

# Today In The City of Shelbina

Probably no century in all history has provided such marked changes in the lives and habits of people as the century being celebrated in this year of 1957. Those now living who have witnessed the grand transition and the revolutionary developments are fortunate indeed. No century has been more dramatic, more exciting or more interesting.

A long parade of inventions, discoveries and improvements have transformed yesterday into a very different today. In this period have come the automobile, paved highways, airplane, electricity, radio, television, refrigeration, many electrical appliances, improvements in diet, sanitation, medicines and health. This, too, is the century of atomic energy, which in itself promises further revolutionary changes.

The homes we live in today have changed a great deal too. The style of architecture that prevails today is the Ranch House, with all rooms on one floor and frequently having a utility room instead of a basement. As a result of war inflation, the cost of homes has greatly increased. Comfortable homes with modern conveniences range in price from \$10,000 to \$25,000, and the better homes much higher, which is probably about four times as high as twenty years ago. Many are heated with oil, gas or coal stokers, the old base burner and pot-bellied stove having passed away. In most of them are radios, television, electric refrigeration, many are air conditioned, whereas such electric appliances as vacuum sweepers, garbage disposals, automatic washers and dryers, home freezers for food storage, toasters, grills, clocks and fry pans are too numerous to mention.

The major part of the family wardrobe is purchased ready to wear, however, some women do sew for their children. Iron-on patches simplify the mending task.

Many homes have a vegetable garden and raise food for current consumption and for freezing and canning.

Neighborhood visiting is done over the back fence or over a cup of coffee in the kitchen rather than formal calls. Most families have a car and many have two. Most families attend church on Sunday and participate in the church activities held during the week. The average woman belongs to a bridge club, a literary club and perhaps a garden club, has a permanent twice a year, has her hair done regularly at a beauty parlor. The women of today are neat and well dressed. The men have crew-cuts, flat-tops and many wear shorts for sports. The lifted eyebrows of grandmothers regarding young moderns' wardrobes are not those of false modesty but are truly memories of a strictly feminine era.

Today's amusement and entertainment of Shelbina residents is very diversified. For the whole family the Shelbina lake affords excellent fishing, pleasant picnicking, boating and an outstanding nine hole golf course. Television today is most valuable to the family for educational features as well as entertainment. Father and mother enjoy the activities and social life of the many clubs, bridge, literary, garden and civic. The American Legion and Ladies Auxiliary are very active. There are larger but no better theatres than Shelbina's Clark Theatre with its Vista Vision screen. The children have 4-H clubs, boy and girl scouts, brownie troops and campfire girls. Shelbina has a Teen Town, a place where teenagers can dance, listen to records, play cards, watch television, play ping pong and just talk. All the Shelbina churches have active youth groups. Everyone has access to the public library, which is well stocked with the latest books and the oldest for research.



This picture made previous to 1875, has nothing but early settlers of Shelbina in it—but who they are is much of a mystery. The central figure, the man on the mule, is said to be Dr. E. N. Gerard, but also said by others who remember the Doctor, as positively not him. Fred Naeter who supplied the picture identifies the tall man in the cap on the left as E. I. Cooley, school principal, whom he remembers well. But this identification is also challenged. He believed the man on the extreme right in an overcoat is Dr. Hallie Willis, and knows that the little boy wearing a straw hat at Dr. Willis' right is Harry Naeter. Others say the man with the whiskers in the door was Mr. Chandler, the postmaster, while the man in the straw hat at the right of Dr. Willis is Tom Puckett.