

# SHELBY COUNTY HERALD

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## The History of the Old Bethel Colony

### AN EXPERIMENT IN COMMUNISM

The history of Bethel is largely a history of the unusual Bethel colony, an account of which is as follows:

Few of those who dream of an ideal commonwealth, where each citizen is equal to every other citizen and all are alike rich with a common fund, are aware that those ideas embodied in the maxim—"equal rights to all and special privileges to none"—were once actually applied in the establishment and operation of the Bethel Colony, a settlement founded by honest and sturdy German emigrants. This is a most interesting study especially to a sociologist. David R. McAnally, D. D., for many years the able editor of the St. Louis "Christian Advocate," in an editorial on the subject of Communism, said that the communistic settlement of Oneida, New York, and the Bethel colony in Missouri, with its offshoot, Aurora, in Oregon, were the most notable instances of the application of the communistic theory upon American soil.

To get at the very beginning of this colony we must go back to the state of Pennsylvania.

...the presiding elder... Dr. William Keil arose to the occasion. He strode down the aisle, ascended the pulpit, and asked for a vote of the house as to whether or not he should declare his views on things in general. The congregation took the risk, and for two and one-half hours the volunteer preacher discoursed upon his wonderful philosophy of life. "The Shepherd" was his subject. He claimed that he had received a marvelous light, even as the one which had appeared to Saul while on his murderous mission to Damascus. That light had made a new man of him, said the Doctor, and his mission was to lead the people, not out of, but into the wilderness of the great West.

In the afternoon the presiding elder, who had arrived during the crusader's discourse, took the pulpit and attempted to turn upside down the theory delivered from the forum in the morning.

Dr. Keil made a warm reply to this and the church was divided. Some sustained the iconoclast, and others the presiding elder. Dr. Keil called for a line-up and a majority went to his side. He continued his missionary efforts in Pennsylvania, until he secured a following.

In 1844, three men were sent out to spy the country and select a location. The place chosen was a beautiful tableland on the banks of a large stream known as Salt River. In 1845, Dr. Keil was joined by five hundred people from all walks of life. A steamboat was chartered, the trip was made down the Ohio to Cairo, then up the Mississippi to Hannibal where they disembarked and made the remaining part of the trip overland. The boat made several trips, bringing people, stock and supplies. As the prosperous community sprang up, all interests were pooled, all money and property were turned over to the management, all grain, wool, cattle, hogs and sheep, everything that was raised were delivered to the warehouses, where it was taken care of.

The title to the land was taken in the name of a few individuals, who really held it for all. While there was no written contract or articles of regulation all seemed to go on harmoniously and peacefully. Everything was taken in faith. The colony seemed to be one great happy family whose code, moral and religious, was the New Testament, especially the Golden Rule and whose motto was "Got mit uns."

Dr. Keil's philosophy was to live right with all men, to owe

no man a cent, to do a fair amount of work each day, and to trust in God for all things. The church was one of the first buildings to be built, and perhaps was the most crowning work of these industrious people from an architectural standpoint. This edifice was constructed of brick and stone after the type of churches in the fatherland. The church was finished with black walnut lumber; the floor made of large square brick or tile. Big white steps led up to the double doors north and south. The east door led up to the balcony. There were big paneled arch windows. The church was composed of just one big room. The building was five stairways high. There was a big cupola with a solid walnut railing around it. This was all inclosed by a large white railing around the balcony. Here it is where the band played. The church had three bells which would always ring in harmony. The pulpit was solid walnut. Great big white columns supported the balcony.

The church was finally sold after the colony disbanded. It was torn down, and the things were sold around here and there. Some of the colonists took two of the bells out to Oregon. One of the members of the Bethel colony bought the other bell.

Every Sunday morning at church time the three bells could be heard for miles around. Everybody was welcome to come, and all were treated alike. You did not have to go.

Mr. Moses Miller, one of the last members of this colony, was asked before he died, to what church the colonists belonged. Here is his reply:

"The church of the living God," he said, "Dr. Keil took the Bible for his creed and nothing else. No one was requested to join the church, no one was ever urged to attend. A man could stand well in the community even tho he never went inside of a church. I sometimes think it was this absolute freedom of action that resulted in the big church where Dr. Keil preached, being full every Sunday. Dr. Keil simply preached the great religion of the Lord Jesus Christ: 'Tell the truth' 'Do unto others as you would others should do unto you.' 'Let no day pass over your head without something of use to thy neighbor and thy God being accomplished by thy hands.'"

Quoting Mr. Miller again, "The only pledge Dr. Keil made to us was that if we would come out here we would have plenty of bread and water. He kept the pledge and more. We had clothes to wear and a good roof over our heads. We were not wealthy, but we had all we needed and were happy. Dr. Keil saw to it that every man and woman had work, that the children were educated, and that each producer received a fair compensation for his toil. There were no idlers, no legal controversies, no fights, no brawls. It was an ideal settlement, happy and prosperous, bound together by a community of interests."

The colony owned four thousand acres. There was a treasurer who took charge of the funds; a common storehouse; and a commissioner to allot to each what was needed. A common boarding house was erected where the unmarried male members of the community resided. A

mill was built to run by steam, no doubt the first one in all this section of the country.

In the prosperous days of the enterprise, Bethel was a miniature Lowell; cloth was spun from the wool of the colony sheep, which roamed in vast herds over the virgin prairies.

There was also a glove factory which turned the skins of the deer into coverings for the human hand. These buckskins were shown at the New York exposition in 1853, and acquired a national reputation. The skins of cats were made into shoes. There was also a hat factory. The plows made in Bethel foundries were sold throughout the west. Woolen goods were made and exported. These colonists established a distillery where corn and ye were turned into alcohol and whiskey. All this occurred when the closest railroad was over one hundred miles away, and the shipments of manufactured goods had to be made overland to Hannibal, and from there by boat.

No man drew a salary, but on application to the governor of the colony, he was provided with anything he might need. Dr. Keil did his preaching for the settlers "without money and without price," according to his creed.

East of Bethel and down the picturesque North River was erected the mansion house of Dr. Keil where he lived as became a feudal lord except that he assumed no superiority but what was necessary in directing the affairs of the colony. This house was called "Elim." It was built by the common labor, and was a part of the possessions of the colony. A commodious banquet



1—The late Mrs. Theodore L. Bower, one of the last of the original colonists.  
2—"Elim," home of Dr. William Keil, founder of the colony.  
3—Dr. Keil.  
4—First house built in Bethel, now nearly a century old. The structure contains only four rooms, each requiring fifty yards of material to cover its floor.

### FIRST SUCCESSFUL CORN PLANTER INVENTED BY SHELBY COUNTY MAN

John W. Vandiver of Taylor Township Patented Practical Seeding Machine November 30, 1858

By W. L. Hamrick

The wonderful industrial growth and development of our country has, no doubt, been due in a large measure to the inventive genius of the American people. The extent to which improved machinery has enhanced the production of mines, forests and farms of the United States can scarcely be overestimated.

The creators of the most important inventions have generally received proper credit for their work if not, in some instances, adequate compensation. As a result almost every school boy can tell you something about Eli Whitney and Cyrus McCormick, inventors in the field of agriculture, as well as those whose achievements have made them famous in other fields. The names just mentioned are nationwide in reputation. But how

materially changed by an invention which produced a machine that enabled the farmer to hitch his team of horses there to and drive across the field planting well in the ground, at one time, two rows of corn with the aid of but one of the children, who rode on the machine and operated the dropping lever.

Who made this possible? John W. Vandiver, a resident of Shelby County, born in Virginia but who migrated to this county, with his parents in youth or early manhood, arriving in time to settle on one of the best farms in Taylor Township, in 1841, patented to him by President Taylor.

The records of the United States Patent Office show that "The first patent granted by the United States for a seed planter was issued January 25, 1795, to Eliakim Spooner, a citizen of Vermont." Also that a patent on a corn planter was granted to D. S. Rockwell on March 12, 1839.



W. L. HAMRICK

planting corn were invented and made by John W. Vandiver beginning with 1858. On November 30, 1858, Patent No. 22,208 was granted to John W. Vandiver, of Shelbyville, Missouri, on a new and "Improved Seeding Machine." The specifications forming a part of the letters patent, are elaborate and technical and are signed by John W. Vandiver and witnessed by John R. Calvert and John S. Cooper. Again on October 6, 1863, Patent No. 40,202 was issued to John W. Vandiver, of Shelbyville, Missouri, on a corn planter, referred to in the specifications as "Improvement in Corn Planters." The specifications forming a part of these letters patent are also elaborate and technical, and are signed by John W. Vandiver and witnessed by James H. Gridley and R. H. Mayhew. The drawings, accompanying the specifications of each patent (shown in four separate figures or drawings of the first patent and five of the second one) give an idea of the make and style of each machine, a part picture of each. It is not believed that the purpose of this article requires the giving of detailed descriptions of these patents or the machines as made.

many persons, adults or children, in his native state of Virginia or that of his adoption, Missouri recognize the name of John W. Vandiver when inventions are under consideration? How many know and are ready to concede that to John W. Vandiver is due the credit of inventing, making and giving to the agriculture industry the first corn planter ever used by the American farmer? We have had them for three-quarters of a century but our histories are strangely silent in attributing the credit for this to any person.

It has been repeatedly said, especially all over the Mississippi Valley, that "Corn is King." The great production of that cereal, as well as wheat and oats, has caused the Mississippi Valley to be termed "The Granary of the United States." How long has this been so? Before 1860, we believe it will be safe to say before the machinery then available to the farmers of the country for the production of corn did not permit its being raised in practical and durable and the great quantities that were produced after these dates. Prior to the time mentioned the farmer broke and ordered his ground ready for planting, then laid it off in rows with a single shovel plow, and the children, if he had them, dropped the corn by hand into the one furrow made by the farmer in driving across the field. After the rows were laid off and the corn dropped, it was then necessary to cover the corn, which, as generally done, required another drive across the field as they being made, patterned with a machine for covering, requiring two drives across the field to get one row of corn planted, making the amount of ground that could be planted in one season necessarily limited. Likely there are some who will read this that can remember helping to plant corn in this way.

Under the system all who could worked a certain number of hours daily. They were given a generous period of leisure. They had time to raise gardens, study music, read, and to attend entertainments, which were frequent. Dr. Keil encouraged all these activities. It was not long before Bethel had one of the best bands in the state.

The general character and appearance of these colonists would fit Irving's description of the founders of New Amsterdam during the glorious reign of Sir Peter Stuyvesant. The typical old fashioned Dutchman was the dominant type. They were artisans skilled in the highest degree. Such finished craftsmen were they, their work abides to this day in monuments of wood and stone.

Christmas was always a merry-making time. At these festivities

Some time in the decade between 1860 and 1870 this was

changed from a slide drop (the original make) to a rotary drop, as well as other makes of planters being made, patterned after the "Vandiver Planter", and we doubt if any real improvement over the best planter made by John W. Vandiver during the latter years of his life were made, unless it be within the last quarter of a century when some improvement has been made in lightness of draft and dropping by machinery. Whatever may be

between 1860 and 1870 this was

(Continued on page 8, Sec. C)

**HISTORY OF BETHEL**

The history of Bethel begins just 100 years ago with the arrival in that vicinity of Peter Stice. He built the first dwelling house on the present site of the town in the fall of 1835.

It was not until the spring of 1844 that the foundations were laid for the old Bethel colony, the history of which will be found elsewhere, and not until Nov. 6, 1883, that Bethel was incorporated as a town.

**The Milling Industry**  
The builder of the first house was also the originator of the milling industry at Bethel, an industry that has been inseparably connected with the history of Bethel through these past 100 years. Mr. Stice built a dam across North River in the south part of the present town, and erected a small water-mill, called in those days, a "corn-cracker."

In the fall of 1845, the old mill and dam were torn down and a new large mill was built on the same site. The first miller was a man by the name of Matthias. The mill was operated as a colony project.  
On April 10, 1872, the structure was destroyed by fire, but work was immediately begun on a new mill which cost \$17,000. At the dissolution of the Bethel colony, the mill went to a group of Oregon colonists to whom the colony was indebted. It was purchased in 1882 for \$9000 by Moses Miller, Phillip Miller, J. G. Bauer and Henry Ziegler. It was then a burr mill, but in 1883, a full set of rollers were put in and the roller process of making flour was followed. Mr. Ziegler operated the mill for several years. In 1902 the interest of the other owners were bought by Mr. Bauer, who operated the business until fire destroyed the mill in October, 1916.

**The Present Mill**  
At present the milling business in Bethel is carried on by Henry Kilb, a nephew of Herman Bearys, one of the original colonists. Mr. Kilb calls his business the Holson Food Mill. The mill itself is operated by a large gasoline engine, and it has a capacity of eighty sacks.

Three large burrs which were used in the old water-mill days are now in the present Kilb mill. This type of burr was known as the French honeycomb burr. The rock from which it was made was brought from the coast of France, and Mr. Kilb says it must be a hundred years old or older, but its work is as good as ever, since it is practically indestructible.

Whole wheat flour, meal, breakfast food and other products of the Kilb mills are now going to many towns in northeast Missouri. Just now, the public has shown a liking for whole wheat, and the mill is in steady use.

Mr. Kilb, who has long been one of Bethel's most successful business men, is making plans

for the restoration of a water-power mill near the site of the first mill. He has built a dam across North River and put in a gate as an experimental demonstration of the power available from a mile and a half of water conservation.

Dry as the summer was last year, there were places in North River where the water was from eight to ten feet deep for a quarter of a mile. There are a number of springs that keep up the water supply. In favorable winters the ice harvest above the dam yields a supply that will fill the two large storage houses of Mr. Kilb.

The water-power mill that Mr. Kilb has in mind will require a much larger dam built where the bluffs are higher, and will have a water wheel at least twelve feet in diameter. The idea for installing a water-mill is to increase the economy of operation and the extent of the output. His plans also include the installation of a dynamo from which electrical service could be furnished to the people of the farms in that vicinity.

Mr. Kilb is very hopeful of Bethel regaining its old-time position in the manufacturing field and as a business center, as the building of highway 15 thru the town has been a great stimulus to business.

**Henry Kilb**  
Mr. Kilb is 59 years old and a son of the late Mr. and Mrs.



H. W. KILB

Philip Kilb. He was born in Bethel and has lived there all of his life. On Dec. 28, 1929, he was married to Maud A. Hall, and they have six children, William Powell, Pearl, James Noble, Mary Agnes, Victoria Mae, and Henrietta Maude. He has been in business in Bethel for twenty-five years.

**The Bauer Drug Store**  
The late J. G. Bauer was one of Bethel's most prominent men. He was born in Bavaria, Germany, Dec. 1, 1835. With his father he came to Iowa at the age of 4, and seven years later, the family moved to Bethel and

became colonists. He took up the trade of watch-maker and continued this work the remainder of his life. For about thirty years he was postmaster at Bethel. After the close of the Civil War, he took a course in pharmacy under Professor Fink of Bethel, and in the spring of 1880, even before the disbanding of the colony, he erected a store building and started a drug store.

The Bauer Drug Store was operated by him during his lifetime and is now operated in the same location by two of his three remaining daughters, Misses Dena and Lulu Bauer. The other daughter is Mrs. Jesse Taylor of Bethel.

**Standard Service Station**  
In addition to the drug store, the Bauer sisters also own the service station on Highway 15 in the south part of Bethel. The station is leased by them to the Standard Oil Company and is operated by William A. Stark. It was built in the fall of 1928 and for two years was operated by J. D. Taylor. Since then Mr. Stark has been in charge. He is a son of Henry and Martha Stark and was born in Steffenville, but moved to Bethel when a small boy and has lived there ever since.

**F. A. Miller**  
F. A. Miller, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Moses Miller, is another well known Bethel man who has been in business in that city forty years. He now operates the Conoco Service Station in the north part of town.

Born in Bethel 64 years ago, Mr. Miller has lived there all of his life, and the site of his present business is just across the street from his birth-place.

Mr. Miller started business in Bethel at the age of 19, and with the exception of five years, he has been in business there ever since. His career included five years in the mill and five years on a farm, but most of the time he was employed in the general store of G. W. Kraft. The last ten years of his mercantile career, he was owner of this store. Eleven years ago he retired to a farm which he operated for five years. Then six years ago he and his son, Carl, built the log cabin service station which they continue to operate.

Mr. Miller was married to Cora Stapleton in 1897. They have the two sons, Carl, mentioned above, and Frank Will Miller, who follows the law profession in Bethel.

Mr. Miller's sister, Mrs. Josephine C. Beary, is also well-known in Bethel, and has spent her entire life there. Her husband, Charles C. Beary, died in May, 1902, and since that time she has lived alone. She enjoys keeping her own home and is a familiar figure on the streets of Bethel in spite of her 70 years.

**Dr. S. L. Simpson**  
Dr. S. L. Simpson has been practicing his profession of os-

teopathic physician and surgeon in Shelby county for the past fifteen years. He was born in Knox county, son of John and Ella Simpson, the latter of whom is living. He has lived in Shelby county 48 of his 49 years. He was married on Aug. 22, 1911, to Mary Parsons and they have



Dr. S. L. SIMPSON

seven children, Elnora, Gladys, Mary Ella, John, James, Esther Belle, and Betty Jo. He is a graduate of the Central College of Osteopathy of Kansas City and the Kansas University of Physicians and Surgeons. He began business in Leonard and practiced there nine years. Six years ago he came to Bethel where he has been practicing since.

**W. G. and T. J. Stapleton**  
A person doesn't have to be so very old to remember the horse-drawn hack which was operated for many years between Bethel and Shelbina. And the memory of the hack service also brings a vivid picture of the driver, W. G. Stapleton.

Mr. Stapleton, who is 69 years old, was born and reared at Bethel, a son of Jefferson and Margaret Stapleton. He was married in 1904 to Cordelia Mof-

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Suits  
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fett, who died in December, 1934. For seventeen years he carried the mail between Bethel and Shelbina, leaving the service in 1907. In addition to being a mail carrier, he also hauled passengers and express between these points. He recalls that often when the mud was extremely bad, four horses were required to pull the hack, and sometimes he would leave Bethel about 8:15 in the morning and wouldn't get back until 9 o'clock that night.

His brother, Thomas J. Stapleton, is also a well-known Bethel man. He carried the mail for twenty years, and for twelve years he operated a drayage business in Bethel.

He was born in Knox County and moved to Bethel at the age of 20. He was married at the age of 27 to Eva Ballard of Minnesota. They have five children: Arthur and Rube of Hoxey, Kansas; Hattie of Chicago, Ill.; Thomas of Epworth; and Elmer, who lives in western Colorado.

**Miss Nora Bower**  
One of the general stores in Bethel is operated by Miss Nora Bower, daughter of the late Walter C. Bower and wife. Her grandfather, John C. Bower, whose death occurred in 1876, was a cabinet maker for the

Bethel colony, and also conducted a mercantile business in the same building, in which Miss Bower now has her store. Her father also conducted a furniture store in the same building.

Miss Bower gained her experience in the mercantile business in the H. Fox General Store at Bethel. She worked in this store for twenty years. Her present place of business has been in operation for three years.

**Melson's General Store**  
Although in operation only three years, the general store of L. L. Melson has gained considerable popularity in Bethel. Mr. Melson, who is 35 years old, was born near Lentner. For several years he served as relief operator in telegraph offices at various points, and about eight years ago, he started a general store at Keller Switch. After operating the store there several years, he moved the stock of goods to Bethel and set up in business on the west side of Highway 15. He was married in 1921 to Anna Marie Keller and they have three daughters, Phyllis, Maurine and Mary Lou.

The Bethel Telephone Exchange J. D. Allen, the present owner of the Bethel Telephone Exchange was born on a farm northeast of Bethel, 67 years

ago, a son of Mr. and Mrs. David Allen. He was married on September 17, 1891, to Margaret Elizabeth Stuart, who died in October, 1933.

He purchased the Bethel exchange in 1915 from George Lair and Roy Nicol, and has been operating it ever since. He is assisted in the phone office by Mrs. Alzora Hiram.

Mr. Allen has seven children: George, Roy, and Waymond Allen, Mrs. Mabel Musgrove, and Mrs. Frankie Mangold, all of Bethel; Mrs. Grace Gilchrist of Hannibal, and Mrs. Hurley Sickal of Pampa, Texas.

**Cozy Corner Cafe**  
The Cozy Corner Cafe was (Continued on page 6, Sec C)

SEE THE NEW SHOP  
Millinery  
Chic Dresses  
Lingerie  
Purses and Notions  
Ladies Hose  
RIDGEWAY  
STYLE SHOP  
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The **Rexall** DRUG STORE  
M. H. Scrutchfield Prop.  
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Prescriptions Carefully Compounded  
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Kodaks  
Paints and Wallpaper  
Exclusive Agent  
Franklin Ice Cream  
In Clarence 41 Years  
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Happy to Meet The Old Friends  
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Dry Goods  
Millinery  
Shoes  
Notions  
Groceries  
**I-H FLOUR**  
**NUTRENA FEED**  
PHONE 9 CLARENCE, MO.

**G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT AT BETHEL FORTY-FIVE YEARS AGO**



Top row—David Bower, John Finney, Jerry Beary, William Vaden, Walter Bower, George VanOsdol.  
Middle row—(Standing) Jas. P. Claggett, Henry Kraft, Davidson Finney, Henry Bonnell, Chas. Forman, A. J. Carter, George Burkhardt, Elwood Miller, August Wenger, David Miller, Aaron Bonnell, Mr. Bohon, Chas. Vanskike, Jacob Otten, Benjamin Otten.  
Kneeling—Joel Elliot, Francis Baltzer, Robert Stevens, George Coleman, Abe Mauck, Jacob Getsinger, Dr. M. H. Beary, George W. Bower, John Vanskike, John Schriever.

**FRONT PAGE NEWS**  
For Constipation Sufferers

A DELICIOUS AND NEWLY IMPROVED  
**Honey Krushed WHEAT BREAD**

This new loaf, baked by a secret process indorsed by leading physicians, relieves constipation and aids digestion by supplying your diet with the necessary roughage. It also contains a liberal supply of pure honey which Doctors also recommend for its stimulating, helpful action, upon the intestines. Baked in our own modern ovens for the hundreds of people who are forced to take purges. If eaten regularly and thoroughly chewed this new Honey Krushed Wheat Bread will often restore normal elimination and give you back all of your old time vigor and pep.

Try a loaf of new Honey Krushed Wheat Bread today! Eat a slice with your eyes closed. You will almost swear it is full of nut meats. No flat taste like you find in many whole wheat breads. Then eat it toasted in the morning. It's really marvelous.

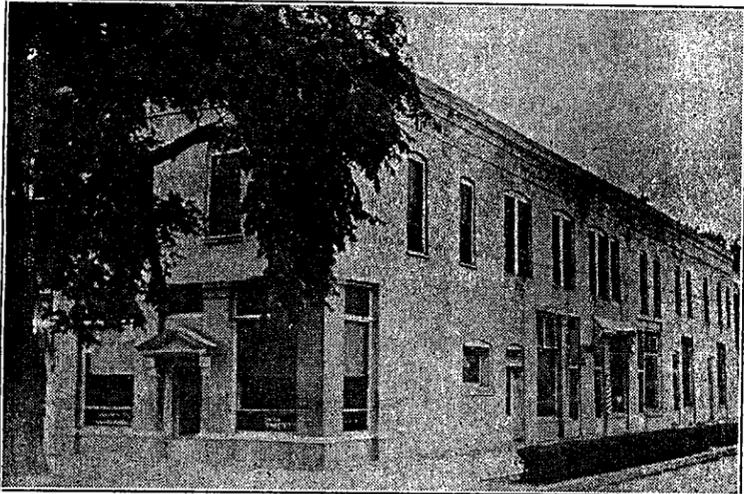
**MAKE THIS 10 DAY TEST**  
Change to the new Honey Krushed Wheat Bread for ten days if you are constipated, tired and have a yellow complexion. In a few days the poisons that have accumulated in your intestines will vanish and you will get back that old time pep... your elimination will be greatly improved.

Ask your grocer for the new Honey Krushed Wheat bread, all ready sliced and wrapped in a new cellophane wrapper.

**RELIEVES CONSTIPATION PLEASANTLY**

On Sale Today at Your Grocer's  
**ZIMMERMAN BAKERIES**  
Hannibal and Mexico, Mo.

# WELCOME CENTENNIAL VISITORS!



HOME OF THE SHELBY COUNTY ABSTRACT and LOAN CO. AND THE GENERAL FINANCE CO.

May This Memorable Occasion Become One of the Most Pleasant Milestones in Your Lives

## The Shelby County Abstract & Loan Company

Capital Stock \$50,000

### Shelbyville's Oldest Business

The Shelby County Abstract and Loan Company is Shelbyville's oldest business. The abstract record books upon which the business is based were started in the early 1860's. These records have grown immensely through the years and they are now kept in a fireproof vault in our building. Their value to home owners in this vicinity is unmeasurable.

#### OUR SERVICE INCLUDES

Abstracts of Title	Insurance
Farm Loans	Investments
Real Estate	Conveyancing

We are proud of our record of service and growth. The Shelby County Abstract and Loan Company was incorporated in 1912 for \$12,000. It was recapitalized in 1917 for \$25,000, and in 1920 it was again recapitalized for \$50,000.

#### OFFICERS

Wm. R. Moran, President  
 Prince Dimmitt and J. B. Lowman, Vice-Presidents  
 A. W. Steinbach, Secretary  
 Miss Eurie Dodd, Asst. Secretary  
 Nathan Winetroub, Treasurer

## The General Finance Company

Organized 1923

Capital Stock \$20,000

### Our Success

Has proved the need for such a business in this community. We appreciate your patronage and hope that we may continue to serve you in the future.

#### OFFICERS OF GENERAL FINANCE CO.

Nathan Winetroub, President  
 Wm. R. Moran, Vice-President and Secretary  
 A. W. Steinbach, Treasurer

### Our Aim

Is to serve you to the very best of our ability. This business was founded primarily to do general financing in automobiles. Our service has been extended to include the financing of electric washing machines, electric refrigerators, radios, etc.

#### GENERAL FINANCING

AUTOMOBILE BANKING

# VISIT US CENTENNIAL WEEK

HAGERS GROVE VICINITY IN CLAY TOWNSHIP

By Mrs. Gordon Harvey

Like a twice told tale, yet one ever of interest to the listeners, is the history of first settlements, whether later to be of national, state, county or township importance, for all first settlers suffered the same hardships amid the same privations found in a new, undeveloped country.

So Shelby county, named for Gen. Joe Shelby, was organized the year 1833, that is, it was in that year the first settlers came here, tho the winter of 1834-35 really saw the completion of its survey. A Mr. Lair, telling later all work was halted in November '33 by the falling of the stars which so frightened the settlers. The years '33-'35 also made memorable by the terrible scourge of Asiatic cholera in Marion county, around Palmyra and that town, small then, was a closer trading place. And two deaths from the plague are recorded in the then newly laid out county.

Clay Township, named for Henry Clay, was organized about 1845, and yet contains only the two voting precincts, Clarence, a town of something like 1400 inhabitants, and Hagers Grove, a small village in section 15-58-12 on Salt (Oahaha) river.

The site was purchased by John Hager of William P. Norton of Balls county and was later called Hagers Grove. History states a blacksmith shop was the first building. Later, in the spring of 1857, William P. Casey, Dr. Pile and Joseph and William Walker from Iowa bought a steam saw-mill and put it in operation here.

Dr. Pile and William Walker dying in August, 1859, G. L. and B. F. Smith bought the store, adding somewhat to the stock, and opened a business in a two-story frame house, recently occupied by the late Dr. Pile. Having a progressive spirit, the new store management procured the county surveyor, one Ed Grey, to lay the village out into lots, and wonder if now, seventy-six years later and the hamlet still barely existing, would they feel their dream of success in organizing a sizeable town a failure?

Later, in 1859, a postoffice was established with B. F. Smith as postmaster, the same individual of whom we elsewhere read, that when traveling about he would place his postoffice contents, letters, in his hat and would, when meeting individuals, ask were any of them theirs? The first crude attempt at rural delivery, and anyone going to the office asking for mail during his absence was just "out of luck."

The store continued under the same management until 1801, when Morris Osborne bought the interest of G. L. Smith. Thus Osborne and B. F. Smith continued to operate until the troublesome times incident to the Civil War, when in 1803 the store was closed, the goods being sold at auction.

In 1888 L. E. Irwin and John Patton opened another store and there has always been one of some size there except perhaps immediately following a fire, of which there were several during these years.

The Shelby county history of 1884 gives it a dozen houses, two general stores, a drug store, a

blacksmith shop, a mill and a postoffice. The writer can well remember when we yet had all those industries, but owing to better roads, autos, and change in living and trading, we have just the one small store, no mill, no drug store, no postoffice, because rural routes now come out from Clarence and Shelbyville, delivering the mail at the boxes adjacent to the individual homes,



MRS. GORDON HARVEY

while there still remain the blacksmith shop and eleven houses, besides the church building.

The Early Settlers It was invariably the custom of early settlers to find sites for their homes in timberland and near streams and the reasons are obvious, for timber furnished logs for houses, wood for fuel and rails for fences, while water was a necessity, besides affording members of the finny tribe easily procured and the forests abounded in squirrels, rabbits, wild turkeys, pheasants, and ducks and geese by the quantity in their season, also the deer, antelope and bison, but also inhabitants of a dangerous nature, as the bear, the wolf, the bobcat, and panther, whose cry as a child in distress, was told to children with perhaps a grain of truth in it, also the deadly rattler as well as mosquitoes, which took their yearly toll in yellow fever, malaria and typhoid, all enemies of the hardy settler, and the years it has taken to drain the swamps and make the country safe for man and his descendants.

But, at that, how easily were the food questions settled then when a normal season and the delicious dinners the pioneer could have independent of the corner grocery, for shouldering his musket and going a short way into the forest, could easily bring home venison for steaks, all kinds of wild berries sweetened with "nectar of the gods", honey; while the virgin soil with little stirring would yield all manner of vegetables as well as rye, wheat and corn for bread the "staff of life". Really makes one hungry in retrospect.

As the Indians had by this time been driven west, just once does the history report laughable incidents concerning them, but as other writers no doubt will tell of it, will leave to your imagination if they fail to do so.

When people speak of "the good old days" we have little desire, however, to have lived them, preferring rather a more modern mode of life, tho we do know there were more love, forbearance and gratitude for companionship then than now. The writer remembers before the day of telephones, radios, automobiles and such, people lived a different life, one in which we had time to stop and take

stock-of time and conditions, time to dream, time to talk, time to visit the sick or unfortunate, time to spend the day often with our friends, but now one grand great rush as fittingly expressed by the song "I Don't Know Where I Am Going, But Don't You Want To Go Along"? typical of today and aptly expressed. A mad rush, and what do we accomplish in a lasting way? So we do envy our ancestors for their leisure, when the flowing river, the shining stars, the giant trees, the birds, were all an open book telling of the Creator, God, who said, let there be light, also who divided the waters and the land, making a habitation, beautiful, after which when all else was complete, made man just a little lower than the angels, in His own image, to have dominion over the fowls of the air, the beasts of the field, and the inhabitants of the deep. The continuing of the saw-mill and the addition of a grinder made a source of business in the village, while even yet the writer was a small girl remembering it being run successfully by the Edward brothers, Herschel and Clem, also a George Sutton, but the building was finally torn down, machinery removed, and now, with the possible exception of a few large rocks, no sign that such ever existed.

How we loved to see the stream of white creamy meal poured into waiting customers' sacks and also watch with what precision the huge logs were carried on bearings to meet the onrush of the greedy saw, whose short teeth cut deep into the timber, bringing out a beautiful white plank in its virgin purity. The Molasses Mill A "sweet" place to go when the frost was on the pumpkin and the fodder in the shock was the molasses mill, owned and operated by James Mabury who, with his family, lived in the comfortable home they owned and had built, which is now owned by Earl Rose. Later, molasses mills were run by Arthur Winget, now of Macon, and Lum Linson at different locations. The latter gentleman was also a blacksmith and he and invalid wife lived at the Grove for several years, Ms. Linson being lovingly remembered by all for his devotion and thoughtfulness to the wife, now gone on before.

Rarely were the inhabitants without a blacksmith. Messrs. Ritter, Brocksmith, Hunsaker, Howerton, Poague, and the present owner, Ira Gingrich, among those we remember as having had a shop here tho in various places in the village, and well do we remember at one time, while we were a child, the shop was located further east under a large over-spreading elm upon whose away-branches the golden oriole yearly swung their nest, a perfection of art in itself, while the warble of the brilliant owner gave joy to our childish heart. The present owner had the misfortune to lose his shop and all equipment less than two years ago by fire, making it a great hardship, but he has again rebuilt and eager for work, but the advent of the motor vehicles and trac-

tors has superceded the horse and wagon to such a degree there is now little work for the blacksmith as garages and mechanics are the necessity of today. Another of time's changes.

Stores J. G. Roy bought our store from Judge Hunolt, which had been managed by Ed Neff, but it was formerly owned and operated by a Mr. Hancock, who lost it by fire but rebuilt again. Mr. Roy added both to building and stock of goods from time to time, having a large general store at the time of his death.

The eldest son, W. E. Roy, had gone into partnership with him and continued the business until the burning of the store building in 1918. A stock of groceries placed in the lower room of the former I. O. O. F. building has been run by Messrs. Walker, Ashby, Schwada, Hooper, and the present incumbents, Raymond Thomas and father. There has been just one store at a time for years now. The store was owned and run by Sam Patton after his services in the Confederate army until he sold to St. Dorrell of Macon county, who later sold the stock at auction while the building was bought by Bud Harlan, who decided on making a dwelling of it and it later was torn down. A story tho is remembered of a former owner before Mr. Patton, a Mr. Crowley. Seems a lady customer brought in some eggs and wished to purchase some "calico". She priced it and thinking it too high in proportion to the price received from the sale of eggs, thus reminding the bearer the difference between what we sell and what we buy is yet too great, as it was then, and when she said to Mr. Crowley it was too high he placed it upon a shelf and made the remark that "it was a-d-in eight higher now". At one time there was a one-story building where the I. O. O. F. building now stands, run and operated by Daugherty and Pace, but it burned, leaving Father Roy the only store keeper there for years.

Fires There have been five fires in



R. R. NACY State Treasurer Who will be one of the Centennial speakers.

Hagers Grove history in the memory of the writer. First, a large frame building the old and occupied by a Ma. Krone and family, burned a number of years ago. A house later built on the same site and later owned by Steve Rose, burned about two years ago. And the building that stood where the I. O. O. F. hall now stands was also burned as later the Roy store, supposed to have been fired by burglars as it appeared much of the large stock, such as flour and men's work clothes, were missing and at a time when everything was high in price. The Ira Gingrich blacksmith shop was the last fire at the Grove. And such a dreaded thing to see and so destructive, and yet staggering to think how much of the country's wealth and such a large number of buildings have gone up in flames.

Hagers Grove Band About the year 1884 a band was organized at the Grove and flourished for several years under the very capable instruction of a Mr. Ritter, of a family the very name of which means music, a Shelbyville resident of which the later musical residents are descendants. Then too a Mr. Krone, a former army man and splendid musician, had charge. The band was in great demand, called to

play at celebrations, picnics and other public gatherings held at surrounding towns. The Edwards, the Gosneys, the Maburys, George Price, Father Roy and the older sons, Edward and Frank, were among the players and they were considered a first-class set of musicians.

Doctors A Dr. Payne was often spoken of as living here, but he and family moved into Clarence when Dr. Sanders, then a young man, took up the practice of medicine. Dr. W. S. Sanders had been here some years before our arrival having a large country practice which kept him busy much of the time day and night. It was a standing joke with all who knew him that it was characteristic of the doctor to storm and declare often that he was tired, he wouldn't go a step, while all the time would be getting ready quickly as possible. His team also would be ready and ere long the faithful one would be going under whip and lash if he knew the case warranted such haste—and when does one call a doctor that they, the ones needing him, do not think they do want him right now?—a man of high principle and ardent advocate of education, a man genius in great demand, called to



FORREST SMITH State Auditor Who will be one of the Centennial speakers.

The first postal rates amounted to from 6¢ to 25¢ on a letter weighing half an ounce or less, depending on the distance it was carried.

WILSON and ROY Dealers In McCormick - Deering Tractors Parts and Repairs Everything In Stores or Hardware Phone 49 Clarence, Mo.

DRINK Coca-Cola IN BOTTLES

We Stand on Our Record! Forty-Four Years in the Business Harrison Com. Co. Is still at the same old stand doing business on the basis of HONESTY, EFFICIENCY and ENERGY. OUR SHELBY COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES G. HANLY BAKER Cattle Salesman CHARLEY CARMICHAEL Hog Salesman We are one of the best represented Shelby County firms at National Stock Yards, Illinois. Having a salesman in the cattle yards and one in the hog house, so anything you send to us will be cared for by a home boy. CHARLEY CARMICHAEL heads our hog department and G. HANLY BAKER is one of our cattle salesmen, and both these boys are on the job every day, and earnestly solicit your patronage and will be glad to meet you when you are in the yards. Our sheep are sold by ED MERKEL. We Extend Hearty Greetings to Shelby County for Their Centennial Celebration Harrison Com. Co. National Stock Yards, Ill.

CLARENCE GRAIN CO. Town Crier Flour Coal, Feed, Grain, Seeds, Soybeans "Old Ben Coal" Phone 192 Clarence, Mo.

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For The SMOOTHEST RIDE You Can Get Ride In The New CHEVROLET Let Us Demonstrate DORRELL CHEVROLET CO. CLARENCE, MO.

**HAGERS GROVE VICINITY  
IN CLAY TOWNSHIP**

(Continued from page 4, Sec. C) erous to a degree, his deeds of mercy, his skill as a practitioner have lived long after him. Living just over the fence from him for years during our most impressionable age we learned to reverence him and to hold him in highest respect. The doctor also had a well developed sense of humor, for at the time of the burning of his office, he spoke to his wife about his "sheepskin" burning, referring to his diploma, but she being all upset over the fire said, "Oh, no, it was saved," meaning a sheep pelt he had in an easy chair on the porch of his office, which statement caused him much mirth. About the year 1906 he removed to Clarence at which place he did several years later, a son, Rollie, having preceded him, leaving a widow and one son, Sam Sanders of Shelbyville, a constant school companion of ours and one whom we are always pleased to see.

Dr. F. K. Roy bought the practice and residence, also office of Dr. Sanders, he and wife living here for several years, when they too removed to Clarence. During his residence here he had a splendid practice and phenomenal success, aided and assisted by his faithful wife, a son being born to them just previous to their change of location.

Dr. Stark, a bachelor, came later, practicing for a time, when he too left, since which time there has been no resident physician. When roads are good, not so hard to obtain medical services but otherwise often a very serious question. With the passing of the country doctor the villages and outlying districts have lost one of their most needed requisites.

**Lodges**

In 1890, the I. O. O. F. lodge was organized here, Pinkney Hopper, George Brewington, Wm. Hall, Charley Hill and J. G. Roy, charter members. Those mentioned took charge with such energy and enthusiasm that before many years a large membership was enrolled and today from Dr. William Byars of California to parts all around could be found men who at one time had membership here. Father Roy always entered anything he saw fit to give his time to with that whole-hearted desire to see the lodge a success that we well remember his entertaining many men high in the work of Odd Fellowship in the home. Thus from a very small person, drinking in the advantages derived from membership in such an order, that it was small wonder that we so eagerly embraced an opportunity to become a member of the Rebekah degree when years later an organization was effected here and which was greatly enjoyed for several years, but like the subordinate lodge here, the removal of many of its most substantial members has so weakened it that it as a Rebekah lodge, has long ceased to function, while we are made to know that the fate of our dear brother lodge hangs in the balance. At one time there was also a strong M. W. A. organization here but it too has long ago consolidated with the Clarence lodge.

Later, the I. O. O. F. charter was surrendered, the remnant of the membership consolidating with Clarence Odd Fellow lodge, where they have a reasonably strong membership.

The Drainage Ditch  
Messrs. L. D. Breedlove, F. P.

Waters and Henry Funk, newly arrived Illinois people, who had bought large holdings of land in the northwest part of the county, conceived the idea of a drainage ditch, a corporation for which was organized in the spring of 1911, composed of Funk, Breedlove, Waters and W. E. Roy. In March, 1912, the contract was let and by Sept. 1st the huge machine was ready to begin excavation, at which time a Good-Feelers picnic was held on the Funk farm, attended by thousands of people, eager to see the great dipper scoop out the first load of dirt, which cut the ditch, measuring ten feet at the bottom and thirty feet at the top, starting at the Funk place and terminating just below Snowden bridge, cutting a ditch twelve miles in length, those further on refusing to contribute funds for its continuance. It has washed on either side until now requires a one hundred foot bridge to span it. Following the ditch's completion much timber was removed and corn planted to its very edge. For a time it was a great success, but now in times

of extreme wet weather it even fails to carry away the excess amount of water pouring in from the higher ground. Am sure anyone coming here after an absence of years would be slow to recognize any of the territory just west of here as there are now two bridges and in rainy seasons two rivers and the horseshoe lake, up on which hours of pleasure were had in winter skating and a thing of rare beauty in summer, being covered with blooming pond lilies, is no more as the ditch went directly through it.

Now of later years the mouth of the ditch having long been closed for lack of interest to keep it cleared of sand that it now spreads out like the old river bed and the project which many enthusiastically embraced and that cost a mint of money to make, for lack of being continued on further until could have had a clear sweep, thus forcing a regular channel at its end, has become a menace and the taxes have caused many land owners along its course to lose their holdings. But all will join in agreeing

could it have been financed to have been taken to a larger river for emptying, all would have been decidedly different.

**The Mail**

For long the mail was delivered at the postoffice here twice weekly, then every other day, a carrier coming from Novelty, going thru to Clarence, returning over the same route the day following, also carrying mail for Cherry Box. Later, every day service was had, a carrier coming from Leonard, going thru to Clarence, the Novelty route discontinued, the Cherry Box mail being brought here and taken thru. As a political job, first one and then another of residents had charge of the office but for the greater part of the time of our remembrance was located in the front of Father Roy's store, he being the postmaster, and how eagerly patrons waited for the coming of Uncle Sam's man with his precious burden. The rural men have hard trips, but no comparison to carriers at that time, among whom we remember Messrs. Stewart, Earp, Gillaspay,

and many others.

In 1911 the postoffice was taken from here, since which time we have had rural route service, the carrier coming from Clarence. Before the cutting of the drainage ditch the old stream, Salt River, became very high following hard rains, causing a deep overflow between where the old bridge was, about a half-quarter mile south of the present site and where the house on the corner stood. Often the horses to the wagons would be forced to swim and we remember with what eagerness all would await the mail's coming at that time. Many times almost the entire population watched at the water's edge, for going as they did in a hack, they carried passengers and oftentimes how frightened they would be and how worried the onlookers. Sometimes when too high, a skill would be sent over to the bridge to bring both mail and passengers and the many perilous times, know

of no fatalities.

The first house in Shelbyville And what we would now call was built by Abraham Vandiver our "out-door sport" when every in the fall of 1835 just south of man, woman and child and every the extreme southwest corner of (Continued on page 8, Sec. C) the square.

**STRONG and POTTER  
EQUIPMENT CO.**

**McCORMICK-DEERING  
MACHINES and REPAIRS**

MACON, MO.

**EMPLOYES AT THE SHELBYVILLE POST OFFICE**



Top Row (left to right)—Frank Brothers, carrier for Route 6; S. M. Feely, carrier for Route 2; George Jordan, carrier for Route 1; Earl Forman, assistant in post office; Chester Stewart, carrier for Route 3.  
Bottom Row—R. W. O'Donnell, carrier for Route 4; Lee Staggs, carrier for Route 5; H. H. Forman, postmaster.

**Times Have Changed!**

**But Reliability is Still Valued**

The Shelby County Centennial brings thoughts of conditions existing 100 years ago. Times have changed.

One hundred years ago farmers traded stock among themselves or raised only enough to provide food for their families. Today, trains and trucks bring live stock to great trading centers to be sold. Times have surely changed!

One hundred years ago the farmer valued highly the reliability of the person with whom he dealt. Today he still values that reliability. In early days he was his own salesman. Now he must be represented in a competitive market by a skilled salesman. The reliability of such a salesman is of immense value to the stock raiser.

**OUR RELIABILITY IS UNQUESTIONED!**  
Give Us a Trial

**Producers' Live Stock  
Com. Ass'n.**

National Stock Yards, Ill.

PRODUCER'S SALESMEN AT NATIONAL STOCK YARDS WHO ARE SPECIALIZED EXPERTS



Left to right: Lee Divine, Superintendent of the Cattle Department; Cal Sitton, Head steer salesman; F. O. Johnson, Butcher cattle salesman; Don Waggoner, Steer salesman; Louis Kesinger, Cow salesman; and Frank McKeon, Calf salesman.

We Are Glad to Extend

**CONGRATULATIONS**

And

**BEST WISHES**

To Shelby County On Its

**100th BIRTHDAY**

We appreciate the favors we have received from our many friends in northeast Missouri. We hope that the future will be one of continued pleasant business relationships with you.

You know that our aim is to "Treat Every Customer Right" and that our staff of live stock salesmen is second to none in ability.

We pledge that we shall continue to put forth our very best efforts in your behalf when you consign your live stock to us for sale in the competitive market.

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**Stewart, Carson - White and  
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NATIONAL STOCK YARDS, ILLINOIS

FOR "GOODNESS SAKE" CONSIGN YOUR  
CATTLE, HOGS AND SHEEP TO US

REMEMBER CONSIGN TO US. Phone, Wire or Write Us At The  
OFFICE Phone East 6796  
Ber of interest or neglect his own.

HISTORY OF BETHEL

(Continued from page 2, Sec. C) opened in Bethel in June, 1920, by J. B. Haney and Mrs. Richard Haney, and Mr. Haney has been connected with it ever since. He is 64 years old and a native of Illinois, a son of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Haney, who now live northeast of Burksville. The cafe is now located in the corner building formerly occupied by the Tony Collins Drug Store. Mr. Haney is assisted in its operation by Mr. and Mrs. James Sorrell, who came to Bethel from Hunnewell. Mr. Haney has five children: Yetta, living in Virginia; Rankin, of Chicago, Ill.; John Richard of Valparaiso, Ind.; Lucile of Hannibal, and Mrs. Richard Lyell of Hunnewell.

**Kilb & Mewes** The Kilb and Mewes Hardware Store, which is one of Bethel's most enterprising businesses, is operated by Powell Kilb and Otto Mewes.

The hardware business in Bethel was originated by Walter C. Bower. Mr. Bower had been associated with his brother, John C. Bower, in the furniture business from 1869 until 1893, when he changed to the hardware line. The business was taken over by his sons, W. G. and Adam Bower.

In 1925, Mr. Kilb entered business in partnership with W. G. Bower. This partnership continued until the death of Mr. Bower in 1928. His interest in the hardware business was then purchased by Otto Mewes and the firm name became Kilb & Mewes. The business is now located in the Farmers Bank of Bethel building.

Mr. Kilb, who is 36 years old, is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kilb, and was born near Bethel. He was married in 1919 to Leona Mewes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Otto Mewes.

Mr. Mewes is 75 years old. He was born in Kentucky and came to Missouri at the age of 5, making the trip with his parents on a boat up the Mississippi River. He was married to May Starn, and Mrs. Kilb is the only child. Before engaging in the hardware business he had been a farmer. For the past eighteen months, Mr. Mewes has been unable to take an active part in the operation of the hardware store on account of ill health, and the active management of the store is in the hands of Mr. Kilb. J. F. Tolle

J. F. Tolle is a descendant of one of the pioneer families of northeast Missouri. His father, John D. Tolle, was born in Marion county and came to this county in 1869, settling on a farm south of Bethel in which vicinity J. F. Tolle was born fifty-two years ago.

The latter started his career as a teacher in the rural schools of the county, teaching for four terms. For six or seven years he operated a restaurant in Bethel and for the past eleven years he has been a railway mail clerk on the C. B. & Q. Railroad. He was married on January 21, 1912, to Melinda Bower and they have four children: Eulah Maye, Melvin, Billy Don, and John Davis Tolle.

Dias T. Bower Among the prominent Bethel musicians—and Bethel has been noted for her musical talent ever since colony days—is Dias T. Bower. Mr. Bower is a barber by trade but a musician at heart. He was born at Bethel forty-six years ago, a son of the late William Bower and wife. His mother now lives at Naperville, Ill. He was reared by his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Bower.

He started his musical career early in life and for a number of years he has been director of the Bethel band, a musical organization which now consists of thirty-three members.

He began his business career as a salesman, but in 1911 took up barbering. He started barbering in Bethel many years ago, buying his first shop from Frank Riddell. His shop is now located in the Bower building on the west side of Highway 15.

Mr. Bower was married to Alta Gaines and they have one son, Dean Bower, living in St. Louis.

**Bethel Farmers Exchange** The Bethel branch of the Farmers Exchange was established in 1925, with T. G. Turner as manager, and he has continued in this capacity ever since. The business was started in the Farmers Bank Building, but now

occupies the Steinbach & Kraft Building on the west side of the highway.

Mr. Turner is 42 years old and was born in Knox county near Novelty, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Luther Jefferson Turner, both of whom are still living. He started his career as a farmer. Then he became manager of the Farmers Exchange office at Novelty. After two years there, he came to Bethel as manager of the new Exchange. He was married to Fannie Hudson in 1915 and they have two children, Wayne and Vellie Turner.

**Claude W. Musgrove** Although a native of Bethel, Claude W. Musgrove has been in business there only two years. He conducts an undertaking establishment.

He is a son of the late Dr. A. K. Musgrove and wife and was born in Bethel in 1902. His father was one of the county's most prominent physicians for twelve years. He died about five years ago, but had been forced to retire from active practice during the last twenty-seven years of his life on account of ill health.

Mr. Musgrove began the undertaking business at Stoutsville where he was in business for two and a half years. He moved from there to Mokane, where he remained for eight years before moving back to Bethel two years ago.

He was married to Mabel Allen eleven years ago and they have two children, Josephine and Kosis.

**The Bethel Post-Office** Sam Ziegler is the present post-master at Bethel, having held that place since 1921, succeeding Frank Noll. Before that time he was in the mercantile business in Bethel.

Mr. Ziegler was born in Bethel in 1878, a son of the late Henry and Clara Ziegler. He is unmarried and lives with his sister, Mrs. George Lair.

There are two rural carriers at the Bethel post-office. Earl Swisher has carried the mail about sixteen years and Marvin Bower has been in that service

since 1909. Previous postmasters at Bethel have included Frank Noll, H. C. Bair, Harry Bair, Syl Bragg and J. G. Bauer.

**Fred Graves** For the past three years Fred Graves, 37, has operated a produce station and store in Bethel. He was born in Iowa, son of Claus and Dora Graves, who now live east of Bethel. For eighteen years before setting up the store, he farmed near Bethel. He was married to Ruby Bower in 1925. The Graves' produce station is located in the Bower building on the east side of the highway.

**Raymond Bohon** The youngest business place in Bethel is the wall-paper and glass store of Raymond Bohon, which has been established since the first of this year.

Mr. Bohon, who is 47 years old, was born northwest of Bethel, a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Bohon. He was married in 1920 to Lola Bair and they have one son, William Morris Bohon. Practically all of his mature life, Mr. Bohon has followed the trade of paper-hanger and painter, and in connection with this profession, he opened the store this year.

**H. C. Bair** H. C. Bair is a native-born Bethel man, 59 years old. He is a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Samuel J. Bair. In 1900 he became a carpenter and painter, and on July 1, 1907, he was appointed post-master at Bethel, an office which he continued to hold until 1914.

In 1908 he was married to Bertha J. Ziegler and they have one son, Harold Bair. For seven years, Mr. Bair held the position of Deputy Oil Inspector for the State of Missouri.

**Brothers-Million-Hawkins** Waymond Hawkins, 34 years old, is manager of the Brothers-Million-Hawkins undertaking establishment at Bethel. He was born north of Leonard, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Hawkins, both of whom are still living. On Dec. 22, 1927, he was married to Pauline Moffett. The undertaking business with which he is con-

nected was started by John Brothers about twenty-six years ago in the same location occupied by the present business. Mr. Hawkins entered the business in 1929 by buying half interest. He has been connected with the undertaking business in Bethel ever since, except for about six months. Marion Million entered the Brothers & Hawkins partnership about three years ago. Mr. Hawkins also operated a furniture business for several years and still has the agency for electric refrigerators and radios.

(Editor's note: We have tried to secure a write-up of every business enterprise in Bethel, but a few failed to furnish us with the desired information. We regret having to omit history of those businesses.)

THE MILLING INDUSTRY IN SHELBY COUNTY

By W. L. Hamrick

The fact that we are observing the centennial of the organization of our county necessarily implies that no persons are living who can give us facts in regard to the establishment and development of the milling industry in Shelby County, and the meager, and in some instances uncertain data found in the two editions of the brief histories of the county that have been published, make it difficult at this time, to give an adequate history of the growth of the milling industry in the county.

The character of the mills constructed in establishing that industry naturally divided itself into three classes determined by the kind of power to be used in operating the mills when built, and therefore horse mills, water mills and steam mills were built in various parts of the county. Of the first class, the earliest known horse mills in operation were one built by Adam and Michael Heckart on Salt River in 1838, about five miles northwest of Walkersville; one constructed in Tiger Fork Township in 1840, on Section 4, Township 58, Range 9, by Joshua

Hope, and one built in Taylor Township, in 1846, by Benjamin Foreman, on the S. E. 1-4 of the S. W. 1-4, Sec. 21, Twp. 59, R. 12. This last mill seems to have been the most widely known and extensively patronized of any of the horse mills, probably due to its size and capacity, being five bushels of grain ground per hour when the full power of the two teams of horses was applied. It has been said, "The settlers resorted to it for miles around" and stayed until they got their grist even if staying overnight was necessary. This probably because it ground both corn and wheat, the flour from the latter being bolted by hand. The writer has heard consumers of the flour say that it made fairly good flour. It also ground buckwheat and rye. Its use was discontinued many years ago the more quickly operated and capacious water and steam mills came into existence. Some ten or more years ago one of the large uprights that supported the frame (white oak) was yet standing in the timber then surrounding the site of the old mill.

We have been able to get desirable information of only three water mills formerly operated in Shelby County or sought to be constructed. One was built in Tiger Fork Township in 1838 by Thomas Clagget, on the south bank of the Fabius River on the S. W. Qr. of Sec. 11, Twp. 59, R. 9. How long and how extensively this mill was operated and its ultimate disposition, the writer has been unable to learn.

The construction of a second water mill at a point on Salt River, about five and one-half miles northeast of Clarence, close to where Snowdun's bridge crosses the old channel of the river, was begun by a man by the name of Dutton about 1837 or 1838, the mill work to be done by Julius A. Jackson. Before the building could be constructed the dam washed out and the work was abandoned. Old residents yet point out portions of the dam remaining. The most noted and most suc-

cessful of the water mills constructed was the yet well known Walkersville Mill, built on Salt River where what is yet left of Walkersville now stands. This mill was planned by a Mr. Williams of Marion County, who owned, or bought, the eighty acres on which the mill was afterwards built, but who died before he could mature his plans. The land was sold by his administrator; bought by Daniel O. Walker and George W. Barker, who built the mill in 1840 and started the little town of Walkersville, named for Mr. Walker, and which at one time was quite a village. The steam mill built by the Bethel colony about six years later and the Walkersville mill were probably the largest mills in the county for a number of years. Both were built to grind grain, card wool and saw lumber. The Walkersville mill was distinctively a water mill, a large and substantial dam built of wood across Salt River just above the site of the mill, created

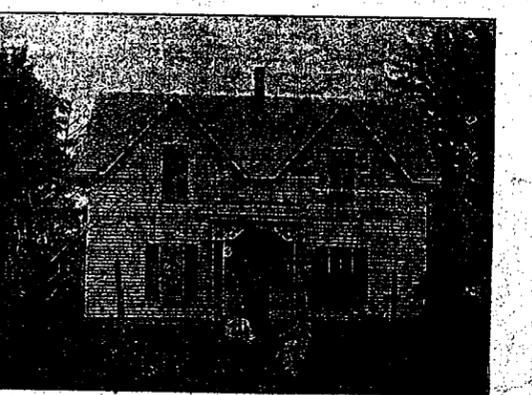
a reservoir which generally furnished an ample supply of water although in later years it is said that a steam engine was installed which furnished power when water was low.

The construction of the mill, especially the water wheels and cog wheels, was by Michael Heckhart, a native of Pennsylvania, and said to have been an expert mill-right. He made the water wheels and cog wheels all of wood. There were three of each class of wheels, the water wheels, being turbines, one for the grain buhrs, one to run the carding machine and one to run the saw.

The mill, at one time, was patronized by the people of the south part of Shelby County, the north part of Monroe County and the southeast part of Macon county, especially for the manufacture of flour and the carding of rolls. In preparing for the carding of rolls the housewife would wash her wool and then

(Continued on page 7, Sec. O)

SHELBY COUNTY FARM HAS BEEN IN USE 100 YEARS



Brookvale farm, northwest of Shelbyville, has been in use for one hundred years. The records of the Land Office at Washington, D. C., show that the west half of Brookvale was entered December 10, 1834, by Littleton Victor. The east half of Brookvale was entered December 18, 1835, by Richmond T. Haines. William T. Graham and his wife, who now live south of Clarence, are seen seated in the front yard. This is the couple from whom the Rev. M. L. Gray, the present owner, bought Brookvale.

Halbach-Schroeder Co.

QUINCY'S BIG WHITE STORE

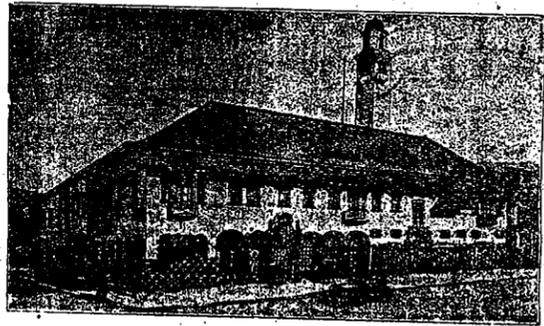
Stock your "stocking wardrobe" WITH PHOENIX HOSIERY. Airflo 2-thread super-sheer Shadowless chiffon. For your very best dress! Afternoon 3-thread sheer Shadowless chiffon. To go with bridge and cocktail hour clothes. Everyday 4-thread sheer Shadowless chiffon. Wear these with formal tailored clothes. Knockabout 6-thread dress service weight. For your tweeds and knitted things. Bobbed Hosies 4-thread Shadowless chiffon with self-supporting Latex top. Knee length for comfort and freedom. Buy the right hosiery for the right occasion. It will give you longer miles of fashionable wear! Smartest new colors. 79c Others \$1.00 to \$1.95

Join Our PHOENIX HOSIERY CLUB

When you buy Phoenix Hosiery at the Halbach-Schroeder store, ask for your membership card to join the Phoenix Hosiery Club. It entitles you to a complimentary pair of Phoenix Hosiery. All you need do is buy your hosiery in the regular way. Then, when you have purchased 12 pairs Phoenix Hosiery, you receive one pair gratis.

Hosiery Dept., Street Floor

CLARENCE, MO.



Greetings and best wishes to our friends in the old home county

WE JOIN with those who desire to show their appreciation of the pioneers who laid the foundation for one of the best counties of all, with the hope that those living today and those who are to follow may be as strong and brave as those who preceded us.

We are proud that we were born and reared in Shelby County.

NAETER BROTHERS George A. Naeter Fred W. Naeter

Publishers Cape Girardeau Southeast Missourian, owners Naeter Brothers Publishing Co., Inc.; Missourian Printing & Stationery Company, Inc. Naeter Brothers Realty Company, Inc., Cape Girardeau, Mo.

THE MILLING INDUSTRY IN SHELBY COUNTY

(Continued from page 6, Sec. C) pick it carefully by hand. If she wanted a pretty blue cloth for clothing she would color some of her wool a deep blue with a prepared dye known to the women at that time. The carder would then mix this with a certain amount of white wool and the rolls produced would spin into a yarn from which a beautiful blue cloth could be woven.

This mill, built in 1840, was yet in operation in 1879, but not for many years after that, the improved methods of manufacturing yarn and the roller process used in manufacturing flour practically putting it out of business.

Of course among the many mills, large and small, first established in the county, steam power operated its share and many smaller mills were built in various parts of the county and served the people of their respective section for a time. Among these the principal ones were: one built at the present site of Bethel by Peter Stice in 1836; one built about the same time, started by Silas and Asa Boyce and completed by Anthony Blackford and Nehemiah Redding on Salt River about three and one half miles southeast of Shelbyville; one built in 1837 about two and one-half miles southeast of Shelbyville, by Wm. J. Holliday, who said the first mill built in the county was by the mill-right, Julius A. Jackson, built near Oak Dale in 1835; one built in 1838 by Hill Shaw in the southeastern part of the county, about two miles northeast of Lakenan, and one built in 1839 on North River nearly two miles below the present town of Bethel. All of these mills served the people for awhile but in course of time were either destroyed by fire or removed, none of them being now in existence. Short accounts of the most important steam mills are as follows:

say, added a wool carding department. This mill was operated by various parties, Messrs. Wilson and Evans, Patrick McCarty (assassinated in 1876) and John W. Lair, who was the owner when it burned in 1833. It was again rebuilt, it is said, by H. G. ("Dolph") Miller (one of the best mill-rights in the county) for Mr. Lair. This mill was principally a flour mill, but ground considerable stock feed in later years. In time the roller process for making flour was installed, by whom we have not been able to learn. It was later operated by Stribling and Shale, and then by J. M. Wine who moved it to a site on the right-of-way of the Burlington Railroad in Clarence where it burned about six years ago. It was well patronized by the farmers around Clarence and at one time "Clarence White Loaf" flour was very popular with the people. Its loss left Clarence without milling facilities except steel buhrs used in the two elevators principally for grinding feed.

The building of the mill on Black Creek by H. G. Miller in 1871 and 1872, marked the beginning of the town that is now Leonard. "Dolph" Miller, one of the best, if not the best, mill men in Shelby County, built the mill and was its sole owner. He constructed it for grinding grain, except wheat, sawing lumber and carding wool, and put it in a substantial and commodious building where it remained until changing economic conditions caused its removal. Built and operated by an expert miller on the southwest corner of Section 19, Township 59, Range 11, at the crossing of two roads, the junction of four section corners, and in one of the most fertile farming sections of Northeast Missouri, the mill was a success from its establishment and the result was no doubt an increase

in the value of all the large community that patronized it. About 1833 or 1834 it was removed and replaced by a smaller mill bought by I. N. Watson but put in operation (for him) by H. G. Miller. This mill changed owners several times and was finally removed, and at this time Leonard, like most towns, is without a mill.

Sometime in the early nineties a fine twenty-five barrel flour mill, which made flour by the roller process, was built at Shelbyville and operated.

In 1891 the Farmers Alliance, which had then become strong in some parts of Missouri and Kansas, erected a fine fifty barrel, roller process, flour mill at Shelbyville for the purpose of making flour for its owners and commercial purposes. This mill was operated for the Alliance by Mr. James A. Hamilton, now a resident of Clarence, and Mr. E. C. Phillips, of Lakenan, now deceased. It did a thriving business for about ten years when it was acquired by its present owner, Mr. Dan Tillett. Mr. Tillett ran it until changing conditions rendered its further operation unprofitable. At least it is not being operated at present, but it is the only mill of any consequence left in the county. The foregoing brief review of a once extensive industry in our county will bring not only reminiscences to those who read it but suggestive consideration of the present economic and social conditions of our people. We can not help but wonder if the altered methods now used for the production of those things that satisfy our needs, and by persons who are total strangers, are conducive to a better social relation among our people? Are the generations who know but little about the past and gone work of a sturdy citizenry apt to get a beneficial perspective of the moral tone of a people daily

engaged in a work for a purpose and a loving end? We trust improved economic conditions will bring improved social and civic conditions.

The United States Government was called "Uncle Johnny Congress" in pioneer days in Shelby county.

Tiger Fork Township was one of the first settled and organized in Shelby County, the first settlement being in 1832.



GOODYEAR TIRES



Willard Batteries



Batteries Recharged Repairing

V. L. NOEL Clarence, Mo.

FASHION FLASHES

By MARY LOUISE KENT

BLUE stockings on Broadway—think of that—and they are very smart in the new shades—so sheer, they give one the impression of pale nothing—nice for dress up afternoon wear—

Watch your purse girls—not only because of possible "snatches" but because the boy friend is reading your character—by it and its contents. Spill yours on the table—in private if you are wise—read your own character—don't be surprised if it is not too flattering—

My lady goes out in the rain—in dear old London they battle with it in macintoshes as drab as the weather itself—Paris almost as unanimously has adopted white—but Madam and Miss New York—run a rainbow round the City—with all the colors of the spectrum—to this they add the gay colored "shoe glove" and my lady of America—sleek and shimmering—is gay as usual—and so easy to look at—

Clips, bracelets, rings—are anything but modest of design—and as for size—well your strength to carry them is all that need be considered. The sale of old gold seems to have brought to life a flood of semi-precious stones and massive settings that are quaint and so pretty.

Loud cheers—the shoe comes into its own—begins to look more like a shoe and less like the top of a cranberry pie—I must say I like them—never could quite see beauty in a lot of toes poking out—cover up your toes and be gay with your heels—

Make up tones down—less color on the cheeks—much less on the lips—and "mucher lesser" on the finger nails—if you listen to the dictates of Dame Fashion.

Real flowers worn in your spring hat together with a corsage to match—is the last word—and a pleasing suggestion—that may be followed without too much effort other than a bit of thoughtful planning.

Speaking of flowers—the New York Flower Show is responsible for a fad that binds together a number of carnations—after trimming the calyx, enough to prevent the green from showing above the top—using all of one color they make a very attractive corsage—which may be varied by encircling a white center with pink or red or visa versa—effectively old fashioned in appearance.

Plaids and checks have taken the spring fancy in no uncertain manner—and they are all so pretty unless you have taken on a little too much weight—but even then you need not deny yourself—if you will confine your selections to the smaller designs that are not too pronounced—

Buckles, slides and buttons, to match, may be had in such great variety of shades, you can adapt them to almost any material—and they add a lot to the swank of your outfit—



3144—Jacket Suit—stylishly-trim, and practical with dark jacket, of basket weave wool or wool crepe, over silk print or rough silk crepe dress—the original model, used a Dusty Pink Pebble Cloth for the jacket over a Tobacco Brown Silk Crepe Dress—Sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 bust measurements. Size 36 requires 2 3/4 yards of 39-inch material for the jacket and 2 3/4 yards and 1 1/2 yards 39-inch for the dress. 3394—Nice for your garden and household tasks—made of cotton print or plain linen with contrasting color piping—you may be as gay as you please in both design and color—very useful, simple to make and comfortable all purpose house dress you will enjoy wearing— Sizes 16, 18 years 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measurement— Size 36 requires 3 3/4 yards material and 39 inches wide.

HERALD FASHION SERVICE 21 EAST 57th STREET NEW YORK CITY

Enclosed is 15 cents for PATTERN No. .... Size ..... (Wrap coins carefully). Print name clearly ..... Street and number ..... City and State .....

ASK YOUR DEALER FOR BUETER'S BUTTER-KRUST AND PRUN-O-WHEAT BREAD

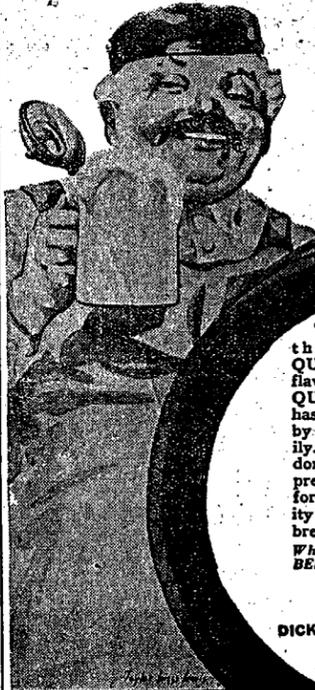
Made with choice flaked wheat and concentrated prune juice. A natural laxative food. 14-days trial will convince you of the natural benefits.

T. H. Bueter Baking Co. QUINCY, ILL.

SEVEN GENERATIONS

of Men

have said that DICK'S Quincy Beer is the Best of all in Body and Flavor



"KNOWING HOW"—that explains DICK'S QUINCY BEER'S superior flavor and body. DICK'S QUINCY BEER, for 77 years, has been brewed and sold only by members of the Dick family. Every step in brewing is done with care and exactly as prescribed by the original Dick formula. Only the finest quality ingredients are used in the brewing. When you drink DICK'S QUINCY BEER you are drinking the finest beer brewed today. Bottled or on draught at all popular places. DICK & BROS. QUINCY BREWERY CO. Quincy, Illinois

DICK'S QUINCY BEER

Since 1857

America's Finest

Dick's Quincy Beer is Sold

Everywhere

(Continued on page 8, Sec. C)

HISTORY OF BETHEL COMMUNISTIC COLONY

(Continued from page 1, Sec. C) ties which were always held at the church, it was observed that each child was remembered by Santa Claus in exactly the same way and with exactly the same portion of any given article. The festivities usually lasted for a week. There were always two big Christmas trees loaded with cookies of all kinds. Men would begin ringing the bells at four o'clock Christmas morning. Some of them would have stayed all the night before at the church to keep the building warm, and the service would always begin in the wee hours of the morning.

March sixth was another important day for the colonists. This was Dr. Keil's birthday. In those days they had old fashioned ovens out of doors. Here they would cook the meat and other things that they would need. The whole community was invited to come and eat dinner, and if strangers were visiting in the community they were also welcome.

Mr. Miller taught the town school for ten years. The community had a German teacher, and also had an English teacher. It was just a one room school house, but everybody had a chance to get a good education if he wanted to.

Care was taken that a person should be buried in the same degree of state accorded to his comrades who had preceded him to the peaceful colony of the dead.

In the spring of 1866, having established Bethel colony on a firm and productive basis, Dr. Keil set about his duty of stringing out communistic settlements westward. Dr. Wolf was named as his successor at Bethel. The first settlement after Bethel was Ninevah, in Adair County, and then Dr. Keil went to Oregon, where he established another colony.

Sometime before making his journey to Oregon, Dr. Keil had promised his favored son, William, that he should go with him. Before the trip was begun, however, the boy died off fever. Then Dr. Keil put into practice a lesson which he had been instilling for years in the breasts of his followers, that a promise was sacred in life or death, that a man should die much sooner than break one.

He obtained from St. Louis a large metallic casket in which he placed his son's body, and then filled the receptacle with pure alcohol. The people of Bethel understood why this was done. On the day of the departure, Dr. Keil had his son's body driven to the center of the square in Bethel, and there addressed those who were to remain. Four horses were attached to the vehicle transporting the remains of the boy. In the early morning hours the forty strange caravans started on their long journey westward. By day and by night the rugged pilgrims had with them the stern reminder of the doctor's sacred pledge.

"It was not a pleasant task to escort his boy's remains two thousand miles, the distance from Missouri to Aurora, Oregon, and to have with him always amid that wild and lonely country the depressing influences of his boy's dead body; but it made his people think; it made us think; the purpose of it was plain. A colonist dared not lie," said Mr. Miller.

From the time Dr. Keil left Bethel until his death he exercised general direction over Bethel by correspondence.

When the war came on, the people of Bethel were strong Union men, and they became and continued Republicans in politics. Twice the Southern forces demanded and obtained provisions at the mill. Some of Green's and Porter's men robbed some of the stores, but the commanders made the men return the goods. These people were not for war, and only two or three, and they quite young, entered the army.

When Dr. Keil died, no one seemed to wish to assume the responsibility of keeping up the plan as it had been mapped out, and the colony at Bethel resolved to disband during the year 1879. This involved an important legal question. How much should go to each member? Should all be paid alike or should the stronger ones get more? Some had worked from the start of the colony in 1845 to the death of Dr. Keil without drawing a cent from the general revenues. The value of the general property had grown enormously. The people were industrious and saving, and their business affairs had been well managed.

Finally an agreement was signed by all the colonists at Bethel, and also by those in Oregon, for an equitable division of the property. Three trustees were appointed to represent the Oregon settlement, and five were empowered to act for Bethel. The trustees took account of stock, placed a value on it and then figured on what such labor was worth. Also an allowance was made for those who had brought property with them. The result of the trustees' analysis of the complex problem was that each male member of the Bethel colony should receive \$29.04 a year in cash for his services and the female members one half that sum. The Oregon property was divided on the same basis. No colonist raised a word of protest against this adjudication. Each took his part and went into business for himself. Thus ended thirty-five years of this interesting communistic experiment.

The descendants of the colonists are now running the Bethel of today. They are a quiet, intelligent and hard-working people. They have nice homes and stores, and the whole town has a thrifty and clean look about it, an heritage of neatness and good order from their ancestors.

INVENTOR OF THE CORN PLANTER SHELBY CO. MAN

(Continued from page 1, Sec. C) said of later, or the latest makes of planters, we maintain that John W. Vandiver was as much the originator and inventor of the corn planter as Cyrus McCormick was of the reaper, and

should have the credit for the impetus given to the grain growing industry of the country by his inventive genius.

In 1860 he moved to Shelbina where he first manufactured corn planters for sale, later moving to Hannibal for better factory facilities. Not long after locating there Josh Wood, son of Ex-Gov. Wood, of Illinois, and a Mr. Barlow, became interested in Mr. Vandiver's patents, formed a partnership with him and established a factory at Quincy, Ill. where a planter was made known as the Barlow-Vandiver Rotary Planter, which continued under that name until Mr. Vandiver's original patent ran out when the Vandiver name was dropped. We have also operated this planter but we never deemed it as good a planter as the original Vandiver Planter. However, we believe this planter was not made until after the death of Mr. Vandiver in 1866, which cut short his work as a manufacturer.

In placing his invention before the people and obtaining their approval in the purchase of his manufactured article, Mr. Vandiver encountered the usual superstition with which people generally view an invention of an entirely new piece of machinery. Mrs. W. E. Renner, a well-known resident of Bacon Chapel neighborhood, relates the account of an event which illustrates this in regard to the acceptance of Mr. Vandiver's corn planter. Mr. Renner says that in 1864, when a boy of nine years of age, he witnessed a demonstration of the Vandiver Corn Planter made by an implement dealer in his boyhood home of Preble County, Ohio. Being the first corn planter ever heard of in that country the demonstration attracted persons from the surrounding country for many miles. Many in the large crowd present said the planter could not drop the corn evenly and regularly. The planter was run with the runners on top of the ground and usually showed the regularity of the drop to the satisfaction of all present. Again it was contended that the planter (one having wooden wheels and evidently of the first make) could not cover the corn. The planter was then run with the runners in the ordered ground, as when planting regularly, and showed the corn well covered to the satisfaction of all present. The result was the sale of a number of planters in that part of Ohio. No other make of planter was then, or ever had been, in Ohio, and this should determine that the Vandiver Planter was the pioneer planter of the American farmer.

Although Mr. Vandiver's business interests caused him to locate in Hannibal and, probably, later in Quincy, yet that did not

cause him to lose his interest and attachment to the county where he spent the major part of his life, and when, on September 3, 1866, he passed away at the age of 53 years and 6 months, his remains were brought to his home county and laid to rest in the cemetery at Bacon Chapel where he now sleeps beside his wife who was laid beside him after her passing on October 15, 1883.

In 1845, Mr. Vandiver chose for his companion in life a daughter of his native state, Miss Julia Jacob, whose father, John Jeremiah Jacob, was among the early settlers of Virginia and a soldier of the Revolution under General Washington. Of this union two children are yet living, John Jacob Vandiver, of Loveland, Colorado, and Mrs. Jennie Wirgman, of Romey, West Virginia. Mr. Vandiver's oldest daughter, Annie, married William Priest, well known in Shelby county. Mr. and Mrs. Priest are both deceased, having left two sons and one daughter, the latter, Susie (Mrs. Dimmitt), is now deceased. The oldest son, William Priest, lives in Kansas City, Missouri. T. Eugene Priest is a well-known resident of the community west of Shelbyville where his father and grandfather, the late Matthew Priest, formerly lived.

We feel sure that it would be gratifying to these descendants of Mr. Vandiver, as well as to the citizens of Shelby County, to know that a proper tribute will be paid to the inventor for his part in the building of his country and state by seeing his name enrolled in its proper place in the historical archives of the state and nation.

Flies were a real menace to horses during the daytime in some sections of Shelby county up to 1848 or 1850, and much of the traveling was done at night.

HIGHEST PRICES

PAID

on

Poultry

Eggs

Hides and Pelts

We Sell

Flour-Feed-Salt

COURTEOUS SERVICE

CARROLL

PRODUCE

SHELBYVILLE—PHONE 267

HAGERS GROVE VICINITY IN CLAY TOWNSHIP

(Continued from page 5, Sec. C) dog would gather at the edge of the water, watching with bated breath for the boat or hack to make at safe landing.

Our Church

The present building was here it has been somewhat remodeled and trees now fill the yard that then was bare with the exception of three large oaks, one on one side and the two remaining on the other side of the path thru the yard, and we are sure the sky never looked bluer or the moon more beautiful than when a child we walked by Mother Roy's side, thinking how swiftly the moon traveled thru the sky, just one of childhood's beliefs. Wonderful preachers have filled the pulpit here, Rev. Browning, Rev. Dorsey, and others at which time we had such patriarchal men as Messrs. Chenoweth, Perry, Creekmur, Peoples and Byars. Such a hushed, solemn atmosphere as the house of worship held at that time, the men seated on one side of the building, the women on the other, while with what reverence the sacrament was blessed, then too

had no musical instrument. An elder would read a line of song, then the congregation sing it and on thru its completion. There was no place in their religion for the young people. They there, as elsewhere where older people were gathered, were to be seen and not heard. The congregation must have lost interest with the removal of some of its leaders for it was long we had services of no kind. Thru God's grace Rev. F. M. Branic, then a pupil of Leonard Academy, a struggling young preacher, in January of 1890 held a six weeks meeting, resulting in some 78 additions, money being raised to buy an organ, a church bell, and remodeling the building, and a spiritual uplifting of the neighborhood in general. The gratitude felt this struggling man of God was expressed in helping him in various ways; yet the membership will always hold this sainted man in the reverence he so richly deserves. Since then there have been Sunday school and preaching most of the time, and we hope never to see the day when it will revert to its former state since the phenomenal revival. More wonderful messengers of God's word have been here, such as the Lowes, Crow, Hanna,

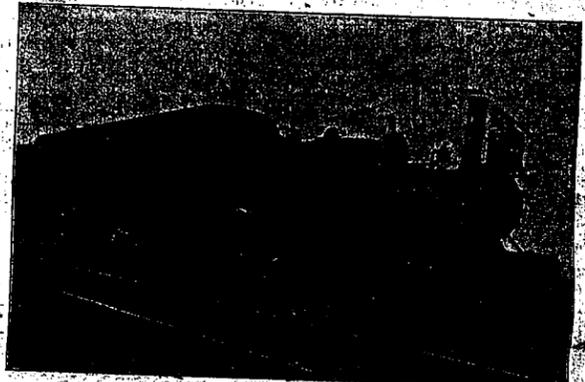
Mauck, Shoemaker, and many others all having left the imprint of their christian spirit upon this people. Messrs. Frank Alexander, Cass Stover, Henry Glahn and Father Roy were among those who served faithfully on the church board, which at the present time consists of Wm. Gosney, J. S. Hopper, Robert Vickers, Frank VanHouten, Willie Jones and Harry Glahn.

Modes of Travel Then and Now

Former residents were pleased to own a buggy or carriage in which to ride, many yet going in the lumber wagon with chairs for seats. The quiet of the Sunday morning service was unbroken then by the noises now made by the numberless autos passing to and fro, whose destination is often far from the house of God, to say nothing of the drum of the huge motors propelling the huge birds of man's device that soar so majestically in the air.

A former resident of this vicinity returning would find the woodsman with his ax makes much difference in the landscape, for the pasture just east of the church is now practically clear of trees and the pasture south of that, where the ball games were played when

FIRST TRAIN IN SHELBYVILLE



Nothing Gives so Much for so Little as Your TELEPHONE

If you had the only telephone in the world it might be valuable as a curiosity, but it would be of about as much use as a means of communication as grandfather's clock!

When Shelby County was located 100 years ago it took days to get in touch with your neighboring communities. Today you can talk to any place in the United States in only a few minutes time.

Western Telephone Corporation OF MISSOURI

Safeguarding Your Money on Deposit

It is gratifying to know that the funds you deposit in a bank will be completely protected against loss. The result is a feeling of security based upon justified confidence.

Deposit Insurance provides these benefits. Created for the purpose of insuring bank deposits, this form of financial protection is now available to all of our customers.

Although \$5,000 is the amount insured for each depositor, it is not necessary for you to have this amount in your account before you can enjoy insurance. All amounts up to and including five thousand dollars which you deposit with us are fully insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Shelby County State Bank

CLARENCE, MISSOURI

FARMERS EXCHANGE

o—o

Dealers

in

PRODUCE

FEED — FLOUR

GROCERIES

We Buy

Poultry — Eggs

Cream