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HENDRICKS COUNTY

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PUBLISHED BY

THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DANVILLE, INDIANA

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

ORGANIZED 1967

OFFICERS 1984

PRESIDENT

Mrs. Sherman Crayton
440 Heritage Drive
Danville, Indiana 46122
Tel. 745-4574

VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. J. Robert Carter
3 South Drive
Brownsburg, Indiana 46112
Tel. 852-5142

SECRETARY

Miss Jewell Bell
212 East Road 200
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4055

TREASURER

Mrs. Blanche Wean
249 S. Wayne St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2573

HISTORIAN

Mrs. H. Harold Templin
R. R. 2, Box 86
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 539-4311

PUBLICITY

Miss Jewell Bell
212 East Road 200
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-4055

GENEALOGISTS

Miss Grace Cox
494 West Clinton St.
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2552

Mrs. Roy Pritchard
R. R. 1, Box 209
Clayton, IN 46118
Tel. 539-6890

Mrs. Roy Fisher
Pittsboro, IN 46167
Tel. 892-4780

Mrs. H. Harold Templin
R. R. 2, Box 86
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 539-4311

HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

Danville Public Library
101 S. Indiana
Danville, IN 46122
Attention: Betty Bartley
Tel. 745-2604

Plainfield Public Library
Guilford Twp. Historical Collection
1120 Stafford Road
Plainfield, IN 46168
Attention: Susan Miller Carter
Tel. 839-6602

ANNUAL DUES \$3.00 PAYABLE IN NOVEMBER

The Hendricks County Historical Bulletin is published quarterly in February, May, August and November. It is distributed without charge to members of the Society and to Hendricks County School Libraries. Individual copies of \$2.00. Communications concerning back copies or individual copies should be addressed to our secretary. Contributions or suggestions to The Bulletin should be mailed to the editor.

Margaret Baker
(Mrs. C. Rawleigh-Baker)
9 Round Hill Road
Danville, IN 46122
Tel. 745-2115

HAPPINESS IS ONE OF THE BETTER THINGS OF LIFE WHICH
USUALLY COMES AS A BY-PRODUCT OF ACTIVITIES DIRECTED
TOWARD OTHER ENDS.

Dear Friends:

If you are a member of the Hendricks County Historical Society, this will remind you that the first meeting of 1984 is coming up. (Feb. 5, at 2:00 p.m. at the United Methodist Church in Danville.) See other details on page 2 and COME. We have planned the four programs for the year and they promise to be well worth your time. We value your financial support through dues, but we value more your attendance and participation. PLEASE COME!

If you are not already a member, you are receiving this issue of our bulletin because someone who knows you believes that you are a person who would appreciate the benefits offered and also have much to contribute. We expect that you will want to join our Society when you know more about it.

This Bulletin, which is published four times a year, contains announcements of upcoming meetings, general information about the Society, news about our members, and interesting historical articles by members and friends.

A major achievement of this Historical Society was the compilation and publication of the Hendricks County History, which contains more than 600 biographies of Hendricks County citizens and extensive articles about schools, churches, community life, industry, and the medical and legal professions. More than 2,500 copies have been sold, and there is a continuing demand for the remaining copies.

Another outstanding achievement of the Society was the establishment of the Hendricks County Museum. A few people have contributed a great deal of time and energy to this project. Many, many others have been supportive in a variety of ways. We're very proud of the Museum and the people who have made it go.

If you can come to the next meeting, on February 5, you may enroll as a member by payment of dues (\$3.00) at the door. Or you may send your dues, along with mailing address and telephone number, to Jewell Bell, 212 E. Road 200, Danville Indiana 46122.

Till I see you . . .

Lois Crayton, President

NOVEMBER MEETING

A beautiful fall day and the promise of another interesting meeting brought 62 members and guests to the A M E Church in Plainfield, November 6. A warm welcome was extended by Mrs. Cassie Swarn who gave a short history of the church. Established in 1867, three miles south of Plainfield, it was moved to Plainfield in 1879. The Rev. Glen Collins, pastor of this 104-year-old church, gave the invocation. The Rev. Henderson Davis was also introduced.

The treasurer reported a balance of \$567.77. President Noland read parts of the will of Chauncy Phillips bequeathing certain of his possessions to the HCHS. Frances Fisher, chairman of the Nominating Committee announced the slate of officers for 1984: Lois Crayton, pres.; Robert Carter, vice pres; Audrey Martin, secretary; Blanche Wean, treasurer. Audrey Martin later resigned because of health problems and Jewell Bell agreed to fill the office.

Dorothy Kelley gave an interesting report on the Museum. Most importantly we were happy to learn that the Museum had been placed on the National Register of Historic Places and an appropriate plaque will be selected.

Mr. Jerry Hankins, history teacher at Plainfield High School, gave another of his fascinating talks, his subject this time THE BATTLE OF TIPPECANOE. It is so evident that he is thoroughly engrossed and completely informed on his subject that the time listening to him passed quickly. Cider and doughnuts rounded out a most pleasant afternoon.

FEBRUARY MEETING

It appears that we are getting off to a good start on 1984. Robert Carter, chairman of the Program Committee, tells us the meeting, February 5, will be at the Danville United Methodist Church on W. Mill Street. The Rev. Alan Rumble, pastor of the host church, will give the devotions and we will limber up with some community singing. Mr. John Selch of the Indiana State Library will give a talk entitled THE HISTORY OF NEWSPAPERS. Betty Bartley of the Danville Public Library, is planning a display of County papers. It was suggested that those who have interesting old papers bring them to add to the display. Grace Cox is in charge of the Center Township ladies who will furnish refreshments.

Do come and join a number of new members we are expecting!

PLAINFIELD LIBRARIAN NAMED HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORIAN

Susan Carter, Plainfield Public Library, 1120 Stafford Road, has been appointed County Historian for Hendricks County for a two-year term ending October, 1985. Co-sponsors of the program, the Indiana Historical Bureau and the Indiana Historical Society, recently announced appointments for 88 of the 92 counties. Carter replaces Ida Mae Good Miller, Plainfield, who served as County Historian from November, 1981 to October, 1983.

The County Historian program was begun in 1981 to link state level historical agencies with the many county and local historical groups throughout the state. "A major goal," according to the sponsors, "was to create a formal line of communication to serve better the growing needs of researchers and others interested in all facets of Indiana history."

The County Historians function on a continuing basis as resource persons for the varied questions posed about county history by students, media, genealogist, businesses, and many others. In the past two years County Historians have been invaluable in contributing research information for the biographical segment of the Centennial History of the Indiana General Assembly. County Historians also are playing an important role in the long-term County Records of Indiana Microfilm Project.

Introductory regional workshop luncheons were held for appointees in 1981 with support from the Indiana Historical Society. "We came back to Indianapolis with high expectations for the program," indicated program coordinators Thomas Krasean and Pamela J. Bennett. "We were not disappointed!"

The position of County Historian is unpaid. Many of the appointees are affiliated with a library, historical group, educational institution, or other organization that provides support for activities; appointees, however, contributed hundreds of hours of time and their own funds.

The co-sponsors provide no individual monetary support, but stationery has been provided, and other support methods are being sought. A County Historian Resources Handbook was provided to each person; it is now being revised and updated for distribution in the spring of 1984.

County Historians have been selected from nominees submitted from groups within the county. Selection has been based on knowledge of and activity in historical and research pursuits. A small committee from the sponsoring agencies determined final appointments.

The program is based on a similar but short-lived program begun in 1952 by the same agencies.

Betty Bartley, always on the ball, has submitted these articles that tie in with our next program.

HENDRICKS COUNTY'S FIRST NEWSPAPER

The first newspaper published in Hendricks County was the Danville Advertiser, first issued in 1846 by Joseph Graham and Dr. H. G. Todd. Dr. Todd disposed of his interest to W.H.H. Lewis in 1847, and the title was changed to the Danville Weekly Advertiser. The earliest copy known to exist is dated November 20, 1847. The original is located at the Indiana State Library, but microfilm copies are available at the Danville Public Library. A close look at that early issue reveals an interesting picture of life in early Hendricks County.

The Danville Weekly Advertiser was published every Saturday. The office was located on the east side of the public square. The subscription rate was \$1.50 per year, in advance (or within 3 months); \$2.00 if not paid until the expiration of 3 months; or \$2.50 payable within the year.

Advertising rates for 1 square (13 lines) was \$1.00, plus 25¢ for each subsequent insertion. Yearly rates ranged from \$5.00 for 1 square, to \$25.00 for a whole column. It was noted that all legal advertisements, to insure publication, had to be "accompanied by the cash".

The front page was devoted to state and national news: an article on the Potato Famine in Ireland; an article from the Indianapolis Journal on the effects of that city's first railroad; "how-to" articles on keeping apples, and measuring hay in the mow or stack.

On the second page is an editorial on the importance of taking a newspaper. The article stated that too many in the county were living "without affording themselves or their families the means of learning anything connected with the affairs of government, and totally indifferent to what is going on in the world around them". The editors urged every man who could do so, to subscribe, as a duty that he owed himself, his family, and his country.

The remaining two pages are filled with an assortment of articles and advertisements. W. M. Robbins & Co.'s new and cheap Cash Store offered a large and complete assortment of Fall and Winter goods. It was noted that the following would be taken in exchange for goods: Clover, Timothy, and Flax seed, Ginseng, Beeswax, Feathers, Rags, Coon, Mink and Otter skins.

Dr. J. N. Green, having located in the town of Danville, for the practice of Medicine in its various branches, placed an ad notifying the citizens that his office would be at the Drug Store of H. Cox, where the Doctor could always be found, "except when absent on professional duties".

J. C. Hogin, Notary Public and Master in Chancery, stated that he would "attend to all business legally attaching to said office: Acknowledgment of Power of Attorney, Deeds, Mortgages, and other instruments of Writing--taking Depositions, etc., etc."

W. A. George, Attorney and Counsellor at Law, promised to "promptly attend to all business offered" at his office on the north side of the square.

Henry Cox, Druggist, stated that he had constantly on hand "a general assortment of Drugs, Medicines, Paints, Oils, Varnishes, Spirits Turpentine, Window-glass, Glassware, Dye-Staffs, Etc."

One of the most interesting advertisements was under the headline, "Wonderful Discovery!!". Henry Burger, of Danville, had secured a patent for an "improved mode of Using the Cross-Cutting Saw...a Machine for sawing Wood and Stone that was unequalled..a machine that 2 men can carry with convenience...will cut off a log 3 feet in diameter...a boy 12 years of age can saw one cord of wood suitable for any stove in one hour". Mr. Burger added that "persons wishing to enter into this useful speculation would do well to give him a call".

NEWSPAPERS IN HENDRICKS COUNTY

Newspapers have played an important part in the history of Hendricks County. By recording events as they happened, they have become, in a sense, a written history of the county. No other source can give the reader a sense of what the past was like: the style, the language, the humor of each era is captured in newsprint.

In 1978, the Indiana Newspaper Project was begun by the Indiana Historical Society. Its goal was to produce a bibliography of all Indiana newspapers published between 1804 and 1980. This task was completed in 1982, when the Indiana Newspaper Bibliography, by John W. Miller, was published.

In this volume, Mr. Miller lists over 50 newspaper titles that were published in Hendricks County, along with historical information on each title. The purpose of the book was not only to provide information on newspapers, but to encourage interest in Indiana Newspapers, so that unknown titles and "lost" issues may be discovered.

Such a discovery was recently made at the Indiana State Library, when the Newspaper Division acquired a copy of The Clayton Clipper, Volume 1, Number 1, published July 8, 1898. This title was previously unknown, and was not found in Mr. Miller's book. The Clayton Clipper was published by Charles E. and C. E. Cooper. It consisted of 4 pages, with local advertisements, and "gossip" columns for Brownsburg, Avon, Plainfield, and the Indiana Boys School.

The following list of newspapers published in Hendricks County was taken from Mr. Miller's book, and other sources. The dates in parenthesis indicate the year the newspaper began publication.

AMO: Reporter (ca. 1890)

BROWNSBURG: Modern Era (1881)
Courier (1883)
Record (late 1880's)
Guide (1963)
West Side Messenger (1967)

CLAYTON: Claytonian (1889)
Clayton Clipper (1893)
Enterprise (1904)
Weekly Press (1917)
Commercial (1924)
Commercial (1930)

COATESVILLE: Mail (1889)
News (1891)
World (1892)
Herald (1910)

DANVILLE: Advertiser/Weekly Advertiser (1846)
Hendricks County Republican (1856)
Bulletin (1857)
Butcher Knife (1857)
Hendricks County Ledger (1857)
Weekly Democrat (1858)
Hendricks County Union (1864)
Indianian (1870)
Union (1874)
Hendricks County Citizen (1877)
Democrat/Hendricks County Democrat (1878)
Republican (1878)
Hendricks County Gazette/Gazette (1880)
Hendricks County Republican/Republican (1881)
Hendricks County Union (1883)
Progress (1883)
Dispatch (1899)
Daily News (1901)

LIZTON: Patriot Phalanx (late 1880's)
Star (1906)
Union (1916)

NORTH SALEM: Reporter (1884)
Messenger (1886)
Herald (1892)
News (1899)
Chronicle (early 1920's)

PITTSBORO: Sun (1893)
Booster (1949)

PLAINFIELD: Once A Week (1867)
Palladium (1867)
Citizen (1874)
Tribune (1878)
Progress (1880)
Friday Caller (1904)
Messenger (1915)
Friday Caller (1934)
News-Leader (1962)
Hendricks County Flyer (1965)

STILESVILLE: Citizen (1880's)

The year 1984 is, among other things, a leap year. The following article, taken from the December 31, 1891 issue of the Hendricks County Republican, reflects a leap year tradition.

THE DANVILLE BACHELORS

A TIMELY LIST FOR THE USE OF THE LADIES IN LEAP YEAR

The past eighteen months have witnessed serious inroads made on the number of our bachelors, but there are still quite a number who could become victims to the ladies in 1892, glorious leap year. We furnish a more or less perfect list for reference and the views of the young men on the subject.

Adams, Thomas--Open to argument
Brown, "Doc"--Regarded as almost hopeless
Bowen, Chas.--Shows no signs of faith
Cook, Charley--Believes in it. Mooresville.
Doughty, Phil--Has opinions
Eaton, Art--Too much in love with foot ball
Green, Joseph--Favorably inclined but too busy
Gulley, Otis---Lately showing a desire to be a victim
Hill, Harry--Young but inclined to be a sceptic
Holland, William---Perfectly indifferent
Helton, Jerry---Not a believer
Hathaway, R.F.--Hopeless
Hollowell, R.T.--Believes nothing. Is theoretical.
Hornaday, Charley--Not without hope. Maywood.
Hadley, John R.--Almost persuaded
Kennedy, A.H.--Hopeless
Kelleher, Guy--Never thinks of it
McCoun, Charley---Older he becomes, stronger his doubts
McCurdy, Scott---Is a brother, but no lover
Marsh, Julius---Beyond hope
Marsh, Albert---Will talk. Greenville, Ohio.
Neiger, John---Views becoming more favorable
Pounds, Charley---Will not listen to suggestions
Reynolds, Silas---Will accept advice
Reichard, Frank---Fully persuaded
Record, Adam---Will accept friendly advise
Schwartz, Joseph---Believes in it. Chicago.
Shirley, Edgar---Not a believer
Searce, Edwin---Can be rescued
Thompson, William---Regarded as very hopeful
Tharp, Frank---Prompt measures will save him
Thomas---Fred---More susceptible with age
White, Fred---Too little known. Write to Brazil P.M.
Wills, Harry---A doubting Thomas
Warner, Fred---Under conviction

ANCESTOR CERTIFICATES INDEXED

The Hendricks County Ancestor-Descendant Certificates were an outgrowth of the Hendricks County Sesquicentennial celebration in 1974. Since 1973, nearly 1,000 certificates have been issued.

Recently, Grace Cox completed an indexing project so that information on the applications would be more accessible. She has completed two indexes: one alphabetically by the name of the applicant, and one alphabetically by the name of the ancestor. Microfilm copies of the completed applications, along with the two indexes, are now available for researchers at the Danville and Plainfield Public Libraries.

Applications for certificates can still be obtained from the Hendricks County Museum, or from Grace Cox, 494 W. Clinton St., Danville, IN 46122 (Tel. 745-2552).

1984 P R O G R A M 1984

The Program Committee with Robert Carter, chairman, should be congratulated on the fine programs they have planned for the year.

May 6 at Stilesville (Place to be announced)

HISTORY OF THE NATIONAL ROAD ... talk by Robert Lawson, Dublin, IN
with emphasis on Hendricks County

THE McHAFFIE HOUSE ... talk by the architect who is restoring the
old landmark

Tour of the McHaffie House

August 5 ... at Ano United Methodist Church

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH ... talk touching on some Moravian background
READING OF THE MASTEN DIARY

November 4 ..at Brownsburg (Place to be announced)

HENDRICKS COUNTY CEMETERIES ... talk

Old fashioned entertainment ... singing, spelling bees, etc.

HOW DEAR TO MY HEART
By Frances Fisher

One of the privileges of the "Mature Years" is indulging in sentiment which is, in truth, looking over our shoulders thru rose colored glasses.

Like many other residents of Hendricks County, I still live in and love the place of my birth and, through the years, have followed its progress and its changes with pride and interest. As one older friend once said, "Pittsboro ain't the best place in the world, to live but it's just as good."

And so I have found it! That's why I have submitted this article to the Historical Bulletin to call attention to this small town in Central Indiana and to announce some of the plans for the coming observance of the town's one hundred fiftieth anniversary to be held in September of 1984.

One of the nicest things about our celebration is the interest and assistance which so many of our young citizens are showing. Tom Cowley and his wife, Linda Ragsdale Cowley, are serving as general chair persons and their enthusiasm is contagious. Tom's grandfather Cowley was a well known farmer in our township, his grandmother, Pearl Cowley, one of the best church and community workers. Among others taking responsibility are William and Judy Compton, Karen Alexander Hiland, with Mary Jeanette Winkelmann and Frances Fisher assisting. Dr. M. O. Scamahorn will be Master of Ceremonies.

As time goes on, you will hear more details concerning what promises to be an even better celebration than the town's centennial observance in 1934.

It seems strange to us who have lived many years that the site of Pittsboro wasn't chosen farther east where the landscape was rolling and wooded and picturesque, threaded through with a gurgling stream. But those very features were discouraging to early settlers whose aim was to avoid swampy land because of the prevalence of a dread disease called ague, named "ager" by our fore fathers. So the land speculators moved on further west to level ground which was decisively called by some "a frog pond."

A new road was built in 1828 running from Indianapolis to Crawfordsville and Pittsboro was the first town on the new road, now called highway #136.

Two land speculators by the names of William L. Hadley and Simon T. Matlock plotted the original town of Pittsboro, Nov. 15, 1834, upon land bought by them from Aaron Spicklemire for the sum of \$50. The original town consisted of 30 lots extending east and west along main street, two tiers deep on the south side, one on the north side. Front lots were 66 ft front and 132 feet deep, back lots were 132 ft each way. Main St. was 66 ft wide and Cross streets were 60 feet wide.

The town was first named Pittsborough in honor of William L. Hadley's home town in North Carolina, later changed to Pittsburg, then because of possible confusion, was later changed to Pittsboro. Several years ago our friend, Murat Keeney, visited Pittsboro, N. Carolina and brought back a weekly paper published there that was very similar to our own weekly paper published by Samuel Jones called "The Pittsboro Sun". It was a little like meeting your twin who looked like you and had the same name, but was different.

Before our official organization in 1833, there were two or three cabins standing in Pittsboro. One was on the site of the Frank Kirk residence on south west cross street, another on the site of the Berkey home, another on the site of the Ernest Jones home in the general area of the old Brumfield Flour Mill on East Main.

We are fortunate to have so many folks who are interested in tradition and want to keep alive the memories of former residents, of old fashioned ways, and ideals of a past generation.

QUERIES

Query - Would like to correspond and exchange with descendants of the following families:- Faught - Foote - Russell -DeWitt(e) - Russell - McCloud - Elsworth - Whitley/Whitely. All associated with the DeWitt(e) family. What was the relationship of William and Jacob Faught of Eel River who signed the will of William DeWitt of Eel River? Any information appreciated. Also Conner/Connor - Morphew - Eggers, and descendants of William DeWitt who (m) Mary Talbee in 1892 Hendricks.

Mrs. Charles Long
2721 Allen Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46203

Query - John D. "Jack" Smith (Blacksmith) in Danville and his wife Delila Beckley had ch. John W. - James S. - Margaret and Roxanna, known - one dau. (m) Isaac Christie lived Plainfield. James S. raised William Whitley, his dau. Sarah Jackson lived Plainfield. One of the Smith families/kin raised Rebecca Ann Whitley sister of William. Need your help. Was Sarah Whitley mother of the children who lived on Main at edge of Danville a Smith before she married Chap. Whitley? Please Help! Where is Sarah buried?

Mrs. Charles Long
2721 Allen Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46203

Thanks to Susan Carter, Historical Librarian
Plainfield Public Library

The following books have been added to the Guilford Township Historical Collection of the Plainfield Public Library in the past three months. They may be seen and consulted during the Collection's regular hours, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from noon until 5 p. m. Appointments for other times may be scheduled by calling historical librarian Susan Carter at 839-6602.

History of Wayne County, Indiana, 1884 (2 vol.)
Owen. Report of a geological reconnoissance (sic) of Indiana made during the years of 1859 and 1860. . . .
1984 Harris Indiana Industrial Directory.
Mr., M/s. Minister: why retire? -- gift of Luther Bostrom
The light of Christ (Quaker lecture, WYM, '83)
Recollections of Benjamin Franklin Magee (1834-1915) -- g. Becky Hardin
Art deco in Indianapolis -- g. M. Jane Terry
Pioneer ancestors of members of the Society of Indiana Pioneers
The journal of Aaron A. Leedy -- g. compiler, Donald J. Leedy
Sulgrove. History of Indianapolis and Marion County (1884) -- g. J. C. Miller
Moore. Scarecrows -- g. author, Ercelle Moore
Applications for ancestor/descendant certificates, Hendricks County (microfilm, 2 rolls) -- gift
Riggan/Horton. Our Riggan family. -- g. Edward B. Horton
Coyle. Ohio authors and their books. -- g. Ida Mae Miller
Morgan County cemetery records (partial) -- g. Janet Cowen

Danville club programs (58 programs) -- g. Danville Public Library
 Digest of acts, 1983, Indiana General Assembly -- g. Lillian Parent
 Land claims, Vincennes district.
 -Bustin. If you don't outdie me.
 Gray. The Hoosier state (2 vol.)
 Dorson. Handbook of American folklore.
 Slade, ed. Historic American buildings survey in Indiana.
 Ralston. The Brown County book.
 Alley. Southern Indiana, photographed by Hartley Alley.
 Spencer. The Spencers of Upper Randolph County, N. C.
 Kirkhan, comp. An index to some of the family records of the southern states.
 Moore. Home sweet home: American domestic vernacular architecture.
 Pottinger. Quilts from the Indiana Amish: a regional collection.
 Chaffee. Indiana's big top.
 Wilson. The Grand Army of the Republic.
 Indiana business kit for starting and existing businesses.
 Gallaway. Everyday life.
 Rose. Nora Wilmot.
 Buchner. The Pokagons.
 Barce. The land of the Miamis.
 Moore. Hoosier cyclopedia.
 Guilford County, North Carolina marriages, vol. II.
 Lawrence. This is the way it used to be in the early 1900's.
 Abel. The Welch Airplane story.
 Here is your Indiana government.
 Eisen, ed. A Mishawaka mosaic.
 Guide to Public vital statistics records in Indiana.
 Heiss. Early settlement of Friends in the Miami Valley.
 Yount. The pioneering spirit lives on: the Hunt family.
 Ketcham. Covered bridges on the byways of Indiana.
 Shepherd. The America of George Ade.
 Jameson. The Pennsylvania street car.
 Boyce. Biography of James Boyce, pioneer builder of Muncie, Indiana.
 Letters from the West; or a caution to emigrants.
 Ade. Circus day.
 Perkins. Annals of the West.
 Ade. On his uppers (contained in Literary treasures of 1928).
 Harding, ed. Indianapolis landscape architecture (2 c.)
 Furlong. The Hoosier town at work: Nappanee yesterday and today.
 Welch. The blue book.
 Indianapolis Indiana centennial, 1816-1916.
 The great theater (Indiana theater)
 Historic American buildings survey, Indiana (2 c.)
 Indianapolis dining guide, 1984. (2 c.)
 Stockard. The history of Guilford Co., N. C. (reprint)
 Sommers. Eddie called me boss: the true story of a car owner's 14 years
 at the Indianapolis 500.
 Carmichael. The stardust road.
 Manlove; ed. The best of James Whitcomb Riley.
 -Bustin. If you don't outdie me.
 Baker. Hoosier folk legends.
 Lumbra. More Hoosier cooking.

A BEAUTIFUL FRIENDSHIP
By Margaret Baker

A few weeks ago a friend, Virginia Brill Boettcher, handed me a slip of paper. It was yellow with age but I recognized at once the small, neat handwriting. It was my mother's. And as I read what was written there, a story flashed through my mind ... a story of love, romance and friendship.

It was in 1896 that my mother, Nora Walsh, a petite young school teacher, went to Clayton to preside over the kindergarten. Although music was not in the curriculum in those days, she mixed singing with the A B C's and the children loved it.

Arrangements had been made for her to live at the Acton's spacious home and there she shared a room with their daughter, Glennrose. About the same age, the girls soon became dearest friends and it was a friendship that was destined to last their entire lives.

The two belonged to THE OLYMPIAN CLUB, one of the earliest study clubs in the county. It was a club with both men and women in membership, and it was almost inevitable that both girls soon found romance. In a few years, Glennrose became Mrs. William T. Brill of Danville and mother married Mr. William Fletcher Franklin also of Danville.

Three children came into each home and both young matrons were members of THE UP-TO-DATE CLUB, the second oldest club in Danville. It, too, was a literary study club and I can remember through the years how mother seemed to enjoy preparing her programs for the club.

But THE UP-TO-DATE CLUB was also a family club and many were the "feasts" and picnics for the entire family groups. I recall with great pleasure the many suppers at the Hogate home where a banquet top table would accommodate twenty for a sit down meal. Afterwards the rugs were rolled back and, with Kate Hargrave Smith at the piano, dancing was the order for young and old.

Sometimes the club would have guest nights when the children of the club would entertain. Under the tutelage of Mrs. Etta Craven Hogate, it seems strange that not one of us ended up on Broadway for she certainly tried to make thespians of all of us!

Isn't it sad that so often we don't appreciate, at the time, how fortunate we are? I am sure none of us did at the time, but now as I look back, I realize that growing up in UP-TO-DATE CLUB was a great privilege. Surely, surrounded as we were, by such an intellectual and artistic environment, some of that refinement would rub off on us, although I know, at times, our parents must have wondered!

One year Mother's assignment in the club was to write a TOAST TO THE HOSTESS for each meeting. This she did, as was her wont, in rhyme. When Mrs. Brill - I was never allowed to call her anything but Mrs. Brill - was hostess, Mother wrote the following toast. As I started to read the faded copy, it became more and more difficult to see because of the tears that filled my eyes. It is such a lovely, poignant tribute to a cherished friend:

Will the club think it amiss
If I choose to reminisce
Just a little in the toast I give today?
It's for AULD LANG SYNE, you know
Memories of long ago
Keep crowding in my mind and I cannot say them "Nay".

Do you remember, Glenn,
Many years ago, just when
A stranger in your little town, chance led me to your door?
Your home you shared with me
We were happy as could be
Life then was just a play time, only that and nothing more.

'Twas there we had our beaux
How many? Goodness knows!
In those days they were beaux - not ultra modern "dates"
And do you remember, Glenn,
The time when two young men
Appeared upon the scene and forever sealed our fate?

Two happy years sped by
We often wondered why
Time had to pass so swiftly ... it fairly seemed to fly!
And when we had to part
A secret in each heart
Was well known to the other - we were promised, you and I.

The fates have been most kind,
Love and friendship - ties that bind
Have been strengthened by the passing of the years
We have had our hopes, our joys
Little girls and little boys
We have had some pain, some pleasure, some sorrow and some tears.

In the intervening years
There have been no doubts, no fears,
Not an unkind word has ever come from you.
'Tis that friendship that I toast.
It is not an idle boast
That in my book of friendship, I find no friend more true.

Early in 1947, Mother, with many others, mourned the death of her dearest friend. Less than six months later, Mother left us, suddenly and unexpectedly. It would almost seem, wouldn't it, that that beautiful bond of friendship was so strong that even Death could not separate them for long!

MEMORIES OF MITCHELL MANSION
By Ruth Pritchard
(Cont.)

I remember the first "letter" I ever wrote. That was before Mamma started our education. I was close to five years of age. I had noticed Mamma's pleasure when she received letters from "home" (Howard County). I thought she would be

happy to have one from me. I laboriously worked, seemingly for hours at the book-case secretary. I did not know what I was writing but it looked a lot like the letters from "home." I could not read them either. Up and down across the page went the pencil ~~scribbles~~ over the whole sheet of paper. My dismay was overwhelming when I handed her the letter as I stood before her anticipating pleasure for both of us and she said she could not read a word of it. I probably did not have the words very well separated and failed to punctuate properly. I do believe I stayed between the lines.

Often in winter time when Mamma had supper cooked and in the warming oven and we waited for Papa to come in from evening work, Mamma would recite poetry. There were many poems that she had memorized in school. Among our favorite were two by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, "The Village Black-Smith" and "A Psalm of Life". Mamma also sang many hymns she had learned at the Poplar Grove United Brethren Church in Ervin Township in Howard County.

Mamma read books to us about as far back as I can remember. Her excellent expression made the characters and stories seem very real. These reading sessions usually occupied her noon rest hour. She continued this practice to the time of and through the book delivery program from the Plainfield Library.

Gladys and I accepted responsibility at a young age. One time when Mamma was bed-fast with Tonsillitis and Papa had not yet returned to the house from the early morning chores at the barn to prepare breakfast for the family, Gladys and I had an opportunity to be helpful. I do not remember why we chose to do the Saturday baking before breakfast but we did. We decided to start with six cherry pies. When Papa opened that north kitchen door, he seemed to hesitate slightly. Gladys and I were standing on chairs at the kitchen work table. We were busy trying to manage pie dough that did not act at all like Mamma's pie dough. We thought we mixed the flour and water just like she did. We didn't know about lard. Papa recovered from his surprise and helped us put that dough into a pie pan and on into the oven to bake. The finished product was about the size of a saucer and just as hard.

Entertainment was no problem and ours was probably pretty well representative of that experienced by other children of this locality in that day. With ideas popping from four or five heads there were always plans for the play time hours. We dressed kittens in doll clothes, played with them in the hay mow, climbed many trees, spent many happy hours in Will Cook's woods (with his permission) rode horse back up and down that eighty rod lane - and a few times on the front porch.

The most fascinating place to play was the creek west of the house. We could sail little boats on the water and find so many pretty rocks. We also built bridges across the stream. We accomplished this by removing rails from a surviving nearby rail fence not yet replaced with wire. We were always proud of our engineering feat and always surprised later to find that the rails had made their way back to their former location for their intended use.

A satisfying escapade was achieved one afternoon when I was nine years old. The weather vane horse on a lightning rod on the ridge of the barn roof, intrigued me. From the time it was installed some years earlier, I had wanted to hold it in my hands - to see it at close range. The idea occurred to me that by climbing up a ladder to the low side of the barn roof, I could then continue upward to the ridge. The lightning rod holding the horse was at the extreme east end of the barn roof which projected slightly outward over the east wall of the barn. Carefully I advanced to this particular rod. The horse was within easy reach but I had to

stretch to remove it upward and off the top of the lightning rod. The descent with the treasure was made just as cautiously as had been the ascent. We took turns playing with the pretty trotting horse until common sense suggested that it should be replaced before its earthly visit was detected by unsuspecting absent parents. The same caution was exercised in replacing the iron horse as had been used in removing it from its customary station.

We had chores to do. We washed and dried dishes, gathered eggs, fed and watered chickens, shelled corn with a hand cranked corn sheller, pumped water for cattle and hogs, hoed in the garden, cut grass with a human powered lawn mower, "minded baby brothers (baby sat) and churned butter by operating the dash up and down with one hand while holding a book for reading in the other. Florence and Edith milked the cows when they were a little older. Our most tiresome task was picking bugs off the potato vines and putting them into cans of kerosene.

One time when we were in a hurry to go visiting that afternoon we practically ran up and down those rows of potatoes. We got every bug we saw. We just went too fast to see bugs. If one got in our way as we sped down the row, patting the vines as we went, we would snatch the unfortunate insect and permanently baptize it in the can of kerosene. Papa inspected and we repeated! It was astonishing how many bugs had infested those vines in the short time since we had been through there. Our second time through was made at a more moderate pace.

This toil was not without amusement. We engaged in extra curricular activities such as playing with cute little toads as we searched for potato bugs. The same hand that held the can of kerosene could also hold a gathered-up dress tail in the form of a pouch, at the same time. Ten or twelve little toads showed no opposition to this kangaroo style ride. Each time they were released they hopped away to do whatever they had been doing when they were captured. Maybe they caught insects, too.

We never heard of a zoo. We didn't need a zoo. We had farm animals that were far more attractive to us. We were almost ecstatic over new calves and colts. The roan colored Shorthorn calves were the prettiest pink and white pets any child would ever want. One was trained to harness for pulling the little wagon.

Farming was done by horse power. Always colts were in reserve until about three years old. So there were two about every spring. "Prince" a big long legged black colt (later gray) was sold to the Indianapolis Fire Department when he was about five years old. I remember Papa riding him bareback to demonstrate his agility and response to commands, for the purchasing agent. We kids were not happy about that deal.

THIS AND THAT

..... After attending a lovely Danville wedding, I was surprised to see so many HCCHS members from Pittsboro at the reception. One look at that fabulous cake, however, answered my puzzlement. No one could have baked such a masterpiece other than Florence Ragsdale. Then I learned that the super-active ladies group of the Pittsboro Christian Church were in the business of catering weddings. What a great idea! They find it not only fun but profitable. Congratulations!

..... Robert Low, a long time member of the HCCHS passed away at the Hendricks County Hospital January 15. We extend our deepest sympathy to Edith. "God does not take away trials or carry us over them, but strengthens us through them." E.B. Pusey

.... Our thanks to the past officers who have served so faithfully and well! And welcome to the new ones. We are looking forward to another exciting year in the HCCHS!