



# Jones County

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## Historical Review

Vol. 8

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### 'Happy Tho Old'

## Eccentric 'doctor' writes of afterlife

Editor's note

by C.L. "Gus" Norlin

Many people of Monticello, Jones County, and the surrounding area still remember Dr. J. W. Benadom, and his sanitarium in Monticello. Many men and women who lived in Monticello as children well remember catching and delivering live ground squirrels to Doctor Benadom (they were paid a nickel apiece) so that he might have a continuous supply of these rodents to feed his rattlesnakes and other species of serpents.

Doctor J. W., as he was called, died in 1944 from a blow to the head by a person or persons unknown while walking in the park during very early morning hours while the fair was going on. He was 101-years-of-age, a veteran of the Civil War. While serving in the Civil War he was a musician — a fifer.

A gentle man, he always had the desire to make his life's work the healing and comforting of the sick. His methods, to say the least, were unusual, his cures and curatives to many were abominable — a mixture of his own concoctions and Indian remedies.

After the Civil War he became an aide to a doctor in the east, and after a few months of "apprenticeship" came to this part of the country and set up practice. He was known as a physician and surgeon. Although never using a scalpel, he removed many growths by causing the flesh to "slew off" through manipulation, as he called it. There were hundreds who swore by him — hundreds more who swore at him.

He was a handyman, able to build fine furniture and knickknacks, some of which remain in this area today, as they were purchased at the widow's estate sale during the 1960s. Among some of the old glass negative pictures in my collection are to be found those which show his handiwork at both woodworking and doctoring. Some are reproduced here. In 1933, the Doctor wrote and published a small tabloid that exposed his most innermost thoughts. It is reproduced here.



**DR. J. W. BENADOM** in uniform playing fife, with pet robin sitting on end of fife. He always had a pet robin sitting on the fife while playing, and many times while out strolling would have a large snake entwined around his neck.

The tabloid was titled "Happy Tho Old."

by Dr. J. W. Benadom

The fact that this year of 1933 gives birth to my 90th year of existence, and unlike those of the past, the events of this coming year are hidden from view by the impenetrable veil of the future. We can but hope, however, that this new year will

contain more comforts, and pleasures and less sorrow than many of the years now past. As a memento of this fact, I assure you that it seems but a few days, as it were, since I was 77.

These milestones along the journey of life that have marked my progress onward, are seemingly passed with in-  
(cont. on page 2)

# Dr. Benadom —

(cont. from page 1)

creased rapidly. It is sometimes alarming to think how few remain and how soon they too will all be passed. I shall be ushered into the world of the unseen and the eternal. I sometimes am startled to think how soon I shall be in the midst of those great realities of which I have heard and read and thought so much about. Soon will they be present realities to me, objects of sight, and no longer objects of faith.

I shall gaze face to face on eternal scenes and I shall know even as I am known. And yet, if I am prepared, as through abounding grace I hope I am, why should I desire to block the rapidly revolving wheels of time? As they are sending me onward to my eternal home in the skies they are bringing me nearer and nearer to my glorious Saviour. They are hastening my companionship with holy angels and spirits of just men made perfect in Heaven.

The more rapidly I am borne onward, the sooner shall I be done with temptations and trials and sorrows, and be an inhabitant of that City where they shall hunger no more, neither shall they thirst, neither shall the sun light on them anymore, for the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them into living fountains of waters, and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

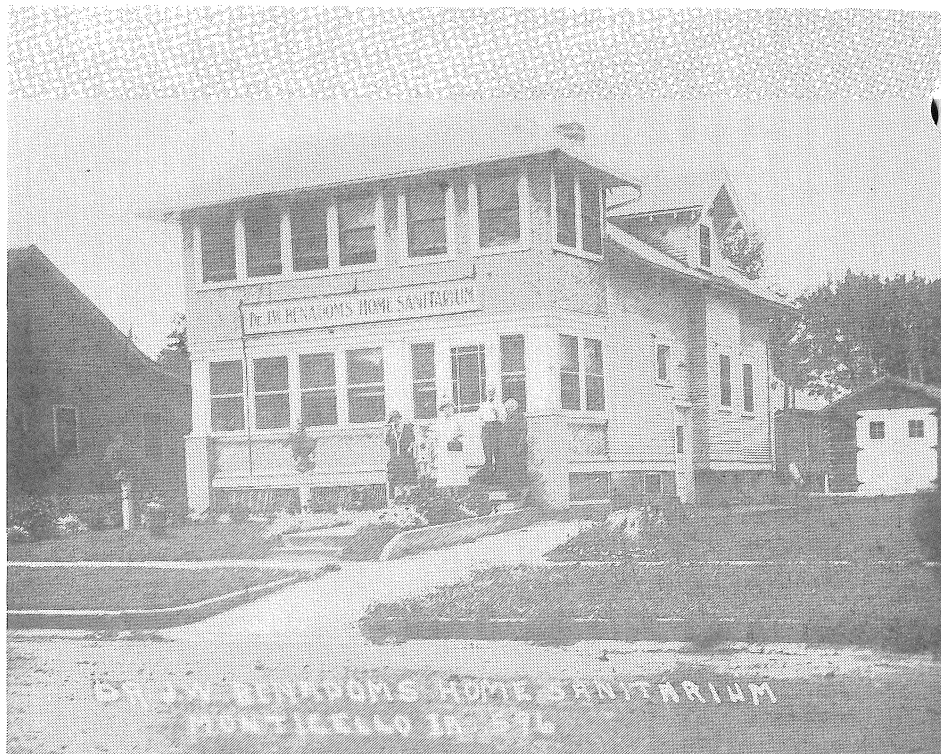
Welcome, then, the flight of Time. The happiness or unhappiness of old age is nothing except the extract of a past life.

The wheels of Nature speed your course. Ye mortal powers decay fast as ye bring the night of death, so ye bring eternal day. When the summer of youth is slowly wasting into the nightfall of old age, then the shadows of the past grow deeper, as if life were near its close. It is pleasant to look back through the vista of time upon the sorrows and the fallacies of the years.

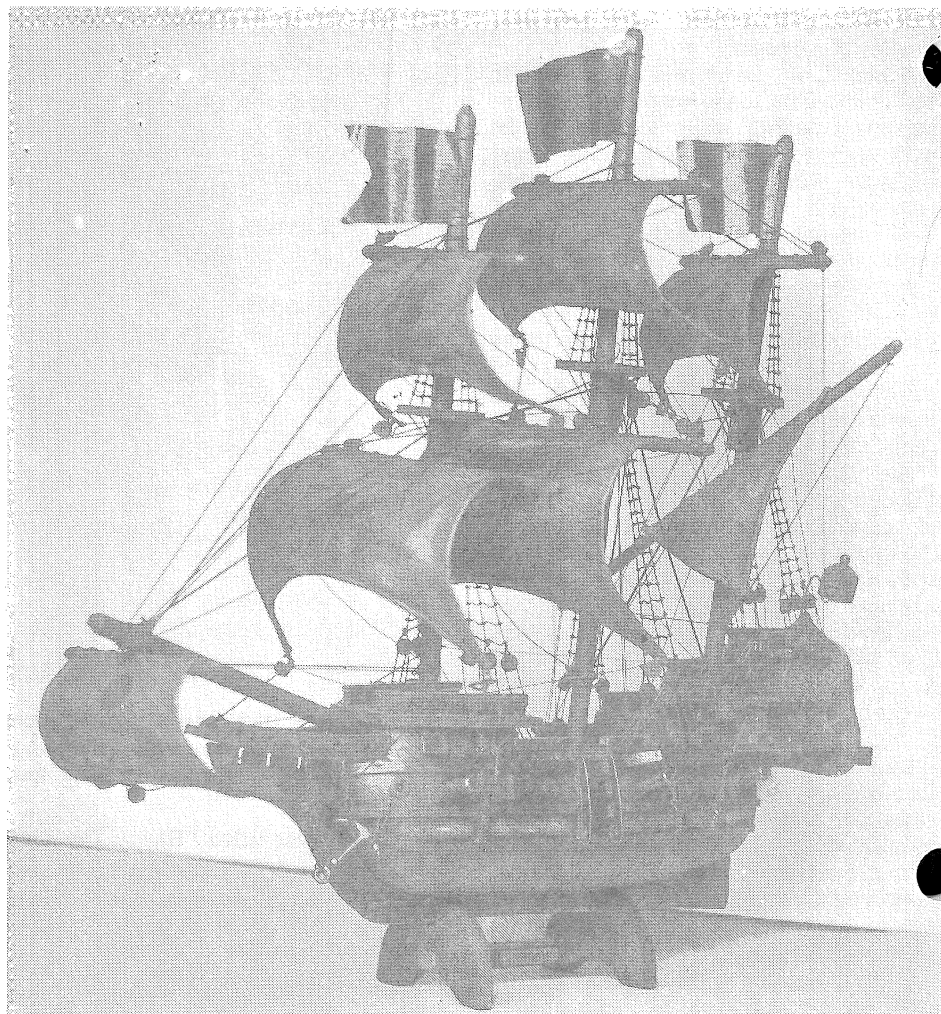
It has been brought most forcibly home to me that I have seen those who have played with me in boyhood's happy hours fall around me like the snow that falls from the sky — and they are only a memory. Of the many brave men who marched with me and stood shoulder to shoulder with me along the battle lines of the old Southland, nearly all have answered the last roll call, while their spirits dwell in God's eternal camping grounds.

Laying aside the musket and the cartridge belt, and taking up once more the simple life-saving, instead of life-taking instruments, I found new friends. And they too have nearly all answered the call. At the open grave I heard the preacher pronounce his final benediction and say, "Ashes to ashes; dust to dust," over the last earthly remains of them who have been endeared to me by ties of blood, of love and of friendship.

Through the mystery of Death still  
(cont. on page 3)



PICTURE of Sanitarium and the doctor, located on North Sycamore St., Monticello.



MODEL sailing ship hand-carved and fitted by Dr. Benadom.

# Dr. Benadom —

(cont. from page 2)

Remains as great as the creation of life, yet the veil that separates the future from me has been lifted and enough revealed that I fear not. Rather do I welcome the beautiful plan that shall give me once more the greatest privilege of all — that of seeing my dearest friends in the one great and grand reunion of spirit souls beyond the pale of all earthly comprehension.

My earliest aim in life was to create a single green spot in the wilderness — a mecca for the sore and afflicted, around which I could build for myself a circle of understanding people, who could come to me from the remotest parts of the earth, into this green oasis of health and future happiness.

I have so created that spot and for years have revelled in the ever increasing growth and beauty of it. In the sunset of my life come the glorious knowledge and supreme satisfaction that, through the grace of God, my greatest desires have been accomplished, and I can look back upon a record that has had few failures, and those deeply-overshadowed by the gratitude of a multitude of friends.

If we have a home to shelter us, and friends, then the rough places of wayfaring will have been warm and smothered away the twilight of life, while the sunny spots we have passed through will grow brighter and more beautiful.

Happy indeed are those whose intercourse with the world has not changed the time of their holier feelings, or broken the musical chords of their hearts; whose arbitrations are so melodious and so touching to the evening of age. Happy is the man who findeth wisdom and the man who getteth understanding.

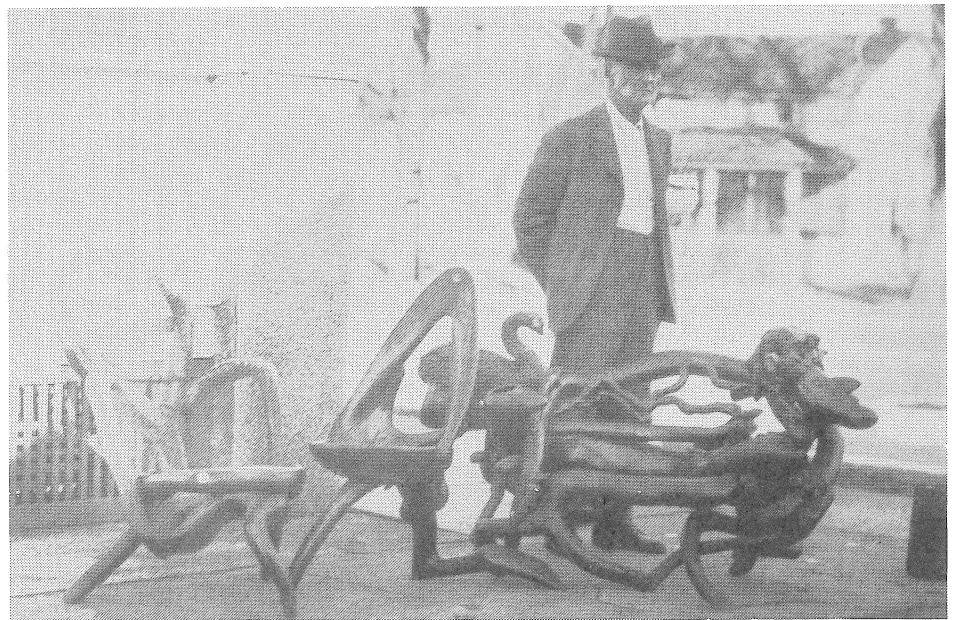
Length of days is in the right hand of pure understanding; in her left are riches and honors.

I live for those who appreciate my work; for the good that I can do; for Heaven smiles above me and awaits my spirit, too. A few short years of evil past, and we reach the happy shore, where death divides our friends at last we shall meet to part no more.

As the last golden rays of the last sunset of my long life lights up the trail that I must take into the Great Beyond, I shall be happy and thankful for the opportunity of the long life passed, but to me will be the one pertinent question which we all ask ourselves — Have I left the world better than I found it? Is the world any better for me having lived in it? As my spirit fades from the sight of earth along that trail into eternity, the answer to my questions must come from you, my friends, in earthly judgment. I shall be then before my Supreme Judge who errs not, and from whom there is no appeal.

If He so wills, may you then think of me

(cont. on page 4)



FURNITURE constructed by Dr. Benadom from roots and other wood pieces.



TABLE and two drums made by Dr. Benadom, who is standing behind.

## Dr. Benadom —

(cont. from page 3)

as looking back through the mists of Eternity down onto a peaceful, happy nation in a great world of contented people; all neighbors living in brotherly love with each other and united in the great love of a just and forgiving Father; a glorious banner above this perfect picture that will proclaim fulfilled the greatest wish of our Saviour — "Peace on earth; good will towards all mankind."

(Editor's note: On the final page of the Doctor's little booklet is found the following poem, composed by himself.)

### HAVE I MADE THE BEST OF LIFE I COULD?

Have I made the best of life I could?  
Came the thought as on its brink I stood.

Oh give me more time — and let me think  
— Have I given the sick a cooling drink?

Have I sent the dewy, fragrant flower  
To lessen the gloom of recent sorrow?

Have I given enough of my worldly store  
And earnestly wished I could give far  
more?

Have I taken the "Failure" by the hand  
And held him upright until alone he could  
stand?

Have I learned the lesson or been made  
to feel  
That the test of friendship is a grip of  
steel?

If not, then let me retrace my way  
And on bended knees earnestly pray  
For the blessing of truth and divine power  
To fill with good each fleeting hour.

For now at last I truly realize  
That deeds and actions alone must vis-  
ualize;

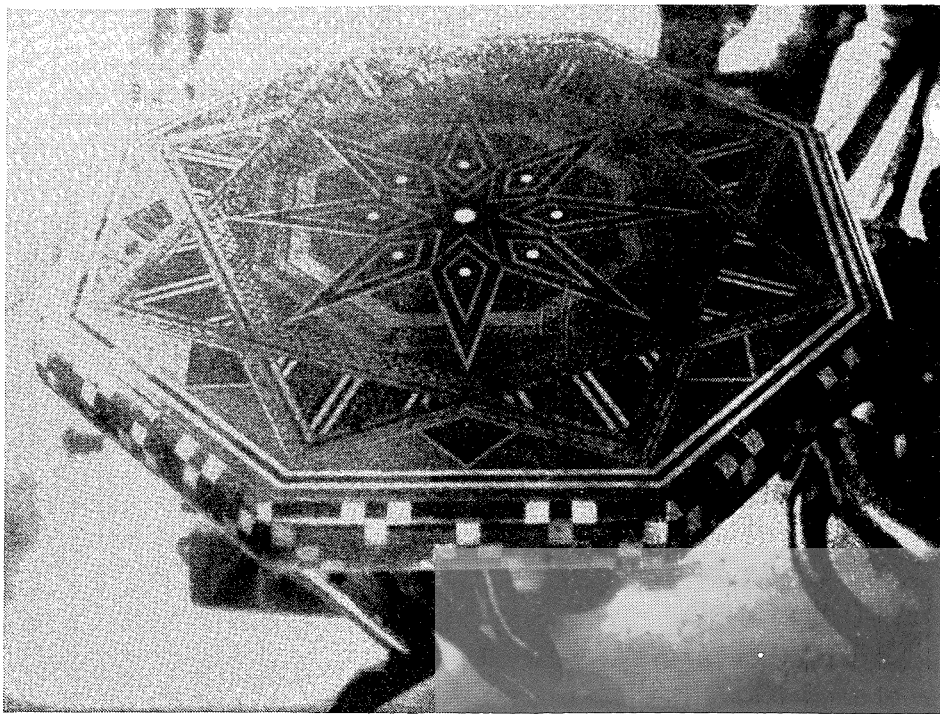
And after the battle of strife and strength  
Will come the glory of peace at length.

For Love is the power best understood —  
Have I made the best of life I could?

Dr. J. W. B.

P.S. I am thrilled with the joy of living and  
the universal love of mankind, with  
the hope that my patrons will receive full  
benefit of my professional services.

Dr. J. W. B.



A TABLE made by Dr. J. W. Benadom. Note the extremely fine work of inlay.



SMALL BOY sitting outside one of animal pens located behind Dr. J. W. Benadom sanitarium. Large pens of reptiles were also kept in this location.

## The trail grows dim

Dear Editor:

I am doing family research on the following family groups and would appreciate any information concerning them:

JOHN J. JACOBS from Jones County married ——— MILLER. One daughter, ANNA BARBARA JACOBS married JOHN F. MOORE.

Melchior MOOR or MOORE and wife

MAGDELINE TULLER came to Jones County from Switzerland in 1867. They raised their family in Jones County, and lived there until their deaths. Their oldest son JOHN F. MOOR or MOORE, was born in Switzerland in 1853 and married ANNA BARBARA JACOBS mentioned above. They farmed about 6 miles from Monticello.

Sincerely,

Nancy A. Wiedrich  
230 S. 13th Ave.  
Brighton, Colo. 80601

Jones County Historical Society

Some months ago I asked you to look into information on Joseph Anderson Secrest and his brothers and sisters. Your searching bore fruit for me, and now I'm  
(cont. on page 6)

# Treasury of old photos is unveiled

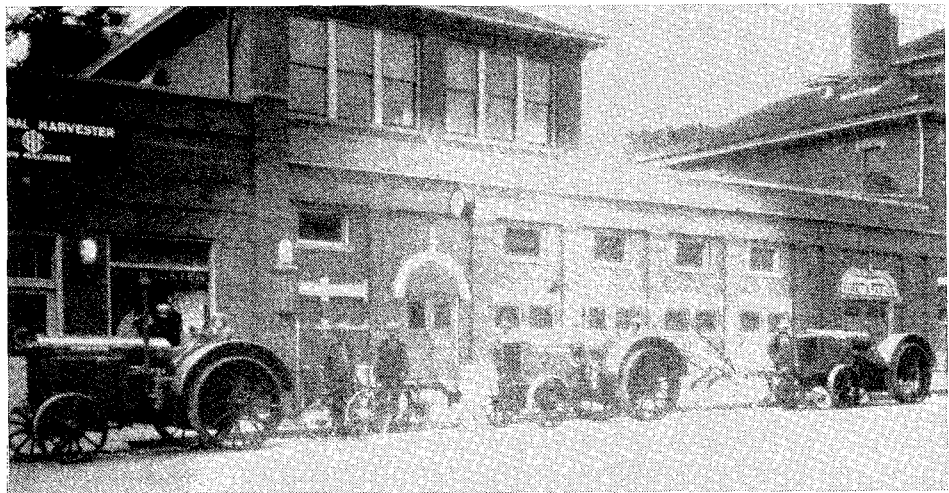
by C.L. "Gus" Norlin

Two of Monticello's earliest resident commercial photographers were C. J. Northrup and F. W. Coyle. Those photos of early Monticello street scenes, individuals, civic, fraternal and school groups, as well as others were generally the work of these two men. All of the very earliest were done using the glass plate negative, and this process continued into the early 1920s. After that period regular film sheets were used which made obsolete the glass plates.

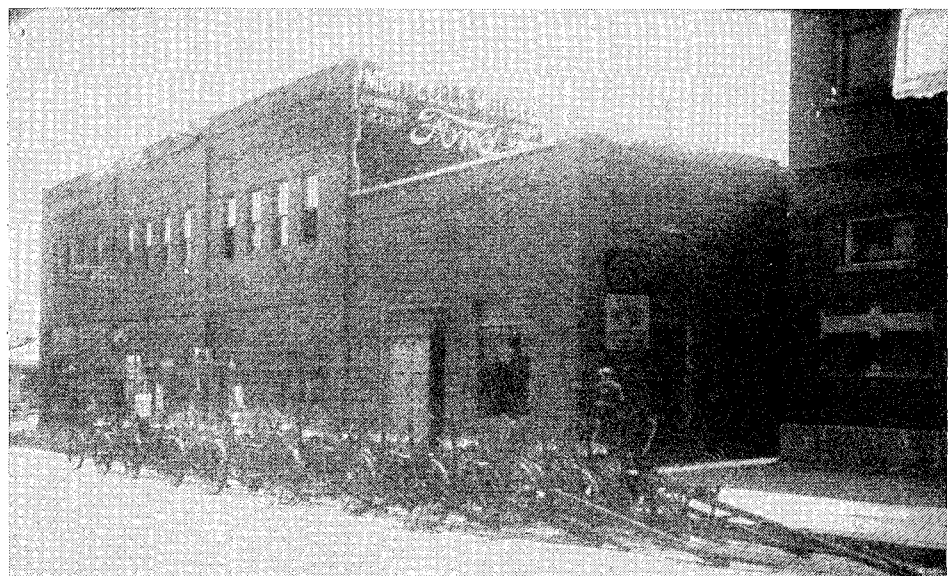
The late William Stambaugh as a young man found work with Mr. Northrup and actually apprenticed under him. Bill, as he was known, saved many of these old glass and early film negatives, and, knowing of my interest in early Monticello, gave me quite a number of them. After his death, and at the time of the estate sale, which I attended, I found a wooden box of these old glass plates which had been stored for many years in a wood frame garage. I inquired of the executor what disposition was intended for these and he said, "They go to the dump — take them if you want." No care had been taken of these plates for years so many were spoiled or broken, while others were salvageable.

Many of the scenes will be remembered by people yet living, others will not. John Peterson, editor, and Bob Goodyear, publisher of The Monticello Express, have taken quite some pains to have the pictures reproduced from some of these negatives.

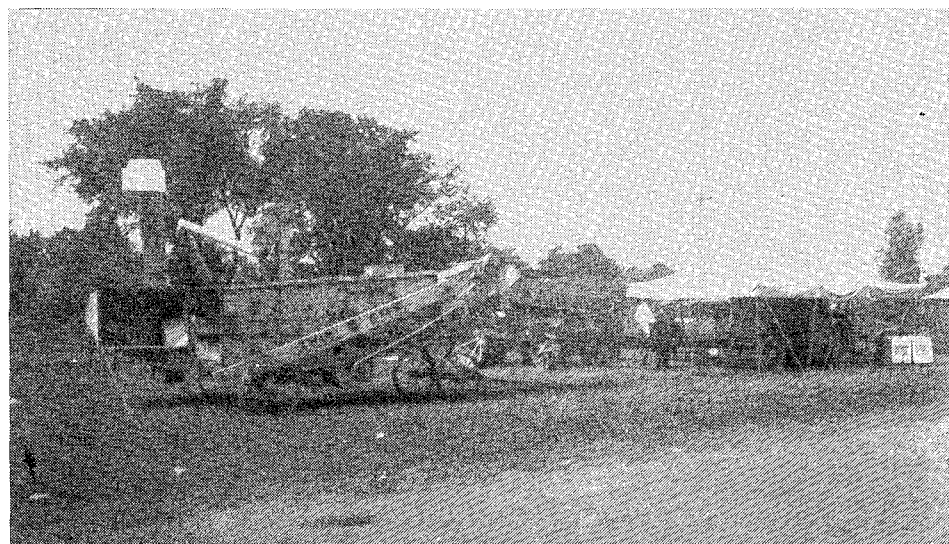
A goodly portion of these three combined issues of the Jones County Historical Review are devoted to these pictures. If there are no captions accompanying the picture, it means simply we do not know what or who it is. Should any of you readers have information on any of the pictures, we would appreciate knowing. Should any of you discover a picture to be of an ancestor, or touching on your family or life, and you wish a copy, they may be obtained from the folks at The Monticello Express. There will be many we will not print, simply because they are of individuals or families, and no determination can be made as to their relationship to local "people, places, or things".



ONE OF EASTERN IOWA'S largest McCormick Deering tractor dealers, R. H. Balster, with some of the tractors line up on First Street in Monticello. The picture was taken in the very early 1920s.



FARM EQUIPMENT on display, Monticello First Street, in front of buildings that now house Theisen's and Monticello Shoppers Guide.



MACHINERY on display, Great Jones County Fair, 1925-26.

## The trail grows dim

(cont. from page 4)

researching a family that is connected to the Secretsts, and I have been led once more to Jones County, Iowa.

The family name is INGRAHAM or INGRAM. I would like to find out more about JOSEPH W. INGRAHAM, whom you will find listed in the 1850 census. His wife's name was ELLENDER MERSHON (Also known as ELLEN), whom he married on 28 Oct. 1828, in Fleming County, Kentucky. She was born, probably in Fleming County in 1810 and died in 1863. Her parents were CORNELIUS HENDRICKSON MERSHON, and ANNE LOUISE HENDRICKSON. Joseph and Ellen had eight children. AMANDA, who married JOSEPH TAYLOR; LOHN LEWIS, who married ROMELIA REST; KATE who married MARCELLUS LEONARD; ANN who married HIRAM STEWARD; CORNELIUS: the Rev. Robert HENRY, who married MARY WILLIAMS (and later married EFFIE TAYLOR) JOSEPH THOMAS who married ALICE KIRBY; and the Rev. JAMES, who married JULIA HAKES.

I need more information because JOSEPH SECREST'S sister, CATHARINE B. INGRAHAM SECREST was my great-great-great-grandmother. Thanks for past help and I look forward to hearing from anyone with information.

Sincerely,  
William B. Secrest, Jr.  
4614 N. Bond  
Fresno, Calif. 93726

Dear Mr. Norlin:

Can anyone help in searching for the father of JOHN BURNIGHT, who married EMMA RIGBY, Feb. 1, 1881; information on DUNCAN BURNIGHT, who married MARY JARRETT, Aug. 15, 1858; DUNCAN BURNIGHT, who married JULIA WILLIAMS, Oct. 16, 1873? Are these two DUNCAN BURNIGHTS one and the same?

JOHN NELSON BURNIGHT lived in Jones County until 1882. His father LOT BURNIGHT and SARAH his wife must be buried in Jones County. Most of John Nelson Burnight's family are buried in Akron, Iowa.

Sincerely,  
Rose Mary Lutter  
Bronson, Iowa 51007

Dear Mr. Norlin:

Sorry you are out of the 1879 reprints of the Jones County History. Should anyone wish to sell their copy, or if you have another printing, please let me know. I need additional information on ancestors from what you have given me earlier.

What happened to my great-great-grandfather, WILLIAM JOHNSON, born

in England in 1815-16 and in 1869 was farming in Hale Township, (Post Office Onion Grove) Jones County, Iowa? His age at that time was 44. Some time between 1860 and Sept. 9, 1865, he either died or his marriage was dissolved.

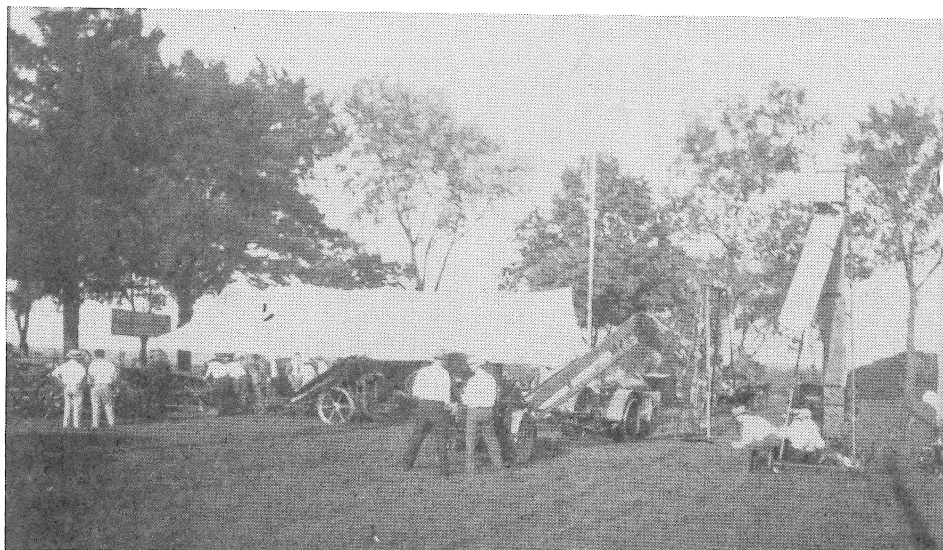
I've tried the Civil War angle but can't seem to come up with any William Johnson of the right age or birthplace serving in the Civil War from Iowa. There were two William Johnsons serving from Jones County, Iowa, but neither was he.

I'll start at the beginning. My great-great-grandmother, MARTHA ANDERSON, born in Ross County, Ohio, 20 June 1827, died Nov. 4, 1899, in Fulton County, Ill., and is buried in the Maryville Cemetery, Bryant, Ill., next to her third husband. There are three husbands, 10 children, and I can account for only eight of the children. Some may have died in infancy. She lived from time of birth to

approximately 1846 in Ross County, Ohio. Then from 1846 until right after 1860 she lived in Jones County, Iowa, Rome and Hale townships for sure. From some time after 1860 but before Sept. 9, 1865, until her death on Nov. 4, 1899, she lived in Fulton County, Ill.

Here is a record of her marriages and children. MARTHA ANDERSON married the REVEREND HENRY HOFFMAN in Ross Co., Ohio, Dec. 1, 1842. They had five children (at least) all born in Jones County, Iowa. They were: SEPTIMIUS WATSON HOFFMAN, born May 8, 1847; ELEASER HOFFMAN, born Sept. 1, 1849; LYDIA L. HOFFMAN, born 1851 or 52; HENRY HOFFMAN Jr., born 1853 or 54; MARTHA ELIZABETH HOFFMAN, born May 27, 1856. Rev. Henry died before July 1858, and his will was executed Oct. 3, 1859. Henry states in his will that he was of

(cont. on page 7)



MACHINERY on display, Great Jones County Fair about 1925-26.

# The trail grows dim

(cont. from page 6)

"PIERCE TOWNSHIP, Jones County, Iowa." There is no Pierce Township. A description of his farm puts it in Hale Township. Was the township name changed?

The second marriage: WILLIAM JOHNSON and MARTHA HOFFMAN (nee ANDERSON) were married Oct. 20, 1859, in Jones County. One child was known to have been born, and that child became my great-grandfather SAMUEL ROBERT JOHNSON. He was born Aug. 10, 1860. WILLIAM JOHNSON was found in the 1860 census, Hale township (P.O. Onion Grove).

Are there any burial records in Hale Township or can any readers help in locating tombstones in cemeteries in that area that would show that WILLIAM JOHNSON died some time between 1860 and 1865?

Any help will be appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Vernon William Johnson  
224 South Fillmore  
Laramie, Wyoming 82070

Jones County Historical Society

I have been searching for my husband's great-grandmother; ELIZA JANE (Russell) (Sadler) BIRCHARD. The Iowa Historical Society has helped me find his great-great-grandparents in the Jones County (Fairview Township) 1850 census. We have been unable to find his great-grandmother. We are led to believe that JAMES RUSSELL and a female were also in the 1840 census. James was born in 1811, making him 29 in 1840, however the lady listed under female could not have been his wife Malinda, as the census records indicate this female was between 40 and 50 years of age.

James' wife Malinda was also born in 1811. James Jr. was born July 6, 1843. ELIZA JANE was supposed to have been born Sept. 23, 1842, and Fidelia Cecelia was born April 22, 1841.

(Editor's note: No county records exist from that period as they were nearly all destroyed when the courthouse burned during the 1880s.)

Does anyone have any record of Russells in Jones County, Fairview Township between 1840 and 1853, other than the 1840 and 1850 census? ELIZA does not show in the 1850 census, although she would have been only 8-years-old in 1850. We are beginning to think that ELIZA was not the daughter of James or Malinda, but rather one of their sisters, as our family Bible says she was born in 1822. This is a real puzzler and is what is keeping me from charting the BIRCHARD line. ELIZA married my husband's great-grandfather June 8, 1854, in Hillsboro, Ore. Her name at

that time was MRS. ELIZA JANE SADLER. In the 1850 Iowa census for Lee County, there is a Lewis Sadler in family 505 P.O.I.

Can anyone give me any information including dates or names from tombstones?

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Rebecca Walker  
P.O. Box 607  
Cathlamet, Washington 98612

(Editor's note: The following has been forwarded to the Historical Society by the Monticello Public Library.)

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am seeking reports of the following:

1. Death record: ANN ELIZA JONES, first wife of JAMES GEORGE in 1884. She was born in Oxford Mills, Iowa, in 1841;

2. Marriage record: JAMES GEORGE, Monticello, Iowa, and, MARY ANN MOORE of DeWitt, Neb., in 1883 or 1884. She was formerly from Monticello, Iowa.

I am preparing a family genalogical study for my granddaughter, and due to the fact that JAMES and MARY ANN GEORGE, (my grandparents) died in their early 40s — leaving four little children, one of whom was my father, I have no records at all of this side of the family.

They were farmer residents along the old road from Monticello to Scotch Grove. They lived there from 1884 until 1893. My father Thomas James George was a member of both Rotary Club and the Order of Masons in Monticello. I do not know,

however, if JAMES was a member of these groups.

I need any information I can get and will appreciate any replies.

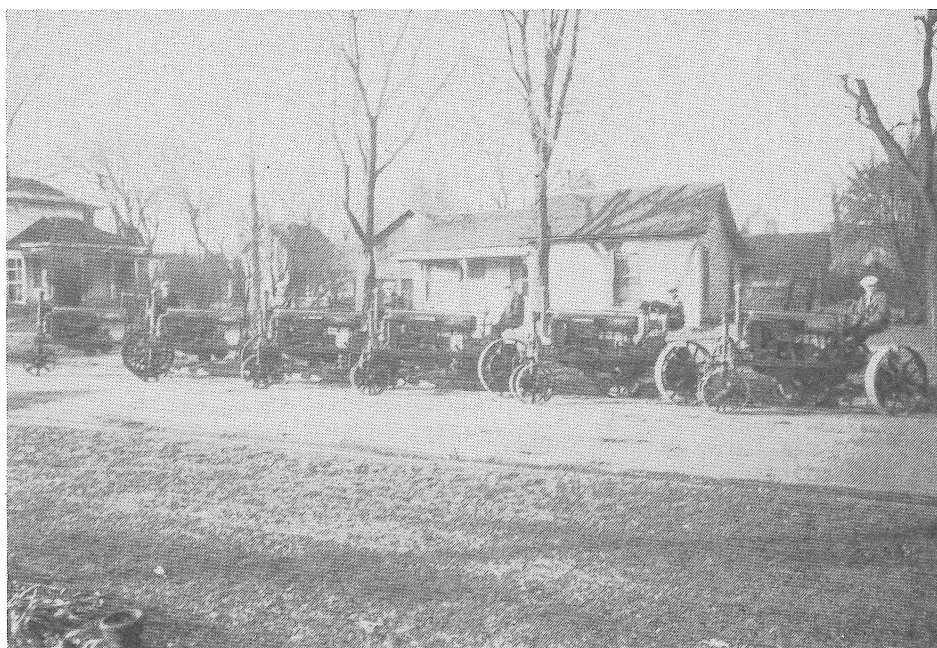
Sincerely,  
Laurie G. Wallace  
(Nee — Lucile George, Granddaughter  
of James and Mary Ann George  
Box 932  
Charlestown, R. I. 02813

Dear Editor:

I'm trying to trace my grandmother's brothers and sisters and who they married, etc. My grandmother was Gesche Margaretha Bohlken and she married Gerd Rickels. Her brothers were: Gerke Bohlken, William Bohlken, Henry C. Bohlken. Henry married Maggie Hildenbrandt and lived in Colorado.

My grandmother's sisters were: Thalke Maria Bohlken, Etta Maria Bohlken, Frauke Catharine Bohlken. Frauke Catharine married Carl Fredricks and lived in Nebraska. Anna Margaretha Bohlken married Phillip Hildenbrandt and lived in California and Colorado. I would like info on Thalke, Etta, Gerke and William. Will appreciate any information. I believe my grandfather Gerd Rickels also had a brother Harm and a brother John who owned a farm between Monticello and Anamosa, probably near Langworthy.

Milly Kuper  
R. R.  
Scotch Grove, Iowa 52331



MORE FARM TRACTORS on display (at Great Jones County Fair?) about 1926.  
Who are men alongside?

## Memories of a popular teacher

# J.J. Locher at Spencerville School

by John C. Clark

I will begin this story with the fact that John J. Locher of Monticello signed a contract to teach the winter term at the Spencerville School District, located in the extreme northeast corner of Wyoming Township at the turn of the century, 1899-1900.

The contract was for the winter months when all the big boys in the district attended school, and the job was just too much for a woman teacher to handle well, since there were in attendance 47 pupils of all ages from 5 to 17.

The lady teachers had been having trouble and the school board decided to import a man who could handle the job more satisfactorily. The man they got was a six-footer, weighing about 200 pounds, at whom the big boys looked with a great deal of respect and perhaps with some concern.

The new teacher's first act was to hang a pumpkin face clock and a short rawhide whip in the front of the room, and as each pupil entered, he asked each one if they saw the clock and the whip. No one failed to say "Yes." And it was Mr. Locher's boast in later years to say that he never had to take that piece of rawhide off the peg during his three months with those "big boys."

And J.J. did this job at the fancy wage of \$33.33 per month, \$100 for the three month term. Just ask our present day beginning teachers how much work and responsibility they would take on at about \$1.75 per day, and pay for their board, room and laundry besides. Of course board and room at that time was only \$2.50 per week.

Mr. Locher liked to tell about he and the big boys cutting trees down to supply wood for the school stove. The schoolhouse had just recently been moved a half mile east from the original site and set down in a patch of thick timber, where the school yard had to be cleared. The supply of wood was right at hand for a year or two, but somebody had to cut and prepare it for use. The school had a man working, but the big boys and J.J. furnished a lot of help, and the boys could work off some excess energy on the job. Mr. Locher himself could swing an axe and knew how to handle the maul and wedges. The so-called big boys who had made trouble for the lady teachers became models in deportment, and for many years afterward proclaimed to the world what a "wonderful guy" J.J. Locher was.

In 1899 I was seven-years-old and attended Spencerville School for nearly four years and had J.J. Locher as a teacher. It was during this time that I conceived the idea that perhaps I could plan to become a

rural teacher and take John J. Locher as a model. In fact I did that very thing and in 1910 at the age of 18 began teaching rural schools in Jackson County, and later at Frozen Hill in Jones County.

At Spencerville School I should not omit the tree stumps that remained after the trees were cut, and that interfered with our ball games. The girls used the stumps as bases for a teeter-totter, but the boys dug out a few to clear their baseball diamond. Of course they left a first base, a second base and a third base. The girls complained that we took too much space. In the spring and fall they retreated to the edge of the woods and made playhouses for themselves and the smaller children. In the winter we all had great sport sliding down hill on the sharp pitches of the valley knolls back of the building. Any piece of board big enough to sit on was a hand sled.

With nearly 50 pupils, the Spencerville School was crowded, both inside and out. The so-called double seats had to hold three each. I recall sitting between two larger boys and had very little space in the desk or on top of it for my book and slate. (Sure, we had slates and slate pencils.) It was crowded but we managed, and it was very convenient to get help from the larger boys if I needed it.

Any small child who had trouble with larger pupils at each elbow could ask for a transfer to a better location. This was usually done by having parents send a note to the teacher. We could just call it a first lesson in diplomacy, and it was done as quietly as possible. With that many pupils and so many short class periods, it was necessary that the teacher be a real diplomat also. As such, J.J. Locher proved more than equal to the occasions and left a name to be revered in the Spencerville District.

I should mention also that the local name for the school was Steam Mill Corners

School. Steam Mill Corners was a small village at a crossroads about a quarter mile west of the original school site. There are still several homes at that road junction. But the Steam Mill, the small store, the weaver's store, the blacksmith shop and the Justice of the Peace are long gone.

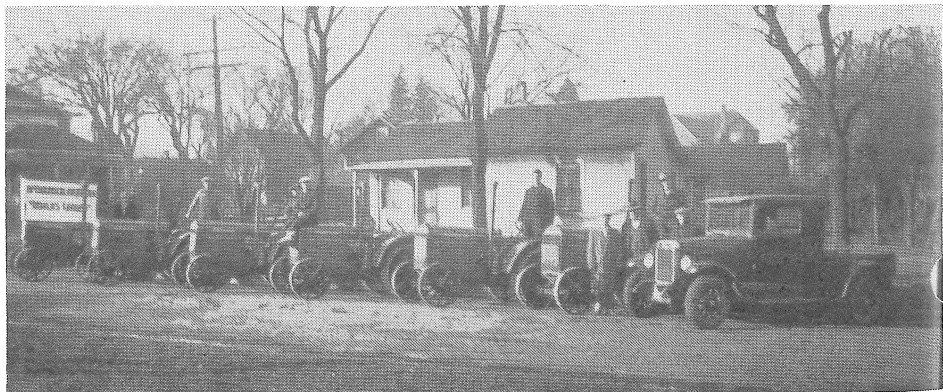
But because of the village, the original school location was far west of the center of the district. As the east side of the district was filled up with people, there was a demand that the school building be moved further east. After several years of debate the demand was finally heeded and the building moved just before J.J. Locher taught there and helped make the move in a peaceable manner.

Further, I should mention that the Spencerville School was the last rural school in Jones County to close its doors, when the district merged with the Midland Community School in 1967.

Miss Hazel Bearinger, the "Last Teacher," had taught the Spencerville School for over 20 years and joined the Midland faculty when the merger was made. As there was no water pump at the school she had taught, each morning she had filled a five-gallon cream can and carried it in her car to supply the needs of the school for the day.

Now, when I attended that school, the pupils carried water from the nearby Albert Tompkins farm, in a water pail hung on a stick of wood so that the larger pupil had the heavier part of the load. As I recall, it was considered a pleasure to get excused from school to go on the water detail.

The Spencerville Schoolhouse and grounds were taken over by the adjoining farm. The building now has lean-tos attached to the sides and houses farm produce, especially bales of hay. It had been a rural school for well over 100 years.



FARM MACHINERY on display (assumed Great Jones County Fair) about 1927. Who are the men sitting on tractor seats?



## Shop classes get their start

# Manual training had slow start in schools

by John C. Clark

About 1910 there was talk and some activity concerning the teaching of manual training, or at least some phase of it in the rural schools. Most of the town schools had already made a start. One big problem in town or country was qualified teachers. College had been slow in putting out shop teacher courses. Instructors and equipment were both lacking. It was largely a question of what to do and how to do it. Even the state agriculture school at Ames (ISU) was slow in setting up standards of instruction and the equipment needed.

The project was new and many things had to be worked out. Smaller colleges were waiting for ISU to take the lead in going into an untried field requiring finance, equipment and the training of instructors. All school boards, city, town, or rural, had the same problem, and all were waiting for the ISU to take the lead.

I cite the above facts to prepare you for what action was started in the Frozen Hill-Onslow area about 1915, and to state how we got involved and what was done.

In 1915 the pay scale for rural teachers was placed on a new basis, with a top of \$60 per month, the pay scale depending on the average score made in taking teachers exams.

For example, I was getting \$40 per month at Frozen Hill school. The new pay scale would give me \$55.20. With that great increase in pay looming, I hiked out to Ames for the second half of their summer session 1915, and enrolled for a six weeks course. I enrolled for agriculture, manual training, home economics and didactics. Yes, we had to take some home economics with the package designed for rural teachers. It was aimed at getting these subjects started in rural schools.

The agriculture and manual training were very, very good, really inspiring. Miss Ethel George of Monticello was an interested member of a very group. She afterwards became a very fine instructor in the Monticello schools.

So I came home to my rural school ready to go to work to earn that extra \$15.20 boost in salary. The school board was very receptive to the agriculture and the manual training provided I could keep within \$50 for the equipment needed. I had 4 boys in the 8th grade, ready and anxious to take the courses. We had to make four suitable work benches. The boys could bring enough 2x4s from home to make the frames for the benches. Overhead in the woodhouse at school were old discarded double seat desk tops, solid and serviceable if we cleaned them up. They were about 40 inches long by 18 inches in width.

By putting them on upside-down they made a nice smooth surface for a bench top. The original top side of the board were carved up with the jackknife-carved initials of many students.

So far, no expense to anybody. We fitted two of the benches with screw vises at about \$3.50 each. By trading benches four boys could get along with two vises when they were needed. Jack planes cost then about \$3.50 and we had to have one for each boy: four tri-squares, four wood chisels of different sizes, four marking gauges, two back saws for fine work, and one good rip saw. The tools cost about \$40. The hammers, mallets, screwdrivers, boring bits and framing square were all brought from homes. There was just room in the back of the classroom for the four. We could allow only 30 minutes for the class, but those boys worked every noon hour and got in plenty of credit hours, and took home many fine examples of their work. They made seed corn testers for agriculture. Paints and stains added to the cost but brushes and most of the sand paper came from home.

The agriculture class cost very little. We used printed outline material from Ames and field trips as needed were made after school. The outlines were really a textbook. Agriculture class was a twice a week, but manual training came everyday. We could not hold those boys back on that.

The big girls complained that they did not get in on the new things but with no equipment there was no chance for any home ec. (much to my relief). We did have hot water on the big round oak stove so all could wash hands when necessary, with soap and towel available. Now that's home ec. isn't it?

The older girls up front had the spelling classes for all the lower grades while I had M.T. class in the rear. I have heard that called the Bohemian method — slightly unconventional, but it worked and was necessary, and the big girls enjoyed it.

With no boys coming up the next year, the shop boys were allowed to take their benches home with them at the end of the year after paying for the two vises, which they were glad to do.

Now for the Onslow connection: The fact that Frozen Hill school was teaching manual training spread widely and caused plenty of comment. The school at Onslow did not teach manual training and the School Board there sent the Superintendent out to Frozen Hill to find out what

we were doing. I think he was duly impressed, but he said there was no chance of the Onslow school doing even as much as we were. He couldn't teach it, and there was no one else available. It was two years later that a shop was provided at the Onslow school, but there was a great demand for it.

In the fall of 1916 I enrolled in Lenox College in Hopkinton and paid my tuition by instructing a college class in the college shop, teaching it just as I had been instructed at Ames, and with the same manual training text used at Ames. It was an easy assignment for me and did not interfere with my own classwork in college.

By a curious twist, there I was teaching a class of college students, in which they received college credit, and my only credentials were a First Grade County Certificate and six credit hours from Ames summer school. Of course the dean of the college was a qualified manual arts teacher and he was my immediate supervisor, so that made it legal.

The next year, 1917-18, I was employed at the Onslow High school and again went through the process of setting up a manual training shop. The Onslow school had cleared-up a basement area in the old wooden building and I had to help supply it from scratch. By this time Ames had come out with a plan for a manual training workbench. From that plan the Onslow board had hired a local carpenter to make and display a model work bench, fitted with a vise, a tool rack and storage room in the bottom part. It looked very good.

With this model at hand my class of about 10 students, including three girls (Matie Harms among them) set to work to make their own benches, which took up about the first month of their class time. They learned a lot by doing it themselves, and all were proud of their work. So Onslow at last had a M.T. shop which was a fine addition to the school.

1917-1918 were war years and I was in the draft-no deferments. We had to close up the shop three weeks early so I could be inducted into the Army on April 26, 1918. By starting with no workbenches, and chopping off three weeks at the end of the year, yet we did get the M.T. program going at the Onslow school in 1918.

The Frozen Hill church and school yards have long been converted to farm land. They had served that community for over 80 years.

*They weren't in it for the money*

# Pay scales meager for early rural teachers

by John C. Clark

We have heard and read many stories about rural teachers and the pay they received in early days. From a very meager beginning, they advanced very slowly toward a stipend that we would call even respectable. One account I have says \$8 per month and board around with the families of the students, one week at each home. There are many similar reports.

After the Civil War there was some improvement. Teachers were required to take examinations and get passing grades in the so-called common branches. A passing grade was usually 70 or 75 percent, the score written in numerals. It was given by the County Superintendent of Schools and graded in his office. Certificates were classified as First Class or Second Class, depending on the scores made.

Later in about 1900 the certificates became Third Grade County, Second Grade County, or, for excellent scores, a First Grade County Certificate. Teachers could take the exams periodically and advance as they were able. A first grade certificate usually brought the highest pay, so teachers strove to raise their grades.

Even so, the pay scale was seldom more than that of the hired man on a farm. By 1900 it did get up to about \$30 per month. At that time hired men on farms were paid \$1 per day or \$26 per month for the 26 work-day period each month, plus his board and keep, and feed for his horse if he had one. Most of them did have a horse and buggy — it was standard equipment.

So a teacher at \$30 per month was not getting the equivalent of a hired man's pay. By about 1910 the teacher's pay scale got into the \$30, \$35, and \$40 bracket: \$30 per month for a beginner, \$35 for spring and fall terms, and \$40 for the winter. Experienced teachers could demand and get the better wage. Some few got even \$45 or \$50 if in a comparatively wealthy district.

Then about 1915 the "powers that be" hatched up a pay scale based on a top salary of \$60 per month for rural teachers. Each teacher would be paid according to her grade average on her certificate. If her average was 90 percent she received 90 percent of \$60, or \$54 per month. If the average was 95 percent, she got \$57 per month, etc. There was always the inducement to the teacher to raise her grades and thus better herself.

This scale remained in use until after WW I. After the war some rural teachers were being paid as much as \$100. We could say that the war and the economy of the country did it. Prices of other things had

advanced also, so we can say the teachers rode along on the surge, and soon some were getting pay equal to that of their sisters in the town schools. That had not been the case before, rural teachers had been rated a step below the grade teachers in the towns. This situation more or less held until the Great Depression came along in the 1930s. Then the bottom dropped out of teachers' salaries everywhere — town and country. It was the first and easiest place for hard pressed school districts to cut down on expenses. High school teachers were lucky to get \$90 per month, elementary teachers got \$65 or \$70. Some rural schools dropped to \$50. That was a real depression time for all-teacher or non-teacher.

Between 1930 and 1940 teacher salaries were raised very, very slowly, and it seems we had to depend on another World War to produce any significant change. Salaries held rather steady during the war but from 1945 to 1955 there was a decided boost. Teachers began to get organized and began demanding more pay and base pay scales. The trend has been upward ever since. Teachers are using labor union methods and making it work in many cases.

We cannot call this later boost the result of the country's economy, as the real economy does not seem to show it. Just ask any farmer. We can only point to inflation for the trend upward, and we wonder what will happen if another real depression

comes along. If it should happen, the poor teachers will suffer along with the rest, just as we old retired teachers did in the notorious 30s. We know all about the matter, for we lived through it, and it is hard for us to sympathize with the present \$12,000-and-up base pay for teacher's program.

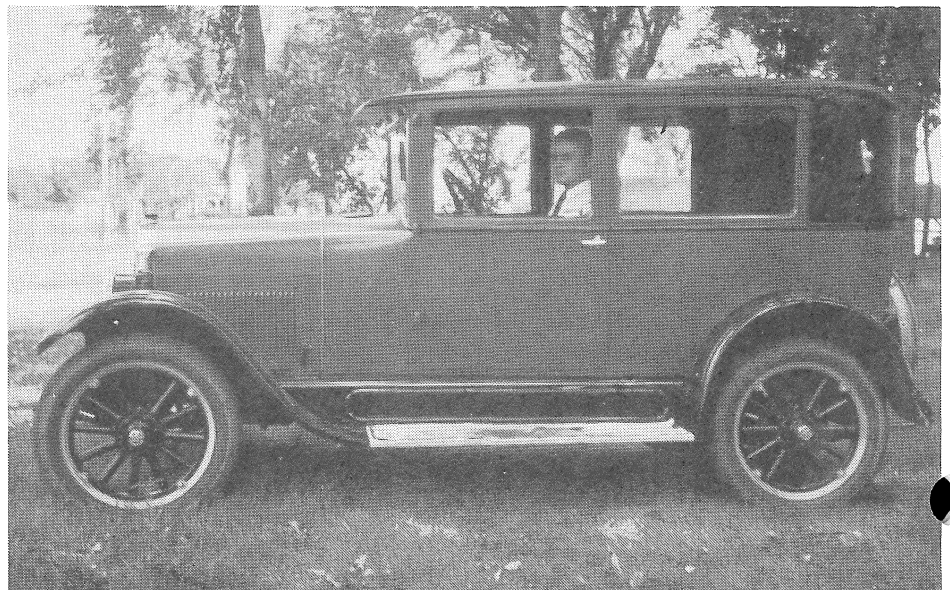
May I tell you a story?

In the midst of the said 30s, I recall a teacher who was picked up in Jones County. She was a college graduate and was applying for any school job she could get. When offered a contract at \$70 per month for a grade position in a neighboring town, she signed that contract with tears in her eyes. When a board member asked if she was crying because the pay was so low she replied, "No, mine are tears of joy at getting a job so I can pay my own way and make a living."

The following year she was advanced to a high school position for which she was qualified, at \$95 per month. In a year or two she married the school coach and both of them moved on to better paying positions elsewhere.

Our present day teachers will hardly believe such a story as this, but it did happen in many, many cases during the so-called Great Depression.

Now teachers in the \$12,000-and-up bracket may ask, "Why bring up such a distressing report?" Well, we can only remind them that this is history, and it did happen, and we hope it never happens again.



NEW AUTOMOBILE on display, Great Jones County Fair (assumed) 1926.  
Who's the man behind the wheel?

# Highlights of area's early days

(Editor's note: This material was submitted to the Historical Review some time ago by the now late Mary Doxsee Bonwell.)

by Mary Doxsee Bonwell

Bowen's Prairie was first settled by Hugh Bowen, a bachelor, in 1836, and another settler of note was Mrs. Barrett Whittemore, who was born in Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire, in 1806. He was educated in the common schools of New Hampshire, and spent some time in their high school, whose teachers came from Amherst College.

He came west at 24-years-of-age and first settled at Galena where he was interested in mining lead, and then on to Dubuque where he went on with the mining of lead in 1831. He taught the second school in that city. In 1838 he obtained 120 acres of land on Bowen's Prairie, and lived there the rest of his life. In 1841 he obtained 120 acres of land on Bowen's Prairie, and lived there the rest of his life. In 1841 he opened the first school in Jones County. He returned East in 1842 for 18 months and brought back to the Prairie his brother Otis and family, J. H. Eaton. He continued farming until 1846 when he went East and returned with a bride, Miss Louise Blodgett. In 1858 he was elected the first county superintendent of schools in Jones County.

In the recorder's office in 1858 was filed this mortgage: C. R. Stowell to Otis Whittemore — One red and white cow 7-years-old, one red and white heifer 3-years-old, and one roan bull 3-years-old. Total value \$50.31.

Also the following mortgage: Elias Scott to Otis Whittemore at 10 percent interest one brown horse, six cows, three calves and 500 bushels of corn — value \$85.93.

Barrell Whittemore also aided in breaking ground for the first capitol of our state at Iowa City.

The first election in Jones County was in his log cabin, and the entire number of votes cast for territorial officers was 11. Even at the age of 69, he was still a successful teacher. Mr. Whittemore, as a writer and teacher, was a real force in Iowa in his early days.

James M. Peet came to Fairview, Jones County, in 1841. In 1844 Mr. Peet and his brothers took two loads of oats to Dubuque, a distance of 58 miles. They were obliged to camp out on the way as there were no houses on their route for a distance of 16 or 20 miles. They sold their oats to Emerson and Shields for 6¼ cents a bushel — heaping measure, and could get nothing but dry goods in exchange — they refused groceries. These were times that tried men's souls.

During the time of the immigration of 1854 two men from Ohio said that from

their county alone 1,000 persons were coming to Iowa in the fall. At every ferry on the river crowds were waiting to cross. At this time there were 40,000 acres of unentered land, and a year hence there was not as much as a section left to farm by immigrants.

At one point in Iowa during a single month, 743 wagons had passed, allowing five persons to a wagon — that makes 8,715 people. From early morning 'til late at night the covered wagons were on the trail West. — Red Chapter on Bread — p. 39 by Ellis Parker Butler from Prairie Gold by Iowa Authors.

In 1875 Monticello had six dry goods stores, four foot and shoe stores, seven blacksmith shops, four wagon shops, five shoemaker shops, two gun and pistol shops, 2 flouring mills, one well auger factory, four sewing machine offices, two hotels, seven saloons, three churches and four church organizations, one graded and high school building, six doctors, one dentist, two photograph galleries and a fine improved water power on Kitty Creek.

It was in 1863 my grandparents and their three sons came from Sharon Center, Ohio, to Bowen's Prairie — my father being six-years-old.

Times were hard at this period of the Civil war, with calico \$1 a yard, and sugar very high.

It was a memorable day when the news came that Lincoln was shot, and my grandfather went to Monticello on horseback to gather with the townspeople at Proctor's store.

The Indians still roved the prairie, and my grandmother would keep the curtains pulled down when she saw them coming, as she did not want to refuse them food. I have heard my grandfather tell of seeing a sick Indian girl tied to a travois of trees, and being dragged behind an Indian on horseback on their way to Dubuque.

One evening on his way home from Monticello, grandfather saw 30 Indians and as many ponies.

A full meal did not wait for Dad, when as a boy he would come to Monticello with ten cents in his pocket for dinner. A piece of cheese and some broken crackers (which were free) made a good lunch at Proctor's store — or a dozen large sugar cookies for a dime at Mrs. Maudley's Bakery.

The years passed and after graduating in the 5th class at Ames (Mrs. Henry Carpenter and Mrs. Dr. Merick were in the same class) he came back to Monticello to read law in Mr. Herrick's office.

Items in his diaries told the following: Going to Curcuit Court at Anamosa taking the stage to Cascade, took passage on the morning freight, stopped at Delaware long enough to get dinner, changed for Manchester, arriving there about 2 p.m.

While going to Ames, stayed out to teach country school one winter, walking three miles to school, and at the end of five months received \$199.

Attended graduating exercises of Monticello Public Schools in 1878. There were five graduates.

Received a telegram to secure a claim at the town of Viola. The train had gone, hence I had to proceed by team. The weather was intensely cold, but the sleighing was good, and by wearing a heavy buffalo overcoat, I rode through 18 miles without having to get out of the sleigh. I made the collection and reached home about 4:30 p.m.

Went squirrel hunting with Henry Carpenter.

Attended a wedding reception of Eb Hicks and Ella Jewett.

At 25-years-of-age I returned to Sharon Center, Ohio, where I was born, and saw some of our old neighbors. Visited the grave of my grandfather Jacob Doxsee. — Died July 16, 1837 — age 29 years.

Father returns to Salem, Ohio, in 1887 and is married to Jennie Fawcett, a cousin of the Monticello Fawcetts.

In the fall of 1890 I was brought up the hill in a cradle (when I was 3-months-old) to the home which had just been built, and where I am still living in my 70th year.

I recall as a child spending a penny now and then for candy at Mr. Curley's little low store where McNeill's hardware now stands.

The big day came when we had our first telephone and when you would call a friend Central would tell you she had heard she was downtown a little while ago.

A dish of ice cream at Peter Meyers, and when it was a 10-cent dish you got a nice plate of fancy mixed cookies on the table.

Decoration Day with everyone going to our Opera House to hear the speaker of the day.

A ride on Sunday afternoon with a team and buggy from the livery stable. Six miles an hour just did not take you far from home.

Coasting down Main Hill with your long bobsled often reaching Proctor's Store.

Sleigh rides and the jingle of bells on the frosty air.

Delivering an oration when you graduated from high school. Two evenings of such an event in the Opera House for my class. I can recall father told me to be perfectly at ease when I delivered my oration. I did not move until the final lines when I stiffly placed one foot forward and my hair ribbon fluttered a little.

Two senior class plays so everyone could have a try at acting.

Sent down to Jacob Suter's meat market for 10 cents worth of steak for dinner for

(cont. on page 12)

# President's message

## Dear Reader-Subscriber:

My apologies for being so very late with these final three issues of Volume 8. It has been a hectic year — 1982. It contained as many days as any other year, but for me it didn't seem to contain as much time. At least there wasn't the time necessary to undertake new necessary ventures (such as the Society's Whittlin' Joe exhibit), a tremendously increased workload in answering inquiries, and then too I'm still at the stage where if I want to eat tomorrow, I'd better be putting in a day's work today.

You will find this issue to be actually issues two, three and four of Volume 8, 1982. A standard issue consists of 8 pages, this issue consists of at least 24. As mentioned in many prior issues, the Society needs material for this publication. Old photos, family stories, etc. etc., and the material need not go back into the 1800s. To better than half of our readership, dates as late as 1940 are historical, and to the other short half of the readers, the 1920s are still pretty fresh in their minds.

1982 was another very successful year for the Jones County Historical Society. I will not begin to name those people who put many hours of volunteer labor into restoration of the "Old Sutton" or "Clay Center" school, the library, the old log house being refurbished by the civic-minded "Military Trail" Questers group.

I am going to mention the name John Hasler, a young boy from Anamosa who unfailingly goes to the Museum site every two weeks and mows the nearly two acres of grass lawn surrounding the buildings. I could mention the names of quite a few others, but for fear of leaving someone out suffice it to say "We have one tremendous group (however small) doing an unbelievable job."

The museum is open to the public every Sunday afternoon (and other days by appointment) from the first of May through September. It requires at least two people in attendance to guide and explain each time the grounds are open. These also are volunteers. From a very humble beginning in 1973, the people have built a Society and museum of which the county can be justifiably proud. More history and artifacts have been recovered and preserved in the past nine years than in all the years prior. 1983 will mark the Society's 10th anniversary.

If you are not a dues-paying member, we urge you to join. It is only through your

memberships that we are able to continue and grow. Be assured, your descendants, generations down the line, will be overjoyed to know you were part of this history-preserving group.

You will find more information on how to become a member of the Society, and also a subscriber to our publication (four 8-

page issues, or equivalent yearly) elsewhere in this issue. Should you not wish to tear out the coupon, simply put the information needed on a sheet of paper and mail it to the Society address. Come on — We need you too.

Sincerely,  
C. L. Norlin, Pres.

## Highlights —

(cont. from page 11)

four, and always some calves liver thrown in for the cat. Often a nickel's worth of very large pickles from the pickle barrel.

The neighbors ranged around our living room while father played our graphophone with "Uncle Josh at the Circus" as a lively number.

A taffy pull and a songfest in our parlor was a gala evening.

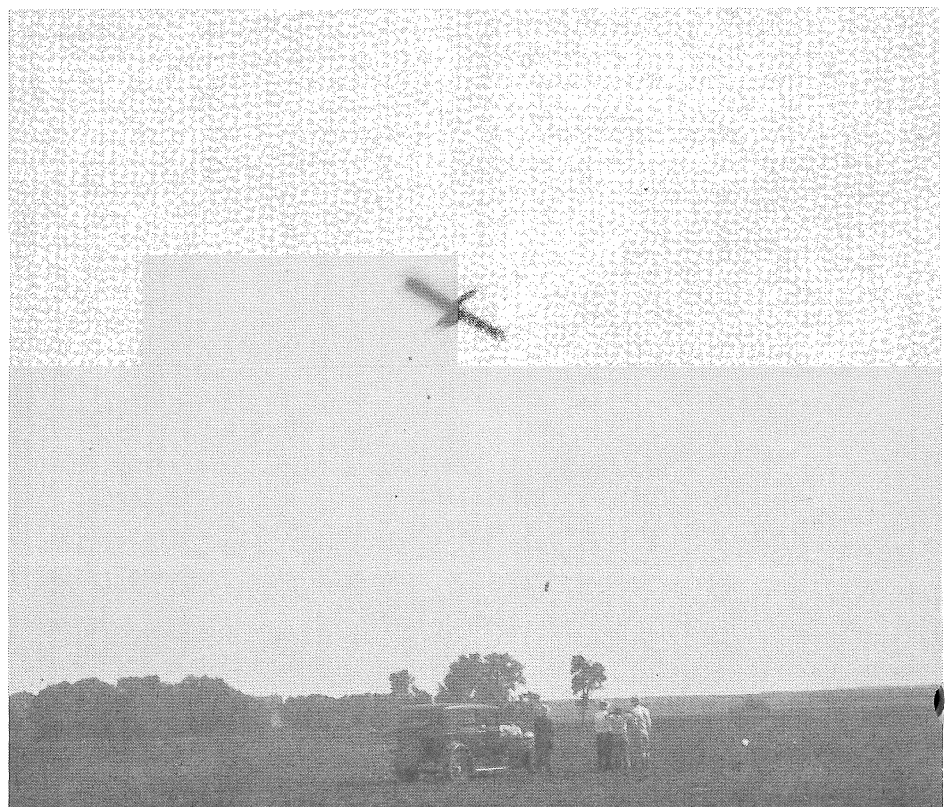
Our first car with leather seats, and side curtains put on in case of rain. A long duster and auto hood to save one from the clouds of dust on a trip to Cedar Rapids, and a hasty trip home when we saw rain clouds. Oh! those mud roads . . .

Fair week with the hack for the

fairgrounds going right down — one more and away we go. Watching the attractions while sitting on the grassy hillside, and moving from one group to another. The special trains coming in loaded with folks to see the wonderful Jones County Fair. The band concerts on Main Street at night and a show every night in the Opera House with a diamond ring being given away with the lucky number on Saturday night.

Circus Day with an honest to goodness parade in the morning. How one has to really dream of days gone by to visualize the simple life in the early 1890s.

The memories are ones I shall always treasure with a background that was truly the beginning of our fair state.



AN EARLY DAY aerial show and ride-giving, assumed at Great Jones County Fair, about 1926-27. Who are people standing next to car?

# The Manlys of Greenfield Township

## Courtship and adventure for young pioneer

(Editor's note: The following story and pictures have been submitted by Helen Simpson and were forwarded by Mrs. Louis Langenberg. Both Ms. Simpson of Mechanicsville and Mrs. Langenberg of Lisbon are members of the Jones County Historical Society. Ms. Simpson is the granddaughter and LaVerta Langenberg is a great-granddaughter of Thomas Manly.)

The story you are about to read is the cradle to grave life-adventure of Thomas Manly, a true pioneer as they were known in this area of early Iowa.)

Thomas Manly was born in Belmont



THOMAS MANLY is shown at the age of 21 in 1867 at the fair in McConnellsville, Ohio.

County, Ohio, May 17, 1836, the fifth child of his parents, William and Sarah D. Walter-Manly. His maternal grandparents and their sons and daughters all moved to Morgan County, Ohio, when Thomas was but 3-years-old. Three years later his mother died, leaving four sons and three daughters to the father's care. The son next older than Thomas had died when he was 3-years-old.

The baby sister, 6-months-old, and Thomas were given into the care of the mother's parents and from his grandmother he received careful training, by precept and example, in industry, economy, uprightness and regard for the sabbath day.

At the age of 16 Thomas went back home to live with his father who had married again. Two more sisters had also been added to the family. Thomas had a high respect for his step-mother, often referring to those years spent in his father's home as the happiest time of his life. (Editor's note: We can well imagine

they were, for from this age onward Thomas Manly became a full-blown man, knowing all the hardships and occasional joys as befell any pioneer of that time.)

From an account of the fiftieth wedding anniversary of Thomas and Mrs. Manly, which occasion came on Aug. 24, 1911, we learn the following, by going back 60 years prior, to Morgan County, Ohio:

Thomas Manly, then a youth of 15 years, had lived in the home of his maternal grandparents, William Walter and wife, since the death of his mother 10 years before. He made an occasional visit to his father's home six or seven miles away. While making one of these visits, he went to spend a Sunday afternoon with the Hannum brothers on a farm adjoining that of his father's. Perhaps a dozen young people had assembled there that particular afternoon. Five or six girls were calling on Miss Alice Hannum, a winsome lass just entering her teens. Her rosy complexion, blue eyes and dark brown hair, with a few ringlets around her brow, and her plump girlish figure appealed to Tom's idea of beauty and he thought Alice the prettiest girl he had ever met.

A year or so later Tom came home to his father's house to live and remained for more than a year. He met Alice frequently at neighborhood gatherings and at every meeting he found his admiration increasing. It is only fair to say that Alice was not oblivious to the charms of a fine form, a fair flourid complexion, blue eyes and black curly hair and thought Tom a handsome young man. He never told anyone of her charms for him and how everyone knew the secret which he himself hardly dared believe or hope was a mystery. Tom had his rivals.

At an apple cutting, on an ever-to-be-remembered evening, the most formidable of the rivals stood by indifferently and saw Miss Alice set out for home alone. Tom's gallantry, it is to be supposed prompted him to offer his company for the walk to her home. As much to his surprise, perhaps, as to that of the young man who was waiting to see Tom "get the mitten," his offer was accepted.

When Tom was 17-years-old his father said to him one day, "Thomas, wouldn't thee like to go west with thy brother William? He will be lonely away out there in Iowa without any of his brothers or sisters." Thomas gladly seized upon the opportunity and still blesses the day when his father suggested that he go to Iowa.

In the autumn of 1853, in company with his brother William, his brother's bride and others from Pennsville, Morgan County, Ohio, Tom set out on a voyage

down the beautiful blue Muskingum, thence down the Ohio river past Cincinnati, Louisville, to Cairo, thence up the Mississippi to Muscatine, Iowa. The journey occupied two weeks time and gave Tom his first broad view of the big world.

The following winter, Tom had his home with his brother in a little town in the south part of Cedar county and there attended school. Their uncle, Daniel Walter, and family resided on a farm not far distant. In the spring William located in Fairview, Jones County, and opened a blacksmithing shop, taking his brother in as an apprentice at \$3 per month and his board.

Also Tom had a two week's vacation in



ALICE HANNUM, later Mrs. Thomas Manly, is shown at the age of 19 in 1857 at the fair in McConnellsville,

harvest which he spent binding wheat on the neighboring farms to earn spending money. The second year his pay was increased to \$4 per month and the third year to \$5 per month. Tom had saved money and had made himself so useful that when he became of age his brother paid him \$100 extra as a share of the proceeds of their prosperous business. Then Tom did what he believes every young man should do at the age of twenty-one, he went on a journey.

Proceeding by stage to Dubuque he there beheld a railroad, locomotive engine and train of cars for the first time. His journey took him back to Ohio to see his father and other relatives and Alice, with whom he had corresponded regularly, writing six letters a year and receiving as many in return. Imagine a young man of this day of post cards and telephones hearing from his sweetheart half a dozen times a year. He found that her girlish graces had developed into still more  
(cont. on page 14)



THIS GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY photograph of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Manly was taken Aug. 24, 1911. Sitting in the front row are Thomas Manly and his wife Alice Hannum Manly. The young boy standing is Arthur Thomas Manly Siver. Standing in the back, left to right, are Allen James Siver, John

Allen Siver, Cora Etta Manly Siver, James Otis Siver, Myrtle Edith Manly, Jennie May Manly Jones, Helen Edith Bodenhofer Simpson, Hazel May Bodenhofer Hammon, Hylah Belle Bodenhofer Tonne (small girl), John Thomas Bodenhofer and Emma Luella Manly Bodenhofer.

## Thomas Manly—

(cont. from page 13)

charming young womanhood.

That summer he worked for his father on the farm and often refers to that time as the happiest, most carefree period of his life. He still thought Alice the most beautiful woman of his acquaintance, Iowa belles not excepted.

His father, brothers, sisters, and friends generally, encouraged him by informing him that Alice was a good housekeeper, a subject which he thought of little importance at that time. But he has been thankful every day for half a century that they knew whereof they spoke. The courtship reached an engagement, but Alice was not ready to leave her parents, brothers, and sisters and the palatial new residence her father had just erected. So she promised to come to Iowa with Tom three years later.

Tom returned to Iowa and entered into a partnership with his brother, with whom he "learned his trade." The two brothers worked so agreeably together and Tom's

home with his brother and his most estimable wife was so pleasant (and meanwhile two of his sisters had come to Fairview) that the years of waiting were not tedious and Tom never knew anything about homesickness.

In the summer of 1861, Tom returned to Ohio and claimed his bride who had been true to her promise. On Saturday afternoon, Aug. 24, 1861, Mr. Thomas Manly procured a horse and buggy and, in company with Miss Alice Hannum, drove to the residence of Esquire Coulson near Pennsville, Penn Township, Morgan County, Ohio. As was the custom in those days, they informed no one except their folks at home of their going, nor did they suppose anyone knew what their errand was. James Hannum, the bride's youngest brother, was interested in seeing the ceremony and, proceeding on horseback by a detour, circumvented the happy couple. The bride gladly welcomed him as a witness.

After plighting their troth, Mr. Manly and his bride were overnight Sunday guests at the home of his grandparents. Before the honeymoon had waned Thomas Manly and wife had come to Iowa and in October located in Fairview and began housekeeping.

Mr. Manly continued to work in the shop with his brother until the spring of 1866, when he removed to Greenfield Township and settled on 240 acres of land which has since been their home, and to which he has added from time to time until his estate now numbers about 600 acres.

Here they have lived and enjoyed life and their family of daughters, their neighbors and, in the last decades, their grandchildren as much as lack of leisure and strenuous farm life would permit.

Two blessings they are especially thankful for, a permanent home in Iowa, the beautiful land, and a degree of health which has enabled them both to attend to their duties without cessation for even a single day in half a century.

# Manlys celebrate Golden Wedding Anniversary, 1911

The Sequel, by Jennie Manly

A Golden Wedding celebration of the fiftieth wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Manly:

"The daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Manly cordially invite you to be present at the Golden Wedding of their parents at their home, August 24, 1911, Mechanicsville, Iowa."

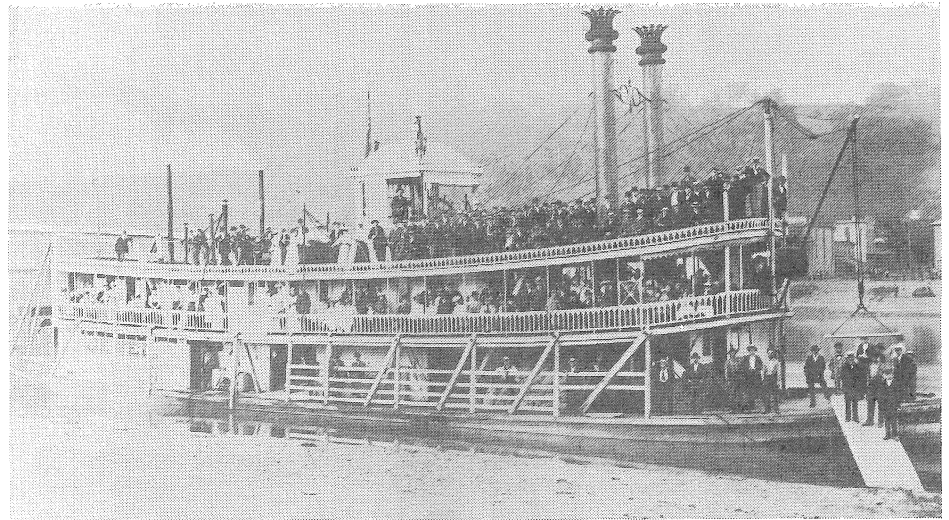
The above invitation was issued to perhaps 150 persons. For months and days the Misses Manly had been planning and preparing to entertain in honor of the day. Neither of them having had the pleasure of attending a golden wedding, all ideas of what should constitute proper entertainment for such an occasion were largely their own. However, their ideas were greater than the capacity of the house and they were obliged to limit the number of invitations accordingly.

Aug. 24 dawned fair and beautiful — an exact counterpart of that day fifty years ago. The balmy air was not chilly nor yet uncomfortably warm. When the guests had arrived the company, including the bride and groom, numbered 73 persons.

The bride's dress was white barred flaxon, trimmed with tucking and insertion and made to resemble as nearly as the present mode will allow her other wedding dress. The groom wore a suit of conventional black. They received their guests informally.

The ladies brought bouquets to the number of 12 or more in most of which yellow or gold was the dominating color. Goldenrod and goldenglow were the prevailing flowers in the decorations and a large bouquet of double sunflowers like huge chrysanthemums was the gift of Mrs. James Siver of Lisbon. The occasion might be called a double Golden Wedding, since the day following, August 25, was the fiftieth wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. James Siver, who were married in Albany County, New York. Twenty years ago, the 26th of last February, the families were connected by the marriage of their son Allen James Siver and Cora Manly.

Dinner was called a few minutes before noon and 28 persons were given places at two tables in the dining room. Mr. and Mrs. Manly sat at the head of one table and the other bride and groom, Mr. and Mrs. Siver, as guests of honor, at the head of the other table. Grace was said by the Rev. O.S. Davis, after which a substantial wedding dinner was served by the daughters and granddaughters of Mr. and Mrs. Manly. A. J. Siver and his sons assisted in serving the ice cream. By 2 p.m. the 70 or more persons present had



THIS PADDLEWHEEL STEAMER, "Jewell," is similar to the "Julia Dean," which brought Thomas Manly from Ohio to Iowa in 1853.



THIS PHOTO shows the Thomas Manly residence north of Mechanicsville. Thomas Manly is shown sitting. The others in the picture are Manly relatives.

partaken of the dinner and the tables had been cleared away.

The next order was the taking of pictures. Gordon Sawyer, the photographer of the neighborhood, had brought his camera by request and now took snapshots, first of Mr. and Mrs. Manly, then of the family group, consisting of the parents, Misses Jennie and Myrtle Manly, Mrs. Emma Bodenhofer, her husband John Bodenhofer, and their daughters Misses Helen, Hazel, Hylah, and Mrs. Cora Siver, A. J. Siver, and their sons Otis, John, and Arthur. It was regretted that the other daughter, Mrs. Rachel Vanderbilt and her husband, W.G. Vanderbilt, and their son Clell and daughter Erma, whose home is in Oregon, were too far away to come to the celebration. Lastly a picture of the entire company was taken and all are a fair representation.

This interesting part of the entertainment having been completed, the company withdrew from the shade of the trees and collected in the parlor where the following program was called by Mrs.

Cora Siver: A piano solo, "Love's Dream," by Miss Edith Ilsey; a piano solo, "Cupidetta," by Myrtle Manly; Lohengrin's Wedding March, Miss Ilsey. A speech by Mr. Manly was characteristically brief. Reminiscences of early days were made by S. W. Rundall of Marion, a brother-in-law of Mr. Manly. The congratulations of their children were presented by Miss Jennie Manly, who touched a happy chord, which was the prevailing tone in the remainder of the program. A piano duet was then rendered by Helen and Hazel Bodenhofer. A toast, "The Manly family as they appear to disinterested relatives," was responded to by A. L. Cory from near Marion. A song "I've grown to Know You So," was sung by Misses Ilsey and Helen and Hazel Bodenhofer. A toast, "Mr. and Mrs. Manly as Neighbors," was happily responded to by W.H. Kline. A reading, "The Country Lyceum Debate on Suppressin' the Press," was given by Miss Edith Cory in her pleasing manner. An address picturing in

(cont. on page 16)

# Anniversary —

(cont. from page 15)

imagination the wedding of 50 years ago and the presentation of the wedding gifts were made by the Rev. O.S. Davis.

The gifts were as follows: A glass gold band berry set, the Rev. and Mrs. Davis; a berry set of fine china, Mr. and Mrs. Otho Brokaw of near Springville; a large fruit dish, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Manly, Sac City; a salad dish, Hylah Bodenhofer; a china plate, Edith Isley of Maxwell; orange spoons, Mrs. Louis Warner and her daughter, cousins of Mr. Manly of Columbus Junction; a jelly spoon, Charles and Will Hotchkiss and wives, who were not present; sofa pillow, Mrs. Jeffreys of Mechanicsville; Mrs. Barr, Mrs. Fannie Kohl and Miss Maggie Scott each gave a cake; a gold framed mirror, Mesdames Mary Kline, Nettie Hempy, Emma Stearns and Minnie Fink; gold framed mirror, Mr. Thompson Shanklin, Springville; and Mr. and Mrs. Matt Bingham, Viola, cousins of the bride; a gilt clock, Mr. and Mrs. James Walter, Mitchellville, cousins of Mr. Manly; a gilt clock, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Heston, Mechanicsville; a leather covered couch by the neighbors and relatives who did not bring other gifts; a gold ring for Grandma by the Bodenhofer sisters; a gold ring for Mother by her daughters and \$50 in gold; the gas lights placed in the house by Miss Jennie Manly last September were intended as a wedding gift to her parents. Miss Edith Cory led in singing "The Old Gray Bonnet," and the company joined in the chorus. At Mr. Manly's request, Myrtle Manly played his favorite instrumental selection, "The Old Oaken Bucket," variations on the organ. The song, "God Be With You Till We Meet Again," completed the program. As the sunset hour was drawing near the visitors began to disperse.

Others present from outside the immediate neighborhood were Mrs. W. H. Thompson, her son James and two small children, Frank Runkle and family all of Lisbon, Mrs. Iva Hempy of Morley, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Kohl and son Otto of Martelle, Mrs. Barr of Columbus, Ohio, and Seth Hannum, a brother of Mrs. Manly.

The day was most thoroughly enjoyed by Mr. and Mrs. Manly and their family. They all appreciate gratefully the efforts of the friends who came and assisted in making the day and the occasion a never-to-be-forgotten success, both materially and socially, and will always be glad that they celebrated.



DAUGHTERS OF THOMAS MANLY are pictured: Jennie Mary Manly Jones, Rachel Mary Manly Vanderbilt, Clell Vanderbilt, son of Rachel, Cora Etta Manly Siver, Myrtle Edith Manly and Erma Dot Vanderbilt, daughter of Rachel.

## A daughter's letter Family history is recounted

(Editor's note: Thomas and his wife were the parents of seven daughters. Sarah Ann died in 1863 at the age of eight months. The fourth child, Alice Bertha, was taken away in 1874, before she had quite completed her seventh year. These two are buried in the Springville Cemetery. Others who grew to maturity were Jennie, Emma, Rachel, Cora and Myrtle. From a letter written June 3, 1932, by Jennie Manly Jones to Mr. J. F. King of Rochester, Washington, we are privileged to learn more about Thomas Manly, his journey west to Iowa and his homesteading in Greenfield township, Jones County. Thomas and Mrs. Manly were buried by the White Oak Methodist Episcopal Church, one of the oldest churches of this denomination still standing west of the Mississippi. Thomas passed away at his home in Jones County on July 12, 1919, aged 83 years, one month and 25 days. The church was torn down in early 1970s — at which time it was a Reformed church. The White Oak Church is located in section 22 of Greenfield Township.

Here is the letter:

Mechanicsville, Iowa  
June 3, 1932

Mr. J.F. King  
Rochester, Wash.

Dear Sir:

My sister, Miss Myrtle Manly, read your

letter which was printed in the March 17th number of the Weekly Herald, McConnellsville, Ohio. Since then she's carefully guarded that paper till I could find time to write you. We are very much interested in your letter and think you have a very good memory to recollect your voyage to Iowa. If I figure correctly you were not quite seven years old in the fall of 1853. New scenes and new acquaintances make lasting impressions on a young mind.

The name of the steamer, Julia Dean, has been familiar to me from my earliest years.

Perhaps you remember Tom Manly, then a youth of seventeen years, who in company with his brother, William and his bride, Ann King of Morgan Co., near Pennsville, and relatives by the name of King came to Iowa on the above-named steamer in the autumn of 1853.

William and Thomas Manly proceeded up the Mississippi to Muscatine and spent the winter '53-54 at a small village named Sandy Hook. The following spring Uncle William went north to Jones Co., — a distance of 50 miles, and chose the inland town of Fairview as the place to locate and engage in the blacksmithing business, with his brother as an apprentice. When Thomas became of age they formed a partnership and continued to work together 'til 1866 when Thomas quit the shop and located on a farm in the south-west township of Jones Co. (Greenfield Township) (Section 23 — where Thomas Manly now lives). In 1861 Thomas

(cont. on page 17)



## Daughter's letter —

(cont. from page 16)

returned to Morgan Co. and married Alice Hannum of the Pennsville neighborhood. They continued to reside on the same farm where they reared a family of five daughters, two little girls having died in childhood. I am the oldest of the five sisters and Myrtle is the youngest.

Our father passed away July 12, 1919, at the age of 83 years. A stroke of paralysis on March 17, 1919, and dropsy caused his death. His afflictions were light as he was able to talk and use his hand and sit in a wheelchair. He ate supper at the table and passed away at midnight. Mother left us April 2, 1921. My husband died July 7, 1921. Since Oct. 1921, I have had my home with Myrtle in the homestead left her by our parents. By industry and sacrifice the farm of 200 acres in 1866 had grown to be 675 in 1918. Our parents signed a deed to each one of us for 135 acres, retaining their life lease in the estate. Their way of disposing of their real estate has proven very satisfactory to all of us.

The old home is beautifully located on a public road. One sister, Cora Siver, is in a new home built on the land Pa deeded to her a mile and half from this home. Her three sons and a near neighbor farm our land or most of it on the shares for grain and cash for pasture. Sister Myrtle and I keep a horse to drive but not an automobile. We have two good milk cows, a flock of 28 sheep and 26 spring lambs. Also 90 hens. For the past year I have been somewhat an invalid and can do only light work. So the care of the chores and the oversight of the farm falls on Myrtle. I am 68 years old and she is 17½ years younger.

The sister next younger than I lives in the county seat of Jones Co., but a Democrat was elected and took the office Jan. 1, 1931. (not a satisfactory change.)

My brother-in-law is now announcing as a candidate of State senator for the district

of Jones and Cedar counties. Next Monday June 6th will decide who all candidates are to be. Another sister of ours, Mrs. Rachel Vanderbilt, is now in Anamosa taking care of an invalid lady who has rooms in sister Em's large house. Rachel has been a widow since Oct. 1920. She and her family went to Oregon in 1909. After burying her husband near Grant's Pass she returned to Iowa. Her son is a foreman in the carburetor factory at South Bend, Ind. Her daughter and husband prefer to live on the Pacific coast and are now located at Everett, Wash.

Perhaps you know much of the history of Uncle William Manly's family. No doubt your father and Ann-King Manly were relatives. We were acquainted with Lewis and Joe King, sons of James King and brothers to Aunt Ann.

The name Caleb Gregg is one I've heard often. I realize that Herbert Hoover has a hard place to fill and believe he is only one of a 100,000,000 people who are to blame for this depression. "It isn't hard to sway horses in the middle of a stream." — so I mean to vote for Hoover again.

I've written more than I intended to write. I shall be glad to hear from you and to give you additional information if you wish.

Your's truly,  
Jennie Manly Jones

P.S. Lewis and Joel King each married a daughter of Joseph Bingham, first cousins to our mother. Our brother-in-law knew a William King in Cedar Rapids 35 years ago whose father owned part of what is now West Cedar Rapids. Was he related to you?



FOUR GENERATIONS are shown in this photo taken Sept. 15, 1917, at the home of Thomas Manly in Mechanicsville. Pictured are Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Manly, Cora Manly Siver, James Otis Siver and Glen LaVerne Siver.

## Tom and Alice buried in church cemetery White Oak Church is hub of pioneer life

(Editor's note: This article was written in 1928. Both the following articles were recopied from the originals in 1967 by Rita Jane Siver.)

One of the oldest and most historic churches in the Des Moines Conference is the church at White Oak. Erected in the year 1868, this was one of the first Evangelical churches west of the Mississippi river.

The pioneer missionary to the people of White Oak was the Rev. William Kolb. He was succeeded by the Rev. E. F. Mell, and

under Brother Mell's labors, the church was erected. The heaviest contributor toward the erection of the edifice was Brother Amos Kohl, who gave the handsome sum of \$550.

The church was dedicated in November 1868 by the Rev. R. Dube, Presiding Elder. In these early days the services were partially in the German language and the circuit, of which White Oak was a part, was usually served by two ministers — a senior and a junior pastor. Herewith we are glad to include the names of the pastors who have served White Oak, these

names not all appearing in chronological order. They are as follows:

William Kolb, E. F. Mell, Revs. Metfessel, Cail, Moore, Houpt and Knoll; Ira Kamberlin, J. H. Yaggy, J. Henn, J. Rank, Charles Pickford, J. G. Bixler, L. A. Jones, A. Niebel, A. L. Rucker, F. A. Gossman, M. J. Randall, E. B. Utt, J. E. Stauffacher, M. J. J. Randall (second pastorate), W. M. Force, I. R. Wright, J. G. Walz, J. B. Meloy, O. S. Davis, L. A. Jones, H. V. Streiffeler, and the present pastor, J. B. Meloy.

(cont. on page 18)

# White Oak —

(cont. from page 17)

It will be observed that among this list are men of large ability, a goodly number of whom became prominent in the ministry of our denomination.

The following served as presiding elders: R. Dubs, H. Langeschulte, William Kolb, C.W. Anthony, E.B. Utt, A. Bussard, B. H. Niebel, J. E. Stauffacher, (two terms), J. Auracher, J. G. Walz and C. H. Stauffacher.



JENNIE MANLY JONES and James Hayes Jones were married at the White Oak Church in 1915.

During the division in the Evangelical Association, when the church was lost to the local congregation, the edifice was purchased from the Association by Brother Amos Kohl, improved by him to the extent of \$100, and donated to the local society free of all expenses to them. During the years of its existence this church has enjoyed some mighty revivals, among the most far-reaching of which in recent years should be mentioned those conducted, respectively, by the Rev. M. J. Randall during his second pastorate, and by Rev. J. B. Meloy during his first pastorate.

The church edifice is somewhat unique in its character. Severely plain in its appearance, it bears the marks of a pioneer church and its original form has not been changed. It was largely built of native timber and though it has stood the blasts of Iowa winters for half a century, its massive frame work has not been impaired. Barring any special adversity, with reasonable care on the part of the congregation, this church will likely stand for another half century, and would thus be 100 years old.

During the present Conference year, the church was improved to the extent of about \$200. It now presents a fine appearance, and few country churches are in better repair than this church. It was reopened on Nov. 17, 1918. A remarkable fact is that at this service there were present five persons who attended the dedication 50 years ago. They are as follows: Mrs. Mary Kline, and Mrs. E. E. Sawyer, Lewis Kohl, Mrs. Addie Kohl, and Mrs. Nettie Hempy. All are now faithful and active members of the church.

Our society at White Oak, while not large in numbers, is composed of influential, well-to-do people, and if they continue faithful and active, this church cannot but have a bright and prosperous future.

## “White Oak” 60 Years Ago

by Jennie Jones

It is a credit to the pioneers that they erected a house of worship before building commodious dwellings for themselves. The White Oak Evangelical church was built 60 years ago this summer, and has been known as The Albright church, and often spoken of as “The Dutch Church.” A number of preachers in that early day delivered sermons in the German language. Much of the singing and the prayers were in German.

The Rev. Henry Riesland and his wife, Caroline, came from Germany and located on a farm north of the Holcomb farms, which was their home until 1872 or 1873. The Rev. Riesland was one of the ministers and the cemetery was platted according to his direction. In the early '70s, he and his wife and their many sons and daughters moved to Nebraska and

located on land not far from Lincoln. The number of their children was 22, 19 of whom lived and grew to manhood and womanhood.

A letter from one of the daughters, Mrs. Louise Sawyer, at present a resident of Lincoln, Neb., says that her father's early home was near Hamburg. After serving three years in the army he went to Berlin and learned the trade of weaver. He also became a preacher, but, being afflicted with asthma, gave up preaching. Mrs. Sawyer writes that her mother was a dear good woman. Nine of the children are still living. The oldest sister and a brother are in Chicago; one brother is at Beemer and three brothers are at Wood River, Neb.; another sister, Mrs. Mary English, resides in Lincoln, and the youngest sister, Mrs. Ella Hoppel, lives in Washington state. One brother Gotlieb, was killed by lightning many years ago. His widow and three daughters survive. Another brother, Frederick is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Calhoun of Montrose, Iowa. Her daughter, Miss Ellen Calhoun, has had employment in the Will Robinson home since last October.

William Riesland, a brother of Rev. Henry Riesland, owned the farm which is now the home and property of Irvin and Elmer Hempu. William Riesland died in 1875 at the age of 60 years and was buried in the White Oak cemetery. Of his family of five sons and three daughters, two or three of the sons survive. The daughter Mollie married Dan Grimm and was the mother of Dora Grimm, who married Richard Russell. In conversing with Miss Calhoun I asked her mother's maiden name and learned it was Riesland. I made further inquiries and obtained the above information.



THE WEDDING of James Hayes Jones and Jennie Mary Manly was held Dec. 16, 1915, at the old White Oak Church in Jones County's Greenfield Township. Pictured from left to right are: The Rev. L.A. Jones, Albert F. Hall, James Hayes Jones, Jennie Mary Manly, Florence Stearns, Myrtle Edith Manly and the Rev. C.C. Dilavon.

## A long search pays off

# Society member earns acceptance into SAR

by C. L. "Gus" Norlin

Herman John Burkert, a member of the Jones County Historical Society, and a lifelong resident of the Monticello area, is a man of determination. Since childhood he was aware that the possibility existed he was descended from a genealogical line dating back to — yes, even prior to, the American Revolution. Now Herman, being a learned man, and, as stated, a man of determination, decided to research and find the truth — and quite a search it was.

Knowing that his ancestors had been residents of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and in possession of a few family heirloom scrapbooks, old letters, and possibly an ancient family Bible in which notations had been made, he set to work researching. Recalling as a child the names of those revered ancestors he heard his parents and relatives talk about, he turned his first shovel of lineage soil and immediately began uncovering the surface roots of this family tree.

While the details of all this researching would fill many pages, we will suffice it to say his journey backward in the search eventually led him to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau of Archives and History, William Penn Memorial Museum and Archives Buildings, in Harrisburg, Pa. Here he found the first evidence that indeed he was descended from a revolutionary soldier, one Peter Kershner, a name he was not unfamiliar with. The name Peter Kershner had often been referred to whenever Herman's family of relatives would meet and talk over "old times." Herman was elated to find that the ancient Pennsylvania records listed Peter Kershner with the rank of lieutenant from the County of Berks and the Township of Windsor, a member of the 4th Battalion, attached to Captain Jacob Shabel's 6th Company. This was in the year 1780.

Continuing the search, Herman learned he was also a descendant by blood of one Private Melchor Fegle of Berks County, P. Private Fegle was assigned to Capt. John Soder's 5th company, 3rd battalion, during the years 1777-1778.

Additional information found in the Pennsylvania archives disclosed yet another ancestor, one John Brossman or "Johannes Brossman," who was enrolled as a private in Captain Philip Filbert's Company, sixth Battalion, Berks County Militia. This was during the years 1777-1778.

Probably the high point, or frosting on this cake of proving relationship, in order to qualify for membership in the National

Organization of Sons of the American Revolution, came when Herman uncovered a copy of the last will and testament of Peter Kershner. Peter was Herman's great-great-grandfather. Note the old English terms and measurements, especially the use of English pounds, when money is referred to.

With all this evidence in hand, Herman applied for membership in the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. After investigation into Herman's claims, the National Society granted him full honors and the certificate number 120617, dated Aug. 11, 1982, showing him as a descendant of Pvt. Melchior Fiegel, and descendant of Pvt. Johannes Brossman. Herman has also been certified and been awarded his certificate by the Iowa Society of SAR, certificate number 1745, by descent from Lt. Peter Kershner. This presentation was made to Herman on July 28, 1982. The presentations were made by Howard L. Hamilton, president general of the Society.

The Jones County Historical Society is justly proud of and for Herman Burkert, one of the Society's members. Our congratulations.

What follows is the last will and testament of Peter Kershner.

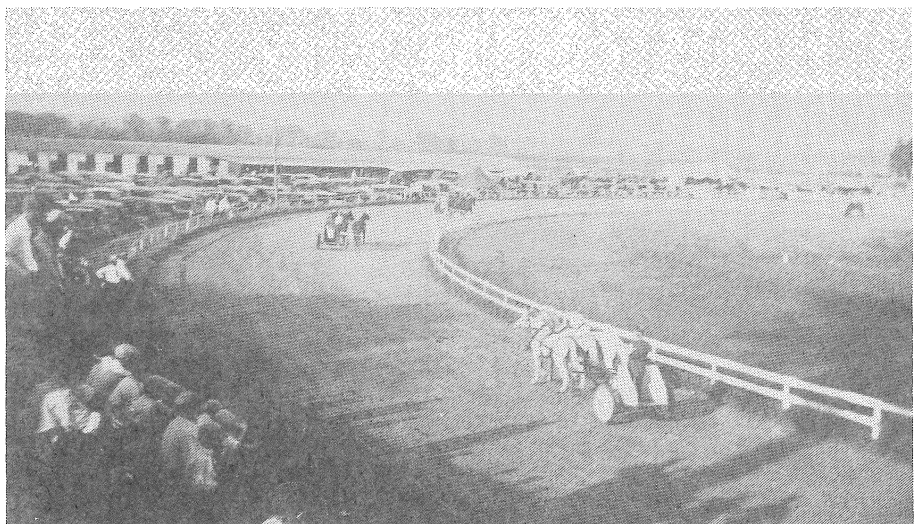
... Peter Kershner of Bern Twp., ... Yeoman ... all my just Debts and Funeral expenses shall be paid and satisfied and a Tomb Stone to be erected to my Grave ...

Item. I give and devise unto my Son Philip Kershner part of my Plantation or Tracts of Land as I have divided the same (but that part whereon he now lives) situate in said Bern Twp ... To hold the same to him and his Heirs and Assigns

forever. For which I charge him the sum of two thousand six hundred and fifty pounds in Specie, and to be paid as follows, one thousand two hundred pounds thereof, on the first day of April next after my decease, and the remainder in yearly payments of one hundred pounds on each of the first days of April thereafter and also the last payment of fifty pounds on the first day of April, until the whole is paid.

Item. I give and devise unto my Son John Kershner also part of my said Plantation or Tract or Tracts of Land as I have divided the same (being that part whereon he now lives) situate also in said Bern Twp., containing a per Draught, in two contiguous Tracts of Land one hundred and thirty five acres and forty perches and allowance. Together with the Appurtenances To hold the same to him and his Heirs and Assigns forever for which I charge him the sum of one thousand four hundred pounds, in Specie, and to be paid as follows, seven hundred pounds thereof, on the first day of April next after my decease, and the remainder in yearly payments of fifty pounds on each of the first days of April thereafter, until the whole is paid.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my five Sons, to each of them, to wit, Philip, John, Jonathan, Jacob and Daniel the sum of seven hundred pounds and also the like sum of Seven hundred pounds unto my Grand Children Catharine, Elizabeth, Peter, and Daniel Zacharias, Children of my deceased Daughter Catharine, which shall be paid when my two Sons Philip and John are to pay the first payments I devise them, but out of said Sum of seven hundred (cont. on page 20)



IS THIS a photograph of the Jones County Fairgrounds race track in Monticello, with the race being run clockwise? About what year?

(cont. on page 19)

pounds shall be deducted what I have given of money which I have already given to George Zacharias, Father of my aforesaid Grand Children, so that the sum equal in Shares.

Item. The payments to my two Sons Philip and John are to pay yearly as afoursaid, are to be paid as follows, the first year to my Son Jonathan, the Second year to my Son Jacob, the third year to my Son Daniel, and the fourth year unto my Grand Children aforesaid, or to their Father George Zacharias whom I hereby appoint their Guardian and so on in rotation until the payments are paid in full, my said two Sons Philip and John are to have an equal share with the rest of my Children which they are to have and retain the last, so that my other Children and Grand Children get their payments before hand, as I have the Land aforesaid unto them.

Item. I give and bequeath my Desk unto my Grand Son Peter Kershner, Son of my Son Philip, but his Father to have the same in Possession and use until he is of age, and in case he dies under age, then his Father shall have the same.

Item. It is my Will and do order, that my aforesaid five Sons shall have, and equally divide between them all my Clothes whatsoever.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my Son Philip the Stove and Pipe thereto belonging to my Room in the House where I now live, and unto my Son John the Stove and pipe thereto belonging Standing and being in the House he now occupies.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my Son Philip Kershner my Kitchen Dresser with Glass.

Item. I is my will and I do order that all the rest and remainder of my Personal Estate shall be sold at public Vendue, as soon as can be after my decease, and divided among my aforesaid children and Grand Children, said Grand Children to receive only one Child's share. And lastly I do hereby nominate and appoint my aforesaid two Sons Philip Kershner and John Kershner as and for Executors of this my last Will and Testament they are to receive no Commissions upon the sum which each of them have to pay for the Land I devised to them as aforesaid. Hereby ratifying, allowing, and confirming this and no other to be my last Will and Testament, and making null and void all other Wills and Testaments by me made heretofore,

In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal, the tenth day of July, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and nine.

Sealed and Acknowledged in the presence of . . . John Haberaker, John Sovker

Signed, Peter Kershner



THIS SCENE may have been inside the Curtis Bottling Works in Monticello, with the man being Cecil Curtis. Curtis ran a dairy and bottling works on the north side of Second Street across from the present Monticello State Bank. If this is not Curtis, or the inside of his bottling works, who and where was it?

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