

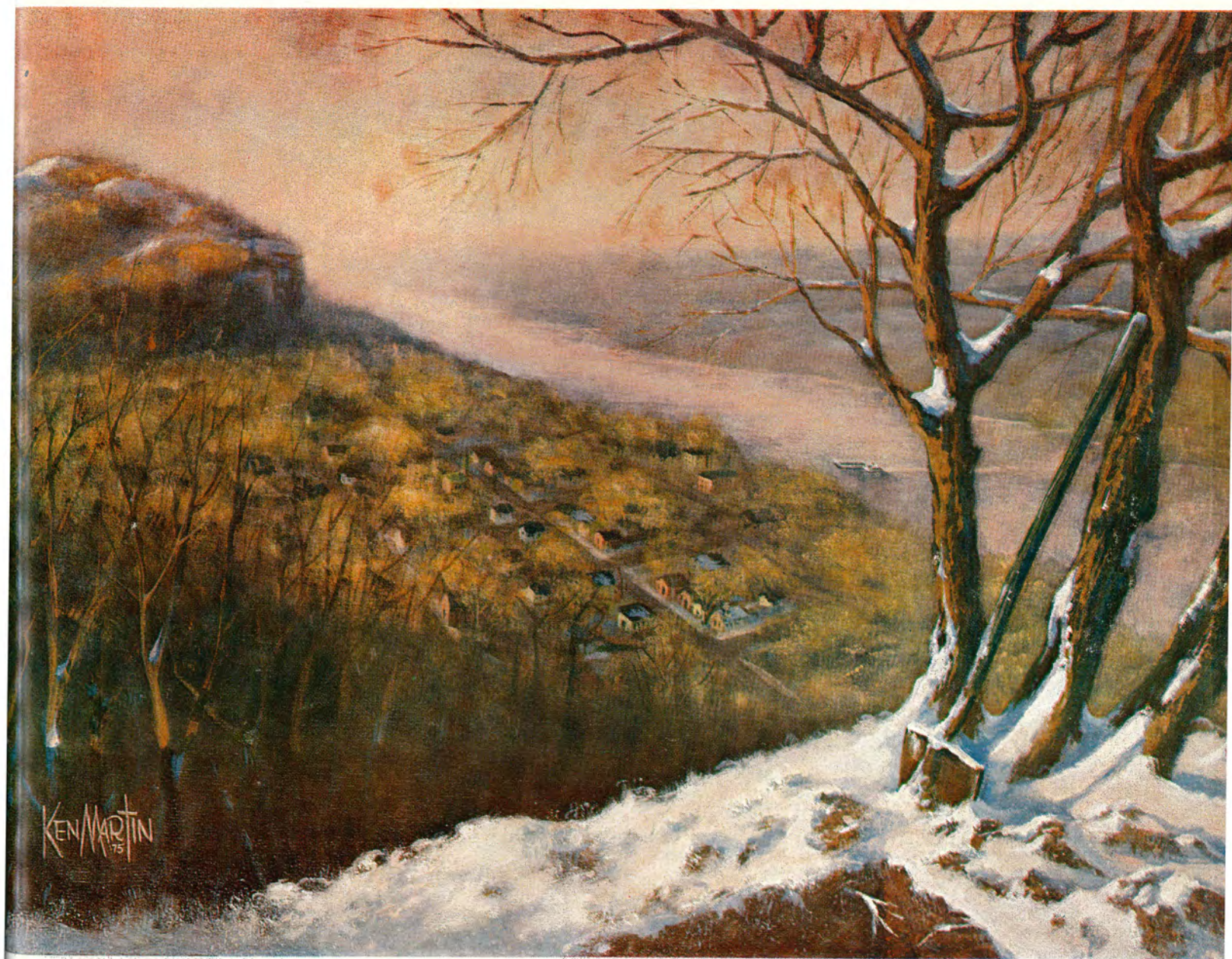
The Magazine of Illinois



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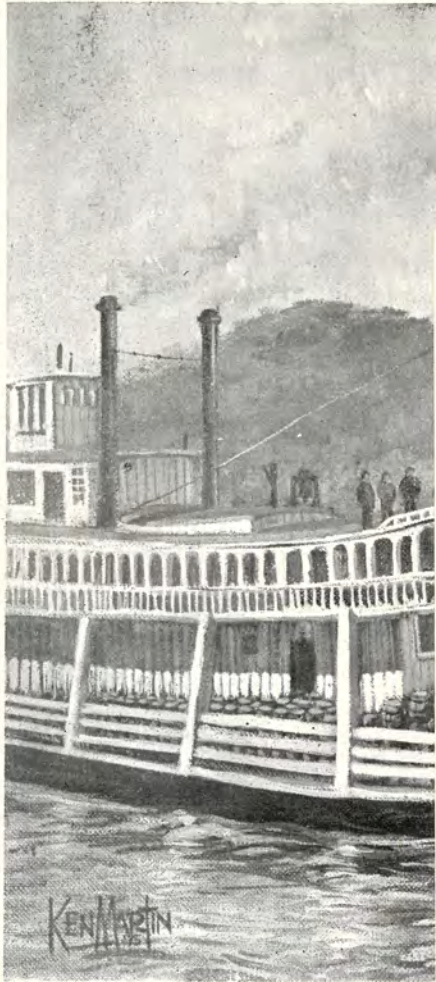
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NOVEMBER 1975

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OUTDOOR ILLINOIS

VOLUME XIV, NUMBER 9 -- NOVEMBER, 1975

REST, MIGHTY MASTODON, HARVEST IS OVER. Wayne Bridges.

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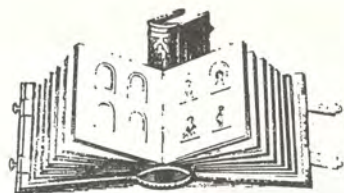


THIS MONTH'S COVER

TINY KAMPSVILLE, center of the far-famed Northwestern University archaeological activities centered around the Koster Site, takes a winter rest as does the symbolic archaeologists' test pit on the brow of the south hill overlooking the town. The acrylic painting by Ken Martin hangs in the Kampsville Inn.

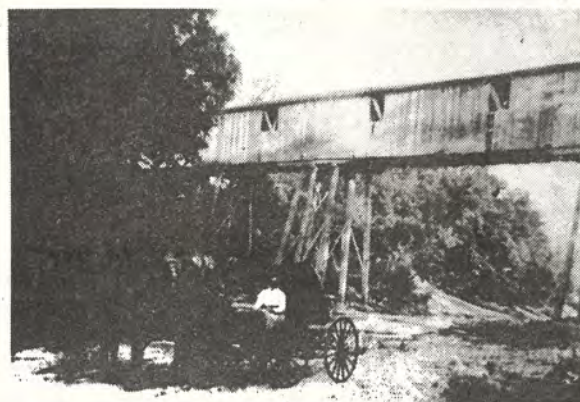
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WHAT and WHERE

CAN YOU IDENTIFY this photograph of one of Illinois' oldest structures, which is surprisingly still to be seen in a village considered by many to be the oldest in Illinois? Name it and its location and you may be the citizen who wins the munificent Antistellar and Planetary First Prize. If you're swift enough. And your mailman is not subject to the slows.



Last Month's Picture

Marjorie G. Bunker of Equality was first to the post office, had the correct identification and wins the first prize for locating the location—the old covered bridge over the North Fork of the Saline River east of Equality—and even identified the man, Mr. Marion Mangis of Junction.



A Second Look

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

Pluses and Minuses

WHEN WE examine the environmental movement in Illinois, it seems to us we see such a healthy citizen-led aspect to it that it makes us proud to be a part of that citizenry.

Illinois has had an enormously good run of luck, in initiating the Environmental Protection Act, the Strip Mine Reclamation Act, and significant alteration of some of the really bad U. S. Army Corps of Engineers projects . . . and outright cancellation of others.

It's too bad the Kaskaskia Canal, an enormously costly boondoggle, got in before citizen reaction set in on these huge money flim flams. We visited it recently and were appalled by the signal lack of use of the canal by boats of any kind, even rowboats. What made it even more appalling was the full round-the-clock work shifts which are maintained to oversee the operation of a canal lock which does no locking.

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On the other side of the state, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers' Louisville District is in the middle of an environmental impact assessment of the damages a similar proposed canal might create from the mouth of the Wabash to Mt. Carmel. This proposal for a canal, one of the boondoggles pipedreamed together by the Wabash Valley Interstate Commission, is ample reason to question the wisdom of Illinois throwing additional money down that bureaucratic rathole.

The Commission, funded jointly by Illinois and Indiana, does not give a nodding interest to concerns for the environment, either in the composition of the commission or in its beaverish intent.

We suggest that Gov. Walker seriously consider taking away his stamp of approval and add this expenditure to the long list of things which state government could wisely refrain from funding.

We would also suggest as a great place to save state

funds the elimination of any further state expenditures on the pipe dream of the Danville newspaper, the permanent flooding of the Middle Fork of the Vermilion River to make of it another of those ill-conceived single-purpose recreational lakes in which the expenditure of state money is both unwise and imprudent. (See Page 8)

If it sounds like we're exercised, it is only because we are.



Saving the Remnants

THE MIDDLE FORK (see page 8) of the Vermilion River of the Wabash (the long title is necessary, sometimes, since there are two Vermilion Rivers in Illinois—the other emptying into the Illinois River near Utica) is one of the eleven or twelve remnants of Illinois streams which still retain rich fish faunas and unusual species, according to the Illinois Natural History Survey.

From time to time over a period of a hundred years, Survey ichthyologists have conducted censuses of Illinois fishes and, in a sense, have monitored the aquatic environments in that period of time.

According to the Survey, a particularly thorough collecting program was directed by Stephen A. Forbes, spanning the period from 1876 to 1905 and culminating in the classic *Fishes of Illinois*.

Another program begun by Phillip W. Smith in 1950 and recently completed, is more thorough, thanks to modern transportation facilities.

An enormous amount of information on changes in

fish population and aquatic habitats in Illinois has thus been assembled by comparing the data from the two surveys.

An analysis of this data has progressed well enough that most of the streams in the state can be rated excellent, good, fair or poor, on the basis of species composition. The ichthyologist, by comparing the species formerly in the stream with those which now inhabit them, can identify the factors responsible for each species' change in status.

Based on species diversity and presence of unusual fishes, some of the outstanding streams in Illinois are (see accompanying map): (A) Apple River, (B) Kishwaukee, (C) Kankakee River, (D) Big Bureau Creek, (E) Mackinaw River, (F) Kickapoo Creek, (G) Middle Fork of the Vermilion, (H) Embarras River, (I) Little Wabash River, (J) Big Creek, (K) Lusk Creek, and (L) Clear Creek.

The least modified and therefore the most valuable stretches of these streams are darkened on the map.

Based on the same criteria, some of the most deteriorated streams are certain tributaries of the Des Plaines River in Cook and Du Page counties, the Saline River system of southeastern Illinois (raped by channelizers over much of its length, the remainder under attack by the builder coalition which wants to sink it under a lake, and with few concerned about the hideous pollution coming from old strip-mined areas), the upper Illinois River, small tributaries of the Mississippi River in the greater East St. Louis area, the Big Muddy River upstream from Murphysboro and particularly in the West Frankfort area, Crooked Creek in Marion and Clinton counties and the West Branch of the Salt Fork in Champaign County.

Eight of the 193 species of fishes recorded from Illinois waters are no longer to be found here, and 60 others show clearcut evidence of range shrinkage and decimation.

According to the Survey Reports, July 1971, No. 105, an objective assessment of factors responsible for the extirpation and decimation of these fishes reveals that they rank as follows:

1. Excessive siltation
2. Drainage of natural lakes and sloughs
3. Desiccation of small streams during drought periods of recent decades
4. Interactions between ecologically intolerant and aggressive foreign species following modification of the watershed
5. Pollution other than silt
6. Dams and impoundments

The dramatic effects of siltation, drainage and desiccation have already taken their toll.

The effects of species interaction, pollution, and main-

stream impoundments are now becoming more critical and will require constant surveillance by a conservation-minded public.

It is not too late. But it is getting on toward twilight.

You Pronounce It

THE SWEDISH word for Christmas Sale is "Julmarknad," and that's the name of an event to be held at Bishop Hill on November 29-30, sponsored by the Bishop Hill Heritage Association. It is an unusual Christmas shopping experience combined with a cultural observance and fund raising project to raise money to restore historic or architecturally significant buildings and sites in the Henry County community.

"Julmarknad" recreates an early Swedish Christmas

tradition built around the life style of Swedish immigrant pioneers who lived in the commune in 1846.

Sale of craft and art items will be held at the Old Colony school, Old Colony store and blacksmith shop, all original village buildings.

Items will include needlework, pottery, iron work, cornhusk dolls, other articles handcrafted in traditional fashion by local residents, many descendants of original colonists. There will also be handcrafts and gifts imported from Sweden, plus homemade bakery goods and other food items.

"Julmarknad" will begin at 10 a. m. and concludes at 5 p. m. each day. Activities will also include broommaking, other craft demonstrations and on-site refreshments with old fashioned Swedish foods.

The Hewer

George Grey Barnard

By William G. Farrar

LEST THE READERS of articles draw the conclusion that sculptors only placed their work in Chicago, I will focus my attention on statuary in other parts of the state with this and the succeeding article. Cairo, Illinois' southernmost city, is the site of a work by a very accomplished sculptor, George Grey Barnard.

The "Hewer" is the bronze depiction of a primitive man shown carving an oar from a piece of wood. Barnard completed this work in marble in 1902 in heroic scale. Lorado Taft described it as one of the ten finest nude works ever done.

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The "Hewer" was exhibited at the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair and captured a gold medal for its creator. The bronze copy of the marble work was cast by the Henry Bonnard Bronze Company in New York. In 1906 the bronze copy was presented to the City of Cairo and erected in the memory of William P. Halliday, a prominent citizen of early Cairo. The 1,850-pound figure was part of a fountain group. A W.P.A. project in 1937 removed the fountain and placed the "Hewer" on a brick pedestal.

George Grey Barnard was born in Pennsylvania in 1863. In 1880, at the

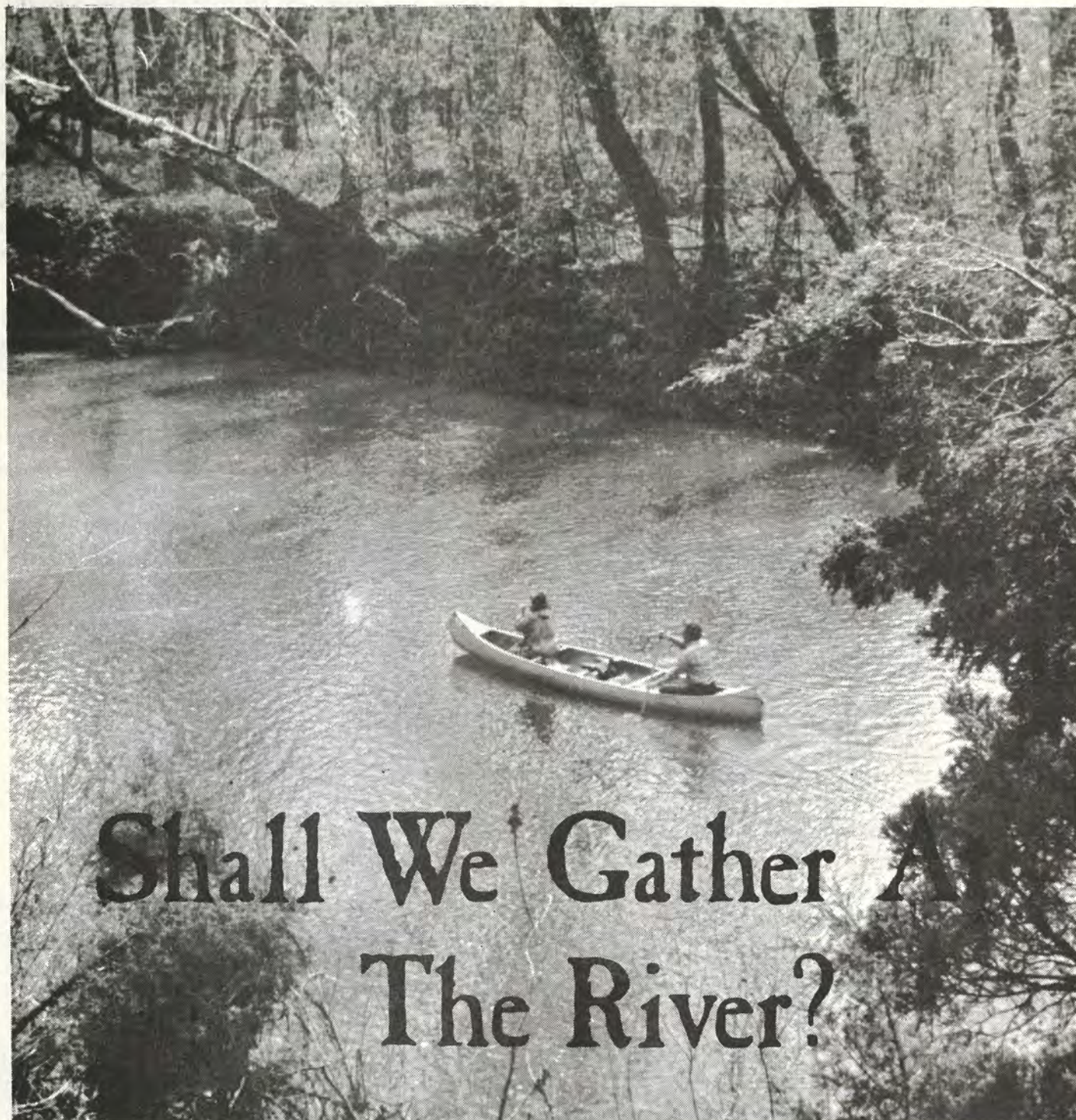
age of seventeen, he came to Chicago to study art. In 1883 he journeyed to Paris to study at the *Ecole des Beaux-Arts*; a mecca for artists of that period.

Barnard developed a style reminiscent of Rodin and throughout his career, he concentrated on nude figures in the Rodin mode. His major work was the collection of figures done for the capitol at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. He died in 1938.

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Shall We Gather A The River?

The Middle Fork in early spring.

The Middle Fork of the Vermilion Faces Extinction

IT IS NOT the Current River. Nor is it the Eleven Point. There are no streams of such bountiful natural magnificence in Illinois. Yet the Middle Fork of the Vermilion of the Wabash (to differentiate it from the Vermilion of the Illinois) can truly be considered

one of the one or two finest segments of free-flowing natural river in the state.

One should think it would be comparatively safe from exploitation. It isn't.

Plans have been afoot for some time to dam the Middle Fork within Kick-

apoo State Park in order to create a flat-water recreation lake for Danville and environs.

In the early 1960's, riding a wave of dam-building which was on the ascendency in Illinois, the city of Danville became concerned about the fu-

ture of its water supply and by 1965 had persuaded the General Assembly to authorize the Illinois Division of Waterways to conduct an investigation of the water resources of the Vermilion basin. The conclusion of that report was that, by the mid-1970's, Danville would suffer from a water shortage if it continued to rely on Lake Vermilion, its water supply reservoir on the North Fork of the Vermilion.

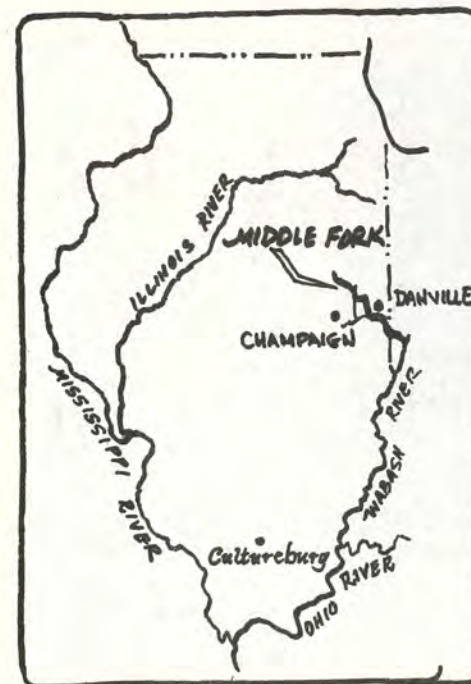
A new reservoir was to be created by placing a dam on the Middle Fork to impound the free-flowing stream. The Division's report indicated a favorable cost-benefit ratio, but did not treat the problem of damages caused to rare or endangered plants and animals.

The original plan was modified soon thereafter, for the year prior Vermilion County citizens created the Vermilion County Conservation District. Members of the district board immediately embarked upon a plan to expand and enlarge the original reservoir concept into a far larger project entailing large scale recreation designed to attract large numbers of tourists from out of county and out of state.

The district is said to believe that the vote for the Conservation District in 1966 was a mandate to pursue the expanded project. The Committee on the Middle Fork, an anti-reservoir coalition, maintains the reservoir was not an issue in the district referendum since the



CLARK BULLARD (left), director of Committee on the Middle Fork, details environmental damage expected by proposed recreation lake to Bruce Hannon (right), who led successful fight against Oakley Reservoir, and a magazine editor.



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plan was not announced until October 1966, months after the district was created.

In any case, the district moved at a meeting held in October, 1967 to request the Division of Waterways to raise its sights to a lake at 630 feet elevation rather than 610 feet, and the Division soon agreed to consider the request.

The state did not make a commitment other than it would be willing to study the request "after we get our detailed topographic maps of the reservoir and not before." A year went by before the District asked the elevation of the pool to be increased from 610 feet to 630 feet if possible, but at least to a minimum of 622 feet. It offered to buy

a share of the land for the increased project.

After negotiation, the district and the Division of Waterways arrived at the present plan. The Division would build a reservoir with a flat pool of 624 feet, fourteen feet higher than the original proposal, and land would be acquired by the district and the state Department of Transportation and Conservation, the district putting up \$1,225,000 for land acquisition.

In the plan were to be 15,500 acres of publicly owned land, 3,400 acres in water and 3,500 acres purchased by the Vermilion County Conservation district, with the state expected to purchase the remaining 8,600 acres. The



PROPOSAL FOR Middle Fork natural riverway park, utilizing land acquired for reservoir, has been made by opponents of dam.

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers is not a participant in the project.

In addition to its surface area of 3,400 acres, the lake would have an average depth of 22 feet (90 feet at the dam) and would extend upstream eleven miles from the dam site in Kickapoo State Park.

Purchase of the land started in 1968 and approximately half of the proposed acquisitions are now in public ownership.

Proponents say the reservoir will be useful for water supply and recreation, that it will boost the local economy by bringing in tourists, and that environmental costs are balanced by social benefits.

Opponents insist environmental costs are greater than backers will admit, and that benefits are exaggerated. They say they have proven the original claims of water supply shortage were incorrect, that recreational benefits already exist without the impoundment, and the major issue is the extinction of a rare and vanishing region by a vulgar and common one.

Opponents of the reservoir on the Middle Fork, led by the Committee on the Middle Fork, have all but knocked down the original purported reason for the lake, a water supply for Danville. If new figures revealed by University of Illinois engineers are correct, water supply can no longer be considered the primary argument for the project, though it remains a supportive justification.

Moreover, a consulting engineering firm hired by the City of Danville in 1974 identified several cheaper alternative water supply sources.

The 1967 "Vermilion River Basin Study" by the Division of Waterways predicted that Danville's water supply

would be inadequate by 1980. It was on the basis of this study that the reservoir project was undertaken. The study, however, was in error.

First, it was based on a projected population for Vermilion county of 120,000 by the year 2000. A study by the Division of Highways has estimated that the population of Danville will be only 48,000 at the turn of the century, slightly larger than its present 42,000.

But the official population projections by the Governor's Office predict that Vermilion County will actually decrease in population to 98,000 at the turn of the century; the City of Danville has about 40% of the county population.

The recreation aspect continues as the principal reason in support of the reservoir. According to the Department of Conservation, "the main purpose of the Middle Fork Reservoir Project is to provide a water-oriented recreational area for the general public, especially residents of the East-Central and Northeast portions of the state. It is important to note that it will be one of the closest and most accessible large lakes to the Chicago metropolitan area." The Department predicted a major increase in tourism with "a positive effect on local economics."

The Middle Fork is widely acknowledged as one of the best fishing streams

in the state. The Illinois Nature Preserves Commission issued a report in April of 1973 which stated, "The Middle Fork is one of the best fishing streams in Illinois. The relatively steep stream gradient, rocky riffles, deep pools and wooded banks make it attractive to fishermen . . . The Middle Fork is of special interest because it provides greater diversity in fish and fishing than can be found in many Illinois streams or in any impoundment."

In a classification based on fish, published in 1971, The Illinois Natural History Survey called the Middle Fork "the outstanding stream in the Vermilion system and one of the finest in Illinois."

In placing the Middle Fork first on its list of sixteen streams worthy of preservation as wild or scenic rivers, the survey pointed to its scenic and aesthetic value, and to its recreational importance as a stream for canoeing, fishing, especially for smallmouth and spotted bass, and for picnicking.

There is no question that impoundment of the stream will alter the fishing. Some of the rare non-game fish may well be exterminated, the Conservation District admits, but contends that sport fishing will improve.

The Nature Preserve Commission indicates otherwise. First, it contends, the reservoir will "destroy the free-flowing stream habitat, replacing it with habitat suited to other more common species."

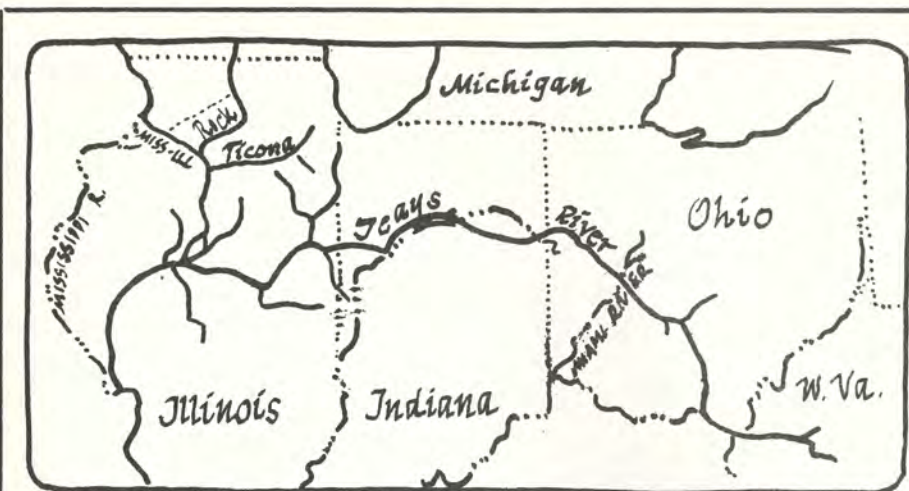
Second, although the reservoir would outdo the stream in fish production for a short time, "as in all river impoundments, the fishery will decrease in time and eventually offer neither the fishery of the early reservoir nor the fishery of the river had it remained free-flowing."

There is a serious conflict regarding the effects of the lake on the flora of the vicinity. The region has several rare orchids. A University of Illinois ecologist says the diversity of wild orchids growing in the area is the most extensive in the state, and the Nature Preserves Commission expects these species may be eliminated. The District insists they can be relocated and has considered transplanting them.

In addition, there are a number of

striking natural areas such as hillside prairies and seep spring locations considered worthy of dedication as nature preserves which would be destroyed,

just as there are numerous archaeological sites which would be inundated and the information they contain lost for all time.



How the Teays River Got That Way

THE MASSIVE ice front moved laboriously forward, slowly covering the Illinois of that day under billions of tons of ice. As it moved imperceptibly forward, its tremendous weight took away the existing landforms as though wiping clean a slate, grinding the hills and mountain ridges and mesas into fine particles of sand, of gravel, each particle adding to the abrasiveness of the glacier.

As the glacier moved imponderably forward, some of the larger boulders formed a giant-sized emery surface, grinding striated gouge marks in the bedrock scraped clean of sediments from earlier erosion.

Thus was the surface of Illinois altered by the Pleistocene Epoch, which some scientists say began about 1,000,000 years ago. Four major continental-size glaciers advanced across the surface of the land, grinding, churning, picking up huge quantities of rock and soil as they advanced, depositing this sediment in different landforms as the monolithic ice fronts faced warmer climatic conditions and began to melt and retreat slowly northward.

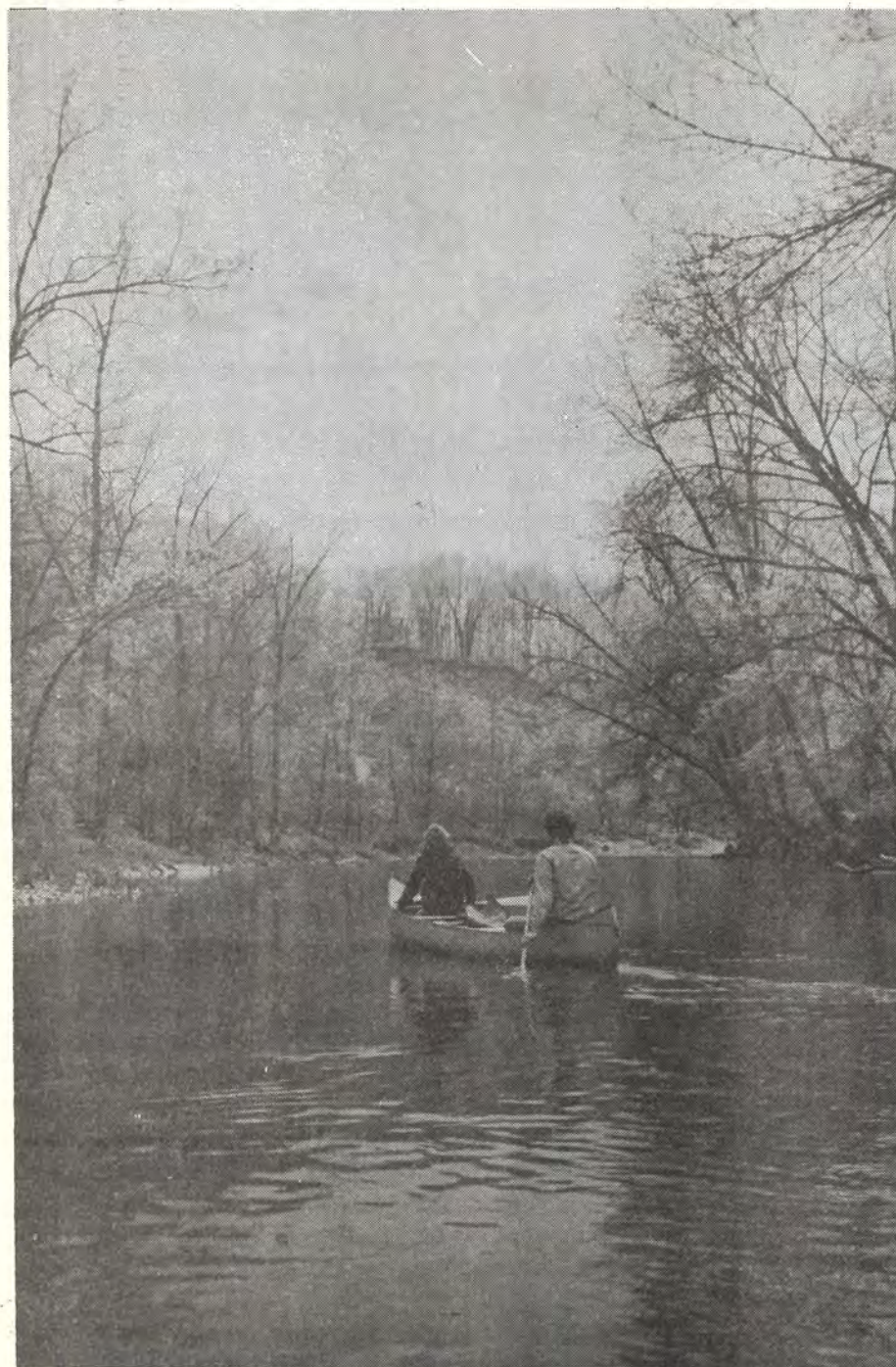
In east central Illinois the ancient pre-Pleistocene Teays River system drained the land on its way from West Virginia to its meeting place with the pre-glacial Mississippi forerunner near Mackinaw in Tazewell County. The topography during the time the Teays River drained the area tended toward wide river valleys and gently rolling uplands, a mature landscape.

The glaciations which changed the landscape were called the Nebraskan, Kansan, Illinoian and Wisconsin in order of chronological appearance, the Nebraskan appearing perhaps a million years ago, the Wisconsin's final retreat barely 10,000 years ago. While the Nebraskan may not have moved far enough east to have an effect in the area of east central Illinois, it is certain that the Kansan covered the ancient surface and destroyed the Teays river system.

The Illinoian and Wisconsin glacial periods which followed obliterated all surface traces of the Teays, but that river's ancient valley was filled with glacial materials of a variable mixture, including clay, silt, sand, gravel and boulders. It is this glacial residue, or drift, which accounts for the excellent groundwater potential in the buried Teays (Mahomet) bedrock valley.

MIDDLE FORK offers surprising natural aspect not expected in the prairie moraine section between Champaign and Danville.





CANOEISTS MAKE year around use of Middle Fork. Stream fishing in the river offers variety of fish and is heavily used by regional residents.

Politically the reservoir has been powerfully popular with Illinois governors since Otto Kerner. As a candidate, however, Dan Walker opposed the project and received the support of the persons opposing the dam. After taking office, he reversed his position but imposed three conditions as prerequisites for his support: a feasible dam site must be found; Danville must pay the total water supply costs of the project; an acceptable Environmental Impact Statement must be prepared.

A feasible dam site, from an engineering standpoint, has been found according to the Governor's statement in December, 1974. Negotiations are currently underway with the City of Danville regarding the second.

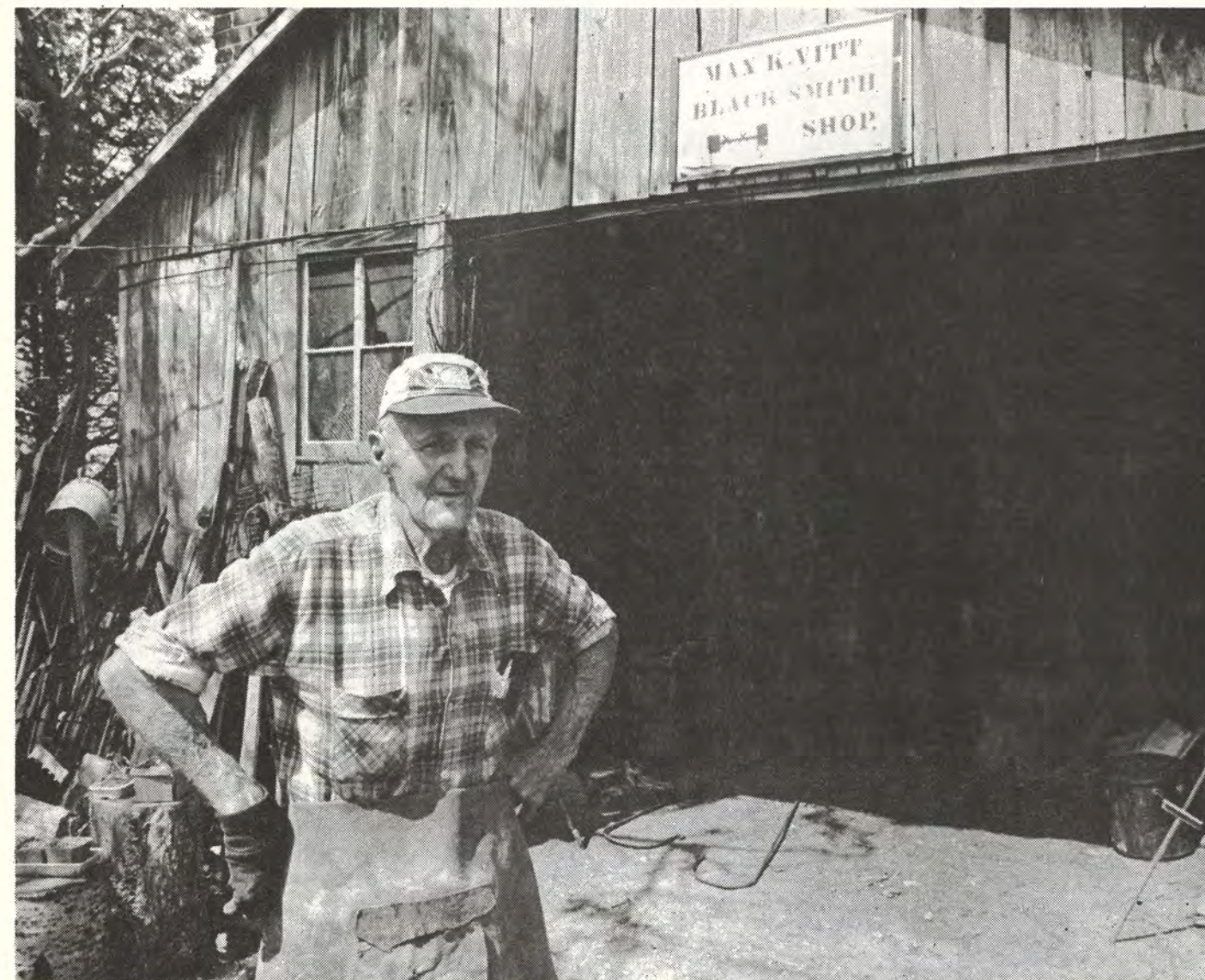
The impact statement must be officially prepared by the federal Bureau of Outdoor Recreation (BOR) but the Illinois Department of Conservation is helping the District prepare an "impact assessment" to accompany their application for BOR funds.

If the latter is considered by the governor as meeting his third condition, he plans to request about \$10,000,000 to begin dam construction by Fall 1976, in time for the 1976 election campaign. The legislature will vote upon his request in May of 1976.

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is expected in Spring 1976 by the federal BOR. It is expected to contain plans for a natural river corridor park alternative, considered as a viable prospect by many environmentalists and conservationists in the state.

Gov. Walker has called the EIS a "paperwork requirement" and his reservoir aide says he doesn't view the EIS as an obstacle to the dam project.

The Committee on the Middle Fork has conducted a long, logical, and honest citizen effort to halt a reservoir project which would destroy an unusual—a most unusual—Illinois river ecosystem, one which is already providing thousands of Illinoisans a first-rate recreational experience. The fight is expected to become more intense next spring.



MAX K. VITT, of Cobden, stands before his blacksmith shop on a hill overlooking the Union County village. At 81, he can look back on a long career in the blacksmithing craft which began shortly before World War I.

Max K. Vitt, Blacksmith

By Jeff Van Scoyk

MAX VITT, 81, is a blacksmith in a small Illinois Ozark town called Cobden, in Union County. He became interested in the blacksmithing craft when he was very young.

"I just took to liking it . . . I used to just hang around the blacksmith's shop when I was little," he says today.

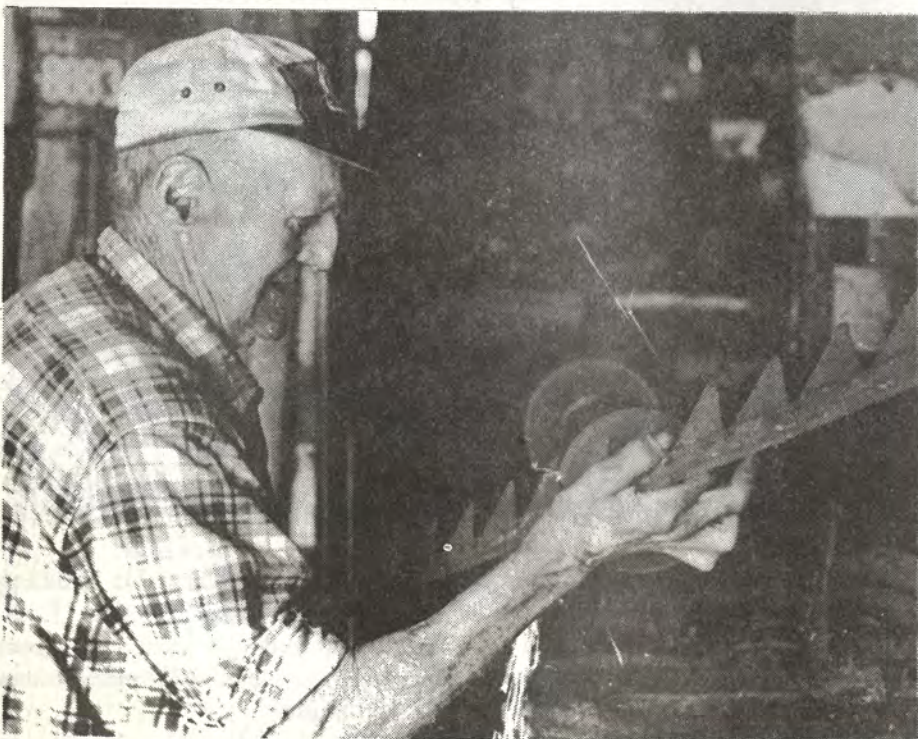
But Max did not plan on becoming a blacksmith, to follow it as his trade. That came about when he co-signed a

note at the bank for a friend who was opening a blacksmith shop in Cobden. When his friend walked out, Max was left with one option, which he chose. He became the blacksmith and the shop in turn became his life's work.

During World War I his 'smithing went international when the U. S. Army, after finding it wanted Max, sent him to France and to Germany where he shod mules.



MAX IS never happier than when plying his craft. Here he shapes a plowshare to restore the cutting edge as the anvil fairly rings.



That his work is his pride and his hobby is obvious. Talk to him outside of his shop or in his home and he makes adequate conversation, but visit him in his shop and he suddenly "comes alive."

Demonstrating how to sharpen a plowshare, he comments, "That little lick or two on the anvil sure sounded good!"

On some of the changes which have come about in his trade during his long career, he points out that like always "a country blacksmith is everything."

"Somebody will come in and ask, 'can you fix this?'"

"All I could say was, 'I'll try.'"

City blacksmiths, on the other hand he says, are primarily "tool dressers."

"I would have one come in looking for a job and I'd say, 'Can you shoe a horse?'"

"'Hell no,' he would say."

In 1945 Max removed his shop from its original location in Cobden to a site on his land overlooking the little village once noted for its peach basket factories and still noted for truck gardening, apples and apple knockers.

He doesn't take in commercial work on a regular basis any more but he is kept busy by the needs of his friends and of farmers who live in the area. He stopped shoeing horses three years ago, but will still make the horseshoes if the customer can get someone else to put them on the horse. He custom makes shoes with special braces if a horse has some unusual problem.

His normal jobs nowadays are sharpening plowshares and sickles.

"If a man has a trade, it is almost impossible to retire," he says. "It becomes a hobby."

"It keeps me interested in my profession, just guessing if I can fix it!"

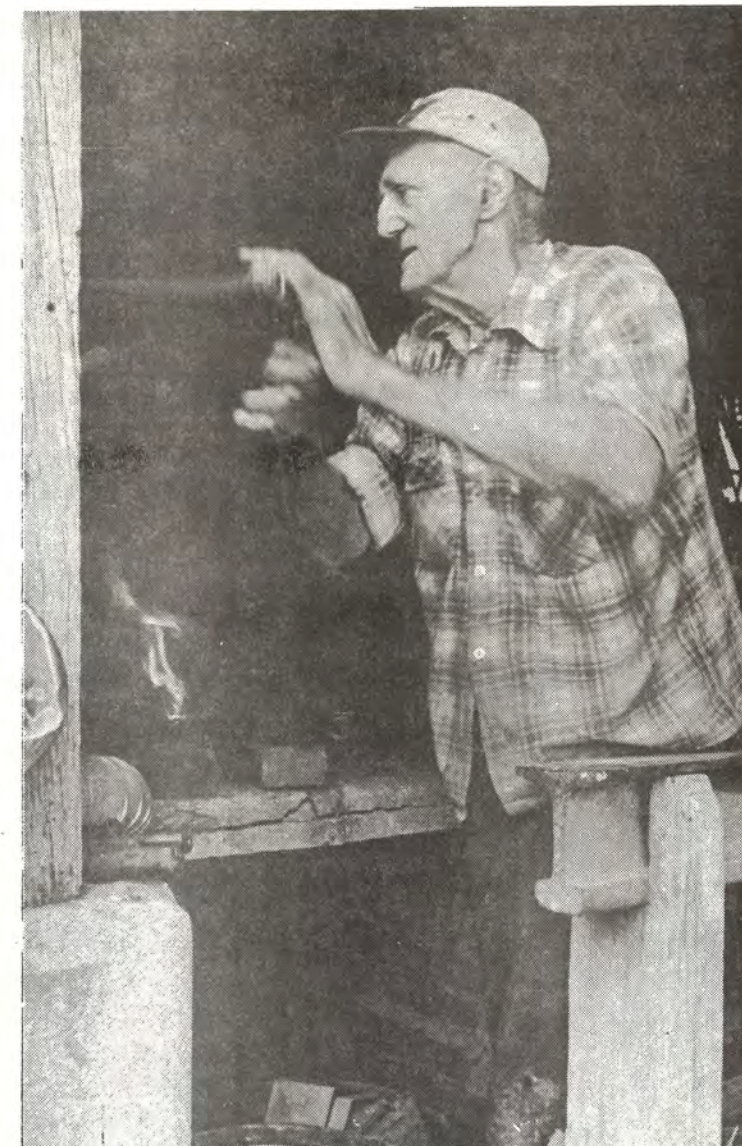
While Max doesn't make much money at his trade at his current pace, he says he "covers expenses", and a little more besides. As the octogenarian puts it, "It's beer money!"



A SICKLE bar from a mowing machine used for cutting wheat is sharpened on a grinding stone for a farmer friend.



SOME OF THE paraphernalia which hangs from every inch of wall in the shop defies both description and explanation, but has a place in Max Vitt's lexicon.

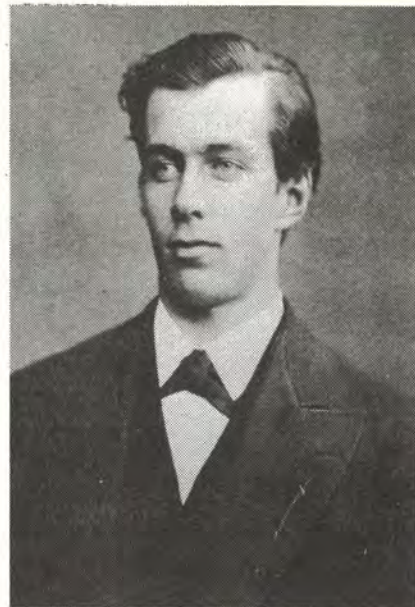


CRANKING THE PUMP which acts as a bellows in forcing air into the forge, Max Vitt retains the same enthusiasm for his work which it is evident he brought to the craft as an apprentice.

SHAPING a horseshoe on a well-worn anvil, using a time-honored hammer, the 81-year-old blacksmith pursues an honest craft in a vigorous manner.



LORADO TAFT, the student, and a "fine head" thought his older sister. UI Archives.



A Genius Grew on the Prairie:

Lorado Taft, Sculptor

With the advent of the Bicentennial celebration many people are looking with new eyes on their local historical surroundings. The result is the "discovery" of much that is interesting and worth preserving. Perhaps this is an opportune time for giving attention to east-central Illinois, which, despite the fact that prominent people have grown up in the area, has often been dismissed as a drab uninspiring expanse. At least to be fair one should be curious about the youth of prominent people who grew on the prairie. This article deals with the critical boyhood years of one prominent prairie son, Lorado Taft,

and the reminders of his presence in the place where those years were spent, Champaign and Urbana, Ill. The collection of Taft's papers in the University of Illinois Archives makes it possible to explore this theme.

Lorado Taft is most commonly remembered as a creative artist and is nearly forgotten as an apostle of art. Yet both roles were concurrent throughout his adult life. They stemmed from a single faith: art is the embodiment of the most perfected perceptions of the beauty which surrounds us and to which everyone can be awakened.

By Keith Sculle

LORADO TAFT was born in Elmwood, Illinois, on April 29, 1860, the first child of Don Carlos and Mary Lucy Taft. They raised their child in an environment of serious self-examination, but they remained open to a sense of wonder about their surroundings and these they encouraged "Rado" to explore freely. He remembered his parents as "singularly united in their ambition for us as children."

Don Carlos perhaps was as restless a person as a responsible father and husband could be. His careers in order of succession were pastor, principal, university professor, and banker. As an adult Lorado acknowledged that he could:

never be sufficiently grateful for the interest in things which my parents developed within my childish mind. They showed me the sunsets and the beauty of tree and flower, Jack Frost's designs on the window, and the wonders of crystals and fossils.

Stimulated to acquire the tools for more effective exploration, Lorado could recall that he "was from a very early

age an omnivorous and voracious reader."

Admittedly, he was bright. In the summer of 1872, at 12, "Rado" read all of Shakespeare's plays. His parents had preferences. However, while Lorado could recall that they shared "an almost romantic love for 'art,' . . .", there is no evidence that they urged a career in that field on him. Indeed, before the family moved to Champaign in the fall of 1872, his parents lamented his failure to demonstrate any special talents.

Don Carlos had been appointed in the fall of 1871 to teach zoology and geology at the new Illinois Industrial University. The family stayed behind in Minonk for one year while the father built a home and settled into his new position.

Lorado never attended school before his entry into the university. His preparation was left entirely to his mother except during the year-long absence when supplemented by his father's prescription of a sequence of study and the admonition "to take hold sharp and study 3 good solid hours per day."

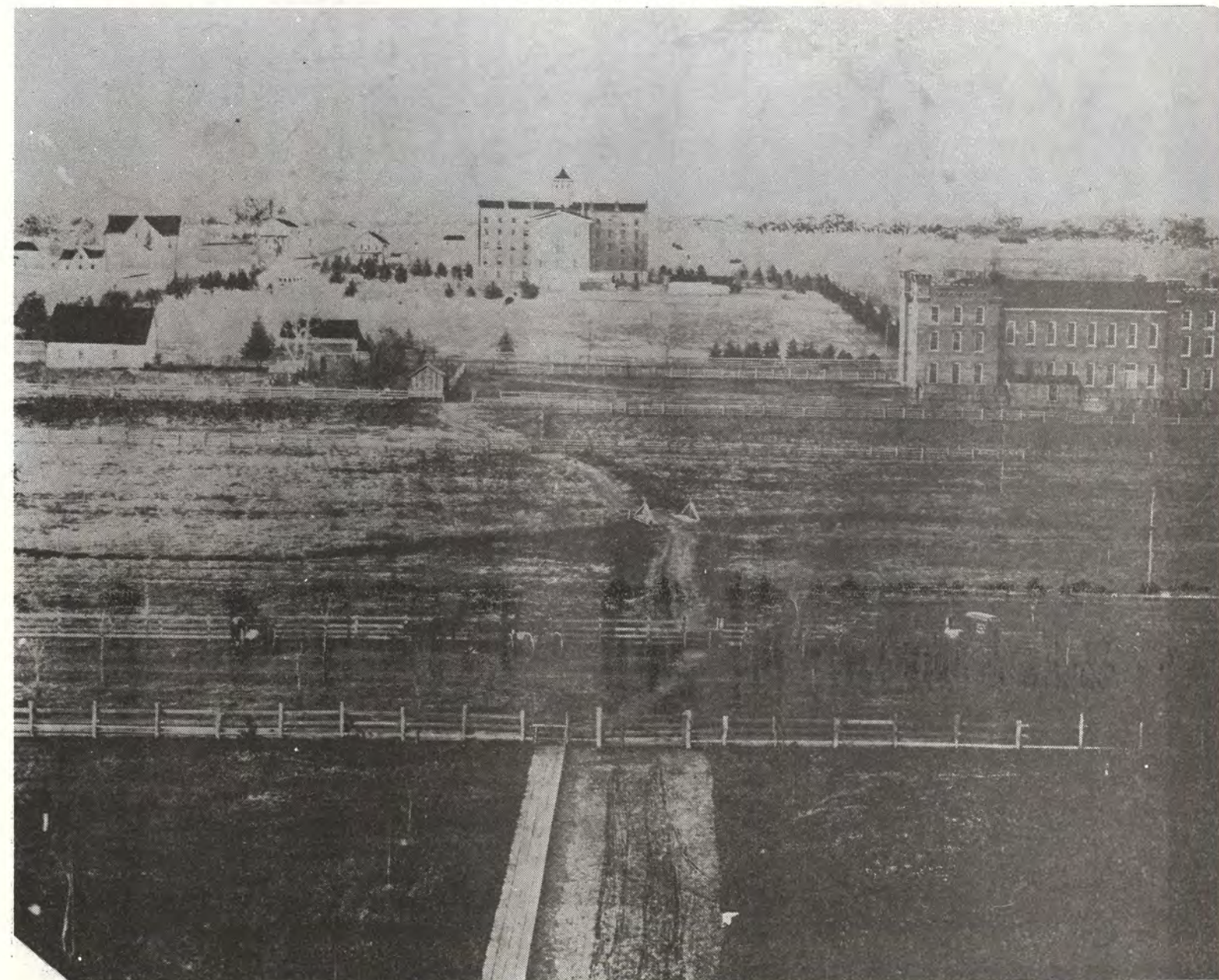
What was this place like in which Don Carlos reunited his family in the fall of 1872?

The combined population of Champaign and Urbana was about 7,000. Urbana was the seat of Champaign County and that function was quickly

becoming more a reflection of its history as the first concentrated settlement in the county than as assurance of its primacy in the future. West Urbana had grown so rapidly in the five years since it was begun beside the tracks of the Illinois Central Railroad as an adjunct to the county seat that it earned the right in 1860 to a separate name, Champaign.

Once opened to the international market by the railroad, the prairie, so long rejected as unfertile, was beginning to yield the vast amounts of pork and corn that would mark these products as

AN INTRUSION on the prairie, the Illinois Industrial University is shown in this photograph, circa 1874. The view is from University Hall site, looking north to the Main Building, with the Drill Hall-Machine Shop at right. UI Archives.



merely the first in what would become a record for productivity nearly unrivaled in world history.

The fires which swept Champaign in the summer of 1868 and Urbana in the fall of 1871 subtracted from an already short supply of commercial and residential structures. The amenities of city life now taken for granted had hardly begun to appear. Only one street was paved. Most were hub-deep in mud. Only one side of Main Street in each town was "boarded over", or shaded, to accomodate pedestrians.

Starting in 1869, residential streets began to be lighted but only in those places where individual home owners saw fit to pay between \$15 and \$40 for the necessary fixtures. Downtown Champaign was lighted by the coal oil lamps which businessmen placed at their own expense outside their individual shops. A water works for both towns was not built until the mid-1880's.

The impressively titled Illinois Industrial University, which had opened in 1868 only four years before the coming of the Taft family, looked more like an intrusion on the farm land which filled the space between Champaign and Urbana than the auspicious start to the now-famous University of Illinois.

By late 1872 the campus was occupied by only two buildings. These were the Drill Hall-Machine Shop and the Main Building. The latter had become sadly deficient in the few years since its construction and the cornerstone for its replacement, University Hall, was laid about a block northeast of the Taft home in the same fall that the family came to the University.

"The prairie began at our back yard, and I could hear the prairie chickens all around us every morning . . ." a neighbor and friend of Lorado's at the university later recalled. When Lorado took

a moonlight walk in the summer of 1877, it was west to the Fair Grounds, an area now dominated by Memorial Stadium, south to the stock farm, now bordered by a traffic artery between Champaign and Urbana, and east to Mount Hope Cemetery, the lone landmark which Taft might still recognize.

The Taft home was one of the farm-houses beside the campus. Even five years after the family moved in, there

were only six other houses within a radius of three platted blocks. Fourteen-year-old "Rado" drew a map which gives the earliest visual impression of the surroundings. It shows the home surrounded by vegetable gardens, a lawn with shade trees, and a barn anchoring the west-central side of the lot.

Both boom town and rural surroundings have been viewed as an unlikely setting for nurturing intellectual devel-

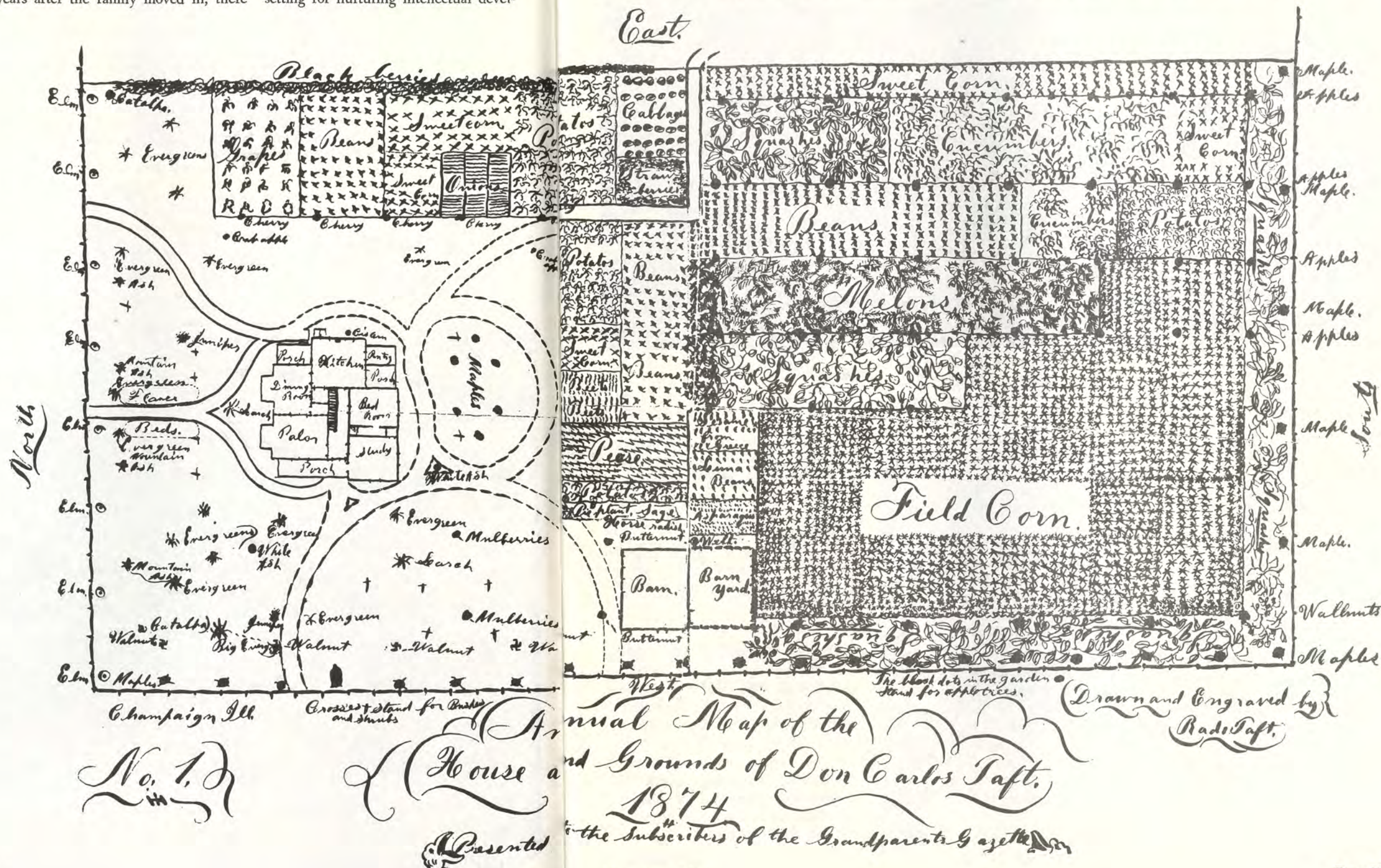
opment. Nonetheless, there were advantages for "Rado". He was primed for accomplishment by his parents' values. His natural talent began to demonstrate itself in his early teens. Beginning in May 1874, and nearly every month for a year, "Rado", sometimes with the help of "Pye", nickname for his brother Florizell, created the material and printed by hand a pamphlet entitled "The Grandparents Gazette". For its topics the

young Taft ranged widely. He included local news, personal news, Bible lessons, and one serialized story. Such a prodigious exercise deserves an intensive treatment at another time.

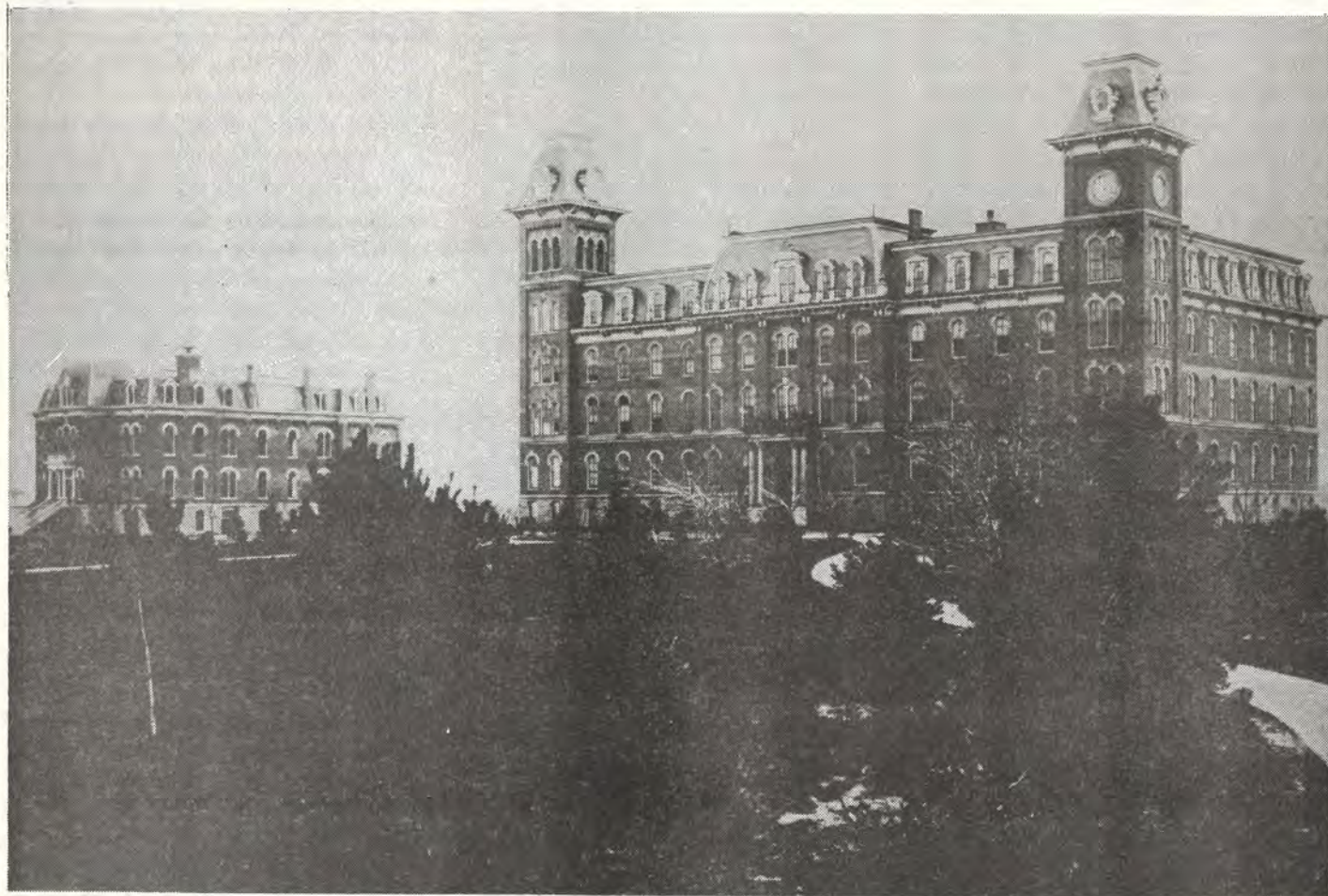
It was a stimulating environment which the Tafts had entered. The new Illinois Industrial University was one of the nation's first schools based on the concept of industrial education. The university was intended to offer a prac-

tical training in the techniques of farming and industry which would enable students to pursue more productive careers in those fields than was then thought to be possible.

The University's first Regent, John Gregory, added a second experiment. He and his supporters favored the broadest possible definition of the federal Morrill Act (1862) which provided the legal basis for the school. They wanted studies



MAP OF Don Carlos Taft home now in mid-campus was sketched by 14-year-old "Rado" Taft in 1874. UI Archives.



UNIVERSITY HALL, about 1887, where Taft began his formal study of sculpture. The Chemistry Laboratory stands to the left. UI Archives.

in such topics as classical languages, literature, history, and philosophy as well as technical studies. They contended that instead of an entirely new type of school devoted exclusively to technical training, the university was intended to offer a higher education for whatever career a student chose.

Many of the supporters of industrial education represented farmers who were suffering from economic difficulties following the Civil War. For these problems they held the East responsible and felt its "elitist" insensitivities to be symbolized by the very studies which Gregory and his supporters worked to add to the university's offerings.

Gregory's views prevailed, however. The school not only offered courses in the new industrial education but attempted a compatible inclusion of courses in the traditional education. In the face of the difficulties inherent in such an adventure, regent, faculty, and students were convinced of their participation in the development of a new educational

form and worked zealously for its success. It is hard to imagine that this charged atmosphere escaped the home of such an inveterate pilgrim as Don Carlos Taft.

Certainly Lorado benefitted from a project launched by Gregory and the towns which adjoined the site of his experiment. In 1874 Gregory planned to broaden the cultural horizons of the student body by starting an art gallery. When the university's board of trustees refused to finance the proposal, Gregory attempted to raise the necessary funds by appealing to the people of Champaign and Urbana. To that end he presented lectures on art history and illustrated them with pictures projected by a stereopticon. In one of his audiences was young Lorado, who later recalled:

the enthusiasm of the speaker made my blood tingle! Nothing had ever

so appealed to me. A new heaven and earth were opened to my imagination. Unconsciously that night settled my fate.

Others reacted differently. "People were confused as to what an Art Gallery was — some thought it an animal, others thought it an exhibition of farm implements," Lorado wrote three or four years after the event.

Despite this lack of understanding and the depressed economy following the Panic of 1873, Gregory's pleas bore fruit. A sum of \$3,000 was collected from 60 faculty members and townspeople. Gregory spent the money in Europe for a collection of 16 full-sized statues, 42 reduced-size statues, 400 lithographed portraits, 100 full-sized busts, and numerous photographic reproductions of drawings.

Many of the plaster items were brok-

en in transit to the university. However, this misfortune provided Lorado with a strange opportunity to become involved with sculpture. He, his father, and Gregory worked in the west basement of the recently completed University Hall to reassemble the broken casts and mask the cracks with paint. Lorado confessed to being "fascinated with these magnificent puzzles and soon became expert in finding 'fits'."

Lorado's involvement with the Art Gallery represented a key step in his eventual decision to become a sculptor. Although Gregory's hopes for the Art Gallery were educational, he could not have foreseen so remarkable a consequence as the youthful inspiration of a later famous sculptor.

It is perhaps too much to attribute, as would the young Taft, the townspeople's patronage of the Art Gallery to the innate human craving for the beautiful. The Gallery was popular. When opened on the west side of the fourth floor of University Hall in the first week of January, 1875, the invitations to its patrons and their friends had to be restricted to 200 per night. However, it was both pride and probably curiosity that were at the root of this popularity. The local newspaper reported the opening as "an event long anticipated", and the art collection as "second to none west of the mountains", "the most attractive feature in connection with the university." Nonetheless, whatever the original motives of the people of two prairie towns and the head of a struggling university, they had cooperated in creating an environment in which a future sculptor would thrive.

When Lorado came into direct contact with a practicing sculptor, he took the final step in the choice of that career for himself. The sculptor was James Kenis. He was called to the university both to help repair two of the more prominent pieces of broken statuary, the Laocoon group and Venus de Milo, and to teach a course in clay modeling. Lorado's memory of Kenis' influence was vivid:

Without sufficient mechanical ingenuity to drive a nail,—without the gift of gab,—a failure in company, disappointing my parents' worthy ambition to show me off, I was

about to be pronounced a failure, when my deliverer appeared in a suit of linen clothes & with his hair and face spattered full of plaster of Paris, I was initiated into the mysteries of the clay tub.—I was rescued,—had found something I could do. There was more rejoicing at our house over that one *sheep*, than over three *children* that were always good for something.

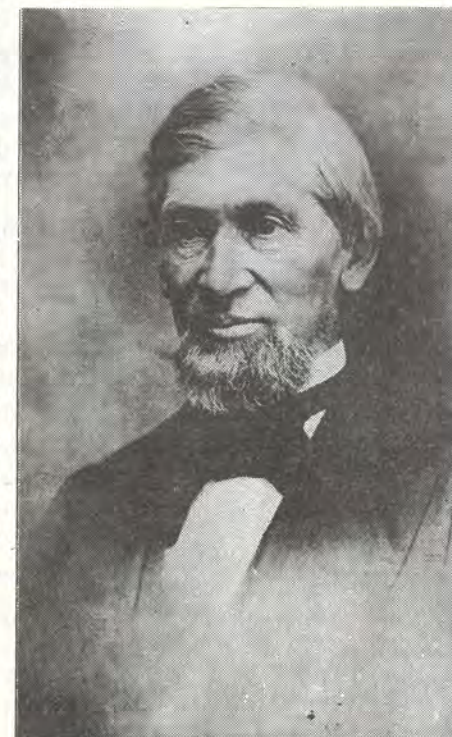
After Lorado's death, his sister Zulime recalled: "The first time Lorado went in and saw him (Kenis) at work he said that settled it; he would become a sculptor."

There is no reason to doubt Taft's claim that he never waived in that decision. Thereafter, Lorado confessed to attaching himself to Kenis like a "stray dog".

When Lorado entered the university in the fall of 1875 he took Kenis' course in clay modeling and assisted him in reconstructing the Laocoon.

Lorado progressed rapidly. On May 1, 1876, he boldly announced the opening of an "office" in the modeling room at University Hall where he was to be available from 1 to 6 p. m. daily to contract for the creation of casts of such

JOHN MILTON GREGORY, c. 1875, largely responsible for the Art Gallery which inspired young Lorado Taft. UI Archives.



things as hands, feet, pedestals, fruits, and vegetables. Several people purchased Lorado's creations.

In that same spring of 1876 Lorado finished a bracket for display at the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, but it was destroyed in transit. Kenis believed his student's accomplishments were worthy of special note. When Kenis left the staff after the spring term in 1877, Lorado succeeded him in the fall term as the instructor in clay modeling.

Lorado's basic skills for his other vocation as art missionary were not developed so quickly. Despite his active participation as a debater in the Adelpic Society at the University, it was not until his experiences in Paris (1880-1885) that he could admit to losing his timidity as a speaker.

At the university, studies dominated his life. The "diary" of his university days contains frequent joyous exclamations in favor of study. For example, "it's fun to be a student," he recorded one day and on the following "a good day: work!" His enthusiasm resulted in a temporary imbalance and caused him to "look back with infinite regret upon those first three college years when I kept myself almost entirely aloof from the majority of students." But Lorado was no recluse. The attraction to girls focused largely on a neighbor "Coddie", and the "diary" records friendships with "Dick", "Henry", and "Johnny".

Lorado's enthusiasm for his class in clay modeling was not exclusive. The exacting standards of his first English teacher caused some anxiety, but Lorado labored successfully to reach those standards.

At least in his first year he contributed occasionally to the *Illini*, a new student newspaper. Of French and German he was also an eager student. On occasion his "diary contains a daily entry in one or both languages and reveals him perfecting his French by speaking with the fluent Kenis. Although Lorado was not attracted by the extravagant nationalistic rituals which characterized the Fourth of July celebrations in his boyhood, he enjoyed his military drill class' participation in the parades.

There was a definite pattern to each of Lorado's days at the University. For the period of the "diary", January 1,

1876 to August 3, 1877, this regularity can be observed and it is suggested in other documents from the rest of Lorado's time in school.

The family arose around 6:00 a. m. It was probably in his later years at school that he used the time before breakfast to sculpt in the basement studio of University Hall. Breakfast was served early. The "forenoon's" series of recitations at school were broken only by daily attendance in chapel to hear the "Dr.", namely, John Gregory. After "dinner" the afternoon was used to prepare for the next day's classes and occasionally for household duties. After "supper" study was resumed until bedtime about 10:00 p. m.

Saturdays were given over to whichever task at school seemed to deserve the attention and, at least in his second year, to the Adelpic Society's evening meeting. Except when prevented by bad weather, Sundays invariably began with attendance at church, often including Sunday school, and ended with a mixture of school work and relaxation.

There was an opportunity for exploration at the university. In his time there the school did not offer fixed courses of study leading to a degree. The only requirement was that at least one industrially related class be taken in each of the academic year's three terms. In Lorado's case this requirement was satisfied by the classes in clay modeling. It was regarded as an auxiliary skill in manufacturing. Most students carried three classes every term. The better ones took more and Taft's "diary" shows that at least his first two years he took few courses every term.

Between early June and early September Lorado did not attend school. Much of that time was spent away from home. In 1876 the entire family traveled to New England to visit relatives and to take in the nation's centennial exhibitions in Philadelphia. With the array of art Lorado was "struck speechless with admiration and astonishment . . ."

The next two summers included trips on foot with friends, in 1877 to the Wabash River in Indiana to dig fossils and in 1878 to DeKalb, Illinois, to stay at a friend's home. As an adult Lorado claimed his eyes were first opened to Illinois by the trip to DeKalb. There

are shreds of evidence that the summer of 1879 was spent in Honduras and possibly Mexico. These summer junkets must have been welcome additions to an already well-supplied intellectual diet.

The young Taft was not burdened by chores. There is no evidence that he took part in the university's program of farm work to reimburse the costs of tuition, a plan which his father once seemed to anticipate as a relief for the family's strained finances. Lorado's most regular task around the house was carrying out the ashes.

During the growing season, he helped to plant, to harvest, and to clean up around the barnyard. The Tafts kept no animals. Purchasing supplementary groceries in downtown Champaign was a task occasionally shared with his father. Only in exceptional cases, such as that following the family's two-month trip in the summer of 1876, did the boy help by putting the rooms in order. Lorado did assume some small tasks in carpentry, but the results were not considered praiseworthy by his parents.

Lorado's living conditions contrasted markedly with those of most of his contemporaries at the university. He was free of the daily obligation to prepare food and gather the fuel for heating. Whereas most students subsisted on mush and milk, breakfasts in the Taft house consisted of steak or hash with



muffins or hot biscuits, dinners of roasts and stews, and suppers of bread, milk, and fruit.

Lorado's home remains today on the southeast corner of John and Sixth Streets in the "campus town" area of Champaign. Mrs. A. E. Enerson, who lived as a girl in the home after the Tafts' departure, told this author that Taft often stayed with her family during his brief returns to campus in the twentieth century and that in such visits she learned from Taft that he occupied the northeast room on the second floor. Lorado shared the room with his brother and only in this way was his living space comparable to that of most students who lived in the Main Building. He had much greater mobility and security than they did. His shared room was 15 feet by 16 feet and the student average was 12 by 12 feet. Crowdedness and a leaking roof did not characterize the Taft house as they did the Main Building.

Lorado's "diary" shows him making greater use of the entire house as he grew older. Studying during the school year was done with his father and brother at the family table after the supper dishes were cleared. By the summer of 1877 Don Carlos' study was a place in which his oldest child left "models and drawings scattered around" and in which he occasionally read a newspaper.

Lorado Taft completed his undergraduate study at the Illinois Industrial University in 1879 and stayed on another year to earn one of the school's first graduate degrees, an M. L. granted on June 9, 1880. His horizons were already beyond Champaign and Urbana. The day after graduation he left to study art at the renowned *Ecole des Beaux-Arts*. He returned on occasion to his student home, for one year between July, 1883, and July, 1884, when he taught French, lectured on art, sold many pieces of his sculpture and seems to have fairly dazzled the home town folks, and on numerous brief occasions in the twentieth century as speaker on campus.

Taft's home as a student has under-

A SON OF Deucalion, outside the north entrance to the Auditorium on the Champaign-Urbana campus.



OLDEST KNOWN view of Taft's boyhood home was probably taken about 1900 by its owner at the time, Charles Wesley Rolfe. Courtesy Mrs. A. E. Enerson.

gone considerable change. The Taft family moved to Kansas in 1884. The home's next prominent occupant was Charles Wesley Rolfe. He bought the home in 1897. Many of the following details about Rolfe's ownership were shared with the author by Mrs. A. E. Enerson, one of Rolfe's daughters.

She claims that her father had admired the house and its setting since his own graduation from the University in 1872. Ironically, Rolfe also joined the faculty of the School of Natural History from which Don Carlos had departed. Rolfe kept up the grounds surrounding the home but enlarged the east porch on which the Tafts had entertained guests.

Probably for ventilation Rolfe added the opening in the dormer on the north side, and the cellar was enlarged to accommodate a furnace which replaced the stoves used in the upstairs rooms. On the first floor Rolfe closed off the closet and built bookshelves on either side of the passage between the study and the parents' bedroom immediately east. The Rolfe family's association with the house became so strong through the years that many still know it as "the Rolfe house".

NOVEMBER, 1975

Extensive changes in the surroundings have occurred since the Rolfe occupancy. Once ringed with gardens and a spacious yard, the house is now hemmed on the south and east by streets flowing with car and pedestrian traffic. Nothing irreparable has been done to the house itself. Painted white as a private residence, now owned by the university the house is a utilitarian gray. A ramp to accommodate wheel chair traffic has been raised to the west porch. On all levels inside partitions have been added to provide offices for the house's last two university occupants, the Speech Clinic and the Police Department's Division of Campus Parking.

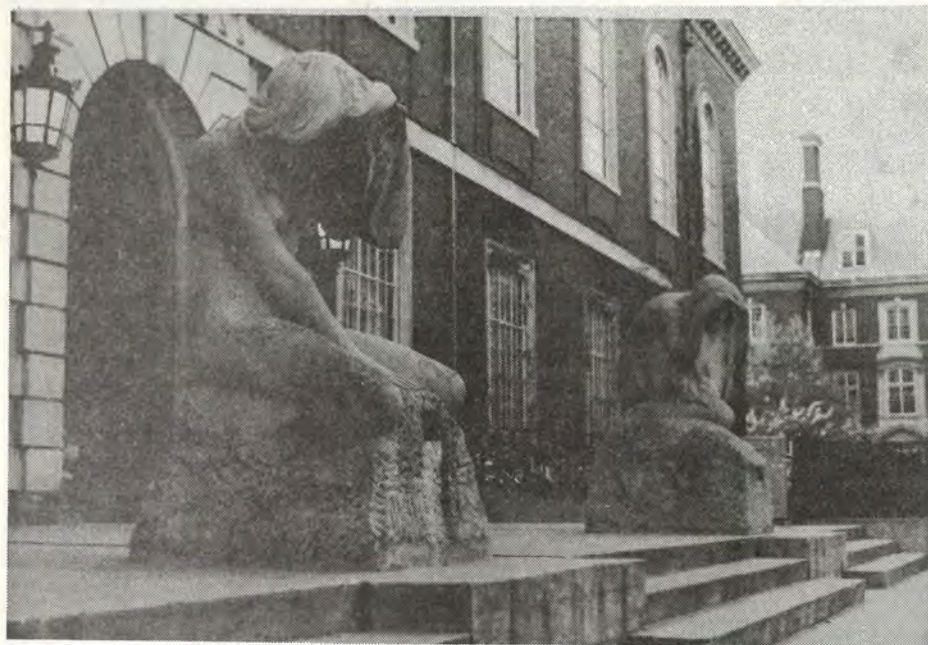
Numerous reminders of Taft remain in the statuary on the campus and in Urbana.

A full scale plaster reproduction of "The Pioneers" stands immediately inside the south entrance of the University of Illinois Library. It is the only reproduction of the original, which now stands in Elmwood, Illinois. One authority has referred to the statue as a hesi-

tant venture into realism, the willingness of which to significantly alter the human form Taft could not accept.

Today people on the campus pass two female figures outside the east entrance of the Library and two male figures outside the north entrance of the Auditorium. Each of the former figures is a "Daughter of Pyrrha" and each of the latter is a "Son of Deucalion"; a tiny plaque on the pedestal of each notifies the few who stop. For these four figures Taft found inspiration in the myth of Deucalion and Pyrrha, in which man evolved from stone. These figures, shown at the dawn of consciousness, are part of one of Taft's own unrealized plans. He envisioned them as small parts of the giant "Fountain of Creation" which he intended to grace the east end of the Midway in Chicago. The four limestone figures on the campus were cut sometime after 1930.

"Lincoln" is a bequest of Joseph O. Cunningham, judge, lawyer, historian of Champaign County, and an early trustee of the university, who chose to



A DAUGHTER of Pyrrha outside the east entrance to the Library at the University of Illinois.

be remembered as a friend of Lincoln. The sum offered from the sale of Cunningham's home following his death fell short of the sculptor's aesthetic attractions to the commission.

At first, Taft found it difficult to think of a worthy treatment of a subject which he believed was already well-done. Since 1887 Taft had regarded Augustus Saint-Gaudens' "Lincoln" in Chicago's Lincoln Park as "practically the final word." Taft's final decision demonstrated his capacity for a sensitive treatment of themes unique to Illinois. Somehow it occurred to him to portray, not the troubled President of a nation at war, but the young lawyer Urbana had known, "an earnest good humored orator, stating his case."

For the head Taft relied on the life mask executed by an earlier Chicago sculptor, Leonard W. Volk. Once these decisions were made, Taft wrote of his work that it "moved rapidly and was a joyful experience from start to finish."

After two years of work, "Lincoln" was dedicated on July 3, 1927, and placed at a busy intersection in front of a prominent Urbana hotel, a site which the patrons thought would insure the statue's notice. The sculptor himself believed a different architectural background and direction in relation to sunlight would have provided a more suit-

able location. The statue has since been removed to Carle Park, Urbana.

"Alma Mater" is probably the most commonly recognized of the Taft statuary in the area of his university days. "Alma Mater" stands at the southeast corner of Wright and Green Streets in Urbana. In contrast with Taft's student days, this site is now one of the university's focal points and just inside the legal boundary which has come to replace the fields which once made the separation of the prairie towns a visual reality.

Taft's thoughts about a symbolic representation of the school from which he graduated, if not his final treatment of the subject, probably began at the time of his first return to the university (1883-1884).

The spur for its realization came much later. Roland R. Conklin, a graduate of the university (1880) and a businessman, wrote to Taft in 1916 and proposed to commission him to sculpt a representation of their common alma mater. Conklin hoped the statue could be ready for dedication in 1918, the university's fiftieth anniversary. He also notified Edmund J. James, university president, of his proposal.

Taft's attraction to the theme was intensified in subsequent trips to the campus. However, he felt compelled to

keep a conflicting deadline already set for "The Fountain of Time" and agreed only to start thinking seriously about the theme.

World War I intervened. Taft's work was deferred. Conklin's business failures then threatened further delay. At the end of 1921, Conklin was forced to admit that while still very interested in his original proposal, he was uncertain when he could pay for Taft's efforts. Despite this uncertainty and the continuing weight of a heavy schedule, Taft went ahead.

The result was another effort attuned to the area in which he had been raised. Contrasting his intentions for the female figure of alma mater with Daniel Chester French's statue already on the Columbia campus, Taft declared:

that her reticent pose and the position of her hands were admirably suggestive of the east, but out here we would demand something more cordial; my lady must stand and with outstretched arms welcome the great family of friends.

Taft planned to highlight the figure of Alma Mater by incorporating two less accentuated figures in the background. These auxiliary figures became Learning and Labor, which is the school's motto. The utilization of the motto not only served Taft's artistic purposes but added a dimension of historical continuity appropriate to a statue of an alma mater, for the school's motto originated in its earliest days when the word "labor" referred to the scheme by which students could earn their tuition by working on the school's farms.

Taft worked toward a deadline of June, 1922, when the statue was to be dedicated at graduation ceremonies. However, he was able to find only enough time to finish a plaster cast. It was placed on the stairway immediately in front of the University Auditorium.

Taft's dissatisfaction with the aesthetic qualities of the figure Labor combined with technical deficiencies in the figures to force the group's removal, a few weeks later, to the sculptor's Chicago studios for reworking.

The creation of the Alumni Fund within a few months made it possible to finance a permanent cast in bronze.

There followed an exchange of opinions between the supervising architect of the project, several organizers of the Alumni Fund, and Taft regarding a suitable location on campus for the completed statue.

The result was a compromise. "Alma Mater" was placed on a high pedestal against a backdrop of evergreens on the south side of the Auditorium. It was dedicated on June 5, 1929, at the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of Taft's graduating class. To the audience of 3,000 who were present at the ceremonies, "Alma Mater" was acclaimed as the university's first outdoor statue as well as the Alumni Fund's first project.

In its local renown "Alma Mater" contrasts starkly with another group, "The Blind". It was created in 1907-1908 and first shown at the Sculptors' Exhibition in Chicago in February 1908.

"The Blind" was never advanced beyond its original plaster cast and recently had to be removed to protective storage from its location in the Auditorium foyer. Visitors to the building were chipping away at the statue.

One authority has claimed that the exhibition of "The Blind" marked the beginning of Taft's national reputation. Certainly contemporary critics evaluated "The Blind" as Taft's best effort to that time.

Taft's inspiration for "The Blind" came from a play of the same name by Maeterlinck. In the play a band of blind men and women, in asylum on an island under the guardianship of a priest, are led by him for a walk in a forest. The priest dies. The band wanders on into the evening. Snow begins to fall. The chance to be saved comes when a sighted baby in the arms of its blind

mother sees light ahead, cries, and is lifted by the mother above the group in order to lead the way out. Taft's statue depicts this last scene. He was compelled by the play and claimed to see in it "a theme that my mind dwells upon, this sounding of the human soul, questioning the future and longing for light."

Unlike Maeterlinck's solution, Taft saw his as hopeful, for in "The Blind" the child "keeps alive the light of faith that the race renews itself in youth."

Lorado Taft's explanations of "The Blind" reflect a zest for life that was rooted in his parents' earliest invitations to explore the surroundings they beheld with such wonder. At least for Taft himself the inculcation of this attitude was the principle landmark of his prairie youth.

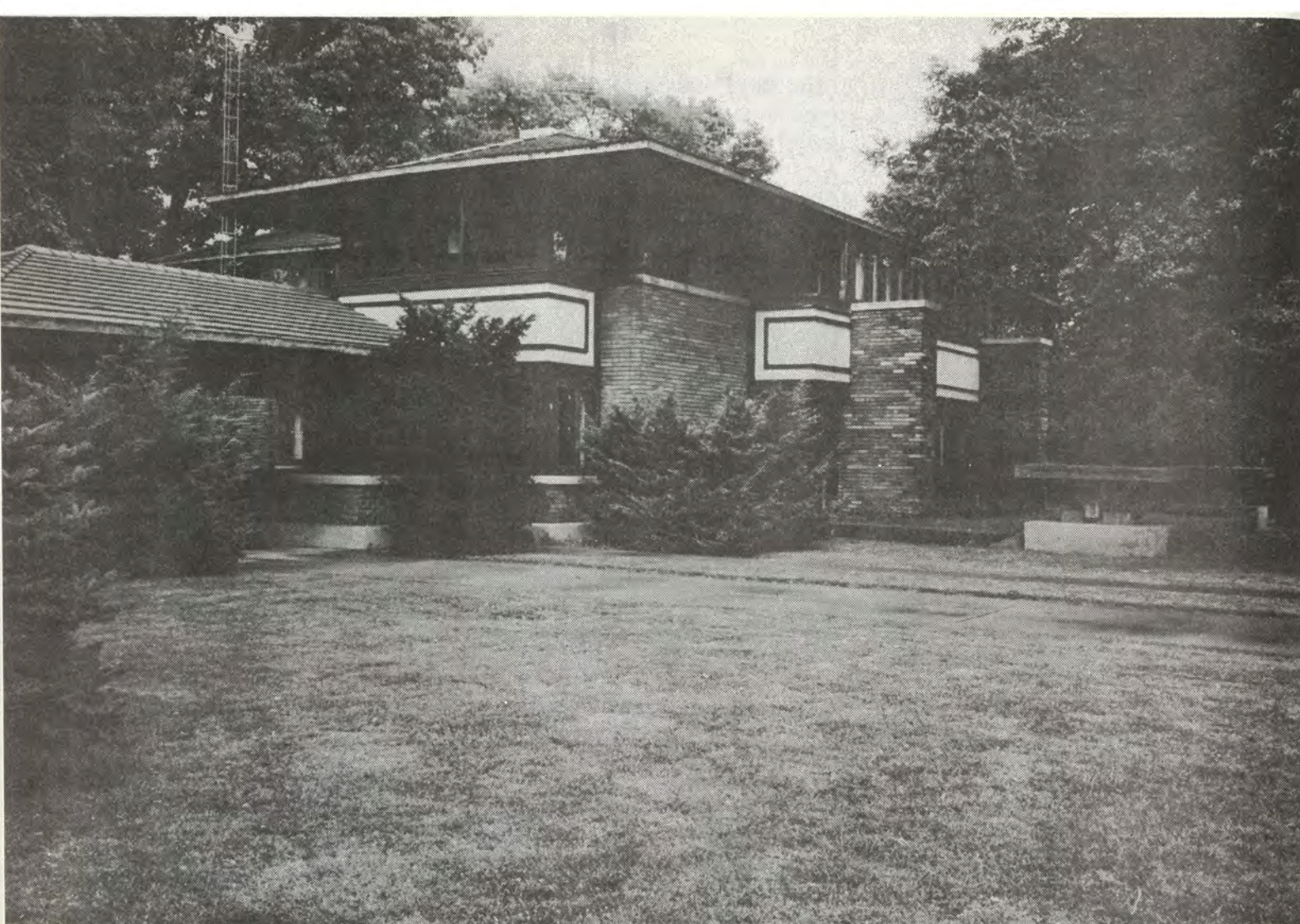


LORADO TAFT'S "Lincoln", originally placed near prominent Urbana hotel, now stands in Carle Park.



ALMA MATER stands at the southeast corner of Wright and Green streets on the Urbana campus.





E. P. IRVING HOUSE, begun by Frank Lloyd Wright and completed by Marion Mahony in 1909-10. Landscaping was by Walter Burley Griffin, noted designer later of Australia's capital city, Canberra.

Decatur's Irving House

Famous Illinois Architecture: XXIII

By Paul E. Sprague



FOLLOWING the death of James Millikin in 1909 his heirs subdivided the northern part of his estate in Decatur into lots suitable for large residences and connected them with the public streets by Millikin Place.

Two of the lots were purchased by the brothers Robert and Adolph Mueller and a third by E. P. Irving. For the architect of their new homes they chose Frank Lloyd Wright of Oak Park. When in October 1909 Wright abandoned his practice and went to Europe, these unfinished commissions passed to

the Chicago architect Herman Von Holst. He in turn engaged Marion Mahony, long employed by Wright, to bring these and other outstanding work by Wright to completion. Walter Burley Griffin, who had been Wright's chief assistant from 1901-6 and who would marry Marion Mahony in 1911, was retained to design the landscaping.

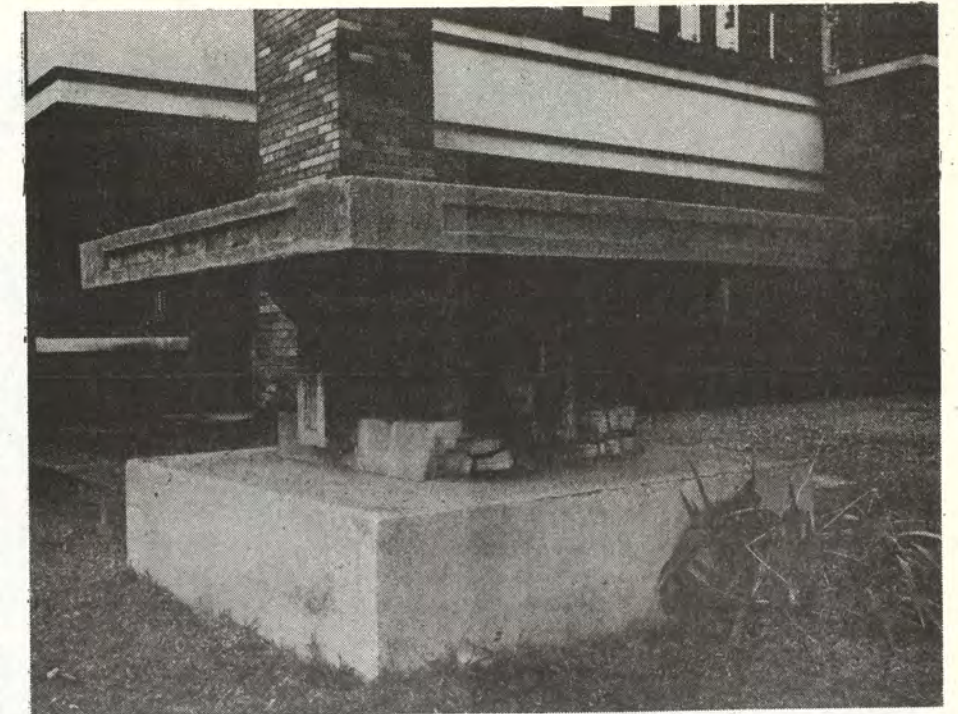
Of the three houses, only the one for E. P. Irving, which was the farthest along, is without question entirely the work of Wright, Griffin and Mahony. But even the Irving House was not

OUTDOOR ILLINOIS

entirely without Marion's imprint for although Wright had finished the working drawings for the house before he went to Europe, it remained for her to design the furnishings. Old photographs show much furniture and furnishings, nearly all of which has disappeared. Its delicate and almost fragile massing and detailing was far different than the strong heavy designs favored by Wright. The principal piece by Mahony that remains in the house is the built-in grandfather's clock at one end of the living room fireplace.

The plan is one of the most symmetrical that Wright ever produced for a residence. The fireplace serves as focus for the long formal axis of library, living and dining rooms across the front of the house. At the rear a reception room with stairs balances the kitchen and a den corresponds to the servant's dining room. The latter and the kitchen have been entirely remodeled.

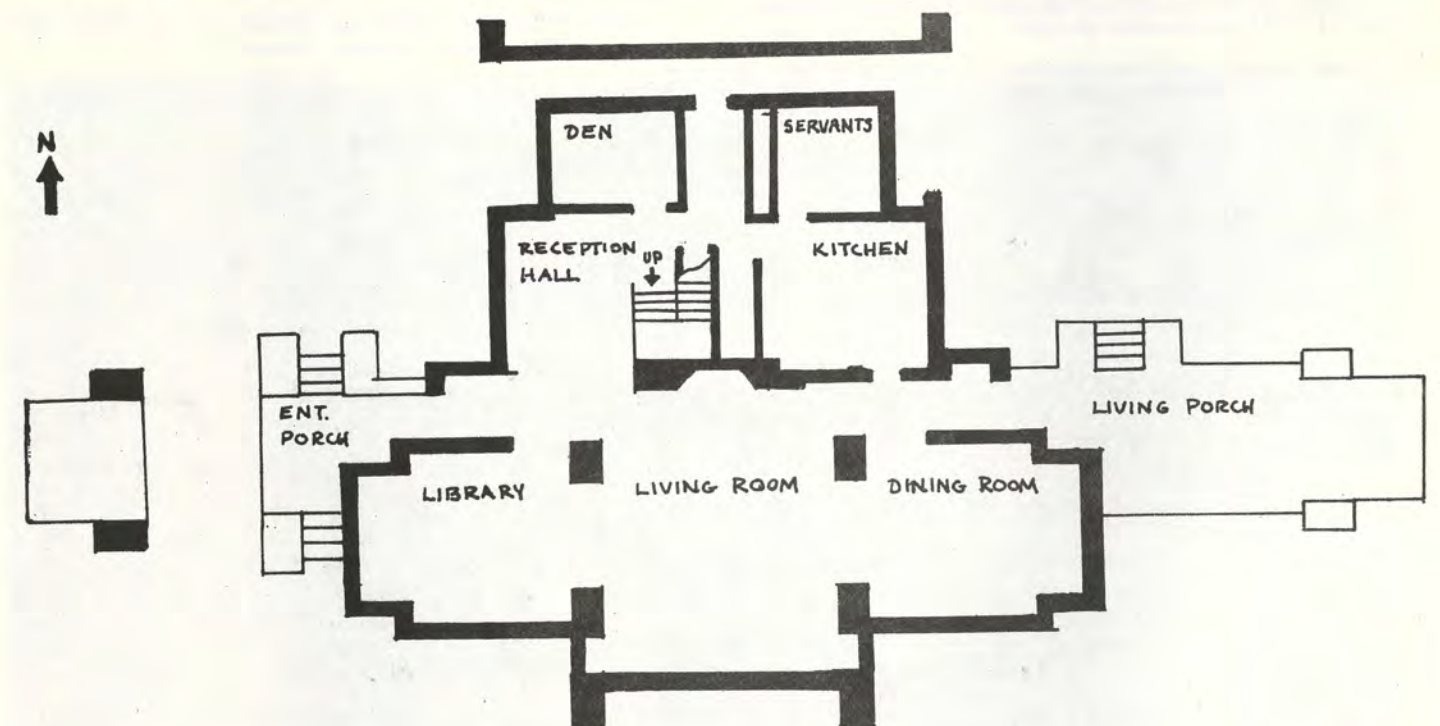
Upstairs the symmetry persists with two large bedrooms each having a bath, dressing room and sleeping balcony situated on either side of the longitudinal



LARGE PLANTER in front yard of Irving House, in the Wright-Griffin style.

axis. At the rear are two other nearly identical bedrooms and beyond them a sewing room balancing the maid's room. The walls are brick trimmed in stone on

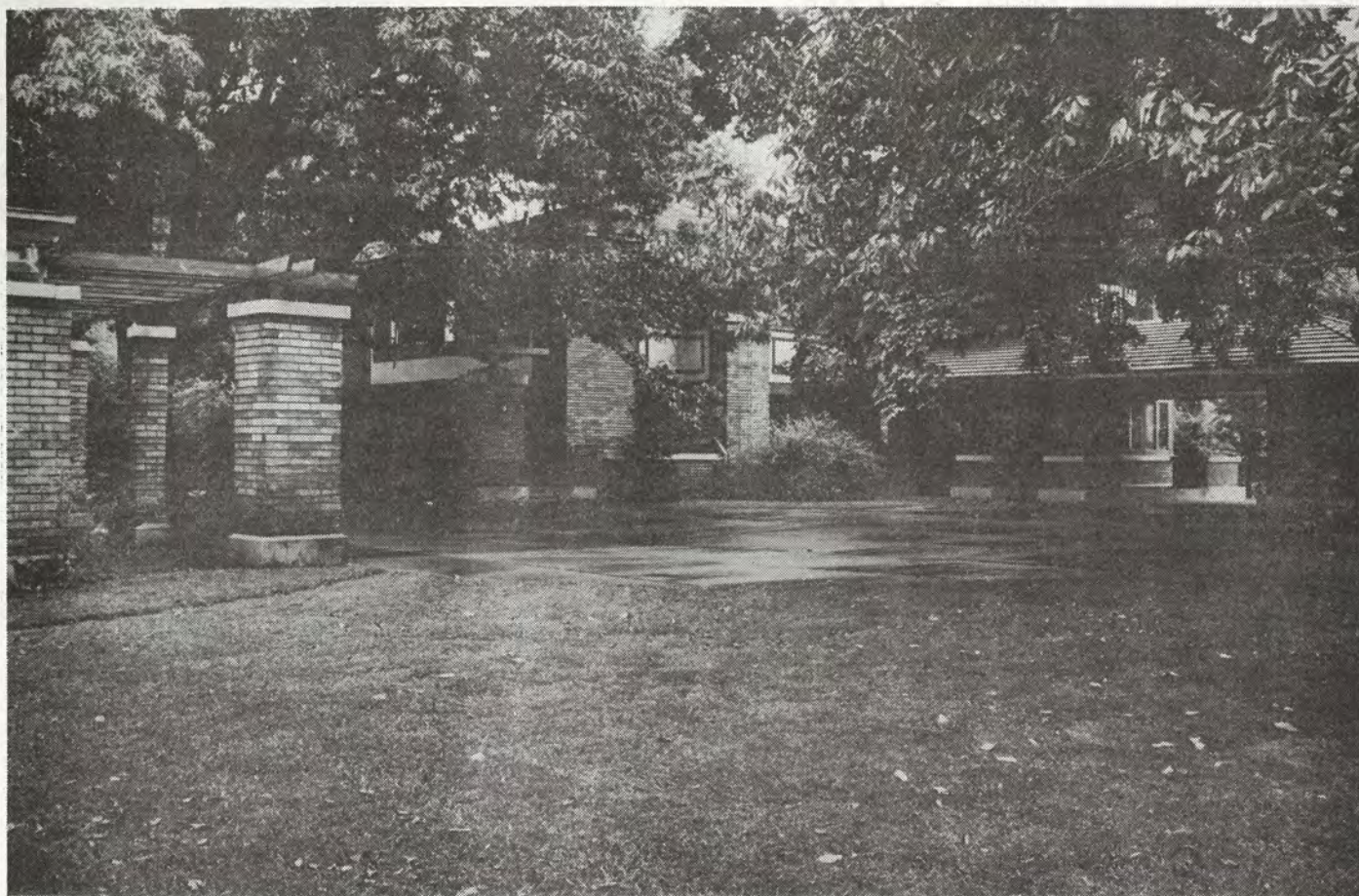
a concrete basement. Low hip roofs, horizontal bands of casement windows in dark wood frames, a band of plaster separating the windows of each floor



IRVING HOUSE
DECATUR, ILLINOIS

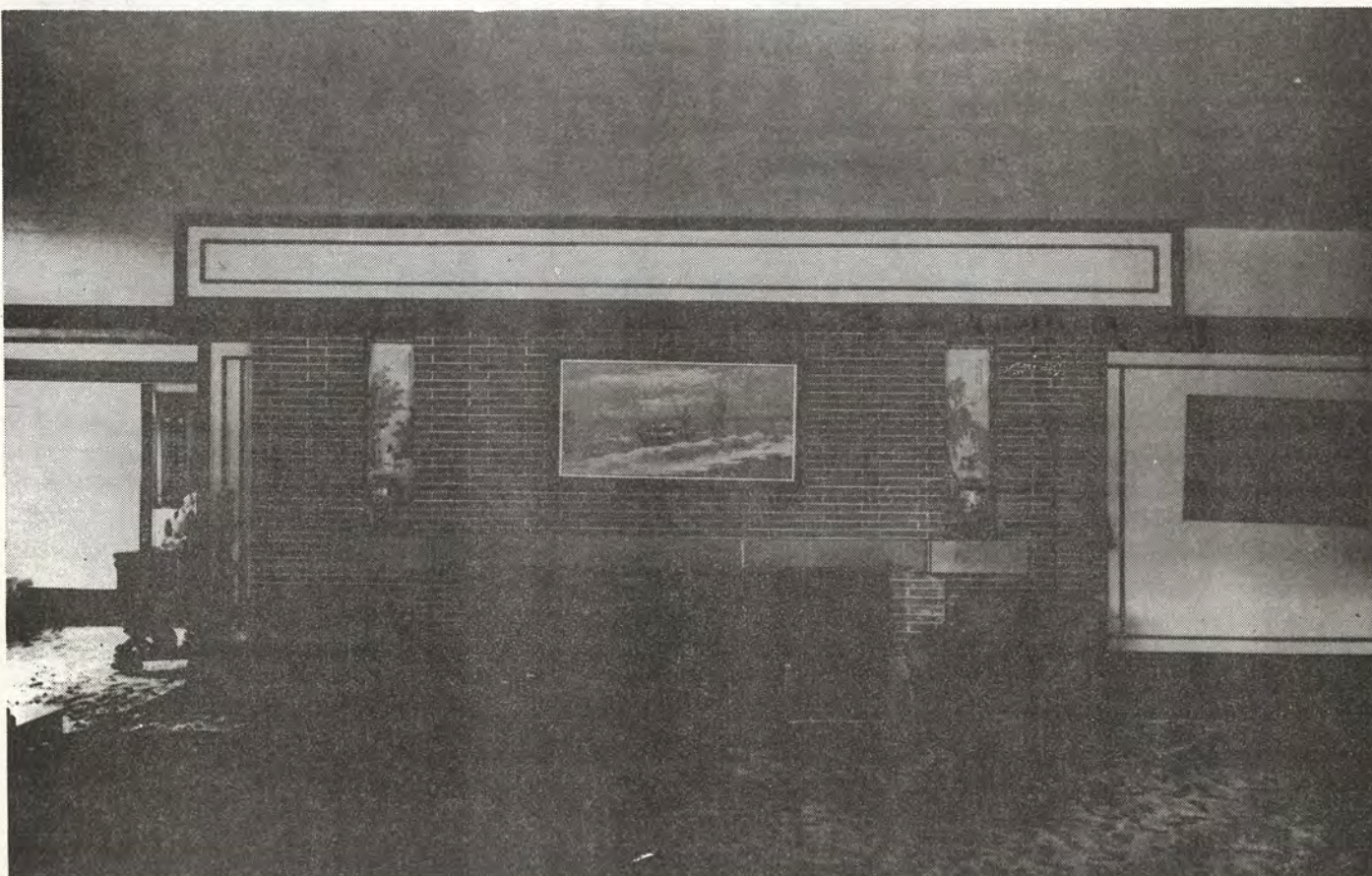
SIMPLIFIED FIRST FLOOR

NOVEMBER, 1975



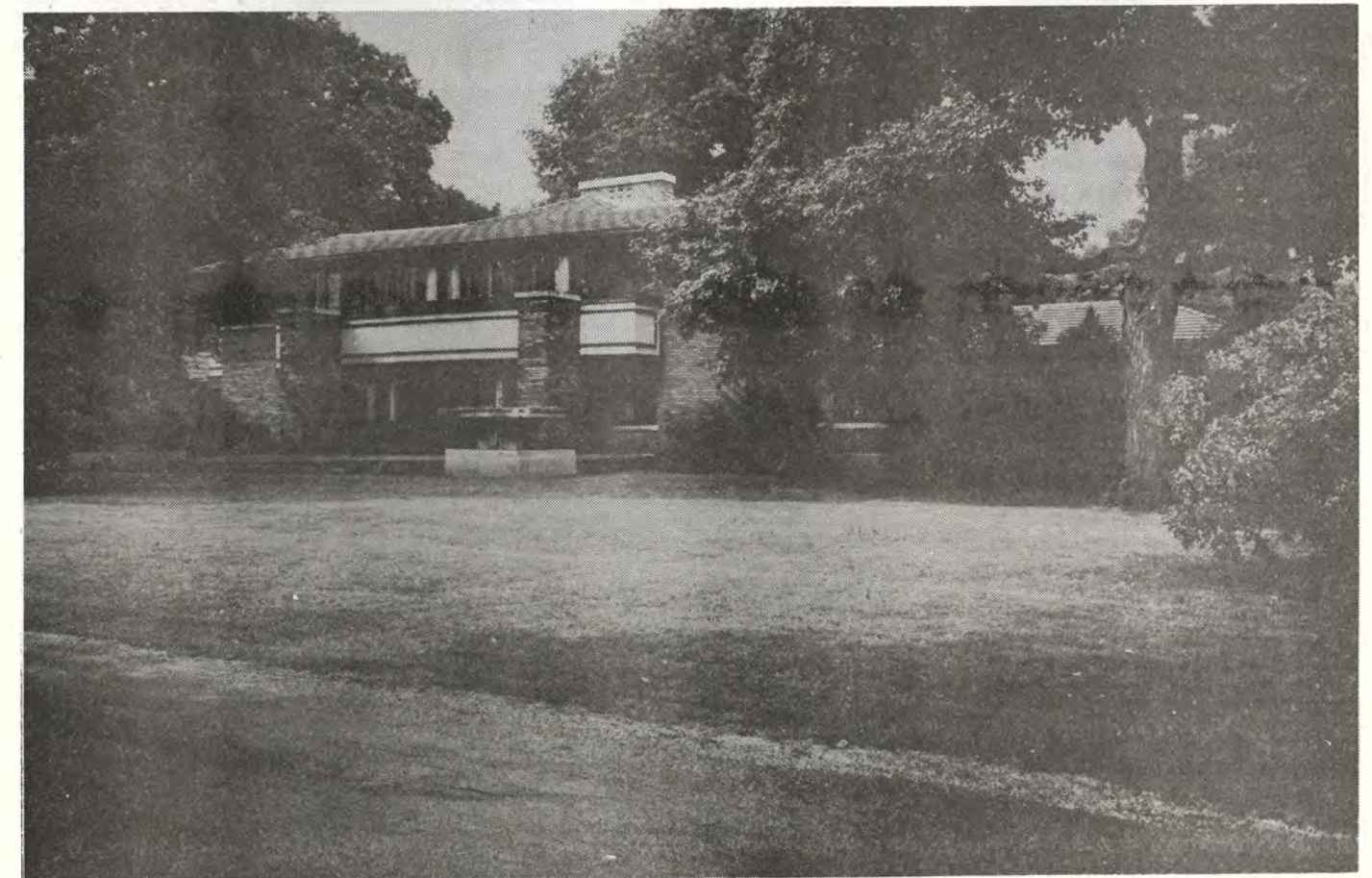
IRVING HOUSE from back yard, looking southeast, garage at left, portecochere at right.

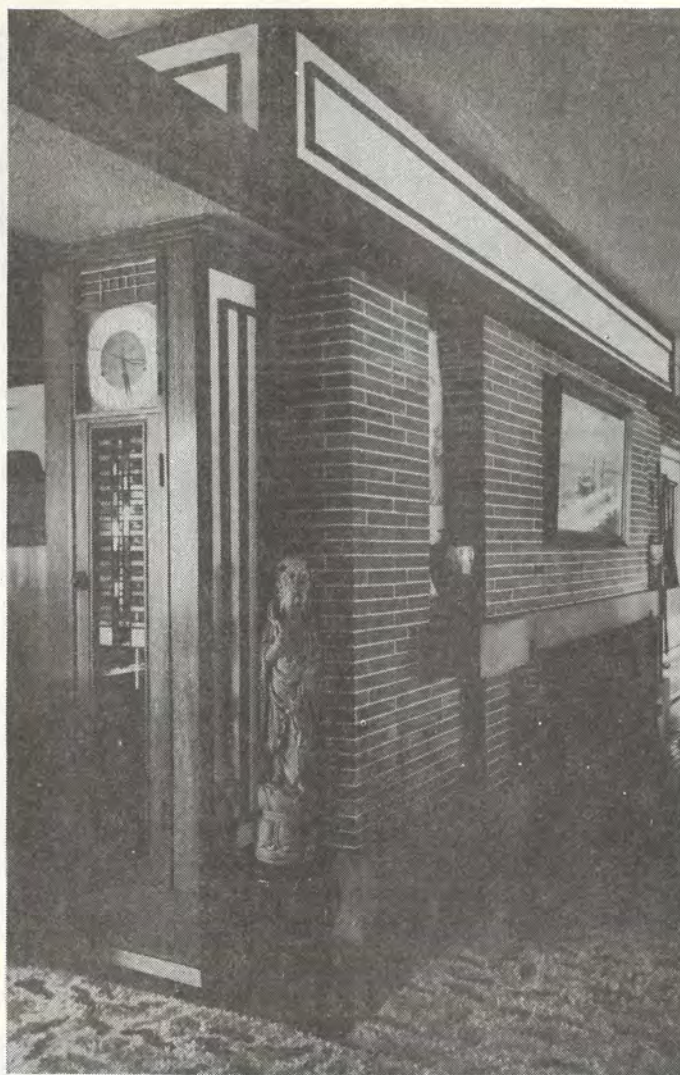
LONGITUDINAL LINES so reminiscent of Wright are obvious in living room, looking toward fireplace.



ASPECT OR Irving House from back yard, looking southwest. Open porch is at left.

FROM MILLIKIN PLACE the view is northwest toward Irving House.





GRANDFATHER CLOCK is built in to typical Wrightian elongated design near living room fireplace.



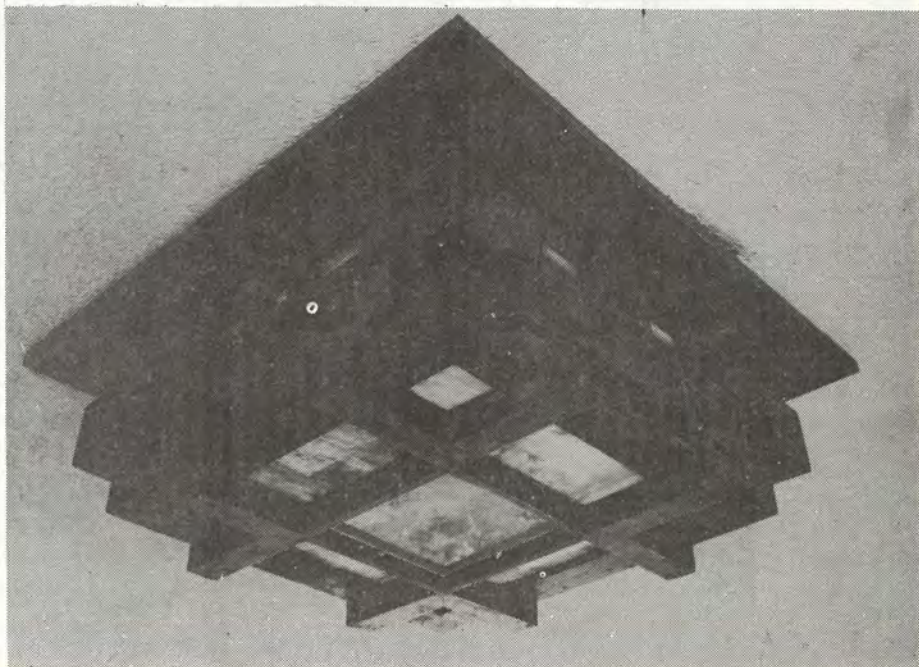
MOST UNUSUAL is this skylight which is built into stairway.

and a band of brick, stone and concrete are organized into typical Wrightian elevations.

Unusual details within the house are the ceiling grilles of the stairhall and upper hall each of which takes light from an attic. And, indeed, in having an attic at all the house is unusual for a design by Wright.

About E. P. Irving little is recorded. He became principal of Brown's Business College in Decatur about 1889 and seems to have become secretary-treasurer of the Faries Manufacturing Company when it was organized in 1894. His house is significant for its high æsthetic quality, and as probably the last residence designed by Wright during his Oak Park period.

WOODEN LIGHTING fixture is portecochere of Irving House.



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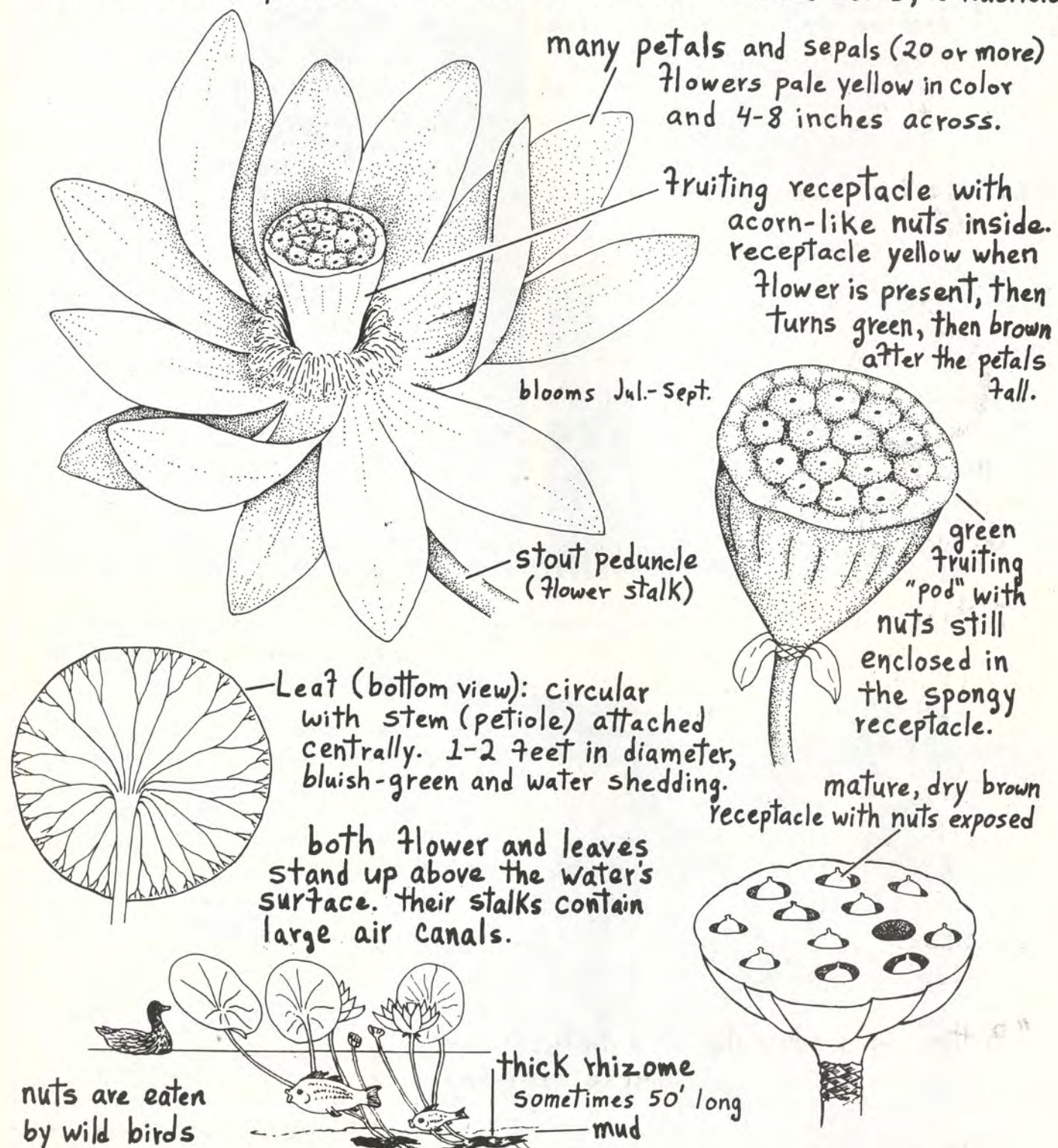
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The American Lotus: *Nelumbo lutea*

Other names: Water Chingwapin, Giant Lotus Lily, Wankapin, Duck Acorn.

related to the pink or white flowered Oriental sacred Lotus, *N. nucifera*

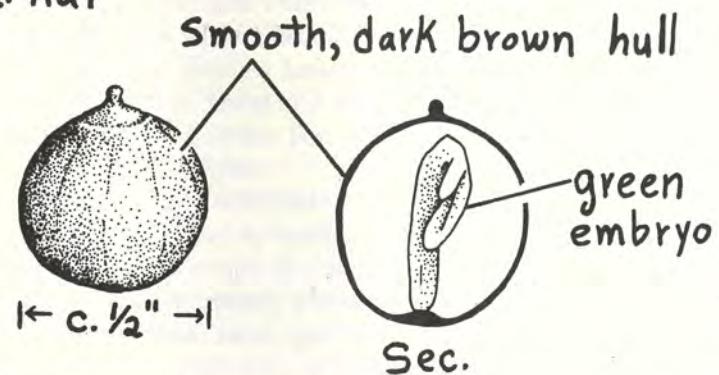


Where to look: in quiet water; sluggish rivers, ponds and shallow lake areas.

Range: New York and southern Ontario to Minnesota, south to Florida and Texas. Distribution is usually local. Most abundant along the Illinois River. In many areas this plant is on the verge of extinction while in other localities it forms huge colonies many acres in extent.

What parts to use:

1. nut



Nelumbo Nuts
Soak dry nuts overnight
boil until the brown hull
can be removed
Split nuts and remove embryo
Roast on cookie sheet in
oven (300°) 10-20 min.
Toss with oil and salt.

Green nuts can be eaten raw, roasted or boiled in salt water.

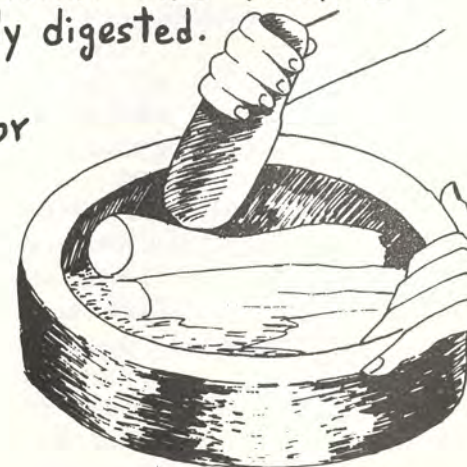
2. tuberous rhizome or rootstock

It is gathered in the fall from the mud. It can be eaten raw but is usually boiled or baked like a potato. This was an important food of the Indians but should be considered a survival food today. This plant is quite rare in many areas and the rootstocks are hard to collect and prepare. The rhizome can also be ground into flour. This flour is supposedly like arrowroot and easily digested.

Remember: remove the green embryo or "plumule" before eating the nut.

"Bitter as a plumule of a Lotus seed."
Chinese Proverb

Freddie J. Burton





OLD TIME

Recipes

By Mrs. Laura H. Holman

BIRCH SUGAR

Wound the tree in the spring of the year by boring a hole under a large arm of the tree quite through the wood as far as the bark of the opposite side. Collect the sap which flows from the wound, and evaporate it to a proper consistence. These are the native sugars of cold countries and might be made for the purpose of home consumption.

MANDY'S CANDY

1 pint molasses 1 cup sugar
Boil and stir every minute. When partly cooked, put in ½ teaspoon butter. When it hardens in cold water, it is done. Put in ½ teaspoon cream of tartar with the butter and, just before you turn it out, put in a scant teaspoon of soda. Walnut, hickory-nut or hazel-nut meats may be added to this candy.

BROWN BECKY

Peel, cut up and stew some nice, tart, juicy apples. Sweeten well and put into a buttered pudding dish in alternate layers with cracker crumbs. Add a sprinkling of cinnamon and small lumps of butter. Make the top layer crumbs. Bake, and serve hot with cream and sugar.

SISTER MELISSA

1 cup milk Juice and pulp of one lemon
1½ cups flour Grated lemon peel of half
1 beaten egg a lemon
Mix together all ingredients except lemon peel and fry in hot lard by spoonful, like doughnuts. Serve with silver sauce, to which add grated peel of half lemon.

SILVER SAUCE

2 tablespoons butter 1 cup white sugar
Cream together, then add beaten white of one egg and half-teaspoon lemon. Just before serving add grated lemon peel and 1 cup boiling water.

MASHED POTATOES

Peel, cut in two and cook potatoes until tender. Drain. Mash fine with a large fork or potato masher.
Season with butter and salt. Pour in a cup of cream or milk for a family of half a dozen persons. Beat in thoroughly with a wooden spoon. Keep beating till your potatoes are a foamy white. Take up a tureen, dash a little pepper on in spots, if liked. Serve hot.

SNOW BALLS

Pare and take out the cores of five large baking apples, and fill the holes with orange or quince marmalade. Then take some good hot paste, roll the apples in it and make the crust of an equal thickness. Put them in a tin dripping pan, bake them in a moderate oven, and when taken out, make icing for them. Let the same be a fourth-inch thick, and set them a good distance from the fire until they become hardened. But be cautious that they are not browned.

RASPBERRY DUMPLINGS

Roll out thin puff paste, lay it in a patty-pan; put in raspberry jam and make it into dumplings. Boil them an hour. Pour melted butter into a dish and strew grated sugar over it.

BATTER PUDDING

Take six ounces of fine flour, a little salt and three eggs, beat up well with a little milk, added by degrees till the batter is quite smooth. Make it the thickness of cream, and put into a buttered pie dish, and make three quarters of an hour, or into a buttered and floured basin tied over tight with a cloth, boil one and a half or two hours.

HERRING SOUP

Take eight gallons of water, and mix it with five pounds of barley-meal. Boil it to the consistency of a thick jelly, season with salt, pepper, vinegar, sweet herbs and, to give it a gratifying flavor, add the meat of four red herrings pounded.

BATH CAKES

Mix together half a pound of butter, one pound of flour, five eggs, and a cupful of yeast. Set the whole before the fire to rise. When effected, add a quarter of a pound of fine powdered sugar, an ounce of caraways well mixed in and roll the paste out into little cakes. Bake them on tins.

LEMON CAKES

1 pound sugar ¾ pound flour
14 eggs 2 tablespoons rosewater
Raspings and juice of 4 lemons
When the yolks are well beat up and separated, add the powder sugar, the lemon raspings, the juice and the rose-water. Beat them well together in a pan with a round bottom, till it becomes quite light, for half an hour. Put the paste to the whites previously well whisked about and mix it very light.

When well mixed sift in the flour and knead it in with the paste, as light as possible. Form the biscuits and bake them in small oval tins, with six sheets of paper under them, in a moderate heat. Butter the tins well or it will prove difficult to take out the biscuits, which will be exceedingly nice if well made. Ice them previous to baking, but very lightly and even.

GINGER BEER

2½ oz. Jamaica ginger 3 lbs. moist sugar
1 oz. cream of tartar Juice and peel of two mid-
½ pint brandy dling sized lemons
¼ pint solid ale yeast 3½ gallons water
This will produce 4½ dozens of excellent ginger beer, which will keep twelve months.

Bruise the ginger and sugar, and boil them for 20 or 25 minutes in the water: Slice the lemon and put it and the cream of tartar into a large pan; pour the boiling liquor upon them, stir it well round, and when milk-warm add the yeast. Cover it over, let it remain two or three days to work, skimming it frequently.

Then drain it through a jelly-bag into a cask, add the brandy, bung down very close, and at the end of a fortnight or three weeks, draw it off and bottle, and cork very tight. Tie the cork down with twine or wire. If it does not work well at first, add a little more yeast, but be careful of adding too much lest it taste of it.

LAMB'S KIDNEYS, AU VIN

Cut the kidneys lengthways, but not through, put four or five on a skewer, lay them on a gridiron over clear, lively coals, pouring the red gravy into a bowl each time they are turned. Five minutes on the grid iron will do.

Take them up, cut them in pieces, put them into a pan with the gravy you have saved, a large lump of butter, with pepper, salt, a pinch of flour, glass of Madeira, then fry the whole for two minutes and serve very hot.

CROATIAN TEA

(About 40 cups)
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon 2 tablespoons black tea
1 teaspoon ground cloves 1½ cups orange juice
6 quarts boiling water ¾ cup lemon juice
2 cups honey

Add spices and honey to boiling water and boil for five minutes. Remove from heat. Tie tea in muslin bag and add to sirup. Cover and let steep five minutes. Remove tea bag and add fruit juice. Serve hot.

PERSIMMON ICED CREAM

Find ripe and sweet persimmons. Use one cup of persimmon pulp, run through the colander, then fold this into one pint of whipped cream and freeze in the refrigerator. The persimmons are sweet enough without any sugar. This is a delicious, extra easy recipe for a native delicacy.

TOMATO CATSUP

One bushel ripe tomatoes, boil until soft, and strain through a sieve. Add 2 quarts vinegar, 1 cup salt, 1 ounce cayenne pepper, 5 heads garlic, skinned and parted, 2 ounces whole cloves, 4 ounces whole allspice, and 3 table-spoons whole black pepper.

Mix and boil 3 hours. Bottle without straining. The tomatoes will keep their own color if the spices are put in whole.

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On Nature's Trail

By Joyce Marshall Brukoff

*A Watery Path at
Chicago's Shedd Aquarium . . .*

HOW MANY Illinoisans know that the largest aquarium under roof is right here in Illinois? The John G. Shedd Aquarium in Chicago is not only the largest, it also exhibits more different species of marine life than any other aquarium facility . . . on earth, that is.

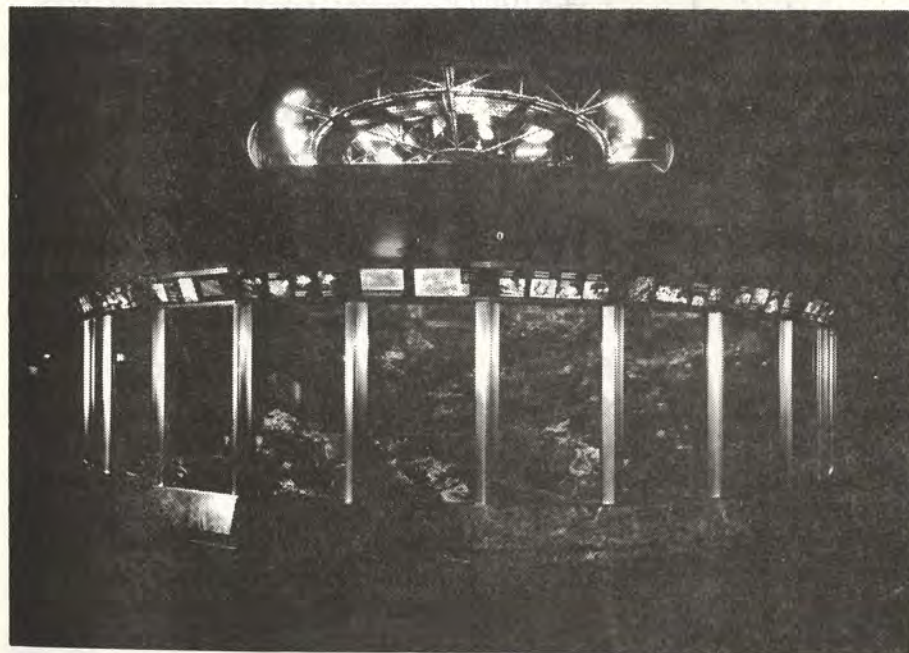
Nestled along the shoreline of Lake Michigan only a few steps across the outer drive from the Field Museum, the Shedd Aquarium is a fine place to spend the day, especially in recent years since the unique Coral Reef tank has been open. This 90,000 gallon exhibit took the place of the old swamp habitat and has the unusual attractiveness of a natural environment with a highly complicated life support system that allows viewers to watch a wide variety of fish through huge 6 ft. high glass windows which completely enclose the tank. The circular iron struc-

ture has a pressure of approximately 1080 pounds per square foot at the bottom of the windows. Some 1500 gallons of sea water are circulated per minute through five miles of non-corrosive polyvinyl piping.

The result of all this work in an effort to build a bigger and better fish tank is something stunning to behold. The best time to come is when a diver slips into the tank to feed a raft of gaping underwater mouths. Clad in scuba gear, the diver has a microphone through which he explains the feeding process, points out various species and comments on the habits of some individuals. He swims slowly around the tank so that no matter where you are standing, you will have a close-up of the feeding. The whole thing is a unique experience.

None of the fish seem to be hostile to the diver. The only trouble-maker,

THE CORAL REEF exhibit at Shedd Aquarium offers six feet high viewing windows opening into underwater environment.



according to him, was a large and ferocious looking turtle which seemed to prefer bugging the diver to eating. This Ridley turtle is persuaded to go to a holding tank when feeding time comes so the diver can concentrate on his presentation instead of swimming around looking over his shoulder.

Aside from feisty turtles, there are sources of various specimens in the Coral Reef environment. They include nurse shark, stingrays, eels and the newest addition, a striking sawfish which provides a large and dramatic accent to feeding as he swirls close to the diver and glides in swift passes along the viewing windows.

Elsewhere in the Aquarium are countless exhibits which are undergoing a constant updating program of both environmental habitats and signing. The illuminated signs being put into use and already installed in some exhibit bays are comprehensive in their format, relating both to specific information about the exhibited species and, when pertinent, to environmental factors which have close relationship to the particular exhibit. The new labeling plan calls for a modular system which can be understood by young and old visitors alike.

One of the most celebrated residents of the aquarium is Chico, a fresh water dolphin that holds the world record for existence in captivity . . . 10 years. When my son Christopher and I visited and had the benefit of a "backstage" tour of aquarium facilities, we paid a call on Chico. While Chris gleefully fed Chico raw fish and stroked his shiny, satin-like head, Howard Karsner, aquanaut-in-charge of the friendly dolphin, explained that Chico has been trained to pick up food and do a complete somersault in the process. Looking at the wise, happy-visaged "face" of the dolphin, one can give credence to the claims for intelligence which place him almost at the top of the mammal list in brainpower. And he certainly looked like the kind of a pal who would rush to the rescue of stranded swimmers, although there is no real proof of this charming tale.

The aquarium is now in the process of enlarging a number of its facilities.

This includes bigger quarters for Chico, a large, roomy habitat for the two Harbour seals. There is already a fine, big home for the snappy looking Humboldt penguins.

Among the most interesting things to see at Shedd is Joshua the Jewfish, the largest fish in the place. Joshua is seven feet long and weighs about 450 pounds. He lounges about most of the time, moving slowly about his 6,000-gallon tank and generally looks quite impressive. Another favorite is the moray eel habitat, an ingenious grouping of retreats which allow the eels to slither in and out of highly visible holes, along tunnels and out again with an unsurpassed grace and a menacing sinuosity.

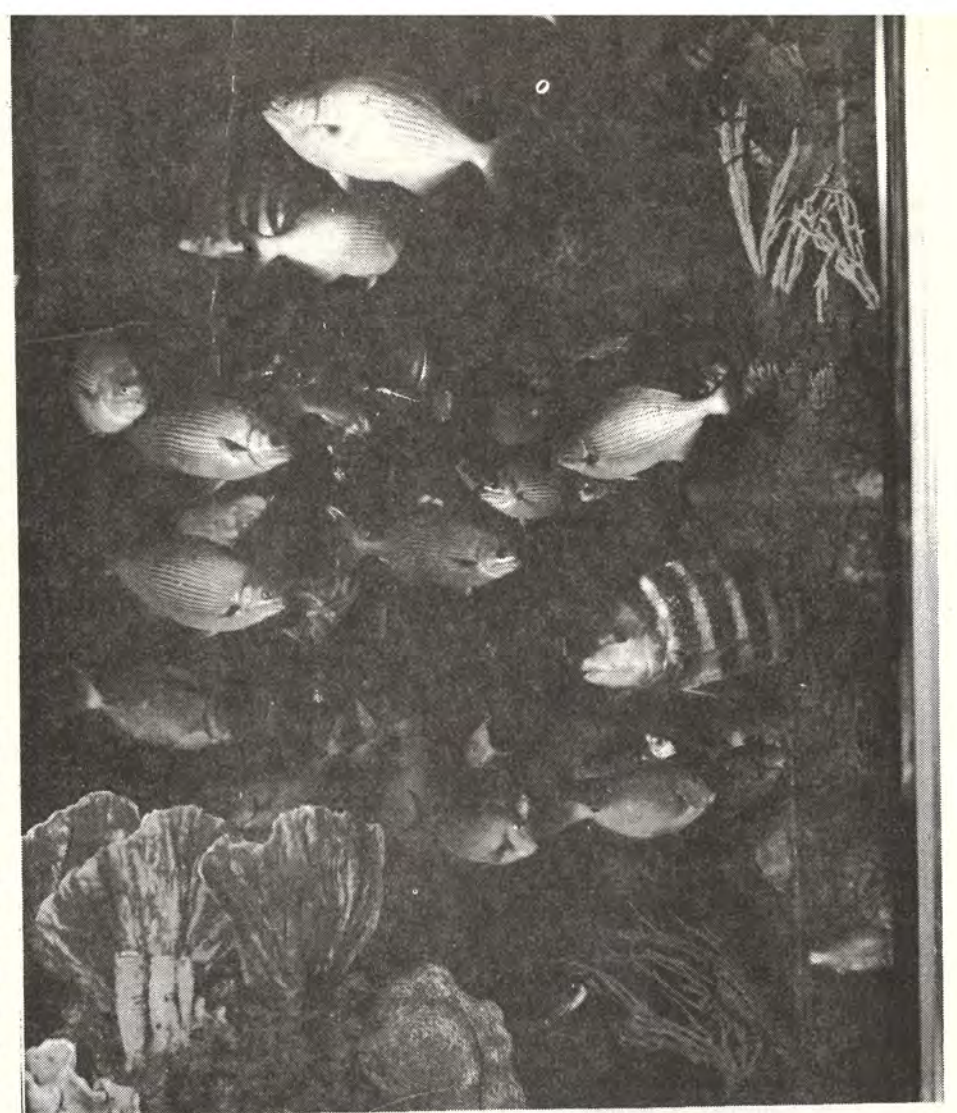
There are some real oldies at the aquarium, attesting to a beneficent environment. The Australian lungfish has been there since 1933 and a tarpon joined the aquarium residents in 1934.

Many, in fact most of the exhibited fish and marine life at the aquarium, are the result of regularly scheduled collecting trips made by aquarium staff members. Three trips a year are made to Florida and the Bahamas and occasional voyages are conducted in the Pacific.

Out of active service now is the *Nautilus*, the famous silver railroad car once used for transporting exhibits. Railroad buffs may see the venerable car at the railroad museum in Monticello, where it has been honorably put out to pasture. Now, most exhibit material is shipped by air once it reaches shore. In the field the 75' 6" boat, *The Coral Reef*, is used. The long-range fish collecting and research vessel has cruised many of the high population marine areas of the world. It comfortably sleeps eight, plus a crew of five.

A new entrance is available at Shedd for handicapped persons, with ramps to accommodate wheelchairs. A large expansion program is about finished which will provide a lunchroom for school children, library for members and students, new research areas and educational facilities. The expansion is within the existing structure, making use of lower level space previously unused for public activities.

Not many people realize how very



CLOSEUP of one small part of Coral Reef. Note scuba diver in background.

interesting the Shedd Aquarium is. It is a large facility, employing 65 full-time persons and entertaining approximately 850,000 visitors a year. Opportunities have been made for Chicago area teachers to bring their entire class for a day of study, choosing from var-

HARBOUR SEAL, one of the Shedd's permanent residents.



ious programs. There are laboratories available for students, and high school students may take summer courses at Shedd. Much of this space for learning is in the new aquatic science center.

On some wintry, blustery day when you long for a sign of summer, go to the Shedd Aquarium. Watch the fish burst into view in the many-hued splendor of the coral reef, watch the supple movements of eels, the play of a dolphin or the ancient menace of a shark. Read about microorganisms that exist in our world's oceans and see the recently-completed habitats for such interesting specimens as the California rockfish, Mediterranean anemones and the lowly tubeworm. You can even buy a book or a souvenir at the Sea Shop near the entrance. The fascinating, watery world of the aquarium is a fine nature trail to follow . . . anytime of the year.



Autumn Signals Winter's Approach

By JOHN W. VOIGT

AUTUMN IS a transition season though this may be said of each of the others since all of them are propelled by time. Spring is going and Summer is coming . . . Summer is going and Autumn is coming . . . Autumn is on its way to becoming Winter. The pattern is just as faithful as the ebb and flow of the tides. It is wonderfully beautiful, engaging and always stimulating.

There was a freshness from the early morning shower, and morning glories were still open. The clarion shapes of their flowers glistened with beaded droplets of rain, as they leaned affectionately against the weathered, unpainted siding of the old farmhouse. On the way through the cove that fall morning the clouds enshrouded the trees with a misty veil which hung wraith-like over the stream. The tree leaves were still musically and unrythmically dropping beads of water upon the forest floor. Underfoot the leaves of previous years were heavily stacked into layers. The lowest layer was now unrecognizable as leaf material, because decay was six or seven years in the process. On top was last year's accumulation, and now the current crop was hesitatingly beginning to fall.

Only a few days later a small field mouse stood on his hind legs on a flat rock near the downspout of the gutter. He sniffed the air, looked, and then started around the corner of the foundation. The last evening's light frost may have set the signal in his small brain to begin looking into the prospects of a winter home. The grape vine on the trellis had brown, curled leaves. This left the grape clusters more visible. Since the grapes had gone unpicked, each cluster displayed wrinkled and dried fruits which the sun had dried into "raisins."

A hawk flew from a limb on the defoliated walnut tree, swooped low over the pasture, then plunged sharply downward before taking off again. He flapped his wings with slow but powerful strokes and disappeared into the trees

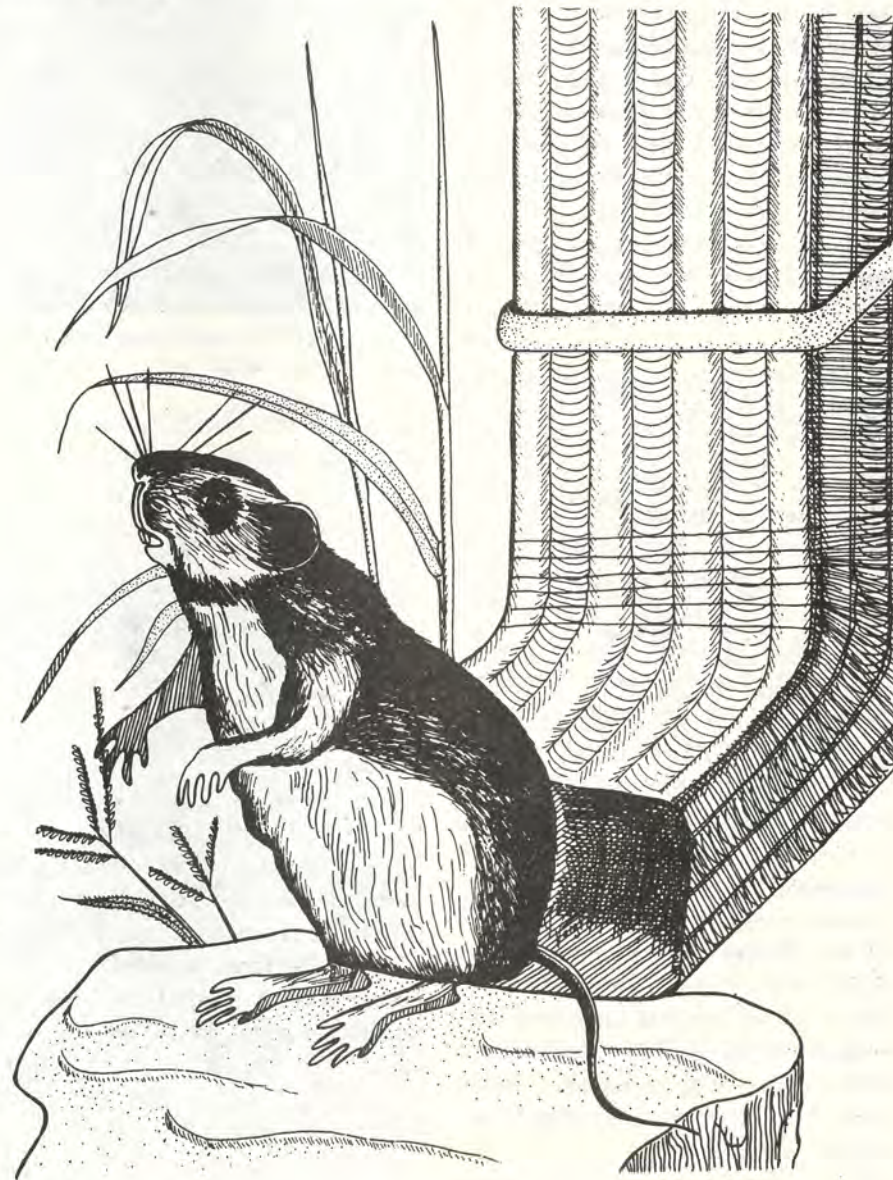
with his catch. Back of the barn, in a thicket of giant ragweed plants, the chickadees were hanging upside down on the branches of the largest plants.

The restless, never ending, signs of seasonal change portending the arrival of Autumn had their beginnings in July with the first hesitant expression of yellow in the earliest bloom of the goldenrods. Red pigments sparingly glorified the sumac bushes at the same time. As if encouraged, the number of red leaves increased and the momentum was transferred to other species. The sourgum

tree turned a few leaves scarlet and let them drop sparingly so that never more than two or three newly turned leaves were on the ground at one time. In mid or late July the sycamore trees began to shed their bark. The ground became littered with patches and scales of brownish bark. Much of the tree trunk was exposed in light greenish and tan areas surrounding them. The widely extended branches had a mottling and coloration reminiscent of the skin of some kind of large and exotic snake.

The predominant color of the summer

AN EARLY fall frost stimulates the field mouse to think of his wintertime home.



OUTDOOR ILLINOIS

season is different from that of any other season. In early Spring the green shades are anæmic and they only anticipate the deeper shades to come. Spring light, and spring color are pretty much cases of yellow turning to green. These pastels abound in the early season because the sun's rays have not developed the intensity which characterizes summer, and the leaves of trees and grasses are immature and are not yet fully packed with the amounts of chlorophyll they will have in the mid-summer season.

Summer was soon waning and the ebb season began. The rich, green, chlorophyll-packed leaves of summer contained both yellow and orange pigments but these colors did not show because of the dominance of the green. As days dwindled shorter, the temperatures lowered, the diurnal fluctuations increased, the air became clearer and rainfall all but stopped for a brief interval. These conditions led quickly to an inability of the leaf to keep producing chlorophyll in quantities which kept ahead of the pace of chlorophyll deterioration. The yellow pigment (Xanthophyll), twice as abundant as the orange pigment (Carotin), showed through the fading green. Even though we don't see the yellow and the orange pigments in summer there is actually a greater amount of them present at that time than there is in the fall of the year when they are most evident. Both the yellow and orange pigments are contained in the protoplasm whereas the red pigment (Anthocyanin) is contained in the cell sap, and develops in the presence of sunshine.

The yellow pigments heightened their intensity and increased their distribution. They were soon to flow like paint spilled from a bucket and would cover the hillsides and flow into the lowlands. Ditches and swales would be filled with the glory and gold of Spanish needles. On low ground the aster, rosin weeds, bonaset, coneflowers, brown-eyed-susans, thistles and milkweeds richly intermingled. Locally any one of these plants enjoyed only their own company and formed colonies of their own. Bees worked upon the heads of the composition with an industry which plainly forecast the brevity of the Indian Summer.

NOVEMBER, 1975

In discussing colors, one is reminded of the child's question. "How can a black cow eat green grass, give white milk and yellow butter?" The green is due to the green pigment chlorophyll which has in association with it, in the grass leaf cells, the yellow pigment which colored the butter. Other animal products containing this kind of yellow color include egg yolks, canary feathers, and the heads of dandelions and other flowers. Black, of course, strictly defined, is an absence of color.

A tree's ability to deliver color is an innate quality passed from generation to generation through the mechanisms of inheritance and this explains how the coloration varies from tree to tree. The conditions of climate and weather have the most to do with the variations in color which are expressed from one year to the next. The fantasy of Jack-frost painting the leaves suggests that Frost is important or necessary for good autumnal coloration. This is far from the truth as frost is not necessary, and in fact causes death to come too early to the cells and results in dull brown coloration.

The amount of soil moisture is an important factor and it would appear that slightly dry conditions are more important than an overabundance of moisture. Temperature is one of the more important factors and of course sunlight is necessary for the expression of the anthocyanins or the red pigments. It is known that bright red leaves contain more sugars than are in the leaves which are not richly colored. Whatever other conditions are necessary for good color expression, it appears that poor translocation of sugars out of the leaves figures prominently in high color development.

A layer of cells across the base of the leaf petiole grows old and the matrix material binding the cell walls together turns jelly-like and helps to seal off the movement of materials out of the leaf. These cells form an abscission layer. Sugars become trapped and then concentrate in these leaves, helping to intensify the coloration. The abscission layer, when complete, causes the leaf to fall from the tree.

It would appear that the conditions most important to the richest develop-

ment of the fall colors include bright daylight, moderate temperature during the daytime, or even fairly high temperatures for that time of the year which fall quickly at night to a range of between 45 and 35 degrees or just above freezing.

The anthocyanins are known as the sun pigments. If one were to place pieces of tape on an apple skin at the time the apple is green, the apple will ripen into its usual red color everywhere except in the places where the tape covered the skin. Designs, initials, silhouettes and even simple photographic negatives have been used in making this demonstration. It may have been noticed that apples are generally redder on one end than the other as a result of this exposure. One end of the apple is noticeably sweeter as well.

Anthocyanins produce a red color when the cell sap is in an acid condition, and may produce blue shades when the cell sap is basic. In the in-between situations a range of colors may exist which would include magenta, and purple. Anthocyanins are found abundantly in cranberries and most all the fruits which are red or reddish purple, such as the leaves of red cabbage, the skin of the eggplant, and grapes. The production of the anthocyanin pigments is an inherited ability and is possessed by many different plants.

Blue in the sky of autumn is due to sunlight and to infinitely fine particulate matter not including the droplet nuclei of moisture. When these fine particles are in the presence of nitrogen gas (the atmosphere is about 78 per cent nitrogen), the sunlight causes a blue color.¹

The fine droplet nuclei of moisture also present in the air of summer causes the sky to become whitish, or certainly lacking in the expression of blue. The air in autumn is predominantly from the north, is cooler, and drier, hence is so often that pure blue sky we see in the month of October. When the air is full of moisture and rain is forboding as so often occurs later in the autumn season, the sky will seemingly be a mixture of

¹Went, Frits, 1964. *The Blue Haze of Summer*, Washington University Magazine, St. Louis University, vol. 34, No. 4.

the blue, the white from the moisture of the air, and the reflection of green from the earth's vegetation so that the sky is a dusty blue-green color. It is a color between heaven and earth. "Heaven is above us and also at our feet."² We used to think that green and blue were not colors to wear at the same time or that they were not good together in decorator fabrics. Nature uses them however in the most pleasing and the most common combination found anywhere.

Conspicuous vapor from the throat of a singing meadowlark was testimony of the fall morning's cool temperature and high dewpoint. The sun played over the leaves of the wet grass and sparkled and glistened like small lights blinking on and off each time their position was changed by the brisk autumn breezes. A walk to the walnut tree at the edge of the barn to gather walnut fruits confirmed the copious dew formation. The walnut tree had lost all its leaves before September's end, and stood starkly against the sky. The bright sunlight was quickly covered by darker layers of gray clouds. Only occasionally did the sun slant through an opening in the clouds to brightly light the hedgerow trees in glorious colors against the dark blue-gray sky, a contrast very pleasing.

In the north sky two small flights of geese were seen and the combination of dark sky and chill breeze seemed incomplete without them. As the breeze picked up it could be seen that it would soon bring down half the leaves which were so richly colored. Leaves drifted continuously from the woods edge to settle out upon the dark green fescue pasture. The colors are predominantly yellow from the hickory, ash, elm, and sycamore. A goodly amount of orange comes from the abundant saffras in the fence rows. The black haw by the edge of the woods is a rounded red shape. Several sweetgums have yellows, red, and purple all on the same tree.

In the fall it is the odors as well as the colors which typify the season. Burning leaf fires (before environmental protection) always evoked a memory of *Chicago Tribune's* cartoon drawing by John

McCutcheon. This picture was, for many years, a regular *Tribune* feature in the fall. It portrayed the grandfather and grandson burning leaves at dusk. The old man recalls the Indian fires across the prairie and together the man and boy fancy that they can faintly see the Indians doing their dance in the wispy shapes of the smoke. It was truly from the autumn Indian fires of the prairie that autumn became Indian Summer. Generations of midwesterners know fall was in full flower when McCutcheon's drawing reappeared.

We may speak of the green of summer, but the color of autumn is predominantly yellow. The yellowing leaves of foliage contrasts vividly with the endless widened vault of blue sky. Combined from the smoke of Indian Summer and the gold of autumn, still another colorful appellation was made. The Minnesota naturalist, Sigurd Olson calls autumn "Smoky Gold", and this combined color, smell, and emotion.

The relentless enervating heat of summer progressed into a staggering amount of plant biomass. The harvest would be bountiful. The energy of summer seems to have been captured and transformed with the idea of expressing its richness. The sun's golden color was left golden in the harvest providing riches enough to keep Midas counting for all his days. Giant combines lumbered over the harvest fields stripping them of this golden saving of sunlight. Cordwood piled providently into neat stacks also was testimony of the storage of sunlight. Previous years of accumulated sunlight would be released as heat energy over the fireplace hearth as autumn ebbed away and winter began to creep forward.

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A PIECE of tape placed on the skin of a green apple creates a design as the apple ripens into redness, indicating presence of anthocyanins in apple skin.

Climbing the Genealogical Tree

with Carol Sims Rademacher

GENEALOGISTS should become well acquainted with their local library. A good reference librarian should be able to direct you in finding answers to your questions, but not answer questions for you. Books can be borrowed through inter-library loan . . . that is, all *except* genealogical books. However, most librarians will, for that self addressed, stamped envelope (S. A. S. E.), send you information about the family you are seeking, if they have a genealogy or history of that family. Remember to enclose something to cover the cost of copying the material.

When a genealogy is written about a family, a copy is frequently deposited by the author, in a library or historical society, near where the family lived and where the author lived.

Histories were written for about seventy-five per cent of the counties in the United States. These contain a history of the county, along with biographical sketches of the early settlers. Some of these sketches are glorified but for the most part the basic facts are there. Since these books are histories, they can be borrowed through inter-library loan. Miss Peggy Tuck of The Newberry Library, Chicago, tells us that there is a list of these county histories in *Consolidated Bibliography of County Histories in Fifty States*, by Clarence S. Peterson, 2nd ed. 1963, published by Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, Md.

The Handy Book for Genealogists by Everton, P. O. Box 368, Logan, Utah 84321, lists the counties of the United States with the name of their parent counties and indicates whether a history

has been published. *The Handy Book* is a basic source of information for genealogists.

County maps are a big help and the Farm Bureau or other county agency sometimes sponsors the sale of an *Atlas and Plat Book*. These books contain a map showing the location of the townships within the county and individual township maps showing roads, churches, cemeteries and farms with present owners of record. Frequently included is a good explanation of land measurements.

There is one other measurement not included in some of these books that you should know, and that is the *pole*. A pole is 5½ yards or 1 rod. This measurement is used in old deeds. So are such goodies as "3 poles to the old Elm tree not now standing".

Now, if you can get from "the old Elm tree not now standing" to some of the other 'precise' measurements in those old deeds, more power to you. The price of these plat books vary anywhere from \$2.50 to \$4.00. I suggest you request information about these books from the county clerk or recorder of deeds in the county seat of the county in which you are interested.

A museum could contain a small genealogical collection of its particular area or ethnic group. For instance, the Polish Museum of America, 984 North Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, Ill. 60622, has some genealogical as well as heraldry material.

Listed below are some books that will give the names and addresses of the different libraries, historical societies and museums. All libraries should have *The*

American Library Directory and maybe the *Directory of Historical Societies and Agencies in the U. S. and Canada*, *Museums USA*, a *History and Guide*, by Katz and *Museums Directory of the United States and Canada* by the American Associations of Museums.

Those of you doing research involving the Chicago area should refer to the book, *Libraries and Information Centers in the Chicago Metropolitan Area*, Hamilton and Brown, editors. You might inquire as to a similar source for other metropolitan areas.

Illinois Libraries, Volume 55, Number 6, lists the collection of newspapers on microfilm in the Illinois Historical Society Library at Springfield. This list is up-dated every three years. Due again in the summer of 1976. Search the old newspapers carefully. You may find a marriage, birth or death announcement. Sometimes when there is such an article, it will say "(name of area) papers please copy." It simply means they want friends and relation in another area to know.

Someone is going to say, "They didn't put obituaries in the newspapers in those days." Don't take their word for it. See for yourself. *Illinois Libraries*, Vol. 55, No. 6 (June '73) may be had for the asking. Write to Illinois State Library, Springfield, Illinois 62756.

BOOK REVIEWS

The 125th Anniversary History of Trinity Lutheran Church of Millstadt, Illinois, 26 pages, soft cover, index, \$1.25, may be purchased from the author, Robert Buecher, 611 S. 59th St., Apt. C, Belleville, IL 62223. "The beginning of Trinity Lutheran Church at Millstadt, Illinois, starts with the arrival

²Thoreau, Henry, David, *Walden*, H. P. Dutton Company, New York, N. Y., p. 251 (1910 edition).

of Lutherans from Hessen, Nassau and Hanover, Germany, in the 1840's and early 1850s" so begins the well-written, beautifully printed text. Included is a small biography of each pastor, a list of the founding fathers and numerous pictures.

☆☆☆☆



THE MAILBOX

MARTIN-YANDELL

In *Letters* in the August-September issue, D. Zeigler asks for suggestions to

help find her ancestors in the 1870s in Calhoun County. Your ancestor may not be in the 1870 census simply because he was missed, or the census taker misunderstood and misspelled the surname completely. Reread the 1870 census looking for a family with the same given names that your ancestors would have had. Check in the same general area in which they appeared in the earlier census.

If your ancestor left the state, the grantor index in the county clerk's office will show if he sold land. You might also try tax records. The grantee index will show when he purchased land.

I was intrigued with your statement, that you "wondered if Calhoun County families with Union leanings might have made a wartime general migration to some other state." In checking *Illinois Military Units in the Civil War*, I

found only the 97th Regiment Company C from Calhoun County. Other Illinois counties listed several companies, or parts of companies. You said Robert Emmett Martin was in Co. G. 137 Reg't, this company was from McDonough and Adams counties. Be sure to search these counties for records.

Have you obtained Robert's Civil War records from the archives in Washington, D. C.? If you don't have his records see the last issue of *OI* for that information. Old newspapers might help in finding him. (See above paragraph on Illinois Libraries).

For the marriage record of Willis and Mary (Yandell) Martin, try every county seat within a fifty-mile radius of Calhoun County. Those old pioneers were not afraid to travel.



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Illinois Environmental Council Seeks Sustaining Aid

IN A STATE with over 11 million people, are there at least 1,000 who care fifteen dollars' worth about the environment?

If the answer to this question is "no", an important new organization, the Illinois Environmental Council (IEC), may have to close its doors. Although the IEC has been in existence for less than one year, it has had an impact on the legislators and helped keep conservationists around the state posted on what's going on in Springfield.

In its first year of operation, the IEC has fulfilled a two-fold purpose. Its

weekly newsletter has kept the public informed on current legislative activities which affect the environment. Secondly, the two staff members, Jerry Wray and Judy Groves, have presented testimony at many committee hearings and have personally contacted key legislators when important bills were coming to a vote.

For many years, such groups as electric utilities, industrial and manufacturers' associations have employed full-time lobbyists in Springfield and the expenses incurred are considered legitimate deductions which are part of the

price of doing business. But for environmental and other tax deductible organizations, lobbying is considered an illegal activity by the Internal Revenue Service and too great an attempt to influence legislation may cost an organization its tax deductible status.

In practice, this philosophy makes it possible for industry to freely spend money for lobbying against legislation which sets standards for cleaner air and water; while public interest groups which support higher environmental quality may be penalized for their efforts. Because few conservation organizations wish to jeopardize the tax deductible status on which the bulk of their contributions depend, many groups are wary of speaking too loudly where legislation is concerned, lest the IRS interpret their actions as illegal lobbying.

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While many traditional conservation organizations remain cautious about lobbying, many members of these groups have recognized the need for a coalition which could represent the environmental cause without continually worrying about losing its tax deductible status. As the idea grew, the Illinois Environmental Council was born and began its first year with \$15,000 in seed money from the Illinois Public Action Fund. This grant will not be renewed; it is now up to the IEC to sink or swim on its own merits.

Looking at the record, these merits speak for themselves. During its first eight months, the IEC sent out 23 newsletters providing the latest legislative information. These weekly newsletters

have been so accurate and timely they have been used by newspapers, wire services and even by those in government agencies who sometimes find it difficult to keep posted on current legislation.

The newsletters also alert interested citizens to the time and place of important hearings, so the public has a chance to make its voice heard before legislation is passed, rather than afterwards. In this sense, the IEC has performed the role of coordinator for many public interest groups to alert them when bills are coming up for a vote or when testimony is needed at certain committee hearings.

After the legislative session ended in June, the two staff members tabulated the voting record of every legislator on

38 environmentally significant bills and published the statistics in pamphlet form. Although neither Jerry or Judy had professional experience in lobbying before the existence of the IEC, they have both had considerable practice working as volunteers in the conservation movement.

It was only a personal commitment to the environment which made Jerry leave a better paying job as manager of computer systems for the Physics Department of the University of Illinois. And a similar interest prompted Judy to take a part-time job with IEC, even though her salary barely covers the cost of her babysitter. Both have learned to accomplish a great deal on a shoestring budget. While many professional lobbyists have expense accounts for traveling or entertaining at expensive restaurants, Judy and Jerry have been riding their bikes to a rather shabby second-story office furnished in the style of early Goodwill.

What they have lacked in cash and flash, they have made up in determination and dedication. As a fledgling group, they have had some noteworthy successes, including the introduction and passage of a bill which limits the power of the State to condemn private land for coal development. This bill was later signed by Governor Walker and both Judy and Jerry were present on the occasion.

The IEC also worked to modify legislation which would have weakened the Illinois Environmental Protection Act and reduce the jurisdiction of the Pollution Control Board in the areas of noise and thermal pollution. The IEC also helped assure cleaner air and better health for the public by helping modify a bill which permitted a significant increase in sulphur dioxide emissions from power plants.

Naturally, there have been defeats as well as victories. The path through the legislative maze is sometimes thorny and there have been several real disappointments. Certainly the greatest of these was the defeat of the bill which would have provided protection for several outstanding "natural rivers" in the state. Other losses, including the failure of a bill to ban throwaway bottles, were

not unexpected considering the economy and the present mood of the legislature.

Considering their budget of approximately \$20,000 per year, the accomplishments of the IEC have been impressive. The seed money has been augmented by donations from groups such as the Sierra Club, Audubon Societies, the Izaak Walton League, the Natural Areas Coalition, student environmental groups and citizen organizations. In the main, these contributions have been small and if the IEC is to survive, it must establish a broader base of support with the public.

Many other states have successful, long-established conservation councils. But in Illinois, previous efforts to organize a viable environmental coalition have usually petered out. If the IEC fails now, after so promising a start, it may very well be years before anyone has the courage to try again.

The IEC will soon begin a subscription campaign by mail, aimed at those who have an interest in conservation. The success of this appeal will not only determine the future of IEC, but will also indicate whether the public thinks a cleaner environment is worth the price of two theater tickets or dinner at a good restaurant.



GOVERNOR DANIEL WALKER signs bill limiting use of eminent domain by Department of Business and Economic Development for coal development. From left, Judy Groves and Jerry Wray, IEC; Governor Walker; Rep. John Matijevich (D-Lake County).

Those who are interested in supporting the efforts of the IEC may receive further information by writing: Illinois Environmental Council, 407½ East Adams, Springfield 62701. Subscriptions to the newsletter cost \$15 per year.



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Letters . . .

Sir:
Please renew my subscription to O. I. which ends 11/75.

Can you give us something on Nauvoo? It is of interest to me because my great grandparents were killed there when the great uprising took place against the Mormons.

My grandfather was adopted by some people and instead of going to Salt Lake City, they went to Wisconsin and settled there.

We do enjoy every article in your magazine and it is the highlight of every "month."

Charles Miller
Markham, Ill.

The August 1965 issue had a story on Nauvoo, "The Beautiful Place", by Lowell A. Dearing, which may add to your background on it.

Dear Sir:

We are looking forward to another year of pleasure, instruction and some good thought-provoking comments in the next ten issues of your excellent magazine.

Sincerely,
Leland T. Everett
Galva, Ill.

There you are. Proof that there is, indeed, a Santa Claus.

Dear Outdoor Illinois:

Sure do enjoy your magazine, especially the article on genealogy. Have ordered most of the material mentioned.

I would also like the map on early trails in Illinois, from the O.I. of June, 1968. My 50c is enclosed.

Sincerely,
Bonavie M. Pence
Hamburg, Ill.

Dear Sir:

I noticed your pre-paid cards, but I had to say how much I've enjoyed discovering a new Illinois this past year.

Sincerely,
Kirsten Trimble
Carbondale, Ill.

Dear Sir:

Each issue continues to reflect the devotion of yourself and staff. I am sure the new addition . . . genealogy . . . will be appreciated by many of your family of readers, and I trust it will bring more OI enthusiasts into the fold.

Joseph M. Michaels
Libertyville, Ill.

Dear Sir:

We are looking forward to more articles on northern Illinois. The Rock River and Kishwaukee valleys are beautiful, especially in the fall. Why people travel to Vermont or Brown County to

see foliage is beyond me. Don't forget, northern Illinois is not all part of Chicago!

Regards to the SICAM and the rest of the crew.

Sincerely,
Peggy McCannon
Ashton, Ill.

We try to keep the thread moving around the state and although each issue may have an imbalance, it is not always in the same direction. You'll see some familiar places in coming issues.

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BOOKS

FRANKLIN COUNTY HISTORY, reprint of the Centennial Edition by H. M. Aiken, first published in 1918. Portrays the origin and organization of Franklin County, Illinois; the pioneers, their modes of living, social life, schools, churches, roads, industries, early towns and villages, development of the coal industry, railroads, industrial centers. Hiram Aiken was a county native whose grandfather settled there in 1816. He was an educator and served two terms as county superintendent of schools. An excellent reproduction, complete in every detail, with the addition of a photograph and short biography of the author, and an index not included in the original. Pre-publication price, \$12.60 including tax, until Oct. 15. After Oct. 15, \$14.70 including tax. Make check and order to Franklin County Historical Society, P. O. Box 19, Benton, IL 62812.

TWO BOOKS, "Covered Bridges Illinois, Iowa," and "Old Mills," \$1.50 each; many illustrations, photos, maps. Swanson's, Box 334-S, Moline, Ill. 61265.

"A NICKEL'S Worth of Skim Milk" is a delightful book about Southern Illinois during the 1930s. All about Marion, Harrisburg, West Frankfort, etc., during the Great Depression. Order autographed copies direct from the author. \$6 each includes shipping and tax. Order extras as gifts. Robert J. Hastings, 98 Laconwood, Springfield, Ill. 62703. 7/75-6

Dear Editor:

I enjoy reading Outdoors in Illinois. I bought my first copy of this magazine at Cave-in-Rock, Illinois en route from Opry Land with a Presley Tour.

As I originally came from Perry County, Pinckneyville being my home town, I, too, remember the old Wabash, Chester and Western Railroad.

It was also known as Wait, Cuss and Worry, Wait Charley and Walk, and Wobble, Crook and Wobble.

I recently subscribed to Outdoor and having read the October issue, I remember many of the towns in Franklin, Wil-

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liamson, Saline, Gallatin, Hardin counties as I drove a freight truck from 1930 to 1936 through these parts.

Cordially,
Raymond C. Hagler
Belleville, Ill.

For a minute there we thought you were going to resurrect the line H. Allen Smith sent when he received the magazine: "I've decided never to go outdoors again."

Gentlemen:

Enclosed, you will find a check for

one year's subscription to your publication and the 1830 Illinois map.

Incidentally, I am Mark Minor's maternal grandmother.

Thank you kindly for doing this.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Marie H. Goddard
Hollywood, Fla.

You may recover, yet. For those who don't know, Mark left an absolutely marvelous sinecure with us for greener grass and possibly more regular meals with the Good News Circle. He still uses our office as

base between trips, and turns out some of the photographs you find on these pages.

Dear Sir:

I am not given to writing fan letters but will make an exception this time. I enjoy your magazine very much, although I am not now a resident of the state of Illinois. I have been carrying on a love affair with her for 49 years now, having been born in Franklin County that many years ago. I liked very much your last issue and the article on Mr.

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ELKVILLE PH. 568-1775

Lincoln, as his wife always referred to him. I have read about everything I could find on him and his wife and children; he was truly a man for his time.

Being a genealogy nut myself, I also enjoyed the article by Carol Rademacher. I have some of her works that I have used in the search on the Rotramel family tree. It has been a very rewarding

five years that I have been working on this, and it can be very frustrating at times. A case in point is Walter Jones Rotramel Sr., born in either 1815 or 1817 in Logan County, Kentucky, married Lu-

cinda Howard in 1840, in Wilson County, Tenn., then there's a dead end until 1847 where he is shown as being enrolled in Co. K, 2nd Regt. of Illinois Vols. in the Mexican War, under Capt. Thomas J.

Mooneyham. Walter was honorably discharged on July 21, 1848, and received bounty land in Jefferson County for his service. He or Lucinda do not show on the 1860

Illinois census, and no public records of their death can be found. Walter's brother, (1809) Henry Rotramel, first came to Illinois in 1832 and fought in the Black Hawk War, returned

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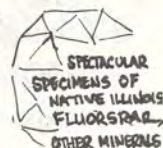
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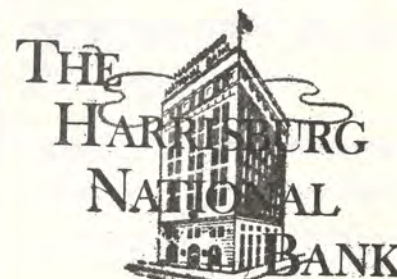
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to Tennessee and fought later in the Seminole War in Florida, and finally returned to Franklin County in 1837 where he died in 1867, at what is now known as Crawford's Prairie on the Four Mile Lane (1809). Henry was the father of Dr. Elijah and Dr. Richard Rotramel, who lived in West Frankfort. Many Franklin County residents should remember "Doc Lige" as he lived until 1924, and "Doc Dick" passed away in 1910.

Sincerely,
H. L. Rotramel
839 North Cass Lake Rd.
Pontiac, Mich.

We looked idly through an adjutant general of Illinois' report on the roster and disposition of veterans in the 109th and 110th Inf. Regts. during the Civil War recently and discovered a rather significant amount of information on the individuals. Have you checked them? Walter would have been 45 and eligible for the Civil War.

We noted that Carol Rademacher advised searching the census records for surrounding counties, just in case.

There has been an amazing proliferation of genealogical background work in recent years, from micro-

filming of courthouse records to transcribing information from cemetery markers.

Can anyone give this reader a hand?

Sir:

I'm not certain whether I should be writing you, the Benton Historical Society or Mrs. Carol Rademacher, but do hope someone will be able to give me information on two old Franklin County cemeteries.

First, I was told the very old Browning Hill Cemetery located on the farm of Mr. O. J. Flatt, Rt. 3, Benton was clean-

ed by "reliefers" at an earlier date and a marker placed between the stones of John Browning and Nancy Browning, his wife. The marker states: "Browning Hill settled by John and Nancy Browning. A. D. 1812."

This may give you a clue as to when and by whom this work was done. I'd like to know if the information on all the old stones was compiled at that time and if this data is available to the public.

Second, I found in a book on Franklin County, Illinois, the "Jones Cemetery near Parrish" mentioned. Also, in this same book I found "Rev. War soldier John Scarborough was buried on the

Jones farm north of Benton." Can these cemeteries be the same? Are they still in existence and can you pinpoint the locations for me?

Whatever help may be given will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Vivian Poe Jackson
Colona, Ill.

We're not certain that the old Browning Hill cemetery has been catalogued, but it is currently maintained and most of the markers are readable. The cemetery overlooks the old spring and the Big Muddy

River valley at the former site of Rend City.

The Jones Cemetery near Parrish and the Jones farm are two different entities. The cemetery is maintained in excellent condition. It is the first road west of the Parrish Road on State 34, east of Benton, and the cemetery is but a few yards north along that road.

Perhaps someone can aid as to the location of John Scarborough's burial place.

Dear Sir:
Last summer I sent for the October



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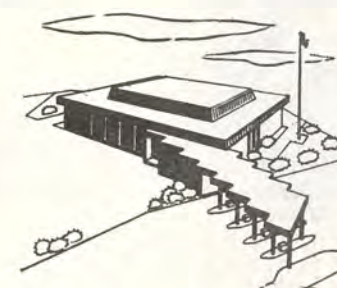
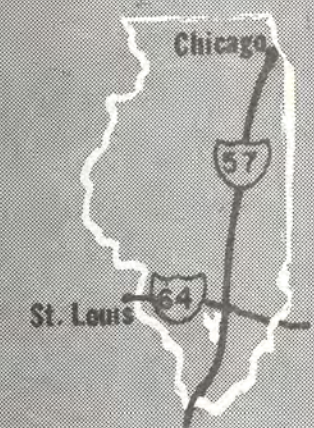
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and November issues, 1963. I was particularly interested in the series *Hell on the Ohio* by Lowell A. Dearing. These issues had Part II and Part III. I didn't know whether there was a Part IV or not, but if there is I'd like to have it.

I assume Part I would be in the September 1963 issue. I am enclosing \$1. Thanks for your trouble.

Sincerely,
Monte Foster
Gary, Ind.

There was no Part IV.

Sir:

Tom Crow was my grandfather. I lived with him all my life until he died. He

told me about all his adventures many times. As a small kid I remember them all, and he never told me about a dog in a corn crib. Brown Lewis was my great grandfather, Grandma Hepsie's father. When Grandpa Lewis was sick, when he died, Grandma wasn't even at home. She spent about his last two months at her father's helping take care of him. My mother and sister were the only ones at Grandpa Crow's at that time, and he sure never told mom about the dog either, because I asked her.

It makes some pretty good reading, though. But if you are going to write about Grandpa, you can at least spell his name right. It is Crow, not "Crowe". He was very, very sensitive, when he

was living, about his name, so you can show him some respect by at least spelling his name right.

My great, great, great grandfather Jonathan Brown, you said, had an article written about him in the July 17, 1879 issue of the Chicago Tribune. I would like to know if you could help me get at least what the article said. It would help me greatly since I am tracing my family history. If anyone thinks Jonathan Brown is legendary, just come to Cave-in-Rock and I'll show them where three of them are buried.

Thank you,
Lloyd Tyer
Cave-in-Rock, Ill.

We were pleased with the response to the "Ghosts" article and the rapidly disappearing tradition of "handing down" stories from generation to generation. Unfortunately, catching the words in the air is not exactly as accurate a science as reading them on paper, so please accept our apologies for your grandfather.

Write the Illinois State Historical Library, Old State Capitol, Springfield, and ask their charge (if any) for xeroxing or transcribing the article from the 1879 Chicago Tribune. We suggest asking the charge first, since this can be a heady experience for both of you.

MEMO: To the Editor
FROM: Superintendent In Charge of All Maintenance

That was all right, Slick. You got him off thinking about catching them words in the air and he's already plumb forgot about you misspelling his grampa's name. And then gave him a thumb in the eye by passing him to the Libarry folks and gave them a thumb in the eye by saying they might charge him for the service.

You are some piece of work. I don't want to talk salary while you're hot.

MEMO: SICAM
FROM: The Editor

Needless to say, we can't comprehend what you could possibly mean by your maunderings, unless you are telling us in your own circuitous fashion that you have finished your work and have time on your hands.

It's a dead set cinch that the latter is likely to be the case even if the former is not. Which, if you have followed us thus far, is an indication that you are in more trouble than those Hardin Countians who hear banshees.

MEMO: Editor
FROM: Superintendent In Charge of All Maintenance

When you eat crow, do you spell it crow or crowe?

Dear O.I. Editor:

A question on page 38 of the Oct. O.I. asks, "What happened to Richard McCarty?"

A three-part article beginning March 3, 1975 by Carl Baldwin tells how a trading post was founded by Richard

OUTDOOR ILLINOIS

(English) McCarty in 1765. He called it "Post St. Ursula" in honor of his wife who stayed in Montreal with two children.

His will, made in 1781, was also an interesting subject.

Al Hartman
Waterloo, Ill.

Dear Sir:

I read the letter from Mrs. Ruebke in October OI concerning the Burlington Trail.

I have sent her material about it and thought you may be interested also—copy enclosed.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Marjorie Dintelmann
Godfrey, Ill.

The Friday, March 24, 1916 edition of the MEDORA (Illinois) MESSENGER had a marvelous one-page article on the "Burlington Way Auto Trail", from St. Louis to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, by way of dirt roads to Beardstown, Illinois and thence to

Burlington, Iowa, and a final leg to Cedar Rapids.

"Five years ago this association was founded by a band of Better Roads enthusiasts in the central part of Illinois who had for many years struggled with the impassable Illinois roads and who decided to unite with the slogan, 'Pull Illinois out of the Mud,' as their motto.

"Realizing the truth of the old adage that 'Example is more forceful than precept,' the Association decided to build a model stretch of road that would serve as an example of what intelligent effort in the matter of road building could do with the ordinary dirt roads."

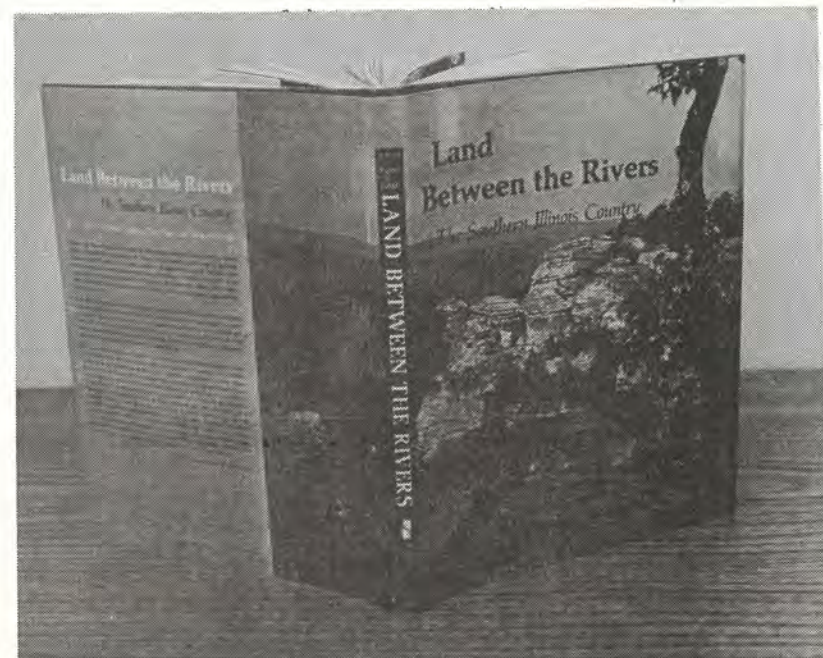
Between 1910 and 1920 large numbers of automobile owners in all parts of the state organized "Marked Through Route" groups, banded together in communities. They adopted the roads in their localities. The roads were dragged and graded in places, permanent culverts and bridges built and in some places were

even given a hard wearing surface. In Illinois the groups registered "their" road with the Highway Department and adopted a name and distinctive mark for it. Thus the Cumberland Trail from Terre Haute to East St. Louis, marked with red, white and blue stripes. The Corn Belt Route, from Watseka to Peoria, was marked by an ear of yellow corn. The Grant Highway from Freeport to Chicago was marked with yellow, black, yellow stripes. In all there were 51 such routes in Illinois, all improved with donations of labor, materials and cash from interested individuals.

The original promoter of the Burlington Way, by the way, was H. C. Wilhite of Greenfield, Illinois, "one of the pioneer good road boosters of Greene County."

Editor:

Your What and Where picture in the October edition is of Mr. Marion Mangis, merchant of Junction. Site is that of the



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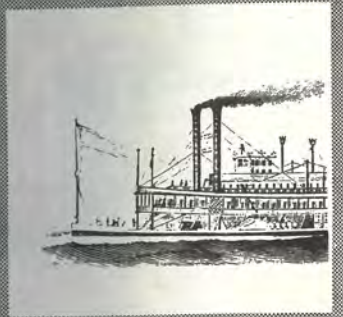
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bridge over the North Fork of the Saline Creek, just east of Equality. The date is 1906 or 1907.

According to the daughter of Mr. Mangis, Helen, who lives in Equality, her father was driving his first team of high-stepping horses, of which he was proud.

He was en route to Equality, to visit M. Q. Maas, a merchant of this village.

Marjorie G. Bunker
Equality, Illinois

You're the winner.

Dear Editor:

The excellent Lincoln Home article of October, 1975 makes intriguing reference to the "century old privy" which was transported and placed over the site of the original Lincoln unit. Seems to me the Taxpayers' Federation of Illinois issued the best release on this subject, tracking down the cost of this important bit of Lincoln lore.

The privy came from some home located considerable distance from Spring-

field and may, or may not, have been behind a house where Lincoln may, or may not, have occasionally boarded during his circuit riding. It was delivered with all the spatters, which may or may not, have included on original Lincoln.

University of Illinois archeology students conducted the dig to locate the proper location of the original Lincoln privy which was long gone and really not greatly lamented. The location was established through ground borings and chemical analysis of the soil.

The ancient and decrepit old privy transported to the Lincoln site required a major renovation under the immediate supervision of the State Historian to assure that some portion of the original might remain. Of course, the costs of this renovation were astronomical.

To pay for same, I suggested to then Governor Adlai Stevenson that the state should bottle the soil from the established privy location and sell these at high price as genuine Lincoln souvenirs. For some reason, he seemed to take offense

and so the costs had to be borne by the State's General Fund.

Sincerely yours,
Roger E. Henn, Exec. Director
Public Affairs
Union League Club of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

To paraphrase Mark Twain's Mulberry Sellers, "They's millions in it!"

Dear Sirs:

Sorry, I overlooked this. Enjoy your magazine very much. Don't want to miss an issue.

Evelyn Peterson
Princeton, Illinois

Gentlemen:

In reviewing our Library's month's issue of your fine magazine, Outdoor Illinois, I noticed that the October 1975 issue contains an excellent article on the Lincoln Home by G. C. Thomas.

As the enclosed items indicate, I have

been actively interested in the history of the Lincoln home.

Sincerely,
Thomas J. Dyba
Illinois Benedictine College
Lisle, Illinois

That really was a well done piece by G. C. Thomas, wasn't it?

Dear Sir:

I certainly enjoy this magazine.

Mrs. Esta Stonum
Vienna, Illinois

Hey, don't think we don't like you Austrians.

Gentlemen:

Sixty years ago as a Railway Postal Clerk I came through Benton on the C&EI Railroad. I am a retired lawyer.

John E. Timm
Chicago, Illinois

Listen, Chicago ain't so much either.

Gentlemen:

The photograph in your October issue . . . is Mr. Charles Marion Mangis; it was taken at North Fork Creek near Equality between 1904 and 1906.

North Fork is a tributary of Saline Creek and is not Saline Creek as your hint suggested.

The day this photograph was taken, Mr. Mangis was on his way to Equality from Junction to purchase himself a new suit of clothes from the M. Q. Maas Store in Equality.

Yours truly,
Herbert L. Sisk
Equality, Illinois

Dear Friend:

I kept waiting for my August-September issue of Outdoor Illinois to arrive, and when it did it turned out to be the October issue. So I have to assume the August-September got lost somewhere along the way.

Please send me the missing issue (Aug.-Sep.) and let me know what I owe

you for the trouble. (Waiting for the other shoe to fall).

Capt. Earl R. Smith, USN (Ret.)
Alexandria, Va.

If the mailman doesn't cop this one, Earl, you should be reading about Washington County's neighbor, Perry, by now.

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to purchase two back issues of Outdoor Illinois, November 1963 and November 1974.

Mrs. Carl Davis
Paragould, Ark.

Only someone from Arkansas would divert our attention by that salutation and then disjoint our thinking by requesting two such widely separated editions without giving a hint as to the reason. A pox on Paragouldians.

Sir:

Congratulations, you have a lot to be proud of. When I think of the red-covered



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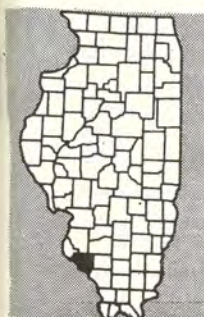
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MARY'S RIVER COVERED BRIDGE

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.



magazine (which my first impression regarded as seedy and homespun) and compare it with the present issues, the change has been fantastic. The contents have always been, and still are excellent

reading material. The packaging makes them even more appealing. I spent two separate weeks as a volunteer guide at the Koster Site. When speaking about the Outdoor Illinois

magazine, one of the students mentioned that your daughter had been there. On October 26th I am scheduled to give my first slide presentation on the Koster Site for Talman Federal Savings.



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ILLINOIS

Calendar of Illinois Events

Compiled by the Illinois Division of Tourism

NOVEMBER

- 2-11 **Charleston** — Paintings & Graphics by Ann Cooper, Paul Sargent Gallery, Eastern Ill. Univ. (9-5 p.m.)
3 **Champaign** — Leontyne Price (soprano), Great Hall, Krannert Ctr. for Perf. Arts (8 p.m.)
Jacksonville — Concert: Gilbert & Sullivan A La Carte, Annie Merner Chapel, MacMurray Coll.
3-28 **Edwardsville** — Wood Sculpture & Fibre Art; Photography Exhibit, SIUE Univ. Ctr.
4 **DeKalb** — Royale Shakespeare Theatre, Holmes Ctr. Ballroom, NIU (8:30 p.m.)
Peoria — The Jazz Band, Neumiller Chapel, Bradley Univ. (8 p.m.)
4-8 **Macomb** — "Canadid," Browne Hall, Western Ill. Univ. (8 p.m.)
5 **Lincoln** — Ann. Harvest Festival, Lincoln Women's Club Bldg.
Wheaton — "Christmas Through the Years Promenade," House Walk.
5-9 **Champaign** — "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," Playhouse, Krannert Ctr. for Perf. Arts (8 p.m.; Sun.-3 p.m.)
6 **Franklin Park** — "Hawaii," travelogue, East Leyden H.S. Aud. (8 p.m.)
Peoria — "Motion of Bodies," James Seay, poet, Neumiller Chapel, Bradley Univ. (8 p.m.)
Springfield — Senior Citizen Programs, Thorne Deuel Aud., Ill. State Mus.
6-8 **Godfrey** — Drama Production, Lewis & Clark Comm. Coll., Hatheway Hall.
7 **DeKalb** — Festival of Bands, Music Bldg., NIU.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hale



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- 7-8 **Champaign** — "Pilobolus": Modern Dance Group, Festival Theatre, Krannert Ctr. for Perf. Arts (8 p.m.)
DeKalb — "Miss Reardon Drinks a Little," O'Connell Theatre, NIU (8 p.m.)
7-9 **Bloomington** — Art Show, Eastland Mall.
Centralia — "Marriage Fortune," (Five one-act plays), Cultural Ctr. Aud.
Danville — "Last of the Red Hot Lovers," Red Mask Theatre.
Quincy — "Pajama Game," Little Theatre Bldg.
Springfield — Antique Show & Sale, Illinois Bldg., Fairgrds.
Wheaton — "Oliver," Wheaton Warrenville H.S. (8 p.m.)
7-30 **Peoria** — Art Show & Lecture/Ed Pashke, painter, Duryea Gallery, Bradley Univ. (7:30 p.m.)
8 **Carlinville** — John Kolisch, Hypnotist, Bothwell Aud., Blackburn Coll. (8 p.m.)
DeKalb — Jazz Ensemble, Holmes Ctr. Ballroom, NIU.
Elmhurst — "2100 Year-Old Tomb Excavated," Peoples Rep. of China film, Lizzadro Mus. of Lapidary Art (2 p.m.)
Evanston — Evanston Farmers Market, Benson Ave. between Clark & Univ. Place.
Hennepin — Putnam County Belles & Beaus Square Dance, Hennepin Pool Complex (8-11 p.m.)
Macomb — Parents Day/Bob Hope, Western Hall, Western Ill. Univ. (8 p.m.)
Quincy — Parade of Harmony (barbershop quartet), Jr. H.S. Aud.
Rockford — Audubon Wildlife Film, Rockford Theatre (8 p.m.)
9 **Carbondale** — 4th Ann. Turkey Shooters Carnival, Carbondale Gun Club (10-6 p.m.)
Naperville — Instrumental Band Concert, Pfeiffer Hall, North Central Coll.
Ottawa — Bazaar, Marquette H.S. Gym.
Peoria — Amateur Musical Club Sr. Concert, Lakeview Ctr.
Peoria — "Spoon River & Beyond," Neumiller Chapel, Bradley Univ. (7:30 p.m.)
9-30 **Chicago** — "Man in his Environment," Exhibit, Field Mus. of Nat. Hist., Hall 18.
Mt. Vernon — Paintings by Ivan Albright, Mitchell Art Mus. (Tues.-Sun: 1-5 p.m.) (Thru Dec. 14)
10 **DeKalb** — Ill. Chamber Orch. of DeKalb Concert Hall, New Music Bldg., NIU (8:30 p.m.)
12 **Blue Island** — Turkey Trot Dinner, Rosewood Inn.
Carbondale — "1776," (Broadway musical comedy), Shryock Aud., SIU.
Charleston — Frances Alenikoff Dance Theatre, Grand Ballroom, Eastern Ill. Univ. (8 p.m.)
Evanston — Sixth Ann. Talent Show (amateur & semi-professional), Levy Ctr. (7 p.m.)
Macomb — "Hallow Grown," Grand Ballroom, Western Ill. Univ. (8 p.m.)
Quincy — Quincy Symphony Chorus Concert, Quincy Jr. H.S. Aud.
12-15 **DeKalb** — "Miss Reardon Drinks a Little," O'Connell Theatre, NIU (8 p.m.)
13 **Shelbyville** — Senior Citizen's Group Meeting & Potluck, V.F.W. Bldg.
Springfield — Senior Citizen Program, Thorne Deuel Aud., Ill. State Mus.
13-15 **Champaign** — "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," Playhouse, Krannert Ctr. for Perf. Arts (8 p.m.)
25 **Lincoln** — "Spirit of American Christmas" Celebration, city-wide.
Springfield — Symphony Concert-Mona Golabek, pianist, Springfield H.S. Aud. (8:30 p.m.)
27-30 **Cairo** — "Holiday House," Magnolia Manor.

ance between man and his environment.
ance between man an dhis environment.
P. S. Keep up the good work.
George Miller
Chicago, Illinois

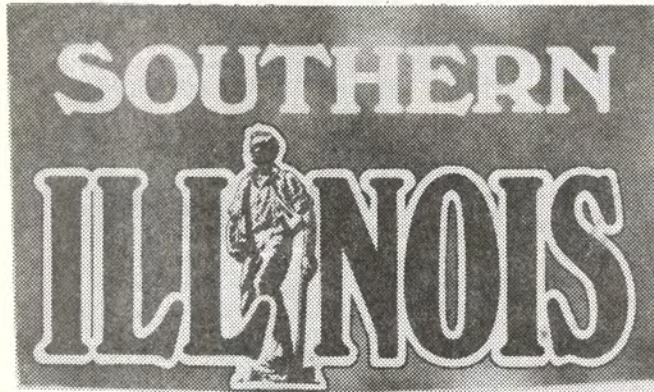
SEED AND HOMESPUN! Why you
dirty— oh, I hadn't finished reading
the sentence. You're all right, George.
Here in Culture City (our schools
being a little advanced from your
normal learning mills) we've had an
archaeologist down lecturing recent-
ly and one group of students is spend-
ing the first week in November at
the Macoupin Site near Kampsville,
part of a mini-course held in conjunc-
tion with the Northwestern Univers-
ity field school at Kampsville.

We were not offended by your base
and heartless slander against the
"old" Outdoor Illinois. Oh, sure, a
lot of people around here are talking
about a class action suit but after
all most of them don't have no class
either. Uh, can't recognize class,
either. Um, can't afford a lawyer.

Gentlemen:
On October 9, 1975 I sent you a check
to cover the cost of my renewal to Out-
door Illinois (which I think is the great-
est), an additional fifty cents for the
map and five dollars and forty cents for
the vinyl binder. Total \$14.40. I have re-
ceived the map but not the binder. I
thought perhaps this was an oversight

as I wrote this item in on the business
reply card and it could have been over-
looked.
I am just calling this to your attention
for checking.
Thank you so much for your coopera-
tion.

Sincerely,
Blanche Quigley
Quincy, Illinois
Who said old fashioned courtesy is
defunct? It's alive and well and oper-
ating in Quincy.
We will see what went amiss and
correct it. With any kind of luck at
all, that is.



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And it's the same with everything else we do in the pages of *Outdoor Illinois* as we bring to our readers the *people* and *places* and *times* and *things* which have made — and will continue to make — Illinois different.

People like the Indians who met the first European explorers three centuries ago last year, a handsome, strong race descended from Illinoisans who had lived on this land for at least 117 centuries before that day in 1673 . . .

Places like Lusk Creek Canyon and Kincaid Mounds and Nauvoo and Galena and Marmech Hill and Prairie Albion and Zion and Creal Springs and the Koster Site and Jubilee College and Bishop Hill . . .

Times like the Pennsylvanian period, 400 million years ago, when bituminous coal was beginning its long process of formation with the decaying vegetation in the widespread swamp forests which covered much of Illinois or times like the Middle Woodland when skilled Indian artisans were turning out marvelously shaped and smoothed effigies and statuary . . .

Things like the New Madrid earthquake and wild Illinois orchids and early trails in Illinois and lists of the biggest trees in Illinois and where to find them and how to create a wildflower garden under glass and U-Boats on the prairie and the Great Sauk Trail . . .

But you get the idea. We do like to keep our readers up to date. Even if the date was 400 million years ago in Illinois. For Illinois is the subject and the object of *Outdoor Illinois Magazine*. Everything and anything that makes our state different, unusual, enjoyable, interesting. Everything we think you would enjoy or need to know.

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