem Area include furnishing the Maternity Ward at the Salem Memorial Hospital, donating a Respirator to the Salem Fire Protection District, donating to the Salem Park District, an inhalator/respirator to the Salem Hospital and furnishing care and entertainment for the Shelter Care Homes in Salem.

Beta Sigma Phi is continuing its efforts to contribute culturally, socially and serviceably wherever there is a need, to grow with the community and experience the joy of helping others.

Salem Chamber of Commerce

The present day Salem Chamber of Commerce had its beginning in the "Commercial Club" organized in Salem through the efforts of F. C. Goodnow in 1903. Mr. Goodnow, then one of the hustling merchants of Salem, was elected President, with Dr. Oscar Jones as Vice President, J. N. Chance Secretary, and Wm. A. Mills Treasurer. The first organizational meetings were held in the rear of J. N. Chance's tailoring establishment.

Early activities of the Chamber included advertising in metropolitan newspapers the advantages of factories locating in Salem. Through efforts of the Commercial Club, the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Shops were located in Salem in 1905 starting a flurry of new development. Brown Shoe Co. was brought to Salem in 1925 largely through efforts of the Chamber.

Throughout its seventy year history, the Chamber has sought to make Salem a better community and a more prosperous one. Industries such as Dickerson-Davis, Industrial Lifters, Ashton-Stanford, Simonds Abrasive, Brown Shoe, Homemaker Industries and many more have been encouraged to locate here and expand. Efforts of the Chamber of Commerce members throughout the years assisted all of these industries in locating here.

The present Chamber of Commerce is a unique hybrid which was formed in 1972 through the cooperative effort of the City Government and the Chamber Board of Directors. This hybrid, the Department of Community Development, specializes in the promotion of commercial and industrial development in Salem. This jointly-funded project has achieved a new level of cooperation for the betterment of Salem.

B. P. O. Elks, 1678

Salem Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks was instituted on November 2, 1945, in a meeting held at the former Southern Gardens building on Route 37 South.

Officers of Centralia B. P. O. E., No. 493, acted for the Grand Exalted Ruler as instituting officers.

Eighty-three candidates were initiated at this opening meeting. Twenty-three members of other lodges were also taken in as transfer members at this first meeting.

The first officers of Salem Lodge were Walter Wehmeyer, Exalted Ruler; Louie Cremeans, Esteemed Leading Knight; J. R. Hiatt, Esteemed Loyal Knight; Allen Compton, Esteemed Lecturing Knight; Earl "Pete" Robinson, Treasurer; Kenneth Brown, Tiler; Leon "Pete" Rhodes, Esquire; O. A. James, Chaplain; and Alfred Meyers, B. E. Brubaker and Elmer Kirkwood, Trustees; Walter Atkins, Secretary.

On January 5, 1946, the members purchased a building at Olive and Broadway. The mortgage on this building was paid off just one year from the day the home was opened. This site was to be the Elks' home until their present building was built in 1957 at 315 North Broadway.

The first Exalted Ruler, serving a full fiscal year, was Dr. C. F. Hampton. Floyd James was elected as the first paid Secretary on April 11, 1946. He served until 1950, when H. B. Davis was elected Secretary and served in this capacity until April, 1973.

Throughout the past twenty-eight years Salem B. P. O. E. has always been a Salem booster, contributing thousands of dollars to many charities, scholarships, youth recreation activities, and civic projects.

The present Exalted Ruler is Nixon J. Barker; the immediate past Exalted Ruler is Barney Bruce.

Other officers for the 1973-74 year are Dave Heavener, Esteemed Leading Knight; Larry Griffin, Esteemed Loyal Knight; Mike Malan, Esteemed Lecturing Knight; Cliff Lancaster, Tiler; Stuart Smith, Esquire; Emerson Smalley, Chaplain, Larry O'Bryant; Treasurer; and Glenn Henn, Secretary.

Trustees are Don Williams, Chairman; Norman Hanes, Ray Porter, John Smith, and Barney Bruce.

Salem Lodge, No. 1678, has more than 700 members.

Farm Bureau History

On January 21, 1918, a meeting of farmers was held at the Marion County Court House to discuss organizing a Farm Bureau. The movement had started about four years earlier in DeKalb County

and spread quickly throughout the state. C. E. Hull, Salem, was elected temporary chairman and later chairman. C. W. Vurcell was the first secretary.

The purposes of the organization set forth at that meeting were:

1. To make the soil more productive.
2. To encourage dissemination of agricultural information.
3. To supervise, direct, and assist the activities of the Farm Adviser.

Membership dues were set at \$5 for those owning less than 85 acres and \$10 for those owning more.

J. C. Spittlar, state organizer, talked to a large crowd on February 4, 1918. Membership at that time totalled 63. It was decided "that we hold a number of meetings and try to complete the membership". Three hundred members were required by the Smith-Lever act to form an association and hire a "Farm Advisor".

At a meeting on February 18, 1918, it was reported that there were 246 members.

On September 26, 1918, the Marion County Farm Bureau was officially organized, the goal of 300 members having been obtained. Joseph Schwartz, Salem, became the first President, and D. L. Boynton, Stevenson Township, was the first secretary. Other members of the first Executive Committee were John Marchant, Kinmundy; Frank Loomis, Tonti; Dr. John Simmons, Romine; Charles T. McLaughlin, Cartter; Wiley Blair, Kell; E. F. Baker, Centralia; John Rogier, Patoka; N. N. Woodward, Odin; William Morris, Kinmundy; F. Kohl, Centralia; and J. N. Embser, Alma.

On October 11, F. J. Blackburn of Hillsboro was hired to become the first farm advisor at a salary of \$2,100 and a "Ford for the work." The first office was in the Courthouse and remained there until 1953. At that time the Nazarene Church Building on Pruyn Street was purchased.

In 1934, the first change in organization structure was made when H. O. Hinkley became the first Organization Director. His duties were a combination of insurance sales and membership.

Membership and activities continued to grow and in 1959 space requirements made it necessary to build the present building on Route 37 North. At the same time a full-time man was hired to manage the affairs of the organization.

There were many trials and setbacks in the early days of the organization, but today membership in the Marion County Farm Bureau stands at 2,200 member families.

Girl Scouts in Salem

By Mrs. Donald Marshall

Girl Scouting began in Salem in 1932 under the leadership of Mrs. John C. Martin. New troops were

added in 1941 by Mrs. Jean T. McMackin, in 1942 by Miss Betty Adams and in 1943 by Mrs. Leroy Evans and Mrs. Vowell. At this time, the Salem's Woman's Club sponsored scouting.

During World War II, Girl Scouts assisted in the collection of books, filling bags for convalescent soldiers, acted as messengers for the Marion County Red Cross, collected items for the Office of Civilian Defense Salvage Committee, participated in Constitution Day services, sold War Bonds and Stamps on Molly Pitcher Day and during the Jap Submarine War Bond Rally.

The Girl Scout Community Committee, who guided the Scouts at this time, included Mrs. Robert Hancock, Mrs. A. P. Lacey, Mrs. Ward Holt, Mrs. William Parish, Mrs. J. R. Hiatt, Mrs. Dwight Taylor, Mrs. Lyle Merritt, Mrs. James Davis, Mrs. Robert Bell and Mrs. Earl Merritt.

In May, 1945, the community committee was successful in securing a building in Bryan Park. Tribute was paid to the untiring efforts of Mrs. Dwight Taylor, formerly of Salem, and chairman of the council at the time the present grounds and the original Scout house was acquired, and to the many who helped her, including Mrs. John Swope, Mrs. Wray Love, Mrs. Bill Montgomery, Mrs. H. B. Davis, Mrs. Abi Jones and many others.

By 1940 membership had reached 125 girls. Following extensive renovation of the Scout house, a formal opening was held January 8, 1950. Much of the work was done by a group of women volunteers, with businessmen and building trades craftsmen contributing liberally. Members of the building committee were Mrs. Jean T. McMackin, chairman; Mrs. John C. Martin and Mrs. C. F. I'Anson. Troop membership nearly doubled in the coming year to 215 girls.

From 1951 through 1962, Salem Scouting was governed by an adult committee corporation. Among the women who served were Mrs. James Griffith, Mrs. Bill Dietrick, Mrs. Stanley Cunningham, Mrs. Norman Manees, Mrs. Arthur Currie, Mrs. John York, Mrs. L. E. Barenfanger, Mrs. Cecil Satterthwaite, Mrs. B. E. Brubaker, Mrs. J. Neal Sergeant, Mrs. Kenneth Milam, Mrs. Charles Vursell, Mrs. C. R. Knox and Mrs. Arthur Currie.

This period of scouting was one of the most active in Salem Scouting history. Activities included Court of Awards in area churches, Girl Scout day camps at Bryan park, Constitution Sundays, marching in parades and performing many services for their community.

In 1963 Salem Scouting was absorbed into Shagbark Council. This council includes 21 counties in southern Illinois and Indiana.

In 1964 and again in 1965, 600 people attended the

birthday party of Scouting held at the armory. These events were planned by Mrs. Virginia Ferrell with the help of Mrs. Reba Robinson, Mrs. Bobby Collier, Mrs. Marie Basom and many other volunteers.

Girl Scouting in Salem during the 60's was guided by professional workers from Shagbark Council and Mrs. Reba Robinson, chairman of the Salem association.

Activities included making tray favors for the hospital, Easter baskets for Murray's Children Center in Centralia, saving soap for our soldiers in Vietnam, taking first aid courses through the Red Cross and establishing a five-day Day Camp. These sessions have been held at Rodell Acres, Forbes State Park and at the newly acquired site at Lake Centralia. Mrs. Mona Wiedemer and Mrs. Reba Robinson organized and planned these sessions and gave many hours of training to prepare leaders for camp.

The Girl Scouts have sold cookies for many years, and the profit provides camping experiences for all Scouts. This money helps maintain Camp Cedar Point on Little Grassy Lake near Carbondale and our new site at Lake Centralia.

One of the most unique Girl Scout troops was formed in 1965. Junior Girl Scout Troop 364 was composed of nine girls of Murray's Children's Center in Centralia. Their leaders, all of Salem, were Mrs. Barbara Lynch, Mrs. Bonnie Francis and Mrs. Pat Heman.

The Girl Scouts of 1973 perform many services for their community, such as making tray favors for the hospital, painting the trash cans in the parks, visiting nursing homes and babysitting for the PTO meetings at Oak Park and Hawthorn Schools.

Salem can be proud of their Girl Scout program which now has eight troops with a total of 171 girls and 45 adult volunteers.

The purpose of the Girl Scout movement is to dedicate ourselves to the purpose of inspiring girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism and service that they may become happy and resourceful citizens.

Salem Junior Woman's Club

The Salem Junior Woman's Club was organized in 1963. There were 47 chartered members. We are celebrating our 10th anniversary. Meetings are the first Thursday of the month.

Project include the following:

Library hour during the summer, Vision and Hearing Screening for Grade Schools, Art and Conservation Scholarships, Welcome Service in the community, and donations to Local Charities.

I. F. W. C. Projects:

"SMALL IN QUANTITY, LARGE IN QUALITY" Class of 1931

Brain Research, Project Concern and Scholarships for teachers of exceptional Children.

G. F. W. C. Projects:

National Association for Retarded Children and the National Kidney Foundation.

We are a member of the I. F. W. C. and G. F. W.-C. and we are in the 23rd district of the State.

Salem Woman's Club — 1902-1973

It was a visionary and public spirited group of women who met November 16, 1902 in the home of Mrs. Fred Goodnow to organize the Salem Woman's Club. The object of the organization was intellectual and civic improvement, social enjoyment and united effort for the welfare of our community.

Salem was a thriving little city of 1200 people when Mrs. Charles E. Hull, wife of Senator Hull, and sixty civic minded women held their first meeting. Mrs. Hull was elected president.

There were three departments: Domestic Science, Literature and Art, and Music. Dues were 20¢ a year and initiation fee was 25¢. Meetings



Mrs. C. E. (Lulu) Hull Founder of the Salem Woman's Club and The D.A.R.

were held in homes of members.

No history of the Salem Woman's Club would be complete without a tribute to our founder, Mrs. Charles E. Hull, the first president and organizer



These ladies with their large hats are the membership of the newly organized Salem Woman's Club, who had their picture taken at the dedication of the new Marion County Courthouse in 1912. The building was designed by James W. Royer. The building committee of the county board of supervisors consisted of J. E. Hanes, chairman, Louis Roemer, Albert Coffin, R. C. Robb and H. R. Stevenson. The dedication services were held before the sidewalks were laid, as you can see from the boards in the picture. One bit of information about the services of dedication comes from the minutes of the board of supervisors: "Motion made that the county board pay \$25 for the Salem Orchestra to furnish music for the dedication services on March 14th, 1912. Motion lost. The board took up a collection for the orchestra to the amount of \$19." This photo belongs to Mrs. Robert Nicholas, whose mother, Mrs. Mayme Kramer, is the second from right in front row.

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of the Club, who was a brilliant and dynamic person and a great leader. She gave both her time and money toward making the club one of the best in the state.

In 1903 the Club affiliated with the Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs. In 1910 the 23rd District organization was organized in Salem and Mrs. Hull was elected president. In 1912 the Salem Club affiliated with the General Federation of Women's Clubs, which organization now has 11,000,000 members including foreign and associate members.

The Salem Club has always participated in local civic affairs and supported all Federation projects giving music, art and conservation scholarships, participating in community development, beautification of Salem, cultural programs and now will assist our city and county in celebrating its Sesquicentennial year.

In 1905 the club's first opportunity came to give real service. The Central and Eastern Illinois Railroad moved its shops to Salem, the Club supported the land purchase and cost of moving the shops to Salem.

A movement for paving the downtown streets was started by the Club, later they urged and were successful in having the paving extended to the city limits on both Broadway and Main Streets.

For many years the city owned light plant was operated only from sunset to sunrise, the club women urged a 24 hour service and they wanted street lights. Electrical appliances were coming on the market!

A club member was appointed to the Mayor's Health Board -- later the women succeeded in outlawing the discarding of the tin cans within the city limits. Much later the Woman's Club induced the city to establish a regular weekly garbage collection.

In 1912 the Salem Woman's Club placed ornamental lights around the Court House. In celebration of this feat they entertained the Mayor and City Council to dinner. About this time the first Salem Clean-up week was held.

In 1914 through a successful lyceum series of programs, \$50.00 was set aside to start a fund for a future club home. Each year afterward money was added to this fund.

In 1916 the Municipal Christmas Tree was originated by the Salem Woman's Club, records show 900 children received candy and toys in one year.

World War I gave the women plenty of work, making surgical dressings one day a week, helping the Service Men in any way they could. During this time the Club took over the care of the Cemetery. They charged \$1.00 per lot and the women supervised all planting, mowing and bought gravel for the

driveways.

In 1922 shrubbery was planted at the Bryan Bennett Library by the Club.

In 1924-1926 Mrs. C. M. (Olivia) Brinkerhoff was president. She has been a member of the Salem Woman's Club for years. In April, 1971 she received a Jewel from the Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs for the Oldest living Woman's Club member in the Southern Region of our State. During her term of office an active campaign was waged by the club to elect women to the school board. Two club members were elected that year, and the first Parent Teachers Association was organized by the club members.

In 1925 a tornado struck Southern Illinois and the Salem Woman's Club was responsible for sending eight truck loads of clothing, bedding and supplies to the stricken area.

Next came the drive for funds to bring the Brown Shoe Company to Salem and the club took an active part in this effort. Again a Lyceum course was sponsored. Mrs. Ruth Bryan Rhode, daughter of William Jennings Bryan, was one of the lecturers.

In 1926 Governor Louis L. Emmerson was a speaker for the club.

Through a suggestion of the club the Salem City Council flooded vacant lots to provide ice skating for the children of the city.

An educational fund was started and many girls were helped in our schools. In the depression years a Charity Store was opened and staffed by club members to give clothing and other necessities to help the needy. The club had the full responsibility of the sale of T.B. seals in 1932-1933.

One of the club's special joys was the sponsoring of the immunization of 1000 children against communicable diseases by the local doctors. Members assisted in all ways possible.

In 1934-1936 the club took an active part by a house-to-house canvass for our Salem Memorial Hospital. When built they furnished a room in the hospital and assisted in making drapes, curtains and hospital gowns, in all 5000 articles were made. They conducted a two-day open house, serving refreshments, and as tour guides and took registration of visiting guests.

In 1936 the club secured rooms over the National Bank building on the third floor for a permanent meeting place. They furnished and redecorated the rooms. The oil boom came to Salem in 1937 which gave new problems as well as money. The club grew to 280 members, then the unrest in Europe came and a Volunteer Service unit for the American Red Cross was formed, which unit met in our club rooms several times a week. Then came Pearl Harbor, and a surgical dressing class was conducted

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once each week. Then World War II developed. The Club turned all activities to war work, such as Bond Drives, Civilian Defense and Red Cross.

In 1940 the Girl Scouts were organized, Club members serving as the entire Board.

In 1945 our club's fondest dreams were realized, when Mrs. Earl W. Merritt was President, by a gift from John H. Young, husband of one of the active members, of \$5,000.00. Our 30 years of saving



Home of the Salem Woman's Club Organized in 1902 by Mrs. C. E. Hull. Organized DAR in 1915.

for a club home, amounted to \$3,800.00; combining the two amounts the club was able to purchase the old home of our organizer and first President, Mrs. Charles Hull, which was located at 300 North Broadway. The Club incorporated and a Board of Trustees was formed of all Past Presidents.

In the near future much remodeling of the interior was necessary. 1948-1950 the porch was remodeled, a new furnace and water heater added, plus drapes and the house painted, and a silver service was purchased by the club.

The club erected a large Scotchlite signboard at the north entrance to our city inviting the public to visit the William Jennings Bryan Museum.

All this time the club continued its support of all civic projects, plus State and National projects, also Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs and General Federation projects. It has helped with crippled childrens clinics through the years.

Several lovely antiques were given to the club home, some by Mrs. Hull's daughter, Louise Hull Rodden.

Style shows were started as money making projects. These presentations were made possible through the cooperation of the local merchants. Art contests were sponsored for the grade school.

Fifty golden years for the Salem Woman's Club were observed in 1952 with a luncheon and the 23rd District President, Mrs. V. N. Rehnquist, as



Past club presidents of the Salem Woman's Club taken in 1961: Fron row, Mrs. Harry Bollinger, Mrs. Paul Sweney Sr., Mrs. C. M. Brinkerhoff, Miss Helen McMackin, Mrs. B. E. Gum. Second row, Mrs. Rhea Fletcher, Mrs. Robert H. Bell, Mrs. Paul B. Chance, Mrs. O. E. Frazier, Mrs. H. C. Holsapple, Mrs. F. A. Dietrich and Mrs. Ralph Wilson.

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and ATKINS FUNERAL HOME — CLINTON W. ATKINS, LARRY E. ROGERS

speaker. (The Charter Members were honored and they were Mrs. Maude Larimer, Mrs. Effie Brinkerhoff, Miss Nellie Moore and Mrs. Ora Kagy). Mrs. Ray Knox, President was presented a Woman's Club pin by Mrs. O. A. James, who donated the pin to be passed from President to President.

During the years a few of the noted club speakers were: Carrie Jacobs Bond, Lorado Taft, noted sculptor; Emily Taft Douglas, Congress woman at Large; John Stelle, former Governor of Illinois, also author of American Legion G. I. Bill of Rights; Father Link of Boys Town; Dr. Richard Poston, Southern Illinois University Community Improvements. Seven State Women's clubs Presidents and two General Federations Presidents have spoken to the Salem Woman's Club.

Club members have served on City Health Committees, School Board, Library Board, Girl Scout Board, Red Cross Board, as Parent Teachers Association Presidents, Hospital Board, Hospital Auxiliary, Presidents, Kaskaskia Junior College Board and the Community Development Committee.

Mrs. John C. Martin and Mrs. Ralph Wilson, past Presidents of the club, have been honored by Outstanding Citizens Awards.

The Club sponsored the first Lilly Parade in cooperation with the Crippled Children and Easter Seal Association. They entered vigorously the County Safety Program, sent a donation to the Cross at Bald Knob.

In 1963 the Old Club Home was sold to the Elks Club, a lot was purchased at 901 West Boone Street from Jean T. McMackin, a colonial brick home was



The present home of the Salem Woman's Club. Located on West Boone.

erected. Ground was broken for the new home on Sunday afternoon, June 30, 1963 and dedicated January 14, 1964. Mrs. Edward Cross was President of the club. Our State President, Mrs. Vernon L.

Barnes was the speaker for the dedication.

The side bracket lights in the meeting room were memorial lights given by relatives of charter members. The large chandelier was donated by the Salem Woman's Club Past Presidents.

In 1964 the club sponsored the organization of a Junior Woman's Club, which is a very active group in community affairs as well as State and General Federation projects.

By 1965 the new club home was fully furnished, new drapes added and all debts paid. A flag that had been flown over the White House was presented by Congressman George Shipley. The club started a memorial for each deceased member, of a special selected book which is given to the Bryan Bennett Library.

September 1967 a 21 Star Flag was presented to the Marion County Board of Trustees by the club, and it was flown on the west side of the Court House during the Illinois Sesquicentennial. The club took an active part in all State Celebrations that year. A teen forum was held by the club in the High School Auditorium from October 21 to November 18, 1967. Teen centers were assisted all through the year, which work has continued along with programs on drugs.

The Senior Citizens Club was sponsored and organized by the Salem Woman's Club in their home in March, 1972. This club is very active and has a large membership.

1972 was our seventieth year, which was celebrated with a tea in the home. Mrs. Frank Duncan, President.

Mrs. Charles C. Reed is the 1973-1974 President.

Mrs. J. Ray Young is President of the Board of Trustees.

Salem Memorial Hospital Auxiliary

The initial meeting for a Salem Memorial Hospital Auxiliary was held in June, 1958, and in September 1958 a meeting to complete the organization elected Mrs. Omar J. McMackin as president, Mrs. H. Paul Sweney vice president, Mrs. Richard Yohe second vice, Mrs. Ed Leach secretary, Mrs. John Young treasurer, and Mrs. Adolph Dietrick as chaplain. Mrs. Cecil Maxey Kell who organized the Auxiliary, also served as temporary chairman for the initial meeting.

Miss May C. Busch was administrator for the hospital at this time. Mr. Fred Scarlett is present administrator, and Mr. David Heavener, assistant administrator.

Enrollment in the Auxiliary was open to all interested in serving the community and hospital in

two types of membership. 1. Active membership at the hospital, and 2. Associate membership for women unable to participate actively but who wished to support the hospital. The charter was closed with 50 members.

First year projects of the Auxiliary were: hostess service, tray favors, hospital cart, Pinky Puppets for young patients, Christmas decorations for the hospital and observance of National Hospital week.

In 1960 "Bibs for Babies" were started. The Auxiliary hosted District 10 meetings of the women's auxiliary of the Illinois Hospital Association. This year saw the first annual entertainment of SCHS Junior and Senior girls interested in the nursing career. From this activity the Candy Strippers organization was formed in 1964 and they serve the hospital today.

In 1961 the Auxiliary set up a fund for a nurse's scholarship, and eleven were subsequently awarded. 1961 also saw the start of a "sick room equipment service" with many articles available for loan to individuals in need of sick room supplies, purchased for the hospital was an air conditioner for the women's ward.

1962 and 63 saw special money making projects for the scholarship fund. Also purchased was a mobile sound projector to be used by the medical staff, hospital personnel, the Auxiliary, and the chaplains association.

In 1966 the Auxiliary's "Operation Doctor" campaign resulted in two new doctors for Salem. This project still continues.

In 1967 a hospital room was furnished by the Auxiliary.

In 1969 a nursery scale was purchased for the hospital. Big project for the year was the "Follies," a musical revue with a local cast. Profit was \$3,345 and this was earmarked for procuring medical personnel. The Auxiliary again hosted the District 10 annual meeting.

In 1971 a mobil library was added to the services for the hospital. Also a check for \$500.00 was given to the hospital administrator and restricted for use on the building fund. This was the year of the Illinois Central train wreck, and the Auxiliary and candy strippers were commended for their service at that time. Special money-making project for 1971 was a cookbook published by the Auxiliary which netted over \$1,000.00.

In 1972 a new service, Patient Service, was added in the form of closer patient contact, and to help relieve some work load of personnel. Art work on loan from local artists began enlivening the walls of the hospital corridors.

A special project in the form of a smorgasbord added more than \$1,200.00 to the Auxiliary's fund to

purchase two Coronary Care Units for our new hospital.

Present officers for the Auxiliary are Mrs. Howard Hunter president, Mrs. L. J. Bercutt first vice, Mrs. Cay Crouch second vice, Mrs. Lowell Phelps recording secretary, Mrs. Marion Garrett treasurer, Mrs. James Johnson historian, and Miss Ruby Meredith chaplain.

Present membership is 437, with 86 active.

Salem Senior Citizens Club

By Ted Kell, Historian

The organizational meeting was held March 20, 1972. This meeting was held in the Salem Woman's Club building at 901 W. Boone, with Mrs. J. Ray Young presiding.

Several additional meetings were held and a nominating committee was appointed, and the following officers were elected: President, Clinton Atkins; Vice President, June Murphy; Treasurer, D. A. Donahoo (who resigned and Alverna McCann is now Treasurer); Recording Secretary, H. S. Cottingim; Activities Director, Willie Cottingim; and Historian, Ted Kell.

A Board of Directors was selected and members are J. O. Hyde, O. J. Alberson, Adolph Dietrich, Paul Watson, Mrs. Kyle Stogsdill, and Mrs. Clyde Smith.

The club holds meetings every Wednesday at St. Theresa School Gym for arts, crafts, sewing, games and a potluck luncheon every second Wednesday of the month. Attendance runs well over 100. People who come to visit, like the State Regional organizer, Harold Wyatt, of Collinsville, tell us we are the most active club in the state.

We are all members with the national organization AARP, American Association of Retired Persons; and the NART, National Association of Retired Teachers. Dues are only \$2.00 per year.

We make many chartered bus tours, such as a bus trip to Silver Dollar City in Missouri, trips to the Muny Opera, baseball games, Sullivan Little Theater and others.



Downtown Salem, looking west, in the 1940s.



North Broadway, Salem in 1904.



North Broadway, Salem, 1973.



South Broadway, Salem in 1904.



South Broadway, Salem, 1973.



West Main, Salem in 1904.



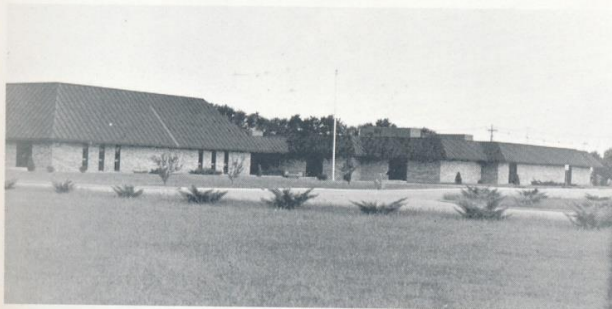
East Main, Salem in 1904.



Salem Community High School, 1973.



West Main, Salem, looking East, 1973.



Hawthorn School, Salem, 1973.



Salem Fire Protection District Station, South Broadway, 1973.

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MARION COUNTY SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATION, Salem



Birthday party of Mary Louise Bell, granddaughter of Charles Hull. Front row: Margaret Sweney, Katherine Bell, Norman Hanes Jr., Billie Betts, Mary Alice White, Doris Atwood, Mary Louise Bell, Margaret Jane Storment, . . . Bradbury, Bud Merritt. Second row: Ross Freidline, Charles Reed, John M. Kagy, Richard Howard, Ruth Johnson, Dorothy Farthing, Mary Calvert, Rita Kell. Third row: Irma Stout, Elsie Robbins, Dorothy Tully, Lois Hammond, Mary Shannon Brinkerhoff, Mary Ann Martin. Fourth row: Raymond Bunnell (deceased), Bradford Brinkerhoff, Henry Feltman, Mary Kell, Elizabeth Peace.



Mrs. Rachel Haizlip and granddaughter Rachel Robbins in front of house at 503 North Broadway, Salem. House was located where Methodist parsonage now stands.



The B. E. Martin residence located at 530 W. Main. Taken in 1903. Now the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Pollard.



The R. C. Hays Residence. It was located where the United States Post Office now stands.



The home of Charles McMackin on North Broadway. Was later moved in sections to North College Street. Picture taken in 1903.



The home of O. S. Marshall, photographer, his studio was located one door north. It was located in the 200 block of North Broadway on the west side of the street. It was later Benke's Studio. Demolished in 1968. The studio was later a service station, beauty shop and then a milk store. It stood where Hardee's is now located.



The home of Senator and Mrs. Charles E. Hull. The house later became the home of the Salem Woman's Club. Mrs. Hull was the founder of the Woman's Club. The little girl in the front is Louise Hull Rodden. The Elks Club parking lot is now located on this corner. The house in the background right was the Atkins Funeral Home at one time. The Elks Club is now located on that ground.



The home of the honorable T. E. Merritt, which was located where the parking lot of the Rankin Funeral home now is. Mr. Merritt was State's Senator from this district for many years.



The home of T. S. Marshall located on the northwest corner of Broadway and Schwartz. The house was later Dr. Rainey's Hospital and McMackin Funeral Home. It was demolished for the Standard Service Station.



The large two story residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Telford at West Main and North College. Later purchased by the Continental Oil Co. The Moto Gas Station is now located there. This home was one of the older houses in the city. It was built by Dr. D. K. Green in 1867.



The home of Frank Bradford, located at the southwest corner of Washington and McMackin, 1903.



The home of L. M. Kagy at 421 N. Broadway. The house is still standing, but the second floor was removed after a fire in March 1932.



Mrs. Haizlip's home at 503 N. Broadway. This house stood where the Methodist parsonage now stands. Elsie Robbins, the granddaughter of Mrs. Haizlip, is standing in the yard.



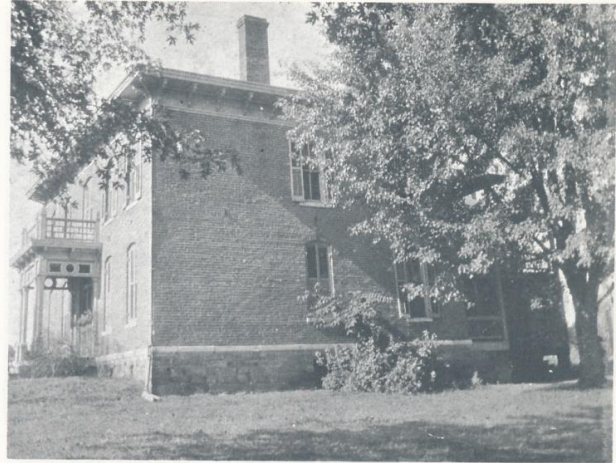
The John W. Larimer home at the corner of Broadway and Warmouth. Mr. Larimer is standing on the porch.



James Martin home was located in the block where the present Baptist Church is located. This photograph was taken about 1911 by a photographer who was more interested in Mrs. Gladys Evans Bradbury than the house.



The home of Rev. John A. Williams, located on the north-east corner of Broadway and Mitchell. Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Tracy are standing on the porch.



John W. White home, 310 Washington, Salem. It has been the residence of the Badlett's and the C. E. Jennings. The house was built in 1833. The picture was taken in September of 1915.



Originally called the Centralia-Chester Railroad later the Illinois Southern. The first station what is now known as the M&I.



Exterior of McMackin's Furniture Store.



Interior of the dry goods store of E. Hull and son. Located where the Leader Store is now on East Main street. Pictured are: man leaning on ribbon counter is Frank Bradford, two men behind counter on right are Lee Parks, and J. H. G. Brinkerhoff.



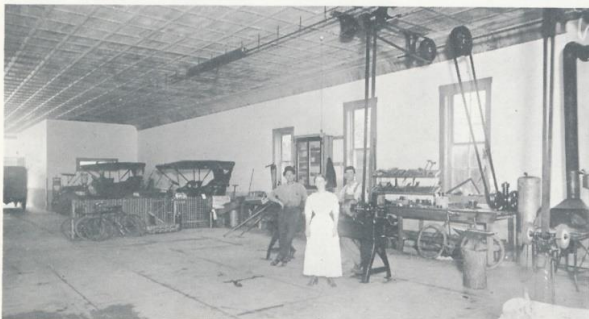
Interior of McMackin's Furniture Store.



Park Hotel 1903. The construction of the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad in 1852 brought large delegations of eastern people to this locality. Among them was Mr. Amos Clark who erected on the corner of Broadway and Schwartz Streets, a fine hostelry known as The Clark House. In 1870 Capt. Johnson of St. Louis purchased the property and converted the grounds which composed at that date nearly the entire block, into a park and naming it the Park Hotel in Southern Illinois, it was famous for its cuisine and hospitality. In the 1920's Dick Goepner purchased and rebuilt the hotel adding baths and a large porch. In 1964 the Methodist Church purchased the building which was no longer being used as a hotel and had the building torn down.



This scene changes that the least of any in Salem. The B&O depot in 1903.



The interior of Periman's Garage, Salem's first garage. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Periman (Mrs. Periman's name is Blanche), are at left. Their mechanic was Emil Munier.



Williams Motor Co. which used to be located where Holsapple Chevrolet is today. V. A. Williams is on the left and his father, A. E. Williams, is to the right of him.



Before the days of the hair-stylists for men, the barber reigned supreme, and in the barber shop was as good a place as any to find out what's going on around town. At right is the late Jack Jones. In the chair is Ethan Hilton, who is still shining shoes in Salem after 53 years. At left is Peter Lodge, customer unidentified. In the rear of the shop, the now non-existent Marion County Mutual Insurance company office was maintained. The shop was located for many years on East Main street. This photo was taken in 1931.



J. M. Whitlow's Millinery Shop was located at 106 N. Broadway. Picture taken in 1902, standing in front of the store is Mrs. Jennie Whitlow and Ruth Brogan.



The interior of the old Salem National Bank building, which was replaced by the present City Hall. Picture taken in 1905. Shown in the picture is Tom Marshall the cashier, later President of the bank and Miss Grace Thompson who later married Elmo Elliot Peake.



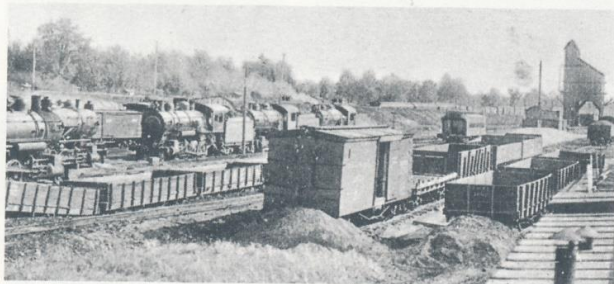
Interior of Dan Gunn's Grocery. Mr. Gunn is behind the counter.



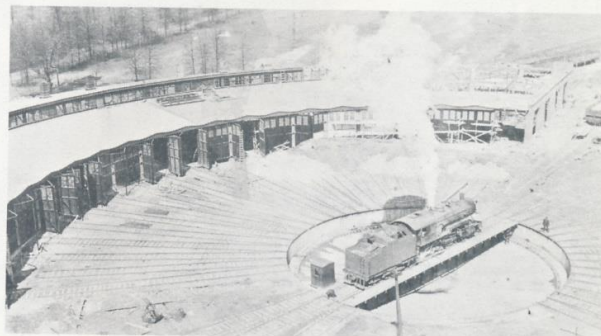
Salem Livery, Feed & Sale Stable. It was located where the Salem Moose Lodge now stands. It was owned by C. M. Brinkerhoff who is pictured in the buggy in front of the store. The building was destroyed by fire in the early 1930's.



Halfway Tavern east of Salem.



A view of the south yards and the coal tower. It was called the Frisco yards because the St. Louis and San Francisco railroad controlled the yard at that time.



A view of the construction of the round house and the turn table. Picture was taken from the top of the water tower at the yards around 1905.



The young married folks club of the Gay 90's. They gathered to go hickory nut hunting and other fun things such as playing Hearts. Seated, C. D. Merritt, Clara Schwartz, C. L. McMackin, Mrs. Robert Pace, Lulu Hull, Mrs. Bounds. Second row, Robert Pace, Joe Schwartz, May Rainey, Dr. George Rainey, C. E. Hull, Mrs. Crossett, Mrs. John Larimer, John Larimer, Harper Sweney, Lulu Sweney, Mr. Crossett.



A later picture of the young married folks club with some of their children. Seated on ground, Margaret Merritt, Faye Merritt, Gladys Pace, Louise Hull. Seated, Nell Pace Wheling, C. L. McMackin, Mamie Sweney, Lulu Sweney, Carrie Merritt, Mrs. Andrews, Mrs. Larimer, Eugenia McMackin, Lulu Hull, Clara Schwartz holding Helen, Mr. Wheling, Ben Sweney, Harper Sweney, Paul Sweney, Charles Hull, Lynor Pace, Dwight Larimer, John Robert, Maude Larimer, May Rainey, Alice Pace, Lovell Hull, Belle McMackin, Ned Pace, Claude Pace, Robert Pace, Omar McMackin, C. D. Merritt, John Larimer, Dr. George Rainey, Joe Schwartz.



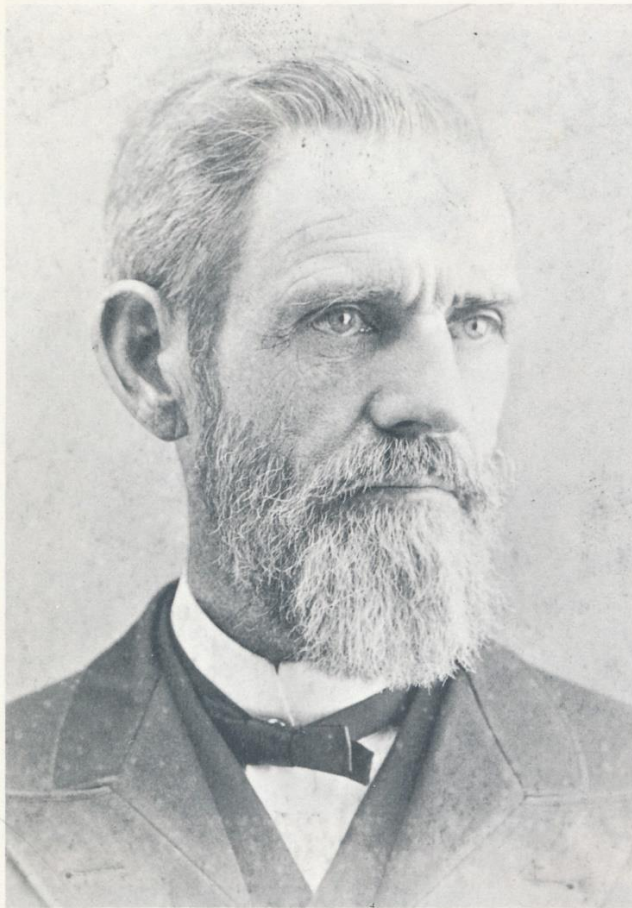
General J. S. Martin, commander of the 111th Illinois volunteer infantry and later Congressman.



The Estes family, Aggie, Earl, Lucy, Jasper, Omer.



Salem Reed Band — Bottom row: Arthur Charlton, Floyd "Gin" Allmon. Second row: 1. Glen Henderson, 2. . . . Corry, 3. . . . Aikman, 4. L. B. Johnson. Third row: 1. J. M. Chance, 2. Hammond White, 3. . . . Patterson (Blanche Bryan's Husband), 4. Elwood Joines, 5. Herman Walker, 6. . . . Fortner (had jewelry), 7. . . ., 8. Grover Leffler, 9. Roy "Kate" Lufklin, 11. Claude Tully, 12. John "Button" White.



Mr. B. F. Marshall, an early Salem banker.



German American Birthday Club of Salem. This was a club composed of women who had been born in Germany or who had German ancestry. Many such ethnic groups flourished in the 19th Century. Through such societies the custom and language of the fatherland were kept alive for those new Americans who were far from home and family. This club was formed in 1897 and met monthly. In this picture, taken around the turn of the Century, are: 1. Mrs. A. Bauchens, 2. Mrs. Ed Bryan, 3. Mrs. Anna Bryan, 4. Mrs. Emma Feltman, 5. Mrs. Mary White, 6. Mrs. Alice Kiep, 7. Mrs. Leni, 8. Mrs. A. Bachman, 9. Mrs. Ida Merritt, 10. Mrs. Moser.



The C&EI depot and the day force taken September 9, 1907. The three gentlemen in shirt sleeves are Mr. Merz, Mr. Arnold and Mr. Taums. This depot was located on the north side of East Main Street.



Young blades of Salem, Charles McMackin, John Martin, Ike Lear, Ed Spencer, Thomas Pyles, and Will Slack.



The Mystic Seven taken August 8, 1889 by the Charlton Studio. In it are Neva, Mable, Ida, Gussie, Minnie, Bessie, and Florence.



Left to right: Unknown, Lovell Hull, Louise Hull, Lucy Hull Parks.



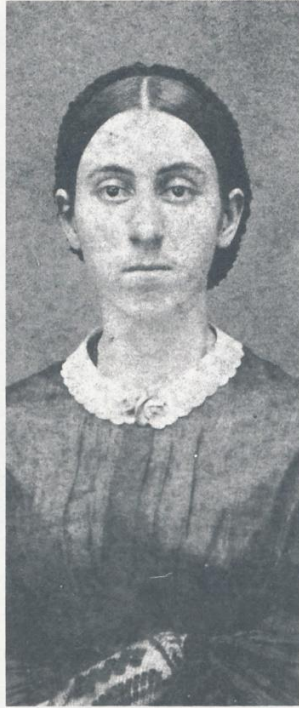
The present Salem Mayor, Charles L. McMackin II, age 1 year and 9 months.



Charles L. McMackin I and William Jennings Bryan, Charles E. Hull, driver unidentified.



Night switching crew at the C&EI Yards, 1907.



Martin Buckhout (Bookhout) for many years the seller of books, stationery, insurance, etc. Cynthia Buckhout, the wife of Martin.



Mrs. Lucy Hull, daughter of Mark Tully and wife of Judge Samuel Hull.



Salem Garden Club, 1901. First row: Mrs. Lil Crossett, Mrs. H. T. Sweny, Julius Keip, Nona Vogt. Second row: Mrs. John Leins, Mrs. George Webster, Mrs. John T. White, John W. Larimer, Miss Amy Torrence, Mrs. J. S. Martin, Mrs. Robert Martin, Mrs. C. L. McMackin, Mrs. Josephine Bryan.



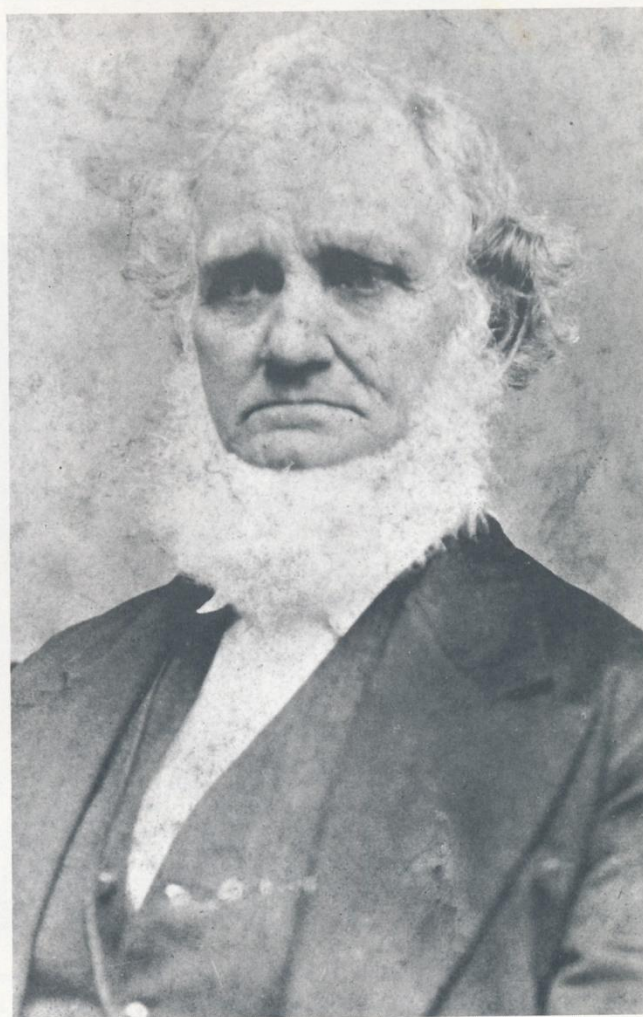
This distinguished looking group of gentlemen are the lawyers who practiced in Salem at the turn of the century.



Mr. and Mrs. Bob Pace and family, Nellie, Claude and Lynn.



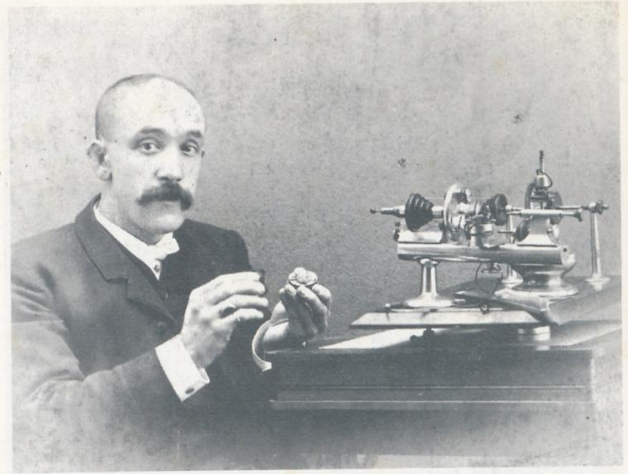
Taken on the Merry Go Round July 4th, 1902. From left to right are Mr. John Stonecipher, Mrs. Millie Jackson and Mrs. Jennie Whitlow.



Samuel Hull, the first Marion County Judge.



Mr. and Mrs. Dave Houchen, more commonly known as "Dave and Babe or Baby-Hun." They made our bank corner their resting place.



Salem jeweler F. G. Hart began his store in Salem about 1885. He sold and repaired watches.



Taken by O. S. Marshall from the top of the ferris wheel July 4th, 1902. The scene is looking west of Main Street. The building on the left is the Salem National Bank, on the right is the W. E. Tarter Meat Market, on the second floor of the building was Charlton's Photograph Gallery. In the foreground is the Merry Go Round in the tent. The Merry Go Round was operated by the coal fired boiler in front of it.



Looking east on Rainey's Lake, Salem. Now the Country Club.



The Lamont Brothers Circus. Winter headquarters in Salem for many years. Their farm was located where the Texas Camp now stands. In the beginning of their run the troop traveled by train. After a bad train wreck, they traveled by wagon and trunk. This picture shows a baby camel born in Salem. Omar Eddings a local black was the head animal trainer, Charlie Baker another local man was the circus clown and Abe Earhart a local Civil War vet was the chief musician.



Salem Rotary Club, February 28, 1930. First row, left to right: R. Brinkerhoff, Curley Gruenkemeyer, Bob Merz, Hugo Dudenbastle, Lena Keeler, E. E. Irwin, O. J. McMackin, C. A. Porter, Fred Benke. Second row, left to right: Fred Tresslar, W. O. Roddy, Herschel Fankboner, Adolph Dietrick, Bill Storment, Dr. Rodden, Rev. Shaffer. Third row, left to right: Fred Young, B. E. Martin, Ben Sterneck, Jack Jones, John C. Martin, Earl Merritt. Fourth row, left to right: Sam Jones, unknown, V. A. Williams, Glen Hoover, Ben Smith, Charles Ratzburg, Dwight Larimer, Fred Blackburn. Balance, left to right: Harry Farson, Norman Hanes, F. B. Storment, John L. Kagy, Ben Sweney, C. L. McMackin, Ward Holt, C. L. Edwards, Harry Johnson.



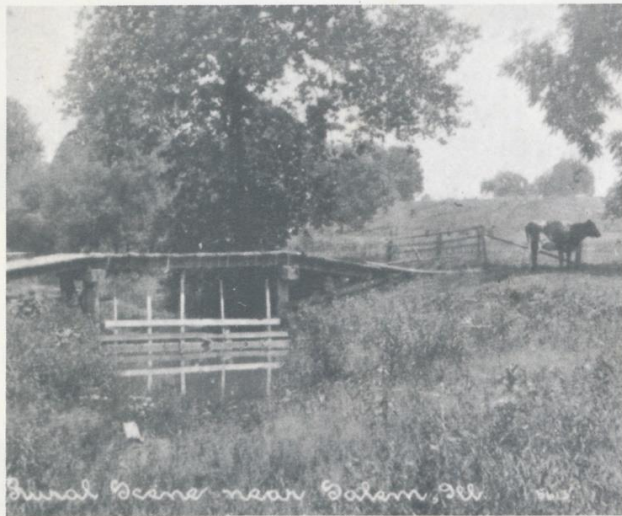
Post Office force during World War II. Bottom row, Frank Brown, assistant postmaster, Ellis Storment, Leon Estes, . . . Gilmore, Louise Wilson, Paul Squibb, Dale Morris, John Sullens. Second row: Charles Roberts, Postmaster; Ray Lingafelter, Clyde Bookhout, Herman Wheat, Lenard Daniels. Third row: Ted Kell, Frank Storment, Herschel Bookhout, Orvil Anderson, Burdette McCarty. Fourth row: Ernest Leckrone, Roy Rogers, . . . , Omer Squibb.



Bridge on East Main in front of the Sweney homes.



The Box Factory located west of College Street on the B&O railroad, 1909.



Farm scenes near Salem.

Marion County Towns and Townships

Alma History

Alma is located on State Highway 37 and the Illinois Central, in the midst of what used to be a big fruit-raising area, known far and wide for its peaches, pears and apples. One of the largest and most modernly equipped packing sheds in the state was located in Alma in the 1930's.

The village was laid out in 1854 by John S. Martin. Originally named Rantoul, it was discovered another town in the state had appropriated that name, so it was changed to Grand Mound City, but in 1855 the name was once again changed -- this time to Alma.

The first storehouse was built in 1853. Smith and Hawkins conducted the first blacksmith shop, and John Ross operated the first grist mill. Rev. Jefferson was the first Methodist preacher and Rev. John Ross was the first Christian minister.

On December 28, 1908, fire broke out in a large hay barn and destroyed the entire business part of Alma. Several stores, warehouses, shops and restaurants were burned. Before the ashes had hardly cooled, preparations had been made to reconstruct the buildings with brick.

In the spring of 1908 the large fruit cannery of Dector Shrigley was burned and was a serious loss to

the community.

The Ross name has been associated with Alma history since shortly after the founding of the village. The family of Wm. S. Ross, father of J. W. Ross of Centralia, came to Alma from the northern part of Illinois in 1866. In 1871 the Ross family moved westward, eventually settling in Texas where it remained until 1885 when the family returned to Alma.

In 1881 the netted German melon, a small, oval, heavily netted, green-fleshed fruit, was first introduced to the public. This variety was destined to revolutionize the melon industry of America. It was tested for a few years and in 1885 was grown for market in a small way by Wm. Ross at Alma and J. W. Eastwood of Rocky Ford, Colorado. The melon seeds had been brought back by the Rosses from Texas.

Having more melons than the local market could consume, he shipped two barrels to Chicago in August, 1885. These were the first melons of this type ever seen in the Chicago market and they were the occasion of considerable amusement on South Water street where the barrels were opened. The melons seemed ridiculously small as compared with the Hackensack and other melons then on the market. However, after the flavor had won the



Methodist church and parsonage Alma, Illinois.

approval of customers, the melons were readily sold.

The next year Ross planted 20 acres and a few years later, 90 acres. Soon a number of his neighbors began planting and the industry grew at Alma until the shipments reached from 10 to 15 carloads per day.



R. F. Wyatt, rural mail carrier on a country road near Alma, Illinois.

As other parts of the state began growing the melons, the people of Alma began raising fruits, principally pears and apples.

Alma Township was originally prairie, but nearly all of the land is now under cultivation. The Illinois Central passes the northwest corner of the township while the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroad crosses it from the north to the south.

The Baptist built the first church in the township in 1848. It was a small frame house. Rev. N. R. Eskrid was the minister.

The first school was held in an abandoned cabin and was taught by Isaac Kagy. The first school was built in 1842 on the site of the Pleasant Grove Methodist Church.

In 1841 John Hammers opened a strip coal mine on a vein two feet thick but when the railroads brought coal to Alma, the mine was abandoned.

In 1938, Alma had three general stores, each employing three persons, two restaurants, four filling stations, a lumber yard and several other establishments. In addition to its fame as a fruit growing center, Alma was also known for the flowers raised in the area.

In 76 years, a fellow sees a lot of things happen, but certain ones stand out more than others in his mind.

That's been the experience of Earl Allmon, Alma's busy barber, who has lived in and around Alma for more than three quarters of a century.

One vivid picture that has stayed with Allmon all these years was in 1898, when he was a boy, during the Spanish-American War. About 15 or 20 volunteers from Alma were standing on the railroad platform, waiting to leave, and the Alma band played a stirring farewell tune which was apparently very moving to all. He still remembers the tears in the eyes of those boys as they listened to the band play, right before they left.

His happy school days at Happy Hollow over on Brubaker Road, when they moved outside of town, also left an impression on Allmon. His teacher was Harry Rainey, a farmer in the Brubaker community. There were about 60 students enrolled in the eight



Street scene in Alma, 1938

grades at the time, the biggest enrollment the school ever had, he believes.

The big fire in 1908 which destroyed Alma's business district is another sight he hasn't forgotten. He can still recall the piles of merchandise and canned goods in the streets where they had been moved hurriedly out of the stores. As all business buildings on both sides of the streets were wooden structures, they all went up in flames and every business was burned out. It was never rebuilt quite the same.

Acres and acres of pears, muskmelons, peaches, apples, tomatoes and flowers are a sight still fresh in Allmon's memory, when Alma was a fruit and flower center. Long lines of wagons winding down the street and around the corner, waiting to get to the depot, are something he well remembers.

"Our muskmelons were sweet and nice, with a small center," he reminisces. "I'd like to have one now. They were called 'Alma Gem.'"

There was even a canning factory in Alma then, but it burnt one Fourth of July when some fireworks set it off. There was also a basket factory and a pickle factory.

Alma had three different names -- Mound City, Rantoul, and then Alma. It was finally named "Alma" because of the Battle of Alma in the Crimean War, says Barney Craig.

We couldn't figure how the Crimean War got over here, but Craig believes the name was bestowed by one of the early settlers, Uncle Billy Ross, a preacher in the Christian Church. Uncle Billy was of British background, probably Scotch, judging by the name. He also helped establish the fruit and flower industry here because he brought the original seeds and bulbs for the pears and Easter flowers.



Christian Church in Alma, Illinois

Uncle Billy brought the Christian Church here too, and no doubt was influential in establishing the Christian Church College in 1896 for training preachers. Part of the old cottage building is still in use where Alma Grade School now is.

Pleasant Grove Methodist Church Alma Township

The first record of religious services being held in Pleasant Grove community was in 1841. In that year, John Wilson, of Ohio, came to Illinois with his sons Richard Tilton and John Corivin Wilson, and Wilson White, a grandson. This family along with the other scattered families in the community had been having school in an old abandoned house, but during the same year a log school house 24x18 ft. with a weight pole roof was built near where Pleasant Grove now stands on ground given by the Wilsons. Thomas Miller was the first teacher. Once a year Bishop Roberts preached in this house. Rev. Joseph Helms and Rev. T. L. Middleston were among the first ministers. In the early days Pleasant Grove was on the Salem Circuit (1870-1873) and on the Kinmundy circuit from 1873-1890. In 1890 Alma was made the head of the circuit containing four charges: Pleasant Grove, Zion, Cabbage Chapel, and Alma (Cabbage Chapel was dropped from the charge a few years ago). The deed to the church property states that on November 4, 1857 it was deeded by William Hulst to John C. Wilson, Thomas A. White, Samuel Phillips, Thomas Phillips, and R. L. Wilson, trustees. This deed was recorded November 10, 1857.

Just what year the church was built we are not certain, but we do have evidence that Joseph Henry Shaffer, father of the late Will Shaffer, and grandfather of Mrs. Lucille Vandever helped haul logs to be used in the construction of this church and, at the time of his death was collecting funds to be used for repairs.

We have records of the past ministers serving Pleasant Grove, and Pastor Richard Schmidt is the 46th minister to serve since 1870.

This is the only rural church in Alma Township. The Wilsons were the ancestors of A. M. "Shine" Wilson.

Most of this information was given several years ago by the late Mrs. Sadie Purcell of Alma and later kept by Mrs. Bessie Hiestand until the Homecoming of the church and centennial in 1949.

The Booker Corner

At the crossroads at the Northeast corner of Sec. 33 in Meacham Township lived a family by the name of Francis Booker. Across the road was a one room country school built the latter part of the 1800's. This school served the community as their educational center for half a century and was named Booker for the above named Booker family. This crossroads was known as the Booker Corner.

Some of the teachers at this school around the turn of the century were Hattie Tate, Millie Long, Grace Shepherd, Charles Keller, Anna Jett, Nora Heistand, and Miss Wainscott.

In the early spring of 1907 Charles S. Keller and

wife purchased the Booker farm and moved to it.

About the year 1910 Mr. Keller started a country store in his home buying his first stock of goods from Hulman and Co. of Mattoon at a cost of \$50. In a few years a storebuilding of suitable size was built to accommodate the growing business.

Country stores in those days purchased items in bulk in large quantities and weighed and measured the amount to suit the customers' needs. Sugar and coffee came in 100 lb. bags, lard came in 50 lb. cans and was dipped into containers brought by the customer for that purpose. Candy came in large wooden tubs. Stick candy was stored in jars. Chewing tobacco, a popular item in the olden days, came in large squares and had to be cut with a tobacco cutter.

Often times customers brought eggs and chickens to barter for groceries, and in hunting season rabbits were exchanged for shells and tobacco. Then, Mr. Keller hauled this produce by team and wagon to the market at Farina, a distance of six miles. Also, some of the produce was shipped to Chicago commission houses. On the return trip he would bring back a load of groceries shipped into Farina by train from Hulman and Co. of Mattoon.

In three or four years an addition was made to the store building and a grist mill, run by a gasoline engine, was installed. On this mill corn could be shelled. Another operation of the mill was the crushing of corn on the cob which was fed to cattle. But the most important function of the mill was grinding corn meal with a set of French burrs. Also wheat was ground into whole wheat flour. A lot of this was done, especially, during World War I, when white flour was rationed.

During the time this store and mill were in operation there was a blacksmith shop a short distance east of the school house. This shop was owned and operated by Alva Lambird.

This crossroads was a busy place in this period of time with the country store, grist mill, blacksmith shop, and one room rural school. Many teams of horses could be seen on busy days tied to posts and trees at these places.

Charles Keller and wife, Josephine Potter Keller, ceased operation of the store and mill during the middle 1920's but lived at this place until their deaths in 1959 and 1961.

Other families living in this neighborhood were the Newt Copples, Albert Hampstons, Phillip Shorts, Buck and Bill Simmons, John Gambills, D. D. Divines, George VanCleves, John Bousmans, Tif Coursons, Wm. Lambirds, Thomas Neals, Jasper Krutsingers, Robert Wilkinsons, and George Emmitt, and Dan Merritts. Some of the above named families came here from Jasper Co.

The James Burkett family settled here near the turn of the century about one-fourth mile east of the Booker school house and north of the present road on an old road which angled north and west through

the woods to Kinmundy. Many of the old roads were like this, following the path of least resistance. The Burkett family later moved west of the corner.

George Mayer, a well-to-do businessman of Du-Quoin, Illinois, bought a large acreage west and south of the Booker corner and moved here about 1915 and raised purebred Jersey cattle and had quite a showplace with fine buildings. They brought colored men with them who did most of the work.

There were also two colored families living about two miles east of the corner by the names of Grant Taylor and Mr. Higganbotham. These families were neighborly and were respected. They later moved near Decatur, but occasionally came back to see their old home places and to call on their old neighbors.

Living east and south of the school house, was the John Fogerson family who came from Missouri near the close of the Civil War. Their home in Missouri was raided and their fine horses were taken by the Southern army. They escaped at night time and thus saved their lives.

About 1868 Thomas Potter and family settled three-fourth mile east of the Booker corner which has since that time become known as "The Potter Corner." In early days the fourth of July picnics were held in the grove at the Potter Corner.

The Potter family, consisting of five children lived in a two story log house built by Mr. Potter.

Thomas Potter was Justice of Peace for several terms. In those days many important civil and criminal cases were tried in such a court of justice with court being held in the home of the Justice of Peace. Many marriages were also performed often with members of his family acting as witnesses.

This short sketch is a little of the early history of the south part of Meacham Township, Marion County, Illinois.

Compiled by Max M. Keller

Brubaker

"Brubaker a small station midway between Kinmundy and Salem is a fruit and vegetable shipping point of considerable prominence; peaches, apples and strawberries being the principal items. Not far from here is located the extensive stock farm of Mr. Joseph Telford, which in size ranks with the largest of this section, more than 1,000 acres . . . In the mercantile line Brubaker is ably represented in the person of Mr. E. F. Brubaker, whose business in general merchandise extends over a large territory. In addition to this Mr. Brubaker deals extensively in hay, livestock and grain. -- Mr. E. E. McColm, postmaster and general merchant; H. S. Shrigley and A. Coffin dealers in hay, grain, fruits, etc., complete the business roster of the village.

Brubaker community now has about 20 families within a three-mile radius. Once there was a popu-

lation of around 80 families. That was when there were smaller farms and more of them.

Brubaker at one time, however, had a railroad depot, a post office, a doctor, a cider mill, a saw mill, a village blacksmith, three stores, an evaporator, and of course, their own school, Happy Hollow.

The railroad first came through in 1894, and the next year, the Brubaker community came into being. As the train stopped there regularly, a depot was installed. Many railroad men lived near the depot, thus adding to the population. The community was named for the landowner whose property the railroad cut through.

At one time, more poultry was shipped out of Brubaker by train than from any of the surrounding communities.

Within the past 20 years, the population has declined, the depot has been torn down, the businesses have vanished, and Happy Hollow School has been closed.

Memories of Happy Hollow

On the crest of a hill, nestled among the trees, stands Happy Hollow School, a monument to hundreds of children who received their basic education there for around half a century.

On the south side of Brubaker Road, a bit west of Duke's Store, Happy Hollow has occupied this scenic spot since 1898, soon after the Brubaker community sprang up. Before that, Happy Hollow was a log cabin in the woods, built in 1891. The location was changed to put the school in the center of the new community, and for nearly 50 years, eight grades were taught there by such well-known teachers as Mrs. Bess Hiestand of Salem and Mrs. Beryl Smith of Alma.

When Harry Rainey taught there for his two years, the student body averaged around 45, which was the general average, he believed.

Often, students much older than 8th graders, boys about 17, 18 and 19 came back to school during the winter when the farm work had slacked off, to fill in the gaps in their schooling.

But Happy Hollow is no more. Its doors were closed in 1950. The building has since been sold to a local farmer who stores machinery there.

Back when Harry Rainey was in school, and even when his wife was a student, less than 50 years ago, most Brubaker children could not get to a high school six miles away simply because of the mud roads. In order to attend high school, they had to board in town. Mrs. Rainey did this, staying with her grandmother in Vernon to go to high school.

This problem is hard for city people to understand, because 100 years ago, St. Louis had a high school which was within a few blocks of everyone in town. Also, more than 80 years ago, students in St. Louis were attending Washington University, which was then downtown, and walking to school.

But life was not so simple out here in Brubaker and many other communities like it, a fact which a city-bred person does not appreciate.

Cartter

The last of the red-pot-bellied stoves may be found in Cartter at the general store. And penny candy, too.

No cracker barrel, no pickle barrel, but the genuine atmosphere of the country store is there.

That pot-bellied stove gives the impression that it has been there since the store came to Cartter in 1896-7. But it hasn't.

Besides the usual line of groceries, there's paint, carriage bolts, an assortment of small hardware, a rural post office with 20 pigeon-hole boxes and numerous "Wanted" posters, and gum drops and peanut brittle.

Originally built in 1867 in Foxville, the store was dismantled and moved over to Cartter by Jim Bell and Billy Wham when some of the Foxville community emigrated to Cartter.

"But there's just a grove of trees there now," says Ernie Henson, owner of the general store.

Henson, is only the third owner of the store since it moved to Cartter. The Whams were the first, from Billy to nephew Edgar, and they had it for nearly 20 years. Sam Emmons, the second owner, had it for 20 years. Emmons sold it to Henson.

Cartter was once considered the hub of the outlying communities in Haines township, according to Henson, back in the days when the train stopped there twice a day.

Forty to fifty cases of chickens were shipped out every week, plus cream, rabbits, eggs, and butter. Henson doesn't remember this himself but he has heard about it from others.

One of the local residents whose memory goes back to the early days of the store is Bert Morton. He was employed there by Edgar Wham from 1924 to about 1944, and was born in a log cabin a few years before the store came to Cartter. Log cabins were not uncommon in the area at the time, but his father moved the family into a new house in 1900.

Cartter in its hey day had three stores, a barrel



Cartter Store, Cartter, Illinois.

factory, a lumber yard, a creamery, a grain separator, a fruit exchange, a blacksmith shop and a railroad depot, Morton recalls. Students at the high schools in Kell and Salem used to ride the train to and from school every day at a small cost, 2 1/2¢ a mile. Cartter maintained its own post office until 1959, handling two mail routes, carried originally on horseback. Mail sacks used to be thrown off the train and then hunted down by someone from the store, ofter Morton, searching through snowdrifts or whatever other unlikely place they may have landed. Mail now comes from Kell.

All the Morton children were raised here, however, and attended Harvey's Point Grade School and Salem Community High School. The grade school was later torn down when taken into the Raccoon district.

Morton has witnessed many changes in the community in his lifetime. One was the decline of shipping of local food products -- the result, he says, of the rise of the pure food laws. Because a whole shipment of good butter or cream could be ruined by one batch of poor quality, the enforcement of high standards caused many shipments of dairy products dropped off, and many who had been in dairy farming changed over to grain and cattle.



1929 picture of Cartter railroad station.

Another major change was cutting of passenger service on the train, and then the sale of the Cartter Farmers Telephone Exchange to Illinois Bell. The telephone exchange had been the first in that part of the county, Morton said, and was started around 1903 or so. Several different Cartter citizens, including the Mortons, took turns running the exchange over the years, so no doubt they were relieved when Illinois Bell bought it.

Another contribution the Mortons made to Cartter was moving the church by Morton's father from Foxville. It had been a Methodist church, but became Cartter Christian Church. Although regular services are no longer held there, Sunday School meets every week with Lowell Proise as superintendent. Just across the tracks is Harvey's Point Christian Church which has a good-sized congre-

gation so probably folks of this denomination go over there. Many other Cartter residents attend the Romaine Prairie Presbyterian Church.

Early History of Centralia and Surrounding Area

In the summer of 1851 residents of Seven Mile Prairie were accustomed to an occasional stranger appearing in their midst with plans on staking out claims to be rich level land. But that year the few residents of the Prairie, which is now the Centralia area, saw a new type of stranger.

These strangers arrived with sextants to plot the course of a new railroad -- and not with a wagon load of household implements, a few crude farming tools and oxen -- the usual equipment of the settler. The strangers of 1851 were the forerunners of the Illinois Central railroad, busy laying out the course of the line which was to come a year or two later. Their work finished on Seven Mile Prairie, they moved on and the pioneer settlers went on with their planting and harvesting. Probably not one of the early residents realized that the little group of surveyors were the heralds of a new era which would turn their prairie into the leading community of Southern Illinois.

Events moved slowly. The Illinois Central was granted the land by the federal government. But the settlement which was to become the Queen of the area was not entered in the record until May 16, 1855. It was platted into 16 blocks of ten lots each. The Illinois Central sold lots from 1853, but no deeds were executed until the passage of the law in 1855 authorizing the railroad to lay out towns and sell town lots.

It is interesting to note that the "original town" laid out by the Illinois Central was not in truth the original town. The first "towns" actually additions of the original town not yet recorded on plat books, were Stickney Town, laid out and recorded on May 23, 1853, and "Southtown," recorded on March 22, 1854. A third addition was located to the west of "Southtown" and was recorded on Nov. 4, 1853.

Stickneytown was located north of what is now Rexford Avenue, west of Lincoln Boulevard and east of Elm Street. "Southtown," the area south of what is now Calumet, west of Hester Avenue and east of the IC right of way and Wabash Avenue. The third addition was laid out by Charles Floyd-Jones, Isaac McClelland, George Ehninger and Simon Spear and was located west of the Illinois Central right of way and Wabash Avenue and east of the Clinton County line. Charles Floyd-Jones, Daniel Gregory and Nathan Stickney laid out "Stickney Town" and "Southtown" was laid out by A. P. Crosby.

There is some disagreement as to the first house built in the present limits. Some records say it was

a log house erected by Thomas Green during the construction of the railroad. Other records insist that it was a frame building in Crosby's addition, built perhaps in 1852.

The first business house was the McCord and Davenport general store. Thomas Douglas built an eating house to accommodate the railroad men. The Jacob Kohl furniture store was soon opened. John Merkelbach opened a cobbler's shop to provide shoes for the community. The earliest physicians were G. W. Hotchkiss, C. W. Dunning and D. H. McCord. A large brick hotel was completed in 1855 and John Hawley was the first landlord.

The one event which assured Centralia that it was going to be more than a minor settlement along the IC tracks occurred in 1856. The Illinois Central railroad shops were completed in that year with David Oxley as the first master mechanic. The shops, which by 1866 employed 330 men and which were destined to grow to almost five times that size, assured Centralia of industry from its inception. Centralia early provided many engineers, firemen and conductors for the railroad.

The first post office in the city was kept at the A. P. Crosby store in Southtown. J. L. Johnson was the first postmaster. The city was incorporated March 1, 1859, by special act of the state legislature. M. C. Kell was the first mayor. Other important firsts include the founding of the Centralia Library in 1874 with E. W. Weldon as librarian and the Masonic Lodge in the very early days of the city.

The recorded history of the area surrounding Centralia goes far beyond the founding of the city itself. Originally Marion County was a part of St. Clair County which covered about one-fourth of the present state of Illinois. In 1819 Marion County was made a part of Jefferson County when that county was formed out of the huge St. Clair County. As this area's population grew there was pressure to create a new county and in 1823 Marion County was created



Post Office.

out of the north half of Jefferson County. The bill creating Marion County was introduced by Zadoc Casey, representative from Jefferson County. The act establishing Marion County was signed by Edward Coles, governor. In 1825 the census taken by R. C. Chance showed the total population of Marion County to be 557.

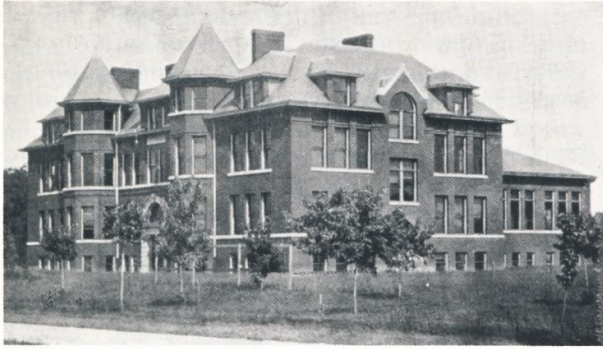
In 1867 Marion County was divided into 16 precincts by the county board. They were Centralia, Sandoval, Odin, Patoka, Alma, Central City, Walnut Hill, Raccoon, Haines, Iuka, Romine, Omega, Meacham, Kinmundy, Foster and Salem. By 1850 the population had grown to 6,270 with an assessed property valuation of \$482,790 giving a wealth per capital of \$71.80. By 1900 the population was 30,446 with an assessed valuation of \$13,353,485.

By an act of Congress on March 4, 1854, county swamp lands were sold at \$1.50 to \$2.50 per acre. A law of 1852 granted the Illinois Central all unsold lands in the even numbered sections on each side of the railroad six sections deep. By the close of 1865 all lands in the county had been entered. Land sales were of rare occurrence until after the building of the Illinois Central, which not only opened a way for the new emigrant to come into the county but furnished transportation for products.

Centralia Township's first settlement also dates back further than the City of Centralia. The first settlements were made in the south-eastern part of the township as early as 1818. There was quite a settlement known as Walnut Hill along the old State Road. Joseph Hensley is supposed to have been the first settler. By 1820, Hensley had made great improvement on his farm -- a large orchard had been set out. This was the first orchard in this part of the territory and legend has it that Johnny Applesseed was responsible for it. Hensley reportedly possessed a fair education, was a good conversationalist and was an ardent Whig in politics. This pioneer often made eloquent appeals to early settlers in behalf of his party from the stump during the political campaigns. He well remembered as a fine stump speaker. He was a justice of the peace for many years. At a very early date -- probably 1818 or 1819 -- he constructed a horse-mill on his farm, which he operated for several years. He reared a large family and died of cholera in 1854.

Other early settlers of Walnut Hill were Benjamin (Black Bear) Vermilion, Daniel McKinney and Israel Jennings Sr. of Kentucky with his son Charles, whose grandson was William Jennings Bryan. William Taylor came to Walnut Hill from Clinton County. He was a coarse-looking pugilistic man, and it was said that he would fight on the slightest provocation. He reportedly had a set of double

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Township High School.

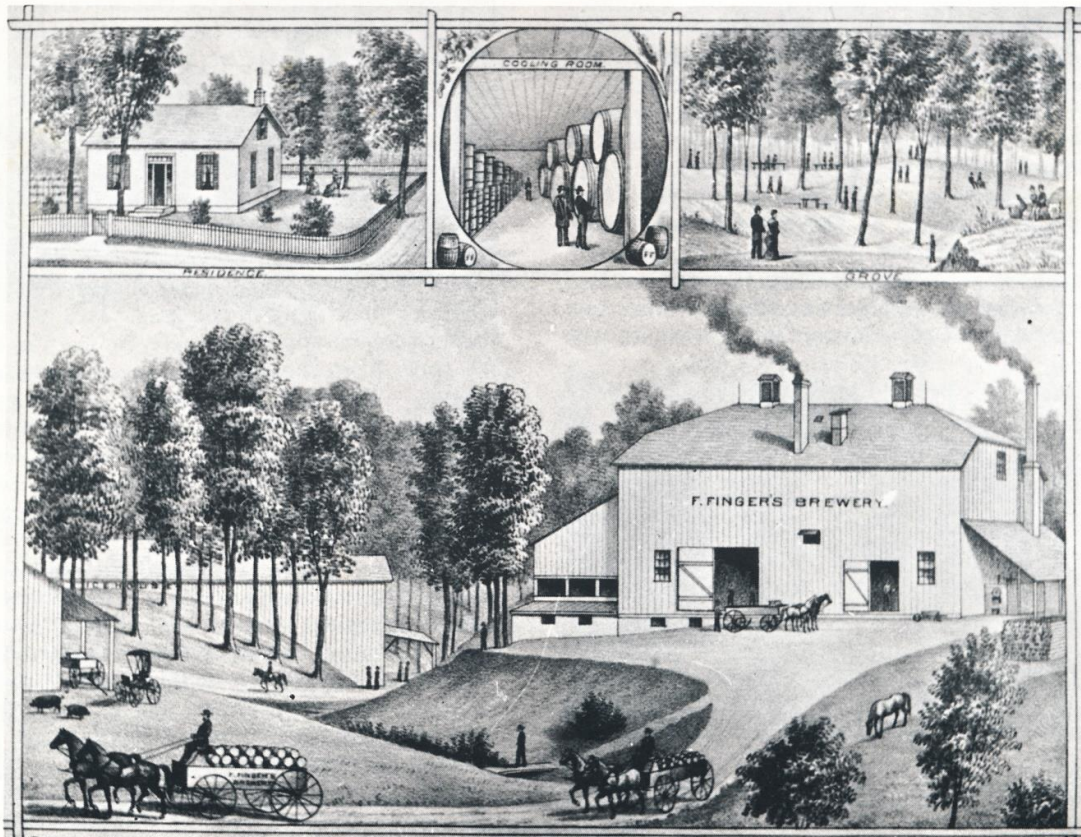
teeth and nothing delighted him more than an opportunity to use them on some bully. His face and various parts of his body were covered with scars from wounds received in numerous engagements and he was minus an ear. On Jan. 16, 1823, he entered 80 acres in Section 30. Daniel White, who had settled in Section 29, attempted to "enter out" Mr. Taylor; in fact did enter the tract upon which Taylor had built a cabin and fenced in a small field. This was a very desirable and beautifully elevated tract, situated at the edge of the timber. Mr. White had never made the acquaintance of Mr. Taylor; but up-

on learning what had been done Mr. Taylor went and introduced himself. Mr. Taylor, it is said, could work his mouth like a trip-hammer; and upon meeting him and hearing his teeth rattle and having heard that Taylor would have the land or eat the man blood-raw that entered him out, Mr. White concluded he didn't want the land. There was no bloodshed.

Another settlement in Centralia Township which came before Centralia proper was Central City. One of the very first settlers in this area was Isaac McClelland who came to what is now Centralia Township in 1820 from Pennsylvania. Although he was a farmer he was instrumental in laying out Centralia and one of its additions bore his name.

The location of Central City was originally the farm of Enoch Holtslaw, who settled there in 1830. As early as 1852, Madison Howell had a little store on the site of the village. Central City was originally slated to be the Illinois Central center but the railroad representatives and landowners of the village could not reach an agreement on land prices. Already owning the land immediately south of Central City through a government land grant, the Illinois Central moved on down the tracks to establish its shops and give birth to Centralia.

Wamac, Centralia neighbor on the south, is much younger than Centralia. It was founded on July 6,



Finger Brewery in Centralia, one mile north Centralia, one mile east Central City.

1913, when a special election was held to decide whether the various additions that had sprung up south of Centralia should incorporate. The city derives its name from the fact that it is located in three counties. The Wa comes from Washington County, the Ma from Marion County and the C from Clinton County. The town was born partly as the outgrowth of a movement on the part of Centralia saloon keepers to locate near the city when Centralia voted to outlaw the sale of liquor in its limits.

Centralia men played an active part in the Civil War. By that time the settlement had grown into an important city on the IC and its population had reached 2,750 by 1860. The 80th infantry was organized at Centralia and was mustered into service on Aug. 25, 1862. Col. T. G. Allen was in command. This group was largely recruited from Centralia, although it also contained men from other parts of Marion County and the state. The regiment was engaged in the Battle of Perryville, Oct. 8, 1862, less than two months after its organization. Fourteen were killed and 58 wounded. On March 20, 1863, 1,500 of this group, while on a scouting expedition, were attacked by John Morgan and 5,000 of the enemy. They defeated Morgan with heavy loss. They were also successful in repulsing the enemy at Dug's Gap and at Sand Mountain, and captured a battery of two guns at Sand Mountain. On May 3, 1863, they surrendered at Blunt's Farm to a vastly superior force under General Forrest.

The officers were sent to Libby Prison and the men to Richmond, Va. On June 23, 1863, the men were exchanged and returned to St. Louis, Mo. From St. Louis, the regiment moved to Nashville, Tenn., and engaged in the Battle of Mission Ridge on Nov. 24 and 25. On May 3, 1865, this group joined in the Atlanta campaign and participated in most of the battles of that expedition. In all, they captured 250 prisoners but many of their own number were killed or wounded. On June 10, 1865, the 80th infantry was mustered out of service and proceeded to Camp Butler, Ill., for final pay and discharge. Only four of the captured officers ever returned to the regiment.

Centralia was well represented in various other regiments called out in defense of the Union. One out of every eight of the entire population was in battle sometime during the war. Many men from Centralia were included in the Salem regiment. The 40th Illinois Infantry was organized at Salem on July 25, 1861, and went into camp at Sandoval on August 5. The regiment received marching orders on August 12, and saw action by the end of the month. During its service this regiment took part in more than a score of battles. Its casualties were high. It was mustered out in July, 1865, at Springfield.

The 111th Infantry was organized at Salem also. In September, 1862, the men were sent to a camp in Kentucky where they were trained. This regiment was engaged in seven major battles and nine skirmishes. More than four times as many men died of



In Cracker Barrel Days the scene at Chestnut and Broadway was typical of any small country town. Prominent among the business houses at this intersection was the Kohn and Warner "general store" pictured center above. The building on the right is believed to have housed a bank.



The Kohl Mansion at Second and South Cherry streets has played a prominent role in past and present Centralia history. Built by Ferdinand Kohl Sr., about 1868, it served as a family residence for many years. Sold in 1915 it has since served as an eye clinic.

sickness than were killed in battle. Measles was the chief cause of deaths. The regiment participated in the Grand Review of the Army at Washington, D.C., in June, 1865. The men were discharged at Camp Butler on June 27, 1865. A few from Centralia

also joined in other groups.

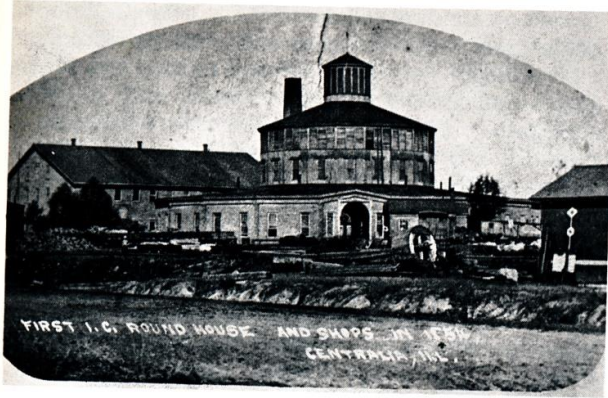
Centralia entered World War I on April 17, 1917, with the rest of the nation and by dawn of the next day, many citizens of Centralia were in line at recruiting stations in answer to the call to arms. Centralia's number of volunteers remained well above the national average throughout the conflict. A total of 1,100 men and women served in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Nurses Corps from the Centralia area, including Rear Admiral Claude C. Kell, now retired. About 85 soldiers, sailors, marines and nurses died, were wounded or taken prisoners while



Carnegie Library.



First Methodist Church.



First I. C. Round House and Shops, 1851.

in service. Many more died from sickness and disease after being discharged.

In 1921 the Veterans Bureau (now the Veterans Administration) established an office in Centralia and contracted with St. Mary's Hospital for hospitalization of sick veterans. At this time the south addition to St. Mary's Hospital was erected. This contract was terminated in 1923 and the Veterans Bureau office was merged with the one in East St. Louis.

Centralia's young men answered the Japanese sneak attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, with a flood of enlistments in Uncle Sam's armed forces. From the ranks came two Congressional Medal of Honor winners. They were Robert Wilson and Robert McCard, both Marines. They gave their lives during fighting in the South Pacific Theater.

During World War II, 4,086 men from Marion County were called. Henry Mitchel, for whom the Centralia Amvet post is named, was the first local man killed in service. By war's end, 195 men had died - 152 in the Army, 25 in the Navy, 17 in the Marines and one in service with the Royal Canadian Air Force.

Once again in 1950 Centralia men were faced with another war and went forth to the conflict. The Korean War, took several dozen men into the army and caused the deaths of ten men, killed in action in that fight.

The Saga of Centralia's Railroads

Centralia is a railroad town. Four railroads, each a segment of a giant system, divide the town almost at its center. These systems interlace 28 separate states and the District of Columbia. To the industrial and agricultural products of Centralia, they open the ports of the Great Lakes and the Gulf of Mexico. And through terminal points with other railroads, they give the city outlets on the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

The railroads, more than any other industry, have made Centralia the city it is today. They not only gave birth to the infant village, but stood by to nurture its growth into full blown maturity. Standing in the wings or on the open stage of this stirring drama are Centralia people -- many still living -- who helped with brawn and brain to transform a frontier wilderness into a thriving city surrounded by productive farms. Today, thousands of Centralia citizens are directly or indirectly dependent upon the railroads for their livelihood. Their investment here totals into the millions, providing an economic stability of incalculable worth.

Serving 13 states and reaching from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico with its 6,328 miles of railroad is the Illinois Central -- "Main Line of Mid-America." The rise of Centralia went hand in hand with the growth of this railroad. It remains today one of the city's principal industries, employing 1,475 local citizens with an annual payroll of some \$5,000,000.

From the very first, the destiny of Centralia has been firmly tied to the destiny of the Illinois Central. The story has its beginning over a century ago when Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas lent their support to a federal bill granting over two and one-half million acres of land to the proposed "Central Project." The bill was introduced in the Thirty-first Congress whose membership included the "Great Triumverate" -- Daniel Webster, Henry Clay and John C. Calhoun. Jefferson Davis of Mississippi was also a member and there were other statesmen of equal eminence. Only a short time before the meeting of this congress, the Illinois country had seethed with excitement as Black Hawk, the ir-repressible Sauk chieftain, had again taken the warpath. The resulting campaign pointed up the need for better transportation throughout the state.

The bill covering the "Central Project" was signed by President Fillmore on September 20, 1850 and in February 1851 Governor Augustus C. French of Illinois affixed his signature to the Illinois Central charter. Then one day in November 1853 in a new village of some 500 inhabitants called "Centralia" the new railroad began erecting a roundhouse, machine shop and hotel. In the surrounding countryside prairie grass grew rank and still fresh in the diggings along the right-of-way could now and then be found the moccasin prints of roving Indians.

A year later, the first train passed through Centralia on a line now opened from Cairo to Sandoval. At Sandoval the new road formed a junction with the east-west bound Ohio & Mississippi, now the Baltimore and Ohio. The consumation of this junction and the coming of the first train was a memorable day in local history. The last spike was driven in the crossing of the two railroads on November 22, 1854. An eye witness account gives this glowing description of the event: "Four gayly caparisoned locomotives appeared, with bells clanging, whistles

sounding and workmen and spectators cheering the iron chargers moved in slowly from the four points of the compass -- one from the east, one from the west, one from the north, and one from the south. At the crossing on the open prairie, the four engines touched noses, thus symbolizing the welding of the rails that would in years to come form two great trunk lines -- one linking the Great lakes with the Gulf and the other linking the Atlantic with the Mississippi."

Thundering down the tracks at fifteen miles per hour with a string of cars clanging on behind, the first train from Chicago rumbled into Centralia on January 8, 1855. The town then had a population of some 1500 people and its growth was still shooting skyward. In those early days, the Illinois Central employed as many as 10,000 workmen in construction and building. These employees came from everywhere -- from New England and the East, from the South, and from the far West. There were Irishmen direct from the "Emerald Isle" and Germans recruited in New York and New Orleans. Scandinavians, Danes and Polish immigrants came in an almost unending stream to this new town in a new world. Many stayed to establish homes and to rear families. Many Centralia citizens date back to these hardy pioneers, many are still carrying on in the old tradition of the railroad.

One of the early railroad men here was Dolph McMillan who made springs for locomotives in early days and whose son, Robert T. (Polecat) McMillan is an engineer still active despite his 80 years. Grandson Bob is a machinist here and his great grandson is an electrician at the Centralia shops. There was Conrad "Connie" Bills, locomotive painter at the shops, who decorated the tenders and cabs with beautiful landscapes thus becoming noted as an artist. David Oxley was the first master mechanic, serving near the turn of the century. Jacob Egger boilermaker from Switzerland has a son Arthur who was only recently retired from the road. His daughter, Mrs. A. V. Kaney, still lives here. And there were John L. and Hattie Maxfield whose 8 sons and 3 daughters followed in the footsteps of their father -- all working for the railroad at one time or another. Samuel Rowe, father of Mrs. Ferdinand Kohl and Mrs. Harry Kohl, was an early Illinois Central carpenter. Mrs. Charles Hoag is the widow of the son of Peter Hoag, an early blacksmith. Her sister, Mrs. W. G. Black, is the wife of a retired engineer.

Today, an average of 41 locomotives are serviced at the local roundhouse and by the end of 1953 some 10,638 new cars will have been built in the car shop. The current building schedule calls for 1500 railroad cars this year. Established here in 1946, the car shop expanding program proceeded under the direction of W. J. McCloskey, general car foreman, and his assistant Hugh Young. McCloskey is now retired but living in Centralia while Young has been

moved up to shop superintendent. The locomotive department expanded here under master-mechanic P. T. "Pete" Seeley, now retired. It is continuing to grow under the new direction of J. M. Jeffrey. To this list could be added other names whose family histories are steeped in railroad tradition. Space requirements allow only a limited listing.

The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy girds Centralia to other parts of the world. The road is part of the Burlington Lines whose 10,823 miles of railroad extend into 14 states, running the length of eight of them. This vast heartland include the states of Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, Texas, Kansas, Minnesota, Kentucky, South Dakota, Montana and New Mexico. The heartland is also the "bread basket of the nation" -- the corn-and-hog country; the wheat fields and the beet fields; the sheep and cow pastures of the Mississippi Valley and the Great Plains -- of which Centralia is a part. Over Burlington Lines and from its warehouses products of this vast territory are shipped to all parts of the world.

The Burlington first reached Centralia in December 1883 when a line was extended from Smithboro. The Burlington's line south from Centralia to Herrin was built by the Northern and Southern Illinois Railroad Company. Construction was started at Centralia April 1, 1905 and was opened to traffic on the same date a year later. On July 1, 1905 the entire line from Jacksonville to Centralia was deeded to the CB&Q railroad. Then on December 1, 1908, the CB&Q acquired the extension to Herrin which had been operated under a lease arrangement since the date of completion. At about this time the company also built a branch to West Frankfort. Timber, minerals, manufactured and agricultural products have all had their place in the rise of the Burlington Lines.

Located at Centralia are the railroad's yards, roundhouse and repair shop and making their home here are 290 employees. Most are heads of families with children in local schools; all are accepted citizens of the Centralia community.

During the rushing days of 1920's, the CB&Q yards here were enlarged from a capacity of 1,000 cars daily to 2,500 cars daily, which is its present capacity. The "rip track" here where repairs are made to coal cars can hold 25 more cars.

At one time there were 65 operating coal mines along its right-of-way from Beardstown to Herrin. An average billing of 1,000 car loads of coal daily for 6 days a week was made at Centralia. And one day a peak of 1,722 cars of coal were loaded in an eight-hour period.

During this period 32 train and engine crews worked out of Centralia, and 35 yard engines switched coal at surrounding coal mines. There are now some 1,000 cars daily handled in the local yard composing 11 trains.

Running repairs and maintenance are made to

some 13 engines at the roundhouse here; and on its huge 120-foot turn-table many engines are turned for the run back to Galesburg. These vital operations affecting the economy of the entire nation are carried on by trusted employees of the road who have spent most of their lives in its service.

Directing division affairs here is Supt. Cecil Wiseman and serving with him are others, each vital in their field. Harry Hazard is general car foreman; C. W. Ryan, general yard master; D. E. Shreve, night yard master; Glen Leiber, roundhouse foreman; J. S. Martin, assistant special agent; Fred Myers, commercial agent; D. E. Henry, road master, and others. Miss Myrtle Fisher, bill clerk here, has been with the road since 1904 and is still active.

There are other employees, retired, who are spending their quiet years in Centralia. Among these are Frank L. Goodman who had a long and enviable record with the Burlington Lines. Retiring on November 31, 1947 on his seventy-first birthday, Goodman was then assistant superintendent of the division. During his long years of service, he played an important part in the railroad construction and operation. Others -- some living, some dead -- played a vital part in the stirring drama of the Burlington Lines. Among these may be mentioned the late Jim Ducci, first yard master, and Warren Perry, general yard master. Charles L. Franklin worked for the railroad here and is now vice president of the Rock Island railroad. And there were C. E. Plott, master mechanic, who retired two years ago -- now living in California.

C. E. McDonald spent a lifetime in the employment of the road and reared a family in Centralia. Mr. McDonald died. And there is the late J. B. Chambers who was agent here for many years, and Eddie Zhender and Sam Hillis and J. F. Reed who are retired and living in Centralia.

The list might extend on indefinitely for the CB&Q is an old and honored institution in Centralia. Space directs that we draw it to a close. But the City of Centralia salutes employees -- today's and yesterday's -- of the Burlington Lines.

Also forming a link in the transportation system tying Centralia to the world is the Louisville, Evansville and St. Louis railroad (the Air Line) which is part of the Southern Railroad System.

This gigantic system with its 7,600 miles of railroad representing an investment of \$962,000,000 serves a vast territory lying south of the Ohio and Potomac rivers and east of the Mississippi. Every state in this extended area is crisscrossed by the Southern lines. Another branch reaches out from Louisville, Ky., across Indiana and Illinois to the Mississippi river at St. Louis. In all the system serves 13 states and the District of Columbia.

The line from Centralia to Mt. Vernon for a distance of 16 miles was built by the Louisville and St. Louis Railway Company and opened for traffic on

December 4, 1887.

The Centralia-Belleville line was constructed by the Louisville, Evansville and St. Louis Consolidated Railroad Company and opened for operation on July 1, 1890. The Louisville and St. Louis Railway was acquired by the Consolidated Company on August 13, 1898. The Louisville, Evansville and St. Louis Consolidated Company, in turn, passed to control of the Southern Railway in 1900.

Keeping the wheels rolling on this system are 37,000 railroaders who, with their families, make up a group of 129,560 people. The system has an annual payroll of 157 million dollars. The freight-train equipment consists of 53,902 freight cars with 3,104 pieces of work equipment. High up on the list of the nation's famous passenger trains are the Southern Railway's streamliners, "The Southern," "The Crescent," "The Tennessean" and the "New Royal Palm." Fast nearing its goal of complete dieselization the Southern Railway System now has in service and on order 847 diesel locomotive units. These new monsters are a far cry indeed from the \$4,000, six-horse-power locomotive that inaugurated the first regular steam railroad service in America. This historical occasion occurred on December 25, 1830 on a railroad that is now part of the Southern Railway system.

The tiny engine, pulling a train of diminutive cars filled with cheering people, puffed away from Charleston, S. C., on Christmas Day. One man who rode on that first train said that it "flew on the wings of the wind at a speed of fifteen to twenty-five miles per hour, annihilating time and space and leaving all the world behind." On the return trip, he said that the train "darted forth like a live rocket, scattering sparks and flames on either side -- passed over three salt-water creeks, hop, step and jump, and landed us all safe . . . before any of us had time to determine whether or not it was prudent to be scared."

The men and women of the Southern Railroad have brought about many changes in the company's operation since that historic event. But they still operate the trains with the same considerate safety and efficiency. Centralia employees of the road are aiding in this record of safety and service. Working for the railroad here are J. E. Sanders, chief clerk, who succeeded Perl Brown when he retired in 1946. Edgar Alred is rate clerk at the local office, while C. L. Draege is ticket clerk with J. C. Konhorst relief clerk.

William Dedman who served the company for many years as car inspector is now retired and living in Centralia.

Steeped in railroad tradition and historical luster, the Southern Railroad looks to the future while revering the past. Officers of the road have given their pledge "to continue to serve in the years that lie ahead."

The fourth railroad operating through Centralia is the Missouri and Illinois Railroad, better known

locally as the "Mike & Ike." Since April 1929 it has formed part of the Missouri Pacific System with some 10,000 miles of railroad serving 11 states in the Midwest, Southwest and South. The M&I originally started operations as the Centralia and Chester and extended between these towns. Following a receivership, it was later named Illinois Southern Railroad; then in 1921 the property was acquired by the Missouri and Illinois Railroad Company. This company, in turn, was later purchased by the Missouri Pacific.

The history of the Mike & Ike has been tied to Centralia since November 22, 1892 when a city ordinance granted the road permission to cross city streets. The ordinance was signed by Mayor Jasper N. Kerr and by City Clerk W. F. Bundy. While forming a part of the Missouri Pacific System, the railroad is operated as a separate unit, with trackage of 241.37 miles. It is essentially a bridge line connecting here with the Illinois Central, CB&Q and Southern; at Salem with the B&O and C&EI; at Nashville with the L&N; at Sparta with the GM&O and at Flinton with the Missouri Pacific.

The road provides a by-pass around St. Louis, especially for freight moving from or to the East and Southwest.

Running through the heart of the oil fields in the Centralia area, much of its freight movement has been oil tank cars. When development in the Lake Centralia field started the railroad provided a much needed service by moving hundreds of these cars daily. Switch engines with their crews headquartered in Centralia and Salem. Oil wells were drilled on the company's right-of-way in the field and became a valuable source of additional income. The railroad was closely associated with the development of this oil field. But there are other products that also find an outlet over the tracks of the M&I. Other minerals, agricultural products and coal are transported to markets or to terminal points in many places. Since becoming part of the Missouri Pacific System, the Mike & Ike has enjoyed a steady and growing freight business. It has also been active in developing the territory through which it operates.

In recent years, the road has followed the example of the parent company and increased the number of diesel locomotives. Road switchers or general purpose diesels are now in operation daily in the Centralia area. Local personnel employed here by the M&I are Freight Agent John W. Mason who has been stationed in Centralia since 1925; Elmer J. Holcomb and Carl Dean White, telegraphers. W. A. Knicker is clerk and Edward Kraus is track foreman. City Clerk James Maxfield was employed by the railroad back in 1904 when it operated under the name of the Centralia and Chester.

These are the railroads of Centralia, and these are the gigantic systems of which they form a part. The past history of the city is securely tied to their

growth and accomplishment; its future history will follow closely in their wake.

Haines Township

Haines township was named for an early settler Edmond Haines. Other early settlers of this area were: Abram Romine, Isaac McClelland from Ohio, John boucher in 1815, James McDaniel and Jephtha Mount, Green DePriest, David Fulton in 1824, William Hill in 1825, Mary Wilkins and her family in 1829, Reuben Chance, Jeremiah Fields about 1830, Millington Easley, Thomas Williams and Durham Tracy in 1827, Isaac Charlton in 1829, Joseph Stonecipher and wife and a family of ten children in 1834, Thomas Kell, Joseph Wham, Andrew Blackburn, John Stormont and James Telford came in the early 1830's, Jarret Purdue came in 1838 and William Beasley settled in section 23 in 1839.

The first sermon was preached by John Benson. Other early preachers were David Chance and William Chaffin, Christian denomination; Rev. Pritchett, Baptist; John Kell, Presbyterian; Henderson Boyakin, Missionary Baptist; and Joseph Hellems.

David Fulton was the first wheelwright, and Green Fields had the first blacksmith shop in section 32 about 1838-40.

Dr. Middleton included this area in his practice. Other pioneer doctors were Frazer, Simmons, Pratt, Hill, Hollingshead, Waston, Holt, Goostree and Finn.

Fulton graveyard in section 2 was the first in Haines township. In 1841 Wham Hill cemetery was laid off. The burial ground of the Hall-Stonecipher families in Section 21 was in use in early 1860's, and the Purdue Cemetery at the west side of Section 21 is one of the older graveyards of the township. Harvey's Point, which takes its name from a Mr. Harvey who was murdered and buried beside the old trail there (some say he was killed by Indians, others say by a horse thief he was returning to justice), was platted and surveyed in 1893. Some graves were moved from Mt. Moriah and Bell, so some stones are older than the cemetery.

This area was served first by post offices at Salem, Rome, Raccoon and Hickory Hill in Romine township. Mail was delivered to these points on Tuesdays and Saturdays, and the patrons called at the postoffices for their mail.

The first official post office in Haines township was **Ensenada**, established 13 June 1854, and discontinued 14 July 1857. William C. Alvis was its only postmaster. Older residents refer to a postoffice Euley or Uley, located in W. C. Alvis' home, with Mr. Alvis as postmaster, but there is no official record in the U. S. Postal Department of any such name.

The town of Foxville was founded in 1867 by Thomas Haines, with the intention of naming it Romine City. However, Rep. Martin's memory failed him, and he could remember only Mr. Haines nickname



The old Telford home in Haines Township. Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Telford seated on the porch.

“Fox,” so he named it Foxville. Foxville was a thriving little village, the first in the township. A post office was established here 9 September 1872 and served the area until 30 November 1900. Postmasters, in order of their service were: Elisha A. Ford, William D. Denton, Wiley M. Stonecipher, Alexander P. Kell, Jarrett E. Haines, James J. Bell, John M. Kell, and Hugh C. Wilkins.

Other businesses located in Foxville, which was in the southwest corner of section 16, at the crossroads where Kenneth Stuber lives today, were: grain and saw mills, operated by the Kell brothers; a dry goods and grocery store operated by Ford and Purdue and another operated by J. J. Bell; a drug store and grocery store operated by Dr. Goostree; blacksmith and wheelwrights were Belt and Clayborn; Dr. Alexander P. Kell was another physician.

An Odd Fellows lodge with a membership of 48 built a meeting hall that was used for many community activities, including singing schools, tailoring schools and the Foxville Academy.

A brick store building built in Foxville, and owned by William Wham, was torn down and rebuilt in Cartter. Cartter post office was established 23 April, 1895, and discontinued in 1968. Emma C. Wham, Edgar B. Wham, Samuel Emmons and Ernest Henson served as postmasters. A Rural Free De-

livery route was begun out of Cartter 1 October, 1900, with Parel Gaston as the first carrier. Dr. Luther Holt got a petition signed to establish the route, but the people had to be sold on the idea that it would cost them nothing but the expense of putting up a mailbox. One man refused the service as he said it would deprive him of an excuse to go to Cartter.

Exchange post office, in the southeast corner of Section 36, was established in 1879, with the following postmasters: Michael Sager, Charles Sager, Isaac Hill, Jacob D. Ulery, Henry C. Hinderer, Samuel J. Stonecipher, John A. Scothorn, Stephen S. Turley and Isaac Hill. Isaac Hill's appointment was in 1901, and the area was reassigned to other postoffices eventually.

When the Chicago, Paducah and Memphis railroad later known as the C&EI was built in the early 1890's, there was a scramble among the Foxville merchants and businessmen to be the first to relocate along the railroad in Kell and Cartter. **Kell** post office was established 1 April, 1895, and has had the following postmasters: Michael J. Helm, Lacy O. Haney, James A. Fauver, Daneil E. Peace, J. O. Purdue, Mrs. Lorraine Riley, Floyd S. Rollinson, Ray O. Riley and Mrs. Martha Dock.

The oldest church in the township is Pleasant



Downtown Kell, at the turn of the Century.

Grove Baptist Church, organized in 1840 by Rev. Henderson Boyakin and Peter Hagler in the old log school northeast of Kell known as Hickory Hill school. Rev. James A. Keele was its first pastor. After a few years, they moved to a location in the Donoho Prairie area, and then in 1856 Martin and Lucinda Hall deeded them ground for a large log church building on Horse Creek in Section 27. Only one grave marker is left on this site today. In 1870 they moved to Foxville, but after this building was destroyed by a storm, they built another church across the road south of Panhandle school on land deeded by Charles and Julia Stonecipher in 1877. They remained at this location until they built on their present site, the land being deeded by Samuel and Mary Stonecipher in 1898. Other early pastors besides Rev. James A. Keele, were Rev. G. W. Grant, J. T. Tennison, T. J. Burton, J. Dobbs, — Profit, J. Noble, R. C. Chance, R. C. and J. R. Keele, T. Seiber, T. W. Dickey and W. W. Hay.

Harvey's Point Christian Church was organized in July 1866, its charter members being William C. Hill (known as Uncle Billy C. Hill, the preacher) and his wife Fariba Hill, William J. Beasley, Lydia Beasley, Louisa Bryant, G. W. Bryant, James Hill, David Brasel, Susan Brasel, W. J. Charlton, Sidney Charlton and W. B. Lewis. Two acres of land were donated to the church by Durham Tracy, and in 1891, they bought 8 more acres from Wilson Brasel. In 1890 some of the members of this church established Gaston Grove church in Stevenson township, then in 1940 the two congregations united, and the old Harvey's Point Building was torn down and the newer Gaston Grove building moved to the site. A basement, additional classroom wing and an auditorium have been added to the original structure.

In February, 1873, the United Presbyterian Church of Romine Prairie acquired land in section 18, along the present day 161 blacktop, west of P. C. Fyke's home. Samuel G. Telford, Hugh F. Brown and William A. Boggs were the Trustees. A church and a parsonage were built. The first church building burned, and a second building, known as "the Old Brick" was so badly damaged by a storm that in 1894, the congregation voted to move to the location on the 161-37 wye.

The Church of Christ of Williams Grove was built on land deeded by John A. Williams and his wife Susannah in November, 1880. It was located in the NW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 11. The trustees were Benjamin Justice, John Helm and David N. Mercer. The woods caught fire and burned the building, but it was replaced. Later it was moved to the township line just west of the Iuka road and was known as Whittler's Union, today called Elm Grove.

Union Grove Baptist Church at Bell obtained land from James E. and Didamy (Byars) Wilkins in 1899. Mr. Wilkins exchanged some land with the Bell school so that the church and cemetery could be on adjoining property. Their building was originally at the Panhandle site, and moved to Bell, and is still in use today.

The Methodist Episcopal Church south of Foxville was built in 1887. In 1901, Rev. W. H. Nelson, at a meeting held in the home of George Bunnell, organized the M. E. Church south of Cartter, with George A. Bunnell, H. A. Boles, Z. T. Roddy, Wilburn Hall and Allen Charlton as its Trustees. They moved the building from Foxville to its location in Cartter. No other records of this church have been found.

In 1911, the Cartter Christian Church was organized, and the Trustees were James Bryant, Robert Easley and Harry Purdue. They purchased the Methodist building in 1912 and it is still in use today.

The first school in Haines Township was located in Section 2 in 1827 and was taught by Thomas Cahorn of Philadelphia. In 1835 a subscription school was held in a log cabin the vicinity of Harvey's Point, taught by "Uncle Billy Hadden," at the charge of \$2 per quarter, to be paid in pelts, corn, honey, etc.

Then the township was divided into quarters and the first school building was built in 1842 in the Bell area. Bell school, as we later knew it, was organized in 1866. At times the attendance was as high as 68 pupils in one term. It consolidated with Kell in 1953.

Hickory Hill, northeast of Kell, was one of the



Public School in Kell until 1921.

largest schools in the area. One term Dick Purdue taught 80 pupils and was paid \$40 per month, the highest salary anyone ever heard of a teacher being paid. When it disbanded, the building was torn down and rebuilt into a two room school in Little Ridge, later known as Kell. It was built on the corner of the lot directly north of the Baptist Church. The white frame school building that now serves as Village Hall was built in 1920. The original brick building at Kell was built in 1934 to serve as a 3 year high school. In 1945, high school pupils of this area began attending Salem and Centralia High Schools, and the building has been used as a grade school.

Mullin Hill, in the southeast part of the township, was discontinued when the new school of Charter Oak (Baird) was built in 1890. A new school law required schools to be built at two mile intervals, so Palestine, Byars, and Telford were also built at this time. Charter Oak, Palestine and Byars consolidated with Kell in 1951. In 1947 pupils of Telford school attended Panhandle, then both schools consolidated with Kell in 1948. Panhandle was one of the older schools of the district, but very little could be found about it. Its building serves as our Town House today.

Tracey school was located east of Cartter where Harvey May, Jr. lives today. It was established in 1859 and in 1893 moved to Harvey's Point and became known as Harvey's Point School. It was the last one-room school in operation in this township, as it consolidated with Raccoon district in 1957.

Jerusha T. Cunningham organized a school in her home at an early date, which later became Old Union, so called because it combined areas from Raccoon and Haines township. Later pupils from this district attended Telford and Romine Prairie schools.

Union Grove, better known as Rabbit Grove, was an old school, though it seldom had more than 30 pupils. It burned, and the area was served later by the Milly Bird School, also known as Cherry Ridge. It consolidated with Kell in 1951.

Donoho Prairie and Little Prairie, although outside our township lines, also came into the Kell district.

Pleasant View

In the month of April, 1894, Rev. G. P. McBride, Free Baptist, held a meeting at the College School House in Jefferson County. (This was about a couple miles south of here.) And he, assisted by H. F. Garten began the organization of a Free Will Baptist Church by receiving nine persons into said church.

June 18, 1894, Rev. T. O. McMinn completed the organization and J. W. Wooters and S. W. Guyman were elected deacons and thomas Branon, clerk. Pleasant View was chosen as the name for the church. Deacons and J. H. May became trustees and at once began to make plans for a building. One

acre of land was donated by George McIntosh on the spot where the church building now stands. It was completed in October, 1894.

Rev. T. O. McMinn was elected first pastor.

On January 14, 1933 the church withdrew from Northern Baptist and came back with the old original Free Will Baptists and the Franklin County Quarterly. A 1928 report to the Southern Baptist Association gave the church membership at 40 and average Sunday School attendance at 20, Miss Ruth Boggs, secretary.

Hickory Hill — Haines Township

History repeats itself, with some variations. In the earliest days of Haines township, there were but one or two schools. And the determining factors of this condition were transportation, the school-age population, scarcity of teachers, and financial problems. Today these same influences are again causing the schools to consolidate, yet with a modern day interpretation of the problems in those different categories.

The big yellow school bus would be an undreamed-of means of getting to school to the people who lived here in 1827 when our first school in Haines Township was established. It was taught by Thomas Cahorn, a gentleman from Philadelphia, Pa. The school was located in Section 2, near the farm owned today by Charles Huff. Some of the families living in the community at that time were Edmond Haines, John Boucher, James McDaniel, Jephtha Mount, David Fulton, William Hill, Millington Easley, Thomas Williams, and Durham Tracy. Isaac Charlton settled in that section of the township in 1829, and during the 1830's Joseph Stonecipher (1834) and wife and ten children, Joseph Wham (1835), John Blackburn (1833) and wife and eleven children, John Storment (1836), James Telford (1836), and Jarett Purdue and wife and eight children (1838) came in home-made ox-carts from Tennessee.

In 1835 a subscription school was held in a log cabin in Section 5, which would be in the present day Harvey's Point District. It was taught by "Old Billy Haddon," and the charge of two dollars each per quarter was made. This could be paid in pelts, corn, honey, etc.

Then the township was divided into quarters, and the first school house was built in 1842. It was constructed of logs, one being cut out to admit the light. It had a large fireplace across one end of the building to provide heat. But this building was subsequently moved away, and Sebird Wilkins bought the land.

The first report to the state on school statistics was made in 1846, and in Marion County there were 32 schools and the average monthly wage was

twelve dollars.

About this time school was being held in the home of Jerusha Telford Cunningham and was taught by her. This was the beginning of the school that was known as Old Union School, so named because it combined an area from both Haines and Raccoon Townships. Mrs. Cunningham's home was located where the present home of Mr. and Mrs. Murray McLaughlin is situated. In the year 1848 a temporary log cabin was built. It had a clapboard roof, a large open fireplace at one end, and the chinking was described as only "fair." The weak latch on the door of this schoolhouse was the cause of it receiving the only name it ever carried, Hog College. The story is told that a bad storm came up during the night, and some of the razorbacks of the community forced open the door to seek shelter from the storm. When the human inhabitants of the building arrived the next morning to study their three R's, they found the building already occupied by some seventeen razorback hogs and their hog families. So this herd of hogs, which in those days were not limited to any given pasture area by stock laws, will live in the history of our township schools as the donor of the name Hog College. Later these pupils attended Old Union School.

Mr. Sam Ashworth, now living in Kell, recalls that the Hickory Hill School was located about one-half mile north of Kelly Hawkins' present home. A road, with a big rail fence on each side of it, went north just along the east edge of Kelly Hawkins' yard. Or you could reach the school by a path which began about a quarter of a mile west of the old road and ran through a heavy timber then known as Billy Kell's woods. Margaret Ashworth French, an older sister who was not attending school at that time, took Mr. Ashworth to school on his first day of school eighty years ago. She returned by the way

of the road, and when she reached home, there he was waiting for her. He had taken the short cut through the field. He admitted he had to return to school, and this time he had to stay until four o'clock. Miss Mollie Wham was his first teacher, and in the years that he attended Old Hickory Hill, it was taught by John Ward, George Mercer, Palestine Ewing, Dick Purdue, Tommie Huff, Cal Fullerton, Jim Campbell, and Boyakin Wham. Dick Purdue taught there when there were eighty pupils enrolled, and received \$40 per month, the highest salary they had ever heard of a teacher receiving.

The school building itself was a hewed out frame building, heated with a woodburning stove. When Billy Kell taught there he cut his own wood and the children carried it to the schoolhouse. The only supply of drinking water this school ever had was a big spring down in a near-by hollow. The teacher used a small hand-bell to summon them from the playground. No one used pen or pencils in that school. Everyone had a slate and a slate pencil, and, of course, how clean your slate was depended on how much "spit" you had. The noise of all those slate pencils "counting" on the slates was loud, but nobody talked aloud. School was never dismissed until four in the afternoon, and many had to walk two or more miles to their homes.

The old "Blue-backed" spellers were used and Ray's arithmetics. Each bought his own books and other school supplies or did without. The ABC's were learned frontwards and backwards, and one was kept studying the multiplication tables until they were thoroughly mastered, even if it took two months or more. When spelling or ciphering matches were held at the school at night, everyone who was enrolled in school had to attend if he was able. Older members of the community attended too, and everyone stood around the wall until he was spelled down



Hickory Hill School. teacher Dick Purdue. School located in Haines township.

and had to take his seat.

Mr. Al Carpenter, Mr. Harve Kell, Mr. Tince Murphy, and Mr. Sam Ashworth are the only pupils of this school who are still living. Math Kell, Lute Purdue, Hulen Purdue, and Dick Purdue were some of the older ones who attended Hickory Hill.

When the school was disbanded, a Mr. Redfern from Salem undertook to move the building to its next location. The task of moving the building intact was too great, and he abandoned the job. Bennie Woodward tore down the old building, added another room and made it into a two room school. The location this time was just across the street north of the present location of the Baptist Church in Kell. Those two rooms are a part of the house that still stands there, and in which Maxey Ayers lives. When Old Hickory Hill was moved to Kell, it became known as Kell school, and French Wham was one of the first teachers. One of the "school-boys" of this first Kell school thinks if the floorboards of the old building could be found, his footprints would still be in one corner of it. He remembered spending a lot of time "standing in the corner."

The pupils living in the northwest part of the township formed Old Union School at this time. It was located on the township line between Raccoon and Haines township, in the northeast corner of Section 13, that 39 acres being owned at that time by Alexander Morton. Today it is owned by Mr. Woolbright. This school, combining an area from both townships, was taught by Steuben Wham, Fred Huff, Molly Parkinson, Norm Watson, Richard A. Morton, Bertha Burgess, and George Durrett Wham. Mr. G. E. Wham taught his first term of school here when he was seventeen years old. Mr. Huff taught the school for \$17.50 per month, the lowest price ever paid there. The last directors to serve for this district were Jim Brown, William Morton, and Theodore Davis. The school was disbanded in 1893 and the pupils then attended Romine and Telford schools.

Another of the early schools of our township was Rabbit Grove, seldom called by its original name of Union Grove. This was probably a continuation of the very first school in the township that was taught by Mr. Cahorn. Those who remember Rabbit Grove as it was in the 1870's say it was a small school, never more than 50 or so in attendance. It was a log school, and had a woodburning stove set in a large box of sand in the middle of the room. The sand was a fire protective measure. The desks were hand-made by a Mr. Williams from pine lumber. They were considered to be the most comfortable of their kind, being made to conform to the shape of the occupants.

Some of the grade cards still in existence show that pupils who were seven years of age were given numerical grades in attendance, deportment, reading, writing, spelling, geography, arithmetic,

and history. The older pupils of the school also studied physiology and philosophy in addition to the others mentioned. Justice was not tempered with mercy when grades were given, and if one earned 41, that is what was written on the card. 50, 43, 61 were other grades given. And when given in deportment, no doubt required some explaining at home. Most of the grade cards were small slips of paper cut from a lined ink tablet, but one teacher had cards printed, ornately decorated with scroll borders. George W. Smith, Eva G. Telford, Emaline Fulton Huff, Norman Briesbach, Cal Hill, Ollie Wham, Josie Huff Holt, Elmer Holt, and Mollie Morton Parkinson were some of the teachers. For an additional amount, George Smith taught German to the children of three families. The parents paid this special fee. The Rabbit Grove School burned in 1890, and the term was finished in a house on what is now the Charles Huff farm.

District 152 was then organized and school was held there the next year. The land for the school was donated by Sebird Wilkins and his wife Millie with the understanding that it be called Millie Bird School. It went by that name for a while, but later it became known as Cherry Ridge. Some of the teachers at Cherry Ridge were Charles McLaughlin, Maggie Wham, Joe Beasley, Mary Longnecker, Bessie Charlton Huff, Walter McLaughlin, Sam Spurgeon, Edna Charlton, Judd Seiber, Julie Huff Julian, Mamie Hill Seiber, Abel Seiber, Pete Hill, Pearl Farthing Anderson, Emma Kell, Hazel Gaston, Lorene Dalton, John Watson, Lila Albert Watson, Mr. Ramsey, Florence Wyatt, Geraldine B. Gaston, Max Brasel, and Alice Metcalf.

History of Iuka

The original town of "Middleton" was laid off by Lucian P. Sanger, of Sanger, Camp and Company, May 14th, 1856.

The side track and well were first located three-fourths of a mile east of the town on land owned by John McGuire, but as Mr. McGuire utterly refused to sell or donate any part of his land for a town, arrangements were made with D. J. and Alfred Middleton for the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 17, and the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 18, township two north, range four east of the Third Principal Meridian, Marion County, Illinois, containing 80 acres. The Middletons deeded one-half interest in the 80 acres of land to Sanger, Camp and Company for the purpose of securing the town and depot.

On the 9th day of February, 1867, by special act of the Legislature of the State of Illinois, the town was incorporated and the name changed to Iuka. In 1880, by a vote of the inhabitants, the special charter was surrendered and the Village of Iuka incorporated under the general law.

Original Board

B. N. Beaver, President; B. F. Middleton, William Nix, Thomas Faudree, J. C. Heflin, Marion Aldridge and J. F. Golden, Trustees.

Ordinances Section 3

Seal. The seal of the Village of Iuka, shall be a Seal in circular form with the words "Iuka, Marion County, Illinois," in Margin, and the words, "Village Seal," in the center of said circle.

Some records state the returning Civil War soldiers, who had been stationed near the battleground of Iuka, Mississippi influenced the change of names. Other records indicate the post office of New Middleton needed to change to avoid a conflict of names with a previously named community. Regardless of the reason for the name change, Iuka, Illinois, had its beginning February 9, 1867.

Iuka Briefs

An Anti-Horse Thief Association was organized the fall of 1862. Its object was the protection of the horses of the members only. No member lost a horse after its organization. The penalty for horse stealing was hanging if the thief was caught. Charter members were Reuben Chance, James M. Huggins, Henry Purdue, Noah Brubaker, Jesse Eddings, D. L. Stevenson, I. D. Lear and Alfred Middleton.

The first boy baby born in Iuka was Walter Irwin, son of Dr. Joseph Irwin and wife, Anna. The first girl baby born in Iuka was Dola Fyke, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Fyke.

An early organist in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church was Mrs. Letitia Schoolfield.

The McGuire graveyard is the oldest in the township. No burials have been made there for years (1851).

The Iuka cemetery, containing five acres, was laid off one mile east of the town in 1875. This is the place where Dr. Thomas L. Middleton preached the first Methodist sermon, and he is buried about 40 feet from where the cabin stood in which he preached. He died December 1876.

The business of the town, in the later part of the last century, is shown in the following:

General Merchandise: J. W. Humphrey's, D. W. Holstlaw, James H. Deaver, D. N. Beaver, George E. Daniels.

Drugs and Notions: Dr. T. L. Irwin; in later years George E. Daniels put drugs in his general store. Mr. Daniels also had a private bank in Iuka.

Hardware and Harness: Samuel Crundwell.

Harness, Shoemaker and Barber: W. C. Moody; another shoemaker was M. Hatmaker.

Grocery and Restaurant: Daniel Quinn.

Telegraph operator, Freight Agent and Ticket Agent: Adam B. Hatmaker.

Butcher Shop, Confectionery and Grocery: Matthew Hinderer and Mrs. Carrie Krodell.

Tobacco Store and Barber Shop: L. H. Windle.

Drugs and Groceries: Walter and Max Irwin and

Co. In later years it was operated by their father, Dr. J. A. Irwin, as a drug store without the groceries.

Blacksmiths: Samuel Young, S. W. Bryant and J. T. Rawlings.

Hotels: Mrs. Rae Neff and John Stephens.

Restaurant: I. N. Songer and Co.

Coopers and Grain: J. W. Humphrey and George E. Daniels.

Livery and Feed Stables: James Conley, William Gain.

Lumber Yard: G. E. Daniels.

Undertaker: J. W. Fyke.

Dealer in Hay and Stock: J. W. Chapman.

Carpenters: Benjamin Huddle and J. W. Fyke.

Postmaster: C. M. Jones.

Millinery Stores: Mrs. Sally Irwin, Miss Nora Rutter and Mrs. Lucy Holstlaw. Mrs. Holstlaw, formerly Miss Lucy Downing was the wife of John H. Holstlaw. John and Luch had one child, Charles Henry Eliot, born February 8, 1885, who now lives in Florida. Miss Emma Hatmaker operated a millinery shop for many years. She married William Hinderer, who owned the former Collins Flour Mill. Mrs. Nan Bowles had a millinery store in Iuka for a few years. In those days a milliner had to put the flowers or feathers, plumes or ribbon on the hat after the buyer made her selection.

Doctors: Dr. Thomas L. Middleton. After coming from Tennessee, his son, William Elgin Middleton, set up his own practice, after studying with his father, which in those days was sufficient experience.

Dr. B. F. Middleton, son of Thomas L., studied with his brother, William Elgin, and began practice of medicine in 1850. He married Miss Mary Pyles and continued practice in Iuka the rest of his life. He died in July, 1896.

Dr. W. L. Finn came to Iuka at the age of 21. He was one of the first doctors who had had three years of medical school but no internship. Dr. Finn died in 1936 after 40 years in Iuka. He had just been elected State Senator for the second term a few weeks before his death.

Long before Dr. Finn was Dr. Humble. He was both a doctor and a minister. He had a son, Charles, and a daughter, Gussie (who married Tilman Middleton, son of B. F. Middleton).

Dr. Walter Songer and brother, Dr. Samuel Songer, were in Iuka before the turn of the century.

Soon after the death of Dr. B. F. Middleton, Dr. Arthur Brooks came to Iuka. He was stricken by typhoid fever and died there. The body was taken back to Cobden, Ill., where he was raised, for burial.

After the death of Dr. Brooks a cousin of his, Dr. Johnson, and wife came to Iuka. Their first child was born in Iuka.

There was also a Dr. Dyer in Iuka for a short time. He came there from Winchester, Ill. And Dr.

Hamilton, whose wife was the former Miss Lyda Schoolfield, was in Iuka for some years.

The law requiring three years of medical school became effective July, 1877, but any doctor who had been practicing medicine for 10 years could continue to do so. Doctors were plentiful in those days; there were no hospitals and all the doctors kept their own horses and a buggy and made many house calls. When the roads were too muddy to get through in a buggy, the doctor also had a saddle and saddle bags and rode horseback to see the patients.

Roads: There were four main roads leading in to Iuka, one from each direction. There being no pavement then, it was very hard, during the winter months, for the farmers to get to town. About 1/8 mile south of Iuka there was a very low place in the road. During the winter when there was a thaw that part of the road was all but impassable. Eventually corduroy was laid on one side. In winter they were glad enough to ride over the corduroy, but in summer the corduroy was avoided as it was so very rough, due to the fact that it was constructed of small logs laid side by side. A person riding down the highway in an automobile today would find it hard to believe that that road was ever in such condition.

George E. Daniels put out a newspaper called the "Iuka Bee." The editor was B. F. Wnorowski. Mr. Wnorowski was raised in Salem and his grandfather Wnorowski came to Salem from Russia.

Early lawyers in Iuka were Captain J. J. Schoolfield and Captain J. S. Jackson.

Like the early doctors, they were not graduate of any law school. The "read" law in another lawyer's office until they had learned enough to begin their own practice. But like the doctors, the law finally stopped that mode of education.

John Eddings was a "notary public." People drawing pensions because of service in the army had to sign a voucher before a notary every three months. It was rather inconvenient for pensioners living in the country to get to town January 4, but they did get there. Mr. Edding's fee was only five cents for notarizing the vouchers. But the pensions also were very low; a widow got \$36 every three months.

Mayors Of Iuka

1872 F. A. Boyer; 1874 Louis Rogers; 1889 William Gray; 1891 John R. Harris; Dr. J. A. Irwin; 1892 George W. Siple; 1893 S. A. Phillips; 1894 B. N. Beaver; 1895 W. J. Gain; 1896 Martin Beaver; 1897 M. T. Huddle; 1898 J. K. Fyke; 1899 W. C. Hinderes; Records missing until 1914; 1914 W. Phillips; 1915 Abner Fadree; 1917 W. L. Finn; 1921 E. L. Perry; 1922 W. L. Bauman; 1925 W. L. Finn; 1930 William Beaver; 1932 D. E. Holstlaw; 1934 C. H. Neff; 1934 Brice Jones; D. R. Hall; Dempsey Phillips; 1941 Edwin Eakins, Roy Hall; 1945 Roy Hall;

1949 E. P. Wimberly; 1949 Ernest Mulvaney; 1949 E. P. Wimberly; 1957 Durley Dunlap; 1961 E. P. Wimberly; 1967 E. P. Wimberly.

Rose Lake

The beautiful surrounding of this lake was selected when the contract was made to allow the railway company to use water from Mameison Creek, the mouth of this creek being located just west of the present location, known as Rose Lake. This name was selected by the property owners, Edward D. and Rosa Cramer.

Rose Lake was a very important location for most of the earliest activities of Iuka and the surrounding area. After the property was acquired by Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Holstlaw, each July 4th a celebration was held and enjoyed by people from far and near. Boat riding was a popular sport in summer time, also swimming and fishing. The winter found skaters enjoying the lake. The ice was cut from there and stored in the "ice house" owned by Frank Ausbrook to be sold to summer customers of the town and also others.

The ice was 14' thick in the winter of 1906. The ice was "harvested" and stored for summer-time requirements, such as ice-chest use, and for shipping.

L. P. Quinn, with Daniel Quinn, manager, presided over Rose Lake at one time in the early 1900's and helped supply the needs of the people who came to enjoy the different diversions offered by the lake as a very fine summer resort. Room rates were \$1 per day. The Iuka House and restaurant were established in 1866.

Iuka Methodist Church

The search for the early history of the Iuka Methodist Church shown, according to the warranty deed, that on December 2, 1876, J. W. and Martha Fyke sold for the sum of \$50 lot 6; block 29 to the following trustees: J. W. Humphreys, J. W. Chapman, J. B. Eddings, J. W. Fyke, J. S. Jackson, Manuel Beaver and H. C. Hams.

Deeds further show that on July 9, 1886, the following trustees: J. W. Fyke, Manuel Beaver, J. B. Eddings and John F. Eddings purchased lot 5, bloc 29 for the sum of \$35 from Henry A. and Mary E. Vandusen. And in 1875 the Iuka cemetery, containing five acres was laid off one mile east of the town.

The brick church was erected in 1877, at a cost of \$1,600. The first minister at this church on record is Naaman Bascom in 1880-82. Rev. G. E. Coultas, and family lived in the new parsonage next door to the church, the first people to live in it.

Iuka Missionary Baptist Church

Iuka Missionary Baptist Church donated and organized by Mrs. Clara Holstlaw (mother of Mrs. Florence Kelley and Herschel Holstlaw). Logs were said to have been hauled in by oxen and one of

the haulers was Ed Howe. This church was built about 1904. It does not function as a church at present.

Bell Missionary Baptist Church

By Mrs. Myrtle Haney

The present Bell Church building was formerly known as the Alvis Missionary Baptist Church, located one half mile east and two and one half miles south of the present location.

In 1897 when the congregation decided to move the building a carpenter by the name of Jimmy Hawkins was employed to do the work of taking down the old building, transferring the materials to the new Bell Church site and rebuilding the church.

He was a very painstaking and methodical workman, beginning at the top of the weather boarding, marking it piece by piece as it was removed so the reconstruction would come easy. In the same manner windows, window frames, door joists and rafters were designated.

When all the timbers were down and marked everything was loaded in wagons and hauled to the present location. The rebuilding was done in the same careful manner. It was completed in 1898. The ground on which the building stands was a part of the Jim Wilkins farm. In the deed to the trustees it was specified that, if ever the church ceased to function as a church, the South Salem Baptist Association would become sole owner of the property to do with as they saw fit.

These men and their families were among the most active in the first few years of the new church life and worked faithfully: Abner Haney, an ordained minister, who did a lot of work in the old Alvis Church and also in the Bell Church, Jim Wilkins, Johnson Wilkins, Greeley Wilkins, Michal Justice, Samuel Seiber and Thomas Seiber. The older ones lived their entire lives in the neighborhood. Their graves may be seen in the nearby cemetery.

Sixty-nine years later this church still functions as the Bell Church.

Iuka Cumberland Presbyterian Church

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Iuka was located on a large lot a block from the downtown part of Iuka. The church was built soon after the Civil War and was in use until about 1905. Solomon Smith and son, Daniel Smith, served as elders. Daniel Smith was Sunday School superintendent for a number of years. The adult class was taught by Doctor Joe Irwin. Miss Mollie McCartan taught the "little ones" and Miss Birdie Irwin taught the restless teenagers.

One of the first ministers was Rev. Milton Gaston. Rev. or "Brother" Raye was pastor, Brother Shelton also was pastor. Nearly all the ministers came from the South. Brother Logan came from Chicago and the next minister was Rev. Pertle from

Mississippi. A daughter, Maud Pertle Medley, lives in Flora.

The membership wasn't kept up and soon the church was sold to a business man for a warehouse and later burned down.

The members at that time went to the Methodist Church, where they were never without a pastor and the same bell now calls an entirely new generation to worship each Sabbath morning.

This was taken from a story written by Ivah Smith Winegarner.



Trinity Lutheran Church, Iuka, Ill. 1910

Trinity Lutheran Church

In the year 1870 a group of Lutherans from Germany, after having lived in Chicago for a short time, began to make their home in the timber country some five miles southeast of Iuka. It was necessary for many of them to clear land before having room to erect four walls and roof over their heads. Although an unorganized group without a pastor, they did not neglect the worship of their Lord. Tradition has it that they gathered together in various homes on Sunday and listened to the Word of God as they conducted their own reading services.

On the 27th of April, 1873, Pastor Katthain conducted the first service in one of the homes and through his leadership the congregation was organized on September 28, 1873. On November 9, 1876, ground was broken for the first church building and on August 12, 1877, the edifice was dedicated by the Rev. H. Meyer of St. Louis. This building still stands today. It housed the parochial school until 1942 when the school was discontinued. It is today used in the capacity of a parish hall. In 1957 it was enlarged by an addition to better serve this purpose.

In 1880 the first resident pastor was called, the Rev. F. W. Eggerking of Marion, Ill. Rev. Luebker was called in 1883 and on December 19, 1886, Pastor Kaiselitz, who died after 16 years of faithful service. During the erection and dedication of the present church building, Rev. Buenger served in 1908. Others who served as pastors were W. Strothmann of New York, J. H. Schoening of Bible Grove, O. C. Simonsen of Westfield, Tex. (during his pastorate the first English services were conducted). Rev. Guebert was next in 1921. He died in 1924. It was during his pastorate that the present parsonage was built in 1922. At this date they also celebrated their 50th anniversary. Rev. Keyl came following this, and in 1926 Rev. Brockmann came from Altamont, Ill.

A young candidate, M. J. Schliebe, was ordained and installed here. This was in September, 1932, the Ladies Aid Society was organized in 1933.

Others ordained and installed were Daniel Wenz and Ernst F. Werfelmann (during his ministry the German Services were discontinued and he was the last pastor to teach in the parish hall or school). In 1943 Ernest Schutz came and was ordained. W. L. Schoreter was installed in 1944 and during this time the water system was installed and the 75th anniversary was celebrated. He died in 1953. In 1954 R. J. Deye of Waverly, Mo., was installed. At this time new furnaces were installed. A new Baldwin organ and new pews were purchased. In 1957 Rev. Norbert J. Lucht from North Dakota was installed.

The 18th pastor of Trinity Church was Rev. Albert J. Korris, who had previously served Bethel Lutheran Church in University City, Mo. for more than 26 years. On September 10, 1961, he was installed. The church celebrates its 100th anniversary this year.

Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church

By J. D. Burton

The church was organized in 1840 at a log school house one mile northeast of Kell. The church was Hickory Hill. After a few years they moved to Donoho Prairie, north of the Donoho Prairie Christian Church. In 1855, they built a large log house near Horse Creek. They stayed there 15 years.

In 1870 they built a house in Foxville. In 1873 a storm destroyed the house, then they built another house near Panhandle School house and were there 25 years, then moved one and one-half miles east to the present location. This church is the oldest organization in the Salem South Association, which celebrated its 100th session in 1953.

This was written by Susie Blankenship, church clerk, November 14, 1955.

Siloam Church

By Mrs. Jessie Weyhrich

The Siloam School was organized in 1851. The first years of Siloam School were held in a little log school house in the southeastern part of our pasture, section 27, at that time owned by George Long.

The log school house was built with a log left out for light. The seats were hewn out of slabs and legs were fastened in with wooden pegs hewn out of small pieces of wood.

The first secretary's book runs from 1865 to 1875. This book is still being kept and is well preserved. All the officers during that period were Rogers, Chapman, Long, Mulvaney and Bradley. Rev. Van Cleve was the district superintendent. At that time members were taken into the church on probation for six months at quarterly conference.

After these years in the school house these folks decided to build a church, on the road west of the George Long home. The main carpenter was John Beck. Other men helped build the building and Siloam School and Church was held there for many, many years.

In later years the Southern Methodist Conference ordered the church sold. It is now owned by Sherrill Vandever, who bought it from C. G. Long who had bid it off at the sale.

Union Pentecostal Church

The ground where the church now stands was given by Carla Wolf. The church was first started farther north of where it now stands. The Union Pentecostal Church was built about 31 years ago in 1936-37.

The first minister was Monroe Johnson, who came from Kentucky. Rev. Alfred Meador, who lives nearby the church at present was the second pastor.

Donoho Prairie Christian Church

The beginning of this very active and beautiful church was about 1845 when several families of this area held meetings, first in the old log schoolhouse and then in the homes. The next meetings were held in a wooded area nearby the present church site.

A church was erected on the south side of the road where the cemetery is located. The men met and cut the trees and had them sawed into lumber for this church in 1898-1899. This church was moved across the road north and rebuilt in 1920. The ground upon which it now stands was given by Steve and

John Spangler. The newly-remodeled structure was dedicated in 1959.

Another interesting story about this present church concerns a former resident, Elmer Browne, a well-known painter, who painted a most beautiful picture of Christ, which hangs on the wall for anyone to see at this time. John Ferby, an elder, painted a picture directly in back of the baptismal recess, and this, too, is unusually beautiful.

Lovell's Grove (Christian)

By Mrs. Marjorie Keller Walkington

The church is located about five miles north of Iuka. The congregation organized about 1850 and the first house of worship was a neat, hewed log house located about two miles southwest of the present site. It was known as Bee Branch Church and was organized by William Chaffin. This building was destroyed by a forest fire. After this loss the church held its meetings in the Omega school house.

During a business meeting held in December, 1879, at the residence of H. A. Vanduzen, it was decided to build a new chapel, which is our present church building. One acre of land was bought from Markam C. Lovell for consideration of \$5.

The building committee, consisting of S. W. Lovell, John Beck and H. A. Vanduzen, completed the building in 1880 and the first services were held December 11, 1880.

Recently a new educational room has been added, as well as other improvements.

Young's Chapel Methodist Church

The Oak Grove Community met on April 7, 1890, for the purpose of taking action toward building a church. Previous to this the ministers of the Xenia Methodist Church had held services wherever a place was available. Some records show they were sometimes held in barns before they started holding the services in the old log school house. Records show there were converts in the services at the old log school house in 1886.

Mr. and Mrs. Lafe Young started the movement to build a church by giving an acre of ground on which to build the church and money to start the building fund. Many people contributed to the fund to build Oak Grove church. In the winter of 1890 and 1891 a frame structure 28 x 40 feet was built by R. L. Parrill on a foundation of rocks from Haug's Rock Quarry at Xenia. It was constructed of oak timber grown nearby and sawed by Mike Oliver. This was then weather boarded and painted white. The inside was finished with plaster. Green double shutters were placed on each window and a chimney on each side of the church accommodated the two wood heating stoves. Fancy kerosene lights provided the light.

On May 24, 1891 Rev. E. Barnes pastor, dedicated this church as Oak Grove Methodist Episcopal Church. A few years later the name was changed

to Young's Chapel because of the confusion caused by another nearby Oak Grove church. It was named after one of the founders, W. J. Young. At unification it became Young's Chapel Methodist Church.

Between 1928 and 1930 the old reed organ was replaced by a piano. A vestibule was built on the front entrance. The kerosene lamps were replaced with gasoline and aladdin lamps, then in 1948 rural electricity came and the wood stoves were replaced by one large coal stove, only to be replaced by a fuel oil stove in 1952. About 1952 the Methodist Youth Fellowship helped with funds for various improvements, one being an outside lighted bulletin board. By the combined efforts of the Women's Society of Christian Service, Methodist Youth Fellowship and the trustees a graveled parking area was added about the same date.

The first recorded minister was J. T. Murkin in 1890 and 1891. Following this date 35 other ministers conducted services there, the last one being Rev. Donald Blessing of the Xenia Charge when Young's Chapel closed in May, 1963, after seventy-two years of service to the community. The building still stands with the dignity and outward appearance it had when closed.

Submitted by Miss Frances Oliver.

Union Grove Methodist Church

Union Grove Church was founded in 1856 and was on the Walnut Hill Charge. The last minister while this church was on this charge was Rev. Vanhouten. It is located six miles south of Route 50 on the Banner Road. It was one of four churches on the Iuka Methodist Charge for 75 years. Some of the ministers were Naaman Bascom, C. H. Rayse, A. W. VanHouten; later ministers were Alvin Whittemore, Norman Baker and Rev. Joe Gibbons, who was pastor of the Iuka Charge when the Union Grove Church was officially closed at the annual conference.

Pleasant Hill Church (Snowville)

On September 14, 1901, the Snowville Church, as it is known to so many people, was organized by elders T. M. Richardson and W. L. Farmer. On October 27, 1902, a meeting was held at the home of Bro. Calvin Bumgarner for the purpose of building a new church. Tom Pitts was foreman. On November 29, 1903 at 11 o'clock Bro. W. L. Farmer preached the dedication sermon.

In the summer of 1962 a new church was built with Rev. Ray Phillips as pastor.

New Liberty General Baptist Church

The New Liberty Baptist Church began in 1891 in a log cabin, and later was known as Wooley Church. All early records were reported destroyed. Lark Craig and James Wooley gave the land where the church now stands, about five miles east of Iuka and about eight miles south of Xenia. James Bur-

roughs gave the logs to build the church.

Some of the oldest members are Mrs. Ada Jones, Mrs. Clarence Jones and Mrs. Elmer Eakin. Their relatives are members of the present congregation, which totals 50 people.

Woodlawn Church

By Luther Howe, Charter Member

The first religious activity in this community in the memory of any living person was in 1880, when a revival meeting was held in the old school house located a few rods southeast of the barn owned by Mrs. W. C. Frye, Thomas J. Howe organized the Sunday School and was superintendent. James R. McGrew succeeded him. America McClane was a teacher.

In the spring of 1904 Rev. Ben Horn and Rev. Cal Bradley of Olney held a few weeks' revival in the school house. In the year 1906 the church was organized as the United Brethren Church, at the present location. Mr. William and Ellen (Burge) Loeffel donated the ground for the church. Rev. Ona Albert of Mt. Vernon was the first pastor, with a salary of \$50 and car fare per year. Emery Loeffel, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Loeffel, was the first superintendent.

Palestine General Baptist Church

Palestine General Baptist Church is located on Route 161 extension, approximately seven miles east of Route 37, in the southwest corner of Romine township.

In the beginning the building was a Methodist church that had originally been located just a mile or so west in Haines township and had been moved from there to the place where it stood for many years.

The church was organized September 8, 1912, under the name of Union Home General Baptist Church; however, this name was changed to Palestine in the year of 1920.

The organization meeting was held at the home of James Justice. Mrs. Burke became church clerk and served faithfully in that capacity for a number of years. The present clerk is Donna Michael. The first pastor is Rev. Myrel Harmon of rural route, Xenia. First two deacons were James Justice and Lela Meador.

Fire of undetermined origin burned the building to the ground on July 6, 1926. Then on July 21, 1926, a special meeting was called to discuss ways and means to rebuild. In the meantime services were being held in the grove near the church. A motion was made to purchase an acre of ground from Hannah Watson and to build the new church across the road from the cemetery. The building specifications were 26 x 40 feet. Purchase of the ground cost \$40.

The new church was dedicated on July 3, 1927, with

Rev. Lloyd Bosley, pastor of the church at that time, bringing the dedicatory sermon.

Christian Home Church

By Lizzie Sinclair Allen

On August 16, 1913, Saturday at 2 p.m. the deacons of the Union Grove Association met at the little Band Church, near Gip Jones, which now is called the Christian Home Church. The deacons meeting that day were: Rev. E. F. Bosley, Rev. Joe Harmon and Bro. W. A. Lowery, ordained ministers, and Bro. J. W. Wooley, W. G. Meador and H. A. Tallor. The church was named by the Rev. Joe Harmon.

In 1914 the church was built. Some of the carpenters were: Artel Vansickle, Sammy Vansickle, Jim Sinclair, John Sinclair, Jack Holler, Kamb Bucher; other friends and neighbors helped. There are 254 on the church roll and the regular attendance at present is 56.

Pastors ordained from the church are: Bro. Kamb Butcher, Bro. Zack Holler, Bro. George Richard, Bro. Leanard Donoho.

Elm Grove Church

The Elm Grove Church of Christ is located three and one-half miles south of Iuka on land given to the church, for church purposes only, by Harmon Porter. Elmer Porter, a grandson, now owns the 40 acres where the church stands.

It began its services in the present location July 8, 1905. Prior to 1905 a few people held services in the old log Snowhill school house. The first elders were F. A. Dietrick, Paul J. Williams and John Howell. The first deacons were August Henne and Harmon Porter. Evangelist F. A. Dietrick, who at one time owned property nearby, was instrumental in organizing and establishing this church and he preached the dedication sermon on July 8, 1905.

The Elm Grove congregation owes a great debt of gratitude to the pioneers, F. A. Dietrick, H. W. Cuppy, Harmon Porter, Thomas Porter, August Henne, Ed Henne, Stephen Lewellen, A. J. Snow and others.

"Old" Bethel Cumberland Presbyterian Church

The information in the following article is taken from the minutes of the Session of the Old Bethel Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Iuka and Old Bethel were on the circuit together, also Loogootee. This meeting was held in Marion county, dated September 27, 1879. Copy of the condensed history of the Bethel Church congregation was organized at the home of John M. McCaldwell by Rev. William Findley on the fifteenth day of April 1846, with fifteen members. The beginning of the group was meetings being held in the "Brush Arbor" fashion. The ground was deeded to the "Old" Bethel Cumberland Presbyterian Congregation about 110 years

ago, by Mr. and Mrs. Basil Metcalf. The location of this church is in Stevenon township, four miles south of Route 50, one mile east of the Bannister Road, one-half mile north to the present location.

In 1847 on the fourth day of April another meeting was recorded held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Basil Metcalf by Rev. John Walls, at which time Eli Brubaker, John Holstlaw, and Eliyas Smith were elected ruling elders.

Earliest ministers listed: Rev. S. L. Rea, Rev. J. N. Shelton, Rev. W. A. Dillon, Rev. E. Penford, Rev. B. J. Pirtle, Rev. Newton Cavens, Rev. H. S. Shook.

HISTORY OF THE IUKA SCHOOL

By Kenneth E. Beaver

Education was available in the Iuka township, for those children whose parents could afford to pay, as early as 1841. It was during this year that Cinthia Cooper, the first teacher in the Iuka community, conducted classes in a "select school," which was held in a log cabin at String Town. The first school house, which had been previously used as a dwelling, was purchased for school purposes by district No. 2. This building was made of split logs, 16 x 18 feet. The first person to be hired to teach there was T. W. H. Miller.

The first building, built for school purposes only, was the Cooper school house in Section 8. It was built of unhewn logs and had a puncheon floor. Samuel Dewel taught the first term in this building in 1845.

The first "select school" within the village limits was a spring term taught by Miss Mina Lear. A dwelling served as Iuka's first school which was taught by Mary Finch.

A public school building was erected in Middleton in 1863, costing \$600. A few years later a second room was added at a cost of \$300. The first teacher in this building was Margaret Dickens. In 1886 Miss Rose Mulvaney was in charge of the school. She was followed by Mrs. Dean in 1888.

Miss Mollie McCartan began teaching in 1889 in this system, where she spent the greater part of her life, which was truly devoted to her children. By the time Miss Mollie came to Iuka to teach, she was an experienced teacher. Records show that she had taught the String Town school in 1880 for a salary of \$12.50 a month. During the term of 1883, 1884 and 1885 she had taught at Center Point (Snowville) which at that time was district #5. Her pay vouchers were signed by Thomas Louby and Woods Cheeley.

When the Iuka School, District #3, opened in the fall of 1889, Miss Mollie enrolled 59 children, whose ages ranged from six to 14.

The following year Miss Mollie's salary was increased to \$23. The term of 1893-94 was taught by Maggie Wham and Grace Gain. The following term Miss Mollie returned to Iuka, receiving a \$40 salary.

She remained until 1897 with co-teachers during that time who were Norman Driesbach, Perry Werner, Mr. Stump and Fred S. Young. During the next few years Miss Mollie was to remain at home to take care of her mother. In 1898 Fred S. Young taught Room II and Minnie Siple, with an enrollment of 77, taught Room I. Mr. Young was here again in 1899. In 1900 the teachers were Mary Burns, Nona Prudden and Fred S. Young. In 1901 Byron E. Siple taught grades 3-4-5 and Miss Mollie returned for one year to teach the upper grades. The following year Mr. and Mrs. Siple were employed.

It was perhaps the year 1903 that a room above the Fyke Carpenter Shop was equipped to house the seventh and eighth grades. Mr. George Cox was hired to teach this group. J. R. Quayle and Myrtle Wyatt taught the fall and winter terms in the regular school building. Grace Stonecipher replaced Miss Wyatt the spring term. George Cox and Grace Stonecipher continued during the 1904 term. In 1906 and 1907 M. D. Brubaker and Myrtle Kagy were the teachers. In 1908 Mr. Brubaker was the teacher in Room II and Miss Mollie returned to teach the primary children. From this time until 1922, Miss Mollie McCartan was to serve as the school's primary teacher, during which time she became one of Iuka's most beloved citizens. In 1909 Paul Rogers replaced Mr. Brubaker, who at that time retired from the teaching profession. During the school term of 1910, 1911 and 1912, the only records found verify that Miss Alice Taylor was teaching with Miss Mollie.

During the spring and summer of 1912 a large two-story, frame building was built, which was ready for occupancy for the school term that fall. Teachers in the new building were James Cutchins, Mable Wham, Alice Taylor and Miss Mollie. The only change in the teaching faculty for the 1914 term was that Nora Cutchins replaced Mable Wham. It was at this time that Iuka became district #93.

During the following year Nettie Stevenson and Elmer Wilson were teachers in the system. School began in 1916 with the following faculty: Miss Mollie McCartan, Roscoe Jones, Alice Taylor and C. C. Colclasure. On a very windy morning about ten o'clock, March 6, 1917, Miss Valerie Dabney saw smoke rising from the schoolhouse roof and ran through the hallway sounding the alarm. In a short time the four year old building was in ruins. The children in the lower grades finished the school year in the Christian Church while the upper grade pupils were housed in a building across the street behind the Iuka State Bank.

Immediately work was begun on a two-story brick building which was completed in October, 1917. Since the building of the schoolhouse in 1913, an extra grade had been added to the original eight; and another was added at this time, making it possible for the

pupils of this community to receive two years of high school education. In 1924 the three-year high school became a reality. This year Iuka's first high school basketball team played Clay City on an outdoor court and was defeated 19-0. In 1925 Mr. Lossie Morris, principal and coach of the high school, was instrumental in making the gymnasium possible, which was built on the northwest corner of the school property. For many years most of Iuka's important events were staged here. In 1927 the second floor of the new building was completed to accommodate the high school students. The auditorium, also located on the second floor, had a large seating capacity and an adequate stage. It was used for all school functions, community affairs and public gatherings. In 1938 the high school became a part of the Salem High School.

In 1946 the Iuka Parent-Teachers' Association sponsored a kindergarten under the leadership of Mrs. Frances Beaver. In 1952 the board of education assumed the financial obligations for this department.

On July 28, 1952 the members of the board of education met to organize the newly formed Iuka Community Consolidated School Dist. #7. The districts involved in this formation were Stringtown, Hebron, Woodlawn, Iuka, Prairie Grove, Siloam, Bee Branch and Redlick.

Bonds for \$117,000 were approved by the voters of this district in 1955, which resulted in the addition of an all-purpose gymnasium, cafeteria, rest rooms, boiler room and an office. The building was ready for use the 1956 term of school.

On August 19, 1955, three acres of land were approved for purchase from Clarence Hinderer. The total school property is now an approximate seven acre tract. This additional land provides two large baseball diamonds and a place for the disposal plant.

At a meeting on February 24, 1956, the board of education resolved that the old gymnasium be declared not needed for school purposes in the Iuka C.C.#7 and recommended disposition of same to the Marion county school trustees.

Stringtown School

By Mrs. Ivah Winegarner

The old Stringtown school house is located near the Iuka road on U. S. 50. There were seats for almost 40 pupils and many times all seats were taken. Up in front there was a blackboard, a rather small desk for the teacher, and two long "recitation" benches. A few shelves were at the back of the room. These were filled with lunch boxes or buckets of various types and also caps and coats. At the end of the room near the door was found the water supply -- a water bucket and THREE TIN CUPS! In the center of the room sat a box stove which was the source of heat and through the winter this stove devoured many cords of wood, but in spite of this, the floors

were ALWAYS cold!

The school yard had no trees, but it did have a well, and two outhouses. Piles of cord wood completed the landscaping.

Donoho Prairie School

Donoho Prairie School district number 167 lies in the southwest corner of Romine township and comprises the four sections, 29, 30, 31 and 32, being two miles square and containing 2,560 acres. The school house was located in the center of the district. This was recorded in 1904, Exchange, Ill., Marion county. The first school house was located back in the field about one mile northwest in the Donoho Prairie area.

They received free rural mail delivery in 1912. Prior to that mail was delivered to the Exchange address by rig or some one on horseback, and mail was also delivered to Hickory Hill in the same manner with each family going to these locations to collect its own mail.

The above was taken from the school records and from the Donoho Prairie Story written by Mrs. Vera Hawkins.

Metcalf School

The first school by this name was built about one half mile east of where the Old Bethel Church stands. That building was sold to a private owner and another building was erected across the wooded area near the same road that the church is on but about one half mile south. This land was owned by Smith Larimer. About 1908 the schools were relocated to be two miles apart and Metcalf School building was moved three-fourths mile east on land now owned by Orville Porter.

Rabbit Grove Subscription School

This school was one of the first schools in this area and was a log cabin building where each person attending school paid 25 cents or they did not attend. It was known as Cochran Subscription School and was founded in 1827. It was located near the Union Grove Methodist Church in Haines township.

Some of the first teachers were George Smith, teacher and lawyer, Loren Boynton, Kelley Hill, Ellaine Fulton Huff, Albert Kell and Anna Kell. The building burned in 1890 and this area group went to school in the home of Mrs. Ellaine Fulton Huff before forming the Cherry Ridge School.

Hebron School

The ground where the school stands, east of Iuka road on Route 50, was given by Will Robinson. This was in District 98. They held a meeting May 20, 1908 when they decided to build. The directors were Homer Cheeley, Albert Young and Walter Jolly.

The first school began September, 1908, in the new building with 35 children. Nolan Howe was the first teacher. Mr. Howe gave the school the name of Hebron.

The last school was taught by Opal Lutterell and Warren Howe, Laurence Howe and Delbert Keller were the directors. The school was closed in 1952.

Siloam School 1913

The School House is located in Section 27 on the corner of the H. M. Long farm now the Weyhrich farm. This building would seat at least 40 pupils. A teacher's desk and chair were in the front of the

room with blackboards all across the room. Two recitation seats were in the front of the room. Shelves in the back of the room provided space for lunch boxes. Also hooks and nails provided a place for coats etc. A good well provided water. A bell on the school house called the children from play to work. A stove set in the middle of the room, and on very cold days was cold and disagreeable.



Bottom row: Sylvia Beard Peterson, Ivan Linder, Faye Howe, Archie Mulvaney, Lois Lonnon Alderson, Lena Baker Hays, Nelda Long, Verada Jay, Lesta Linder, Everett Long, Sylvia Jay. Row 2: Velma Rogers Beard, Collins Linsey, Isola Laymon Howe, John Chapman, Madonna Linder, Berthal Middleton, Nonda Rogers Easley Chapman, Paul Long, Nell Laymon Olson, Evaline Linder, Eva Laymond Beaver. Row 3: Arthur Long, Bessie Howe Uchituil, Vera Jackson Barksdale Middleton, Bernice Long Wells, Omar Mulvaney, Neva Long, Opal Rogers Branch, Carrie Linder, Opal Mulvaney Luttrell, Gerald Mulvaney, Mildred Chapman Middleton, Basil Mulvaney. Row 4: Ula Middleton Beard, Rose Rogers Fulfer, Irmine Mulvaney Dunn, Jessie Long Weyhrich, Elmer Weyhrich, Chester George Long, Maude Bass Barksdale, Teacher, Mary Mulvaney, Clark Howe, Ethel Painter Williams, Fairy Layon Howe.

Kinmundy

An early entry was made by Wiley Burton in section 28, March 1, 1839 and there were doubtless many other settlers whose names were not encountered in compiling this book. It does not appear just how the transfer was made when the Illinois Central was give the land grant, but the site of the present town was sold by the I. C. to John Blurton on June 23, 1853 and he sold it to Wm. T. Sprouse in March, 1857. Sprouse then laid out the original 15 block plat on April 10, 1857.

On Sept. 20, 1850 President Millard Filmore signed the bill making the first grant of public lands to help construct a railroad. The land in Illinois was fer-

tile and had fine prairies and timber lands but except near the rivers it was sparsely populated. There were few roads and no way of marketing your crops after you raised them.

This land grant bill gave the State of Illinois certain areas of government land to be sold, and the money to be used to build a railroad. This land was to revert to the government if a railway was not started within 2 years, and finished within 10 years, of the enactment of the bill. Word of this was sent by the new invention, the telegraph. The state of Illinois lost no time in turning this land over to the Illinois Central Company, who set about building the railway. Much difficulty was encountered but the main line was completed in 1855.

It reached from Freeport to Cairo. The Chicago Branch had been started to connect Chicago with Centralia and on September 27, 1856, those building from the north, met those from the south at the site of the present town of Mason.

This completed the "Charter Lines" of the railway, making 705 1/2 miles of railway reaching from Dunleith on the Mississippi west of Galena, to Cairo where the Ohio and Mississippi meet and from Chicago to Centralia where the branch joined the main line on to Cairo. This was the longest railroad in the world at that time. At the same time the railroad was being built, the Illinois Central Telegraph Co. was formed and its lines ran along the rail lines, dispatching the trains and making communication possible between the settlements.

Stations were made every few miles so that all areas would be able to ship their produce north to Chicago, or south to the Mississippi and then on to New Orleans and world markets. These stations were named for railroad officials and other persons. Kinmundy was named for the hometown in Scotland, of one of the London representatives of the I. C. It is supposed to have originally been Kilmundy, and in the 1868 Guide book put out by the railway is spelled that way in some instances. It is the only town in the United States to have the name.

On June 23, 1853 John Blurton purchased from the I.C.R.R. the north half of the southeast quarter of section 22, town 4 north, range 3 east. On March 1, 1857, William Sprouse purchased the tract from Blurton, and on April 10 of that year, platted the original town of Kinmundy.

This contained 15 blocks and extended from First Street now Highway 37, south to 4th street and from Washington street on the east to 1/2 block west of Monroe street on the west. These were divided into 169 blocks. The first purchaser was Jerry Bissonnet who bought on July 1, 1857 lots 123, 124, 163, 164 and 165. Nothing further is mentioned about him, whether he built or not. On July 14, Lorenzo Hart bought lot 137. He was the second merchant to settle on the west side of the railroad. He had had a store in a building built by Willis Wilburn on the east side, south of the town plat in 1855. C. Spafford opened a restaurant on the west side and later a general store in connection. His name is not on the original plat so perhaps was below it.

Then in October, W. B. Eagan with Samuel and Augustus Bond bought lots 119, 125, 126, 127, and 128. On lot 119 he built what is listed as the first building in the new town. It was house, general store and post office as he was the first postmaster. The house now occupied by Miss Luella Parrill is built around the original building.

Willis Wilburn bought lot 133 at the same time. He is credited with keeping the first hotel but it was probably in a building south of the townsite.

Between the years of 1857 and 1869, the original lots which were platted in Kinmundy were gradually



Last family picture of the Eagan clan at the old home before torn down for the C. & E. I. railroad between back door and smoke house. Located near the cemetery in Kinmundy.

sold. Families moved from near and far and lots were resold as others moved away. Only 2 lots were sold in 1870, lots 27 and 28 to Isaac Eagan, and in 1871 the last 2 lots of the original townsite were sold, lot 57 to Ed. Herrick and Henry Hall and lot 58 to J. F. Barnard, both sold on April 14.

Meanwhile other subdivisions were being opened on all sides, Sprouse to the south, Goodwin to the east, Eagan to the north, and Snelling to the southwest. On Fremont street in Snelling addition were some of the early homes, Snelling, Thrane, Nelson, Porter and French. The French family are the only ones of the original settlers who still live there.

In the early days before transportation became so swift, a small town had to be pretty much self-sufficient. There were mills, bakeries, barrel and basket factories, banks, mines, brickyards and casket makers. Early bakers were Bill Cawrey and Charles Swander. The Ross brothers had the first bread mixing machine, about 1910 in the building where the Express now is. The last bakery here was Ener Zimmer's, where Crain's cafe is now.



Public school, Kinmundy, Ill.

McCreary and Monger had a banking business in 1867, and T. W. Haymond & Co. bank was organized Jan. 1870, Tilman Raser, president. In 1899, the Merchants & Mechanics Bank was established and later



Picture of Kinmundy before the fire destroyed the downtown.

became the Haymond State Bank. R. P. McBryde had a small private bank but went with the First National as cashier, when it was organized in 1902. Capt. Rohrbough was first president. In 1906, Henry Warren & Sons started a private bank, later changed to Farmer's & Merchant's Bank. The Building & Loan Co. was organized Aug. 12, 1887.

A brickyard was started by Jonathan Walls in 1891; the Kinmundy creamery began operation Dec. 23, 1892. The Coal mine was organized in Feb. 1884 with \$12,000 capital, and in April Zard Frost contracted to sink the shaft. The engine house burned in Feb. 1886, but on March 25, "the diamond drill strikes coal" said the Express. This was a shallow vein but on June 3 they struck a vein 5 ft. thick at a depth of 867 ft. and the Express got out a special edition. About 1900 operations became too costly and it was abandoned.

When the city hall burned in 1903 it was thought that all city records were lost but this year the council found the minutes of the first meetings, from the time of organization on April 10, 1867 to June 17, 1874. This book, written in several Spencerian hands, provided much information. It gives a picture of a small community, building board walks and plank roads to get up out of the mud, making fire prevention laws, building a jail, and in general having all the struggles that city councils have.

From the first there was a battle between the temperance group and those who favored saloons. We have handbills advertising huge temperance meetings sponsored by Royal Templars of Temperance, and one time, a lady took her hatchet, like Carrie Nation, and went down and wrecked a saloon. Histories tell us that drinking was a great problem in the middle west in pioneer days. There was an attempt every year to vote the town dry but it didn't

really make it until about 1908, and since then liquor licenses have not been issued.

The Kinmundy Express got out a special Christmas edition in 1889, with a glowing word picture of Kinmundy and drawings and short biographies of prominent citizens. We have space to list them: Geo. West, farmer; James C. Haworth, merchant; James H. Gray, farmer; Mrs. Elizabeth Boothe Gray; Thos. Williams, farmer; Giles Songer, mill.; John M. Rotan, real estate; A. W. Songer, miller; O. N. Tyner, photos, Dr. E. G. Forshee; J. F. Donovan, mayor; J. P. McBryde, merchant; J. M. Brenner, lumber yard; S. J. Allen, A. M. Allen, carpenters; W. L. King, merchant; Rev. W. T. Brannum, M.E. Church; G. W. Gillmore, merchant; M. Deiwert, merchant; Dr. Charles Dennis, dentist; J. F. Croft, boot and shoemaker; R. F. Lawson, editor; Charles Ryan, livery man; S. M. Stokely, salesman, machinist; Mrs. M. R. Lawwill, hay press; Dr. W. O. Smith; J. N. Street, School Supt.; F. A. Pruett, Anna Chalfant, Katie Grove, Mrs. A. E. Whittaker, teachers;

E. S. Mendenhall, nursery; J. Nelson, watchmaker; P. O. Thrane, tailor; G. Fenster, restaurant; Miss M. A. Songer, merchant; H. F. Green, druggist; W. M. Chapman, grocer; Mrs. M. E. Hollister; druggist; E. C. Bargh, druggist; D. Gunn, grocer; C. H. West, farmer; Dr. J. D. Camerer, Rev. J. D. Brown, M. E. Church south; J. G. Wilson, Supt. coal mine.

A clipping in an old scrap book tells of the discovery of natural gas about 50 years ago 6 miles west of Kinmundy on the farm of Samuel Holt. He was drilling for water with a steam drill and at 83 feet the water began to bubble and boil. When they discovered what caused this the family decided to use it for cooking and lighting. Mr. Holt said he had found the same thing when he dug his well 30 years before but didn't know what to do with the gas. In spite of



Kinmundy street scene 1938.



The Golden Wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Humphrey. All their children were present and enjoyed the occasion with the aged parents, and Mrs. Florence Franklin is the first girl in the second row from left.

much exploration in this area no oil boom has developed here, but the big field near Salem gave Kinmundy the lift it needed after the depression. New people came to live here and have helped much in the town's life.

The small towns of today are suburbs of the nearest large town or city. They have their schools and churches, their groceries and general stores, their drug stores, post office and filling stations just as the shopping centers in the cities. There is no need for the clothing stores and other businesses which were important when towns were isolated and self sufficient. Since the closing of the mine, Kinmundy depends on agriculture and not on industry. Larger factories elsewhere now make the baskets for the fruit so there are no basket factories or cooperages.

There are pleasant homes, lovely gardens and friendly people. All around us are prosperous farms and beautiful countryside. New homes are being built and old ones remodeled. We can be pleased and proud of the only Kinmundy in the U.S.A.



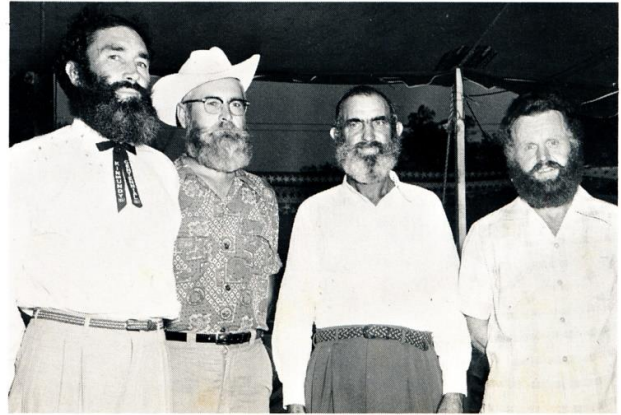
The Home of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Humphrey, 1902. They were parents of the late Harriet DeVore and Grandparents of Mrs. Florence Franklin who still resides in Kinmundy. The home place was located 3 miles south of Kinmundy and is now owned by Dan Heistand. The original home burned many years ago. The home had eight fireplaces and four chimneys like the one in the picture. The Humphreys came to Kinmundy from Cincinnati, Ohio in 1872.

Historical Sketch of Kinmundy Methodism

(The Kinmundy Express -- August 31, 1905)

Among the early settlers of Illinois came many Methodists, from the eastern states and from the old world. The "Circuit" system of Methodism made it peculiarly adapted to the situation in those days and the "Circuit Rider" was a familiar figure in this and all other communities in the state while yet the settlers were "few and far between." It is therefore impossible to tell just when or by whom the first Methodist meeting was held in this vicinity.

According to our best information, "The Grand Prairie Mission" was formed in 1830, "including all



1957 Winners of the beard contest at the Kinmundy Centennial.

of the territory between the Little Wabash and the Okaw from Maysville to Vandalia" and Rev. Simeon Walker was placed in charge. It is said that he preached the first Methodist sermon ever delivered in Salem by a regularly appointed pastor and also organized the first society there.

The portion of country now occupied by Kinmundy and surrounding villages was for years a part of the Salem Circuit.

Before the railroad was built or the town of Kinmundy located, there were a number of regular "preaching places" in the adjoining territory. One of these was the home of Mr. Hugh Gibson at Mt. Liberty, 3 miles east of where Kinmundy now stands. Here "Uncle Jimmy Woolard" and others proclaimed the Word of God to the early settlers and some meetings were held at the home of his brother, John Gibson.

Meetings were also held in the home of Mrs. George Dillon in the same neighborhood, Sandy Branch, Fosterburg and Pleasant Grove were among the early preaching points.

Dr. Elliott, a local preacher from Salem, preached in Kinmundy in the summer of 1858. In the fall of the same year, a "class" was organized and became a part of the Salem Circuit, Rev. James Woolard being the first pastor.

The first Sunday School was organized in 1862 with Elias Neil as Superintendent. His widow still lives within a block of the new church and his son, ex-mayor W. W. Neil, is one of the building committee.

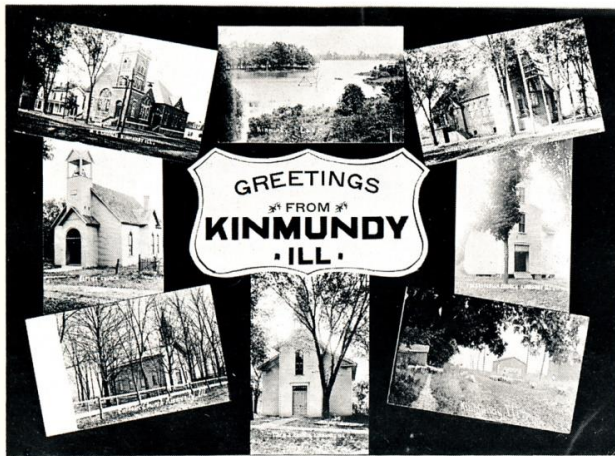
Kinmundy Circuit was formed in 1863 and Rev. P. P. Hamilton was appointed pastor. During this year the frame building was erected which still serves as a house of worship and is to be replaced by the present brick structure which is being built. The church was dedicated by Rev. T. F. Houts, Presiding Elder.

Kinmundy charge at first comprised several outlying appointments among them Pleasant Grove and Alma, Mt. Liberty, Parrills, Asbury Chapel,

Omega, Siloam and Doolen's. In 1867 it was made a station, Rev. I. N. Stagg being appointed pastor and Rev. J. S. Barnes placed in charge of the circuit. The next year Rev. Winfield Scott Sly was placed in charge.

The following year the circuit was again attached and thus remained until the second year of Brother Brannum's pastorate when Kinmundy was again made a station and so remains to the present time.

Presley P. Hamilton, the first pastor of Kinmundy charge, was a young man of great energy and zeal. Much credit is due him for the success of the first church building enterprise. On the day of dedication, in order to free the building from debt, he advanced \$500 out of his own personal means. This sum, however, was later returned to him with interest by the church. He died at Litchfield, Ill., in 1869.



Greetings from the churches of Kinmundy with scenes from earlier days in the town.

Kinmundy St. Philomena Church

The centennial of St. Philomena's Catholic Church in Kinmundy was observed Sunday afternoon, November 8, at 4:00 p.m. with a concelebrated mass.

St. Philomena, like most all churches, has had her good years and her lean years. Just twenty-five years ago, there was a problem whether the church should be continued or discontinued. But through the insistence of Bishop Althoff's encouraging words to the congregation to continue in the labor of love and his personal donation toward the building of a new building, gave the parishioners new hope.

At that time, the building was old, having been built in 1870, in the northeast part of Kinmundy on land donated by Isaac Eagan. Before the building was erected, as early as 1866, the Franciscan Fathers from Teutopolis were holding religious services in the area, in private homes.

The present structure, a beautiful brick building, was erected in 1951 under the pastorate of Fr. A. B. Schomaker. In 1968, under the pastorate of Fr.

Arthur Niemeyer, the catechetical building was built adjoining the church on the south. This building is being used for religious instructions and as a fellowship hall. The land for the new church was donated by the late Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kleiss and the land for the catechetical building was donated by their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Kleis.

Odin's History

The memories of many incidents associated with the arrival of our forefathers in Odin township are rekindled as we visit those who relate true facts and those who pass on legend.

The Territory of Illinois was separated from that of Indiana in 1809. The newly appointed governor for this territory was Ninian Edwards, and the seat of government established at Kaskaskia. By an act of Congress in April, 1818, Illinois was admitted to the Union as the twenty-second state with Shadrach Bond the first governor.

Marion County was organized on January 24, 1823, and named for General Francis Marion, a hero of the Revolutionary War.

Odin township originally had the villages of Odin and Sandoval within its boundaries, however, in 1896 it was divided into Odin and Sandoval townships.

The hundredth anniversary of our village dates from the time the Illinois Central Railroad secured land grants in order to build the railroad from Chicago to Cairo. The land not needed for the railroad bed was later sold to interested farmers for eight to twelve dollars per acre. Payments could be made over a period of several years.

Thomas Deadmond, a Virginian, was Odin township's first settler. He arrived in the timber in the southern part in 1827. The season was well advanced. He erected a shed-home with the roof slanting toward the north and south wall left open. A log fire afforded warmth and a cooking area. Mr. Deadmond entered eighty acres in section 28 in January, 1837.

Silas Barr came to the township in 1829. Two years later he entered the first tract of land in section 27. Soon his brother James N. Barr came from Tennessee. This was the father of Oliver Barr and grandfather of Hobart Barr.

Samuel McClelland settled in 1830 near Silas Barr. Three brothers by the name of Wilburn settled here at an early date. James Adams, Thomas Pigg and John Hill were early settlers and were respected for their honesty.

All the farms in this locality were for many years confined to the timber but Bluford Deadmond ventured out into the prairie and selected a farm site near the center of the township.

Early settlers in the northern part of the township were G. L. Chitwood, John Davidson, John Puleston, John Vaughn and Silas Hurd.

After the years of 1862-65 many families came from the south to live. The village was booming.

Business places were groceries operated by M. N. Martin, C. L. Miller, Mrs. Polly Watson; drugs and groceries the Phillips Brothers, and R. J. Andrews. One of the largest press barns was erected by A. M. Woodward and N. B. Morrison.

The following account of early history was written by Mr. T. C. Harker who lives north of Odin.

My father brought his family to Odin, Illinois, in the spring of 1885. We arrived at Odin on the seventeenth of April. My brother and I came from Cincinnati, Ohio, in two railroad box cars to care for the horses, cattle and poultry which we brought to help carry on the new home, situated a few miles north and west of Odin and another farm one mile north and west of town. The others of the family came by passenger train. My father employed "little" George Black and Frank Norton with their teams and wagons to help move the livestock, furniture and farm implements out to the home. We were in Odin four days with lodgings at the Reid Hotel, a two story building with a portico reaching out from the upper story over the sidewalk and situated where the Odin Super Market is now located. Just west of this hotel was the Odin Drug Store, owned and operated by Sam and Billy Phillips. Their brother-in-law, Dr. J. J. Fyke, also the law office of W. D. Farthing were just west of the drug store. The mine shaft was being finished and that summer, Odin held quite a celebration in honor of striking coal. The operators of the mine were N. B. Morrison, A. M. Woodward and F. D. Secor. The small shareholders were supposed to be frozen out. Years before, a grist mill was operated where the Baptist Church now stands. Just a block east stood a brick building, a clothing store, owned and operated by Fred Schumaker, a Jew who sold clothing tailored by Odin skill. My wedding suit was purchased at this store in 1892 and the wedding ceremony performed by Silas Barr an aged minister in Odin. Others among the older citizens at that time, were David Somerville, "J. P.," Captain Pontius, Ben Charles, the plant man, Mr. Crow who had an exceptionally melodious bass voice, Reverends Hawley and Morgan. We must recall one little fellow, "Bod-Aird" who committed light offenses about town, quite frequently. The town marshal would lock him in the calaboose, the next morning, it was empty. Bob just wouldn't stay put.

W. E. Smith owned a general merchandise store on the north side of the railroads. John Sugg had started a grocery and drygoods store, on the north side, which developed later into a much larger business. C. L. Miller established the first bank in Odin in the early 1890's. A brick yard was built up on the east side near the mine shaft and supplied brick for the surrounding territory, quite a number of years.

Woodward and Morrison built large haybarns where they received and baled hay grown in the surrounding meadows. The hay was shipped to other markets. The churches at that time 1880's were the Methodist Episcopal on the block south of the Wilson

Funeral Home. The Presbyterian on the west side and the Protestant Methodist on the north side. The Christian Church was built a little later. As to schools among the more proficient teachers were Sophia Richards and Grace Seib. I attended what I believe, was the first graduation exercise at Odin. The class consisted of three pupils, Lulu Farthing, a young man named Billy and his sister, I cannot recall their last name, however, I do remember that in reading the class book, Miss Farthing referred to him as "Sweet William." At that time Professor Abbot was in charge of Odin schools, followed by Professor Kilbourne. Then came John Aird, later J. E. Whitchurch who marched off with one of Odin's teachers, Lulu Parker. Then followed a number of other heads of school including B. E. Gum. Odin produced one County School Superintendent, S. S. Hawley under whose jurisdiction, I taught my first term of school in 1887. The oldest pupil was Marion Peddicord who was just two days younger than the teacher. I attended his funeral some weeks ago. He was 92 years old, last September first.

We should not overlook the thought that a goodly number of families surrounding Odin and established through the past century, have been essentially helpful in the upbuilding and maintenance of our town. Among these families on the west and south, the McClellands, Deadmonds, Arrowsmiths, Ross V. Robinson families. East, Dace, Hoskinson, Moore J. Hill families. North, Ferguson, Hurds, Richards, Suggs, Vaughn, Ramsey, Fultons, William Carrigan, Arderys, Revenaughs, Hatch, Briscoe and many other families.

The A. M. Woodward General Store has continued business for many years. After Mr. A. M. Woodward's retirement, his son Horace N. Assumed full responsibility of the store. Later H. V. Toulme, the nephew of Mr. H. N. bought the business. After Mr. Toulme's death, Ben Purvis an employee in the store bought the building and opened Ben's Market. In 1959 Ben sold the business to the present owners Wilson and Florence Smith. Wilson is the son of Omar and Letty (Morgan) Smith.

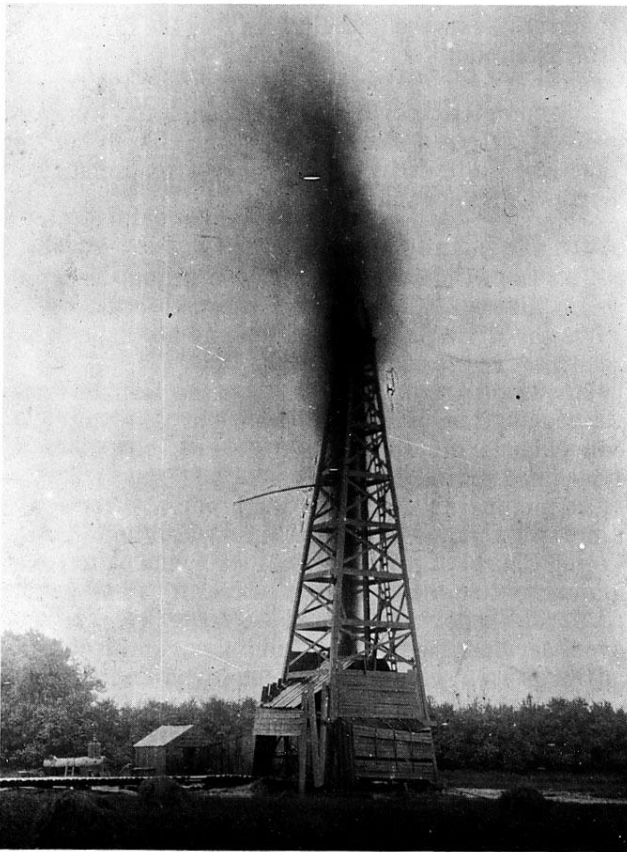
Other business establishments you may recall during the early 1900's, J. M. Dace Confectionery; S. D. Phillips Drug Store; Hurd and Harroun Implement Shop; E. E. Hudson Paint Store; Eccles Brothers Bakery; E. A. Parks Jewelry Store; C. F. Krodell General Store; Scott Davidson Livery and Grains; C. O. Stanford, Clothier; Wilson Dace, Jeweler; Lewis Print Shop and Odin Newspaper; Barber Shops of Walter Turner and Charles Arrowsmith; Odin Bank with W. H. Farthing cashier; Tot's Hat Shop; T. H. McClelland Real Estate and Insurance; The Virginia, Moody, and Kellar Hotels. The blacksmith shop operated by Henry Soulon, a Frenchman who came to Odin in 1865.

The Rippy families and those of Robert and John Jackson are well known. The Marion County Atlas lists John Jackson as a retired farmer and engineer.

His son Horace also served as mine engineer. H. W. Jackson, son of Robert, held many village, township and county offices. Cleveland Rippey has been elected to several county offices.

William and Mary Lowdermilk who came here in 1899, and later bought the meat and grocery store from T. E. Nichols, had two sons who were professional baseball players. Grover started his career in 1907 and continued until 1922, playing with such teams as St. Louis Cardinals, St. Louis Browns, Chicago White Sox, Cleveland, Detroit and others. He retired from the baseball field in 1924. Louis played in 1911 with the Southern League. After several years of baseball he retired and later served Odin as Mayor.

B. C. Holsapple came here in 1909 and opened a blacksmith shop. As the horseless carriage became more popular, the shop was converted to an auto agency and repair shop.



Shooting Fox Oil Well No. 2 July 14, 1909 Odin, Ill.

Do you remember E. A. Parks driving the red Brush; Bebb Vaughn and Jimmy Norris on motor-cycles; F. D. Secor steaming around in his White and following were W. H. Farthing and C. F. Krodel with their E.M.F. models?

C. E. Sloan bought lots east of the Morrison home in 1910 and began the construction of the Lumber Yard. John Somerville was the building contractor employed. Mr. Sloan operated the yard until his

death in 1948. His nephew, C. A. Sloan, continued the business for a year, then it was sold to C. A. Glore of Centralia, Illinois.

Dr. W. N. Hamilton and his wife came here in 1916. The doctor was a native son, having been born in the house owned by Hazel Lane. Dr. and Mrs. Hamilton were active in civic and social affairs. On May 1, 1948, Dr. Hamilton retired. They later lived in Salem with their daughter, Mrs. F. A. Dietrich. Mrs. Hamilton passed away November 23, 1950, and Dr. Hamilton's death occurred October eleventh, 1952.

World War I found Odin sending sons into service. The Red Cross making hospital clothing and bandages under the guidance of Sazie Hurd, Emma Pope, Lillie Robinson, Eva Denman and many others. Liberty bonds were a good investment. Groups were singing, "When Johnny Comes Marching Home" and "Keep the Home Fires Burning."

News of the Armistice on November 11, 1918, created great excitement in our town. A Liberty Parade was staged. Soon after that date the ban on food commodities was lifted.

John F. Sugg built the two story building which housed the Walter Turner Barber Shop, Odin Drug Store, R. N. Morgan's Pool Room and the "Picture Show" operated by Charles and Vada Purvis. The I.O.O.F. building was a new addition to the town's southside.

Odin is proud to list the professions chosen by its native sons and daughters. Ordained ministers, the Reverends John Crow, Thomas Rippey, Cyril Jackson and Irvin Smith. Doctors -- E. E. Fyke, Charles Farthing, Fred Nichols, Claude Avery, Henry H. Hurd, (Commander of Naval Hospital on Virgin Islands during World War II), Wilson West, Bernard Murphy (held scholarship to Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota). Dentists -- Ben and Paul Kellar. Nursing -- Irma Farthing (Supervisor of nurses at Springfield Memorial Hospital, Springfield, Illinois), Helen Lusch (Supervisor of nurses at St. Mary's Hospital, East St. Louis -- later World War II Army nurse), Mary Vaughn (Marion County T.B. nurse), Helen Wooters, Helen Purvis (World War II Army nurse in the African Campaign), Fredericka Bregger (Cadet nurse, World War II), Ethel Barr, Rose Pizzuto and Velma Smith. The list of school teachers is of great length, however, we will list some of the earlier ones -- Cora Hedrick, James Meredith, H. P. Hurd, Alta Hurd, Grace Seib, T. C. Harker, Elia Seib, Rena Meredith, Lulu, Grace, Floy and Nelle Farthing, William West, Lura, Ray, and Helen Somerville, Della Reeves, Grace Woodward, Nellie West, and Vena Farthing. Lawyers -- Louis Hurd, who practiced in Dubuque, Iowa; Paul and Chester Farthing who opened offices in East St. Louis. Later Paul was elected Chief Justice of the Illinois Supreme Court. During that time Chester continued the law firm and spent much time on the estate settlement of the Garrett case in Philadelphia. The product made by the Garrett firm is "Garrett Snuff."

Illinois Central Railroad

In the early 1800's most of the State of Illinois was unsettled wilderness. Though a few towns flourished on waterways, most of the towns were isolated and the crude roads between them were hazardous to travel. It was in the 1850's, with the coming of the railroad that Illinois was transformed by the growth and development of agriculture and industry. As the iron rails began to link the cities and towns of Illinois with the rest of America, trade and travel began to flourish. The growth of Illinois was so rapid that only one other state ever equalled its record of expansion and development.

The Illinois Central, when it received its charter in 1851, was planned to open up the rich and fertile land in Illinois. As the tracks were being laid the Illinois Central Railroad sent men to the eastern cities of the United States and to Europe to tell the people about the fertile land available at low cost. As a result of this advertising campaign carried on by the Illinois Central Railroad some of the first Scandinavian settlers came to Illinois and founded the city of Odin, named for the principal god of Scandinavian mythology.

Odin was first served by the Illinois Central Railroad in 1856. In the same year the original charter lines were completed. At that time the 705 mile railroad, in the State of Illinois, was the longest railroad in the world. The original plans called for lines being built from Cairo north to Freeport, west from Freeport to what is now East Dubuque, and from Centralia to Chicago.

Bethel Baptist Church

Bethel Baptist Church is the oldest Missionary Baptist Church in Marion County, according to the records of the Church, and those in the "History of Marion and Clinton Counties."

In May, 1832, Elders J. M. Peck, James and Moses Lemen met at the home of Col. James Joliff, and organized Bethel Church.

Rev. Samuel Shook was the first pastor. Isaac Andrick was the first church clerk. The church met for several years at Central City (Centralia), the house was then moved to the present location, three miles southwest of Odin, Illinois, on the farm of Samuel McClelland. The rededicatory services were conducted by Elders Billingsley and Ford in July, 1870.

Presbyterian Church

Seems as though I can't find how old the Presbyterian Church in Odin would be, but we wouldn't be very far wrong were we to say it would match Odin in celebrating its centennial birthday.

When the church was organized they worshipped in a building south of the Christian Church. Later a brick church was erected a block west of the school. I remember the church was big and plain.

Written by Cora Bartlett with Grace McMurry assisting.

The First General Baptist Church

The First General Baptist Church was organized in Odin the 25th day of April, 1954. The meeting was held in the Morgan Building. This was the place where services were held until the new church was erected. Dedication of the newly completed church was on the 26th day of October, 1957.

Protestant Methodist Church

This church is listed as one of the early churches in Odin and was located at the corner of Green Street and U. S. Highway 50. Many of the members came from the McClelland settlement (southwest of Odin) and continued to hold services until 1908 or 1909. In later years the lot and building were sold to Otto and Stella (Pursley) Durant.

Catholic Church

During the building of the Ohio & Mississippi Railroad through Odin, many of the workmen and their families were Catholics. In 1866 the Illinois Central Railroad donated five lots to the Reverend Schlosser, O.S.F., for the construction of a church. After completion of the railroad lines the workmen were transferred elsewhere and the church became inactive. Families living here now attend church at Sandoval, Salem and Centralia.

Odin Christian Church

The Odin Christian Church was organized a few years after 1860, during the reconstruction period after the Civil War, when Odin was a village of approximately 270 population.

It was organized in a barn on the Rankin farm, James M. Hawley was the organizer and Nina Rankin Nichols played the harpsichord. There were seventeen charter members.

As members were added the group met for sometime in the school building, Tipton Hall and Presbyterian Church. On February 24, 1878, the church was organized and they met in W. E. Smith's hall paying \$1.00 for Sunday service and the same price for mid-week service. There were 88 members at this time.

Our present church was built in 1879 at a cost of \$1200. The two lots were donated by James M. Hawley and Seth Hill. Much of the carpenter work was donated, and with cash donations and help in other ways from many, the debt was soon paid off. Frank Avery and Thomas Crow built the first baptistery. The church grew with the capable leadership of William Ferguson and Seth Hill. The Sunday school was organized and soon grew to 100 scholars.

The church had a choir they were very proud of, as each member sang by note. They were trained by the late Vitalis Ridenour, a member of the early congregation.

Early ministers serving the church were Clark Braden, A. P. Avery, Prof. Reubelt, J. F. Rosborough, E. A. Jordon, Chorlan Fannon, J. E. Story, Irl Sidwell and O. Ross Kern.

The congregation grew and the church was re-

modeled and redecorated November 24, 1940, with a basket dinner at noon and program in the afternoon. Mrs. Marie Tate had charge of the program. Generous donations provided us with our present building, later class rooms, baptistery and rest rooms were added. The past year a new Baldwin organ and carpets have been added. Our church has had a parsonage for the last few years.

Written by Lena Purvis Lockhart, granddaughter of James M. Hawley.

Methodist Episcopal Church

Before the Methodist Episcopal Church was built, a group of ministers gathered at the court house in Salem and agreed to meet at homes in different parts of the county, to organize a preaching Mission.

Among these early ministers, were: J. W. Wescot, Thomas L. Middleton, William Findley, James B. Grey, Thomas Deeds and William Layson, all Methodist Episcopal ministers.

In 1867 the Methodist Episcopal Church was built in Odin, on Perkins street, the second block south of the depot, on the lot where Hobart Barr's home now is.

Oscar Purvis helped carry brick for the new church, and William Tipton presented the bell and the first Bible to the Church.

Money being very scarce, Dr. J. J. Fyke made an agreement with Rev. Isaac Bundy to doctor his family free of charge if he would come and preach for them until he could hire a minister.

The M. E. Church prospered and gained many members as the years passed, and enjoyed many strawberry festivals and ice cream suppers on the church lawn in the summer.

In the early years of the 1900's the Anthem choir was organized.

In 1926 the church building was condemned and town down in the fall of the same year. The Sunday school and Ladies' Aid still met in the parsonage and in a hall on North Main street for some months, then the membership decided to attend other churches in town. Some went to the Christian Church, some to the M.E. South and some to out of town churches.

Roy Modlin tore down the church building with his team of horses, and sold the church bell to someone in Murphysboro.

Written by Mrs. J. H. Fyke.

Odin Methodist Church

The Methodist Episcopal Church South, of Odin, was organized in the year 1886, with twenty-four members. Meetings were held in Smith's Hall, and in the homes of members for more than four years. Following a successful revival held by Rev. Reed, the members decided to build a church. A site was purchased on Laurel Street, about halfway between the B. and O. and I.C. Depot and U. S. Highway 50. Deeds on file show that the lot was deeded to the Trustees by W. E. Smith and wife Lois, for the sum of sixty dollars.

I have been told by Old Timers that it was donated by Mr. White, whom they called "Uncle Bobbie White." Records show that Mr. William White and wife were among the first members, presume these are the same persons. Most of the work, or perhaps all of it, was donated by the members and friends. Rev. J. H. McCartney hauled the logs to the mill to make the foundation. The building was completed about 1890, and was called Reeds' Chapel. Records indicate that Rev. J. W. Wescott was pastor in charge.

About ten years later a belfry and bell was added, and in 1914 an annex was built on the North side of the church to accommodate the growing congregation.

In 1925 plans for the present church were begun, and a building fund was started. In 1928, the old church was torn down and the present church erected. The dedication of the Odin Methodist Church was in 1929, with Bishop U. V. W. Darlington presiding.

There have been several improvements to our church in the past three years, namely: Electric Hammond organ was installed, gas furnace was installed, rest rooms were added, Sunday school room was added in the basement for the Primary class, redecoration of the entire church, upstairs and basement. The cost incurred was approximately \$6,000.00.

Our present membership, approximately 176.

Odin Baptist Church

At a meeting in Tipton Hall August 5, 1855, the Baptist was constituted as a Baptist Church with thirteen members. Rev. W. T. Green was the first pastor, during his ministry the Church purchased a hall to worship in. \$1,150.00 was paid during 1867, the building was finally lost through their inability to pay. The Church had five different pastors in it from 1865 to 1877 as far as can be ascertained. There was no Baptist Church until 1911. A council met in Protestant Methodist Church to organize a Baptist Church with fifteen people becoming charter members.

Mr. Ira Meredith wrote to Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Trescott of Fairport, New York, in regard to lots they owned, stating they'd like to acquire same on which to build a Baptist Church. They would give lots to Baptist Church, if they, the Baptist Church, would pay the taxes due on same. The Church gladly accepted.

In 1923 work was started on basement in which they met for twenty-five years. After a long hard pull the present church building was completed and was dedicated December 5, 1943, with an indebtedness of \$6,000.00. Today we have a building valued at \$30,000.00 with no indebtedness.

The first pastor was Rev. B. F. Bennett and we have had twenty-four pastors in past years, Rev.

Forrest Weems serving the longest, over ten years.

We have a nice parsonage which we are proud of, (formerly known as the Horace Toulme home.)

Committee: Ira Meredith, Otis Meredith and Rosalie Holsapple.

The Assembly of God Church

The Assembly of God Church was temporarily set in order by M. A. Malone, August 30, 1939. On August 2, 1940, the Church was officially set in order by Rev. Clyde Bailey, and adopted the laws of the Illinois district in regard to voting in pastor. Most all of the roster's charter members have moved.

Earnest Halfacre donated the building site and the Church erected the building, later remodeling and adding the class rooms. In the late '40s the parsonage was purchased and an extension to the building made.

Turkey Creek Christian Church

Later Named Barr Christian
ORGANIZED 1867

This church was first organized in the autumn of 1867 by the joint labors of Elders James Snow and J. D. Morgan, with seventeen charter members. This congregation grew to thirty-seven members and then to "deadlock" by removal of its minister, J. D. Morgan. He remained away five years, but in the fall of 1877 returned. At this time the membership was increased to twenty-seven. This congregation had no church house in 1881 but was meeting in the district school house.

The Christian people purchased the ground December 20, 1892, from Isaac and Netta Main and bought the building in early mid-winter of 1893.

The church was also known as Crossroads Christian, because of its location at the crossroad. It was later named Barr Christian Church. This dedication was preached by Bro. J. D. Morgan.

This church is located in the area which the early settlers called the "Deadmond settlement."

Odin Coal Mine

**ODIN OVERJOYED
GRAND DEMONSTRATION BY PEOPLE
OF TOWN AND COUNTRY
ALL ON ACCOUNT OF THE SUCCESSFUL
SEARCH FOR COAL
COMPLETE HISTORY OF THE INCEPTION AND
PROGRESS OF THE ENTERPRISE
MEN WHO PUSHED THE PROJECT THROUGH
WHO THEY ARE AND HOW THEY LOOK**

Odin, Ill., June 22 -- (Correspondence).

Tomorrow will be heralded by the citizens of this place as the awakening of a new era in the history of Odin. Merchants will close their places of business, and farmers will leave their plows and harvests in order to celebrate the seven-foot vein of coal found at the Odin coal shaft almost two weeks ago.

Almost two years since, a mass convention of the

citizens was called for the purpose of considering the propriety and manner of organizing a coal and mining company at this point. Everyone seemed in unison on this point, and it was decided that the entire work of soliciting subscriptions to the stock and making preliminary arrangements to be entrusted to the hands of the following commissioners, viz: W. H. Phillips, J. G. Vaughan, L. Somerville, F. D. Secor, W. H. Cole, W. E. Smith, N. B. Morrison, A. M. Woodward and E. Sharp, all prominent and influential citizens. The work of soliciting subscriptions was immediately commenced, meetings were held and every available means in the power of the commissioners were used to induce the citizens to take hold of the enterprise. The capital stock was placed at \$25,000, and after four months of steady work and united efforts the

ENTIRE AMOUNT OF STOCK

was taken without the assistance of outside capital, to any great extent. True, a few citizens of the neighboring towns invested small sums in the enterprise, but to the people of Odin it is due to say that Odin's capital and Odin's brains pushed to completion Odin's coal shaft. Very few, indeed, were the citizens of the place who were not stockholders in the company. The company was incorporated under the laws of the state, and the contract for sinking the shaft was awarded to Messrs. Earls & Paul, mine contractors of Sandoval, Illinois. The parties named above, who figured as commissioners, were selected as the first board of directors. They organized by selecting N. B. Morrison as president, L. Somerville as secretary and A. M. Woodward as treasurer. The choice of the stockholders for directors could not have been more fitting, as the men were all solid, substantial citizens, of good business ability, and men in whom the stockholders could confidently rely to work to the best advantage. The proper machinery was at once placed in position and the first earth was removed from the hole where in lies Odin's future prosperity.

At this junction a severe blow fell upon the company, as well as upon the community at large, in the death of Hon. Elisha Sharp, as appeared in the REPUBLICAN at that time. Mr. Sharp was one of the most energetic workers, and his place could not be supplied without difficulty. Owing to hard times, scarcity of money and like misfortunes, the directors were forced to economize very closely and spend every effort to keep the financial affairs of the company in working order. Many difficulties were encountered in the shape of delinquent stockholders and scarcity of workmen, but the extraordinary business tact and uncontrollable energy that characterized the entire board of directors carried the undertaking to success and Odin will soon emanate from the lethargy under which she has lain for so long and take her place in the foremost rank of business towns where she should have stood long ago.

Coal was expected at a depth of 600 feet and when 650 feet was passed and the black diamonds not found some of the weaker citizens began to show signs of discouragement, but the more sanguine did not despair and kept pushing the work. About three weeks ago a thirty-eight inch vein of coal was struck at a depth of 669 feet below the surface, which caused the hopes of people to grow brighter, and on the morning of Friday, June 11, when the whistle at the shaft announced that coal had been found the people were almost frantic with joy. The blast just taken had lifted the rock lying immediately over the coal and only the surface of the vein was exposed to view. The miners worked steadily through the day and at night found that seven feet three and one half inches of the finest coal in Southern Illinois was the size of the find. As the news spread the town was electrified with joy. Every man, woman and child in town was on the street, bonfires were burning, cannons firing, whistles sounding, and everything was in a constant state of jollification. The Cornet band followed by an immense concourse of citizens, marched to the coal shaft and everyone was highly elated with the success attained, which so much exceeded their most sanguine expectations. After this excitement had subsided a mass-meeting of citizens was called, who appointed to select committee of twenty-nine persons to make arrangements for a barbecue and picnic in honor of the event. Hon. W. D. Farthing was selected as chairman of the committee.

The Odin Mine was fully developed by 1902 with a tonnage of 1,000 tons per eight hour day employing 200 men.

The mine worked above average time, until 1924 when the old tippie burned. A modern tippie was built in 1925, but the tonnage dropped to 800 tons per day.

By 1930 the depression was on. The coal business was so bad the company could not complete with the mines who had larger shafts, modern undermining and coal loading machinery. The coal company went into receivership in 1936.

B. E. Martin was appointed receiver. Mr. Martin operated the mine until February, 1938, when it was closed and abandoned.

The old mine was a major industry in Odin for 52 years. Mr. N. B. Morrison the first President of the Odin Coal Company died in 1911. His son, Charles H. Morrison, was elected President. He died in 1936.

The early history of the Odin coal mine -- as published in the St. Louis Republic, was furnished by Mrs. E. E. Fyke of Centralia, Illinois. She is the daughter of N. B. Morrison. Other data compiled by Charles Purvis.

The Odin School

The first school held in Odin Township was in an empty cabin that stood near Silas Barr's place in 1834. The teacher was Peter Welburn. The first regular school house built of logs, stood near the

McClelland graveyard. History says "the two story brick school house in Odin has two rooms and the school board rents two other rooms. Four teachers are employed." This was in 1881.

Odin School was held in the Smith Hall at one time for extra room, another time in the Schumaker building, then later about 1898 or 1899 extra rooms were in the Presbyterian Church, which stood a block west of the main school, still later in the wooden frame building across the street to the west. The old brick school was built between 1867 and 1870's. We have no record of the exact date. About 1900 a wooden frame building was built and attached to the south side of the old brick building with concrete braces built on the north since the old building was thought dangerous. The older part of the present school was built in 1913, and the wooden part was moved to the east side of the new building, later the wooden part was torn down, and the gym (where the cafeteria is now) was built. Later on the new gym and class rooms were built.

The System of Public Education inaugurated by the State Legislature in 1854 was the first that made the schools really free by providing for a sufficient state and local tax for their support. To meet this need of efficient teachers and supply the increased demand the Normal University was established in 1857.

In 1846 the first report of schools in the county was made to the secretary of state and superintendent of schools. There were 37 school houses in the county, 32 of them operating. There were 1830 children between the age of six and twenty-one years of age; in the county 966 were going to school.

The first graduation class of Odin was in 1895, the principal was L. S. Kilborn. There were three graduates, Miss Lulu Fathing, Hellen Donnelly and William B. J. Donnelly.

Barr School

The first school in Odin Township was taught in an empty cabin located near Silas Barr's in 1834. The school was in the southeast corner of section 22. Peter Wilburn was the first teacher.

In 1902 more school site was purchased from L. M. Kagy for \$50.00. This location was west of the old school house. The new school building was erected by W. W. Meyers for \$580.08.

The last teacher who taught in the old building was Miss Rena Meredith (1901). The first teacher to teach in the new building was Mr. W. A. Moore (1902).

Brick School

The Brick School district which lies two miles north of Odin, was established as early as 1856. At that time it was district Number One. Later the district was divided and a deed for the original site was given by Green Chitwood and his wife Ruth. The

building was of red brick with measurements of 24 by 30 feet.

Some of the early settlers were the families of M. Carrigan, Thomas Sugg, J. Vaughn, and Silas Hurd. These men served as directors for many years.

Records show at one time there were 70 pupils enrolled and the teacher received a salary of \$25.00 per month.

In 1920 the building was torn down and replaced with a new frame building. In 1956 the school was and the pupils of the district were transferred to a new consolidated school in Carrigan township. Later the building and ground was sold to Dennis and Winnie (Ramsey) Branch for a home-site.

Rankin School

District No. 121

The land for Rankin School was deeded May 27, 1884, from Mary Hamlin, Jennie Hamlin and Newton Hamlin to the directors, M. A. Dace, John Flannigan and S. E. Hill.

In 1909 Ella Phillips was hired by the district at \$30.00 per month. Records show Lucille Hurd was hired in 1915 at \$35.00.

The first building was replaced with a new building in 1916.

Margaret Robinson made \$60.00 per month in the year 1919 and in 1920 Gladys McClelland was hired for \$75.00 with Georgie West making the same salary in 1927.

The price for teaching went to \$80.00 in 1931 with Eunice Tinkler hired.

The year 1944 found pupils transported to other schools.

The building was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Ben Young in 1952.

Lakeview School

This school was built in 1893 according to the report. George Griner (deceased) deeded the land at that time. Oscar Kurth was the first teacher it being his first term. The second teacher was Miss Bessie Meredith.

Forrest Park School

District No. 11
(LOVE SCHOOL)

On June 1, 1889, a special meeting to elect three school directors was held at the residence of L. A. King. The directors elected were L. L. Thompson, L. A. King and George West. June 15, 1889, a special meeting was called to locate the school house site. The location couldn't be decided at this meeting so another meeting was called for June 19th, at this meeting a decision was made and Miss Etta Phillips was hired to teach for \$25.00 a month. School was to begin October 7 and last five months.

The last year school was held in District 128 was 1959. On March 1, 1960, the school building, outbuildings and what was left inside were sold. Paul Chance,

county superintendent of schools, and Charlie Wesner conducted the sale. Sam Davidson of Sandoval bought the building and one acre of ground for \$75.00.

Thus ends the history of Love School.

Mary Alice (Wooters) McDuffee

Matthew School

William G. and Ada McClelland made a deed in 1885 to Jacob Lichty, Smith Gordon and William G. Ferguson, school trustees of Township Two North and Range One East, for the land to use for a school site. This information was recorded in the County Clerk's office at Salem, Illinois. Mr. Wesley Griffin, county clerk, also stated that this location was verified by Paul B. Chance, county superintendent of schools, as being the location of Matthew School. Mr. Chance stated the district was approximately two miles square.

Mr. T. C. Harker, one of our older residents of this area, gave me the information, that this school was probably constructed before 1890, and he says the official name was "Midland School." He remembers that Will Matthews, Charles Ellis, and Perry McClelland were the first board of directors.

Mr. Will Matthews, who lived one half mile north of the school, helped to organize the school and probably the school was given his name.

Mr. Harker was unable to recall who the first teacher was. Mrs. Lily Robinson McClaren taught there a number of years before 1900.

In 1900, Mr. Harker taught the school and at that time the board consisted of Perry McClelland, Thomas J. Eaglin, and L. Carson. Mr. Amasa Eaglin of Odin attended this school around this date and he also remembered this board of directors.

In 1907-08, Mrs. Etta Davis Payne taught the school. She stated at that time she had nine pupils.

In the spring of 1936, the school was destroyed by fire. It was decided by the people in the district to rebuild. The new building was completed by the fall of 1936. The directors at this time were, Charles Brakefield, Isaac J. Ross, and Melvin Austin.

For several years, the school progressed but the time finally came when there was not enough pupils, according to state law, to hold school. The children were transported to Stewart School, where Mrs. Marie Hurd Tate was teacher. Later the building was sold and the school district was annexed by Odin and Sandoval School Districts.

Mrs. Earl (Grace Ross) Jackson

Early Settlers of Omega Township

Previous Marion County Histories, old deeds, and land abstracts and like information from the descendants and relatives of the settlers give the names of the settlers coming to this locality between 1829

and 1841.

Adam Gallaway, Daniel Lovell, Alexander Kyle, Joseph Howard, John Wantland;

Henry Pyles, David England, Thomas T. Jones, William Howard, Thomas Chapman;

Marcum C. Lovell, Israel Bozarth, Thomas C. Smith, Henderson Hensley, Nicholas Van Dusen, James Craig.

In the early years they would build a log house on public land, later grants were given at a nominal price. It is not known where some of them actually located.

Adam Gallaway erected a very good log house in section 13. Alexander Kyle, a Methodist Minister, who built a log house in section 24. James Craig, put up a round log house in section 13, where he and his family lived until his death in 1843. Sevilla Hanks Craig, his wife who was a sister to Nancy Hanks Lincoln, died 10 years later. James and Sevilla Craig are buried at the Smith Cemetery a few miles from where they lived. It is one of the old neglected cemeteries in the township.

It is not known what year Joseph and William Howard came to the township. They entered land in 1839 at a cost of \$1.25 per acre which was in section 16. A part of this acreage has been in continuous ownership by their descendants, the present owners being Zilphia See Jones and husband, Lyman.

In the early forties, Alexander and Clementine Millican, recently married, were traveling westward through Illinois, seeking a place to make a home. They camped one evening at a spot west of the Millican Cemetery. The next day Clementine told Alexander "This is as far as I am going, if you go farther, you will go alone." Her husband said, "I guess this is Omega, the end of our journey."

Soon after they purchased land from Marcum C. Lovell which included this spot. In 1866 they deeded the plot which had been used for a burying ground since 1832 and which has since been known as the Millican Cemetery, to the Trustees of the Township and to their successors in office to be used as a public burying ground. Two of their great, great grandchildren live in the township.

The Nicholas A. Hanks family also moved to the locality about this time and a number of their descendants are living here.

There is no record of the year the John P. Phillips family came to the township. A son, Lorenzo D. Phillips died in 1852. The parents buried their son on their own farmland. This was the first burial in what is now the Phillips Cemetery. John P. Phillips was buried there in 1855 and in 1864 another son, William Phillips deeded 1/2 acre to the trustees of the township and to their successors in office to be used for a public cemetery. Other plots have been deeded in later years. A number of descendants of John P. and Lucinda Phillips are living in the township.

In 1853 George Ravens purchased farmland from

the I. C. Railroad, west of Omega. Two grandsons, Hollis and John R. Baker, each have homes on portions of this same farmland.

The first schools were supported by subscription. Alexander Kyle taught one in section 23 about 1839 or 1840, William Hadden the Lovell School in 1838. In 1842 Marcum C. Lovell leased one half acre of land to the trustees of schools in District No. 3 for a period of twenty years, rent free for the erection of a schoolhouse in section twenty.

When Timothy Baldwin laid out the village of Omega in 1856 a frame schoolhouse was built there which was replaced in 1891 by another. This Omega School building was used until the rural schools consolidated. It is now the Omega Town Hall.

Also locating in Omega in 1856 were a doctor, postmaster, store-keeper and the home of Timothy Baldwin.

This is an agriculture township, consequently the population of the village has always remained below one hundred.

The citizens of the community are friendly people who would not want to live anywhere else. But the fact that it is an agriculture area causes many of the younger people to go elsewhere for employment.

In 1955 rumors were circulated that a Conservation Lake and Park were to be built in the Omega area. This news was received with mixed emotions. While they all realized we have to yield to change and progress but many would have to seek a new home. They did expect the park would receive a local name such as Marion County Conservation Park, like the McLean County conservation Park east of Bloomington, or the Sam Dale Conservation Area in Wayne County. Alarmed, a group of women circulated a petition which was sent to the State Department of Conservation asking that this lake and Park which had been placed in our community be given a local name. An answer was received from Mr. Lodge saying it was too late to change the name of the Park, but the lake would be Omega Lake.

By Omega Historical Committee

The following is offered, in whole or in part, for whatever it may be worth in observance of the history of Omega Township in this one hundred and fiftieth year in the age of Marion County.

The identity of this writer is unimportant except that I am descended from the early settlers of Omega and have made some interested inquiry into their history. There are names of us still prevalent in the township today, such as Chapman, Alderson, Marlow, even Smith, and some less perpetuated because they were maiden names of pioneer mothers who left their family names somewhere back along the trail in Kentucky, Tennessee, the Carolinas, Virginia or Pennsylvania.

My great, great grandfather, Thomas Chapman, came to Omega from Robertson County, Tennessee

in 1841 with eleven children and his wife, Rachel.

My great, great grandmother Smith, who was born Catherine Eastham, somewhere in Virginia on February 7th, 1803. She came to Omega with her husband, Robert D. Smith, and fourteen children, from Lincoln County, Kentucky. In 1840, Robert and Catherine bought approximately a half section of land from the U. S. Government at the established price of \$1.25 per acre, and settled on it over in the north-eastern part that was called Smith Prairie before it was known as Crutchfield Prairie. They contributed land for Smith Grove Church before it changed to Brown Christian Church and when they died they were buried in Smith Cemetery.

In a short while, two thirds of the Smith land was parcelled out to other settlers. Catherine died at age forty-eight, but Robert D. made it to age ninety-two. He presided as the Father-Abraham of that community until he died in 1888.

Another great, great grandfather, John Alderson came to Omega from Tennessee in 1842 with his wife, Susannah, and two daughters.

The Marlows came from Martin County, Indiana, shortly after the close of the Civil War. My great grandfather, Thomas Dale Marlow, served in the 65th Indiana volunteers. His wife was Susan Caroline Simms. Tom Dale became well known around here as an auctioneer, a trade he developed as he mustered out of the Union Army. His record shows that he stayed on after his discharge to auction off army horses and mules. His brother, Sam Marlow, was blinded for life in Andersonville prison, but he carried on for many useful years in Omega Township.

Much that I have learned about Omega, and New Middleton, and Stringtown is redundant to any who have researched in the Brinkerhoff History of 1908, or in the Brink, McDonough and Co. publication of 1881. One even finds an occasional error in these priceless efforts, just as there will be found in our combined endeavor of 1973. More noticeable than error, to the contemporaries of a writer of history, are the omissions. For instance, how could Professor Brinkerhoff have missed the Mulvaney's? They were about as numerous in Omega Township in 1908 as in 1973. Henry Mulvaney shows up today on an abstract title to land as an original \$1.25 per acre buyer from the Government. His holding was adjacent to that of Robert D. Smith.

As late as 1881, the Brink, McDonough editors observed under the title of "Customs and habits of the settlers (of Omega Township): In those days (1840 to 1850) if a man had a pony, a good rifle and a yoke of steers, he was considered well off. The people were not selfish but were friendly and kind to each other. When angry they would fight it out but not indulge in backbiting."

Among early settlers were the Haddons, the Middletons, the Rogers, the Millicans and the Longs,

and many others that should be recorded. The oldest son of Thomas Chapman was born in Orange County, North Carolina He brought what he owned to Omega in a huge two wheeled cart drawn by four oxen They must have had enough Tennessee money aboard to buy the land they took up from the Government when they got here. The record also shows that Dan Chapman and his brother, John were immediately assigned to the respective ranks of Fife Major and Principal Musician because they could both read music and play marches as the Union regiment advanced toward battle.

Thomas Dale Marlow was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio; brought to Martin County, Indiana by his parents in the 1850's. The county seat of Tuscarawas is New Philadelphia. Typical of the many families that treked together, the Marlows and the Schooleys both made it from Tuscarawas County, Ohio to Trinity Springs, Indiana at the same time, and from there to Marion County, Illinois (Omega) at about the same time.

By Estel E. Smith

Brown Christian Church

At first a log church was built on a high bank of Skillet Fork Creek, two miles east of the present Brown Church building. It was called Red Bluff Church. Near it was a rock bottomed pool that was used in baptisms for years.

Fire destroyed the church building; so some of the members formed the Old Union Church. Others living in Crutchfield Prairie, led by Joseph D. Morgan, held worship services in the school building five miles east and north of Omega until about 1895.

On May 16; 1891 a deed was recorded from Marion E. and Mary C. Smith for a small piece of ground across the road from the school. It was donated as the site for a new church. A chapel was soon built and was called Smith Grove.

The school across the road was painted brown and soon both the school and church were known by that name.

Bro. William Jackson Simer started preaching at Brown in 1880. He was a farmer as well as a preacher. He lived north of Omega near the present lake entrance. At this time he filled the pulpit each Lord's day at Lovell Grove, Brown, Bethel in Clay County and at Brubaker, giving as fourth of his time to each charge. He had a long white beard and drove a horse and buggy to get to each church.

In 1914 it was reported that the membership was 25, the Sunday School enrollment was 67 and the value of the property was \$400.00.

In 1916 the building was remodeled and an addition made to the west side. This is the center and south east section of the present building. New seats and an organ were added at that time.

Some of the early elders were Fred Pickle; Henry Green and Lafayette Adams. The record shows that

Bro. Adams and Bro. Green were baptised in 1886.

Some of the early deacons were Newt. Cople, Wess Mulvaney, Bill Smith and Ed Winders.

Uncle Bill Mulvaney served as church treasurer for a great many years.

Among the early preachers who have pastored the Brown congregation are Joseph D. Morgan, who organized the church. W. J. (Uncle Billy) Simers who preached for the church for 35 years, Bro. Fugate from Edgewood, then W. J. Whittaker from Noble preached for seven years. He was followed by Ben Mahon of Edgewood who ministered to Brown for 3 years.

Next came Ervin Hays who pastored for three years. Well remembered is the meeting which he held in 1935 with 34 additions; baptising 28.

Other preachers at Brown were Oscar Hawkins, Paul Berthold, Paul Martini, Bill Hudspeth, and Leslie Tucker from Edgewood.

Bro. Chester Esque acquired the individual communion service for the congregation while he ministered at Brown.

The north annex and basement were added to the Church in 1956.

Other preachers were Keith Sproat; Cecil Cochran, who held services at Lovell Grove and at Brown on the same Sundays an hour apart. Dave W. Harmby, and Fred Nexbitt.

In 1962 when Wayne Tate was pastoring at Brown the ceiling was lowered and paneling installed; also wall furnaces.

A new communion table, chair for the preacher and pulpit were added in 1964.

In 1965 a new piano was purchased and first used at the funeral of Mrs. Cornelia Davis.

Three classrooms and a rest room were built onto the Church in 1971. At that time a large furnace was installed.

In 1972 Freddie Mulvaney donated some additional ground to be used as yard and to enlarge the parking space.

A new front entrance and wide sloping walk are being built at the present.

Later preachers have been Carl Gibson, Harold Eubanks, E. C. Horton, Carl Parker, Jerry Bopp and Don Mast.

At the present time our minister is Harry Black. Elders: Otis Tate, Wayne Schooley, Roger Davis and Mont Ritter. Deacons: Dean Baker, William Monical, Gary Michel, Ronald Lane, Clarence Neal, Ronald Hampsten, Lindell Wilcoxon and Farrell Armstrong. Trustees: Steward Monical, Freddie Mulvaney and Myron Hanks.

Omega Presbyterian Church

The Good Hope Society of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church was organized by Rev. William Finley on November 9, 1844 at the home of Jacob

Earl in Lovells Prairie.

This congregation began with ten members, Thomas Hadden, Jacob Earl and Alexander Millican being elected the first elders.

This early congregation grew through the years until it became a group of about fifty members.

The name Good Hope Society was changed to Omega Presbyterian Church at a meeting of Presbytry in 1909.

For several years, the church held services in the homes of various members of the congregation. In 1863 arrangements were made to construct a church building on the site of the present building. This building burned in 1916. After the burning of the original church, services were held at the town house and school house until the present church was built.

On August 6, 1916 the officials and members of the congregation met to plan for a new church building. The building committee was composed of: Charles Sere, Roy Millican, and Charles Millican. Thomas Fields, a member of the church agreed to furnish the rough lumber for the frame of the proposed building and members of the congregation and friends cut and hauled the logs to the mill. Mr. Webster Allen of Kinmundy, Illinois drew up the plans and Mr. Edward Bosley was the contractor and builder of the present building.

This new church was dedicated in June 1919. Rev. Hamerson was the minister at that time. Rev. Temple of Salem preached the dedication sermon. In connection with the dedication an all day service and basket dinner was held.

Some of the early day ministers were McCluney, Ritchie and Shaffer. In 1942 Rev. Ernest Harbaugh served the Omega Church as a pastor for a two year period.

A few years after Rev. Harbaugh left, the Omega, New Bethel, Zion and Flora Presbyterian Churches formed a larger Parish which was named by the Youth group of the parish "The Parish of the Beckoning Light." The Rev. Stanley Banks was the first director of the Parish followed by Rev. Finley D. McMartin. Brother McMartin was aided in his work in the parish by several student ministers.

On May 27, 1961 ground was broken for a 18 to 24 addition to the church. The youth group at that time were mainly responsible for getting this project on the road and also for helping to finance it. This was completed and dedicated on November 22 1961.

Romine Township

**By Mrs. Vera Hawkins
and Mrs. Phoebe Blankenship**

Romine township contains 36 sections or 23,040 acres. The first land entries were made in 1833. The township took its name from Abram Romine, an early settler in the territory. The first settler in

the territory was a man named Adams. Joseph Helms settled previous to 1827 in the southwest part of the territory.

John Dillon was a "squatter" in the township about the same year. William Brewer came with his family from Allen Co., Ky., in 1827 and located in section 29.

William F. Byars settled in Romine township in 1827. William Donoho settled in 1827 and the settlement was named in honor of him, the name being Donoho Prairie, but the name is now spelled with an O instead of an A.

September 9, 1833, Samuel Welter made the first land entry. Others were Ephraim Meador in 1834. John Harvey in 1835, William Brewer in 1836, and Spencer Blankenship in 1837. Ellis Branson settled in Romine township in 1831 on the land now owned by Maxey Ayers. The original Branson house still stands, it being a portion of the Ayers home.

Joseph Stonecipher came from Tennessee in 1840 and settled in section 31. Soon after that he settled in Donoho Prairie area and gave a tract of land to be used for a cemetery. In 1843 his infant son was the first person buried there and it was called the Stonecipher cemetery; later the name was changed to Donoho Prairie and more ground was donated.

In 1820 the first burial ground was located about 1/2-mile south of the Donoho cemetery and named Donoho in memory of the first settler and now is referred to as the Old Donoho cemetery. There is a cemetery across the road from the Pentecostal Church and an old and large cemetery a bit south and east of the Hickory Hill Church, and it is called Hickory Hill. There is a small cemetery in section 18, once called Myers cemetery but now referred to as Fields cemetery. There is also a rather large cemetery near Palestine Church, and it is called Palestine.

There was once a Missionary Baptist Church 1/4-mile south of the Exchange corner, but due to deaths of the elder members and others that moved away, the congregation dissolved and the building was sold. There was also a Methodist Church called Shiloh at the crossroads one mile east of the former Donoho Prairie school. There was once a Latter Day Saints Church in section 8. The present active churches in Romine are the Palestine Baptist Church in the northwest corner of the township. A Pentecostal Church in the area in section 15 was called Union.

Christian Home General Baptist Church was located in section 13 and Donoho Prairie Christian Church in section 31.

The first school was at Benjamin Litteral's and was taught by Henry Darnell. In 1830 Thomas Cochorn taught in a log hut in section 31. This was the first Donoho Prairie school, and he taught for \$10 per month and "boarded around" with the people.

The first store at the corner, known as Exchange,

was built by Will Tyler. The next owner was Fayette Whitlock with S. C. Hill as manager. Oscar Byars then bought the store and in a short time sold to Syllis Howard who sold to Dave Green and in 1915 the building burned. He rebuilt and in a few years he sold to Charles Shafer who operated it for several years and sold it to Dave Hall, who sold to James Blankenship in 1920 and he sold out in 1933.

George Eblin built a nice block building near his home in section 33 and operated a general store for several years. One of the early stores in Romine was built and operated by A. M. Blankenship at Hickory Hill followed by Drew Frye. Barger Donoho kept a store in the Hickory Hill area, and after his death his son, Bradford, ran it.

Jim Gregory had a store near Hickory Hill school; John Soger operated a store in the Helm area, and Ed McConnaughay and his sons, Oscar and Rex, also operated one. Doval Lowery operated a small store near Union and Darvin Weems ran a store at the Union location for several years. It is now operated by Raymond Stonecipher. Another early store in section 7 was owned and operated for several years by Press Conley.

We had telephone lines owned by the farmers who wanted a phone and who helped form a company and maintain the lines. There were about 20 people to a company. The phones had two dry cell batteries and a generator. In order to call your neighbor, you turned the crank as many times as needed. Long and short rings were used and each person heard the ring for all that had a phone.

In case of an emergency we would ring five or more shorts and everyone knew help was needed and would go to the phone to find out where. It was also the way news was spread around. We didn't have radios, televisions, or daily papers in those days. We had a switch where several lines came in so we could be connected with other lines by a knife switch operated by the switchman who got a small fee for his services. Now we have the Bell system.

At present, we have much more good farm land and less timber. In the early 1900's there was a lot of good timber, therefore sawmills were very busy as lumber was needed for buildings, bridges, fences, etc. In the early days sawmill owners were G. M. Chandler, Peter Anderson, Montgomery Sinclair, Thomas Blackburn, Jonce Blackburn, Byers and Donoho.

In 1913 Farris Hawkins bought a sawmill powered by a steam engine and operated it in section 29 for years. Later Guss Soger and sons operated a mill, powered by a gas tractor, and after his death the sons still operated it.

Farris Hawkins also had a grist mill with stone burrs which he bought from Bill Ex Wilkins. He ground wheat into flour and corn into meal for bread and also ground different grains for stock feed. At

that time men were glad to work for -1 a day and that was for a 10-hour day too.

We didn't have improved roads in those days. We had our first cars in 1917 and it was sure rough traveling. James Blankenship owned the first truck in the township. The grain was threshed by a large machine powered by a steam engine that broke down most of the bridges in the country. Ed Dickey had one of those rigs and traveled from farm to farm during the harvest season. In later years several other threshing rigs were powered by gas tractors.

Guss Soger and Emory Daniels owned and operated an evaporator that took care of the apple crop and furnished employment for several people during the fruit season. Albert Blankenship had a tomato cannery at his place a few years. In the early 1900's, Peter Soger had a sorghum mill at his place in the southwest corner of the township where he ground cane to extract the sweet juice which he boiled down into many gallons of molasses for the neighbors.

Emory Daniels operated a brick kiln near the south county line road; he made bricks from clay and baked them in the kiln.

W. W. Russell was a well-known Baptist minister who lived his entire life in Romine township. He preached in many of the churches in the surrounding country and we believe he was the only minister who spent his entire life in our township.

Robert (Bob) Branson was born and raised in Romine township. He held the office of State Representative for 30 consecutive years. He also held some county offices.

We have an Illinois Central railroad that runs along the east side of the township.

There have been several wells drilled for oil in Romine township but just a few producers.

This township has produced professionals of many professions, preachers, teachers, doctors, nurses, lawyers, carpenters, electricians, mechanics, beauticians, typists, musicians, notaries, seamstresses, missionaries and some very good cooks.

We had a lot of brave men who gave their lives in service for their country.

Sandoval

Of Sandoval little is truly known but legend tells of the trails crossing here and a trading post located in the southeastern section of what is now our village, owned by a man named Sandoval. The east-west trail, first called the Vincennes-St. Louis Trail, then the St. Louis Trace and finally the Midland Trail, was originally an Indian path. Used by the early settlers and the wagon trains heading west, it became a stagecoach route into St. Louis. One of the stops was in Sandoval in a house located where the Cox and Martin establishment now is located. Another was located just west of Sandoval on what

is now known as Nicolay Hill.

Sandoval and Odin were originally one township and it is recorded that Thomas Deadmond was the first settler in the southern part of the township in 1827. He was followed by Silas Barr in 1829, Issac Barr in 1836, Isaac McClelland in 1830, Jonas and Jacob Andrick in 1830, and Alexander and Henry McClelland in 1840. John Adams, Thomas Pigg, John Hill and Bluford Deadmond are also listed as early settlers.

The first school was taught in a cabin in 1834 and later a school built of logs was erected near the ground now known as the McClelland cemetery. Most of the families were farmers and in the mid-eighties many homes were erected in the Sandoval area.

President Millard Filmore in 1850 signed a bill making the first grant of public lands to help construct railroads. This land grant bill gave certain lands in Illinois to be used for this purpose and in 1851 a law granted the Illinois Central Railroad all unsold sections along a proposed route to connect the Great Lakes with the Gulf of Mexico. Work on the main line of the railroad in Illinois began in 1852. This main line was to extend from Freeport in northern Illinois to Cairo at the southern tip of the state. Meanwhile, the newly incorporated Ohio and Mississippi Railroad was crossing the state from Vincennes to St. Louis. These two main lines crossed at Sandoval, creating a very important junction for freight and passenger service. Naturally the opening of rail service brought many new settlers to the area and the population increased rapidly.

The first store building in Sandoval is credited to Welcome Martin, who erected his building on the O&M right of way just west of the crossing of the railroads. J. B. Crawford kept the first hotel or boarding house where many railroad workers stayed during the construction of both roads. This building was later a part of the Sandoval House, a hotel operated by Samuel Ewing.

The first residence is credited to Thomas Nettleton. On December 22, 1854, the first post office was established at Sandoval and Mr. Nettleton was the first postmaster. Prior to this date the name of the settlement was Illinopolis, as shown on an Abstract of Title owned by Alva H. Bohner for property located in the northwestern section of the town. Later record shows the name changed to Sandoval. However, no authentic record could be found concerning the name. It is presumed Sandoval is of Mexican or Spanish origin and legend says it is the name of the man who had owned the trading post many years before. In the book "Early Illinois Railroads" W. H. Ackerman says the town was named for an old Mexican or Spanish chief.

On November 22, 1854, in a very gay and impressive ceremony, the last spike was driven in the cross-

ing of the Illinois Central and the Ohio and Mississippi tracks at Sandoval. Crowds of workmen and spectators lined the tracks and cheered as four locomotives decorated with banners, their bells ringing and whistles blowing, slowly moved from the north, east, south and west to touch noses in the center of the crossing, symbolizing the joining of the two important railroads and the link of the Atlantic with the Mississippi and the Great Lakes with the Gulf.

In 1855 the Illinois Central Company platted part of the town of Sandoval, and citizens began making plans to incorporate. In 1859 the proprietors of Sandoval, James S. Martin, James W. Primmer, Lambert Nowland, Isham W. Haynie, Blakely Pilkington, John A. McClearnard, and Benjamin F. Marshall signed the papers of petition to incorporate.

The town of Sandoval was incorporated by an Act of the General Assembly of the State of Illinois and approved February 18, 1859. The Board of Trustees, consisting of Blakely Pilkington, C. W. Sterns, L. Nowland, G. P. McClimans, and A. L. Barlow, as set forth in the Incorporation Act, met in the town on March 19, 1859, and elected B. Pilkington as President and L. Nowland as Clerk of the Board. This organization was regularly kept by succession until 1873, when the Corporation by a majority of votes of citizens of the town, was organized into a Village in accordance with the general incorporation laws of the state.

The boundary of the original town was a three-quarter mile square with the center crossing of the I.C.R.R. and O.&M.R.R. (The seal of the village bears said crossing.) By a decree of the Marion County court in 1878 the boundary was changed to include all the west 3/4 of Section 17 and east 1/4 Sec. 18 in Township 2 N., Range 1E. of 3rd P.M.

The newly organized town found many new and often difficult situations to be met. The need for a calaboose was first mentioned in 1860. It was to be made of hewn logs. This building was finally constructed in 1867 and the dimensions were 10 by 14 feet with a 4 inch floor.

In May, 1860, the population was 599 and the first assessment of real and personal property was authorized. In November of that year a contract was made for the first board walks, the cost to be paid from the tax collected. Records show that in 1861 the street north of the O.&M.R.R. was ordered abolished, and property owners were to turn their buildings to front on Commercial street. This order was evidently not obeyed.

Hermann Henry Adolph Merten was one of the early merchants. He opened a general store in 1859 and continued in business for a number of years. He was active in the development of Sandoval and served on the board of education. There is also history of a Pullem and Meredith trading post. Pullem was a doctor and surgeon and Meredith was

the father of James Meredith of Sandoval.

As the troubled years of the Civil War drew near, Sandoval became a busy railroad center. At this time, the O.&M.R.R. had a gauge of six feet necessitating transfer of all passengers and freight from the I.C. trains to their tracks with gauge of 4 feet 8.5 inches.

This condition was changed in 1871 when the owners of the O&M decided in order to participate in through traffic the gauge must be changed to the standard of the general system. This change was made in the whole system starting at midnight, July 21, 1871 and was completed by 8 a.m. July 22, 1871, a great engineering feat of that day or any other.

During the Civil War many troops passed through Sandoval, which was also a point for enlistments. The 40th Illinois Infantry was accepted May 25, 1861, and went into camp here August 5. Mustered in Aug. 10, 700 strong, orders were given to proceed to Illinois Town (now East St. Louis), then across the river to Jefferson Barracks, Brigaded with other troops, the regiment was sent to Savannah, Tennessee and a permanent camp at Pittsburg Landing. Here over half the regiment was killed or wounded. This regiment, after other engagements, was with Sherman on his March to the sea and took part in the Grand Review at Washington, D. C., being mustered out July 24, 1865. General Ambrose E. Burnside and his troops were also camped here while enroute to aid General Grant. Their camp was located south of the O.&M.R.R.

An ordinance passed in 1862 set the speed limit for trains at eight miles per hour. Early records also show the desire for an attractive town. There were ordinances passed to protect the newly planted trees and in 1866 a plow and scrapper were ordered made especially for street work at a cost of \$29.15.

The first ground four acres, purchased for a cemetery was acquired in 1864 and lots were sold for \$5.00 each.

After the organization of the Village of Sandoval in 1873, the number of trustees was changed from five to six with three members holding over for two years, thus electing three trustees each year. Board meetings were held in the Charles Reinhardt Hall and \$12.00 a year was paid for rent.

In 1870 the census listed 958 inhabitants of Sandoval and large landowners listed on a township map of that period included J. W. Primmer, R. Ewing, Mrs. E. H. Dolsen, C. N. Rockwell, S. S. McClelland, and J. B. Moore.

During the year 1874, after several changes in ownership, the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad was placed in the hands of a receiver, John King, Jr., of the Baltimore and Ohio R. R. Under this administration the road was improved and became an important part of the B.&O. system.

In 1877, the first committee was appointed to organize a Fire Department; the boundary of the town was surveyed and a new plat made; and the Village gave the St. Louis and Sandoval Mining Company the right to mine coal under the park, streets and alleys. This company began sinking the shaft but after reaching a depth of 114 feet the company failed and was sold at a sheriff's sale to the Sandoval Coal and Mining Company which completed the mine. A 5 1/2 ft. vein of coal was reached at about a depth of 600 feet in September of 1878. The company was composed of Sandoval and Salem business men originally but after several changes of stock it was purchased by Thomas Marshall in 1903. In the same year two serious accidents befell the mine.

The first furniture owned by the city was a desk purchased on motion of L. T. Skeen and installed at a cost of \$4.50 in May, 1878. The ground for a city park was donated to the city, presumably by General Martin and the trees in the park were set out by Joseph Kerwin, Sr., and Mr. Yates. For a short time in 1881 the village board advertised the site for lease, but the park has never been used except for the public.

Permission was granted in July 1879 for the erection of a telegraph line and the establishment of an office in Sandoval. In 1880 a committee was appointed to investigate the opening of a road to Centralia, and Dr. Edwards offered to donate lots in the south part of town for this purpose.

In 1880 a newspaper called the Reform Leader was published in Sandoval by Rutherford and Lawson. It was the only paper devoted to the advocacy of green back principals in the 16th Congressional District, and had quite a large circulation. The paper continued in Sandoval for almost a year, when the office was moved to Kinmundy. In March, 1881, Peter A. Shanklin started another paper, The Sandoval Times. In that year there were businesses listed under the following names: H. C. Bohn, Issac Main, George Bellamy and Co., J. L. Robertson, H. L. Sherman and Co., George Idleman, Lichty and Stiener, L. C. Iuby, F. Stein, Peter Schell, Anna Simcox, Watts and Sadie Ingersoll, Sam Bellamy and Bros., E. Hurd, S. Seidel, William Mutschler, Charles Reinhardt, Carl Miller, I. B. Sherman Bros., and S. Ingersoll. Three physicians served the community, F. H. Edwards and son and H. C. Sherman. Two hotels were operated, The Central, by Carl Miller and The Sandoval House by Samuel Ewing.

The village was growing steadily and new industries were beginning to locate here. In 1884 a rolling coultter works was established in the northeastern section of town near the I.C. tracks and after a few years Stephen A. Ingersoll became sole owner of the plant. It continued to furnish employment to many Sandoval men until 1904 when it was moved to Gales-

burg, Illinois, and later to Chicago where it became a part of the Borg-Warner Corporation.

The Village Board, seeking to keep abreast of the times, organized the Sandoval Volunteer Fire Department in 1884. Prior to this time there are many references in early records of investigations concerning new fire fighting equipment.

The town was again surveyed in 1887 and more acreage purchased for the cemetery. In September, Lots 6 and 7 of Block 20 were purchased and a new calaboose erected at a cost of \$132.00 Lot 5 of Block 7 was purchased in 1888.

A very progressive step was taken in December of 1891. Twelve kerosene street lamps were ordered and the street commissioner's salary increased \$5 a month for servicing the lamps. Oil was purchased by the barrel and stored at the Chapin Grocery. Many still remember seeing Mr. Felthoven or Mr. Richards make the rounds of the village each evening, lighting the lamps which eventually stood on each corner.

In August of 1891 Lots 10 and 11 of Block 15 had been purchased from the Odd Fellows Lodge for \$225 and bids were taken for the erection of a Village Hall, dimensions of which were to be 24 x 50, x 22 feet in height. The low bid of \$1,299.00 was made by John A. Dodds and the building was completed in December, 1891.

About this time, 1897 a new and unfamiliar industry was established here. A Captain Jones and his family came from the state of Virginia and started the Swansea Vale Zinc Company. One of the furnaces was built and the business barely started when it had to be sold to satisfy creditors. It was purchased by a Chicago firm, the M. Weil Company, which continues to this time to operate it as the Sandoval Zinc Company. Although it has been closed for a few years there is indication and hope it will soon be reopened.

Charles T. Rogers, father of Mrs. Etta Jones and Mrs. Margaret Cherva of Sandoval, who came here from Virginia with Captain Jones, started the first fire in the furnace. (Mrs. Etta Jones has in her possession an I.O.U. in the amount of \$97 which was due her father and his son for wages the Swansea Vale Zinc Company was unable to pay.)

Among the business places in 1895 were the following: Globe House Hotel, managed by O. F. Bernard; Briscoe House Hotel, managed by E. L. Briscoe; a bakery owned by William Cawrey which had been started in 1884; P. B. Gaylord and son sold building materials. Grocery stores were owned by H. R. Hall and E. C. Toothaker; J. L. Robertson; H. L. Sherman; G. T. Bellamy; Judge C. F. Patterson and M. L. Chapin. Miss Clara Bohner had a millinery shop; the Stewart sisters and the Wilson brothers had Confectionerys. Barbers were J. M. Hazlewood and Henry Opp. Hardware stores were owned by Samuel Bellamy and W. B. Bellamy. Carl Preihs was a

furniture dealer. There were four doctors, H. C. Sherman, James Hunter, G. W. Downey and George C. Rice. John A. Dodds and J. M. Shanklin were contractors and builders. George Keifer, S. Seidel, S. Beasman and W. R. Martin made harnesses, boots, and shoes. Listed as painters were Henry W. Peters, Ruddick and Sherman and James Gamman. Dealers in all kinds of produce were S. H. Dolsen, George Heaver, E. L. Briscoe and William Knight.

For many years Sandoval was known as a strawberry producing center and one of our citizens, Bowie C. Warfield, perfected a berry known as the Warfield that was one of the best varieties obtainable.

The paper of that day was the Sandoval Free Press. Founded by L. C. Chandler and C. C. White, it was purchased by G. H. Rice in 1894.

The first annual Commencement Exercises of the Sandoval High School were held April 3, 1895 in the Murphy Hall. Members of that class were Hattie B. Bunch, C. A. Dodds, Silas H. Dolsen, Charles E. Reinhardt, E. Josephine Richard and Nellie L. Yunk.

In 1896 the Township was divided into Sandoval and Odin Townships. The turn of the century found Sandoval an active village, progressing with the times. Great interest was shown in the World's Fair being held in St. Louis, and B.&O. excursion trains carried many Sandovalians to see the new inventions displayed there. The horseless carriage made an appearance on our streets and very proud were those owners of the first automobiles, among whom was J. F. Knight.

The Village Board in 1908 granted the Odin Telephone Company a franchise to furnish telephone service for Sandoval residents, and as early as 1907 efforts were made to secure electric service for the city.

It is interesting indeed that 1959 marks the Centennial of the discovery of oil in Titusville, Pennsylvania -- a discovery which in 1908 made Sandoval an important place to the oil industry. When traces of oil were found in the Glenridge Coal Mine in 1908 a number of wells were drilled around Sandoval and only a showing of oil found. But in the spring of 1909 a good well was drilled on the Louis Stein farm and many oil company representatives arrived here. The next most promising well was drilled on the Benoist farm, and after passing through what is now known as the Stein sand, was drilled into what is now called the Benoist sand and produced a gusher which really started the Oil Boom and brought many changes to Sandoval. Many companies now well-known to the oil industry were represented here. There were three oil well supply houses located in the business district. The Southwestern Oil and Gas Company, which had really opened the field, pur-

chased the building previously used by the Coulter Disc Company. About 1912 the building was struck by lightning and destroyed by a most spectacular fire which for a while threatened the whole section of town in which it was located. The business was moved to the oil field north of town where it has continued and was sold to the Bradley Production Company.

A number of the wells drilled at this time continued to produce for many years. In 1939 a large field was brought in between Odin and Salem and again there was much activity in the Sandoval fields as wells were deepened to new sands and several small new fields opened.

At this time the coal mine, then owned by the Chicago-Sandoval Coal Company, employed about 450 men and had a pay roll of \$20,000 per month when working full time.

The First National Bank was organized June 10, 1910. There have been only three presidents of this bank, the first H. R. Hall, then B. F. Holmes, and the present one, M. M. Joyce. Cashiers of the bank have been B. F. Holmes, R. W. Walters, Herman J. Schneider, E. C. Benson, Harry H. Bellamy, Harry E. Todd, and the newly appointed cashier, Harold Joyce.

The first quarters were in the Robertson Building. After that building burned in 1919 the bank was moved across the street into a frame building that stood on the location of the present City Hall. The modern brick structure which is now the home of the bank was erected in 1922.

Fred Reinhardt had been engaged in the banking and brokerage business since 1884 and had occupied a building on Main St. He had a new building erected in 1910, a two-storied brick structure which housed the bank, a barber shop and business offices on the second floor occupied by oil companies. In 1920 this bank failed and the building was used for many other purposes until a few years ago. Recently it was condemned and has been torn down. Two hotels, The Colonial, and The Commercial, which were busy establishments in that era, have also been demolished.

There were two Building and Loan Associations in Sandoval, The Home Building and Loan and The Sandoval Building and Loan. These were discontinued in 1939 by voluntary liquidation.

The Southwestern Oil and Gas Company was given a franchise in 1909 to provide natural gas for use in Sandoval, but this did not prove very successful. In 1912 the Village Board signed an agreement with the Centralia Gas and Electric Company for electricity for street and home lighting. A celebration was held in November of that year and the first electric lights were turned on in the city.

There were two new places of amusement made available to the residents of that area in 1910. The

Airdome, or Opera House as it was sometimes called a building without a roof, was constructed by Frank Knight, Morris McCall, and Joe Thomas. For many years this building was used for most of the gatherings and celebrations, and here was shown the first movies. A roof was finally added and for a number of years the high school used it for a gym. Mr. Knight was also one of the owners of a baseball field built in the southwestern part of town. In 1914 another field was built close to the I.C. tracks in the northeastern part of Sandoval. This field had a nice covered grandstand and the Sandoval Baseball team was host to many Southern Illinois teams there.

1910 was the year when the first concrete walks were laid and in 1911 a Band Stand was built in the Park. Made of concrete blocks, it was built by John A. Dodds at a cost of \$232. The Marion County Soldiers and Sailors Reunion, which had originated in Centralia in 1881, was held in Sandoval for a number of years before being moved to Salem. During the time of its meeting here it was one of the best attended events of the year as people came from great distances to share in the festivities.

A new paper, The Independent Times, had appeared. It is presumed to have been the forerunner of The Sandoval Independent, the last paper printed in Sandoval, which failed in 1926. Among the editors of The Independent were Mr. Woolridge, Reverend Byerly and the last editor, Ed B. Purnell. Since the close of the Independent office, Sandoval news has been printed in papers of other cities except for a few years when a paper called the Sandoval-Odin News was in print, with Fred Koehler as editor.

In 1911 the first election was held to elect a mayor by a majority of votes cast. Previous to this time a President of the Board had been selected by the trustees. Joseph A. Thomas was the first mayor thus elected.

In 1914 there were several organizations active here that have since disbanded, among them were the Womens Christian Temperance Union, Royal Neighbors of America, Modern Woodmen, Knights of Pythias, Pythian Sisters, United Mine Workers of America, and other unions.

During the years preceding World War I Sandoval was again seeing many changes. Gradually more cars were replacing the buggies and wagons drawn by horses, and livery stables now had gasoline for sale. When the war came the people of Sandoval shared in all activities and efforts to help bring it to an end. The young men of our community answered the call to serve in the Armed Forces, there were rallies to sell bonds, and the Red Cross Unit was formed. It was one of the most active in the county.

The Sandoval Unit has been active when needed, as during the Mine disaster in Centralia and helping with the canteen, taking one full day when the Bloodmobile was in Salem. Sandoval also sponsored one

day of the bloodmobile here at the Grade School.

During the War years the First Girl Scout Troop under the leadership of Mrs. Raymond Walters was organized and helped in many ways in the War effort. Later, during the second World War, a Junior Troop under Miss Vivian Stiles and a Senior troop under Mrs. C. M. Hildebrand were organized but have since disbanded. Several Boy Scout troops also have been activated during the past years, but none is active at this time.

One sunny afternoon during the last year of the First World War, the town was suddenly emptied when an airplane landed in a field east of town and everyone who could, quickly ran to see it. This was one of the first military training planes in this part of the country.

One of the worst train wrecks known to this community occurred when an Illinois Central freight was piled up just north of the depot in 1921. It took several days to clear the tracks so that rail traffic could be continued.

Another change was in store for Sandoval. During the next few years two National highways were built through the center of the town, Routes 50 and 51. This changed the appearance of the town in that new business establishments were built on the new roads and buildings in the old business section stood empty, or were torn down.

After the closing of the mine, there was little employment in Sandoval for a few years, and many residents found employment in nearby towns.

In 1936 the city installed the first Water Works. The bond issue was for \$108,000.00 and a contract was signed with the City of Centralia for the purchase of water. The water is pumped to Sandoval through a six-inch line and there were approximately 550 users. A 60,000 gallon storage tank was built in the City park. In 1942 a sewer line and a modern disposal plant were installed. During 1955 another water tower was built with a 50,000 gallon capacity and two booster pumps were installed on the main water line from Centralia to insure plenty of water pressure for the users. This necessitated another bond issue of \$60,000.

After many years the old City Hall had been condemned so in 1946 a modern concrete building was erected in the center of town which houses the Village offices, the Fire Department, and the jail.

There are a number of new buildings in the town, among them a new brick post office building completed and dedicated in June 1958. The Marion Telephone Company recently installed dial phones in the territory served by them, and completed an attractive modern building in the center of town opposite the City Hall. This building houses their new equipment and modern offices.

The Marine Garment Company was established in Sandoval in the spring of 1947. George Kumbera was



Sandoval Business District 1938.

the owner and operator of the plant and had at the beginning Ethel Harris as forelady, Jean Cruse as cutter, and Robert Coates as machinist and 30 machine operators. In the beginning, lingerie and ladies night wear were made, but as time passed numerous other items were added and more operators hired. In June 1953 the plant was sold to H. S Gale and Co., of St. Louis and the plant was progressing nicely until April 1954 when it was destroyed by fire. It has not been rebuilt.

In recent years many organizations and individuals have joined together to work to improve the City Park. A covered pavilion has been built, bleachers and flood lights installed, and a Park Board organized.

The building of modern highways has brought a change to Sandoval as it has to other communities. Bus and truck traffic has affected the railroad business here as elsewhere, and many years ago the large freight house was torn down because it was no longer needed. There are no passenger trains which stop here and it has been many years since a crowd gathered at the depot to meet the "Bob Tail." Hotels have been replaced by motels along the highway, and the picture show closed but nearby there is a modern Drive-In Movie.

The Sandoval of Today is greatly changed from the Village of the Past.

SANDOVAL CHURCHES

First Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church was started by Reverend William Nix in the upstairs of the old City Hall about 1905. A concrete block church building was built in the southeastern part of town about 1906. Mrs. Nix was clerk of this church which was disbanded about

1915 and the building torn down a number of years later.

Second Baptist Church

The Second Baptist Church was organized April 26, 1925. Brother G. O. Foulon was the Associational Missionary at this time and instrumental in seeing that the council was called. Meeting place was in the Miners Hall and other locations. This church disbanded about 1933.

Present Baptist Church

The present Baptist Church was organized October 19, 1952 with fifteen Charter members. The lots in the northwest part of town where the Primary School House once stood were purchased for a building site and ground breaking ceremonies for a church were held May 22, 1953. Members of the church built the beautiful little colonial type structure which is furnished with mahogany pews and altar. A piano was donated by one of the members. Services dedicating the new church were held on October 3, 1954. The church now has about 70 members and the present pastor is Rev. Glen Oaks.

Congregation Church

According to old records the Congregational Church was organized in 1859, the year the town was incorporated. The first minister was Daniel Gilmer, who served from April 20, 1859 to August 25, 1860, the date of his death.

In 1919 the Methodist and Congregational Churches worshipped together in the Congregational Church Building with a Methodist minister as the pastor. He was Clark W. Howard. In 1920 J. F. Dee another Methodist minister was the pastor. The building now used by the present Methodist Church was purchased by Stewarts for a Cooper shop. It was moved to a site south of the Coulter Disco Works where it stood

for several years and was finally destroyed by fire.

After several years of inactivity the Church building and the parsonage were deeded to the Methodist group in 1934. Since then the building has been modernized and remodeled.

The Pentecostal Church

The Pentecostal Church started in Sandoval with a tent revival in the Park, in September of 1922. Rev. Wallace and Rev. Schwazie were the evangelists. Services were conducted in the Redman Hall until 1924 when the present location was purchased on North Cedar Street. Reverend Clyde Allen was the first pastor.

Catholic Church

The first settlers interested in establishing a Catholic Church arrived in the territory now known as Sandoval in the middle of the 19th century and represented several nationalities. The first masses were probably celebrated in the 1880's in private homes.

In 1867 Reverend Theodore Wagemann began raising money to build a church. Martin Klein of Sandoval donated two lots for this purpose. When Reverend Wagemann left, the building was interrupted until 1872 when Reverend H. Hedmann of Centralia was appointed rector of Sandoval. He succeeded in raising enough funds and completed the church building in June, 1873.

The following month the building was destroyed by a tornado. Reverend Hegmann again raised the money and rebuilt in 1874. Lightning in May of 1893 and a cyclone in July of the same year damaged the building again. While the original church stood on the same site where the present church now stands, it was moved to where the present school building is located and with lumber from the dismantled church at Odin some rooms were added to be used as a school in 1906.

Reverend T. Eckerle succeeded Reverend Hegmann and while he was with the church in 1877 the bell (still in use) which rings to the tone of G was purchased. A gallery capable of seating forty persons was built in the church. Priests from Effingham and Centralia took care of the spiritual needs of the parish and those succeeding Reverend Eckerle were Reverends P. J. Becker, C. Jansen, and Bernard Reusch. In 1889 Reverend Jansen became the first resident priest and lived in the large house that now stands abandoned southwest of the present church. In 1890 a priest's house was built and at present this house is the Sister's convent. This building also served as the first school.

In 1907 Reverend Joseph Munier came and in 1911 built the present rectory. The next year the Sisters of The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ from Donaldson, Indiana came to staff the parish school and have been doing this noble work since then.

In the year 1924 under the pastorate of Reverend

John Schreuder the new and present church building was erected and because of the growth of the parish another room was added to the school. The front part of the old church with the tower was taken down and another room added. The building from that time on was used as the school.

On the morning of February 5, 1950 the school was destroyed by fire of unknown origin. Classes were quickly moved to a hall which had been moved from a block away some years before, which had been a garage and blacksmith shop previously. For three years it served as a school.

On the 29th of September 1953 the cornerstone of the new modern school building was laid.

Methodist Protestant Church

In 1867 lots were donated by Mr. and Mrs. William Edwards of Sandoval for a Methodist Protestant Church. The church was built by subscription taken in the town and county. It was dedicated by Reverend Phillips of Nashville, Illinois and all the members took pride in the church knowing that they owned a part of it. Uncle Billy Edwards for years the Grand Chaplain of the Odd Fellows, was the moving force back of the church. In 1895 Reverend Little of Odin was the pastor. Among others serving as ministers were Revends Clyde Latimer, Albright Shepherd and Glen Pfeifer, who is now retired from the ministry and is living in Centralia.

In the year of 1934 the attendance grew and they were in need of a larger building. During this period the Methodist conference purchased the Congregational Church building and it was then known as the Methodist Episcopal Church. The little church was known as the Methodist Protestant Church and in a matter of years the two churches united and moved into the former Congregational church building. During this period Reverend Cissna pastored the two churches. The Reverend Fairchild succeeded Cissna and ministered in the Methodist church and in the meantime he also had ministered in the Congregational Church. There were two other churches on this charge, one being the Carrigan Church and the other known as the Methodist Protestant Church located one half mile east of the McClelland and Andereck Cemetery. The first church services held out there were in the old McClelland School building. In 1895 a church was built. This church burned and was rebuilt in 1912, but services there have been discontinued.

Christian Church

Today's Christian Church in Sandoval, Illinois, is the outgrowth of a church founded by Elder A. Martin on April 17, 1877 with forty members. Having no place of their own where they could worship, they rented the Methodist Church building for services, which were held on Friday evening of each week. However this did not include a Bible School so they cooperated in the Union Bible School held in the



Sandoval Christian Church

Methodist Church with Jacob Lichty as leader of the school.

This organization did not continue for many years but in the spring of 1889 a few of those associated with the first group called T. A. Boyer, State Evangelist of the Illinois Missionary Society to reorganize the church. This reorganization had eighteen charter members, and of this original group Byron Sherman is the only member living today.

Reverend Boyer held a revival meeting in the Congregational Church where the attendance soon overflowed the capacity of the building. To accommodate this increasing attendance the old skating rink was secured. With people coming from Centralia and the surrounding towns the meeting was very successful. There were one hundred and seventy-five who united with this church either by baptism or the transfer of their membership from other churches. In 1890, a Bible School was organized with an average attendance of ninety.

In 1891, the first church house was built and was dedicated by F M Rains of Cincinnati, Ohio. This building served the congregation until 1940 when it was remodeled, and a much needed basement and a modern heating plant were added. Then came the catastrophe -- on December 16, 1940 the entire building was destroyed by fire.

Under the capable leadership and encouragement of the pastor, Rev. B. L. Morris immediate steps were taken for the construction of a new house of worship. With this capable leadership and the cooperation of members and friends the present building was constructed and dedicated October 5, 1941.

This was a high-tide accomplishment for these courageous people. Not only did they build a new house of worship, they paid for this building within a few years. Then they purchased the present par-

sonage and have paid for it. The original parsonage was given to the church by the Lichty family.

The Carrigan Church

The Methodist Protestant Church was organized about 1880 and services were held in the Carrigan School House which served as the religious and social center for the township. In the year 1892 the present church was built. Logs were hauled to Fairman where Eli Watkins sawed the lumber for the frame, the other material was purchased with cash donations and the labor was mostly donated. William Dull, a carpenter made the doors, window frames and seats. Scott Davidson made the frame and donated the window in the front gable.

When the frame was first erected a storm blew it off the foundation, it had to be raised and pillars reset, but the building was made ready by the close of the year. Then many new members came into the church. The building has withstood many storms, the last was in May, 1958 when a cyclone lifted the church from its foundation and damaged the inside of the building. It is now repaired and improved and has been equipped with a gas heating system.

Since the Methodist churches united in 1939 it has been with the Sandoval charge and Reverend Omer Jones now serves both churches.

Fairman Baptist Church

This church, known as the old Union Baptist Church was organized March 3, 1836 in Clinton County by elders Daniel Hilton and W. J. Cooley, and has stood on some four or five different locations. The present building was originally a German Lutheran Church in Clinton County. It was bought and moved to the present location by the Baptists in 1902 and dedicated Sunday, June 2, 1903. The ground on which this building now stands was given by David Kissner. In 1904 the name was changed from Union Baptist to Fairman Baptist Church. The trustees at that time were J. R. Carter, Jacob Bopp and William F. Steel. The pastor was J. R. Kelly. The present pastor is Glen Johnson. The building has been remodeled in recent years. There are about 80 members and services are well attended. It is located five miles north of Sandoval and is one of the oldest in the area being 123 years old.

Sandoval Public Schools

The first school on record, about 1855, was a one-story building on the east side of town. This school continued until the erection of the new building in 1914. The schools now had six teachers and 240 pupils. They had good black boards, a globe, charts, sextant besides Webster's Unabridged Dictionary. It was one of the first schools "to raise the stars and stripes over the building." The salaries in 1900 are listed as \$35.00 per month for teachers and \$75 for the superintendent.

J. B. Miller of Centralia was the principal in 1912.



Sandoval High and Grade School 1913. Gym was added in 1931.

He recommended that the four-year High School be changed to a three year term, and this change was made. During this year the State Fire Marshall condemned the east side building as unsafe. Temporary buildings -- the Christian Church and other buildings were used until a new school could be built on the same location as the old school.

The corner stone was laid October 23, 1913 by the Masonic Lodge. A large parade was held with all town organizations taking part in the ceremonies. In order to complete the amount needed to erect the building, \$9,000.00 in \$100 bonds was issued to individuals, this amount being what was needed in addition to the amount which could be legally raised by bonds.

The High School was accredited by the University of Illinois in 1922 becoming District 401 and was again a four year school. C. W. Yerkes was superintendent and there were three teachers, James Talbott, Misses Edith Warnack and Blanche Bolles.

In 1931 a gymnasium was added to the north side of the building which was used for both Grade and High Schools. The High School District in 1939 voted to build a Community High School and work was started on the beautiful modern High School building that stands just west of town on Highway 50. On Christmas morning of 1939 the Grade School building was destroyed by fire of unknown origin with a loss of \$75,000. Work was immediately started on a new Grade school and space was rented in various buildings in town for class rooms until the two buildings could be completed. C. F. Crawford was Superintendent of the High School at that time and remained with the school until his retirement a few years ago.

In 1957 the district voted to add Vocational Training rooms, a Music and Chorus room and a Cafeteria to the building. This addition was completed in 1959. Both school buildings are beautiful additions to Sandoval and greatly enjoyed by all the citizens.

The residents of this area voted for a Unit School District which combines Sandoval Schools, Glenridge School and the C-9 school under one board. The board was elected and after their organization meeting supervised the new Unit District.

Stevenson Township

Stevenson Township received its name from Samuel E. Stevenson who was born in Ohio in 1819 and came to this area in 1846. One of his daughters, Maggie, married Walter Irwin. They had a son, Eugene E. who lived in Stevenson Township all of his life. Another daughter of Samuel Stevenson, Annie, married Frank Boynton. They had one child, Gladys. After Anna died in 1897, Frank married Ethel Stevenson. Their two daughters are Mrs. Van (Doris) Howe and Mrs. Kenneth (Frances) Beaver.

Many of the early settlers came to this area to homestead. Among those who settled in Stevenson Township were:

Abraham and Elizabeth Brubaker and their children, Jacob, Noah, Eli, and a daughter, Lydia (Mrs. Israel Warner) from Ohio.

Samuel Gaston came from North Carolina and Kentucky. He left a son, William, who married Rachael Huff. There are many descendants of the Gaston family.

Richard Holstlaw came from Indiana with his wife

and eight children, one of whom was Daniel.

William Hix Huff came in 1839 and married Mary Crain.

William Middleton from Virginia and North Carolina brought his family of thirteen children.

James P. Rogers, Georgia came to settle in 1834.

A man named Dumb settled in 1815 in the north part of the township next to a creek. We still have Dumb Creek in this area.

John Boynton, Haverhill, Ohio, settled in 1859 near Bannister.

Some of his children were John Ellis, Delmont, Ida and Frank.

Many of the descendants of these early settlers still live in Stevenson Township.

Joel Middleton was the first blacksmith. He manufactured the wooden mold board plows, and even made knives and forks used in the neighborhood. The first mill, bought from John Sutton, was used by Richard Holstlaw. It would grind 15 bushels a day if hard labor was applied.

The first doctors were Middleton and Hall. Early churches were Old and New Bethel Presbyterian Churches, Gaston Grove Christian Church, Rabbit Grove Methodist Episcopal Church, Summit Prairie Baptist Church, and Romine German Baptist Church.

Gaston Grove has since been moved to Harvey's Point in 1940 and the two congregations formed the one church at Harvey's Point in Haines Township. Rabbit Grove still stands but is not used. The same is true for the Summit Prairie Church. The cemetery at Summit Prairie has many stones marking the graves of many of these early settlers including Samuel Stevenson, for whom the township was named. Old Bethel still stands and has services. Old Bethel was organized about 1846. The land was given by Issac and Rachel Metcalf.

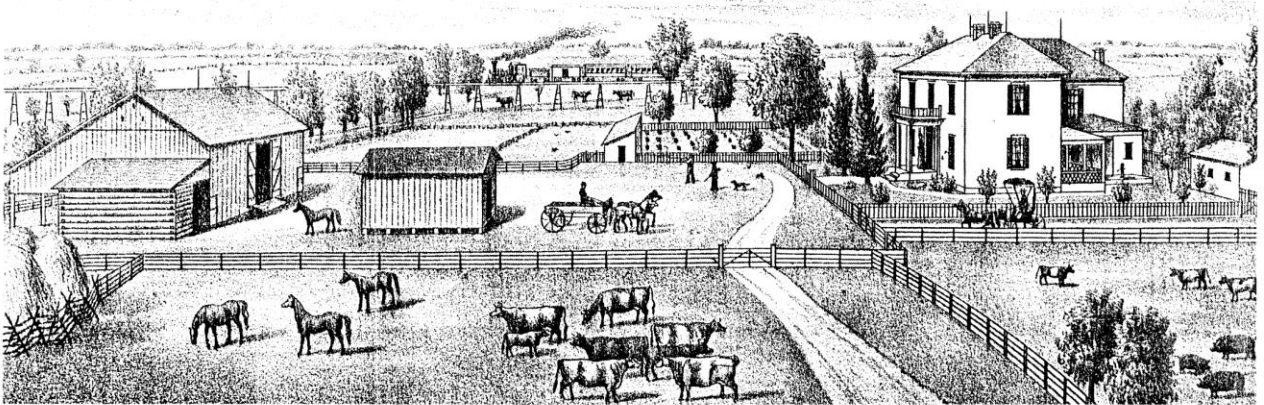
Romine German Baptist Church is now Romine Church of the Brethren and they have regular services. New Bethel has services every Sunday. New

Bethel Church was dedicated in 1896. The land was given by the Brubakers. Eli who owned land on the south side of the road gave the land for the parsonage. This has been sold and a new manse built next Eli had also been an elder at Old Bethel since 1847.

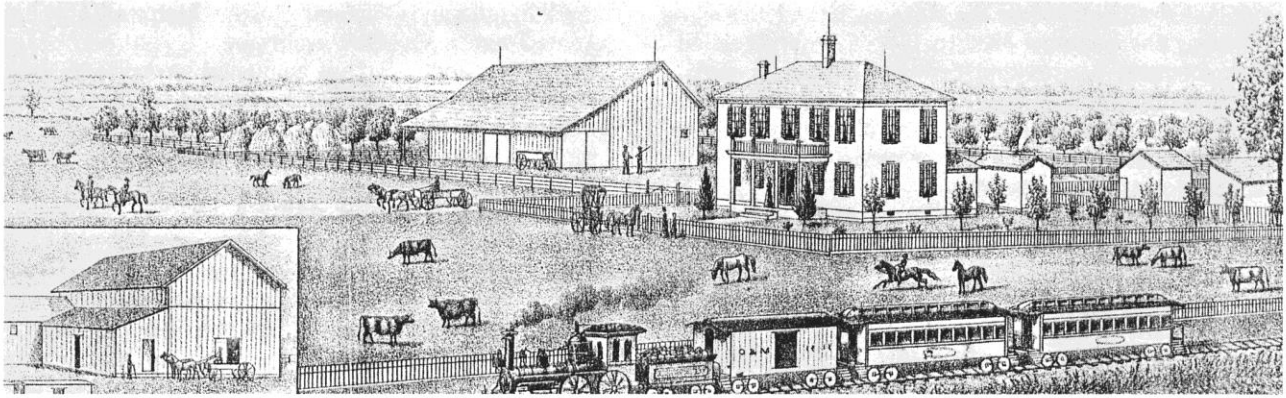
There was no school in the township until 1833. Othy Davenport opened a three month school in a log house on the Vincennes Road (now Route 50). Today we have no schools in session in the township. The pupils go by bus to Salem and Iuka schools. Before consolidation there were several schools: Phelps, Excelsior, East Union, Apple Ridge, Huff, Brubaker, and Metcalf. At one time all pupils at Brubaker had the last name of Brubaker. Jacob and Jane Brubaker donated the land for the school to be built in 1882. Samuel Gaston donated the land for the Gaston Grove Church in 1887.

Another place of interest and importance was the County Home, which served as a shelter and nursing home for those who had need. Many of the employees met and married. Among those were: Bertha Brubaker and Roy Wuman; Ethel Smith, a cousin of Laura Stevenson, married Clint Boles; Herschel Wyman married the superintendent, Henderson (Heck) Pigg.

According to the abstract of this property, Nathan Huff secured the land from the United States February 27, 1839. He sold to Issac Sweeney, Thomas Sweeney, and Deborah Sweeney in 1855. Much of the land was given to the Illinois Central Railroad by the United States government to be used for railroads. If the Railroad Company did not use it then it was sold. Many of the early settlers bought this land. In 1856, the County of Marion bought more of the land. The deed is from William and Mary Huff to Durham Tracy, County Judge and Hardy Foster and Unis A. Spitler, Associates Justices. Again in 1868, land was deeded to Marion County from Deborah Ann and Lorenzo Budlong to James S. Martin, County Judge and David Snelling and J. W. Primmer, Associate Justices. Then in 1870, there appeared the



Farm residence of Eli Brubaker, Sec. 15, T2, R3, Stevenson Twp., Marion County.



Farm resident of John Boynton, Sec. 15, T2, R3, Stevenson Township, Marion County.

plat of survey of the County Farm.

A will filed November 28, 1864 was the following: In the name of God Amen: I, Isaac Sweeney of the county of Crawford and State of Ohio in good health for which I thank Almighty God on the 19th day of August in the year of my holy Redeemer 1853, do make this my last will and testament as follows: After the payment of just debts and funeral expences it is my wish that my wife Eleanor if she survives me shall be well and comfortably provided for that my daughter Deby Ann reseive the sum of \$575.00 to balance a like sum that my son Thos. Miller has got and that she be alowed a good horse, saddle and bridel a bearrow and hur choice of a fether bed with suitable covering for the winter, that my son Issac Smith be alowed \$300.00 and that the balance of my property of every kind be equally dividet between my daughter Deborah Ann and my son Thomas Miller and I do hearby apoint said daughter and son exectors of this my last will and testament. Isaac Sweeney."

In 1947, the County Farm was sold to Sam H. Parker, who sold it to the present owners, Porter and Mabel Gaston. At the time the County sold the land, no longer to be used as a county home, Joe Hale was the chairman of the Board of Supervisors and Oscar Hawkins was the County Clerk.

The Baltimore and Ohio Southwestern, formerly known as Ohio and Mississippi Railroad, crosses Stevenson Township. The first conductor who stopped at the flag stop was a Mr. Bannister. The stop was then called the Bannister Switch. The railroad was built about 1854. In 1869 L. G. Porter and Eli Brubaker built a large barn here and later sold it to John Boynton. Hay which was grown in the township was baled and sold at this barn. Ties were made from nearby timber and sold to the railroad. Farmers brought cream to the Bannister Trading Post and from there it was shipped to St. Louis by rail.

Samuel Stevenson, a buyer and seller of livestock, drove cattle on foot with the help of herdsmen to St. Louis.

Stevenson Township has been noted for agriculture and fruit growing. There were two evaporators used for peeling, slicing, and drying apples. These were in operation in the early twenties -- one owned by Lucian Storment located on what is known as the Gus James property. The other one was owned by Walter Middleton and located on the Iuka-Stevenson Township line south of the Wesley Sinclair home now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Clark Williams. Both plants employed a large number of local people during the years of the early twenties.

In 1917 during World War I, corn sold for \$2.50 a bushel, but later in 1930, corn sold for 10¢ a bushel. Hogs sold at 3¢ a pound in 1930. In contrast, in 1973, corn has sold for \$3.00 a bushel, wheat for \$5.00, soybeans for \$12.50, eggs \$1.00 a dozen. Another cash crop of the 1930's was Redtop seed which brought \$90.00 per acre.

In 1925, a new "hard road" was built along the route of the Vincennes Trail from Vincennes to St. Louis. This old, muddy, almost impassable road was used as the stage road as well as the express road. It is now Route 50. Fresh horses and riders were



Threshing scene on the Huff farm in Stevenson Township.

available halfway across the state near Carlyle.

During the years of 1930 to 1940, farmers bottled milk in quart bottles and drove to Salem to make house-to-house deliveries. They used the horse and milk wagon. The faithful horse would wait patiently or walk slowly while the driver made his deliveries morning and night.

Electricity made its appearance in Stevenson Township through the efforts of C. Glenn Jones, Loren Cope, and Roger Young in Oct. 1938. These men were directors of the Tri-County Electric.

Stevenson Township was honored by producing one of the best congressmen for the 23rd District of Illinois from 1942 to 1958 in the personality of Charles W. Vursell.

Today, in 1973, we have no evaporators, no Banister station, no country school, no blacksmith shops; but we still have a thriving agriculture community and the friendliness among the people of that community which accompanies a rural area. Since we have so many changes in our occupations and way of living, many of our people who live in Stevenson Township rely on our community of Salem for employment. We are grateful for our early settlers to lead the way to this part of Marion County.

History of Tonti Township

When Marion County was established on January 24, 1823, the county was divided into two districts known as North District and South District and was governed by a Board of three Commissioners. The area known today as Tonti Township was located in the North District and was heavy timber in the north and west and along the creeks. Open prairie was to the south and east; in fact, as late as the 1860's it was said that except for the trees growing along the branches there was only one tree between the settlement of Tonti and the county seat at Salem.

The county was made up of two districts until 1874, at which time the Commissioners divided the county into 16 townships. Township Three North, Range Two East was first named Fredonia; but the name was later changed to Tonti. It was renamed Tonti after the settlement of the same name located on the Illinois Central Railroad.

When the county was established, there were 4 or 5 families living in what is now Tonti Township; however, it was well represented in county offices.

The first settler in Tonti Township was William Pursley, and he located in Section 14 in 1820. This would be in the vicinity of the present day Allmon Cemetery. It was not until June 20, 1823, that he entered this land. He entered the West Half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 14, and this was the first land entered in the township. When Marion County was established, William Pursley became the first road supervisor of the northern district. The first road laid out by the county commissioners was

the Vandalia and Golconda Road, which went through Tonti Township. Mr. Pursley was also a member of the first grand jury that convened on April 29, 1823. He was an old man when he moved to Tonti Township, and he died in 1824 or 1825. His wife was the former Lydia Little, who was the heroine of the rescue of a Thomas Higgins in an encounter with Indians during the War of 1812.

Mrs. Pursley was the first white woman to live in Tonti Township. Mrs. Pursley remained in Marion County for several years after her husband's death and then moved to Texas where she died.

The year 1823 saw the Township gain four new families, the first of which was William Nichols. He settled in the northeast part of the Township in 1823. He owned one slave, and in 1826 he sold his farm to William Marshall and moved to Missouri.

Next to settle here in 1823 was William Marshall, who came from Tennessee. He settled in the east part of the Township. In 1826 he added to his holdings by buying the land of William Nichols. This land was located in the northeast corner of the Township. William Marshall was an educated man and became the first school teacher in Tonti Township. He taught in 1825. He was for many years a Justice of the Peace and was also the fiddler of the neighborhood. It was said of him that, often when a marriage was to take place in the neighborhood, he would take his fiddle under his arm and walk to the place where the marriage ceremony was to take place. He would perform the ceremony; then he would play the fiddle for the dance, which in some cases lasted all night. He was said to be full of mirth and fun and always entered into the festivities with as much zeal as any of the younger men.

William Marshall was the first County Treasurer, but resigned on December 1, 1823. He was the first Tax Assessor and received three dollars for making the first assessment of the county. He also served as a Representative from Marion County in the General Assembly from 1830 to 1834. He lived in Tonti Township until about 1838. He sold his land and moved to what is now Carrigan Township, where he lived out his life.

John Eddington came to Tonti Township in 1823 and settled in Section 15 where he became one of the prominent farmers of the area. He was one of the early County Commissioners.

Next came Robert Nichols, who located in the northwest part of the Township in 1823. He improved his farm and resided there until his death in 1836.

From 1823 until 1827, there were no new families settling in Tonti Township.

In 1827 Thomas Allmon, a native of Tennessee, came to Tonti Township and settled in Section 14. Five years later, in 1832, he entered this land. He was to become one of the most prominent men to live in the Township. Thomas Allmon was a blacksmith

by trade and was the first one in this part of the county. He was also a farmer of note and from him was derived the name of the Allmon peach. This peach was at one time thought to be a fine cling peach in this area. He was the founder of the Allmon family in this county. He died on December 1, 1855, at the age of 63. His wife Sarah died August 9, 1871. Both are buried in Allmon Cemetery.

Thomas Allmon's oldest son, David W. Allmon, married Eliza Ann Black, daughter of James Black, Jr., an early settler in Tonti Township. David W. Allmon entered the fifth tract of land in the Township -- the Southwest Quarter of Section 15. (This land is owned today by Mrs. Verna Black.) David W. Allmon built a cabin here and commenced farming. He continued to acquire land until he owned a large farm. He lived on this farm until his death. During the Blackhawk War, David Allmon was present during the fight at Kellogg's Grove, which is in what is now Ogle County.

David Allmon died in 1874 at the age of 62.

Hiram Allmon, born November 11, 1815, also a son of Thomas Allmon, located in Section 14 close to his father. He married Miss Emily Jane Black on October 19, 1837. They lived for many years in a log house until about 1862 when he built a colonial style house on what is now Illinois Route 37, about 3/4 of a mile east of Boring Cemetery. Hiram Allmon died January 11, 1873, and is buried in Allmon Cemetery. His wife, Emily, followed him in death on March 15, 1882. She is also buried in Allmon Cemetery.

Ross Jones came to Illinois from Tennessee and in 1828 settled in Tonti Township on Section 36. He lived here until around 1830 when he sold out and moved north into Foster Township.

John Davidson came to Tonti Township in 1828 and settled in the Southwest part of the Township where he lived for many years. He later moved to what is now Carrigan Township, where he died.

By 1829 the Township was still very sparsely settled. In fact, only seven families lived in the Township by the end of 1828. It is recorded that about this time in Salem, the county east, wolves howled through the streets at night; and the scream of the panther could be heard in the surrounding woods.

The seven families living here at the close of 1828 were the widow Pursley, William Marshall, Thomas Allmon, John Eddington, Ross Jones, John Davidson, and Robert Nichols.

Britton Smith came to Tonti Township in 1829. He was a driver on the Vincennes to St. Louis stage coach line. He later married and settled in Section 5, where he died.

Israel Jennings, Jr., whose father was one of the early residents of the Walnut Hill area, entered the West Half of the Northwest Quarter, Section 31, in 1831. He improved a farm here, living on it until his

death. This land today is owned by Robert Elwell.

James Black, Jr., a native of Maryland, came to Illinois from Kentucky in 1827 and settled around Huey in Clinton County. He moved to Tonti in 1831 and settled on Section 17. In August of 1831 he entered eighty acres where his cabin stood, and the following year he put up a horse mill which he continued to operate until his death. One of the great stone burrs used in the horse mill is still in the Black family.

In addition to being a miller, James Black, Jr., was also a blacksmith and carpenter. He and his wife, Rachel, raised a family of ten children. James Black, Jr., died in the fall of 1834. His wife Rachel died about 1851.

Robert K. Black, a son of James Black, Jr., ran the Black horse mill for many years after his father's death. Robert K. Black was born April 20, 1810, and died August 10, 1896. His wife Anna was born August 5, 1818, and died May 25, 1896. Both are buried in Allmon Cemetery.

Charles Purcell, a native of Tennessee, came to Tonti Township in 1832 and the following year settled on Section 2 where he improved a farm that he afterwards entered. He resided here until his death in 1846.

Lemuel Ballance came to Tonti Township in the year 1836 and entered 40 acres in Section 33 in the spring of that year. He later improved a farm in Section 17 where he lived out his life.

John P. French came to Tonti Township in 1838 from St. Clair County. He lived in the Township until 1855 when he moved to Alma Township.

The year 1840 saw several families settling in Tonti Township. One of the first was J. D. Gray. He filled the office of Justice of the Peace for several years. He was also a minister of the Methodist Church.

In the spring of 1840, Joshua Woodard (Woodward) came to Tonti Township from Ohio and settled in Section 28. He lived here a short time, then moved back to Ohio. His son Charles Woodward stayed on the farm. He also served as Tonti Postmaster from June 8, 1886 to March 27, 1888. His son William was then appointed Postmaster at Tonti and served until July, 1889. In December of 1889, Jay Woodward was appointed postmaster, a job he held until November of 1898.

Also in 1840, Jesse Ray and his wife Helen came to Tonti Township in a covered wagon from Warsaw, Indiana. Mr. Ray had secured from the federal government land near Salem. He entered several hundred acres in Tonti Township. (The Cope Farm is a portion of the Government Grant date November 14, 1840.)

In May of 1847 Jesse Ray reported for duty with Company "C" 6th Regiment Illinois, for service in the Mexican war. The Company went from Salem to Alton to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. They left Fort

Leavenworth on July 9, 1847 in a wagon train bound for Santa Fe, New Mexico. Their route led across what was then known as the "Great American Desert". They were often without water; most food had to be found by their hunters; and their only fire was made with dried "buffalo chips". Jesse Ray took scurvy and was mustered out of service at Las Vegas, New Mexico, on the 9th day of June, 1848. He recovered and returned home.

As compensation for his military service, he received a government warrant for 160 acres, dated May 28, 1849 at Vandalia, Illinois. He took this land adjoining his previous holdings in Tonti Township. This land includes the farms now owned by two of his great-grandchildren, Loren V. Cope and Margaret C. and her husband, Clyde Smith.

The road in front of the Ray home was once used by cattle men and soon the Ray home became well-known as a place of hospitality, and many a cattle man rode late to stay with the Ray's overnight.

First Church

1834 -- A John Wright from St. Clair County. The religious was held in home of Morgan Nichols. The church was organized by Rev. Nathan Arnot, and Rev. W. F. Boyakin became the pastor. The burning of a log school house deprived them of their meeting place for a time. In 1838 Rev. William Steel was pastor, and Rev. M. Bailey in 1843. Reverends I. A. Dale, and J. R. Ford have each served this church for several years. Among the pastors are also the names of Rev. J. C. Carter, J. M. Bennet, S. W. Derickson and G. P. Hanks. Marshall Creek Baptist Church organized in 1835.

Cabbage Chapel Methodist Church

Prior to the building of the Cabbage Chapel in Tonti Township, there was a clan of Methodists who held Sunday School and preaching services at the Woodard School. In the spring of 1878 the school-house was burned, and then it was that the people of the vicinity conceived the idea of building a church. There being a number of Southern Methodists to the north of this territory, it was decided to build a Union Church.

During the following winter of 1878-1879, a committee was selected to obtain pledges of money and material. Traveling mostly by sled, Mrs. Matt Woodard, Mrs. Sarah Davidson, Mrs. Jennie McGlumphy, Mrs. Lizzie Scott, and Mrs. Rachel Clayton went throughout the community seeking solicitations for the church construction. In the spring of 1879 the site was selected, and William J. Davidson donated an acre of land, the present site of the church. Mr. Hiram Somerville donated and laid the foundation. Mrs. Judith Black and her sons, Charles and Rennick, donated most of the timber for the frame of the building. The sills for the foundation were hewn in the timber, and logs were cut and hauled to the sawmill for the frame. This was all

done with labor donated by the people of the community. A Mr. Logan from Odin was the main carpenter in the church construction, driving a team of small black mules hitched to a light spring wagon to and from the construction site.

The church was finished and dedicated in June, 1880, by the Reverend John Phillips of Salem and was named Cabbage Chapel. It was named after the first minister to hold services in the new church. Mr. Cabbage was a local preacher who lived on the place which is now the oil field south of Tonti. For a number of years the Northern Methodist class was on the Odin Circuit and the Southern Methodist on the Patoka Circuit.

Church picnics, homecomings and ice cream socials have added to the many pleasant memories of Cabbage Chapel. In recent years extensive interior remodeling has been made on the church building.

Some of the families most prominent in the building and the success of the church were: the family of Charles Scott, who was the leader of the wives of William and John McGlumphy; William, Joseph and J. H. Scott; the Davidsons, the Woodards, the Blacks, Somervilles, Grays, Hines and Smiths. Then followed the coming of the Claytons, Groffs, Hollenbecks, Renfros, Fletchers, as well as others. Many of these families have members buried in the cemetery adjoining the church.

The descendants of these early pioneers and others who have more recently moved into the community, as well as those who will later come, will long appreciate the effort of the builders of Cabbage Chapel in establishing a place in the community where they could join together in worshipping God.

(Taken from book published by Continental Historical Bureau of Mt. Vernon, Illinois -- about 1961)

How Times Have Changed

By Charlie Bundy

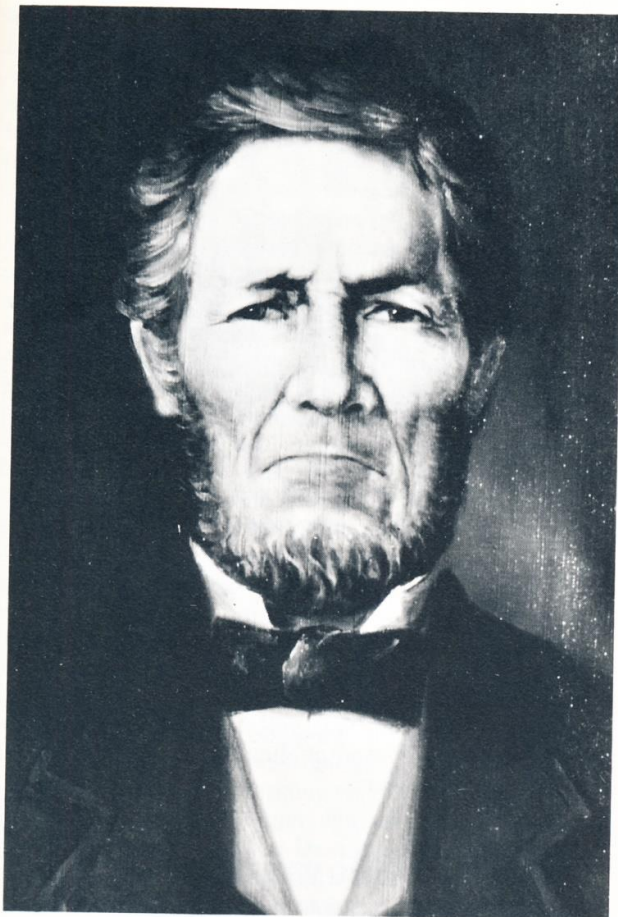
SALEM -- A traveler today would probably storm out of a hotel lobby if he were informed that the rate for parking his car would be four times the amount charged for his own lodging.

But the going rate for lodging in the 1820's at the old Tully Tavern and Stagecoach Inn in Salem was 12-1/2 cents. Meanwhile, the charge for keeping a horse all night was 50 cents.

The inn was built by Mark Tully in 1821 or 1822 at a site that is now the 300 block of East Main Street.

A historical plaque was dedicated at the site where the old stagecoach inn was once located during special ceremonies.

The site of the building is now the parking area of a newly constructed supermarket. The inn was probably razed shortly after the turn of the century.



Mark Tully was one of the founders of Salem.

The stage inn was the second building constructed in Salem, the first being a log dwelling house in 1820, according to historical accounts.

In June, 1826, Mark Tully and Rufus Ricker gave 30 acres of land as the county seat "for the benefit of the said (Marion) County forever. The county commissioners at the time were John S. Davis, Leonard P. Piles and Benjamin Vermillion.

Marion County had been created by an act of the legislature in 1823.

It was in the 1820's that the county commissioners fixed the prices for services at a public place, including the Tully Tavern.

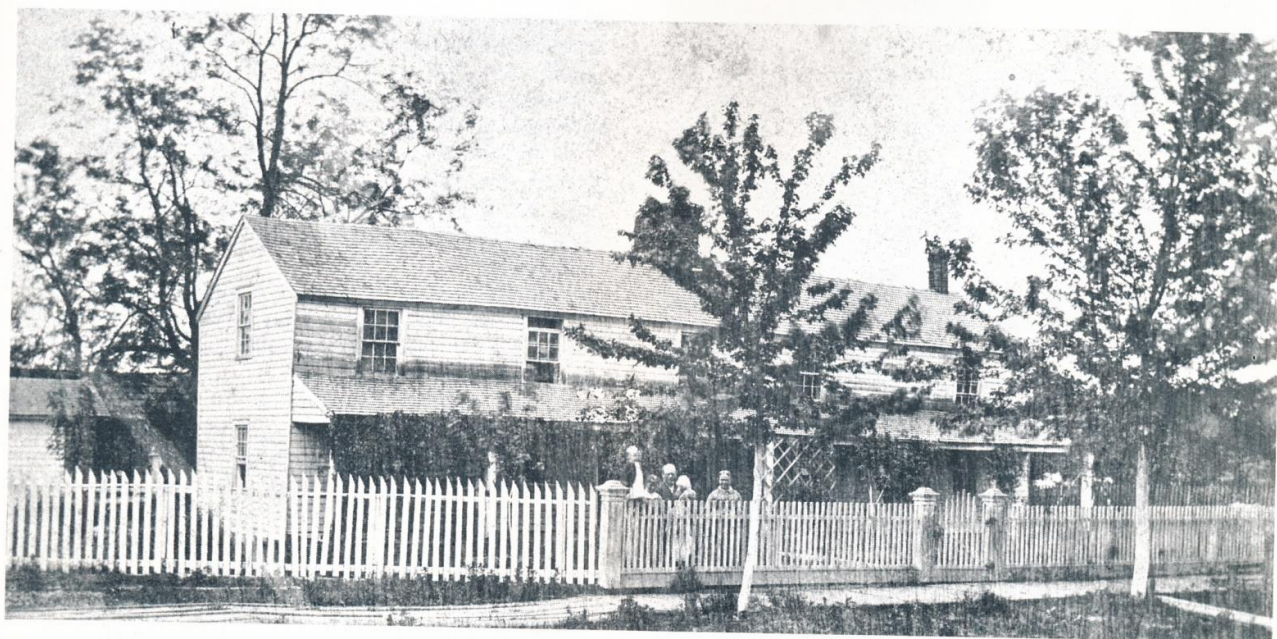
While the price set for keeping horses may have seemed a bit high, some of the other prices were probably inviting to the traveler.

For example: "Whisky, half-pint, twelve and a half cents; rum, twenty-five cents; each meal, twenty-five cents."

The Tully Tavern was strategically located between Fort Vincennes and St. Louis on the Vincennes-St. Louis Trail. It was also a busy stop on the Shawneetown to Vandalia stagecoach route. Vandalia was then the capital of Illinois.

Mark Tully was born in 1791 at Harpers Ferry, Va. He was the second son of an Irish emigrant. He lived in Tennessee and Indiana before moving to what is now Salem in 1821. His wife was named Susannah.

Tully died in 1869. He is buried in East Lawn Cemetery. Tully held every county office except judge and was the second president (mayor) of the town board of Salem in 1856.



The old Tully Tavern and Stagecoach Inn as it appeared about 1880 is reproduced from a photograph. The foreground is a road which is now East Main Street.

Salem Herald-Advocate, et al

Few readers of the old hometown newspaper would ever guess of the terrible travail and high mortality rate which our early weekly editors faced. Papers were usually started for partisan purposes, and if the party (or even the candidate) lost, the paper generally died. If the editor left, or died, the paper often went with him. Advertisers, of the same party, were hard to find -- and usually didn't pay their bill. Presses and type were cheap, so it was not uncommon for a small county seat to have three newspapers; all dying from the close in-fighting. The Salem Advocate and its many Merritts is a good example. John W. and his son, John H. Merritt came from the Belleville Advocate in 1851 to start a Democratic paper against the Whig American Eagle in Salem. Histories disagree on which was first, but the Eagle was printed on a wood press hauled from Olney. In 1856 the Advocate was sold and the owner moved the press to the new town of Centralia where he became the third newspaper to



The girl is Mattie Hall

go broke. By 1858, the Merritts had the Democratic fever again, and John W., Edward L., and Joseph D. restarted the Advocate; admitting Richard F. Long as a partner in 1860. The paper prospered even though referred to as "the disloyal press," and in 1865 Louis V. Taft purchased it. Ten years later he made the mistake of publishing twice weekly and the expense ruined the paper in 1876. The Industrial Advocate had been competing with him for two years, and so had a third Democratic paper by an irate editor of the I.A. -- called the Industrial (not to mention a raft of other Republican papers which floated through town). These three Democratic papers just didn't seem to be bringing Salem the message, so John H. Merritt started another Democratic paper, The Marion County Herald (1876), with T. B. Pyles. In 1880, the Herald purchased the I.A. and became the Salem Herald-Advocate which the young lady pictured attests to be a "live local newspaper" specializing in "fancy job printing." The Industrial moved to Kinmundy for 26 weeks in 1879 after changing its politics, but returned to Salem in October with the new name, Marion County Republican. This paper still survives, and many old timers will remember editor J. C. Utterback. C. E. Hull was editor of the Herald-Advocate; it finally ceased publication about the time of the First World War.

Borden's Showcase Farm an 'Oasis of Elegance'

by Judith Phelps

TONTI -- Few oldtimers remember the days when private railroad cars were pulled to the siding at Tonti and lavishly dressed men and women disembarked in gilded coaches for the H. Lee Borden farm, a showplace, if there ever was one, in Marion County.

Entertainment at the Borden farm, which comprised 964 acres three miles northwest of Tonti, was conducted on a grand scale. Salem historian Jean McMackin described the farm as an "oasis of elegance."

Henry Lee Borden was the bachelor son of Gail Borden, the Chicago condensed milk magnate, when he married a widow and legally adopted her two sons, Bert and Allen.

It was in 1884 that H. Lee Borden acquired the acreage by foreclosure and sent his brother-in-law to organize and develop the land in Marion County.

Borden came down from Chicago, became interested and managed to buy up additional acreage. He was a wealthy man and intended to make the farm the epitome of gracious rural life.

Alfred Jet was hired as head carpenter and placed in charge of building the 22-room mansion and all the farm outbuildings. The home was built entirely of soft pine which today would cost well over \$60,000.



A front view, undated, of the Borden's dream home, shows two wire fences and may have been taken shortly before it burned in 1920.

A whole cluster of fine buildings was constructed nearby -- barns and other structures to house Borden's assortment of prize polled Durham cattle, registered horses, sheep, hogs and poultry. There was also a pigeon house, and quarters for peacocks, Belgian rabbits and collie dogs.

As many as 30 hired hands lived on the Borden farm, families in tenant houses and single men in bunkhouse quarters. Employees of the Bordens were treated as a big family and not considered "servants" in any way, Mrs. Roland Davidson of Salem recalls. She and her two older sisters at one time were employed in the Borden household.

A much-repeated story of Borden's love for animals is remembered from the early days when one of his prize horses was cavorting around and, failing to see a wire fence, ran into it, flipped over and broke its back.

Borden ordered all wire fences removed and replaced with whitewashed pine. This land was kept mowed as if the farm were a city park.

Borden enjoyed helping people and it is told he hired children to pull weeds by hand from the surrounding meadows just to give their families additional income.

The land was built up by trainloads of manure shipped down from the Chicago stockyards, and farmers of the area would be hired at 50 cents a load to haul it in their wagons from the Tonti station to the farm.

A full-time carpenter, painter and gardener were on the staff, plus many regular and part-time farm hands to maintain the farm. Borden was known as a generous man and a good employer. An article published several years ago in the Salem Times-Commoner recalled a story of the day when one of Borden's men asked to get off early so he could ride into town and pay the interest on his mortgage.

Borden, so the story goes, asked the man how

much the mortgage was for. Eight-hundred dollars, his employee told him. Whereupon, Borden wrote the man a check for \$800 and gave it to him, along with the admonition he should never mortgage his property anymore.

The farm, which would be a millionaire's dream today, was simply a "place to rest" for the Borden family. They also had homes in Chicago and Connecticut and spent many months of the year vacationing at these homes. It has also been said the Bordens visited the Pope in Rome on several occasions.

Borden was an avid sportsman, and duck hunting was one of his favorite past times, though it ultimately cost him his life.

In 1904, while vacationing in California, it is said Borden had been duck hunting and his day's bag was put in an icebox which had not been properly iced. After eating the prepared duck he contracted botulism, an acute and lethal form of food poisoning, and died. In the early days, before the bacterium which caused it was identified, botulism was actually known as the "duck sickness."

Mrs. Borden continued to live at the farm several months out of the year following his death. Mrs. Davidson remembers the elegance of the interior of the grand home, especially a white Polar bear rug with wax teeth and tongue that lay on the floor of the front upstairs bedroom.

The bedroom was a mammoth thing, she recalled, and it reached "from one end of the house to the other."

There were immense fireplaces in the house and a dining room that stretched from the east to west end of the house. The dining room was elaborately decorated, the Bordens' hunting trophies primarily colorful ducks, were stuffed and placed about the room on little plaques.

The rugs were made of sheep's wool and had pink rosebuds woven into them, Mrs. Davidson remembered. The parlor, which was in the front of the house, was graced by a grand piano and an elaborate music box. The piano had to be covered during the winter months to keep it from crazing, for the only heat in the parlor came from a fireplace.

The Borden family was Catholic and attracted other Catholic families to the area because of the farm's employment. The farm was originally described as an experimental station for processing milk though it has not been learned whether the farm ever was productive other than being a lavish country estate.

The farm had its own generating device for supplying electricity to the house and barns at a time when few farmers had the service. The Borden farm was always "lit up like a Christmas tree and quite a splendid sight at night."

The Borden ice-house was well-stocked for the summers spent there by the family. It is said Borden had ice cut from Lake Michigan and shipped down by

railroad car to Tonti station. Ice was also bought locally in later years and Paul Sweney Jr. remembers his grandfather operating an ice service, cutting the ice in the winter from Rainey's Lake and packing it in sawdust to keep it for the summer.

Other local persons working on the Borden farm included Otis Davidson, who was a herdsman and showed the cattle in Detroit, Mich., Ben Davidson who helped farm the land; Cyrus Davidson, assistant carpenter; Jim Britton of Salem, who took care of the poultry, and Edgar Murdock, a full-time painter.

The farm also had gardens and a deer park, and many people came from miles around to view the place, some bringing their lunches and spending the day on the grounds.

Mrs. Borden and her two sons continued to spend most of the summers on the farm until fire destroyed the palatial mansion in 1920. It is believed the fire began in a laundry room in one of the wings of the big house. Mrs. Davidson recalled that several of the Borden employees wanted to go into the burning structure to try to save some of the valuable china, silver and other cherished possessions, but the Borden sons would not allow them to risk their lives.

Not long afterward, the farm was sold to the Zoller Brothers. Subsequently, in 1936, another fire burned 10 more of the farm buildings.

Most of the land which once comprised this lavish gentleman's estate is now owned by Warren Williams. Although the huge cisterns have been filled or covered, and the foundation mostly reduced to ground level, the yard of the home still cannot be cultivated, and is therefore preserved. Williams remembers the estate as a boy and enjoys reminiscing about the grandeur which once graced his farm.



Entrance to the H. Lee Borden Farm.

Produce of Marion County

By David B. Perrine

During several periods in its history Marion county has been one of the leading horticultural areas of the state of Illinois. This primacy was due not so much to outstanding natural advantages as to man-made circumstances. This chapter is a brief chronicle of those events.

The pioneers who came to the area were frontiersmen who frequently had not made plans for a permanent home. They were hunters and trappers who often moved on farther west. A few stayed. It was not until they had built permanent cabins that they thought of raising crops of any sort, and certainly not horticultural produce.

The second wave of settlers was homesteaders who were intending to become established. They brought work animals, tools, and seeds for their first crops. Some may have carried with them the plants for the first fruit gardens. It is reasonable to assume that these were to supply the family table with a bit of fresh fruit in season, and something to preserve for later use.

The east coast of our continent and adjacent river valleys had been settled for two hundred years at the time Marion County was being developed. A few nurseries in the east had a wide variety of plant material for sale. Herbs and flowers were exchanged from family to family, but fruit trees, other than seedlings, came largely from the nurseries. But even small trees took up considerable cart room, and few were brought in by the first settlers. Seeds could be carried in an apron pocket.

The immigrants' gardens were similar to those which their ancestors tended in Elizabethan England. Insects and diseases could only be controlled by constant attention. There were no chemical pesticides to tip the "balance of Nature" in the settlers' favor. Never the less with the building of railroads through the county in the fifties, markets were opened which could be supplied by farmers living near loading points. Such an opportunity was not overlooked, and by 1870 Centralia was widely known as a peach growing center. Such varieties as Troth's Early, Cooledge's Favorite, Yellow Red Rareripe, Crawford's Early, Crawford's Late, Old Mixon Free, Old Mixon Cling, Heath Cling, and Ward's Late were well known in that day, but none of them are in a commercial orchard today. Unfortunately, the pests increased as rapidly as the planting, and with no means of control available, the crops not lost to unfavorable weather in the winter and spring, were liable to destruction by insects and the rots and mildews through the summer and at harvest. Several days of rainy weather at picking time put the crop in jeopardy.

As pests and losses increased peach production declined, growers sought a substitute cash crop. The strawberry was the replacement. Indeed, it had some advantages over the peach. A patch could be brought into production in one year. It took four in peaches. Strawberry crops were not lost to winter cold provided the plants were properly mulched, and being largely a new crop for the region, the pests which preyed upon it had no accumulated. At the end of the century the peach was out and the strawberry was in. Plantings were the heaviest in the portion of

the county served by the "Chicago branch" of the Illinois Central Railroad. Centralia was a major loading point.

Local help was insufficient for harvesting, and itinerant workers came north as the picking season progressed. This "army" of hoboos and bums arrived in the county as the berries matured and left promptly when the picking was poor. No housing was provided by the grower, except perhaps permission to sleep in the barn or an old shed, anything that offered a little shelter. Cooking was camp style out in the open air. The rough living was compensated by liberal pay. In the earlier years of the boom the piece rate was one cent per quart. Later it got as high as three cents. At this period regular farm hands got about fifty cents for a day of long, hard work. Making twice as much for a few hours of picking on a nice spring morning was not unattractive wages.

The Illinois Central yards were where the First National Bank now stands in Centralia. There, long lines of farm wagons queued up waiting for a turn to load the cases of berries into refrigerator cars for shipment to market. When shipments from Alma and other stations were added, a train load of berries rolled out of the county in a single day. (Trains were not as long then as they are now.)

Production increased beyond the market capacity and prices declined. Growers finding the crop no longer profitable, did not replant when the old patch was plowed up. In the Alma section melons became a cash crop with enough being grown that several car loads would be shipped per day. The "Alma Gem" melons were known throughout the Middle West. There was also limited planting of spring flowers and bulbs which never attained the proportions of the berry or melon deals.

The bloom faded from the strawberry business as rapidly as it had expanded and by the end of the first decade of the twentieth century it had been replaced by the sweet smell of apple and pear blossoms across the countryside. The Ben Davis apple and the Kieffer pear were the principal varieties.

During the era of the hobo help the permanent residents sometimes felt a bit uneasy about their temporary neighbors. One morning human hair and blood on the sidewalk of the main street corner in the little town of Centralia, gave evidence of a fearful struggle on the previous night. There was wild excitement and a search began immediately for those (or him) who had committed the foul deed (possibly murder). They were never brought to justice, because after several days of delicious apprehension in the community, two prominent citizens confessed. The blood had come from the slaughter house, and the hair from the barber shop.

Although apples and pears were never as universally planted as the strawberry, never the less during the early years of the present century they

became an important part of the agriculture of the county, with the railroads being the only access to the markets. This period saw the introduction of the first chemical controls for fruit pests. London Purple, Paris Green and Bordeaux mixture were among the first, followed by arsenate of lead and finely ground sulfur. In 1907 self-boiled lime and sulfur was invented for peaches followed closely by lime and sulfur solution. This last named fungicide offered the only control then known for San Jose scale. This insect would kill entire orchards if left unchecked.

The Kieffer pear was found to be remarkably tough and resistant to most pests, but the apple growers found that spraying and other good cultural practices had to be followed to raise marketable fruit. As a result the pears could be a small side line with a grain or dairy farmer, but the apple grower was often a specialist with expensive equipment. Local "buyers" assembled car loads of fruit which they factored to city wholesale merchants. The way the system was operated favored the handler. In years of good markets and high prices he would pay the farmer an agreed price, then he would resell the car load for as much more as he could get, the spread being his profit or handling commission. When the markets were low in the cities with no cash buyers, the handler simply consigned the car load to his city correspondent to be sold for whatever it might bring. From this sum the country loading point handler then deducted his fee, and the grower got the remainder (if any).

As chemicals to control fruit pests were improved, as well as the machines to apply them, the growers found that the peach could be grown successfully.

In addition to better cultural methods, a great, new variety had been found in Georgia. This was the Elbera which spread rapidly over the country and into Marion county, where it was the dominant variety by the start of World War I. Some short crops in the country, coupled with war prices, chanced to find a few of the growers in the county with good crops which brought them quite handsome returns.

The post war peach planting boom, particularly in the midwest, could be compared to an epidemic. One of the focal points of the infection was Marion county. Doctors, dentists, merchants, bankers, lawyers, all got the peach fever, and each hurried to buy land for setting out a peach orchard, if he did not have some in the family that could be used for the purpose. Even the farmers got in the act, and by the late twenties Marion county had around two hundred thousand peach trees set in the ground, most of them of bearing age.

Since many of the orchards were small, owning mechanized sizing and grading equipment was almost out of scale with such an enterprise. Other growers did not want to undertake the harvesting and packing of such a perishable crop, or simply

could not take the time off from other business to supervise it. For these producers the co-operative packing shed established at Centralia performed the packing and selling service. This unit continued to operate as long as there was substantial acreage in the vicinity.

With the huge increase in the national production with the greatest change in the midwest, prices did not hold up to war time levels. Unfavorable weather caused a few crop failures. In the year of 1931 every peach tree in the country set a full crop. Marion county was loaded. Since the entire production was Elberta probably a million bushels hit the markets at one time. A tremendous crop in the south, coupled with the economic depression had filled every available outlet with fruit which was going into consumption very slowly at bargain prices. The flood of peaches from Marion county made the already low market, a real disaster. Consigned fruit did not bring the freight charges, which the shipper then had to pay. It was bitter medicine, but it cured the peach fever.

Prices bumped along at low levels for several seasons and some crops were missed due to freezes. The doctors went back to their pill prescriptions, dentists to pulling teeth, the shoe maker to his last, and the farmers returned to corn, soy beans and wheat. A few set out new strawberry patches. The second peach boom in the history of Marion county left many people wiser, but no richer than when it began.

The interval from the great depression to World War II saw the more or less complete elimination of tree fruits as a sideline farm enterprise. For those who remained as fruit growers it was a full time occupation. The national highway network had placed almost every farmer on a road to his market. Pricing between areas was more and more competitive. Each section had to exist strictly on its merits, not merely because it had transportation. The second war saw prices "fixed" by government control. Prices rose very slowly after the war, but wages rose rapidly. Labor saving machinery was developed to replace labor in general agriculture, but little could be done to relieve the intense labor requirements of the fruit grower. Farm prices fell below war levels, but wages continued to rise. To meet this situation the fruit grower has had to be resourceful.

The shift has been to smaller orchards but with more varieties of fruit. This is not packed for the wholesale market. Instead, the fruit is usually picked by the consumer into his own containers, women and children often doing the picking. By this method the farmer saves the expense of harvest labor and packaging. The consumer gets a tree fresh product below supermarket prices. A further innovation has been the introduction of dwarfed trees. These fit into the family type of orchard operation well, and also

make picking easier for the customer.

Whether the smaller trees will bring about a revival of large commercial orchards is a matter of conjecture, but with Marion county having soils and climate that can produce an excellent product, it is safe to predict the "neighborhood orchards" will continue to be one of the assets of the area.

History of Marion County Soldiers' & Sailors' Reunion

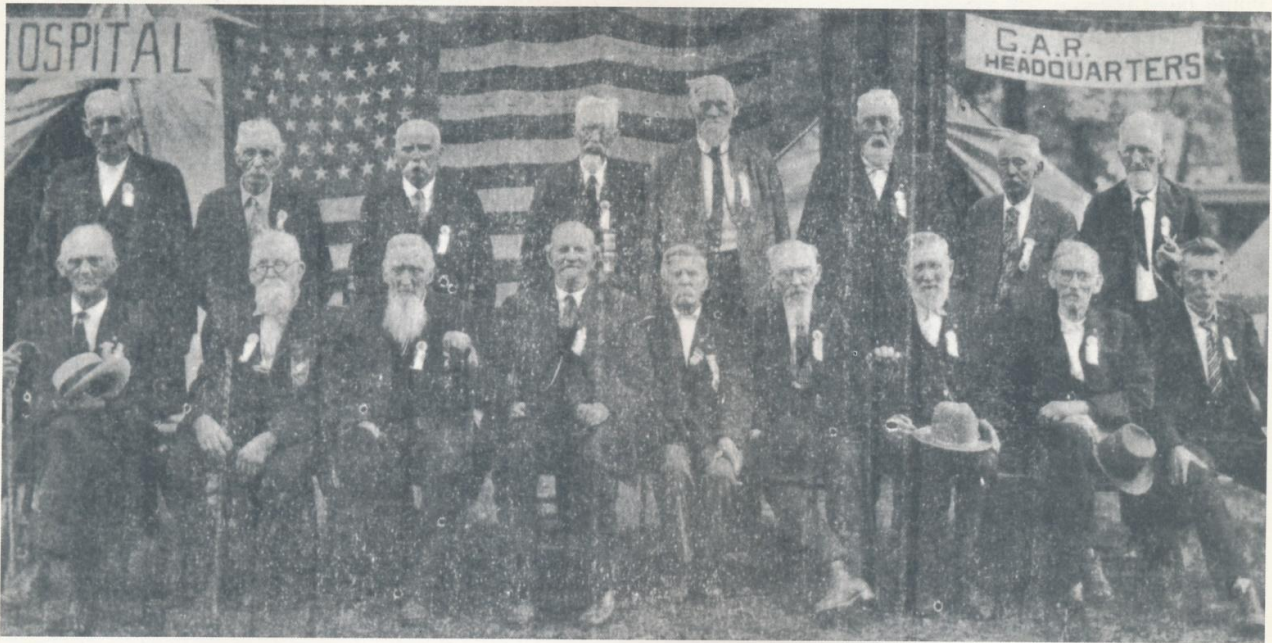
On August 8, 1884, the John S. Chandler Post 102 of the Grand Army of the Republic met in regular session with its Commander William Houchen in the chair and Adjutant J. Pyles in attendance. At this meeting and according to the minutes . . . "after some talk as to holding a reunion it was decided the Adjutant correspond with the other Posts of the GAR in the County thereto." At the next meeting August 17, 1884 and according to the Posts records a Committee . . . "to confer with the Posts in regard to holding a reunion" was appointed; the first Reunion Committee was appointed by William Houchen, Commander of the Salem GAR Post No. 102 and thus was born on August 17, 1884, the Marion County Soldiers' and Sailors' Reunion.

The first General Chairman was John Smith and his Executive Committee was David Shultz and J. Pyles. The Quartermaster, who was the same John Smith as above was instructed to collect "ten cents" from each member (there were 28) to defray the expenses to Kinmundy, Illinois.

So the first Marion County Soldiers' & Sailors' Reunion was held in Kinmundy, but it was the initiation and instigation of the Salem Post 102 of the Grand Army of the Republic that the Reunion for Soldiers, Sailors and Marines who had served their Country in both Peace and War came into existence over 85 years ago and has become a consecutive annual event never changing its purpose to provide the Marion County Illinois Veterans with a means of having a yearly reunion with his Comrades at Arms.

"The Reunion" as it has been known almost since its inception, has been held all over Marion County, but the records reveal that the Salem GAR held a firm hand on its appointed officials until about 1921, when the aging Comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic turned the management over to the Salem Commercial Club. But with the exception of the first committee when Commander William Houchen, back in 1884, named his Quartermaster John Smith as General Chairman, the records of the Salem GAR Post show the elected Post Commander was always the General Chairman, even under the Salem Commercial Club.

In 1927 the management of the Reunion was placed under the jurisdiction of the Luther B. Easley Post 128, The American Legion, Salem, Illinois, with Earl W. Merritt appointed as General



Marion County Soldiers' and Sailors' Reunion, 1927 Civil War Vets.

Chairman. He was succeeded by Omar J. McMackin who handed the badge of authority in 1956 to Frederick E. Merritt, who is still the present General Chairman.

During the World War II period Allen B. Compton was appointed General Chairman to hold token one day Reunions so that the continuity of the affair and celebration would not be broken. Old Settlers Day, a separate county celebration, was combined with

the Reunion in 1927 and has been an integral part of same ever since.

Hulls Grove, now "Bryan Memorial Park" at the north edge of Salem, named after its famous native son, the Great Commoner William Jennings Bryan, was "Reunion Grounds." The eighty-eight acres concerned came into being as the Reunion Grounds and a part of the City of Salem's Park System through the wishes of the late Senator Charles

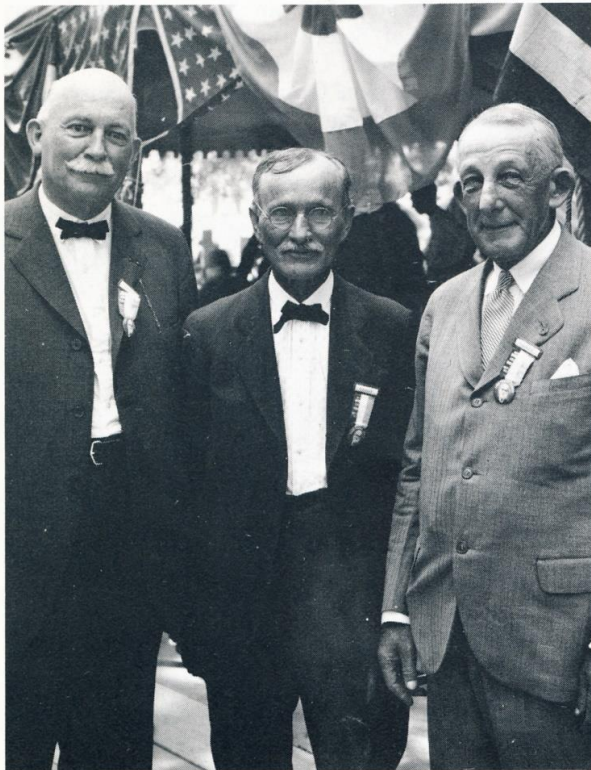


At the amphitheater in the park 1930.



Legion Day Parade July 31, 1930.

Hull and a succeeding purchaser who gave the Grove to the City of Salem on April 25, 1928 under the administration of the late Mayor Joseph Schwartz.



The Marion County Reunion 1930, Charles Bryan, Governor of Nebraska; Mayor Joseph Schwartz, and Gov. L. Emerson of Illinois.

Hopkins Poor Farm

Cyril G. Hopkins, born July 22, 1866 on a farm near Chatfield, Minn., graduated from South Dakota Agricultural College at Brookings, S. Dak. in 1890. He earned his Master's Degree at Cornell University in 1894 and his Doctor's Degree in 1898. In 1899 he studied agricultural chemistry at Gottingen, Germany. He taught at South Dakota Agricultural College and Cornell University before coming to the University of Illinois in 1894.

Mr. Hopkins was appointed head of the Department of Agronomy of the University of Illinois in 1900. He held this position until his death. He died at the British Military Hospital at Gibraltar on October 6, 1919. He was on his way home after a stay in Greece, where he had helped that country to rejuvenate their agriculture. For his work in Greece he was given the decoration of The Order Of Our Savior by the King of Greece.

At memorial exercises held at the University of Illinois on January 22, 1920 Dr. Eugene Davenport, Dean of the College of Agriculture said that the death of Cyril George Hopkins, "closed the career of one of the noblest characters the world has ever known. A scientist of the highest order and a benefactor to mankind, a firm friend and a courteous Christian gentleman.

Dr. Hopkins believed that poor land could be built up so that it would yield larger crops. So firm was he in this conviction that the poorest land could be made to yield large and profitable crops that he hunted out the most barren piece of land in the state that he could find. A farm in Marion County, Tonti Township, Illinois which had been abandoned for five years. He purchased

this farm and named it "Poorland Farm." He made the statement that he would make his farm produce yields equal to those in the corn belt. Ten years later his farm produced 35 bushels of wheat to the acre and it was after this that he wrote one of his greatest papers entitled "Bread From Stones" in 1913.

This large yield was made possible by application of raw rock phosphate from Tennessee and limestone from Illinois. He later produced yields of 50 bushels of wheat per acre.

It was not just what Dr. Hopkins did on the Poorland Farm that was of value, but rather that he had shown others the possibilities. This was the beginning of modern agriculture as we know it today.

He did this at great expense to himself, refusing all outside help. When neighbors offered to sell him barnyard manure, he refused saying he was not going to develop the Poorland Farm at the expense of neighboring farms. He also stated that he wanted to do nothing on the Poorland Farm in building up the soil that could not be done on any farm in the area.

It was said of Dr. Hopkins at his death that he met Governors and Kings exactly as he would meet a forty-acre farmer on his farm in Southern Illinois.

Judge Silas Bryan Led Distinguished Career In Salem

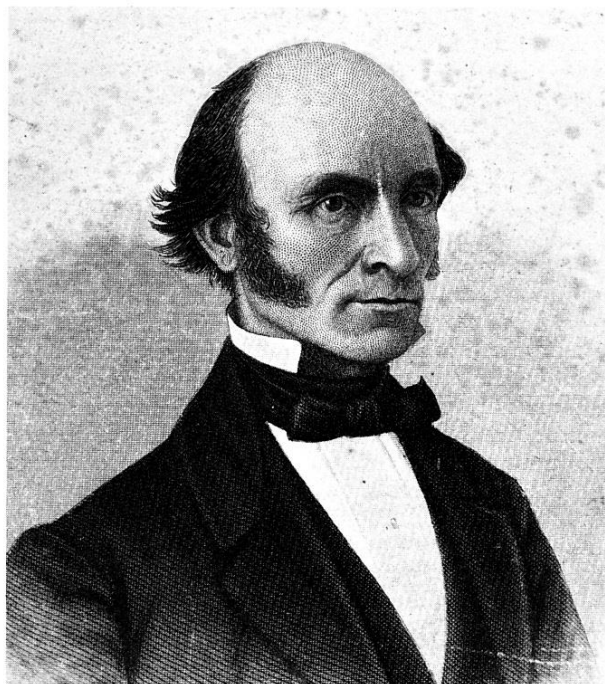
Additional historical data concerning Judge Silas Bryan has been provided by Frank Hicks, Salem historian, who said that Judge Bryan was outstanding as a devout Christian.

Three times a day, Hicks said, Judge Bryan prayed, and no matter where he was, whether on the bench or in the street, Judge Bryan would kneel in silent prayer. His devout attitude in all probability contributed much to the character of William Jennings Bryan, who became one of this nation's foremost Christian leaders, as well as one of the nation's great orators and statesmen.

Judge Bryan was born in Culpepper County, Virginia, November 4, 1822. His parents were John and Nancy Lillard Bryan. His father was of Irish and his mother of English extraction. Both the Bryan and Lillard families were numerous in the eastern part of Virginia. They were Baptists in religious sentiment and Democrats in politics.

Both families were distinguished for the love of Democratic institutions, for their devotions to the industries of life, for their desire to educate their children, and for their zeal as Christians.

The mother of Judge Bryan was a remarkable woman, abundant in resources. The judge was a representative of her in personal appearance and



Judge Silas L. Bryan

inherited from her a large share of talent and his most prominent traits of character. His mother died when he was nine years old. His father died three years later.

Silas Bryan remained in Virginia until 1840, when he came west. For a year and a half he lived with a brother near Troy, in Lincoln County, Missouri. In 1841 he came to Marion County, and made his home with a married sister, Mrs. Nancy A. Baltzell, whose culture and influence greatly assisted him.

He attended school, alternating it with farming until he thought himself competent to teach. He continued teaching and studied law until he was admitted to practice in 1851.

In 1850, he was elected school superintendent of Marion County, which position he held for two years. In 1852 he was elected to the State Senate and in 1856 reelected to the same office. In 1861 he was elected judge of the circuit court of the second judicial district, and in 1867 was reelected.

No man, perhaps, in the state enjoyed a higher reputation as a judicial officer than he. In 1869 he was chosen as a delegate to the constitutional convention, and took an active part in the formation of the present constitution of Illinois.

About the time of his election to the judgeship, he commenced the improving of a home on a farm near Salem and succeeded in making it one of the most tasteful homesteads in southern Illinois. He displayed excellent judgment in improving breeds of domestic animals.

A deer park was added to the charms of his farm. In various relations of life, private and public,

he had well-defined convictions of duty and a strong sense of natural justice between man and man. He was a strong professor of religion and willingly bore testimony of his faith. He was for more than a quarter of a century a leader in the great work of universal education.

Some of his published speeches have long been regarded with admiration by the friends of true culture and have evidenced an earnestness and devotion to the cause which placed him in the front ranks as an educator.

As a lawyer, his powers in the courts, and before juries, was equalled by few. This power was due to his being true to principle, true to manhood, and the interests of society.

As a Christian, he did much to place before men the great truths of moral law.

He was married to Mariah E. Jennings, a native of Illinois, November 4, 1852. Nine children were born, three of whom died in infancy. Judge Bryan died after a painful illness of several months, on March 30, 1880. In his death the country lost an ardent lover of Democratic institutions, the state a distinguished educator, the county an honored citizen, his neighbors a faithful friend, his wife an affectionate husband, and his children a devoted father.

Cousins Of W. J. Recall Memories Of Bryan Family

Mrs. Floyd Cain remembers the thrill she had as a little girl when the man she thought was going to be the next President of the United States held her on his knee.

Both she and William Jennings Bryan were disappointed later when he failed, for the third time, to win the Presidency.

Mrs. Cain, formerly of Salem and Centralia and now living in Sandoval, is one of only two close relatives of Mr. Bryan still living in Marion County. She and Mrs. Gus Langenfeld of Centralia are cousins, first removed, of the Great Commoner.

Mrs. Cain's father was Addis M. Bryan, the son of Andrew Russell Bryan. "Uncle Russ" and Judge Silas Bryan, W. J.'s father, were brothers and had moved to Marion County from Virginia as young men. Mrs. Langenfeld's mother, Mrs. Emma Bryan Shepherd, was a daughter of Russell Bryan.

Russell Bryan married a daughter of Mark Tully, who is considered the founder of Salem. It was Tully who donated the ground on which the courthouse stands.

Mrs. Cain says her earliest recollection of William



Bryan Presidential Campaign '96. In front of "Cousin" Molly Webster's home -- North Franklin Ave. in 1896 a gathering of the clan, mostly local, honoring the Presidential Candidate. Standing left to right: Blanche Bryan Patterson, Jennie Bryan, Alice Bryan Keip, Julius Keip, Frances Mariah Bryan Baird, W. J. B., Nancy Lillard Bryan, Emma Bryan Shepherd, Anna Bryan Torrence, Mary Bryan, Mollie Webster, Josephine Bryan, Mamie Allen (w of Lee), Olive Webster. Seated left to right: James Baird, P. Patterson, Andrew "Andy" Bryan, Georgia Bryan, Lesta Bryan, Ruby Langenfeld, A. Russell Bryan (Uncle Russ), . . . , William E. Bryan, Laura Millson Martin, . . . , Lee Webster, Ed. Bryan. Identifications Mrs. Lucy Bryan Cain, owner of picture, and Jean McMackin.

Jennings Bryan was when she and her family were living in Van Buren, Ark. Mr. Bryan was speaking there during the 1908 Presidential campaign and before making his address, stopped to visit with the family.

She still treasures a congratulatory message Mr. Bryan sent her upon her graduation from high school.

Mrs. Cain's mother, Mrs. Addis Bryan, now lives in Fort Worth, Texas. She is a close friend of Mr. Bryan's sister, Mrs. Mary (T. S.) Allen, of Lincoln, Neb.

In a letter to Mrs. Cain, Mrs. Bryan had this to say about her recollections of the Bryan family: "Mamie Allen was the youngest daughter and my friend. I used to go out quite often and spend Friday nights with her. We were called on Saturday morning in time to dress and come down for family prayer before breakfast.

"I remember Uncle Silas telling a Negro man who helped on the farm and lived in a house on the



Boyhood home of William Jennings Bryan.

place not to say anything about some meat being taken from the meat house as he and himself were the only ones who knew anything about the meat being stolen.

"In my childhood days I thought Uncle Silas was 'Yankee Doodle' as he came past our house on the way to town on a small, spotted white horse, dressed in a frocked coat and wearing a stovepipe hat, and his feet almost touching the ground. He was a very tall and slim man. Aunt Elizabeth was also very tall and slender, and very precise.

"There were five children: W. J., Fannie, Nannie, (who died in her teens), Charles and Mamie.

"They kept deer in a pasture on the farm and we always enjoyed watching them."

The other Bryan cousin Mrs. Langefeld, has written us the following:

We children had a wonderful time at those gatherings of the Bryan clan, despite the fact that we were always quite sure there would not be enough

chicken for the second table. Somehow our interest in games would begin to lag at mealtime and we would peek into the dining room where the adults were feasting, with loads of food on the table centered by mountains of fried chicken. Each Auntie was a famous Salem cook, and each did her best to excel. W. J. like all the rest of the Bryans, was a hearty eater, and it seemed they were never going to push back their chairs.

Of course W. J. always chatted a few minutes with the children, but the adults of the family, and friends who would call received most of his attention. I don't believe the old saying about a "prophet in his own country is without honor," held true in his case. I think everyone recognized his brilliant mind, even if they didn't always agree with him on National issues.

He was a deeply religious man and I remember the family felt his emotions were so deeply involved in the famous Skopes case, that it caused his death. As I recall the history of the Bryans as subject to high blood-pressure and strokes, and the terrific heat at the time of the trial, it no doubt did hasten his end.

His brother Charles, or "Charlie" as he was known, came with him to Salem sometimes, for he was W. J.'s business manager. This allowed the latter to concentrate his thoughts on his speeches and political activities. Perhaps few people realize, because he was over-shadowed by W. J., that Charlie Bryan was a prominent man in his own right. He served at two different times as governor of Nebraska. He had a charming personality, less aggressive than W. J., not as silver-tongued, but well liked.

I seem to remember pleasant talks with W. J.'s sister, Fanny, in later years, when we were both visiting at the home of my Aunt Joe and Uncle Ed Bryan. He also had a sister, Mamie, whom I recall as quite a pretty woman, but she didn't get back to Salem very often.

As time went on W. J.'s daughter, Ruth became the public speaker and stayed with us over night when she had speaking engagements in Centralia. She had been entertained by royalty and world figures, but she came into our home and settled in as though she had never known ceremony and pomp.

As we all know she was made the first woman minister from our country and was sent to the court at Copenhagen. There she met and married a man named Rhode, who was an officer in the Palace Guards. She loved Denmark and the Danish people and told me one time that she wished to be buried there with her husband's people. I suppose you remember she was on a visit to Denmark when she died.

Four years ago last September we were in Copenhagen and inquired at the desk in the hotel as to where her grave was located. They spoke enthus-

astically about her to us and called her "a beautiful lady." They suggested we call the Embassy for the information; which we did. They said she was buried at Ordrup a few miles north of Copenhagen. The desk clerk called an English speaking taxi-driver for us, who drove us to the cemetery. By a coincidence we found he was a school-mate of Ruth's husband and told us a little of him.

Ruth is buried in a beautiful well-kept, typical European cemetery, which I can't take the space to describe in detail. Just let me say that had we not had the help of the taxi driver we would never have found the grave. She had had acclaim and honors in her life-time, but had chosen an obscure, peaceful spot to rest in forever. It was in a section at the side, where flat graves, under low evergreen trees, are marked by field stones, with the names carved on them. No way of telling which way the grave extends. Next to her marker was another with the name of Herman Rhode carved on it. Our driver said that was Ruth's father-in-law. Flowers had been placed there, so the grave was not neglected, but just secluded as was her wish.

This probably marks the end of my knowledge of W. J.'s immediate family, for the rest I haven't kept track of.



William Jennings Bryan's birthplace, 1903.

Oilfield Major Mainstay For Area

By The Desk and Derrick
Club of Salem

While Salem is seeking the addition of new industries, existing ones are by no means overlooked or unappreciated -- and the oil industry, as a primary example, is no exception.

The great Salem oilfield, once the largest east of the Mississippi River, is expected to produce about 2,920,000 barrels of oil this year valued at \$10,220,000.

Companies directly involved in this industry are employing approximately 485 people -- and that makes the oil industry one of the community's most important in payroll alone, not to mention the dollars poured into the Salem area by the daily flow of black gold.

For example, the 8,000 barrels daily now being produced from the unitized Salem oilfield is valued at approximately \$3.50 per barrel, or \$28,000. Royalty owners, mostly original land owners who reside in this area, receive one-eighth of this amount, or approximately \$3,500 per day -- \$105,000 per month.

The Salem oilfield, operated by Texaco, has been decreasing annually in production, which is by water-flooding, and most of the operator's income now of about \$700,000 monthly is spent right here in the vicinity for supplies, well servicing, repairs, maintenance and other expenses.

The early history of oil in Marion county is not a matter of record, but exists as stories handed down from father to son. Tales are told of a spot near Glenridge where snow wouldn't stick, and of Big Four Mine corridors in the north part of Centralia, where miners waded oil as they mined the coal.

Near the turn of the century, as engineers cored for the Marion County Coal company at Glenridge, old timers say they struck a sand of the Pennsylvania series which flowed oil. Nearby residents made a well-beaten path to the workings to dip oil for use in starting fires at their homes, and mining machinery was lubricated with what was probably a high grade of crude. These seeps continued until the first oil well was drilled, which relieved underground pressure, it is said.

In 1908, oil men came into Marion county, leasing land in all directions of Centralia and Sandoval. The Marion County Coal and Gas company drilled a well on the Sherman farm, which had only a showing of oil. Then in 1909, a producer was drilled on the Stein farm north of Sandoval. The sand encountered was the Cypress, as that time named the "Stein," which name it still bears today in many Illinois fields. The well was 1,404 feet deep, and produced 50 barrels a day.

Activity increased, and in 1909 the Southwestern Oil and Gas company drilled on the Benoist farm, north of Sandoval. The well was drilled to a depth of 1,546 feet into a sandstone formation, which was named the "Benoist." Gas and oil sprayed the vicinity with such force that the dirt roads were closed to buggy traffic. This well yielded a peak of 200 barrels per day. Later on, oil was discovered on the Warfield farm in the same vicinity.

Over 100 wells were active in the Sandoval field at the height of production, and this field is still producing oil. Other companies drilling for oil here at the same time were the Burton Brothers Oil Co., E. R. Steiner and A. H. Gibson, the Ohio Oil company, and the Miller Oil company. In 1938, the Niagaran lime produced oil again on the Benoist

farm, just 1/4 mile from the discovery well.

In 1912, another oil discovery resulted in the development of a small field about six miles south of Sandoval on the Dykstra and Fyke farms. These wells produced for many years.

In 1922, an "oil boom" struck in the Wamac area. Oil was recovered from the shallow Petro sand at about 700 feet. Wells brought in averaged from 10 to 400 barrels daily and some are still producing.

A commemorative monument stands like a sentinel in the Salem oilfield.

Here is where it all began; here is the wheel of fortune that changed men's destinies overnight; here is where the surge to Little Egypt had its origin; here is where farmers suddenly forgot about farming and thought about OIL. Here is where THE BIG ONE CAME IN!

The plaque on the monument, which was donated by the Salem Lions club and presented to W. C. Kneale, of The Texas Company, in September, 1939, is inscribed:

**THE TEXAS COMPANY
NO. 1 TATE
THIS MONUMENT MARKS
THE SITE OF THE DISCOVERY WELL,
OPENING THE LAKE CENTRALIA-SALEM OIL
POOL
COMPLETED JUNE 21, 1938
PRESENTED TO:
THE TEXAS COMPANY
BY THE MEMBERS OF THE SALEM LIONS CLUB
IN THE NAME OF THE CITY OF SALEM,
ILLINOIS**

When the E. Tate No. 1 was discovered nearly 34 years ago, the oil men on location and others who heard about it throughout the nation, knew that it was an unparalleled find. It is doubtful, however, that anyone dreamed that beneath the ground, in an area adjacent to Salem and Centralia, lay millions of barrels of oil.

Bur, for a stroke of luck, the oil-rich pool could have been founded during the early depression era of the thirties when the Benoist brothers of Sandoval drilled three wells in the same vicinity as the discovery well, The Benoist, from which the Benoist sand got its name, had their first contact with oil in 1909 when a producing well of 200 barrels a day was brought in on their father's farm north of Sandoval.

In 1934 the brothers leased more than 5,000 acres of farmland in Salem and Raccoon township, and on the Sam Parker lease set up their cable tools and began drilling toward the Benoist sandstone. After drilling two holes without success, they tried to borrow money on a third well to drill it to a deeper depth. They were confident that the Benoist strata was present. (In the Sandoval field it lies at a depth of 1635.)

The bank they contacted felt that since the brothers had drilled 200 feet past the predicted Benoist

interval that they were wasting their time. Too, this was just prior to the "bank holiday" of the thirties, so banks were not lenient with loans. The Benoists were unable to complete their third well and shut down while drilling at 700 feet.

So, four years later, after their lease had expired, The Texas Company leased the land and set in motion the drilling operations that would set off an oil boom of unprecedented magnitude.

The big news was that a 17-foot, oil-saturated core had been taken from The Texas Company's test well on the 46-acre E. Meisenheimer Farm in Raccoon township of Marion county. Ironically, the well was drilled only 36 feet deeper than the Benoist brothers had drilled.

Drilling on this well, on acreage known as the E. Tate land, was commenced on June 2 by the contracting firm of Helmerich and Payne. After the core was taken from a depth of 1692-1709 feet in the Benoist sand, a drill stem was run about 5 p.m. on June 21, and the resulting flow of oil thoroughly soaked the crew.

In the words of W. C. "Windy" Kneale, who was then district superintendent of The Texas Company, June 21, 1938, was the day of days for memories and the first drill stem test on the Tate No. 1 an unforgettable experience.

His men had cored a saturated sand and elected to drill stem test -- an open ended test -- which was a mistake. The operator had trouble closing the tool and "here she came!" The oil flowed over the top of the derrick.

No one dreamed of such a well. It flowed for about an hour before the tool was successfully closed. Kneale then sent his geologist, Ken Chasey, and his own son, Jim, who was then ten years old, to Centralia for two Halliburton trucks to kill the well.

While it was flowing, word spread like wildfire and in a matter of minutes there were at least a hundred people at the well site. Ropes had to be put up at the location to keep the spectators at a safe distance. To them it was a miracle, but to Kneale, in his words, "I was far too concerned about fire and getting the well shut in to appreciate the true meaning of the No. 1 wildcatter in the state."

The crew immediately set casing to bring in the well, but a dispatch from company headquarters ordered them to pull the casing and test the McClosky formation. Electric log readings and samples taken from the McClosky showed this formation to be productive also.

The well, drilled with rotary tools to a depth of 1918 feet was subsequently plugged back to produce from the Benoist at 1728 feet, with initial production of 534 barrels of oil and no water in 12 hours, natural.

In January, 1938, The Texas Company had zero production in the state, but the No. 1 wildcat and the subsequent wells to be drilled would soon bring about many changes for The Texas Company, other major oil companies, and independent operators.

Not only would it bring changes to the companies and persons responsible for drilling and producing wells, but it would make vast differences in the social and economical structure of the County of Marion, State of Illinois, for many years to come.

The history of the development of the Salem oil field is limited in some respects; but the field, by its complexity and position as one of the nation's largest, offers invaluable source material.

Perhaps the best method to give the reader a background of what really happened, and when, is to review the events in chronological order.

The Time -- 1938

Leasing activity, which was begun in 1936 and 1937, reached an all-time high after the E. Tate well proved successful on June 21. Within a week after the well's discovery, heavy drilling activity was precipitated in the Salem pool. Royalty trading, at once, became active with several deals completed at \$50 to \$100 per acre for one-half of the land owner's one-eighth interest.

On June 29 the derrick from the E. Tate was dismantled and moved to an offset location, the H. F. Corbin No. 1. Completed on July 18, this well flowed 1078 barrels of oil in 16 hours from a Benoist depth of 1708 feet.

Subsequently, The Texas Company continued its push into the now so-called Texaco proper pool near Lake Centralia. First completions were the Tates Nos. 1 and 2, the H. F. Corbin, C. H. Reed, J. F. Canull and M. I. Williams. All were prolific producers.

Royalty prices soared as drilling continued and by the end of the year had reached a high of \$250 per acre.

In August, The Texas Company began construction of a private telephone line from the Salem field into Salem to connect with the Illinois Bell exchange, and finalize plans to establish a branch office in Salem. (Their headquarters at the time was in Mt. Vernon.) Construction of a pipeline from the rapidly expanding field to connect with the company's refinery at Lawrenceville was also begun.

The Ohio Oil Company commenced drilling on the R. L. Murray No. 1 on September 13, 1938. The company would subsequently drill 137 wells on four leases in the pool.

Shell began its operations on September 16 with the drilling of the Salem State Bank No. 1. The company, during the primary life of the field, drilled three leases and a total of 90 wells on 160 acres. Their peak production was approximately 50,000 barrels of oil per day.

In the Fall of 1938 the names of Magnolia, Kingwood, McBride, Tidewater, Superior, The Mammoth Company, and those of independent producers came into prominence. One of the first wells brought in by an independent was the Antioch School well.

The Tulsa World, in September, 1938, carried an oil story on Salem and its oilfield; and the Salem Re-

publican (now Times-Commoner) was headlined "Young School Well Blows in with Gas Pressures that Shoot 100 Feet into the Air." The well was located two miles north of Eddie Self's strike on the McRoberts lease and about 3/4 miles north of The Texas Company's discovery well. The school well, too, was a phenomenal find and flowed 600 barrels of oil into tanks on a one-inch choke. Immediately, Magnolia drilled the W. B. Young offset, and Shell offsetted to the west using a portable rotary rig.

In November, 1938, a city reservoir was added to the list of unusual well sites which, by now, included a school, church and cemetery. Permission was given by the mayor of Centralia to The Texas Company to drill a well in Lake Centralia, the city's source of water supply. It was the first well drilled under a body of water in Illinois.

The Time -- 1939

Fighting the worst weather in years (winter of 1938-39), operators moved cautiously, hampered by impassable roads and other adverse conditions.

Until now three formations were known to be productive, the Benoist, McClosky and Aux Vases. Early in 1939, the Devonian was found to be productive, by Kingwood, on the J. O. Shanafelt lease. Artificial stimulation with acid doubled the well's production from 1501 to 3420 barrels of oil daily.

The Texas Company then brought in Devonian producers E. E. Jett and Nellie Young, Magnolia the W. O. Chitwood, and Kingwood more wells on the Shanafelt lease. All were good producers. The three companies led the 1939 race for oil, with scattered activity by others.

To intensify the excitement over the Devonian strike was the question of the extent of the St. Louis lime, now known to be productive, following announcement that the Ladd Oil Company (Lewis, Armstrong and Day) had made a producer of the No. 2 Young Church in the St. Louis.

With the prospect toward deeper drilling, it seemed a safe bet that drilling crews and truckers would look forward to another winter of intense activity in fighting Illinois mud.

By December 1, 1939, the Salem oil pool was so greatly extended that it had become the second largest producer in the nation. Dr. M. M. Leighton, chief of the State Geological Survey, estimated that the total production for 1939 would reach 93,000,000 barrels. In actuality, the 1939 Illinois petroleum production was nearly three times as much as in the previous peak year of 1908 when the pools of Lawrence, Crawford and Clarke counties were at the height of their development, and nearly four times the state's 1938 yield of 24,000,000 barrels.

General sentiment by companies searching for oil was that drilling to the more shallow formations might continue for another 18 months, with emphasis being placed on drilling to the Devonian.

The Time -- 1940

The February average of the Lake field was 229,300 barrels of oil a day. Instrumental were the 36 Devonian wells already drilled. Of the total production, 100,000 was from the Devonian.

The largest Devonian producer in the state was credited to Paul Rossi, with an initial flow of 10,000 barrels in 24 hours. The well, the No. 8 Brooks, was credited with having been the biggest producer in Illinois history.

The field was now a beehive of activity, with 121 drilling operations and locations. Many interesting sights and stories were offered as well. As an example, several Olney citizens noted a big fire west of their city, with the western horizon a bright red, indicating that there was a big blaze somewhere. There was a blaze, all right, but it was more than 50 miles away, one of nature's puzzling atmospheric freaks. From a high vantage point in Olney the glow lifted and nothing could be seen but the flares from the Lake Centralia-Salem oilfields. Reports were that the bright reddish hue could be seen for 100 miles, as far north as Springfield and Decatur. Low hanging clouds had caught the reflection of the hundreds of gas flares in the field, causing the glow to be seen for many miles in each direction.

During the 1930-40 period, the population of Salem increased from 4,420 to 7,319, and the number of business houses increased overwhelmingly.

The field attained a peak production of 261,000 barrels of oil per day in May 1940. The Texas Company, the leader in the field, was producing as high as 183,000 barrels a day from its wells.

In the middle 40's, over 400 wells were deepened to the Salem and completed as dual McClosky-Salem producers.

During the late 40's, the H. F. Corbin No. 1 well had declined to 12 barrels of oil. After deepening the well to the Aux Vases and shooting with 105 quarts of nitroglycerin, the well was revitalized and produced 56 barrels of oil and no water per 24 hours. This was good indication that production from the field could be continued, by similar treatment, for an indefinite period of time.

The Time -- 1941

Producing wells in the Salem field, as of February 4, numbered 2,397, according to the January report of the State Geological Survey. There were 76 dry holes and 17 drilling wells. The Texas Company had 6,000 acres in production, 131 leases, and 1,525 of the total producing wells. Magnolia now had 323 producers.

Although production had now begun its decline, the field continued to be a giant, with the Cascade Refinery, Warren Petroleum Company, Sunflower, and The Texas Company gasoline plants, and quantities of oil supply companies expanding to make and keep the Salem field the biggest business in the State of Illinois.

In a series of articles entitled "Treasure Underground in Illinois," State Geologist Don L. Carroll lauded the Salem Field. He said that by 1941 the total yield of oil taken from this natural bonanza amounted to 140 million dollars. He related that there were other pools in the state where oil was being recovered from more than one oil sand, but that the Salem Pool was the most unique, one of the reasons why it was the greatest oil field in Illinois and the second greatest in the nation.

During 1941 the State's first oil regulation was enacted. It created an oil division in the Department of Mines and Minerals, which limited the drilling of one well to each producing formation for a 10-acre tract, but did not provide for production control or proration of production by fields. Harold L. Ickes, as federal petroleum coordinator, set 386,000 barrels of oil as Illinois' daily quota for the war effort during January 1942. Governor Green assured Ickes that the State would comply.

The Time -- 1942, 1943, 1944

The Salem field in 1941 surrendered more than 14,749,000 barrels of oil -- precious need for the nation's war effort. The field, after reaching its peak in 1940 declined sharply in 1941 and even more so in 1942, giving the Loudon Pool in Fayette county, with its 1946 producers, preeminence as the state's number one producer.

By the time the discovery well reached its fifth birthday in 1943, more than 172,000,000 barrels of oil had gone into storage tanks and pipelines for use throughout the nation. The five-year production figure represented a value of more than \$215,000,000.

During 1943, with the decline of Devonian production, approximately 150 wells were deepened to the Trenton formation in a concerted effort to exploit additional reserves. The daily average production for the year was 23,000 barrels from 2241 producers and six formations.

Between the 1944-45 anniversaries of the discovery well, the field had produced over 8,000,000 barrels of oil, but by 1945 was down to 18,000 barrels of oil daily.

The Time -- 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948

Even though the end of the war in Germany brought about a considerable decline in the need for petroleum, it had no apparent influence on the marketing of oil in Illinois, since the fields were located near refineries and large markets for refined products. Statistics at the time showed that 90 per cent of the state's oil output came from 13 pools, the largest being the Salem field, which had produced 185,000,000 barrels of oil since its discovery.

The prestige that the field enjoyed from 1938 to 1941 had lost its glow, but the tremendous output, the great quantities of natural gas and its products, the many oil firms and supply houses and the gasoline plants and refineries still marked Salem as the

central influence in the Illinois Basin.

During the years 1945 to 1948 production in the field declined from 18,000 to 14,984 barrels, with 2107 wells making the oil.

The Time -- 1949

As production declined in all formations (down to 13,000 barrels) and companies began to feel the marginal economic pinch, it became apparent that an artificial recovery mechanism was advisable.

Thus, in 1949, an engineering committee, with headquarters in the Salem National Bank building, was formed to collect data for a study of the numerous oil reservoirs present in the Salem field.

History of Desk and Derrick Club

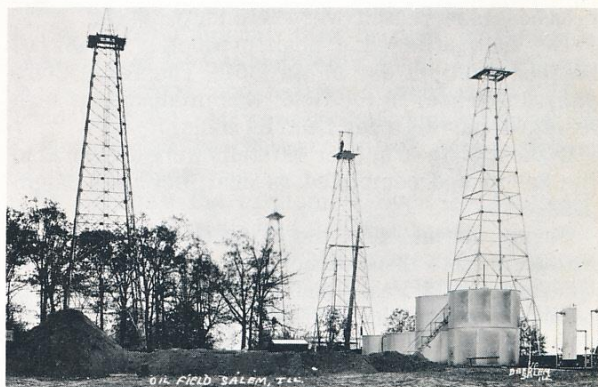
The formation of Desk and Derrick Club of Salem, like other clubs in the Association of Desk and Derrick Clubs of North America, was the result of the desire of a New Orleans woman. Inez Awty Schaeffer, to meet other women in the oil and gas industry. It was also her belief that women employees of the industry should join together to acquire a better working knowledge of petroleum. So unique was the idea that at the 50th anniversary of Spindletop held in Beaumont, Texas, in January, 1951, Mrs. Schaeffer was duly honored as the most outstanding woman of the oil industry.

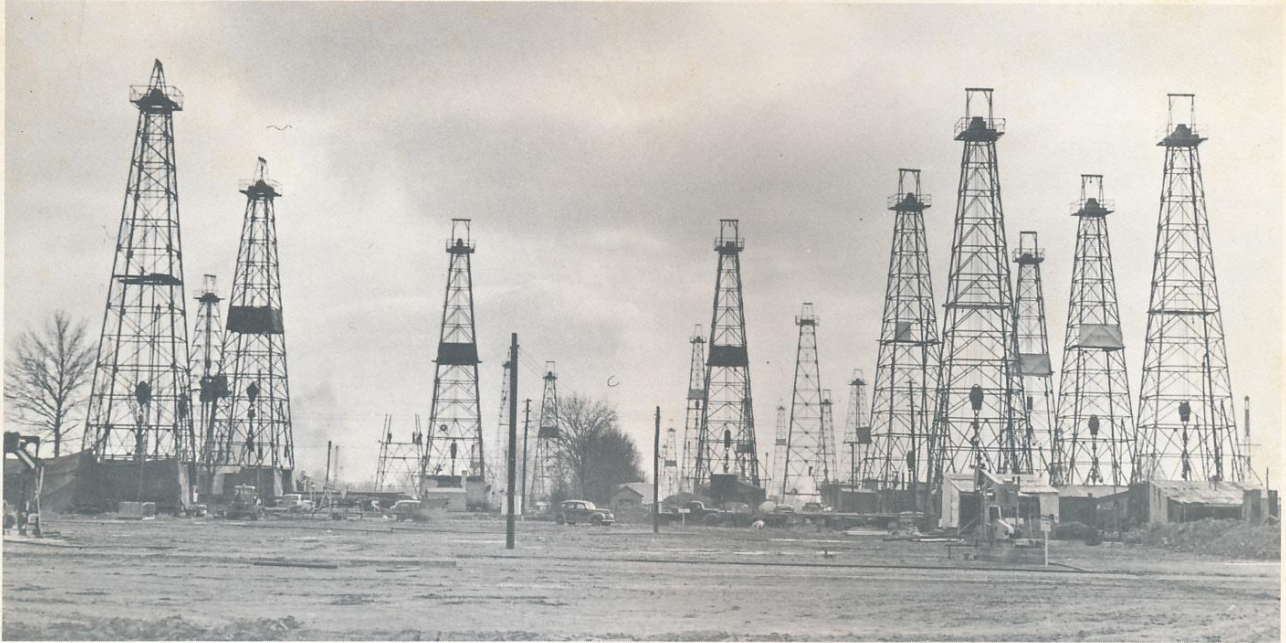
In compliance with the organization's 80% educational requirement, Desk and Derrick programs, with few exceptions, are devoted to some phase of the complex petroleum industry.

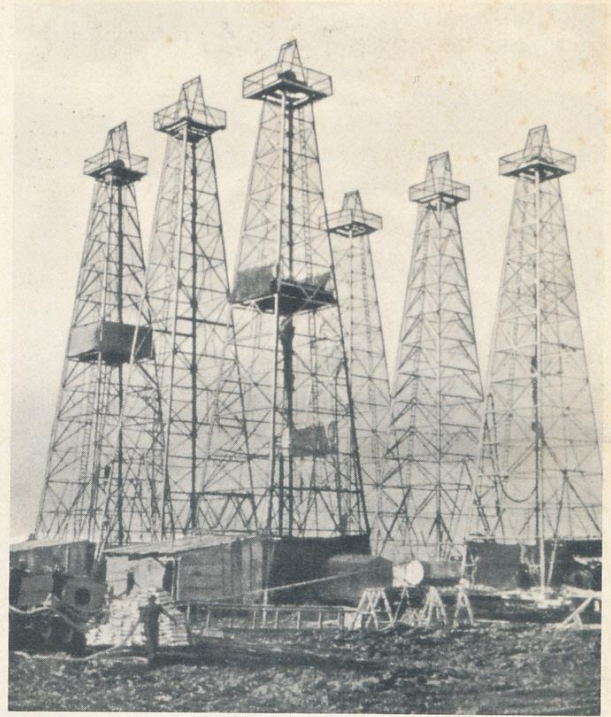
The success of Desk and Derrick cannot be attributed to women of the industry alone. True, the preliminary work and foresight is theirs to claim, but industry itself has had much to offer. Major companies and independents alike have offered assistance when needed and have provided key personnel as speakers for monthly meetings, seminars,

and as convention speakers. Further education for the women of oil has been possible through scheduled field trips to various oil and gas facilities.

The charter of the Salem club was signed on August 30, 1956, by the following: Johnnie Knox (the club's first president), Frances Goodwin, Barbara Jenkins, Delta Riley, Peggy Perrine, Nellie Sergeant, Ruth Engelman, Shirley Cox, Peggy Brubaker, Wanda Smith, Lou Winks, Judy Bump, Doris Maxey, Teresa McCarty, Lee Ruscher, Billie Meeks, Shirley Peeler, Georgia Gerdes, Anna May Wilson, Ann Feather, Frances Hawley and Mary Harris.







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