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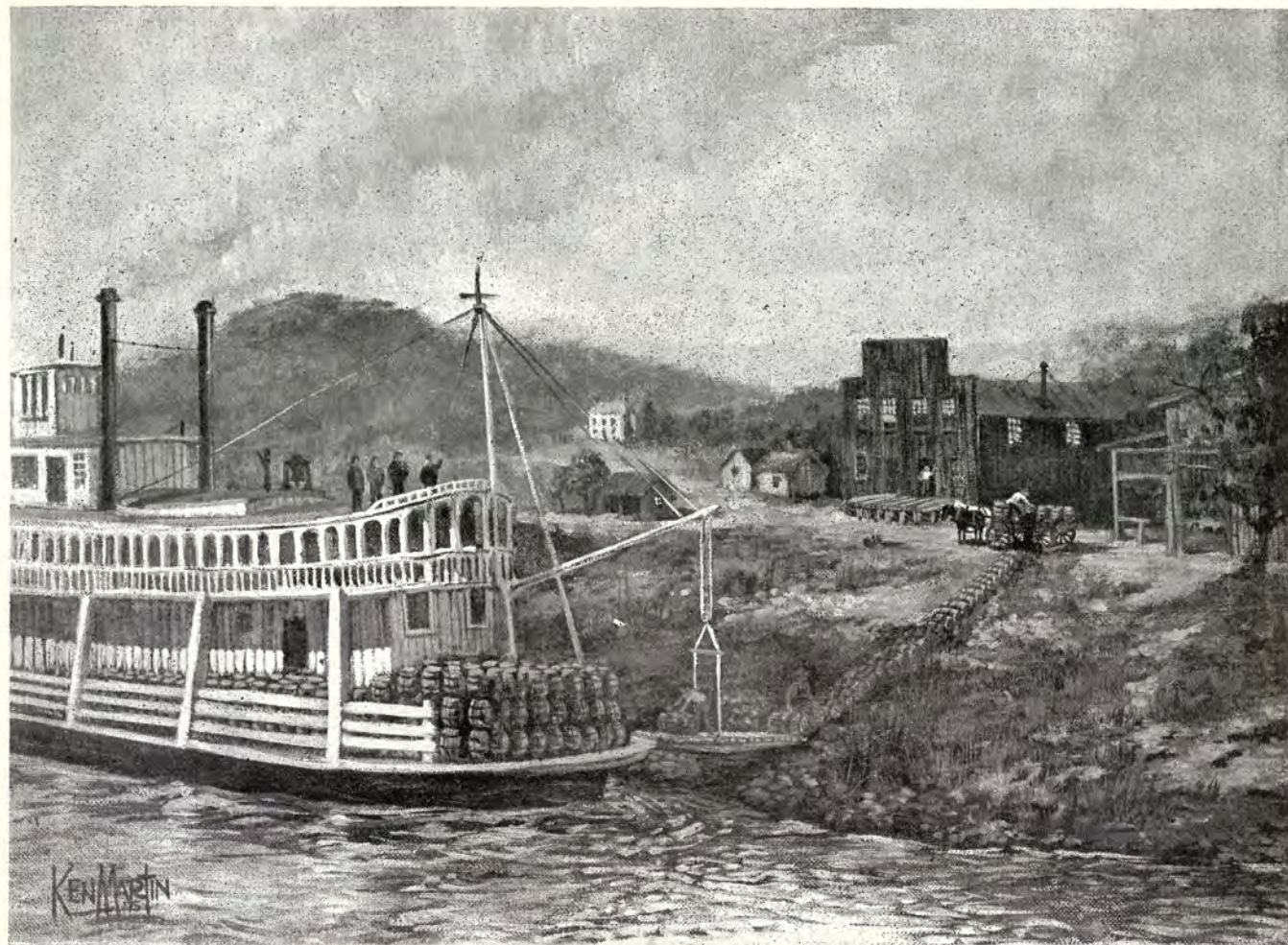
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AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 1975

Perry County: A New Geography



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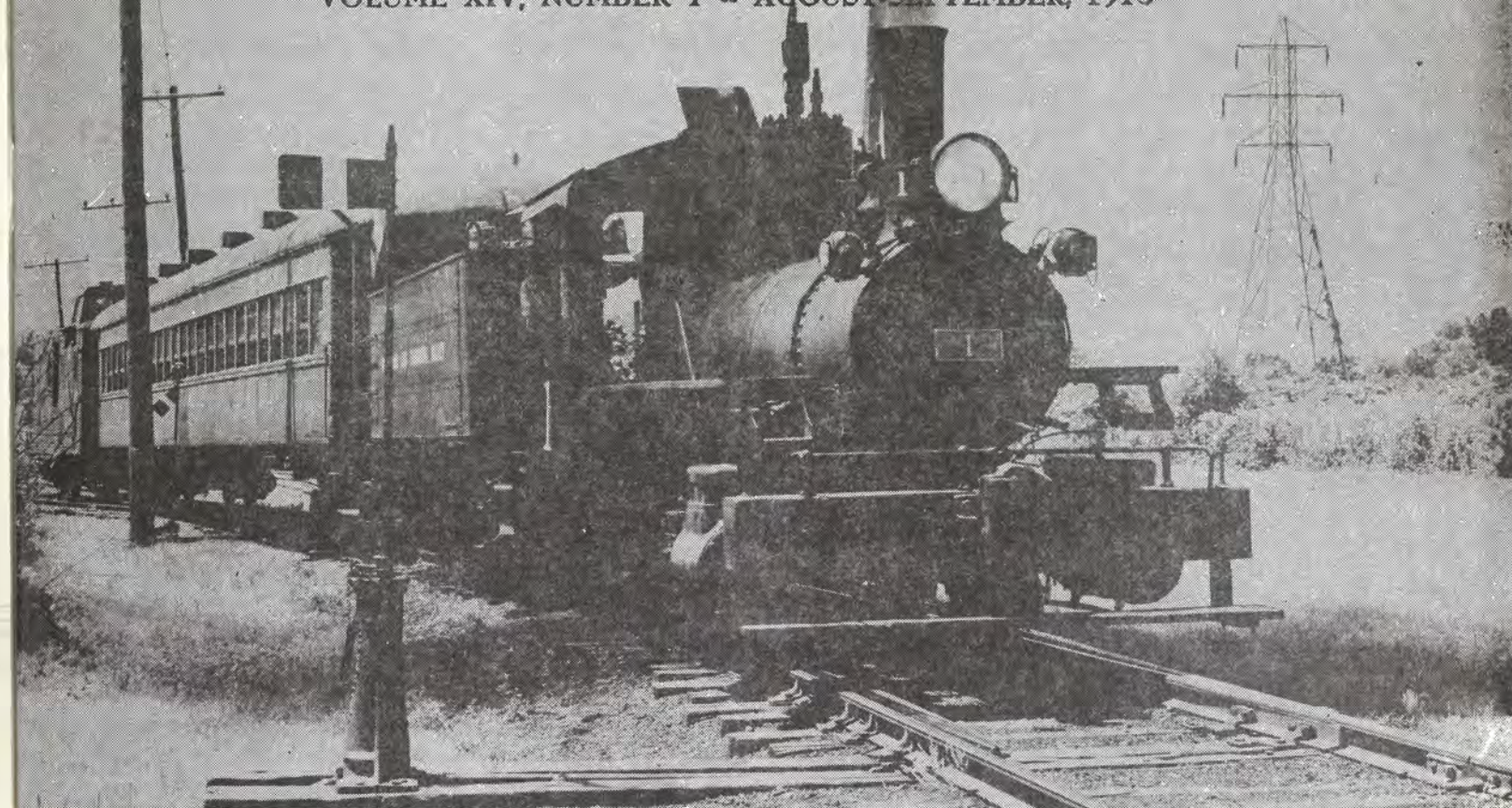
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OUTDOOR ILLINOIS

VOLUME XIV, NUMBER 7 -- AUGUST-SEPTEMBER, 1975



MONTICELLO AND SANGAMON VALLEY'S "LITTLE DUMPY," Wayne Bridges Photo

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OUTDOOR ILLINOIS is published monthly except the June-July and August-September issues are combined into single issues at 320 South Main St., Benton, Illinois 62812. Second Class postage paid at Benton, Illinois and at additional mailing offices. Subscription price, U. S. and Possessions, \$8.50 per year. Foreign subscriptions (except those to APO addresses), \$9.50. OUTDOOR ILLINOIS assumes no responsibility for unsolicited photographs, art work or manuscripts. Unsolicited material should be accompanied by return postage. Single magazines will not be sent until bulk mailing at end of month, unless accompanied by 10c for postage and handling cost. Publication, reproduction or any use without the express permission in writing of any text, manuscript, editorial or photographic content in any manner is prohibited except for the inclusion of brief quotations when the credit is given. Copyright 1975, OUTDOOR ILLINOIS Magazine.

THIS MONTH'S COVER

Du Quoin's State Fair, painted by Ken Martin from the reclaimed former stripped hills northeast of the grandstand, reflects with finality the approach of fall each year.

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WHAT and WHERE

CAN YOU IDENTIFY this picture of a popular resort hotel taken shortly after 1900 someplace in Illinois? The automobile is a Rapid, those no-longer-extant flat straw hats were called skimmers, and the only hint we can give you without giving the place away is that it was at one of the "springs" which once attracted many for their rumored curative powers, although that may not have been the sole reason.



Last Month's Picture

The steam railroad engine reposes in Miller Park at Bloomington, and it attracted the largest number of responses we have seen to date. A great number thought the engine was in Centralia's city park (wrong!), another large contingent thought it was at Grand Tower's park on the Mississippi River (wrong!) and a smaller group judged it correctly, although some were quicker to the pen and type-writer than others.

OUTDOOR ILLINOIS



A Second Look

A Compendium of Illinois Happenings,
Events and Comment, Past and Present

Perry County

THIS MONTH'S magazine features the ninth in our series on Illinois counties, A New Geography of Illinois, and the chapter on Perry County is the work of Mt. Vernon writer Lowell A. Dearing.

Like the others in the series, it offers a fascinating insight into the early settlement of Illinois as well as some of the present-day interests.

We have been watching rather closely the counties which have shown an aspect which we call the "New England strain," which seems to show a prevalence of a certain type of architecture—Greek Revival—and extra attention to good educational institutions, and a tendency toward the Presbyterian religion. We thought we noted it in Adams County, and there is the same tendency on a smaller scale in Perry County. See if you can see it, or find enough information to disagree with us, when you visit Perry County.

Middle Fork Pause

WE PROMISED last month a definitive look at the controversy surrounding the Middle Fork of the Vermilion, where local interests are attempting to persuade the state to ante up a significant amount of money to dam the river and destroy its unique qualities in favor of a recreational lake and water supply.

Unfortunately, we reckoned without the perserverance of our advertising manager, who fogs out there and fills additional pages as quickly as we can decide to add them—and this month you will note we have added an additional eight pages.

With that in mind, please accept our apologies and expect to see that Middle Fork article in the October issue. We expect to see it there.

The same frail excuse holds for this month's Letters section. By the time we got back to that part of the magazine, there simply was not much room left for letters. There, too, we will do better next month. We will start at the back, like you do, and work toward the front.

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That may or may not be better than the marvelous time we issued one issue ahead of the prior month's edition, thereby creating both a collector's item and an unholy alliance between us and the other squirrels in the state, who took to us with a passion.

Du Quoin State Fair, by Ken Martin

ARTIST KEN Martin first broached the idea of painting a night scene from the rolling hills overlooking the Du Quoin State Fair, and we agreed it would make an appropriate cover with our Perry County chapter of A New Geography of Illinois.

We were delighted with the way it turned out, and while it was specifically representative of Du Quoin's huge state fair, it also brings with it the same feel of countless smaller county fairs which come into season at about this time in Illinois.

Reprints of this cover picture, like those which have preceded it, will be available for framing (see Cover II).

Saving Little Black Slough

FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND dollar appeal for funds to help purchase the largest known unprotected wilderness left in Illinois was launched in June by The Nature Conservancy. The Conservancy said that the funds are "urgently needed" to acquire a 2,515 acre wilderness in Johnson County, about 350 miles south of Chicago. The area, known as Little Black Slough, valued as high as \$1.7 million, is being purchased for \$1,250,000 from the Westvaco Corporation.

Terming it "one of the most significant conservation projects in the state's history," Tony Dean, director of the Illinois Department of Conservation said, "Little Black Slough will become a vital addition to the existing 1,110-acre Heron Pond Nature Preserve as a unit in the Illinois Nature Preserve System. The state will pay about \$900,000—the difference between the purchase price, including all costs, and what will be raised through public subscription. Funds

will come from the Department of Conservation budget with matching monies provided by Land and Water Conservation Fund, administered by the Federal Bureau of Outdoor Recreation."

Westvaco Corporation, a leading manufacturer of paper, packaging, and specialty chemicals, acquired Little Black Slough in 1973 as part of a program to broaden the raw material base of its large new paper mill at Wickliffe, Kentucky.

Commenting on the transaction, David L. Luke III, President of Westvaco, said: "Little Black Slough is an area of rare beauty and ecological significance, created by nature in the evolution of our forests. It is not feasible for our company to preserve a tract of land this size, so we are pleased that a practical solution has been found to set aside this property for the people of Illinois."

"Since the price we are receiving for Little Black Slough is substantially below fair market value, the tax law enables Westvaco to make a considerable gift to The Nature Conservancy," he said. "At the same time, Westvaco is recovering from this property, which came into our ownership less than two years ago, values that will enable us to acquire other lands in the general region to support the fiber needs of our Wickliffe mill. In this way, both the public and our shareholders are well served."

Little Black Slough, with its 300-year-old cypress trees, is a remnant of the once numerous river swamps now generally destroyed. According to Dan Pike, executive director of the Conservancy's Illinois Chapter, "We have been in discussions with Westvaco for almost two years to determine how it would be possible to safeguard the Slough — a living link with our state's past. I am pleased that the combination of commitment from the state, sale at less than estimated value by Westvaco and a statewide fund raising effort by the Conservancy, point the way to a lasting future for this unique wetland." Pike said, however, "We still have a long way to go before we can count Little Black Slough as 'saved'." Pike praised Westvaco for its decision to sell the area for conservation.

A committee of Illinois members of The Nature Conservancy will lead the statewide fund-raising effort. The campaign goal is \$400,000. Chicago businessmen and civic leaders Gaylord Donnelley and Charles C. Haffner III, volunteer members of the fund raising group, said donations can be mailed to The Nature Conservancy office, 708 Church Street, Evanston, Illinois 60101.

The Nature Conservancy is a leading national land conservation organization. To date the non-profit organization, which receives its support from the public, has been involved in the preservation of some 750,000 acres comprising about 1,400 projects in 47 states and the Caribbean. Approximately 60% of all projects are retained by the organization and managed by volunteers.

Researchers say that Little Black Slough is home for the rare Swainson Warbler, and the last bobcat reported sighted in Illinois was seen in the Slough. The Slough with its tall tupelos and bald cypress trees is also home to a population of cottonmouth water moccasins, copperheads, and

timber rattlesnakes. A large and active heron rookery is also within the four square mile refuge area as are deer, beaver, otter and rare Indiana bats. Topography of the preserve varies from 140' high Wildcat Bluff with upland forests of oak and maple to the slough itself and its southern bottomland forest. The area has been called "a geological extension of the Missouri Ozarks." According to scientists, "The Slough is unique for its combination of plants and animals and because it is so large and diverse."

The Conservancy's Illinois Chapter is one of the organization's most active groups with approximately 100 separate land preservation projects, including areas in the prairie grouse grasslands in Marion and Jasper Counties, a major bald eagle refuge in Hancock County, as well as Meredosia Island in the Illinois River, a waterfowl refuge in Cass and Morgan Counties. The organization is also responsible for the preservation of the last major area of virgin prairie in Cook County, the Gensburg-Markham Prairie Preserve, within 20 miles of the Loop.

The Nature Conservancy's national headquarters are located in metropolitan Washington, D. C., with regional offices in Atlanta, Boston, Minneapolis and San Francisco.

Koster Needs Help

READERS WHO have been around for any length of time know that we have been fascinated by the enterprise known to many as the "Koster Dig", Stuart Struever's inspired effort to interpret the lifestyle of ancient Illinois man from the refuse of his cultures unearthed on the flood plain and surrounding bluffs in Greene County, across the Illinois River from Kampsville.

This celebrated archaeological expedition has popularized the study of early man in Illinois, and has attracted numerous adherents by its imaginative and diligent explorations.

It is currently endangered by a lack of money, just as it is poised at the edge of Horizons 12 and 13 — some 35 to 40 feet below the present surface but in time possibly 9,900 to 12,000 years ago.

The Koster site is 45 miles north of St. Louis, and the headquarters for the expedition is at Kampsville, which has become a center of archaeological activity in Illinois in the intervening years since Dr. Struever first explored the Koster location in 1969.

In addition to an on-going professional program of exploration, using the latest tools man has devised to interpret the material gathered, the Foundation for Illinois Archaeology helps support itself and the Kampsville effort with field schools for junior high, high school and college students as well as dedicated amateurs; and in addition, three businesses have been created to both serve a demonstrated need and add to the income needed to keep the program alive.

The Early Man Shop offers an excellent selection of gifts from around the world; the new book store, Ancient and Environmental Books, holds a very good selection of books for both the beginner and the advanced student in

the fields of the environment and related disciplines; and the Kampsville Inn has been completely overhauled, is a fine place to take a meal and offers comfortable accommodations for those who wish to stay overnight or for an extended time, and at relatively low rates.

All this is by way of saying that not only is the archaeological activity uniquely experimental and stimulating, the method of underwriting that activity is also highly imaginative.

The Foundation is currently in the throes of a fiscal crisis, brought about primarily by the twin forces of a slump in the economy last spring which temporarily stifled private contributions, and heightened expenses brought about by the problem of lowering the water table to enable the dig to proceed down into the levels of Horizons 12 and 13.

What that means is that if you aren't now a member of the Foundation for Illinois Archaeology, now would be a good time to send a contribution to the Foundation, at Box 1499, Evanston, Illinois 60204. And if you know anyone who might make a substantial grant to the good work that is being done there, now would be an appropriate time to pass the word along. Barring that, the entire enterprise could be shut down.

Irvin Peithman Honored

A native of Hoyleton who is an honorary member of two venerable American Indian tribes has been named to receive Southern Illinois University-Carbondale's highest honor — the Distinguished Service Award.

He's Irvin Peithmann, 70, the self-proclaimed farmboy who parlayed a lifetime of searching for prehistoric artifacts into a widely recognized professional reputation in archaeology and the history of early Indians and of Illinois.

SIU-C's board of trustees approved the award July 10 and it will be presented to Peithmann at the University's August 8 commencement ceremony.

Peithmann retired from the SIU-C staff in 1973 after 42 years of service but he was retained as a researcher, under the vice-president for academic affairs, to maintain contacts with a far-ranging archaeological restoration project at Ft. de Chartres in Randolph County. Discoveries triggered by Peithmann since 1967 at the historic French enclave have led to explorations which may completely redefine the history of the fort and patterns of late 17th and 18th century settlement, when the crown of France claimed that part of North America.

For a man who possesses no college degree — like his former SIU-C colleague, R. Buckminster Fuller — Peithmann has earned some solid testaments to his dedication. The Illinois General Assembly last year recognized his accomplishments in a formal resolution. He's been cited by the Illinois Archaeological Society, Southern Illinois Inc., and the National Hall of Fame for Famous American Indians. Peithmann is an honorary member of the Seminole Indians and the Chickasaw Nation.

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When Peithmann retired in 1973, he had been working in various capacities with the department of recreation and the Little Grassy Lake outdoor laboratories. Archaeology has been his main link to the world of academe and even though he's been stamped as an "amateur," his list of finds and his seemingly unlimited appetite for source research has won deference from professionals. An SIU-C museum field crew is following up his Ft. de Chartres work and the Illinois Department of Conservation is financing it.

But Peithmann didn't start out as an archaeologist. When he came to SIU in 1931 as a 26-year-old Depression-hungry job-hunter, he landed on as manager of the University Farm.

His interest in Indian history (his father had been a member of the U. S. Dawes Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes in Indian Territory from 1899 to 1903) caused him to roam southern Illinois prospecting for Indian occupation sites.

He became so knowledgeable and so adept at writing feature articles on the Indians that John Allen, then curator of the University Museum, put him in charge of the Museum's archaeological collection. That was in 1949.

In 1951 he discovered the Modoc Rock Shelter in Randolph County, where subsequent explorations by SIU-C and the Illinois State Museum yielded human skeletons more than 10,000 years old, then the earliest evidence of human habitation east of the Mississippi River. The site subsequently was designated as a registered National Historic Landmark.

Peithmann used to spend his vacations traveling in the United States and Canada studying Indian history. He lived with several Indian tribes, including the Florida Seminoles, and was the only person ever permitted to record the ancient and sacred Seminole Green Corn Dance in its entirety.

He served the Seminoles as consultant for the establishment of a memorial to the famed warrior Osceola. They gave him the name, "Man of Many Pipes," because of his passion for long-stem briars.

If publication is customarily acknowledged as the sacred measure of scholarship, then Many Pipes can handle that, too. Among his seven books is a popular history called "The Unconquered Seminole Indians of Florida," which has sold a half-million copies. It was adopted by the Florida school system as a standard reference work. The self-taught archaeologist has been accepted for publication by journals ranging from "American Antiquity" to the "National Archaeological News" and "Florida Folklore Quarterly."

If there's to be a monument to Peithmann, his closest colleagues say, it most likely will be whatever form historical development takes in the Ft. de Chartres-Kaskaskia area. That region is a cradle of French colonial occupancy in the Illinois territory and Peithmann's discoveries there have added whole chapters to the raw documents of history.

Peithmann himself sees a time when the Prairie du Rocher-Ft. de Chartres-Kaskaskia network could become a "Williamsburg of the West." Anyone who's followed Peithmann's career would have to say he could be right.



ITALIANATE STYLE of the Lesem Building is a particularly fine example of that genre. Located at the corner of Maine and Third on the west side of Washington Square, a distinguished section of downtown Quincy. The view is west toward the Mississippi River.

Quincy's Lesem Building

Famous Illinois Architecture: XXII

By Paul E. Sprague



QUINCY

THE FOUR-STORY store and warehouse building erected in 1871 in Quincy for the wholesale dry goods business of Isaac Lesem & Co. is an excellent example of the technical and aesthetic state of commercial building design at that time.

Except for its stone foundations, six

feet in thickness and resting on bedrock, and its solid brick walls carrying a sloping flat roof, the building is constructed with prefabricated elements. Those parts that give the building its architectural character, which might best be described as Commercial Italianate, are all prefabricated of cast iron and sheet metal.

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All the window frames as well as the bracketed cornice and decorative columns of the ground floor are metal. The latter are preserved, however, only at the ends of the building and therefore, to recapture the original appearance of the ground floor with its decorative cast-iron columns in their aesthetic, symbolic and mechanical roles, the last being to

EVERYTHING IN this photograph which is not obviously brick is cast iron. In the mid-Nineteenth Century Quincy was an important supplier of prefabricated cast iron parts.

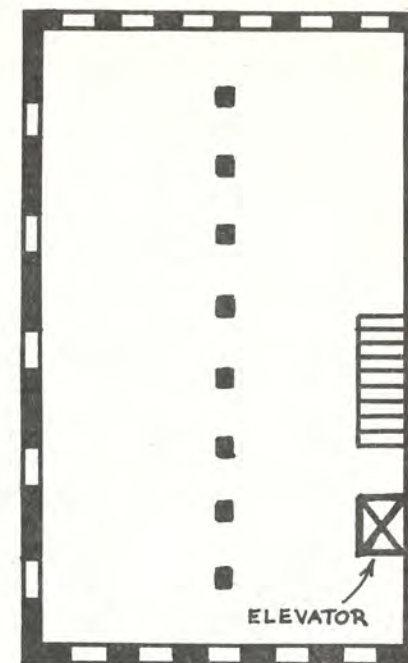
open up the wall for large plate-glass show windows, one must turn to the still intact ground floor of the nearly identical building immediately to the south.

Inside the Lesem Building the floors, originally entirely open, are carried on cast-iron columns in the basement and on the first two floors while on the third and fourth floors there are wooden piers supporting longitudinal beams in metal saddles.

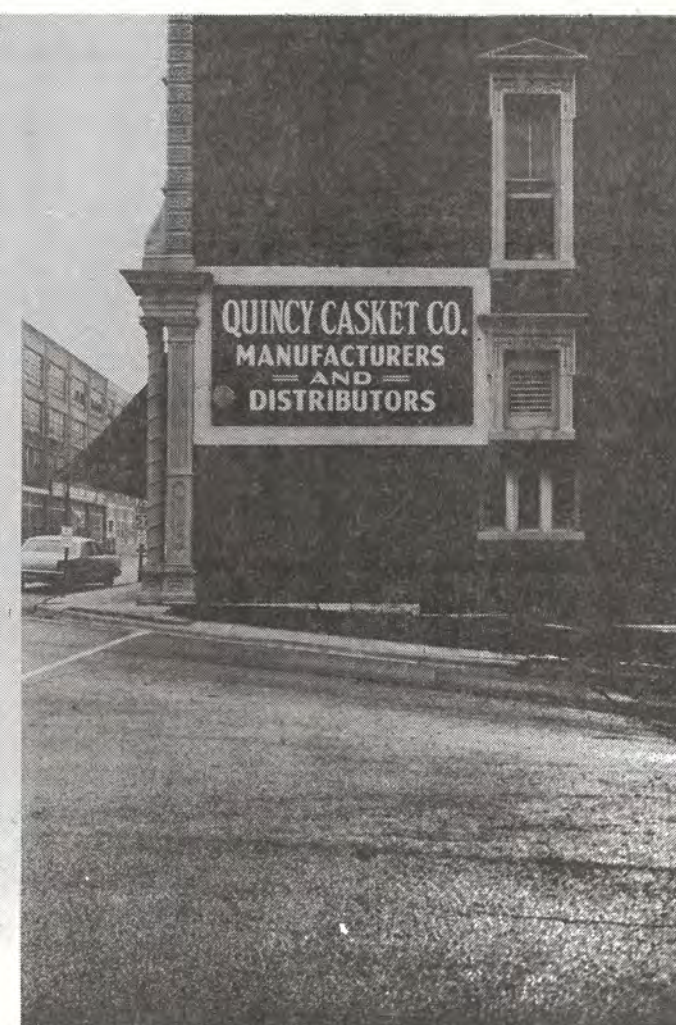
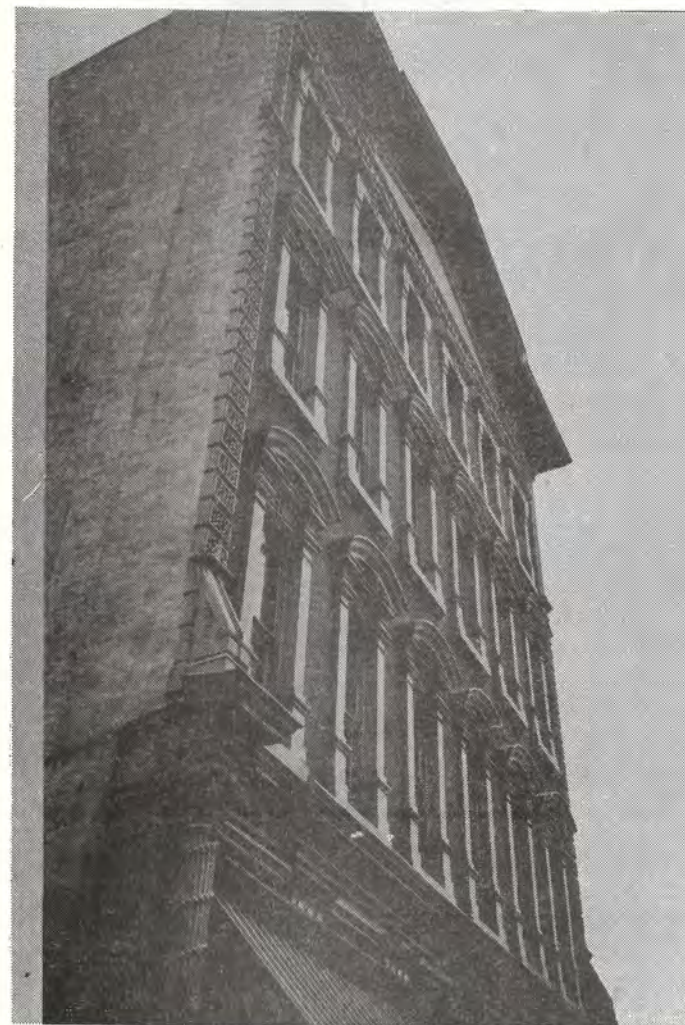
From the beginning the building had a central steam heating system with a boiler and coal bin under the sidewalk and circular radiators wrapped around the interior columns. The freight elevator on the south side is probably also original.

The ceilings, sixteen feet high on the

LOOKING SOUTH across Maine, which begins the slope here down the hill to the Mississippi River. Note decorative cast iron pillars and quoins.



TYPICAL FLOOR
LESEM BUILDING



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lower floor and decreasing to about ten feet on the top floor, are tongue-and-groove boards. The lighting system was gas with fixtures supported by exposed runs of cast iron gas pipe suspended from the ceilings.

While it is true that the Lesem Building is not unique, either in style or technical details, it is nonetheless a fine specimen of its type and is one that remains in very good condition with relatively few alterations. Because buildings of this type are becoming increasingly rare in urban centers, the Lesem Building with its memories of a bustling commercial life in a nineteenth-century Mississippi River town is all the more precious.

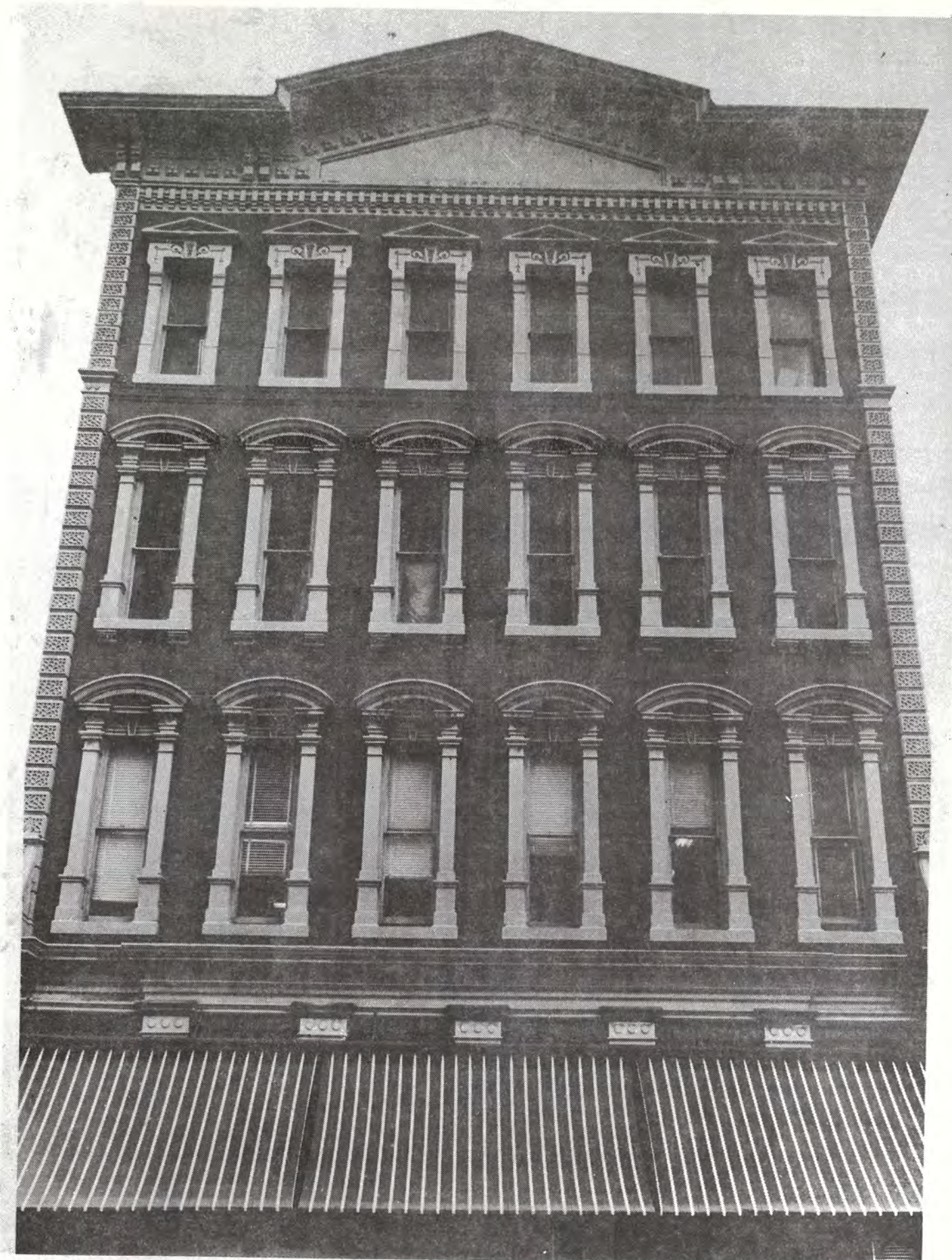


TYPICAL FLOOR in the four story Lesem Building, used for storage by the Quincy Casket Company. Note slow-burning wood construction was used on interior.



CAST IRON column and wood beams are typical construction on first two floors. Radiators around column were original construction.

SHOP FRONTS two buildings north of the Lesem Building resemble cast iron, ornate front which were originally on the latter, but altered in succeeding years.



ALTHOUGH the shop fronts on first floor have been altered, the top three floors are in an excellent state of preservation. The cornice, quoins along corner of building and window frames are all of prefabricated cast iron.



ANCIENT OX-BOWS of the Aux Vases (Big Muddy) River are preserved in the La Rue Swamp area of northwestern Union County, part of the preservation responsibility of Joe Newcomb, Ranger, in charge of the Shawnee National Forest's Jonesboro district.

Photographs by Jeff Van Scoyk

Joe Newcomb, Forest Ranger

First of a series on Illinoisans who enjoy their work

JOE NEWCOMB is a Forest Ranger. He is in charge of the Jonesboro District of the Shawnee National Forest, a 52,000-acre slice of the parent 250,000-acre forest which ranges from the unique ecological area called Pine Hills-LaRue Swamp in the rugged Illinois Ozarks to the delta region of cotton and cypress trees in Alexander County.

What does a forest ranger do? Well, one thing he doesn't do is sit in the top of a fire tower all day looking for smoke. They took most of the fire towers away some years ago and replaced them with seasonal fire observation patrols using airplanes, the result of an efficiency study which showed that sitting in a fire tower was an awful waste of manpower and money, and that airplane spotting offered far larger coverage.

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From those idyllic days of long ago when the fledgling U. S. Forest Service established ranger residences at the bases of fire towers in lonely hill locations, the work of the forest ranger has become a combination of modern business manager and part-time environmentalist, with a good dash of public relations activity thrown in as the ingredient which keeps the brew going.

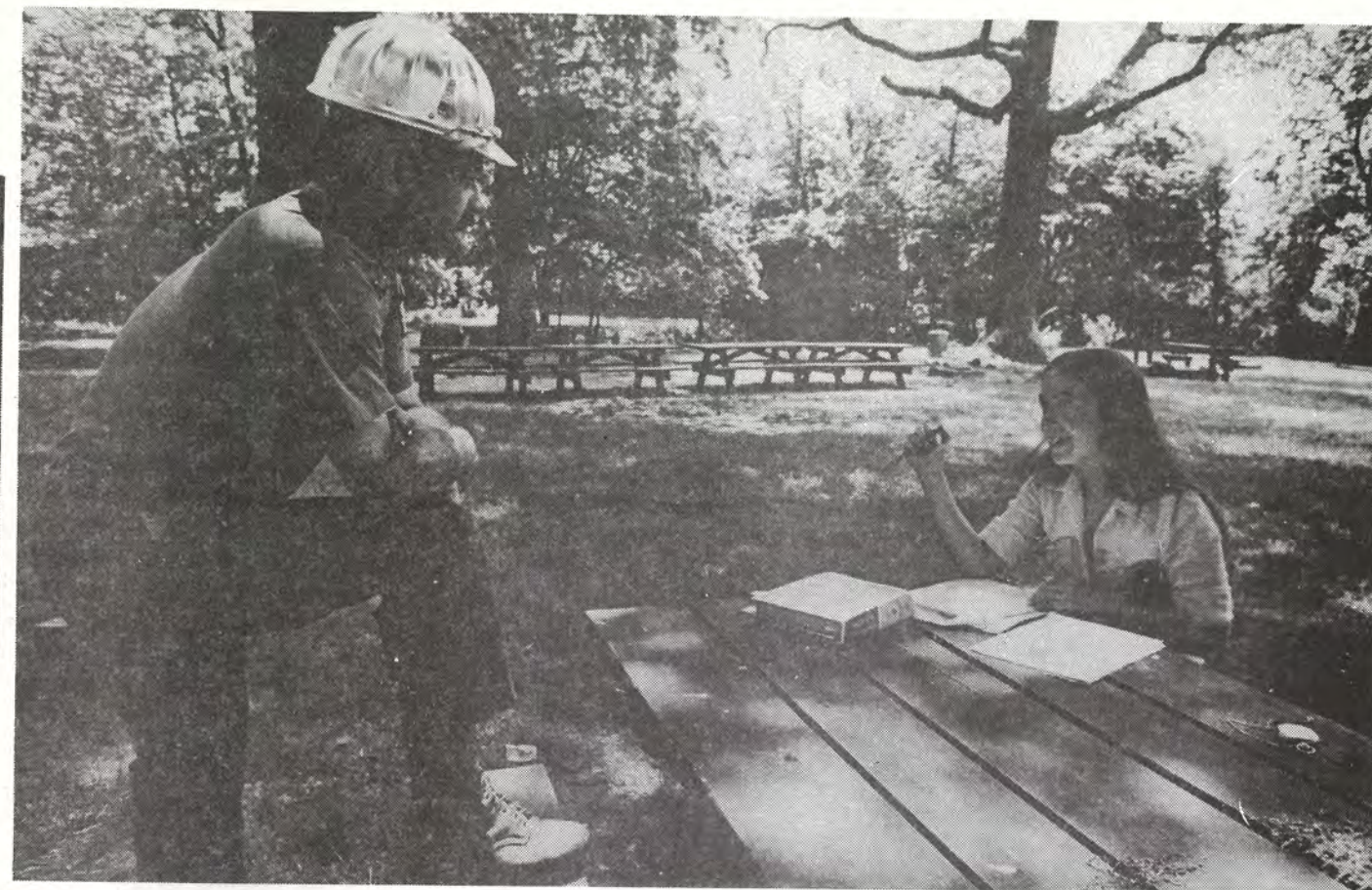
Good neighbor relations are important in the Jonesboro District. Only nine men, Joe Newcomb included, manage the 52,000-acres in Union and Alexander counties. With that sort of area to cover, getting along with the neighbors is of continuing prime importance. As a result, Joe works at seeing people in ones and in batches, whenever he can. He frequently gives talks to cub scouts, nature organizations and school classes,

he spends an occasional day with Southern Illinois University forestry classes and in between talks with groups as diverse as foreign visitors who work with agriculture and forestry in other lands, and individual landowners about individual or joint problems.

Among his duties are the management and sale of lumber from timber operations in the district, protection of watershed and wildlife habitat from fire, natural disasters—and people, construction of roads and campgrounds, and protection of ecological areas.

Land disputes can be a source of difficulty in the Jonesboro district as in many other places the U. S. Forest Service manages the public lands. Often people unknowingly use forest service land which lies next to theirs. Part of the ranger's duties are to inform the in-

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TALKING TO people who use forest service recreational facilities gives Ranger Newcomb an opportunity to explain some of the working of the forest service. Nancy Dick, a student at Anna, chose a quiet spot in Lincoln Memorial Park adjacent to the ranger station for study this spring.



GOOD RELATIONS with the neighbors are of paramount importance in the 250,000 acres within the Shawnee National Forest. The forest is managed by district rangers at Jonesboro, Vienna, Murphysboro and Elizabethtown, under the supervision of the Forest Supervisor, Charles Hendricks, whose office is in Harrisburg.

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AT A FOREST Service seminar atop the chalk bluffs overlooking LaRue, the ranger points out details on a topographic map that corresponds with the surrounding terrain.

ABOUT 30 MILES of roads are maintained by the forest service within the Jonesboro district, built and maintained to provide access to forest land for timber, recreation and local farm use. This low water crossing is an inexpensive method of bridging a waterway.



dividual of his error, and to work out an amicable arrangement—which may even include lease of the land in question for a small user fee.

Some 120,000 people visit the Jonesboro district's land each year, most bent on attempting to relax and enjoy themselves in a pleasant outdoor setting. Working within the greater Shawnee National Forest framework of budgeting, priorities and personnel, Joe has the responsibility for campground improvement and management, maintenance of picnic and other recreational facilities for visitors.

Vandalism and public misuse of forest service facilities has had a significant effect upon the services provided in the past few years. The cost of maintaining facilities has skyrocketed both through increased cost of materials and greatly increased destruction by miscreants. If there is a single way to assist a limited staff in this regard, it is that the individuals who use and appreciate the forest service facilities be good citizens and blow the whistle on acts of vandalism, either by reporting them to the district rangers or to local law enforcement officials.

In the Jonesboro district are a number of outstanding recreational and natural

areas. Foremost among the former are several scenic picnic areas along the Skyline Scenic Drive overlooking the La Rue Swamp north of Wolf Lake—McGee Hill and Allen's Flat—as well as such diverse interests as the site commemorating the debate between Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas adjacent to the Jonesboro ranger station in Jonesboro, and the Grapevine Trail camping area northeast of Thebes.

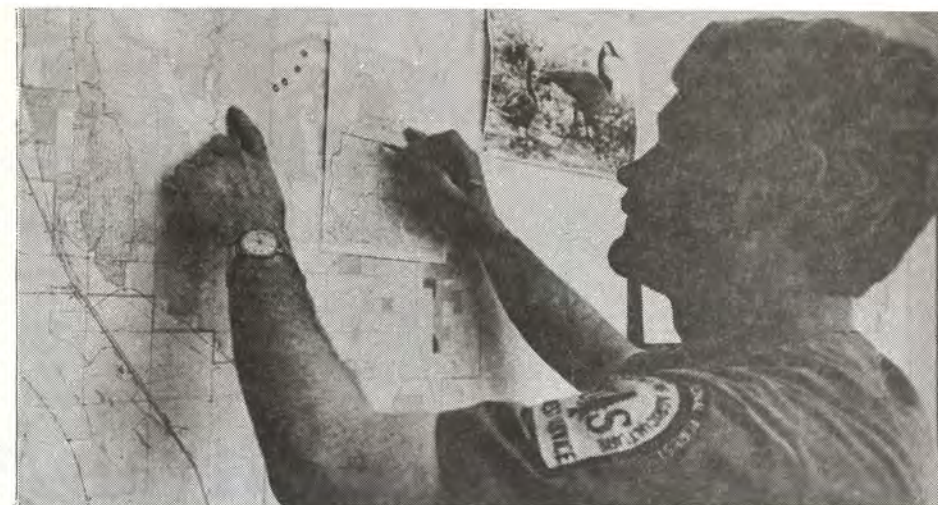
Draper's Bluff near Lick Creek on Interstate 57 and LaRue-Pine Hills Ecological Area are two outstanding natural areas worth visiting, but for Ranger Newcomb they represent another aspect of management—protection from overuse.

For Joe Newcomb, this diversity in daily tasks offers something new every day, and is considerably different in scope from the forest service he saw upon graduating from the University

IN THE FOREST, logging companies pay for the right to harvest timber in specified areas, but are required to show care for conservation of the land. The ranger checks this aspect of an on-going logging operation.



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FOREST MANAGEMENT requires long range planning or predicting tomorrow's result of today's activity. Ranger Joe Newcomb plots action in one of the forest compartments within the Jonesboro district.

of Illinois with a BS in Forestry in 1962. His first six years following graduation were spent as a junior forester in Michigan, and the next four-and-a-half years were spent as a land acquisition forester in neighboring Missouri's Mark Twain National Forest.

He has spent the past three years as ranger at the Jonesboro district. It is an unusual tour of duty, since the service

MEASURING BLACK Oak logs, Newcomb explains that this timber is excellent for rough construction lumber, for concrete forms, for scaffolding and for bridge flooring.

seldom sends individuals "back to where they came from", and Joe is a native of Herald, in southern Illinois. He is married and has three sons.

In a government service noted for good *esprit de corps*, Joe Newcomb represents a living example of the reason for it. He is a man who works at work he enjoys.



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Summer is the Time when Cool Season Plants
of Northern Ancestry Slow Their Activity

The Aestival Aspect

By John Voigt

SPRING slips into Summer with the last sounds of "June bugs" bouncing off the window screens, and with the first flashes of greenish phosphorescent light over the meadows as ten thousand fireflies incessantly wink their lights.

The rough and tumble winds of spring now settle into steady breezes which blow from the south for a few days, and then alternate with westerly breezes. Less frequently, drier cooling air blows from the north. For the relief they give, we call these our bonus days, which means that for every such day we have of them, there will be that much less heat of summer to endure later.

Summer as reckoned astronomically begins with the solstices, a date fixed at June twenty-first. On this date the sun reaches its farthest penetration into the northern hemisphere and is momentarily at a standstill over the Tropic of Cancer before it begins its slow journey back toward the equator. The end of summer or the beginning of fall is marked by the position of the sun overhead at the equator on September twenty-first. It is apparent by that time that the long summer days have shortened. The longest day of the year occurs about June twenty-second.

The lemon-colored light of the early season forest, made by filtering and reflection of emerging leaves, gradually gives way to the characteristic deeper green light of the summer woods. Fully emerged and mature leaves now make a closed canopy and the shadows and

light cast below is darker. The heaviest shade of the forest, almost a gloomy darkness, was cast by the maples and beeches which shared in the production of this deepening shade.

The approach to summer is presaged by subtle changes. Animals begin to shed their winter coats, birds begin their territorial singing and nests are built. The days grow gradually and mostly unnoticed into greater length. Bob Whites begin calling again to signal their second nesting. The Whip-poor-will calls incessantly and quickens his pace with the increase of temperatures until it gets too hot—and then they cease calling altogether. Summer is a time of nesting for a large number of birds. Among other favorable conditions, the matter of a plentiful food supply seems one of the most important to rearing the young.

Killdeer nested in the gravel rock at the edge of the driveway. A shallow nest hollowed out in the pebbles contained four mottled eggs, making them neatly camouflaged. A sign placed at the entrance of the drive warned visitors of their presence. This sign became the talk of the neighborhood. Soon there were four tiny stilt-legged, precocious replicas of the parents running around. The mother bird played her crippled wing act whenever anyone came around, and otherwise she was being driven to distraction by the chicks who were constantly running off in four different directions.

Towards evening the low swooping,

bull-voiced night hawks showed their white bars on the underside of the wing. Nighthawks, too, have unusual nesting habits and often use the pebbled rooftops of buildings as a place to nest.

Summer skies are a stereotype. They are filled with cumulus clouds, puffy on their topsides and gray and flattened on their undersides, and stacked in layers which retreat smaller and smaller into infinity. The southern breezes keep these clouds filled with moisture from the gulf region, making our state very humid. The clouds of summer often change shape quickly and come together in towering masses of billowing, turbulent thunderheads which ascend to great heights and contain within them tremendous forces of energy, manifested in their sudden updrafts and down-drafts.

The "sensual" summer is that period of warm or hot weather and long daylight hours that might be said to begin in late May and end in late September and is, thus, longer than the calendar period which runs from June twenty-first to September twenty-first. The divisions of the year into three-month periods hardly reflects the important lengths of favorable activity for plants and animals, which know nothing of astronomical reckoning and calendars. Summer is surely the "longest" season, with favorable periods for growth at the end of spring and the early part of fall. Spring and fall are compressed between cold and dryness, and by the overall activity within them, these seasons are shortened in comparison to summer.

OUTDOOR ILLINOIS

From atop a cedar post the
bob-white proclaims summer



The seasons are often described in terms of what happens or by what is commonly observed. Summer is the blue haze in the air over the distant forested hills. Summer is: the heat mirages on shimmering concrete pavements; out-

door cooking time: sweet-smelling corn-lands; haying time; vegetable garden time; clover and bumble bee time; tick and chigger time; fly and mosquito time; fishing time; drought and dusty roadside time, and cold drink time.

Summer is a time of active plant growth, food making and storage. Sugars, flavors, juices and essences of many kinds are produced in their goodness and abundance. A great many of the summer blooming plants are of southern

origin or what we term the warm-season plants. These are so named because of their adaptation to growing best and flowering most during the warm days of summer. Conversely, plants which are adapted to growing most rapidly or flowering or fruiting during the cooler part of the year are said to be of northern extraction or northern ancestry. Cool season plants will be slowed to relative inactivity during the hot days of summer. This forced resting period is spoken of as *aestivation*. It is something like the torpor of animals, which comes mostly during the opposite time of the year. Because of *aestivation* by some plants we often speak of summer as the *Aestival* aspect or season.

During *aestivation* a plant like Kentucky bluegrass will appear brown and dead, but it is definitely not dead. When cooler days of autumn arrive and rainfall again becomes more plentiful, the Kentucky bluegrass becomes active and green again.

Just as life retreats into the seclusion of buds or underground structures in winter, so is there similar seclusion of life in summer. The bud scales which surround most buds of woody species in winter are being produced in early summer. As the leaves are making their maximum growth during the present year, the buds are being formed which carry the promise of verdant foliage for the next year. Nature is very provident in planning a full year ahead.

Perhaps it has been observed that plants of the northern hemisphere will not grow well or break their dormancy without a period of cold such as they receive in winter. Periods of dryness in summer followed by a moist period will sometimes cause the *aestivating* plant to be "aroused" and it will have two periods of flowering, one in the spring and another in the summer. Often one sees this errant behavior in fruit trees, magnolias, or various flowering shrubs.

The rainfall so abundant in early season is now but a forgotten memory. Rain seemingly has forsaken the summer earth which lies dry, parched and hard before the merciless intensity of the summer drought. Ponds are sucked down to half their volume and expose each week a receding muddy margin which leaves behind itself a cracking,

peeling, and polygonal configuration. The summer sun has a seemingly insatiable thirst.

The green scum of algæ thickens into sour and repulsive mats over ponds and watering tanks. Birds seek relief in the shade of leaves, but the heat of the summer day causes their mouths to gape and their beaks to open and close with a choking rhythm as they labor to breathe. Roadside plants become dust covered and the precious edge environ-



Summer-flowering *Liatris spicata*

ment is now unattractive and little used by the birds. Panting dogs trot along grassy areas beside the sidewalks and pavements to avoid the stored heat of the concrete.

The position of the few constellations I know are compared with their winter-time positions. The Big Dipper, only about fifteen degrees above the horizon and in a northeasterly direction in winter is now some seventy-five or eighty degrees from the horizon, or almost overhead, but slightly north. The Pleiades have moved from a little south and west of overhead in winter to a position slightly northwest of overhead. The Pleiades are the seven little sisters who

were the daughters of Atlas and Pleione. In Greek mythology Zeus placed them among the stars. Only six of the daughters are visible, the seventh being lost.

We have entered the uncomfortable "dog days" of summer when the dog star rises with the sun, rides with the sun through the sky and sets as the sun sets. Dog fennel runs rampant over roadsides and waste areas.

Summer belongs to the grasses more than any other group of plants. Any suburbanite who doesn't enjoy mowing knows this. The grasses probably occupy more of the earth's surface than any other one group or family of plants. The grasses are successful for a number of reasons. Foremost is the location of the meristematic or growth region. Most plants grow in length or height by the addition of cells produced continuously at the tip end of the branch or shoot. In the grasses the growth region is at the base of the blade. This is an adaptation made by the grasses as they were evolving along with grazing animals some forty to sixty million years ago. As the tips and upper parts of the grass blades are grazed or mowed, the new growth arises from below or at the base of the blade. New growth constantly lifts the blade higher where it is in position to be grazed or in readiness for the next mowing.

Many grasses have rhizomes or underground stems from which new stems and blades arise. These underground stems are well protected from fires, grazing, trampling, and drought. Grasses have an ability to right themselves after their stems are dislodged or blown down. The way in which this is accomplished is in the differential growth which occurs on the underside of the nodal regions and which is due to the production of growth hormones. These hormones are produced on or rather in the tissues of the shaded side of the stem.

Grasses display their leaves in a manner which is most efficient in utilizing the energy of sunlight. The leaf blades are also built in a manner which gives them great strength and resistance to tearing by the wind. The grass leaf has a series of parallel veins which are very strong and they support and pro-

(Continued on Page 43)

OUTDOOR ILLINOIS

A New Geography of

PERRY COUNTY

BEFORE THE white man's arrival tribes of the Illini federation found good hunting in what is now Perry County. For several years prior to 1802, Chief DuCoigne and his Kaskaskia held their fall hunt along Big and Little Muddy Rivers. They camped a short distance southeast of Old Du Quoin, near the Campbell Lakes.

Migrant ducks and other waterfowl fed and rested at these lakes. There were fish to be caught. In the adjacent forests food and fur animals were plentiful.

To a lesser extent hunting was good in the Beaucoup and Galum creeks marshland near the Jackson County line.

On one of their fall hunting trips the Kaskaskia visited the Shawnee area for supplies and whiskey. A dispute developed with the Shawnee who were camped nearby. Having their families with them DuCoigne wanted to avoid a fight, so the Kaskaskia broke camp and started back to the Little Muddy.

The Shawnee followed, waging a running battle. At the Little Muddy they broke off the fight and returned to Shawneetown.

The Kaskaskia sustained severe losses. According to Peithmann, this was their last fight. They never returned to their hunting grounds along the two Muddys.

A marker in a churchyard at the west edge of West Frankfort is a memorial to this battle.

The Kaskaskia and most of the Illini in the American Bottom were friendly towards the whites, until the breakdown of law and order when the Americans assumed control of the area. The Indians then became surly and

belligerent, until a responsible government again was established.

Egged on by the British while the war of 1812 was brewing, Indians harassed early settlers in Perry County. Forts were built. Some of these may have been blockhouses. Others, perhaps, were well-built log homes. In times of danger settlers came to these "forts" for refuge.

Little has been reported about Indian mounds in Perry County. It is possible that

"I went to Old Du Quoin and stood on Seminary Hill and looked across the farmland."

"I thought of the tall grass that once had covered the prairies and the Indians who hunted there. And of the pioneers who came to live with them."

"I sent my imagination back a century and a half and let it live there until I was one of them."

"I could hear the sounds of the frontier."

"There was the sound of a falling tree. The sounds of a horse's hooves on the dry dirt roads and the creaking sound of a wagon behind the horses."

"The sounds of a musket on the prairie . . . The spinning wheel in a new log cabin . . . A boiling pot on an open fire." — Cliff Stanley, Du Quoin, Ill.

the builders of the Perry County mounds were related to a Woodland culture along the Big Muddy River, about three miles north of Carbondale. These were identified as Raymond and Dillinger foci.

These and other mound building cultures may have been decimated by the white man's diseases, such as small-pox. Some sources hold, however, that the cultures had run their courses, the survivors gradually merging with their neighbors, our historic Indians.

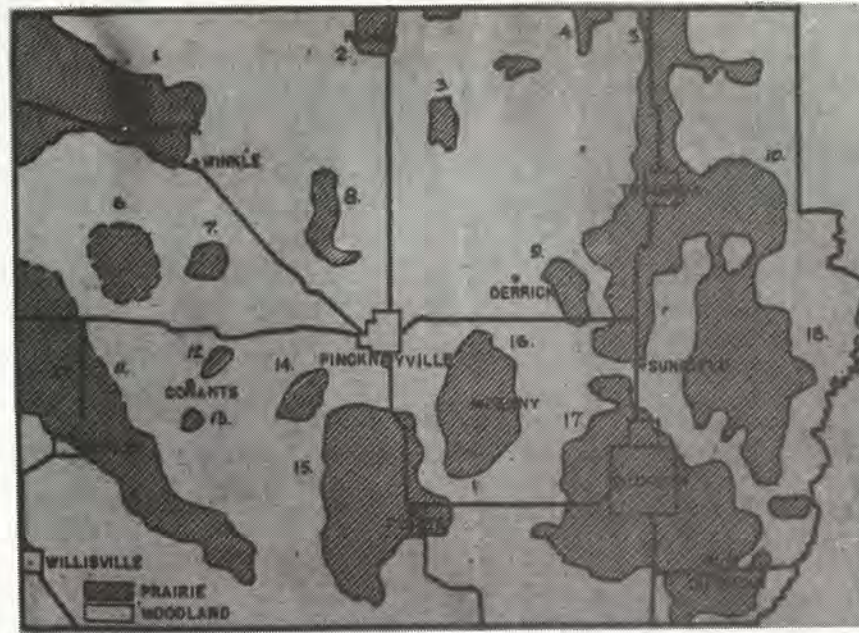
Uncle John Bowlin was elected from the Du Quoin district to the state legislature. One day a fellow legislator asked him the population of Perry County. "Well," Uncle John replied, "mostly post oak and white oak. A little black jack and hickory."

How right he was.

Perry County originally was about three-fourths woodland. The remainder was prairie. The forests of the county were of two types—bottom land and post oak hills.

Major streams in the county were the Little Muddy, on the eastern border, the Beaucoup and Galum creeks. Along these streams and their tributaries were found hard maple, swamp white oak, pin oak, burr oak, black oak, shagbark hickory, ash, black walnut and hazel. On those post-oak hills were found post oak, black oak, blackjack oak, hickory, hackberry and elm.

A third natural feature was called by the first settlers "The Barrens." These were found on the poor soils of low hills and ridges.



THE PRAIRIES of Perry County as Europeans first saw them in the early eighteenth century included: 1, Grande Cote; 2, Round; 3, Hutchings; 4, Mud; 5, Upper Paradise; 6, Lost; 7, Brush; 8, Burnt; 9, Upper Holt's; 10, Johnson's (part of Paradise); 11, Six Mile; 12, Eaton's; 13, Conant's; 14, Galum; 15, Four Mile; 16, Lower Holt's; 17, Nine Mile; 18, Lower Paradise.

Here were found tall grasses, herbaceous plants and a scattering of trees.

On the prairies grew big and little blue-stem, drop-seed and other species of the grass family. Herbaceous species were golden-rod, asters, sunflowers and a host of other flowering plants for which Illinois prairies were noted.

Today, Perry County prairies have been turned into farms. However, remnant examples of prairie flora may be found along the railroad between Du Quoin and Tamaroa.

Many mammals and birds known to the pioneers have been able to cope with the development of the county and are still around. A few, such as the bison, lynx, turkey, grouse and passenger pigeons, have become extinct. Deer and beaver have been reintroduced.

Much of the surface of the county is flat, or gently rolling. Considerable erosion is to be found along some of the larger streams. Seminary Hill at Old Du Quoin, rising a hundred feet or so above the surrounding area, is the highest elevation in the county.

The surface of Perry County was shaped by the great Illinoian glacier of about 160,000 years ago and by later erosion.

During the great ice ages, Illinois repeatedly was overridden by glaciers. The Illinoian reached southward to just below Carbondale. Drift from this glacier originally was some 15 feet deep. If earlier glaciers reached as far south as Perry County all evidence has been worn away, or covered by Illinoian drift.

With the retreat of the Illinoian glacier, a large lake of melt water was created along the Big Muddy River system. Embayments from this lake extended up the Beaucoup and Little Muddy rivers into Washington County. Campbell Lakes on the Little Muddy undoubtedly are remnants of this glacial lake.

Wind-blown deposits (loess) overlie glacial till and cover Perry County to an approximate mean depth of four feet.

Early Settlers

Most of the early settlers in Perry County came from Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia. It was said their culture was traceable to Elizabethan England. Religiously they were predominately fundamental Protestants.

John Flack came with his family in 1799, and settled on Four Mile Prairie. These were the first permanent settlers in Perry County. Flack's son, John, Jr., was born on this prairie in 1801. It is believed that young John was the first baby born in the county.

GLACIAL LAKES on the Beaucoup (center) and Little Muddy Creek (right) were created by the melting water of the great Illinoian glacier, some 160,000 years ago.



In 1803, Jarrold Jackson built a toll bridge over the Little Muddy on the Shawneetown-Kaskaskia Road.

Apparently the first settlers on Paradise Prairie were David Dial and David Reese. In 1815, Edward Rees settled by a stream near Tamaroa. Named "Reese Creek," this stream now supplies water to the Du Quoin reservoir.

Paradise was the largest prairie in Perry County, extending north along US 51 from Sunfield into Washington County. A long arm extended southeast from near Tamaroa.

Looking over this prairie from a high elevation, Elijah Wells exclaimed, "This is as near Paradise that I ever expect to get!" And so the prairie was named.

However, about 1829, Elijah, not being satisfied with Paradise, built a mill on the west side of Nine Mile Prairie, on the old Kaskaskia Road.

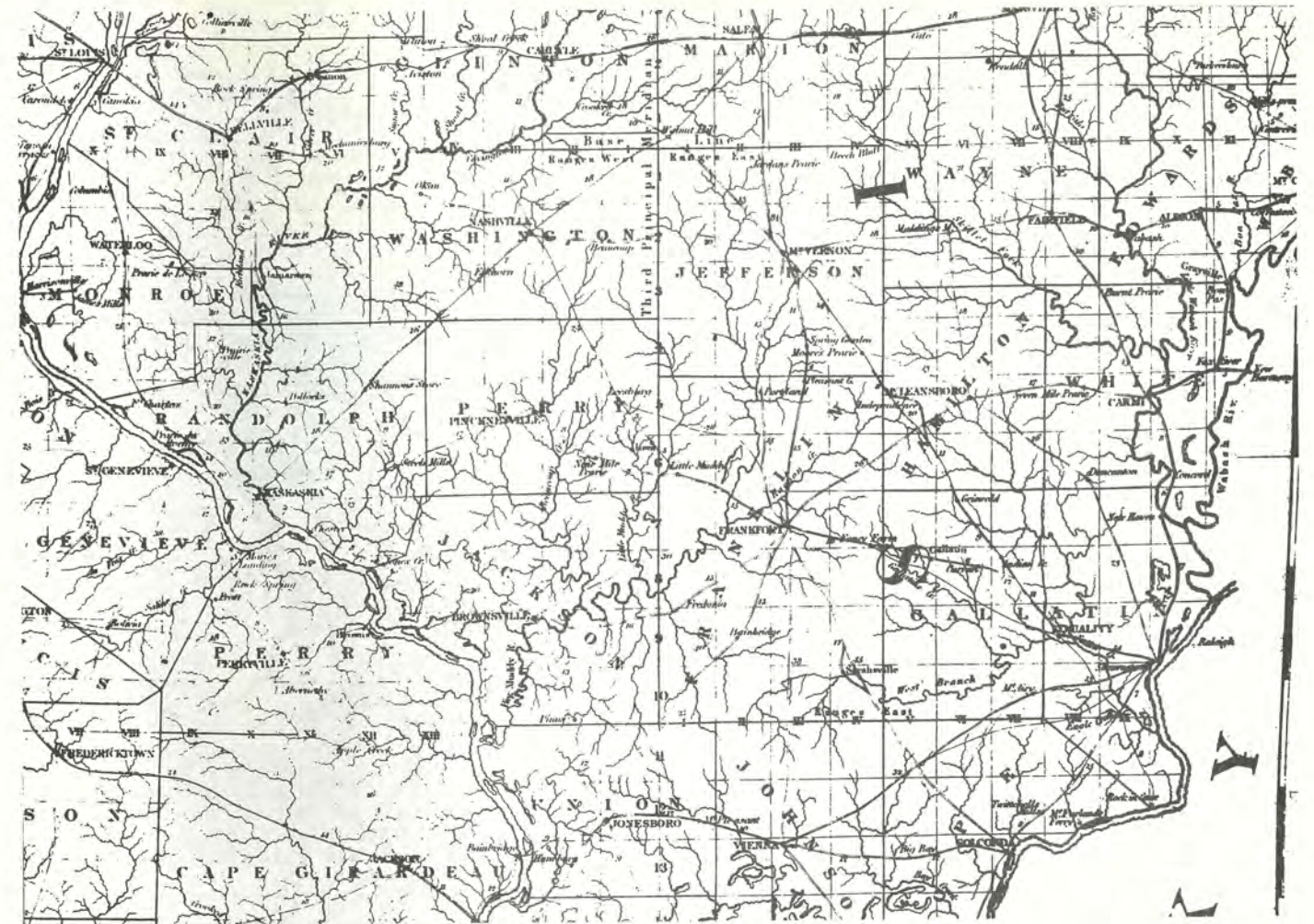
Dr. Brayshaw, one of the earlier physicians in the county, lived on Nine Mile Prairie near Old Du Quoin, and attended patients at Cutler, on the west side of the county, 20 miles distant.

How Nine Mile got its name was somewhat of a mystery. One source wondered if it was nine miles long, or nine miles from some specific spot.

A clue to the problem was given by Abner Flack. Abner surveyed the state road from Shawneetown to Kaskaskia, and gave Four Mile and Six Mile prairies their names. Evidently, the names indicate their widths.

In 1816, William Hutchings settled on the south side of the prairie which bore his name. William's son, John R., helped locate Pinckneyville and later served as County Judge. John R. also was an early teacher and a Baptist preacher.

John Hutchings, William's brother, settled near the Beaucoup in Sec. 19, Twp 4, R20W, in 1817. On October 8, 1830, he freed from slavery a family of two parents and four children, signing his name with an "X".



IN THE LATE 1830s the trails entered Perry County towns like Leesburg (near present Tamaroa), Nine Mile Prairie (near present Du Quoin and Iowa, east of Du Quoin—none of which survive.

Lost Prairie got its name when several men on their way from Vincennes to Kaskaskia became lost on the hitherto unnamed prairie. Names and dates are not known.

Some time between 1820 and 1830, Daniel Dry and his wife, living in Pennsylvania, packed their clothes and household goods into an old barrel. Mounting the barrel on wheels, they started for Perry County, Illinois. They walked every step of the way, pushing the barrel-cart.

The first deed given in Perry County was dated August 30, 1827, and covered the transfer to this same Daniel Dry of 35 acres, near the center of Twp. 6, R2W. The consideration was \$200.

The Campbells

It must have been around 1800 that the Campbell-Hoge clan of Scots settled along the Little Muddy River, where Perry, Jackson and Franklin counties meet.

In the Eighteenth Century, when Scotland was having religious troubles, 250 Presbyterians led by John Campbell, chief of the clan, sailed for the British Colonies in America. They arrived in Philadelphia on an auspicious date — July 4, 1776.

Some of the group stayed in Pennsylvania. Others drifted into Tennessee. The rest traveled overland to St. Louis. Enroute these traded with friendly Indians and bought horses and cattle.

In St. Louis, French fur traders told them

of a land in Illinois abounding with all the clans could wish for — "a little Scotland in America."

Mrs. Mamie Reheis has described how the clans met in conference "in an open field 'neath the moon and stars, and decided to take the trail through the wilderness to the haven described by the fur traders."

Following the St. Louis-Shawneetown Indian trail their pace was slow, as they camped, hunted, and let their stock graze along the way. They came to a well-wooded area, mixed with open prairie. They found three lakes, one of more than sixty acres. You may be sure these were soon known as Campbells Lakes. And Campbell Lakes they are today, what is left of them.

Deer, wild turkeys and fur-bearing animals were plentiful. Fishing was good. There was plenty of grass for their horses and cattle.

This was journey's end.

Those Scots were squatters. They had arrived before surveys were made, or land offices opened. They built their cabins, plowed and planted, and let the livestock run loose, identified by ear marks. They soon had comfortable homes.

In 1808, George Washington Campbell was born in the settlement. Washington was a son of John Campbell, chief of the clan.

The son prospered. At one time or another he owned 15,000 acres of land in the area, including a patent on the land on which his father had squatted.

One of the pieces of land was located in Section 34, Twp. 6W, R1E, Perry County, which later became known as the John Mann farm. It was here that the Campbell Cemetery was located, and where John Campbell is buried.

Thompson Moore was one of the Scots left behind in Pennsylvania. The Moore family came to Illinois, evidently by way of Tennessee. They settled near present Ewing, Franklin County.

About 1822, Washington Campbell and some friends rode over for a quick visit with the Moores — Washington had promised his father to return early the next morning in time to run a trap line.

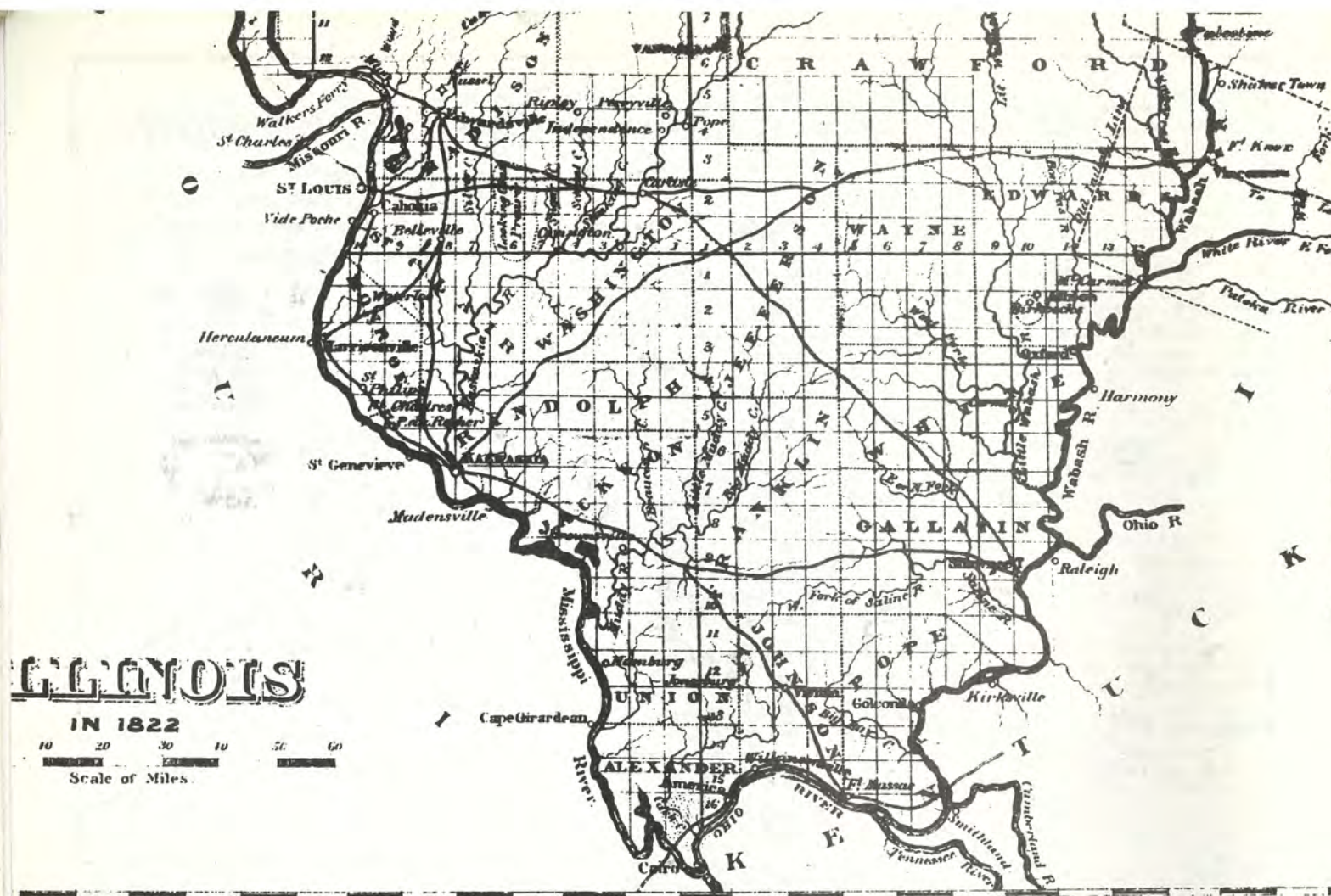
There at the Moores', Washington met the one and only. She was 16-year-old Phronie, with hazel blue eyes, raven hair and dimpled cheeks.

When the boys left that night for the Little Muddy, Washington told Phronie he would call again, sometime.

It was not until June that he called. And found the family all packed, ready to leave in their covered wagons for Tennessee. Wash talked to Phronie. And to her parents. He accompanied the family to Frank's Fort (West Frankfort).

Wash found a justice of the peace, and he and Phronie were married, standing beside a loaded wagon on a dusty road.

After farewells, Phronie rode pillory behind Washington to the Campbells. All of her belongings were carried in a red handkerchief.



George Washington Campbell died in 1876 at his home in Sec. 6, Twp. 7, R1 East, Franklin County. He was buried in Denning Township, near Orient, Franklin County.

No further mention was made of Phronie, except that the two had several children.

Benaiah Guernsey Roots

Benaiah Roots, from New York State, settled about a mile south of Tamaroa in 1838, calling his farm Locust Hill. He had been accepted at the bar, was a qualified civil engineer, and a school teacher.

His first home was a log cabin, which he later enlarged. He planted 40 different species and varieties of trees on the great lawn. Of these 38 remain. One is the rare Empress tree, (*Paulownia tomentosa imperialis*), with its violet flowers in May.

In 1839 he opened a boarding school at his home, Locust Hill Academy. He started with one pupil.

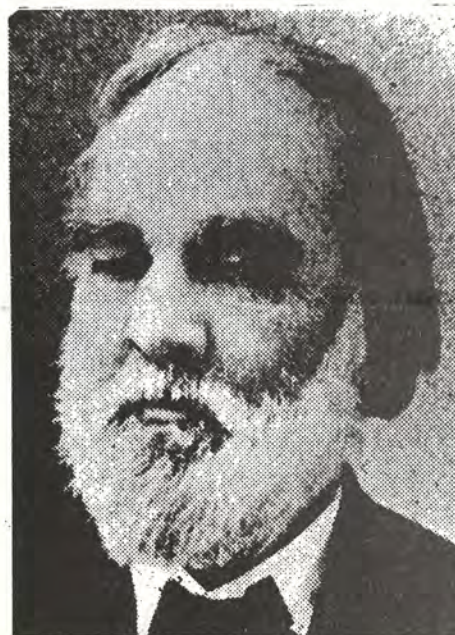
The enrollment did not remain at one for long. Many youngsters in early Perry County finished their education under Mr. Roots. John A. Logan was one of his students.

Roots operated the academy until 1846. He then headed a seminary at Sparta, Illinois, until 1851.

In that year he was made chief surveyor of the Second Division of the Illinois Central Railroad, then building. He later acted as land agent and attorney for the railroad, resigning this connection in 1856.

It was due to his influence that a curve in the right of way was made north of Sunfield, so the railroad could pass his home.

BENAIAH GUERNSEY ROOTS



For allowing the railroad to cross his land, Roots and his descendants, the Kimzeys, were allowed to ride the train free to Tamaroa. Mrs. Kimzey, Roots' daughter, a semi-invalid, would have her rocking chair put on a flat car and ride to Tamaroa al fresco.

Locust Hill was an underground station for run-away slaves. The negroes were hidden in a root cellar, reached by means of sliding wall panels and a secret stairway.

We are told that after the War Between the States some of the negroes Roots had sheltered returned to Locust Hill, built cabins in the fields south of the present farmstead, then wooded, and worked for Roots on his farm.

When railroad construction was completed, Roots returned to Locust Hill and revived the Academy.

About 1854, he built the present Federal style home, containing 12 large rooms and a "Widows Walk." Some of the upstairs rooms used by boarding students were numbered. Just how long Roots continued to operate the academy was not reported.

Mr. Roots was very much interested in better education. He lobbied for the Free School Law in 1855. He helped organize the Illinois State Teachers Association in 1853, and was an early president.

He favored Normal Schools, and is said to have helped secure Southern Illinois Normal, now Southern Illinois University, for Carbondale. In 1865, he was appointed to the Illinois Board of Education, serving on the Board until his death in 1887.

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LOCUST HILL FARM, built by Benaiah G. Roots, early surveyor, lawyer, engineer, educator, was begun as a log home, later became Locust Hill Academy in 1839 operated by Roots. In 1854 the present federal style house was built and again used as an academy by Roots. It served as a station on the Underground Railroad during the days prior to the Civil War.

In 1957, Calvin and Jean Ibendahl bought Locust Hill Farm, or Kimzey place, as it is now known. Calvin Ibendahl raises hogs. Miss Jean was a school teacher. She has furnished several of the rooms, each according to a different period.

The State Room — we'd call it the "living room" — is 19th Century; the Shaker Room, barely 1800; the Master Bedroom, about 1865; Guest Room, 1890; Nursery, 1900.

Mrs. Ibendahl also bought and placed on the great lawn one of those old, familiar, one-room schoolhouses, and painted it red. The school room is furnished with old maps and desks, a Cannon stove, and other appropriate items. The "Little Red Schoolhouse" is the headquarters of the Perry County Historical Society.

The period rooms and the schoolhouse are open to visitors by appointment.

Post Offices

Perry County was created January 29, 1827, and was named for Oliver Hazard Perry, a commodore of the United States Navy, who won distinction as commander of the fleet in the Battle of Lake Erie in 1813.

Perry County was taken from Randolph and Jackson counties. Originally the county was four townships wide and three deep, the east line being the Third Principal Meridian. The county is not under township organization.

The Little Muddy River was two or three miles east of the original Perry County line. In the spring and after heavy rains the Muddy rose and overflowed its bottom lands. This created a hardship for those Franklin Countians living west of the Little Muddy. For extended periods it was nearly impossible to reach their county seat. Consequently, below Twp. 4S, R1E, the boundary was re-

defined, the Little Muddy being the boundary line.

In the Act creating Perry County, the General Assembly of Illinois appointed as commissioners, Evert Humphreys and Samuel Crawford of Randolph County and Singleton Kimmel of Jackson County. These were ordered to "determine upon a place which to locate the permanent seat of justice . . . and the county seat when so established shall be called Pinckneyville."

A total of 52 lots with streets and alleys were laid out. These cost the county about 31 1/4c each. Each lot contained about 1/4 acre. In order to get these lots in the hands of the people a public sale was held February 4, 1828, with the provision that no lot was to be sold for less than \$5 each.

Perry County has had 85 post offices. No distinction was made for those which were discontinued and re-established under other names. With the establishment of Rural Free

LITTLE RED SCHOOLHOUSE was moved to the Locust Hill property by present owners in 1973. It serves as headquarters for the Perry County Historical Society.



Delivery in 1896, many of these post offices were discontinued and forgotten, except by old timers.

The village of Cutler (was Cutler Station) was laid out February 5, 1873, for the Chester and Tamaroa Coal and Railroad Co. The town once had several coal mines.

The PO was established May 15, 1883, and is still active. Cutler was incorporated as a village February 18, 1907.

Dailey, formerly Crain. PO established January 21, 1901; changed to Matthews, July 23, 1903; discontinued in 1931.

A log cabin near what is left of Matthews is said to have "all the comforts of a penthouse on top of a city skyscraper." This is Four Cedars, named for four native trees planted well over a century ago. The "cabin" has three bedrooms, two baths, a balcony, and working quarters for the builder, Miss Virginia Marmaduke.

Miss Marmaduke built Four Cedars on the farm which had been family owned since the land grant was made to her great-grandfather Benjamin Crain. The patent, No. 178, was issued from Kaskaskia in 1831, and was signed by Andrew Jackson.

Virginia Marmaduke shares her "log cabin" with her mother, Mrs. Blanche Crain Marmaduke, 93 years old, and her aunt, Mrs. Leah Craig McCants.

Miss Marmaduke has had a varied and noted career. She began as a reporter with the "Herrin (Ill.) Daily Journal," and followed this with a sojourn of several years with the old Chicago Sun and later Sun-Times. She then joined the Chicago Tribune as a feature writer for the Sunday Magazine.

She was an honored subject on Ralph Edwards' television show, "This is Your Life." Tribute was paid to her as a typical American news woman, for her humanitarian activities.

In 1960, she joined the news room of NBC Radio at Chicago, and broadcast over WMAQ, WBKD and WGN, specializing in news features.

In 1964, when Gov. Otto Kerner needed someone experienced in meeting people to represent Illinois at the New York World's Fair, he selected Miss Marmaduke. In the two years spent at the Fair, she welcomed more than 8,000,000 visitors to the Illinois pavilion.

For Miss Marmaduke, the hit of the Fair was the Talking Lincoln. In her estimation the best comment about this exhibit was made by President Eisenhower, who left the Lincoln exhibit in tears.

"I wish," the President stated, "every child in the world could hear Lincoln's words. It would make of this a better world."

In 1968, Miss Marmaduke was appointed to the Illinois Sesquicentennial Commission, to help plan and direct state-wide observance of the 150th birthday of Illinois.

She also wrote a weekly column, "Enjoy Illinois," telling Illinoisans and visitors about the historic and scenic places which are to be found throughout the state. Her column was distributed to 176 midwest newspapers by the Tourism Division of the Illinois Department of Business and Economic Development. You may have read some of her stories.

Oh, yes! When Miss Marmaduke was introduced to her editor at the Tribune, he made this comment: "Obviously, you are not a duke, so we'll call you Duchess." And as

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TWO HORSE-DRAWN wagons are shown at the corner of Main Street looking north on Division in Du Quoin at an early date. Some of the brick buildings in background still grace Division Street, opposite the present home of the Du Quoin Evening Call.

"Duchess" she is known by her friends and former co-workers.

"Illinois Place Names" states that it took Du Quoin almost a century to convince the U. S. Postal Department that the name should be spelled with two words. And with a capital Q.

The Department finally made the change to Du Quoin in 1931.

The present post office originally was established at Old Du Quoin (on Seminary Ridge), December 28, 1844, and was moved from the old town to the new in 1854, about the time the trains began running.

Conant (Conant's - Brownsville) — RR name, Conants. The town is not platted. It is located south of Ill. 54, west of Pinckneyville. PO established June 24, 1868; discontinued December 14, 1911; re-established March 21, 1912; discontinued since 1931. Now RFD from Pinckneyville.

Pyatts was one of those towns having had several names.

The original post office was Four Mile Prairie, established March 9, 1868; discontinued May 27, 1875; re-established August 23, 1875; changed to Pennyville February 20, 1877; changed to Four Mile Feb. 2, 1881; changed to Pyatt November 16, 1882; discontinued December 31, 1910. Now Pyatts. Named for James M. Pyatt, once postmaster.

How about the name, Pennyville?

Well, there once was a village hall at Four Mile Prairie where community groups met. One of these groups was the Perry Horse and Mule Protective Association — membership fee, 25c. Independence Rule — "Pennyrule", to his friends — was president of the Association. When the name of the post

office was changed in 1877, Pennyville seemed to be the most logical name.

Galum was located in Jackson County before the creation of Perry County. PO established July 25, 1823; discontinued and re-established several times: final discontinuance May 13, 1875. West of Pinckneyville and south of Ill. 154.

PERRY COUNTY COURTHOUSE, in Pinckneyville, before two additions were built. The photograph, courtesy of Rex Franklin, probably stems from post-Civil War period.



Holts (formerly Holts Prairie): First PO December 21, 1848; discontinued and re-established several times. Established as Holts August 21, 1883; discontinued January 15, 1900. Named for Wilson Holt, Postmaster.

Pinckneyville is believed to have been named for Charles C. Pinckney, who with Elbridge Gerry and John Marshall were the emissaries to France who interpreted as bribes the demands made by France for their recognition of the United States as an independent state. These negotiations became historically known as the "X, Y, Z Affair."

Pinckney was a prominent exponent of American independence. He rose to the rank of Brigadier General in the Continental Army and was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention.

He was the vice presidential candidate of the Federal Party in 1800, and presidential candidate in 1804 and 1808. He was defeated each time.

Pinckneyville was the first settlement in Perry County to be platted. The survey was recorded July 21, 1829. This survey had 52 lots, with streets, alleys and a court house square.

A public sale was held February 4, 1828. Twenty-four lots were sold for the sum of \$1,223.28½. The largest sale was to David Baldridge, who bought three lots, paying \$37.47. William Johnson bought lot 14 for \$5, the only lot which was sold at the minimum price.

The post office was established July 6, 1827. The village was incorporated as a city February 21, 1861. The first postmaster, Humphrey Jones, kept the post office in his home, north of the present Catholic Church.

Pleasant Shade: Citizens in the Pleasant Shade area had a hard time knowing where to pay their taxes. The post office was established in Perry County June 9, 1847. It was changed to Franklin County about December 8, 1853, and discontinued January



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ONE OF THE first post offices in the area, on the old Kaskaskia to Shawneetown trail, was this building near the extreme eastern side of Township Five at Pleasant Shade, on what was later known as the Murray farm. The post office was in existence prior to 1847. According to local tradition, Abraham Lincoln once slept at Pleasant Shade while on his way from Benton by stage coach to catch a train at Tamaroa.

18, 1859. The post office was re-established in Perry County July 6, 1866; and discontinued November 8, 1869.

These post office transfers were made when the boundary between Perry and Franklin counties was re-defined, and the Little Muddy finally was declared the county line.

St. Johns (originally St. John): Post office established June 26, 1858; discontinued March 15, 1930. Incorporated as a village April 6, 1903; includes Eagle (Eagletown). Now RFD from Du Quoin.

Sunfield (Diamond City; Diamond Town): Almost three miles north of Du Quoin. Laid out September 15, 1864, on both sides of the IC railroad. A former mining town, not incorporated. PO established July 10, 1886; discontinued November 15, 1897. Now RFD from Du Quoin.

Swanwick: Located on Ill. 13, northwest of Pinckneyville. Town was laid out May 27, 1871, and named in honor of Thomas Swanwick, who had migrated from England in 1819. PO established January 25, 1871.

Thomas Swanwick, said to have been wealthy, came from Chester, England, and settled on a prairie in the northwest part of the county, giving it the name "Grand Cote (Grand Prairie)." Some unimaginative neighbors, so it has been claimed, wanted to honor him, so they changed the name to Swanwick Prairie.

In the family cemetery, about 200 yards from the old Swanwick mansion, six graves were found. We identify two.

Thomas Swanwick.
Born, Nov. 28, 1773.
Died, July 24, 1828.

"Sacred to the memory of Robert Eveleigh Taylor of Bolton-on-Moors, Lancashire, England. A physician of

Tamaroa: PO established March 14, 1855. It was incorporated as a village February 5, 1867.

In 1854, the IC railroad decided to locate a station at present Tamaroa. Col. R. B. Mason, chief engineer for the railroad asked Mrs. Nelson Holt and Mrs. B. G. Roots to name the station.

The ladies first selected the name of one of the Illini tribes, Kiawkashaw. Later they repented, and used the French name for the tribe, Tamaroa.

Tamaroa was founded in 1854. But before there was a Tamaroa there was an Appleton, dating back to 1828. The Appleton post-office was established March 10, 1848, and discontinued January 8, 1855.

According to Raymond C. Lee, Appleton extended from the southern half of the present village to a short distance south. No information was given about Appleton. The site is on the old Shawneetown-St. Louis road.

In August, 1869, when a permanent location for Southern Illinois Normal was being selected, Tamaroa offered the trustees a \$50,000 grant and 3,100 acres of ground.

Carbondale won the site, because, so 'twas said, of an offer of more money, and of the political influence of Gen. John A. Logan.

Wallsend: This post office had the shortest existence of any in Perry County. It was established April 16, 1873, and discontinued May 5, 1874 — one year and 19 days.

Willisville: In Perry and Randolph counties: PO in Perry County; established July 15, 1896; active. It was incorporated as a village March 5, 1900, and includes Dolly's Hill.

Wm. A. Gloré had the Willisville site surveyed August 8, 1893, and evidently gave the name to the town. Many additions have been made to the original survey, Gloré adding nine.

The Willis Coal Co., contributed much to the early economy of the town. The company operated two mines. Also, it owned a large dairy herd, and built a large barn and modern

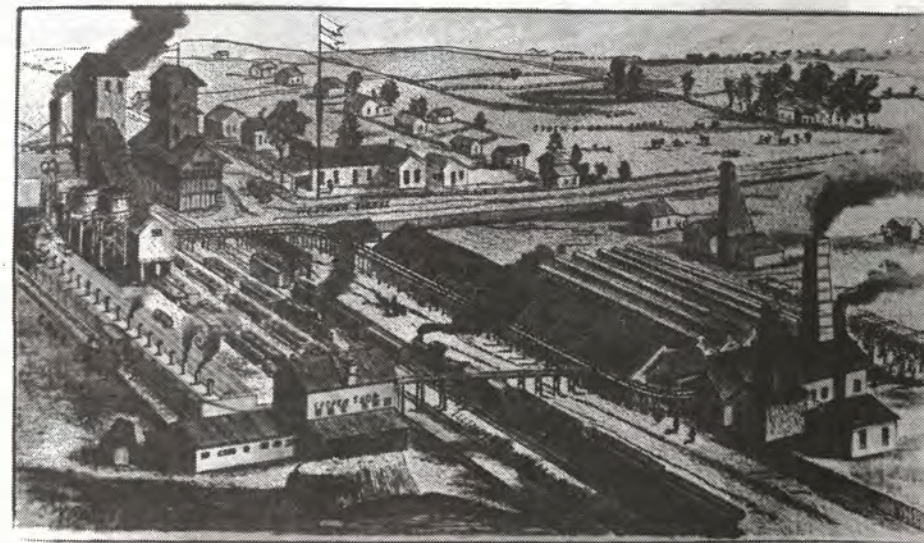
eminence in his native town and a man beloved and respected by all who knew him.

He died, Sept. 12, 1827, aged 54 years."

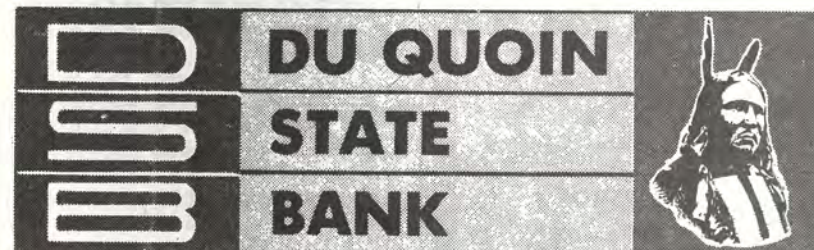
According to Arch Voight, Benton, the map of England shows the city of Bolton in Lancashire, which possibly is the town named on the stone.

This spring (1975) the PO Department was about to close the Swanwick post office because of insufficient business. However, the community rallied. The community spirit prevailed, and the post office was saved. At least for the time being.

ST. JOHNS, one of the extensive enterprises of Capt. W. P. Halliday, boasted salt works, coal mine, grain elevator and cooperative, in addition to general store, and coke ovens.



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SUN., AUG. 24

silos within the town limits. It also operated a large hog farm. The barn and silos were in existence in the early 1930s. These have been removed, and the mines abandoned.

Most of the people who live in Willisville work elsewhere.

Agriculture

There are three major types of soil in Perry County: Gray prairie soil, upland timber soil and bottomland. Much of the soil was sour and needed limestone applications. Also, some soils needed phosphorus and potash. Humus has been added by crop rotation.

The average rainfall over a five year period is 41.9 inches. June usually is the month with the heaviest rainfall with 10 inches. Creek bottoms sometimes are flooded to the point where a second or third planting is necessary.

Mid-summer droughts rarely are disastrous. Damage to crops, such as corn, is caused by hot winds in July or early August, which burn the bloom and prevent pollination.

The county has no commercial truck farms. Only a few orchards are left.

In 1974, wheat production was 1,089,000 bushels; soy beans, 1,194,000 bu.; corn, 1,858,000 bu. Most of the corn was fed to hogs. Corn production is 100-110 bushels, soy beans, 35-40 bushels per acre.

Perry County, according to the 1970 census figures, has 931 farms. Of these, 498 were owned by the farmer, 336 were partly owned by the farmer, and 97 were tenant operations. Perry County Farm Bureau has over 1,000 voting members who derive a substantial part of their income from farming as owner or operator of farm land. The average farmer finished high school, taking Ag. courses.

Competent farmers constantly replenish the fertilizer of their soils. Many are beginning to omit tillage. In general, land uses follow recommendations by the U. S. Soil Conservation Service.

Professional farmers, we are told, must know their costs, and must operate farms large enough to justify machinery investments. And that means plenty large.

Education in Perry County

Educational opportunities were limited in early Perry County. Many adults could not read or write, and had to sign their names with an "X".

This especially was true of women. They had no time to "larn sich foolishments."

The first school teachers, often itinerant, were paid at so much per pupil. Payment might have been in the form of wheat, pork, beeswax, deer skins, wool, or other produce. The teacher "boarded round" with families of the pupils.

One school building described was an 18x20 log structure, with clay chinking.

A fireplace was at one end, and would hold a six foot log. The building was protected from catching fire by stone slabs and clay. The chimney was built of stone slabs. If these were not available, short poles would have been used. The inside was liberally plastered with clay. These were known as "stick chimneys."

To provide light, a 16 foot cut-out was hewn between two logs. A hewn, or whip-sawed, board was fastened above the opening with wooden hinges, or pieces of cow-hide.



DEPOT OF the Illinois Central R.R. in Pinckneyville (right), is shown with flat-iron shaped Peacock's Restaurant (left) and grain elevator (center).

The opening was closed during bad weather. The pupils then studied by what light came through the cracks between the logs, or by the light coming down the chimney; in winter, by the light of the log fire.

Desks were made of split logs, fastened against side walls, and extending the full length of the room. Seats also were made of split logs, into which holes were bored and legs inserted.

Spelling, reading, writing, ciphering and morals and manners were taught. A Webster's Blue Back speller sometimes was the only text book. Pike's arithmetic occasionally was used.

Pens, when used, were made from goose quills. Ink was made from poke berries (often called ink berry). Indigo and copperas also were good sources for ink.

Teachers were judged by their ability to keep order, and to use the hickory, if needed. Any kid the teacher had to whip, got another licking from Pa when he got home.

John Haggard taught school on Paradise Prairie as early as 1820, but no school house was built until 1838. Where the first classes were held was not mentioned. Robert Clark taught school at Denmark in 1825.

There were several private schools in Perry County.

Mention has been made of B. G. Roots and his Locust Hill Academy at the Kimsey crossing, south of Tamaroa. A Miss Holt, a sister-in-law, ran a private school at the edge of Tamaroa. Another was located near the Duncan school, west of Rice.

The most noted of these private schools was the Du Quoin Female Seminary at Old Du Quoin.

In June, 1852, the Boston Ladies Society for the Promotion of Christian Education, sent Miss Eliza Paine, of South Hadley, Mass., to what is now Old Du Quoin, to found a woman's seminary.

She opened a private school for higher

education in the fall of 1853. This became the Du Quoin Female Seminary, or Academy.

The Seminary was chartered February 13, 1855 under the supervision of the Presbyterian Church. According to the late John Allen, the Du Quoin Seminary was the first school established in southern Illinois by a Protestant group.

Of the first Board of Directors, Benjamin Sprague, Geo. B. Wall and Augustus Morgan were mentioned. Miss Paine was retained as principal.

Miss Paine was sent East to raise money for the seminary. She returned with cash and pledges totaling more than \$3,000. Later contributions she had inspired brought the total to \$13,000.

On April 28, 1853, the Board bought six acres of land on a hill, paying \$600 for it. On June 15th, the cornerstone of a three-story central building was laid. This building was completed in 1855. Proposed wings were to be added later.

The prospectus boasted of a choice library of about 400 volumes. The young ladies would be expected to write compositions once every two weeks. Also, they would have regular exercises in singing.

Extraneous activities were somewhat restricted.

No boarding pupil was permitted to be away in the evening without permission. Each pupil was required to attend at least one religious service regularly held in the school. No calls were to be made or received on Sundays, when the "usual walks" were forbidden.

Here were the costs for each ten-week term:

Preparatory Department	\$4.00
Higher Department	6.00
Use of Piano	2.00
Incidental Expenses	.50
Laundry, per week	.25
Fuel, when used	.50
Board, per week	3.00

Rooms were furnished with bedsteads, ta-

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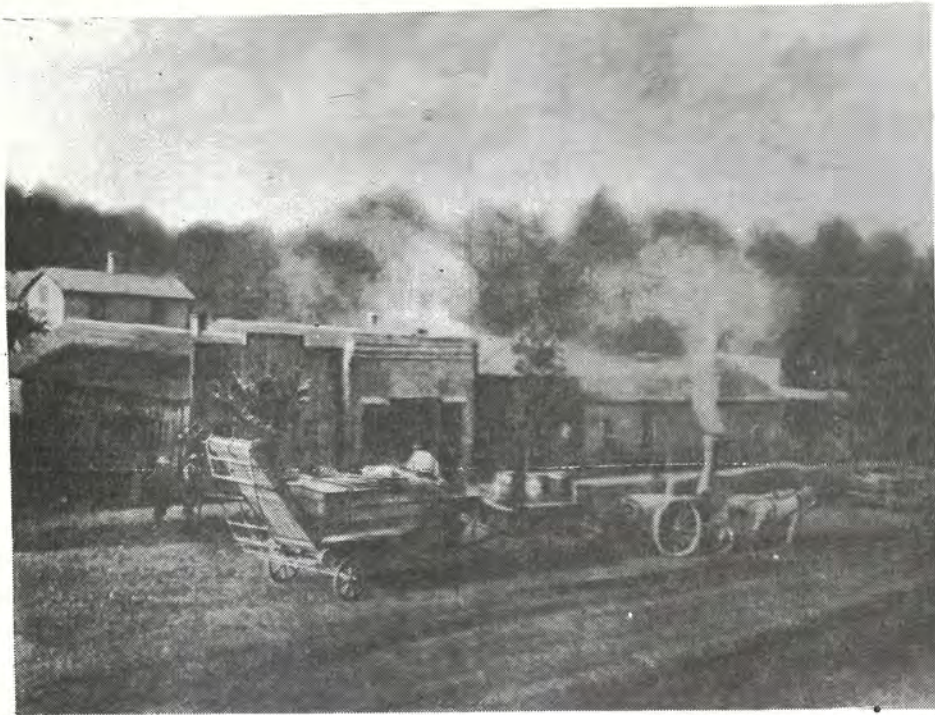


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bles, chairs and stoves. The girls were asked to provide their own bedding. "Where this could not be conveniently done the need would be supplied at a slight charge."

The year was divided into three terms, commencing the second Wednesday in September, the first Wednesday in January and the second Wednesday in April. The mid-winter vacation was from Dec. 23 to the second Wednesday in January.

The Preparatory Department offered arithmetic (mental and written), geography, grammar, U. S. history, and physiology. Also, a course entitled "Watts On The Mind" — surely no play on words was intended. Or was it?

The Seminary Department offered higher arithmetic, algebra, philosophy, ancient history, botany, rhetoric, mental philosophy, and Latin. French, needlework and dancing also were taught.

Middle year: Natural theology, astronomy, evidences of Christianity, algebra, Latin.

The Seminary soon experienced financial problems. Moving the town to the railroad was but one of the causes.

During the depression of 1857, many contributors defaulted on their pledges. In 1858 the school was assigned "for the benefit of the creditors."

A new financial drive was undertaken. A Mrs. P. T. Morrison, of Collinsville, made gifts totaling \$2,500. By the end of 1866 other contributors brought the total up to \$34,000.

With these new funds all claims were satisfied and the school was debt free. However, enrollments and finances never justified adding the proposed wings.

In time, enrollment dropped and the directors sold the property to Dr. J. M. Stone, a Presbyterian minister. His adopted son, Dr. Augustus T. Stone, operated the school on a co-educational basis.

The name was changed to The Du Quoin Academy.

Dr. J. M. Stone taught by example. To cite one, he put a mouse in a box and pumped out the air. This experiment left no doubt in the minds of the pupils that all breathing creatures, including humans, needed oxygen.

Dr. Augustus Stone was a strict disciplinarian. At 7 every evening he rang the academy bell. This was a signal for the young men and women to begin studying. The study period ended at 10. A poor lesson the next morning was proof that the night

JOSEPH R. HARKER



before the pupil had been out making "whoop-pee," such as dancing.

Marvin Stone succeeded his father in the management of the Academy. Young Stone taught his last term in 1892. The Academy soon became history.

George Blakeslee, a Du Quoin industrialist ("new" Du Quoin), bought the property for a summer home. He later sold the property to the Childrens Orphanage and Aid Society.

After a few years the Orphanage was discontinued. The building stood empty until October, 1896, when it was destroyed by fire.

The box in the cornerstone was expected to contain some valuable old coins. When opened, the box contained a Bible, several copies of the old St. Louis Chronicle, and Horace Greely's New York Tribune of the year 1852. No valuable coins.

At one time there were in Perry County 75 elementary school districts. Today there are five. There are two high school districts — Pinckneyville and Tamaroa. And two unit districts, each of 12 grades — Du Quoin and one other. There are three parochial schools.

In all schools emphasis is placed upon the basics — reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling and grammar.

Individual attention is emphasized in the elementary grades. This involves counseling and testing, finding out where the child needs help.

Recitation are written, not presented orally. In Du Quoin, contract assignments are made. The pupil knows what he or she agreed to do, and is expected to do it.

Regional Superintendent of Schools, Philip A. Provart, reported that with individualized attention the pupil retains, more than formerly, what he studies.

Mr. Provart retires August 4, 1975, after six terms heading the educational department of Perry County. He comes from a family of educators. Members of each of five generations of the family have taught school. His grandfather, Philip C. C. Provart, taught on Lower Holt Prairie, Perry County, in 1839.

Joseph R. Harker

"Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost
to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door."

* * * * *

Ralph Harker, Joseph's father, was a coal miner in Durham County, England. His pay was about \$5.00 a week.

Joseph's mother, Mary, worked in private homes. At harvest time she reaped wheat with a sickle. The children, like Ruth, the Moabitess, followed behind the reapers, gleaning grain to make enough flour to last a few weeks.

Ralph Harker could neither read nor write. Mary Harker could barely do so. They lived in a company house on what was known as the "Milk and Water Row." Bread was baked in an outdoor community oven.

Joseph R. Harker was born June 30, 1853. He seems to have attended a Presbyterian

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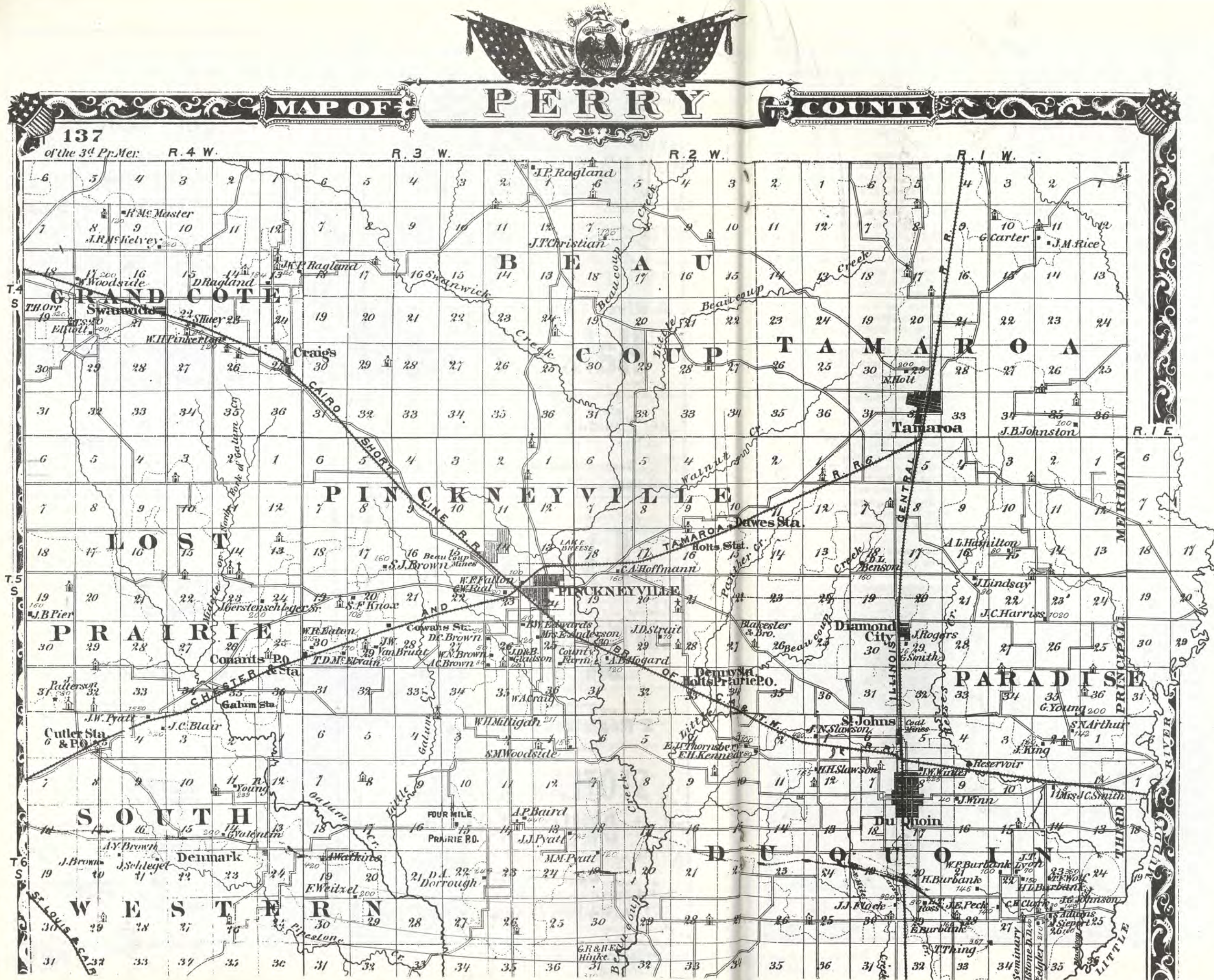


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parish school. He learned basic reading, writing, arithmetic and geography. He discovered the Illustrated London News, and such books as Robinson Crusoe, Last of the Mohicans, Pilgrim's Progress and the Bible.

When he was eleven, Joseph had to quit school and help support his family.

He worked in a grocery store for a few months. He then found work in a mine. His hours were from 6 a. m. until 6 p. m. The mine has been described as "gassy, poorly lit, unsanitary, dangerous." His earnings were about \$2.50 a week.

Joseph was one of a few miners who could write legibly. When the telegraph came in, he was trained to be an operator for the company.

In those days no one dared to question management. Some of the miners, however, were becoming bold enough to want to discuss working conditions. Ralph Harker was the spokesman.

Both Ralph and Joseph were fired and blacklisted.

George Young, Mary Harker's brother, and Joseph's brother, Thomas, had come to America in 1860 and had settled in Du Quoin. They wrote glowing reports about the country, and about Perry County.

The Harkers looked forward to the time when they could migrate to the new country. The cost of the trip was \$400. Thomas sent \$200. The family was able to raise the rest.

In 1871 the Harker family sailed for Boston, U.S.A., traveling as steerage passengers. At Boston they boarded an immigrant train which was waiting at the wharf. It took four days to reach Du Quoin. They had traveled 4,400 miles, overall.

Father and son soon found jobs at the No. 2 mine at Sunfield, four miles north of Du Quoin.

In the early summer of 1872, the seasonal shut-down left Joseph with time on his hands. He walked to Du Quoin and brought back copies of Ray's Third Part Arithmetic and Warren's Physical Geography. He studied these as though he were attending school.

The family moved to Du Quoin, and the men found work in the Star mine, about a mile south of town. Joseph continued his studies, struggling with Latin and Greek. He would put a text book in his pocket and study at lunch time.

Joseph found it easy to make friends. One of his new friends was John B. Ward, county superintendent of schools. There came a time when Superintendent Ward told Joseph he should be ready to teach. He suggested visits to Du Quoin schools, and called on him to serve as a substitute teacher.

Late in 1873, Ward asked Joseph to fill a teaching vacancy. After an examination, Ward gave Joseph a third-grade certificate, good for one year.

Joseph made good at the teaching job, and was determined to make a career in the educational field. By continuing with his studies, in 1876 he earned a lifetime teaching certificate.

In 1875 he instructed at a six-week teachers' institute, authorized by the Illinois General Assembly to improve educational standards in the state. He also instructed at the Perry County Institute.



LIGHTNING-FAST track at Du Quoin State Fair is the scene each August of the prestigious Hambletonian, top event in harness racing. It has been run at Du Quoin since 1957.

Joseph spent eight years as principal at Beardstown, Meredosia and at Waverly. On September 6, 1876, he married Miss Suzie Amass of Brighton. Two years later, Suzie Harker died. In 1882, Joseph married Miss Fannie Wackerle.

Joseph's lifelong motto was "One foot up and the other foot down," taken from a ditty his father used to sing to him. Here is the verse:

"See, saw, sickery, saun,
Which is the way to London town?
One foot up, and the other foot down—
And that's the way to London Town."

By putting one foot up and the other down, in 1884, when he was 31 years old, Joseph accepted the office of principal at Whipple Academy, a prep school at Jacksonvill, Illinois, connected with Illinois College.

In June, 1893, he became president of the Illinois Female Academy, also at Jacksonvill. His friends thought he had undertaken the impossible. At the time, "Female" schools were "at the top of the mortality lists."

When our former coal miner became president of the school the enrollment was 128. The property was valued at \$75,000. Thirty years later the enrollment was 540, and the property value, \$1,250,000.

Joseph at first had no degree. In fact, he had never completed a formal, elementary education. While at Whipple he again undertook night study. And in 1888, graduated at Illinois College, with an A. B. degree. He earned his M.S. in 1890, and his Ph.D in 1893.

The name of the Illinois Female Academy was changed in 1899 to Illinois Womens College. Today it is the well-known MacMurray College.

At the close of the term in 1925, Joseph

Hayes Fair Acres

Remember the street fairs of yesteryears? Du Quoin had such fairs.

Featured were circus freaks, acrobats, perhaps a diving horse. You also would find side shows, merry-go-rounds and concession stands — always those concession stands.

The Du Quoin Call mentioned a snake eater, who used neither salt nor pepper; and a flying lady, who was supposed to sail through the atmosphere — with the greatest of ease, no doubt. Then there was a tight-rope walker, who performed on a cable stretched between Du Quoin's tallest buildings.

For the kids, there were plenty of wieners, sarsaparilla and cotton candy. Also a drink called Hokey Pokey — this was before "Cokes."

Street fairs drew large crowds, which were expected to spend in the stores what money the concessionaires didn't get. In time these "fairs" became unwelcome downtown. They were moved to locations away from the business districts, and became carnivals.

Fairs have an important place in state and local life.

The purpose of the Illinois State Fair, and of the lesser county fairs, is to encourage the improvement of livestock and crops. And to show off the cooking ability and needlecraft of housewives, or potential housewives.

There were carnivals and horse shows, and races and pulling contests — horse or oxen. People came to fairs to have a good time as well as to learn something.

At first, the Illinois State Fair, now held at Springfield, was held at different cities. In 1873 the Fair was held in Du Quoin.

Not to be confused with the Illinois State Fair, or the state-supported county fairs, is the present Du Quoin State Fair, held annually at Hayes Fair Acres.

AERIAL VIEW of Hayes Fair Acres, showing the annual state fair in progress on the 1,800-acre fair grounds. The fairgrounds also contain year-around recreational facilities.



Livestock is judged, with a sizeable premium list. Food, photography, art and needlework are displayed on the second floor of the million-dollar grandstand. Laura Holman usually is on hand with her recipes.

Horse racing is a regular feature, as are National Championship auto races, which are sanctioned by the United States Auto Club.

The Du Quoin State Fair has been on the Grand Circuit of harness racing since 1942. It also is the Home of the Hambletonian, where trotting champions meet, the most prestigious race in harness racing.

In 1942, during WWII, the Springfield State Fair was cancelled for the duration of the war. Hayes Fair Acres was asked to continue with the Grand Circuit trotting and pacing meets.

At the end of the war, the Fair and Grand Circuit racing were resumed at Springfield. However, the horsemen were enthusiastic about the track and other racing facilities at Du Quoin. Consequently, Hayes Fair Acres has since been included on the Grand Circuit schedule.

Will R. Hayes founded Hayes Fair Acres. One of his dreams was to present the Hambletonian at Du Quoin. After his death, sons Gene and Don continued to bid for the Hambletonian. Eventually, they were successful. In 1957 this classic of harness racing was run for the first time at Du Quoin, and has since been an annual feature.

As at all fairs, commercial exhibits display the latest in implements, autos, appliances and such for the farm and home. It is at these displays that desire and checkbook come into conflict.

Special grounds accommodate the large carnivals, with shows, concessions and plenty of rides. The ferris wheel is larger, much larger, than the four-seater affair, with 16 foot arms, which was so popular with "courtin' couples" at those early street fairs up-town.

Stage shows present headliners of the entertainment world. Recent stars have been Roy Clark, Diana Ross, Liberace, Bob Hope, Lynn Anderson, The Pat Boone Family Show and Sonny and Cher. The Egyptian Music Camp was held at Hayes Fair Acres for several years. Hundreds of junior and senior high school music students from 30 states attended camp during its four, one-week sessions in June. Instructions were given in band, orchestra, chorus and piano, and in art, dramatics, baton twirling, dance band, directing and dancing.

Weekly concerts were given. One night a concert by 50 pianists was given in addition to the regular music program.

The music camp was an annual affair until the retirement of its major sponsor a few years ago.

Camping and trailer clubs rendezvous at Hayes Fair Acres. On October 3-4-5 of this year, will be held the fourth annual Southern Illinois Folk Festival.

Visitors are shown how our pioneers made-do before the day of mass production. Artisans will make tools, utensils and other articles from materials at hand. Candles and basket are made while you watch. And one may watch the making of a go-to-meeting dress through spinning, weaving and the sewing of the last button.

A Festival Queen is chosen. Each candidate must make and model a Gay Nineties bathing suit and a dress appropriate to the era.

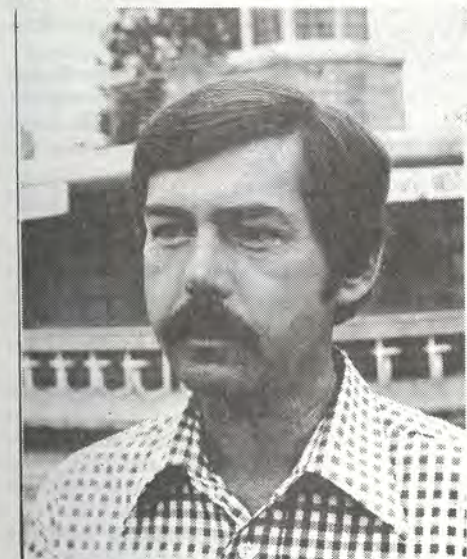


VIEW OF LAKE, camping area, woods, and part of bathing beach at Hayes Fair Acres. The park was reclaimed from strip mine spoil banks.

The Du Quoin State Fair at Fair Acres was started by Will R. Hayes in 1923, with a half-mile race track. The open grandstand seated 3,000 — the present grandstand seats nearly 20,000. The grounds then covered 30 acres. Fair Acres now covers 1,800 acres, much of the area having been reclaimed from strip mine spoil banks. Half of this area is maintained throughout the year as an outdoor recreation area. Mirror lakes between low hills show what can be done with abandoned strip mines.

Back in 1895 Will Hayes bought in Kentucky a racing colt, Kentucky Dude, a winner by the way. Dude was shipped to Du Quoin in a box car, with his new owner keeping him company.

W. B. HAYES II, third generation owner-manager of the Hayes Fair Acres establishment.



This was the beginning of the Hayes racing stable. In 1950 Hayes Fair Acres' Lusty Son, a trotter, won the Hambletonian at Goshen, N. Y. A stablemate, Dudley Hanover, a pacer, won the Little Brown Jug at Delaware, Ohio. This was the first time in Grand Circuit history that the same owner won both classics the same year.

Thomas and Edwin Hayes began the manufacture of soda water in the early 1870s, under the name of Du Quoin Bottling Works. Deliveries were made with a two-horse wagon. As business grew, deliveries were made to nearby towns.

The partnership was discontinued in 1875, when Edwin Hayes moved to Murphysboro, Thomas continuing with the business.

Tom Hayes was one of the first to drill for coal in Perry County. He lost his life in 1884 while timbering a mine shaft at Dubois.

Mrs. Thomas (Mary) Hayes carried on the business. She sold the delivery team. Her young son, William R., delivered soda water in a push cart.

In 1903, Will Hayes and his uncle, Wm. Hanks, bought the business from Mary Hayes and incorporated the Du Quoin Bottling Company. The manufacture of ice cream and related enterprises were added. A Coca-Cola franchise for Southern Illinois was acquired in the early years of the product.

Gradually the Hayes management disposed of all projects not related to the operation of Hayes Fair Acres. The Coca-Cola franchise was sold in 1969.

W. R. Hayes died in 1952. His sons, Gene and Don, assumed management. Gene died unexpectedly in March, 1964. Don and his wife, Ruby, were killed in a private plane crash June 24, 1967.

The official name of the company is Hayes Fair Acres, Inc. Present officers are W. B. Hayes II, president; Fred Huff, vice president and general manager; R. W. Haines, secretary-treasurer.



ILLINOIS CENTRAL'S old No. 1 engine, the first locomotive to operate in Perry County. The engine was brought up the Big Muddy and pulled up the slope to the railroad tracks by oxen.

Railroads

The Illinois Central was the first railroad to serve Perry County.

The first IC locomotive used north of the Big Muddy River was a small, secondhand wood-burner, brought up the Big Muddy and unloaded at the bridges just north of Carbondale.

Rails had been laid to the landing, but the little locomotive was not equal to the task of pulling itself up the steep grade. Not even to the point of saying to itself, "I think I can."

George Schwartz, who owned a farm near Dowell, was at the site with his team of oxen, and was asked to hitch his team to the front of the locomotive. By team and ox-power they got the engine on the main tracks.

This locomotive was used in track construction between the Big Muddy and a point north of Ashley. The rails used in this section also were brought up the Big Muddy.

The first Chicago-to-Cairo train came through Perry County in the fall of 1854. A passenger on the train remembered how our "Egyptians" turned out to see their first locomotive and a train of cars.

They lined both sides of the track at every station, so he reported, and stood dumb with amazement. Many looked as though they had come between seizures of ague chills.

Regarding those ague chills, our passenger surely must have been thinking of the malaria victims he saw in the swamp lands of Mississippi and Louisiana.

The story of early railroading was a melange of interlocking ownerships, of leases, sales, mergers and promotional shenanigans. An official of the Chicago Burlington and Quincy once declared that promoters built short-line railroads just to sell them to the Burlington.

This seems to have been the case with the Illinois Central in Perry County.

The Belleville and Southern Illinois Rail-

road was organized February 14, 1857, to build a line from Belleville to a connection with the Illinois Central somewhere in southern Illinois.

On December 15, 1873, junction was made with the IC at Du Quoin. For many years the B&SI-IC route between St. Louis and Cairo was known as the Cairo Short Line.

Before the junction with the IC at Du Quoin, both the B&SI and the Belleville and Illinoistown (East St. Louis) — the latter the first railroad in southwestern Illinois — had been absorbed by the St. Louis, Alton and Terre Haute.

The St.L&TH was controlled by eastern capital, headed by Samuel J. Tilden. Tilden is, perhaps, better known as the presidential candidate who ran against Rutherford B. Hayes in 1876, with the outcome being decided in Congress. Hayes was declared elected.

The line between Du Quoin and Eldorado, through Christopher and Benton, had its origin in the Belleville and Eldorado Railroad.

The Carbondale end of a Pinckneyville and Carbondale Railroad was built by the St. Louis Coal Railroad in 1871. The St. Louis Central Railroad built the Pinckneyville end a year later.

By 1883 the St. Louis Alton and Terre Haute owned or had leased all of these roads.

One of the early railroads across Perry County passed through Willsville in the southwestern corner of the county. This was a narrow gauge line, supposedly built or acquired by the St. Louis Alton and Terre Haute.

It being costly to transfer freight from narrow to standard gauge cars the gauge was widened. Eventually the road came under control of the Gulf Mobile and Ohio. Old timers still refer to the line as the Narrow Gauge.

All Perry County roads mentioned above are owned or controlled by the Illinois Cen-

tral Gulf Railroad — the correct name now that the IC and CM-O have merged.

The only railroad in Perry County not operated by the ICG was built by the Chester-Tamara Coal and Railroad Company in 1872, and ran from Tamara to Chester. This later became the Iron Mountain Chester and Eastern Railroad.

Still later, it was extended to Mt. Vernon and the name changed to the Wabash Chester and Western. Because of irregular schedules the WC&W was dubbed the "Wait, Charlie and Walk." This road is now operated by the Missouri Pacific.

In the 1890s a short line was built from Pinckneyville down through Kincaid Creek Hollow, connecting with the Carbondale and Grand Tower, Cairo branch of the IC. This line has been discontinued. A section of the old roadbed is beneath Kincaid Lake. Other sections are being used by local vehicular traffic.

Perry County has good rail freight service. Except for two mainline trains, the county has no passenger service. Personal transportation is dependent upon automobiles and buses.

Early locomotives on the Illinois Central were wood-burners. In 1855 the IC began to explore the possibilities of using coal as locomotive fuel.

The idea had its critics.

Some railroad men argued that because anthracite was used for locomotives in the East, it did not follow that Illinois' soft coal, with a high sulphur content, could be used in the mid-West.

Nevertheless, in 1855 the IC began experimenting at Centralia with Perry County coal as fuel for its locomotives.

A year later, two wood-burners, the Lucifer and the Pluto, were converted to coal and used on a passenger run between Chicago and West Urbana (Champaign). These also used Perry County coal.

On a 254-mile trip the cost of wood consumed was \$31.75. After conversion, coal cost \$9.25.

As a result of these tests the Illinois Central gradually added coal-burning locomotives. In 1866, only five of 151 locomotives were wood-burners.

Coal

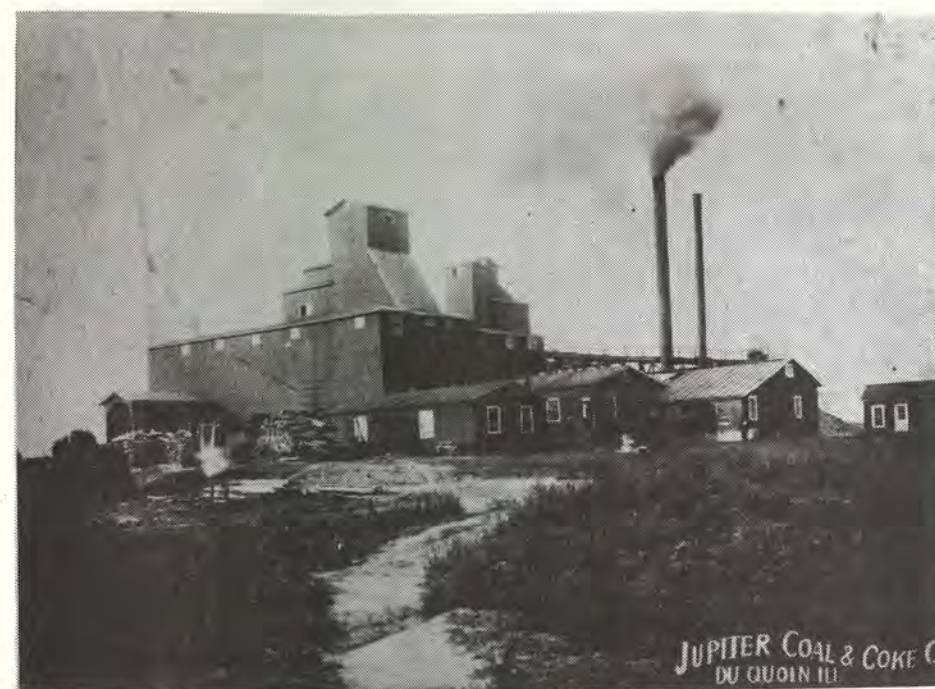
When the IC became interested in the use of coal, in 1853 the company contracted with Cornelius Storm and his son, J. C., to sink a mine shaft at St. Johns. This is claimed to have been the first shaft mine in Illinois. Sources are not clear, but this mine may have continued to operate until 1939.

In 1855, coal shipments from St. Johns totaled 3,427 tons, most of which was used by river steamboats. In 1856, shipments were 15,000 tons.

Other early mines were sunk around 1856. Most were near Du Quoin.

Coal is a fossil fuel. Our present civilization could not exist without coal. During the carboniferous period of 275-340 million years ago, odd-looking trees and other vegetation grew luxuriantly in the swamps which covered much of Illinois. Those plants died and were buried in the mire by sand and soil. In time these plants became bituminous or the soft coal we now mine in Illinois.

Electric-power utilities and the steel industry are large consumers of Illinois coal. In steel production, bituminous coal is converted into coke for smelting iron ore.



AN EARLY coal mine in Du Quoin was the Jupiter Coal and Coke Company, whose operation is seen in this photograph.

Coal is the largest and most important industry in Perry County.

According to the Illinois State Geological Survey there are 2,734,682,000 (2,734.682 billion) tons of coal reserves in the county. Where the seam is 18 inches or more in thickness and the overlay is 150 feet or less, 40.9% of these reserves are strippable.

Total coal reserves in the United States are 728,547,000,000 (728.547 billions) tons. Illinois has the largest reserves, 148,000,000,000 (148 billions) tons.

Last May (1975), Perry County led all coal producing counties in Illinois with a production of 1,083,490 tons. Jefferson County was second with 596,854 tons. St. Clair County was third, producing 567,928 tons.

Where desirable seams of coal lie deep beneath the surface underground mining is resorted to. This consists of a vertical or sloping shaft, with tunnels at the coal seam extending to the face of the cut. The coal is removed, leaving so-called rooms. Some is left as supporting pillars for the roof. When all the coal in that section has been taken, the columns are removed, and the roof allowed to cave.

Some seams are so near the surface that the rock ceiling does not provide enough roof support. To avoid cave-ins or rock falls mine props or large bolts are used.

Mine safety always has been a problem.

In the year 1904, for every 100,000,000 tons of coal produced 588 miners lost their lives. In 1956, these fatalities had been reduced to 76 per 100,000,000 tons mined.

It has been claimed that the first commercial strip mine in Illinois was opened in Perry County. The project was begun by Thomas J. Howells, inside the corporate limits of Du Quoin. A vein of coal was covered by about 20 feet of overlay.

The source did not tell us by what means Howells removed the overlay and got out the

coal. Around 1904 he bought a steam shovel which had been used in the construction of the Panama Canal, and brought it to Du Quoin.

Except for smaller strip mines in shallow areas such as Howells' operations, shaft mines dominated coal operations in Perry County until the late 1920s.

In 1926 the Pyramid Coal Corporation opened its first strip mine near Pinckneyville and began shipping coal on August 18 of that year. Shipments from Pyramid mines reached one million tons in 1930.

Starting operations at their Fidelity mine near Du Quoin in September, 1928, the United Electric Coal Company soon claimed to be the largest producing strip mine in Illinois, with a production of 1,500,000 tons in one calendar year.

All coal produced in Perry County today is by strip mining.

Giant mechanical wheels remove the overburden down to the coal. Smaller shovels then take over. The coal is taken to the tipples where it is cleaned, graded and loaded into railroad cars or trucks.

Strip mining is not without its problems.

In practice the overburden is piled into what has been called "man-made mountains." This leaves the surface unfit for agriculture. Critics complain that unless spoil banks are leveled, too much of Perry County will become an unproductive wilderness.

An Illinois strip mining act was passed July 11, 1943. The act has been revised many times since then. One critic has said that the act is now the best in the country.

Among other provisions, spoil banks must be leveled to approximate original contours, suitable for the purpose the land was used during a specified time before surface mining operations began. The cost of restoration runs from \$2,000 to \$6,000 per acre. This cost is added to the price of coal.

Operators say they have no choice but to obey the law. Some critics respond that the law is not being enforced. It may be a long time before everybody is satisfied.

Many if not all spoil banks have been leveled and the areas planted to pastures, orchards and row crops with apparent success. Some of these areas may be seen along State 152 west of Du Quoin, also west of US 51 at St. Johns.

On west of State 152, towards Denmark, the State of Illinois has established a recreation area in an abandoned strip mine area. This is Pyramid State Park. In spite of the criticism that minerals in spoil banks spoil accumulating waters between the banks for fishing, lakes at Pyramid park have plenty of visiting fishermen. Camping, picnicking and hiking also is being provided at Pyramid.

A coal property that became a double producer is part of the story of mining in Perry County.

Captain W. P. Halliday of Cairo was one of the contractors in the building of the Illinois Central.

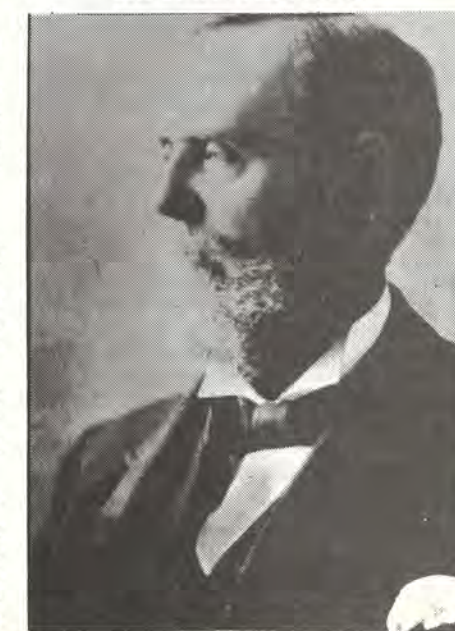
The captain had been an English sea captain and had gathered wealth from many lands. He owned thousands of acres of land along the Illinois Central right-of-way. He operated hotels in several midwestern towns, including the Halliday Hotel in Cairo and the fabled Peabody in Memphis. He is said to have operated a Halliday Hotel in early Du Quoin.

His interests also included a bank, lumber yards, flour mills and mines.

The Illinois Central Iron and Coal Mining Co., incorporated March 27, 1857, began operations in St. Johns. The first officers and directors were Austin S. Tuttle, president; Alonzo W. Nason, secretary-treasurer and Orrin J. Rose. The capital stock was \$56,000.

In 1867, Captain Halliday and Henry B. Platt bought the stock of the Iron and Coal Mining Company. In 1870 deep wells were drilled about a mile from the shaft to determine which coal seams at lower levels were worth mining.

CAPT. W. P. HALLIDAY



At 940 feet salt water was struck. Six other wells were drilled to tap the salt water. One of these was drilled to 4,600 feet.

Halliday built a plant for making salt. Production began in November, 1873. At one time about 350 men were employed in the combined coal and salt operations.

Salt water was pumped into 14 drying vats at the rate of 20 to 50 gallons per minute. The water was then boiled down with stale butter — stale butter? After cooling for 24 hours, the salt then was drawn, dried, cleaned and barreled. The capacity was 150 barrels of salt per day. Each barrel of salt weighed 180 pounds, and sold for \$1.25.

The salt-producing complex included a cooperage shop. The coopers could turn out some 700 barrels a day. Flour barrels also were made for local mills.

As with salt production elsewhere in Illinois, competitors from other states sold salt more cheaply. Then, as one source put it, "The wells gradually dried out, and in 1904, gave way to new and better coal mines."

Captain Halliday shipped coal to Cairo where it was loaded on barges. These barges would be floated downstream, fastened to steamboats and the coal unloaded without the steamer stopping. To competitors, serving wood-burning steamers, Halliday was a pain in the neck.

One legend about the Captain was that he had trees planted along the road between Cairo and Mounds, so he could have shade whenever he had to drive between the two towns.

Airmite

Carbon dioxide is a very useful compound. It puts the fizz in soda pop and a variety of seltzers, the sparkle in champagne and the foam on beer. It causes bread to rise. It extinguishes fires. Under pressure it becomes dry ice. And it is used in mining coal.

Airmite is a trade name for a liquid oxygen explosive developed in Germany during WWI. It is particularly suitable for strip mining operations.

The explosive consists of a cloth cartridge of lampblack (pure carbon) saturated with liquid oxygen at about 300° F. below zero.

The cartridges, about seven and one-half inches in diameter and about two feet long, are packed in eight inch shot holes and detonated. The heat causes the carbon dioxide to expand, loosening the overburden, which then is removed by mammoth scoops.

Don B. McCloud and Oscar Bruzzer of Chicago founded Airmite-Midwest Explosives, Inc. The two brought their factory to Du Quoin in 1928, because of its convenient access to the larger strip mine areas in southern Illinois and southern Indiana.

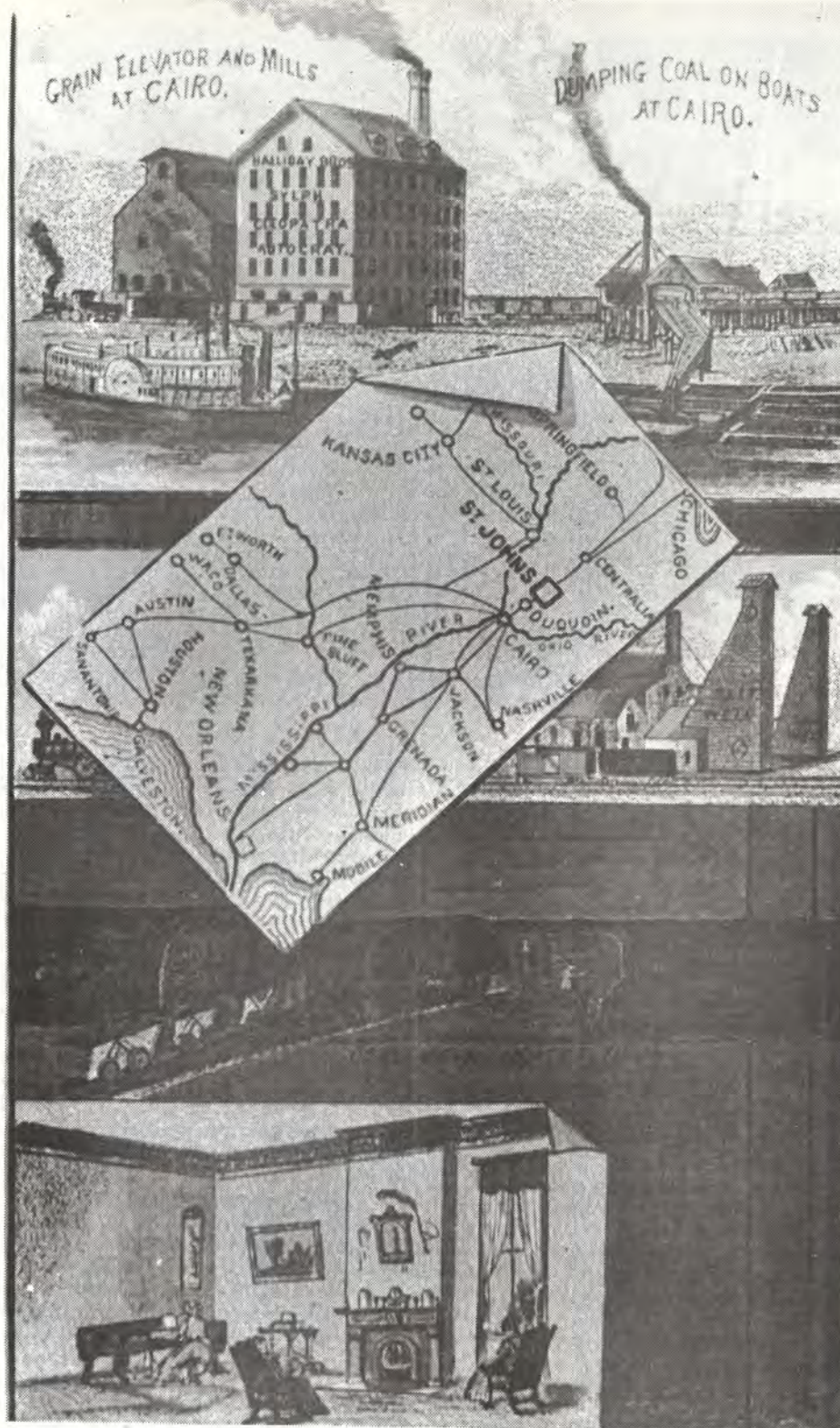
Cardox . . . Airdox

Around 1924, John H. Crawford, Arthur W. Helmholtz and Dent Ferrell, all of Harrisburg, Ill., adapted carbon dioxide as a mine explosive, calling it Cardox.

A Cardox metal cartridge containing CO₂ was placed in a drill hole and activated by an electric current, creating expansion. This broke the coal into chunks instead of shattered pieces resulting from powder explosives.

Cardox was especially favored in deep mines because it loosened the coal without dangerous powder flashes.

Over the years Cardox has been improved. The explosive now uses air compressed to 11,000 pounds instead of carbon dioxide, and



SCHEMATIC DESIGN of Halliday's operation which mined coal and salt at St. John, transported the products by rail to Cairo where they were loaded on steamboats to deliver to the nation's homes.

is known as Airdox. An Airdox plant is in Benton, Ill.

The Blakeslee Pump Company

The Blakeslee Pump Company was organized in 1864 by Albert Judd Blakeslee and his brother, Halldon.

In 1862, Albert had invented the Blakeslee jet pump, the first successful pump of its kind. Patented October 26, 1886, the pump

was distributed throughout the United States and abroad.

The pump had no valves. The lifting force was created by a jet of steam. Depending upon the size of the pump water could be lifted 75 to 100 feet.

Albert Blakeslee also invented a veneering machine which was especially designed for cutting fruit box material. For those not

OUTDOOR ILLINOIS



BLAKESLEE MANUFACTURING Company was nine years old when this picture was made in 1870 at the intersection of Washington and Poplar streets in Du Quoin. The Blakeslee family made and lost a fortune before it arrived in Du Quoin, and the jet pumps manufactured here were used all over the world.

KRAFT BLACKSMITH Shop and Yehling Wagon Shop, on the north side of Main Street near Washington in Du Quoin. Identified are, from left, Albert Kingsberry, Holydon Blakeslee, Roy Duckworth, Gottlieb A. Yehling, Jr., Gottlieb Yehling, and Dockas Dickens.

PARADE OF International Order of Odd Fellows along Main Street in Du Quoin in 1913, before the automobile had fastened itself to the landscape.



familiar with the process, a veneering machine works on the same principle as an apple parer.

Blakeslee's first plant was located on the site of the Du Quoin High School. After Albert's death, March 9, 1902, the company remained in the family until it was sold in later years. In July, 1952, the plant was moved to Salem, Ill.

The Du Quoin Packing Co.

The Du Quoin Packing Co., located at the east edge of town, was incorporated in 1924. The company processes fresh and finished meat products. Its brand name, Blue Bell, is widely accepted in southern Illinois and adjacent states.

The cattle, sheep and hogs processed by the company are produced in southern Illinois. The returns to southern Illinois stockmen are about \$2,000,000 annually. The company employs about 175 men and women.

Project ABC

In 1954, Perry Countians had themselves a recession — Du Quoin's largest coal mine shut down, permanently. This emphasized the dangers of a one-industry community.

Eldorado (Saline County) had a development project, Operation Bootstrap. A Du Quoin committee visited Eldorado and were impressed. The group also met with Richard W. Poston, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, who was experienced with such problems.

Project ABC — A Better Community — was organized. Committees were formed to inquire into and report on several phases of community life.

ABC met weekly. Members were divided into "buzz" groups to discuss the phase of community life selected for that evening. These buzz sessions were rather stormy, but out of chaos came conclusions and progress.

No final reports were available, but it seems significant that things began to happen. It took time, but major industries began to move into the area. Employment figures in the following list are as of January 1, 1974:

Country Set, Inc., Women's Sportswear, 285
Essex Int'l, Inc., Auto Accessories 310
Phelps Dodge Aluminum Prod. Corp. ... 251
RJR Foods, Inc., Food Processors 58



AUGUST-SEPTEMBER, 1975



GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC reunion in Keyes Park, Du Quoin, in 1912 was still able to assemble a number of Civil War veterans 47 years after the end of the war.



WRECK ON the W. C. & W (Wait, Charlie and Walk) near Pinckneyville on September 7, 1911, was apparently the result of faulty bridgework.

Turco Mfg. Co., Playground Equip. 552
U. S. Gypsum Co., Safety Gratings, etc. 130

New payroll for county 1586

Some of these new industries may be seen along State 154, between the US 51 intersection and Pinckneyville. The diversification is obvious. Furthermore, Perry County has scarcely felt the recession.

The latest work force profile for the county is as follows:

Manufacturing 2,550
Non-manufacturing 4,950
Agriculture 450

Total 7,950

Pinckneyville and Du Quoin are the larger towns in the county. Naturally there has been competition for industry between the two towns. But we are told that civic leaders in the county learned that "Cooperation, not competition, is needed to maintain payrolls."

As one member of the ABC said, "In a man's relations with fellow men there is an immense area where minds can meet."

CREDITS

D. A. Purdy, Du Quoin.
Arch Voight, Benton.
Fred Huff, Hayes Fair Acres, Inc., Du Quoin.
Mamie Reheis, Du Quoin.
Ray Tauscher, Consolidated Coal Co., Pinckneyville.
Clarence McCrary, Perry County Farm Bureau, Pinckneyville.
Lucius Smith, Du Quoin Evening Call.
Irvin W. Peithmann, Carbondale.
Mrs. Calvin (Jean) Ibendahl, Tamaroa.
Virginia Marmaduke, Matthews.
A. F. Tecklinberg, Du Quoin Businessmens Assn.
Stanley Marlow, Tamaroa.

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OUTDOOR ILLINOIS

(Continued from Page 18)

fect the softer food-making tissue between them. A grass blade is a wondrous device. Thomas Edison is said to have once remarked that until man can invent something equal to a blade of grass, then nature can laugh at his efforts.

Grasses have well branched, fibrous roots which spread widely and penetrate deeply in order to cope with the drying soil which comes with summer's drought.

Summer is a time for spending one's hours outdoors. Summer days are for getting in intimate terms with nature. Nature doesn't boss us. She is subtle in her suggestions and gentle in her will until we challenge her balance and order. In contrast, people are always trying to dominate one another. There is always some well meaning soul to tell us that we should or should not do something in a particular way. We, too, have our pecking orders.

Nature asks no questions, at least not audibly, and she speaks best to those who love and understand her. There is no yelling, nobody calling, nobody asking for anything, and nobody prying into personal affairs. Privacy, however, is a human need and nature offers it freely, abundantly and without strings attached.

I have often speculated on the adventure of walking the length of our state in the summer. The joy and pleasure of seeing nature cannot be equaled by any other mode of travel. One is able to meet nature on her own terms, and in a face to face manner. The whole world lies before us in richest combinations of design and beauty. Fences and legal boundaries have no influence upon one's quest for scenery, because scenery is free. Those who live off the land and sleep in a deadfall or haystack have their primitive emotions touched. They learn and see much more than those who would seek the comfort of an air conditioned room.

If one were to begin a walk at Cairo in the summer and would walk 20 miles a day in a northward direction he would, after 23 days of walking, have covered the length of the state and each day he would be mostly in the same company of plants in bloom as he would

have seen on the day the journey was started.

A long summer walk in the outdoors is a way and a time to know yourself, and to put things into perspective. It is a time of silence and a time to think. Nature allows one to turn the mind loose, and to allow it to ramble. Let the mind off of its leash to jump and cavort, to leap up or down or sidewise, and to get some fresh form of exercise. In the shade of a tree on a mild summer day, beside a running stream, under a blue and cloud-filled sky, or down a shady lane, there is an urgent invitation to this kind of meditative exercise.

Being to one's self is not necessarily being lonely and it is not being anti-social either. It is merely the ultimate

in the control of one's environment. It reduces the influence and distraction by others to a minimum.

By late August certain telltale signs of a season's end are manifest. There is moderation in the night time temperature. Copious dew formation glistens on the early morning grass. Crabgrass flourishes on the dewfall and spider webs are accented by the dew. Ripening and senescence are cautiously and hesitantly promised. Even the breezes portend a change as they become still and the blue sky widens. The end of summer has come, but every school child knows that, Summer began when school was out and now it ends when school resumes.



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On Nature's Trail

By Joyce Marshall Brukoff

ON A QUIET forest glade the leaves of red and white oak stir the air with their soft rustling. Nearby is a stand of soft maple and beyond are various groups of hackberry, red cedar, walnut, elm, basswood and honey locust. It is spring and wild flowers abound . . . the stretching head of jack-in-the-pulpit, the fragile glow of spring beauty and the flair of yellow adder's tongue and wild geranium. From a nearby pond echoes the soft call of a wood duck.

Just a few acres away are other sounds . . . the hum of human activity strokes the calm with buzzing sawmill, voices raised in the labor of dealing with cutting lumber and in the distance, the crashing thud of a new-felled tree. In still another place, the voices are those of young boys, scouts who are hiking with their leader along the Sinnissippi Logger's Trail.

This is Sinnissippi, a magnificent stretch of Illinois forest and farmland which was known to many as the marvelous experiment of Frank Lowden, former governor of Illinois. Originally purchased as a 600-acre farm in May of 1899 by the Frank Lowdens, the area which is near Oregon, Illinois, has grown and prospered—both for humans and for the plants and animals indigenous to the midwestern weedlands.

From this nucleus of 600 acres the farm has grown to over 5,000 acres, approximately 2,800 in forest properties and 2,000 acres in three dairy farms. The Sinnissippi is owned and managed as two separated parcels by Frank Lowden's daughters, Florence (Mrs. C. Philip Miller) and Harriet (Mrs. Albert F. Madlener). But the size would mean nothing without the unique story of forestry management and wise planning which has made it one of the places where man works hand-in-hand with nature to reap mutual benefits.

Let us look at some current statistics and then take a trip to the past. Right now the Sinnissippi forest provides a healthy business operation for on-site

mill, but the cutting never exceeds the growth. In fact, the annual growth rate is in excess of the cutting.

According to Howard W. Fox, resident forester and assistant professor of forestry at the University of Illinois, the annual growth last year was 350,000 board feet while the cutting processed was 209,000 board feet. Although some of this was due to the ravages of a tornado which swept into the heart of the forest last year, the growth has always exceeded cutting since the mill began operation many years ago.

Much of this is due to careful management procedures established long ago by Frank Lowden. These standards of excellence are carried out by Fox as he prudently selects which area will be cut, or which individual trees.

"We are set up to make a cut every 10 years on each acre of wooded land," said Fox, "but it must be remembered that when you cut on one acre, only about 10 per cent of that acre is touched. We have had an excess of growth, and there are actually some acres which have not been culled for 14 years.

"But," he continued, "we also cut in-

dividual trees throughout the forest as is needed. Some areas need thinning badly prior to their 'turn,' and we must be guided by the need as well as by a pre-established timetable. When cutting, a good rule of thumb to follow is to remove the poorest of two adjacent specimens. Many trees will have broken crowns or rotten spots. These go!"

When driving with Fox over a bumpy woodland trail, I pointed to a heavily shaded grove of pine. The crowns were a thick canopy against the sky and the ground under the trees was a carpet of sand-colored needles. There was here the breathless silence of a deep forest, and I commented that it was a perfect dream woods. "But it is badly in need of cutting," said Fox. "As you can see," he said, "there is no new growth. Light is almost completely halted by the thick crowns of mature trees before it can filter to the floor of the forest. This keeps young healthy shoots of new trees from living. Here is where we will thin and let in some light and air for the next generation."

Wise management is just a part of resident forester Fox's job at Sinnissippi. He works with other colleagues from the University on various experiments in modern forestry. This exchange of management for the right to utilize the area for judicious experimentation was one of the prime innovations by Frank Lowden and is successfully carried on today.

Among experimental projects recently carried on were on the freshness of Christmas trees; a post-treating project; an experiment to determine what the cull factor is (the percentage between a growing, standing tree and a salable product). A two-year old, on-going experiment being conducted by doctorate candidate Camilo Robles has to do with tree growth influenced by various kinds of soil. In connection with this project, a total of 100 soil pits have been dug which are three feet by five feet and are six feet to seven feet deep.

Then, there is the educational program at Sinnissippi. Fox has established the Logger's Trail, a self-guiding trail which was created six years ago. Just one and one-eighth mile, the loggers' trail has been used by over 3,000 people, mostly groups of school children. Winding through groves of the different

timber types, strollers discover many of the native hardwoods of northern Illinois, as well as the most common pines planted in the area. There are also sand

slopes, swamps, bogs and rock outcroppings with vegetation typical of each area.

Another project of Fox's is the devel-

opment of a stand of timber which closely resembles a virgin forest. "There has been immense success in the re-establishment of virgin type prairies," he



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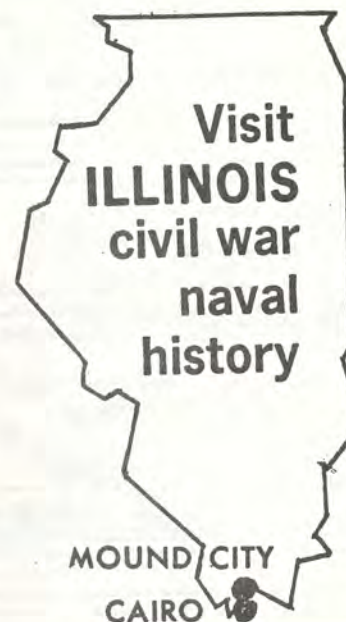


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OUTDOOR ILLINOIS

said, "and I see no reason this cannot be done with a woodland." He is starting with a stand of red and mixed oak. At first, he went in and cut small crown

trees, leaving large crown trees standing. "We did not cut defective trees or leaners," he said, "and will not touch the stand for 50 years. In about 20 years,

this should look like a stand of virgin timber." Incidentally, there is no precedent for what Fox is doing, just like there was no precedent in Illinois when

in 1935, former Governor Lowden entered into a cooperative agreement with the Forestry Department of the University of Illinois to manage his forest

properties . . . or when in 1955, the Sinnissippi became the first tree farm in the state. So now, we should go back and see how it all came about.

We quote from an excellent earlier article on Sinnissippi by James E. Pearson, which appeared in *Outdoor Illinois*, February 1972:



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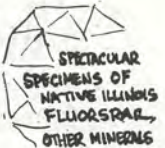
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"When the Lowdens first moved to the farm at Oregon, the landscaping of the sandy hills near the house, where nothing but sand burrs grew, presented something of a problem. In 1902, O. C. Simonds, prominent landscape gardener and a great believer in using native ma-

terial, suggested planting the knolls with white pine, since that species was already present on the bluffs near the river.

"Between 1902 and 1910, Lowden planted 130,000 seedlings. Over 90 per cent of these were white pines, with

larch, red and Scotch pines making up the balance. Finding many of these trees growing well in 1910, he thereafter increased the yearly planting to over 50,000. Native hardwoods and young evergreens soon covered about one-third of the entire estate. Before

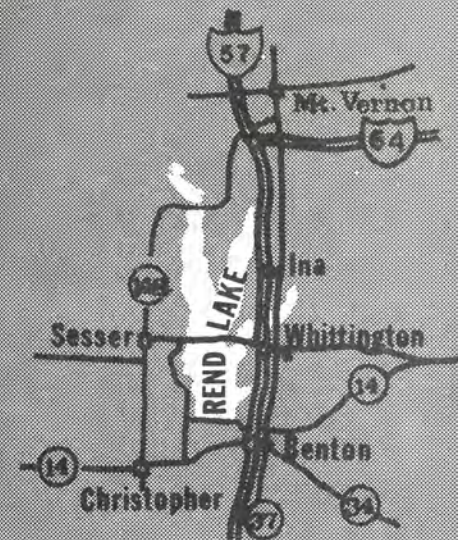
long his oldest seedlings required thinning-out and release from hardwoods. As a result, he had much lumber and firewood to sell. All this activity and the need to protect his pines against saw flies and blister rust started Lowden

upon his long search for a competent forester.

"The plantings continued until World War I. When the war was over and Mr. Lowden wanted to resume planting, he found it impractical to do

so because of rising labor costs and the difficulty of getting stock due to the growing prevalence of white pine blister rust.

"Mr. and Mrs. Lowden never lost interest in their growing stands of white



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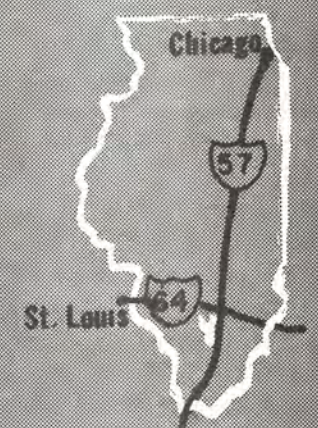
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pine. In 1938, when state nurseries had been established and planting stock was available at low cost, he again took up reforestation.

"About this time the University of Illinois instituted a Department of Forestry. Lowden requested that they come to study the work which he had carried out, and sought their help in management. The University of Illinois and Lowden entered into an agreement in which the University would manage his forest properties and in return would be entitled to carry on all the experimental work they wanted on the forest properties. This agreement is still in effect. Part of the resident forester's salary comes from the University of Illinois, where he holds academic appointment, and part of it comes from the business enterprise. Howard W. Fox has been forester since 1947.

"Because of the agreement, the owners get the benefit of better management and in return the university has an experiment station on private property which it does not have to own."

Today, sitting in the rambling and comfortable home of Florence Lowden Miller at the Sinnissippi, we are aware of the dedication which has carried on from generation to generation. It is ob-

vious when she speaks that Mrs. Miller loves this land with the special understanding of a person who respects the rights of the natural world.

We talk at lunch in the sunny room where she explains that her two sons, brought up spending much of their time at the farm, are in partnership with her in ownership and management of the portion of Sinnissippi which belongs to her. This means that Phillip L. Miller and Warren Pullman Miller will have the opportunity to carry on their mother's wish that the sawmill and forest be united in one plan which does justice to both.

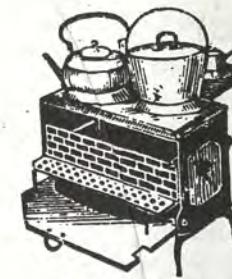
It is a perfect Spring day and the sunlight dapples the room. Dr. and Mrs. Miller quietly and with affection discuss their own and their sons' empathy with Sinnissippi. A centerpiece of jack-in-the-pulpit and spring beauty is a symbol of the surrounding area; outside, my 11-year-old son, Christopher, scampers across glowing landscape in search of a rock to perch on. After lunch, Mrs. Miller drives us to the home of Fox, who will be our guide through the day.

As we leave that evening, we return briefly to her home where she shades her eyes against a lowering sun and points out a few more wild flowers. One

can only have immense respect for this woman, busy in so many areas . . . among them life trustee of the Art Institute of Chicago and founder of the historic Pullman Foundation. With people like Florence Pullman Miller, her sister Harriet Madlener . . . with foresters like Howard Fox and the heritage of Frank Lowden, the Sinnissippi promises to continue as a symbol of survival in a world where we must learn to live with nature or face consequences too dreadful to contemplate.

Julian Huxley once said that the golden rule must apply to other forms of life and for the environment as well as man. We have not been too good at following this, yet as Ruth Moore put it in her recent book, "Man in the Environment," . . . "There is evidence . . . that a new attitude is developing. Many are beginning to realize that man and nature are one."

What Frank Lowden envisioned long ago and what is now going on at Sinnissippi is an example of how man can walk hand-in-hand with his natural heritage, using but not devastating, living at harmony instead of at war with the natural elements surrounding him on this tiny and vulnerable planet.



OLD TIME Recipes

By Mrs. Laura H. Holman

PEACH AND ORANGE MARMALADE

6 large oranges 12 cups sugar
2 lemons 6 cups sliced peaches

Shred the oranges and remove the seeds. Add as much water to the oranges as there is shredded orange and let it stand overnight. In the morning, add the juice from the 2 lemons and the sugar, and boil for 30 minutes after it starts to boil.

At the end of 30 minutes, add the peaches and boil all together slowly for about 25 minutes. Keep it from scorching at the last.

Seal in sterilized jars or glasses. About 3½ pints are made from this recipe.

MEAT STUFFED PEPPERS

3 cups ground, lean beef 1 teaspoon Tabasco sauce or
(uncooked) dash of cayenne pepper
1 cup strained tomatoes 1 tablespoon salt
2 medium-sized onions, ¼ teaspoon white pepper
chopped ½ cup bread or cracker crumbs
1 well-beaten egg

Mix all ingredients together and fill the peppers, after the stem end has been cut off and seeds removed. The end may then be replaced and held in shape with toothpicks. Bake in casserole or baking dish. They will bake quicker if covered while baking, but do not hold their shape as well. Bake them covered for the first part, then uncover towards the last for best results.

The baking dish or casserole may be set in another pan of warm water. Bake for about 1½ hours at 450° F. If placed in the oven with no water, about one hour at 400° F.

POTAGE A LA REINE

Take bits of cold chicken, same quantity of rice, boil together till very tender. Rub through a sieve; then make of the consistency of cream with boiling milk.

Season with salt and pepper and a little nutmeg, to taste. One pound of chicken and one pound of rice will make four quarts of soup.

RUTABAGAS

Peel and slice rutabagas and set them to cook in boiling water. Cook slowly until tender, adding a teaspoon or more of sugar. When tender and the water nearly cooked away, season with salt, butter and pepper and serve hot. They may be mashed like potatoes.

SEPTEMBER SALAD

(For all winter)

12 medium size carrots	2 tablespoons white mustard
1 3½-lb. head cabbage	seed
3 large green peppers	1 tablespoon celery seed
2 large red sweet peppers	1 tablespoon salt
2 dwarf bunches celery	2½ cups white vinegar
½ cup sugar	1½ cups carrot juice

Cook the carrots until they are tender but firm, then cool and cut into even sized pieces. Shred the cabbage on shredder, as fine as possible to make it. Take time and shred the green and red peppers so the shreds will correspond with cabbage. The celery is best cut in small pieces to correspond with carrots. Pack pint mason jars full and set them in pan of boiling water while the sugar, mustard seed, salt, vinegar and carrot juice is boiled together for three minutes. When boiled, fill each jar full and seal air tight. This is to be served on lettuce leaf with mayonnaise dressing during winter months. (The 1½ cups of carrot juice is taken from the kettle in which carrots were boiled, should that have been a puzzle to you.)

OKRA

Okra may be prepared in many different ways, but it is most frequently used in soups. To boil, cut the pods in rings, boil them in salted water until tender, which means from 20 to 30 minutes. When tender, season with salt, pepper and cream.

To fry, wash and cut the pods lengthwise. Roll the halves in flour and fry in hot drippings or butter. Salt and pepper to taste and serve hot.

MUSTARD GREENS

Strip the leaves from the stems, using the leaves only, unless the stems are very tender. Wash and watch for mustard bugs. Place it on to cook in hot water, covering and boiling slowly until the bulk has decreased greatly and the leaves seem tender. At this stage add ham fryings, salt and pepper to taste and continue to cook. When the water has nearly boiled away lift the greens to a serving plate, chop and add a few spoonfuls of vinegar or lemon juice and serve.

FRIED EGGPLANT

Peel eggplant and slice in ½ inch slices. It may stand in salted water for a short time. Drain and dip each slice into beaten egg, then flour, back to egg again and then to flour.

Fry in enough hot fat to prevent sticking. Brown well on both sides. Cook until tender, but avoid any extra turnings. One time over is usually sufficient.

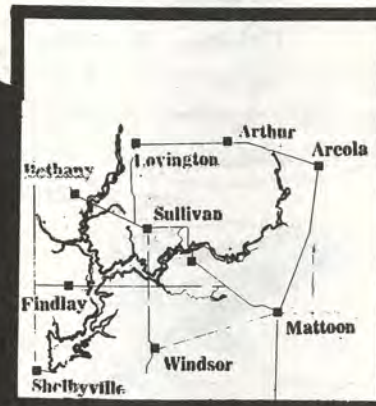
STRING BEAN SALAD

1 cup string beans (broken) 1 cup diced cooked beets
1 teaspoon finely cut onion

Mix vegetables, marinate and serve with dressing, and garnish with radishes.

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GREEN PEPPER AND COTTAGE CHEESE

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 tablespoon gelatine | 1 teaspoon salt |
| 3 tablespoons cold water | ¼ teaspoon white pepper |
| 1 cup hot cream | 2 medium size green peppers |
| 2 cups cottage cheese | French dressing |

Dissolve the gelatine in the cold water and let stand 15 minutes. Heat the cream to boiling point and add to gelatine. Add cheese, salt, white pepper and finely chopped green peppers. Mix all together and place in individual water-dipped molds. Place molds on ice to chill. Remove molds and place on lettuce leaves. Add French dressing and serve cold.

ONE MEAL SALAD

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1 can kidney beans | 1 cup cabbage |
| 1 large onion | 1 cucumber or |
| 1 green pepper | large sour pickle |
| 6 round red radishes | 3 hard cooked eggs |

Place pepper, cabbage and onion in bowl and chop medium fine. Dice the cucumber, radishes and egg and mix with the beans. Mix with the following dressing after it is cooked and cooled:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 egg | Dash of cayenne pepper |
| ¾ cup vinegar | Black pepper to taste |
| 2 tablespoons water | ¼ teaspoon paprika |
| 4 tablespoons sugar | 1 teaspoon salt |
| 2 tablespoons flour | 2 tablespoons olive oil |
| ¼ teaspoon dry mustard | |

Beat the egg very light, to which add the vinegar and water. Mix the sugar, flour, mustard, pepper, paprika and salt together and add. Place in double boiler and cook until thick. When thick, remove from fire and add the olive oil or butter. When radishes are not in season, celery may be submitted.

CUCUMBER RELISH

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 25 large cucumbers | 2 cups granulated sugar |
| 10 large white onions | 2 tablespoons celery seed |
| 1 large red sweet pepper | 2 tablespoons mustard seed |
| 4 cups vinegar | 1 tablespoon turmeric |

Peel cucumbers and either slice or cut in large diced pieces. Peel and chop onion in small size pieces. Chop the red sweet pepper very fine. Now place all ingredients in granite kettle and boil for 20 minutes. Seal air tight and put away for winter. This makes about 8 pints.

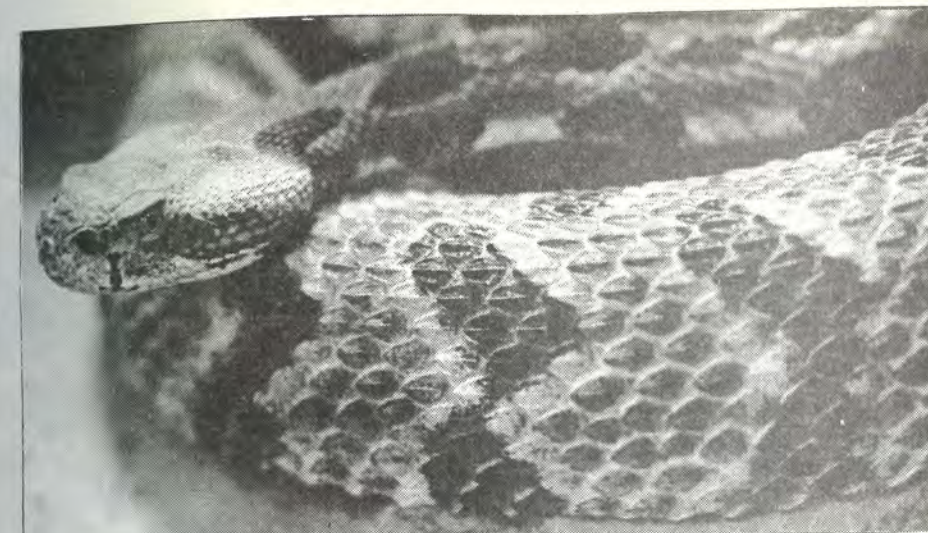
COLD TOMATO RELISH

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 peck ripe tomatoes | ½ cup salt |
| 6 medium size onions | 4 cups cider vinegar |
| 4 large green peppers | 3 cups sugar (or less) |
| Tender stalks from two | 3 tablespoons mustard seed |
| bunches of celery | ½ tablespoon celery seed |
| 2 red sweet peppers | |

Chop the tomatoes, onion, peppers and celery quite fine, to which add the ½ cup of salt and let stand several hours, or overnight. Drain off the liquid and add the vinegar, sugar, mustard and celery seed and seal without cooking.

Timber Rattlesnake
Croatus horridus

photographs by the
author, except
where noted



The Venomous Snakes Of Illinois

By Stanley Dyrkacz
President, Chicago Herpetological Society

SNAKES! Few other words can elicit such strong and varied responses. Most people either hate or love snakes. Few are able to remain in the middle. No other group of animals has been more maligned or received such antagonism. All of this, and yet they remain

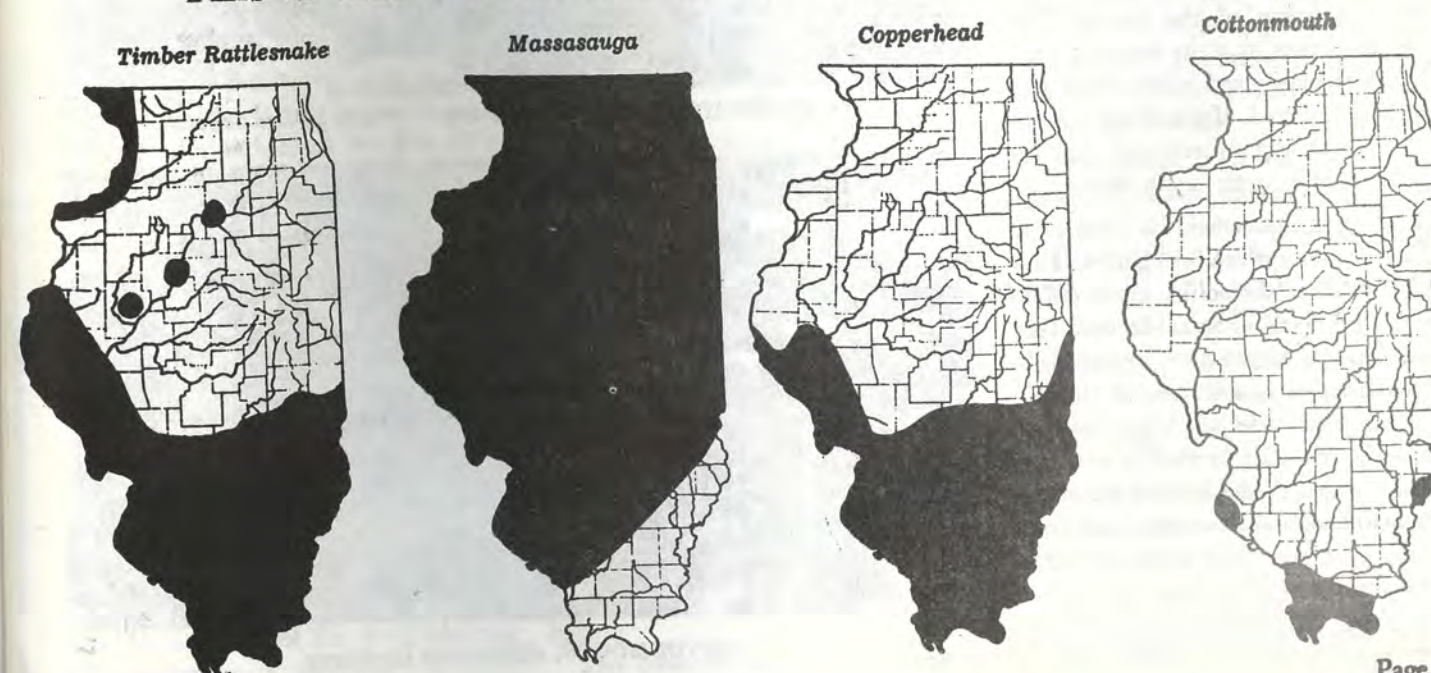
a fascinating group to observe and study.

Illinois has 46 different types of snakes. They occur in a wide variety of habitats. These include: arid dunes, mesic forests, swamps, sloughs, prairie remnants, bluffs, vacant city lots to

your backyard. Some have adapted well to the intrusion of man and have stable populations, while others have been severely reduced within the state to the point of being endangered.

Only four venomous snakes occur in Illinois. They all belong to the family Crotalidae or the "pit vipers". Pit vipers are so called because they possess a "pit" between the eye and nostril on each side of the head. The pit is sensitive to infrared radiation and like the Army's snooper scope it can "see" an image created by the animal's body heat. This is a tremendous advantage over the other snakes which depend

This is where venomous snakes may be found in Illinois:



upon smell and sight for securing food. This miniature radar system is just as effective at night or in complete darkness, since it does not rely upon visible light for recognition.

TIMBER RATTLESNAKE. The timber rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*) ranges from the southern third of Illinois northward along the Mississippi River (Map No. 1). It is usually found along limestone bluffs and woods edges. Like most snakes they are prolific swimmers and can occasionally be found crossing rivers and ponds.

Timber rattlesnakes are the largest venomous snakes in Illinois and specimens four feet in length are not uncommon. Although not generally aggressive their bite is dangerous and, upon a few rare occasions, has proved fatal to Illinois residents. When encountered most specimens remain very quiet or freeze in motion in an effort to avoid detection. When disturbed they usually sound their rattle with such force that it can be heard for some distance. They do not, however, always sound their rattle before striking.

When coiled in the broken shade of the forest floor they are very difficult to detect. Its disruptive pattern of blacks and browns blend very well and help to conceal the serpent while it lies in wait for possible prey.

They feed upon a variety of mammals and birds. After the prey is bitten the rattlesnake will retreat, and await the action of the venom. The snake then uses its acute sense of smell to track the prey, and when found it is quickly consumed. If small enough the prey is sometimes retained in the snake's mouth until death ensues.

In August-September the female rattlesnake gives birth to 8-10 babies. They are identical to the adults, about 10" in length, but lack a rattle. Instead they have a single segment or button. Like all rattlesnakes it will have to shed its skin before a rattle will begin to form. Each time the skin is shed a new segment is added to the base of the rattle. The snake may shed several times within one year and the number of rattles is no indication of its age.

The newborn snake has two func-

tional fangs complete with venom and although it is not capable of delivering a large quantity of venom, it should be

treated with considerable respect. The bite can cause severe discomfort and pain.



MASSASAUGA, *Sistrurus catenatus*



COPPERHEAD, *Agkistrodon contortrix* — (Photo by Ron Sayers)



COTTONMOUTH, *Agkistrodon piscivorus*



WATER SNAKE, *Natrix sipedon*



HOGNOSE SNAKE, *Heterodon p. platyrhinos*

Hunting by collectors for sport, deliberate killing by individuals, and habitat destruction have reduced its numbers within recent years. Some people consider it endangered within Illinois and in some areas it has been exterminated. Their numbers have been reduced in all parts of their range.

MASSASAUGA. The massasauga rattlesnake (*Sistrurus catenatus*) ranges throughout the northern two-thirds of the state (Map No. 2). It is usually found in close association with marshes, sloughs and other areas that retain permanent water. The edges of woods and prairie remnants are also occupied. Although its range is widespread in Illinois, habitat destruction and other factors have reduced its numbers to the point of being endangered. It is now restricted to small, widely scattered colonies.

The massasauga is a small, stout-bodied snake that rarely exceeds three feet in length. It has a grayish-white ground color with black blotches on its back and sides.

It is generally docile in nature and rarely bites. Although venomous, no deaths have been recorded from Illinois. Nevertheless the bite can be serious and it should be treated with respect.

The main food of the massasauga is small mammals, although nestling birds may also be taken. The young are born in late August-September and number between 5-14. They resemble the adults and are 5-6" in length.

COPPERHEAD. The copperhead (*Agkistrodon contortrix*) ranges throughout the southern half of the state; however its occurrence is extremely sporadic (Map No. 3). Destruction of suitable

habitat by the cutting of forests has severely reduced their numbers. The copperhead's rich browns and tans blend well into the colors of the forest floor, making detection difficult. It is usually found along streams or the edges of woods. It feeds upon small mammals, birds, frogs and some insects.

Copperheads tend to be subdued in nature and if given the chance to escape they will. When cornered, however, they will coil defensively and vibrate their tails. Although deaths are rare, the bite can be serious.

Adults are usually 2½-3' in length and the young (born in the fall) are about 6-7". The young are identical to the adults except the tip of the tail is bright sulfur yellow. The yellow color is lost as the snake matures.

COTTONMOUTH OR WATER MOCCASIN. The cottonmouth (*Agkistrodon piscivorus*) ranges only through extreme southern Illinois (Map No. 4). It is restricted to swamps, sloughs and other areas with permanent water. Unlike the other venomous snakes, they are ill tempered and will bite upon the slightest provocation.

Adults reach lengths of 3+' and are of considerable girth. They will feed upon nearly any type of animal including other snakes. The young are born in the fall and are 5-6" in length. They resemble the adults except for their bright sulfur yellow tails.

Adults are usually black or very dark brown with little or no trace of pattern, although some individuals resemble the bright brown and tan bands of the babies.

The cottonmouth earns its name by the habit of standing its ground when

threatened and opening its mouth. The inside is cottony-white, hence the name. Sometimes the fangs are erected and when thoroughly enraged they flatten their bodies and thrash the tail back and forth. This is no empty threat since the cottonmouth will bite if given the chance.

Although recent deaths from the bite have not occurred in Illinois, the bite can be extremely painful and the snakes should be avoided.

SPECIES THAT RESEMBLE VENOMOUS SNAKES

Each year literally hundreds of snakes are killed because they are mistaken for venomous species. Fox snakes, milk snakes, hognose snakes and water snakes are beaten with clubs or run over with cars in order to make the neighborhood "safe" from the deadly beasts. Although these snakes superficially resemble some types of venomous snakes they can be easily distinguished with a little study.

FOX SNAKE. The fox snake (*Elaphe vulpina*) occurs throughout the northern half of Illinois. Adults range from 3-4' in length and are of moderate bulk. They have yellowish-brown or brown ground color and dark brown-black blotches on its back. When confronted it will sometimes rear back into a savage-looking coil and vibrate the tip of the tail. This rather unfortunate habit convinces many people that they have found a "rattlesnake" and many are killed. Although, if provoked, they will bite, it is not serious and should be treated as any other minor laceration.

Fox snakes lay 8-20 eggs in June-July which hatch in late August-Sep-

tember. The eggs are tough and leathery and are deposited in rotten logs, wood piles and other damp, protected locations. Fox snakes feed upon a variety of small mammals and birds and are ef-

fective in controlling rodent populations.

MILK SNAKES. The milk snake (*Lampropeltis triangulum*) ranges throughout Illinois. It is a small, slender snake

which reaches its maximum size at about 3'. It has a small head (unlike the Fox snake) and can only feed upon small mammals and birds. Occasionally they are cannibalistic,

Milk snakes have a silvery-white ground color with red-brown blotches on its back and sides. They also lay eggs which hatch in August-September. They are about 6" at birth. Like the fox snake, they often vibrate their tails when first encountered and although they rarely strike, they have the habit of suddenly seizing their captor and chewing vigorously.

HOGNOSE SNAKE. The hognose snake (*Heterodon platyrhinos*), or spreading adder, ranges throughout Illinois. It, along with its close relative the Plains

hognose (*H. nasicus*), is usually found in sandy locations where its favorite food—toads—abound. Hognose snakes are nature's natural born actors and when encountered will run through an amazing series of contortions complete with hissing, striking and the usual thrashing about. When all of this fails to deter a possible predator (or an inquisitive person) it will suddenly roll over onto its back, open its mouth, extend the tongue and "die". No amount of persuasion can be used to make it "come back to life" and if returned to

its belly it will quickly resume its death pose.

Hognose snakes are usually heavy bodied animals, 2-2½ in length. Their ground colors range from yellow, red, brown, black (a condition known as melanism) or olive drab with brownish-black blotches.

The young hatch from eggs in the fall and are identical to the adults, including their "acting." They are about 5" in length.

Hognose snakes feed almost exclusively upon toads but individuals have



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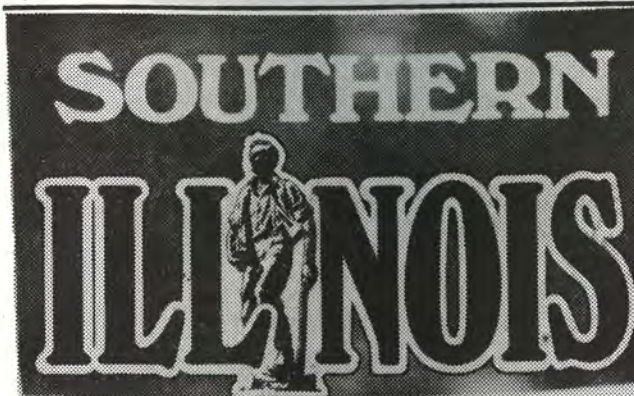
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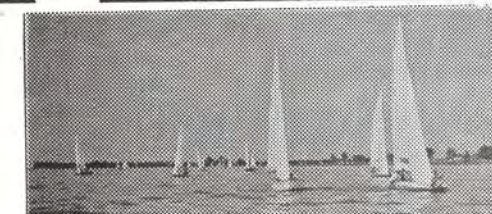
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been known to consume frogs, fish and sometimes mice.

WATER SNAKES. The water snakes (*Natrix sp.*) also range throughout Illinois and are often confused with the cottonmouth. Superficially they resemble the cottonmouth, especially in their rather pugnacious nature. They are always found in close association with water. Ponds, sloughs and the like, with slow-moving, permanent water are their favorite haunts. When encountered they do not hesitate to bite, expel fecal matter and regurgitate any recent meal. This is usually sufficient to deter most potential threats.

Adults reach a length of 3' and have an impressive girth. Their ground color is usually slate gray-brown with reddish-brown bands across the back.

Babies are born in August-September and number about 10-50. They resemble the adults except they usually have black blotches on a slate white ground color. The young are 5-6" in length and are just as ill-tempered as the adults.

Water snakes feed almost exclusively upon fish although frogs may also be taken. They are strong swimmers, but they are not a match for the speed and

agility of most healthy fish. They usually consume only the weak or dying.

CONSERVATION. Like all of nature's creatures snakes have their place in the ecological balance. They provide a control on the numbers of mammals, birds and fish and help to eliminate the weakest individuals. This insures that only the strongest animals are able to survive and reproduce. Without such controls the numbers of these prey animals could increase unchecked, thus decreasing the vitality of the species itself, thereby decreasing their chances for future reproduction and survival. No one can or should make a value judge-

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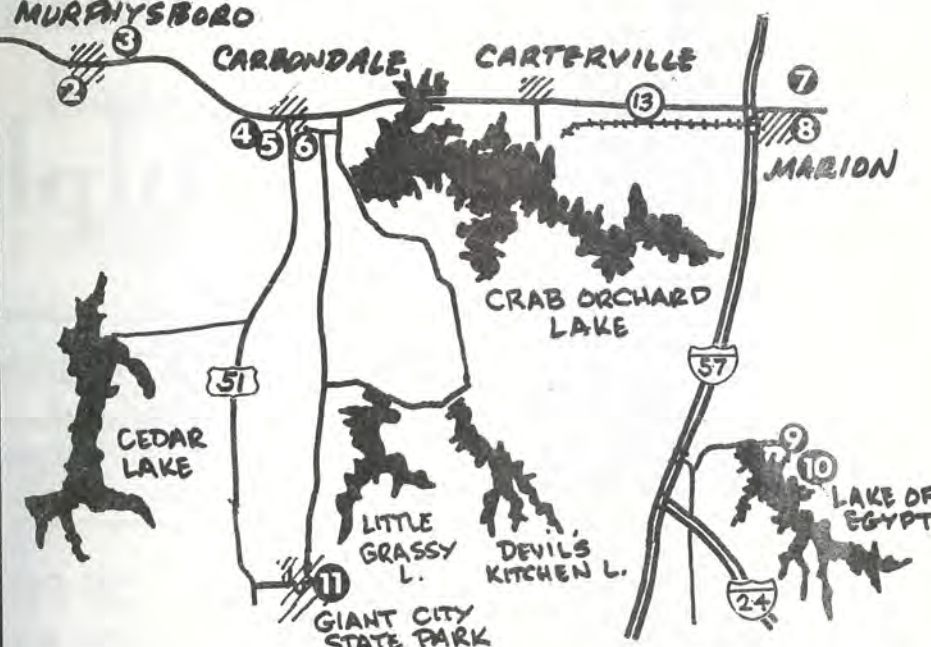
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ment and say that this species is more important than that species. The values we place upon the lives of other creatures reflect the quality of our own lives, and our civilization.

STUDY. For those people who have increased their interest in snakes, organizations are located throughout the country which actively pursue the study not only of snakes, but turtles, lizards, amphibians, etc. In Illinois we have the Chicago Herpetological Society. Based in Chicago, its membership reaches across the United States, into South America and in Europe. Over 250 members are able to enjoy the benefits of membership which include a quarterly Bulletin, monthly newsletters and special activities.

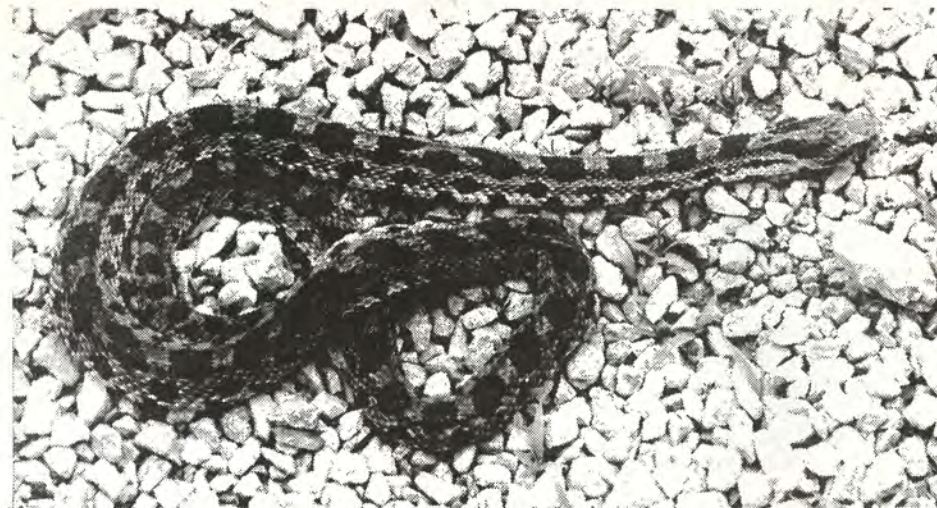


FORT CHARTRES

Fort Chartres, France's most expensive fortress in the new world was built originally in 1720 along the rapidly encroaching Mississippi River. It was twice destroyed by floodwaters and in 1753 the present huge stone fort was constructed a half mile from the river. This reconstructed barracks now serves as a museum. This state park includes picnic grounds and a play yard near the huge gate tower. On Route No. 155 near Prairie Du Rocher.

KASKASKIA PARK

This beautiful park overlooks the confluence of the Mississippi and Kaskaskia rivers. Here one of Gen. George Rogers Clark's famous expeditions known as the Shawneetown trail ended, and the trail to Vincennes, Indiana began, in the year 1778. Camping sites are available here.



FOX SNAKE, *Elaphe v. vulpina*

For more information write: CHICAGO HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY, 2001 N. Clark S., Chicago, IL 60614.

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Letters . . .

Dear Sir:

In the What and Where picture, is the steam engine located in a park in Bloomington? Or did I guess wrong again?

We enjoy your magazine immensely and look forward to it every month. We were by the old I. C. Depot recently but since it was on a Sunday the depot was deserted. Thank you for an enjoyable magazine.

Sincerely,
Mrs. John C. Palecek
Vandalia, Ill.

On the assumption that you were telling us rather than asking us, we declare you the winner of the Grand International Scientific Award of the Year, a full one year subscription to Outdoor Illinois which will get you exactly ten issues. And now your subscription runs out in November,

1977, according to our purported books.

Dear Editor:

The picture on Page 4 of your June-July issue is of steam locomotive No. 639, brought to Miller Park, Bloomington, Ill., in 1959 by the Bloomington Steam Locomotive Commission under Mayor McGaw. The city had been known for the C&A R.R. shops.

It cost \$7,000 to move the engine here from Bellevue, Ohio. It had been built in Lima, Ohio. In 1971 a face-lifting job was done by the Central Illinois R. R. Club.

The engine was built in 1923.

Very sincerely,
Elizabeth G. Abraham
Bloomington, Ill.

Dear Sir:

I read the interesting articles you have in the Outdoor Illinois magazine. The one of the covered bridge near Chester did

not state how the river got its name. This I know for it was the first wife of my great grandfather, William Carol Davis. Her name was Mary Ann Cross, she married a Mr. Brown. She was widowed and left with one son. I have an article from a local paper printed in years gone by. It tells of how Mr. and Mrs. Davis drove to Chester in a buggy. While there a terrible storm came up. The river was raging. When they started home, the road was covered with water. He drove the horses into the water, missing the regular crossing place. The horses lost their footing and they and the buggy were carried downstream.

Mr. Davis managed to escape. His wife and horses were drowned. After that, it was called Mary's River.

Yours sincerely,
Grace Lively
Ava, Ill.

Sorry, we won't buy the old newspaper account, unless it was dated prior to 1755. For in that year, Jacques Nicolas Bellin drew a map pub-



Where Illinois Began!



CHARTER OAK SCHOOL

This unique eight-sided school house is one of the three remaining in the United States. Located five miles southwest of Sparta, Ill. on an oil road, it has picnic facilities and an outside fireplace.

MARY'S RIVER COVERED BRIDGE

Built in 1854 with a 70 foot span, it was part of a planked toll road between Steeleville and Chester. Located on Rt. 150 north of Chester, it is now an inviting picnic area maintained by the State of Illinois. No campfires allowed.

PIERRE MENARD HOME

The early French architecture of this stately old mansion built in 1802 by slave labor was the home of the first Lieutenant Governor of the State of Illinois. It is now maintained by the State of Illinois, and is located just below Ft. Kaskaskia State Park.



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lished in France to accompany the memoirs of Neyon de Villiere, and located on the map at the present site of Mary's River is one which he called "R. a Marie."

Thomas Hutchins map published in London in 1778 showed the river as "Riviere Maria", and the Collet map of 1826, which was actually put together in 1796, showed the stream

as "R. S. Mary", or River of Ste. Mary, apparently.

Of such, however, is Illinois history often made.

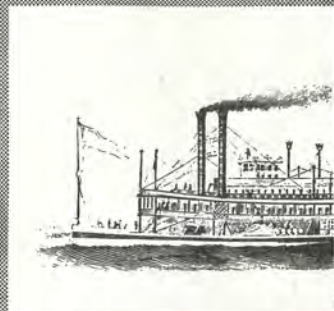
Dear Editor:

Please enter my birthday subscription for my father again for his 91st birthday, Sept. 13, 1975.

J. Marshall Peer, born at Bluford, September 13, 1884, went from country school right into Carbondale Normal a la John Allen, rode his bicycle to McLeansboro and back to school weekends, went to University of Chicago to get his degree, after us four girls were born. Supt. of Thebes School. Built a brick gym while there. Taught at Eldorado. Built a gym there. Supt. of school at Dolton.



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Apparently we have a amazingly high pass-along readership, judging from your letter and many others.

Sirs:

Enclosed find personal check for renewal. I am glad to notice that OI is slowly moving north into the mid and upper Illinois River Valley. I find the articles about the southern tier of counties interesting and valuable to my overall collection of Illinois history but I selfishly want to see more articles about the area between the big bend at Hennepin, to say, Beardstown and there ought to be some wonderful material around the Bloomington (McLean County) region . . . you know, David Davis, Funk seedcorn and other things.

Sincerely,
Eleanor Bussell
Lacon, Ill.

Yes.

Sir:

While the late date causes me to know I won't be the first to identify the old engine pictured in your June-July issue as the very same one that now proudly graces Bloomington's Miller Park, I figure somebody from up here ought to take it upon himself to lay a bunch of McLean County pride on you.

When the locals moved that monster to the park about 15 years ago, it wasn't easy. They had to lay quite a bit of track and borrow some no-longer-used right-of-way through town of the old Illinois Traction Interurban line.

But they wanted us to remember we were a proud old railroad town. We furnished to the world the four Cotter brothers, who became the chief executive officers of four major railroads. We furnished Patrick Morrissey, once national president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen.

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER, 1975

Out of the old Alton Shops on Bloomington's West Side, we furnished the first Pullman sleeping car, and the Delmonico, the first-ever railroad dining car.

We also furnished the inventor of the eversharp pencil, the inventor of the cartridge tape recorder, and the inventor of the moving sickle blade. Right now we have a guy working on a digital sundial.

But I suppose you're not interested in that. And I suppose nobody in Benton will allow us to claim as our own the best basketball player to ever come out of Illinois State University (and possibly Illinois), Doug Collins of the Philadelphia 76ers . . .

Sincerely,
Don Munson
Operations Manager
WJBC-WBNQ
Bloomington, Ill.

Knowing that he learned the best use for an elbow, and the fine art of the hip block, in our front hall, we quite agree that Doug has an association in Benton. But at the moment, we are all concentrating on a gent here who is about to make a breakthrough for science. He is working on a coal-burning submarine, and we expect any day to see a pile of smoke coming up from the bottom of Rend Lake, signifying he got the fire started.

Gentlemen:

Your April issue arrived yesterday and I thought I'd send in a South-of-the-Equator "What and Where" entry before going to the Shortest Day of the Year celebration today. The only problem is that while I'd be willing to guess that the building is another railway station (probably not in the cultural capital though), I can't even make a vague stab at its location or town. So I guess I won't send in an entry. But I still thought I should let you know that I'll be returning to the States in August and wonder if you would please start sending my subscription to Barrington, Illinois. With luck, I should get the May and June issues before I leave, but it would take a few miracles to get the August issue in time.

I quite enjoyed your article, many issues ago, on the New Madrid earthquake and wish that the Maoris could do as good a job of reporting New Zealand shakings from the same era.

Yours very truly,
Robert M. Kieckhefer
New Zealand Dept. of Scientific
& Industrial Research
Geophysics Division
Wellington, New Zealand

They didn't get much out of the southern Illinois natives, either.

Dear Sirs:

I was looking through a book or magazine dated March 1971, Big Trees of Illinois on Page 27, which mentioned a Linden, silvia tilia tomentosa, located in Macon County in Decatur at 1704 East Wood. Nominator, W. S. Brenneman, circumference 11' 3".

My children's great grandfather planted the tree in the early part of this century. His name was J. M. Birt.

Mrs. Velma Boyer
Decatur, Ill.

Dear Sir:

The magazine is looking better each month — inside and out — and because we enjoy it so much we want to share it with a family who has done some very nice things for us.

We just spent a week visiting spots from here to Carbondale and found Illinois as wonderful as ever. There is no need to spend a bundle or travel to far-away places when there is history or beauty or serenity — or whatever one seeks — right in our own back yard. No one in one lifetime can really get to know Illinois and there are always changes, some subtle and some drastic. Even just a few days spent in leisurely travel with open eyes and an open mind can work wonders for the mind and high blood pressure!

This was our first trip through lower Calhoun County — inspired by the current issue which we carried with us (and read and re-read). It was a beautiful Sunday morning so we bought some bread and cheese and had a picnic under a tree by the side of the road. It was a memorable meal in perfect surroundings and both body and spirit were refreshed. To top it off we rode the free ferry across the Illinois River, and I'm not ashamed to admit that I got a bang out of it. Perhaps we didn't cover a lot of miles that morning, but we certainly got a lot for our money!

Isn't this what you're trying to tell your readers?

Sincerely,
Kathryn D. Oestreich
Galena, Ill.

We are really pleased that the Calhoun chapter of the New Geography series was of help on your trip. The series requires a rather massive effort by several people and the most pleasant thing we can hear around here is that O.I. readers find them of use in plotting their trips.

We used the Calhoun chapter ourselves on several recent occasions and like you found some outstanding scenic places by following the roads on the 1876-era map, most of which amble along the same paths today. At the north edge of Hamburg, the Swarnes Hill Prairie offers one of the best views to be seen in Illinois, for those willing to scale the precipitous 200-foot hill, but north of Batchtown on the east-west road which travels east to Haynes Landing a much more easily seen panorama is visible from the roadside.

You'll find that we will be broadening the areas covered in issues you receive later in the fall. We've been sharpening our pencil, so to speak, down south where the poplule is quick to go to the jugular when you err. It keeps you honest and alert. They say.

Bob Mohlenbrock reflected recent-



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OUTDOOR ILLINOIS

ly that he would swear off any more New Geography chapters in favor of pure botany but he is fascinated by that mob of Indians who come riding over the hill when one of his "geography" efforts is published.

No matter what the county, he says, they all seem to have the same battle cry: "Here comes Custer!"

Dear Friends:

Enclosed is \$1 for the Calhoun County (June-July 1975) issue of your interesting magazine, shown to me by a friend who knew my husband's great-great-grandfather Willis Martin was in Calhoun County by 1840.

William Martin has resisted my earnest research efforts for several years. He was in the censuses of Calhoun County in 1840, 1850 and 1860, and family in Pike County in 1880, but I cannot find him or his family in the 1870 census.

I have wondered if Calhoun County families with Union leanings might have made a wartime general migration to some other state—and if so, to where? Willis' son, Robert Emmett Martin, was in Co. G, 137th Reg't., Illinois Volunteer Infantry and sustained head wounds in action at Memphis, Tenn., in 1867. This is my only evidence for the family's Union sympathies. If you should see fit to publish this paragraph of my letter in Outdoor Illinois, I would be grateful for any suggestions from your knowledgeable readers.

Willis Martin married Mary Ann Yandell in 1833, possibly in Calhoun County, but that record too has eluded me, as have the parents of Willis and Mary Ann. You are thinking that I must be a pretty dumb researcher. I prefer to think I'm just not looking in the right places. Yet.

Sincerely,
Dolly Ziegler
2712 Normal Ave.
Billings, Mont.

Can anyone help this nice lady move from the one category to another?

Dear Sir:

I was delighted with the article on Logan Belt. It is the most objective piece of writing I have seen on the subject. Certainly a sharp contrast to the "Shady" Jackson account.

And I was very glad to see the family photos. I had not seen these before. And, if I am not asking you to violate a confidence, could you please tell me who has the originals?

My interest in these photographs is more than mere curiosity. I am a descendant of Jonathan Belt, Logan's brother.

I have photographs of Jonathan Belt in the uniform of a Union officer (captain) and some of his fellow officers, taken some time during the Civil War. I also have several photos of my great grandmother, Harriet, and my great grandfather, John Gregory; one, a tintype, was taken in his officer's uniform.

Since my great grandmother lived to her 91st year, dying in July, 1935, I knew her quite well, and can remember many of the stories she told us; mostly

things that occurred during the "WAR", which to her there was only one, the Civil War, although she lived through two more wars, Spanish-American in which she had a son, and World War I, in which she had a son and grandson.

I know many of Logan's descendants. I knew one of his daughters—now deceased—quite well, as she often visited my grandmother and great grandmother. One of his great-granddaughters lives here in Rosiclare and she is very interested in the article and one of the magazines I'm ordering is for her.

My congratulations to you for such a fine magazine, and my thanks to Mr. Gary DeNeal for his fine article.

Sincerely yours,
Miss Mary E. Hosick
Rosiclare, Ill.

Contact Gary at RFD-3, Harrisburg, and he may be able to assist you.

Gentlemen:

Thank you for a magazine that gets more interesting and quite indispensable with each issue.

Sincerely,
Marjorie and William Andrews
Ottawa, Ill.

The only ones indispensable around here are the 8,000 or so folks who plunk down their hard-earned cash to keep the meat a-cooking.

Dear Sir:

I would like to receive your "1965 Bound Volume", also the June-July 1971 issue covering Little Grand Canyon.

My brother and I once hiked through the Little Grand Canyon and it is really rugged. I wanted to see if the author was as impressed as I.

I wonder how many other such articles

are available through your back issues, and if you have ever published an index.

Sincerely,
Robert Leonard
Rolla, Mo.

We have had an ad lurking around our desk for years, in which we list a number of the outstanding articles from ages past. With any kind of luck at all, we have high hopes that you might find it somewhere in this issue. If it surfaces, that is.

Dear Sir:

I would appreciate obtaining the map of Johnson County which appeared in Outdoor Illinois in May 1966. Likewise, I would like to have a map of Hardin County, if one exists. I do have the Pope County map.

I am here for a year and would like to drive and hike around this pretty countryside. I shall gladly pay for the maps if there is a charge.

Sincerely yours,
David Drori
Visiting Professor
University of Illinois
Simpson, Ill.

The Pope County map is out of print, we have a few Johnson County maps included in the May 1966 issue of OI which we are sending (50c) along with a copy of the Hardin County map. Contact the Southern Illinois Tourism Promotion Council, Regional Office Bldg., Marion, Ill., for the Pope map, which they may still have, and for a map of scenic places in southern Illinois.

Dear Sir:

My personal thanks to Larry Underwood for the terrific article on Calhoun

Calendar of Illinois Events

Compiled by the Illinois Division of Tourism

AUGUST

- 1-3 Algonquin — Founders Day Festival, Parks & Streets.
Carbondale — "Sugar" (Summer Playhse. '75), Univ. Thtre., SIU.
Dorchester — Farmers Fair & Jubilee, Park.
Evanston — Ann. Art Festival, Centennial Pk. Artists from throughout U.S.A. displays, entertainment.
Fairview Heights — Ann. Homecoming.
- 3-31 Normal — Illinois Artist '76-an Invitational Exhibit, Ctr. for Visual Art Gallery, ISU. (Traveling BICENTENNIAL Exhibit).
5 Elmhurst — Music Under the Stars, Wilder Park.
Western Springs — America Series, B.B.C. Narrated Films, First Congregational Church.
5-24 Sullivan — "Gypsy", Little Thtre. on the Sq. Closed Mons.
6 Elmhurst — Movies in the Park, Wilder Park. 8:15 p.m.
Joliet — Playground Pageant, Inwood Recr. Ctr. 7 p.m.
Olney — Cummins Municipal Band Concert, City Park. 8 p.m.
- 6-10 Springfield — "Fiddler on the Roof", Muni Opera, Lake Springfield.
7 Oak Park — Chicago Brass Quintet & Model Coils Exhibit-Donna Pincus, Oak Park Mall.
7-9 Momence — Gladiolus Festival.
7-10 Carrollton — Fall Festival.
Davis Junction — N. Central Ill. Steam Power Show, Inc., Hedtke's Hickory-Oaks Farm.
Northbrook — "Northbrook Days", Village Green.
Sycamore — Steam Show & Threshing Bee, Taylor Marshall Farm.
- 7-17 Bryant — Comm. Thtre. Prod. (comedy), The Playhouse.
8-9 Antioch — "Fiddler on the Roof", P M & L Thtre.
Carbondale — "Sugar" (Summer Playhse. '75), Univ. Thtre., SIU.
- 8-17 Springfield — ILLINOIS STATE FAIR. The largest agriculture fair in the nation features 10 days of events, rides, big-name entertainment, contests, U.S.A.C. auto races and the continuous entertainment that makes this one of the most popular events in the state each year.
Springfield — Clayville Craftsmen Demonstrations, Crafts Bldg., Fairgrds.
Springfield — Rutledge Tavern (replica of orig. at New Salem)-crafts-1830 furnishings-candle & butter making-costumed ladies (during State Fair).
- 9 Downers Grove — Home Gardeners Field Day, U. of I. (2,000 attend.).
Elmhurst — Flower & Garden Show, Wilder Park. 1-5 p.m.
Leaf River — Square Dance, Berrolet Bldg. 8 p.m.
Noble — Homecoming Chowder, Village Park.
Normal — Ill. Football Coaches & Shriner All-Star Football Game, Hancock Stadium, ISU. 1 p.m.
Northbrook — Culligan Swim Meet, Sports Complex, 1730 Pfingston Rd.
9-10 Arcola — Children's Day (Magicians-Puppet Shows), Rockome Gardens.
Chicago — Lake Shore Park Air & Water Show, Chicago Ave. at Lakefront.
Fox Lake — Ann. Art Fair, Shopping Plaza.
Ladd — St. Benedict's Ann. Homecoming & Festival.
Palos Hills — "Prelude '75"-Revolutionary War Reenactment, Moraine Valley Comm. Coll. BICENTENNIAL.
Red Bud — Ann. "Gartenfest"-Antiques, Queen Contest (10th), German food & bands, City Park. Bicentennial.
10 Bingham — Homecoming, Bingham Park.
Joliet — Finals-Will Co. Golf Tourn., Wedgewood Golf Course.
13 Olney — Cummins Municipal Band Concert, City Park. 8 p.m.
13-15 Gilman — "Old Boys & Girls" Reunion.

- 18-19 Springfield — State Sports Festival, Sponsor: Ill Agric Assoc. Lincoln Park.
20 Abingdon — Tractor Pull, Festival Grds.
Rochelle — Comm. Pork Chop Bar-B-Que & Band Concert, Memorial Park.
Wauconda — Senior Citizens' Day, Lakewood Forest Preserve.
20-21 Hillsboro — Old Settlers Festival.
20-23 Mt. Vernon — Sweetcorn-Watermelon Festival. (25,000 attend.).
21-23 Blue Mound — Fall Festival, Parade-Contests-Stage Show. Village Park.
Westfield — Homecoming, Westfield Park.
21-24 Cordova — "World Series" Drag Racing, Drag Strip.
Rolling Meadows — "West Fest" (contests, carnival, dancing), Shopping Ctr.
West Chicago — "Railroad Days", City Wide Celebration. Drum & Bugle Comp. (24th). H.S. Athletic Field.
22 Abingdon — Motorcycle Races, Festival Grds.
22 Thru Sept. 1 DuQuoin — DuQuoin State Fair. Charlie Rich will be one of the headline performers at this popular fair which draws people from around the world. In addition to more than a week of top name entertainment, midway rides and the friendly atmosphere at Hayes Fair Acres, there will be a U.S.A.C. Nat'l. Championship Midget Car Race (22nd) and a U.S.A.C. 100 mile Nat'l. Championship Late Model Stock Car Race (23rd). High point of the Fair is the HAMBLETONIAN — the "Kentucky Derby" of harness racing, the most prestigious trotting race in the world held August 30.
- 22-23 Brighton — Betsey Ann Picnic, Betsey Ann Park.
22-24 (T) Elburn — "Elburn Days" Celebration, Lions Club Park.
Gurnee — "Gurnee Days '75" Celebration & Festival.
Quincy — Antique Show & Sale (Madeline Hix), "The Forum".
Quincy — "Finishing Touches" (play), Little Thtre.
Spring Bay — Ann. Spring Bay Melon Festival.
Springfield — "Mame", Muni Opera, Lake Springfield. 8:30 p.m.
- 23 Riverton — 100% Jackpot Western Horse Show, Sang Co. Riders Arena. 6:30 p.m.
- 23-24 Apple River — Ann. Chicken Bar-B-Q & Park Days, Village Park.
Highland — "Kirchenfest", Olive St.
Moline — Ann. Tri-City Dahlia Show, So. Park Shopping Mall.
- 23-31 Chicago — Masterpieces from the Museum of Primitive Art, The Art Inst.
- 24 Belleville — German Day, Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows.
DuQuoin — 100 Mile Nat'l. Championship Dirt Car Race, Fairgrds.
Marseilles — Ann. Chicken Fry, Illini St. Park.
Oak Park — Oak Park Civic Symphony & Phil White Paintings, Oak Park Mall.
Ottawa — Lincoln-Douglas Day Celebration Crafts, drama. Washington Park.
- 24-25 Milford — Festival & Horse Show, Park.
25-31 Chillicothe — Fall Festival, City Park.
26-31 Sullivan — "Man of LaMancha", Little Thtre. on the Square.
- 27-31 Springfield — "Mame", Muni Opera, Lake Springfield. 8:30 p.m.
- 28 Joliet — Music Under the Stars (Bill Carnegie & His Band), Inwood Recr. Ctr. 8 p.m.
Payson — Ann. Old Settlers' Picnic, Park. 2-11 p.m. Entertainment & food.
Windsor — Harvest Picnic, Park.
- 28-30 Metropolis — Labor Day Celebration.
- 28-31 Hoopeston — Nat'l. Sweet Corn Festival. McFerren Park hosts five days of fun and games, plus lots of sweet corn eatin' during this annual event. Thru Sept. 1.
- Pontiac — Threshermen's Reunion-craft & hobby show-flea market. 4-H Park, thru Sept. 1.
- 29-30 Barry — Ann. Horse Show, Geo. F. Syrcle Mem. Park.
29-31 Carlock — Camper Rally (Potluck supper, Barbershop Quartet, Ping Pong Tourn.), Tall Corn KOA.
East St. Louis — Cahokia Mounds Indian Dancers, Cahokia Mounds St. Park.

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County which appeared last month. The picture of our restored log house at the Frontier Camp Ground in Hamburg was very good and I enjoyed the part about John Shaw, who was the original owner of this property. A lot of work went into restoring the old log house but when we read such articles as yours it all seems worthwhile.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Gary Crader
Hamburg, Ill.

The view from the ridge behind Hamburg is one of the finest on the Mississippi.

Dear Sir:

Have noticed in some of the Letters from your subscribers an interest in Round Barns, and had hoped to get the enclosed information to you in time for your June-July but due to illness didn't make it. (A flyer on the annual Round Barn Festival July 11-13 at Rochester, Ind.)

I appreciated so much your information about the inundation of the town of Union Point, Ill., and also the article about the Casper Church near Anna. It so happens that several of my ancestors are buried in the Church cemetery and just last fall we made a pilgrimage there.

Love the especially beautiful picture by Ken Martin on the June-July issue of OI!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Berniece Martin Newhouse
Rochester, Ind.

Sir:

Someday, probably a long time away—but someday—you will do something right. Your lousy envelope is too small for the standard-size check; one stinking 1/8 inch would help, ever so much!

Why don't you put the "Super in Charge of Maint." in charge of designing a new envelope—one that works?

I am renewing my subscription, I need the laughs.

Yours truly,
F. Zelenka
Clarendon Hills, Ill.

He is out right now looking for a three-dollar bill so he can make certain that the next envelope will be of a size to suit you.

Are you nuts or something, we can't divert him from his regular tasks. There is every indication the door frame would fall in without his steady support.

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