

matter how it was done, the business of laundry was the same. The clothes were put in to soak the night before and washing was begun as early as 4 a.m. Every housewife tried to outdo her neighbors by getting her wash on the line first.

Tuesday was "Ironing Day." Flat irons were heated on the cook stove. Men's boiled shirts, linen collars and cuffs and women's and children's dresses and underwear, with many yards of ruffles, starched to a wooden inflexibility, were all done up at home, which took the entire day to complete the job.

Wednesday was "Sewing and Mending Day." Women's and children's clothing and men's work shirts were made at home.

Thursday was the mid-week rest day, usually being spent in crocheting, embroidering, quilting and weaving rag carpets. Examining some of the uses of hand needle work made in the nineties is a most highly amusing pursuit. One wonders how women could employ so much valuable time making these exquisite articles. Endless hours were spent on Battenburg embroidered doilies, hand towels with drawn work, heart shaped picture frames, embroidered with heavy silks in natural floral patterns, bolero jackets in solid tatting and newspaper cases of linen, partitioned off to hold one paper for each day of the week. Embroidery circles and clubs were much in vogue. The following menu was typical of those being served as a luncheon for a needlework circle: tomato bisque, wafers, creamed salmon in cases, saut'd chicken a la Regence, French peas, orange Charlotte, cake and coffee.

Friday was "Cleaning Day." The thick carpets had to be swept with a broom; the housewife usually wore a dust cap or towel wrapped around her head to protect her hair. After a thorough sweeping of each room and stairs, furniture was then dusted. Kitchen floors and porches were scrubbed on hands and knees. The stoves were brightly polished.

Saturday was always "Baking Day." Cakes, pies, breads and cookies were the order of that day.

Sunday was called a "Day of Rest," but for the housewife it meant the arrival of company and extra cooking. It was during this period the old adage was most apt: "A man may work from sun to sun, but woman's work is never done."

It was a time of inexpensive living. Here are some prices quoted in 1890: sugar 4c lb.; eggs 14c doz.; potatoes 35c-40c bu.; butter 24c-25c lb.; top hogs \$4.15; wheat 70c bu.; corn 33c bu.; steers \$4.25 cwt.; hotel rates room and meals \$1 day; rooms 50c day; breakfast 15c; turkey dinner 20c; supper 15c; ladies night gowns 19c each; ladies shoes \$3.00 pair; children's shoes \$1.25 pair; corset 50c; men's shoes \$2.50; men's suits \$13 and overcoats \$10.

The average salary was \$8.00 per week.

In 1890 there were no such words as radio, television, chauffeur, for the automobile was only just emerging and had been called "The Horseless Carriage" or "Devil Wagon." No words were known like "income tax," "surtax,"—these were to come some 14 years later. Farmers had not heard of tractors, nor bankers of 'The Federal Reserve System.' Merchants had not heard of chain stores or self service.

Neither had the housewife heard of electric refrigeration. Tom Weaver had the first ice business in Shelbina, which was established in 1885. Ice was cut during the winter from the Weaver pond on the home place, and stored in sawdust in an ice house. Carl and Grady Weaver, sons of Tom Weaver, delivered ice daily during the summer months by team and wagon. The amount of ice a housewife wanted to buy was cut and weighed on hook spring scales, which were attached to the wagon. The ice was then delivered to your front yard where it was up to some member of the household to carry it, wash it off and place it in the ice box. The price was 35c per hundred pounds.

In 1909 Mr. Weaver built the first ice manufacturing plant in Shelbina. From then on when ice deliveries were made it was placed in the ice box by the delivery man.

The Weaver pond afforded great pleasure to the young in ice skating parties which was a very popular form of recreation at that time. Large bonfires were built to warm the skaters and great fun and pleasure were had by all who indulged in this sport. Other popular recreation and sports of the 90s included hay rides, sleigh rides in the winter, roller skating, buggy riding, horse racing and dancing. Dances were held in homes in the early 90s and music was by piano, fiddle, guitar and banjo. Sometimes a harmonica would be added. The dances which were popular in this era were the waltz, the polka, two-step, schottische, cake-walk, Virginia Reel, and rag time. Group singing was popular and what was known as Barber Shop Quartets. Among songs loved by all were "O the Banks of the Wabash," "Daisy Bell," "There'll Be a Hot Time," "Just Tell Them That You Saw Me," "The Sidewalks of New York," "Little Annie Rooney," "I Don't Want to Play in Your Yard," "Grandfathers Clock," "After the Ball," and many others.

Every township held a community picnic annually. Food was in preparation for two or three days in advance. Each family took a complete dinner, everyone was welcome and everything was free. As a rule a speech was made after dinner by some politician. Horse shoe pitching and foot racing prevailed.

During the 90s and thereafter the theatre became the property of the public. The whole country could not go to Broadway, but Broadway came to the people. Road shows and stock companies fanned out into the small communities and into the hearts of the public. Lecture courses became nationwide, being booked by small towns and cities. A lecturer was sent out at certain intervals through the year. This was later to be followed by the Chautauqua, which was an outgrowth of the Lecture Course, but included a variety of programs and entertainment.

A number of social clubs were organized in Shelbina during this period, among them being I.O.O.F.F., which was chartered in 1886 and is still very active today; P.E.O., chartered in 1901; the Proctor Knots, a baseball club; the Shelbina Bicycle Club, the Mandolin Club, the Apollo Club, the Tennis or Racquet Club which was known as the S.T.C.

In the 90s the blurred beginnings of the movie were appearing here and there under the name of the "Nickelodeon." This name had reference to the price of admission which was a nickel. The "Shelbina Nickelodeon" stood on the site of the present telephone building.

At this time women did not smoke, had not heard of bobbed hair, nor permanent wave, nor vamp, nor flapper, nor jazz, nor feminism, nor birth control. But they had heard of "The Bowery," the "Floradora Girls," the "Can Can Girls," and the "Hootchy-Cootchy Dancers."

A conventionally dressed woman wore a wide brimmed hat, a high choking collar of satin or linen and a flaring gored skirt which swept the street on all sides. Her waist was reduced to 18 or 20 inches. Her full sleeved shirtwaist had cuffs which were eternally getting dirty. Most skirts had heavy brush binding on the bottom which had to be replaced every few weeks, for constant contact with streets and walks reduced it to dirty fringe in no time at all. Cotton stockings gradually began to disappear and silk ones took their place. In the late 90s the style of dress did not change but became more colorful. Dresses were made of bright colored silks, satins and taffetas. Ostrich plume and feathers were in abundance on hats as well as feather boas worn around the neck and shoulders.

In the gay 90 men's clothes were gradually taking on the cut which was known as Prince Albert. Trousers legs were straight line. Men who were dressed up wore a derby hat, a woolen suit, usually black, dark blue or brown. The coat with padded shoulder, collar and cuffs stiffly laundered and the shirt held together at the chest with studs. Always a vest was