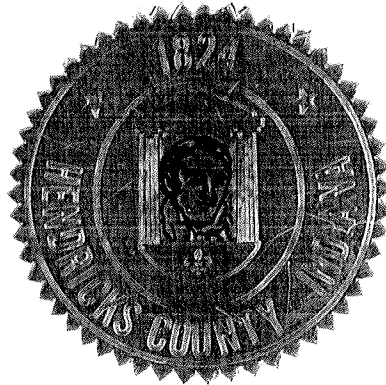


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HENDRICKS COUNTY

HISTORY BULLETIN



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THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

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H C H S

The Hendricks County History Bulletin is published quarterly in January, April, July, and October prior to our meeting dates. It is distributed without charge to members of the Society, to Hendricks County Public Libraries, and to Hendricks County School Libraries. Individual copies \$1.00. Communications concerning back copies or individual copies should be addressed to our secretary. Dues should also be paid to our secretary. Contributions or suggestions to The Bulletin should be mailed to the editor.

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H C H S

October's Bright Blue Weather

.....

O sun and skies and clouds of June,
And flowers of June together,
Ye can not rival for one hour
October's bright blue weather.

.....

When on the ground red apples lie
In piles like jewels shining,
And redder still on old stone walls
Are leaves of woodbine twining;

.....

O sun and skies and flowers of June,
Count all your boasts together,
Love loveth best of all the year
October's bright blue weather.

Helen Hunt Jackson

From your Presidents' desk,

Greetings:

As a Historical Society, we hope to pass on to posterity the tradition of those who have made their contribution to the development of Hendricks County. Some say we live in a different age, therefore traditions are not as important. History reminds us that when traditions are ignored or flouted a community disintegrates. It is our responsibility to pass on to posterity those ideals and principles that have made us great.

The family, the school, and the church were once a part of a closely knit village or neighborhood. A sense of the individual and a sense of community went together.

A community was a place where a man had roots, where he knew everybody's name. This is not so today. Who knows his neighbor? We are breathtakingly mobile. One of every three American families packs up its belongings, pulls up stakes and sets out for a new location. Have we lost the feeling of continuity, place, and belonging? Will traditions mean anything to posterity?

The Bi-centennial year is near the end of its tributes, eulogies, parades, and celebrations. I wonder if these will be minimized by our grandchildren. However, it does serve to remind us that all who hear the orations and view the ceremonial displays will grasp the true significance of them.

We hope the contribution this society makes will help posterity to appreciate what determined men of the past, by servitude, toil, and devotion to their community have given to them - schools, towns, churches, and beautiful farms to enjoy.

James I. Shockley

H C H S

Next Meeting; - October 10 is the date of our next meeting which will be held in the Cascade School. Ruth Pritchard is the social chairman and the ladies of Guilford, Franklin and Liberty Townships will be responsible for the social hour. Jack Gambold will be in charge of the program and subject for discussion is "The Birth and Growth of Labor Unions". Election of officers will be held. We hope everyone will turn out for this last meeting of the year held in the beautiful Cascade High School in "October's Bright Blue Weather".

H C H S

On July 11, in spite of the blistering heat, a goodly number of our society gathered at the lovely air-conditioned Corinth Church for a fine meeting. Frances Fisher, who was in charge of the program, introduced Mildred Smith who gave an excellent talk on "Education and its Progress". We can think of no better authority to handle this subject for Mildred has taught many years and has observed great change in our educational system. Several ladies dressed in old fashioned costumes and the display table was most interesting. Ladies of Lincoln, Brown and Washington Townships furnished delicious refreshments.

H C H S

Dues are due !!!!!!!

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H C H S

Many Hendricks County families have spent countless hours and derived a great deal of satisfaction recently in tracking down their family histories. The Smithsonian Institution sponsored a recent three-day seminar called "Kin and Communities", which director Margaret Mead said could inspire families to write their histories as a way of anchoring them to the past and would be interesting to them in the future. As she put it, "Interview your grandfather or write for your grandchild."

Dr. Murray Bowen, a psychiatrist who took part in the seminar, has noted that in five generations each person is a mix of 64 families, and in 10 generations of 1,024.

H C H S

The following interesting letter arrived recently and since it is the kind of letter we like to receive, we will pass it on to you:

I sure am interested in the Hendrick's County Historical Society, enough so that I have already mailed my check to pay for the book. I am a close friend of Mrs. Castetter of Plainfield. I am enclosing a check to cover a membership so I can continue to get the Bulletin. I have just read my first copy of the Bulletin and I am intensely interested in the "next" meeting because my wife, who passed away 2 years ago, went to church at Corinth and went to school near by in "60% school house" - in fact I have the bell that rang from the top of the school house. Many a day she has attended church service at Corinth.

Also, I live in the New England town where Reinhold Niebuhr lived - his wife still lives here. I knew him well - in fact he many times preached at our congregational church here. I meet Mrs. Niebuhr at the local post office and I shall tell her about your quoting from her husband.

I taught school in Brownsburg for 9 years, starting in a country school and going through all the schools from country school to High School, so I am familiar with all forms of education. I also attended 5 colleges beginning with "Central Normal College" which is no more. I am 91 years old and am nearly blind, so, I hope you can read this letter.

I am sorry I made my letter so long, but I am so interested in anything that has to do with Hendricks county or my wife - she was a Surber and went to school near Corinth. The bell from the school house is in my son's garage and can be rung. The school house is a residence now.

Yours very truly,

A. E. Gray

H C H S

We got a chuckle from the following story that Grace Cox found in the January 1, 1908 issue of The Friday Caller. Thanks, Grace.

TORE UP THE MARRIAGE LICENSE

Bride to be Decides Not to Marry After License is Procured.

The records show that on Wednesday of last week a marriage license was issued

to John W. Gipson and Waneta F. Taylor, but the marriage vows were not solemnized and the story why, as follows.

Mr. Gipson and Mrs. Taylor, both of whom are well known residents of Avon, came to Danville on Wednesday and procured a marriage license in the usual manner. Mr. Gipson is a relative of John W. T. Bell, ex sheriff, and as Mr. Gipson's parents were married years ago at the home of Mr. Bell, the son decided that such a procedure would be real appropriate for he and his new wife. Accordingly he notified Mr. Bell of his intention, and Mr. Bell thought that would be eminently proper. He told Mrs. Bell, who busied herself with decorating the home for the occasion and preparing a sumptuous dinner for the bride and groom. Arrangements had also been made with Squire Albert H. Kennedy to be present and tie the nuptial knot. So when the license had been secured, Mr. Gipson told his bride to be of the arrangements which apparently he had kept from her until that time. She told him she was a member of the Methodist church at Avon and thought it would only be right that her pastor perform the marriage ceremony. This was agreed to by all, and after a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Bell, the couple left for Avon. Here, Rev. Neal, of the M. E. church was called by telephone and told he was needed to perform the ceremony, which, after hearing the names of the parties he refused to do for the reason that Mr. Gipson had been married once, was the defendant in the divorce suit and his former wife is now living. This being the case, Rev. Neal said it was contrary to the rulings of his church and he could not unite them in marriage. After some further conversation, in which, from the reports, the groom failed to rise any in the estimation of the prospective bride, she asked what had become of the marriage license, when he drew it from his pocket and handed it to her. She took the paper from his hand and in a moment had torn it into bits and threw it into the fire, after which she told him she was done forever with him and for him to vacate immediately.

The story is that Mr. Gipson had taken more "joyful oil" on board than was for his good, and that while feeling particularly good and happy humming the song "Love me and The World is Mine," he had boasted of his coming marriage and that he was going to marry a nice sum of money. This came to the ears of the lady between the time of the granting of the license and the tearing up of the license, hence her action.

Mrs. Taylor is the widow of the late William Taylor, for years the well-to-do merchant of Avon. She bears a splendid name among her neighbors and acquaintances and has a sufficient amount of this worlds goods to enjoy life thoroughly, her fortune being estimated at between \$20,000 and \$30,000. It is said that the remarks made by Mr. Gipson about his going to marry this money is what broke off the match. Naturally, the affair has caused much comment in the vicinity where the parties are so well known, and from the reports it must be that the big majority of the people are siding with Mrs. Taylor.

Avon citizens, who were expecting a Christmas eve wedding, were surprised to learn that after the license was procured, the bride-to-be changed her mind and declared the wedding off.

H C H S

The following article, written by Mr. R. S. Debra, appeared in 1947 edition of The Republican and was submitted by Ruth Pritchard:

HOME TALENT PLAYS WERE ALL
THE RAGE FIFTY YEARS AGO

(By R. S. Debra)

"At Billy Miller's Circus-Show--
In their old stable where it's at--
The boys pay twenty pins to go,
An' gits their money's-worth at that!--
'Cause Billy he can climb and chalk
His stockin-feet and purt'nigh walk
A tight-rope--yes and ef he fall
He'll ketch, an' "skin a cat"--'at's all!"

--Riley

Recently the following letter was received at the office of The Republican:

Dear Editor: About two or three weeks ago you had an article about an interview with Sadie Cook which was very interesting. My stepfather was John S. Dunbar who sold papers and magazines. In his old Bible I found two programs and hope you will give them to someone that was in the play as they will bring back memories of the early days before the radio and movies. In the cast of characters are Maggie and Sadie Cook. Do not know if they are sisters or not. I see where someone marked the date 1893 on both of them. Probably Mrs. Dunbar as she was in the cast with Mrs. Dungan. I like The Republican very much as it gives the news all over the county, and I was born at Clayton. I like to read what happened fifty years ago.

C. Redwine.

Yes, back fifty-four years ago, before the advent of the automobile, movie and radio, the entertainment that some young folks cooked up for the community was different and it usually took the form of a home-talent play. So for the benefit of those who can remember back fifty years ago, this story is written.

The program mentioned was for the home-talent play, "Deestrick Skule". And since Scott McCurdy is the oldest continuous resident of Danville, I went to him for help, and as has always been the case, I got it. Plenty of it. While he did not especially remember the play, he gave me a short history of almost every player. So for the benefit of those who like to recall the days of long ago, here are his comments.

I found him in his combination garage and work shop, sitting by a stove in the middle of July, and the heat didn't feel so bad either.

"Let me read off this cast of characters to you" I said, "and you tell me anything you can about them. The first ones are three Committeemen. Squire Kicker was played by Dr. Harlan. What about him?"

"That would be Dr. Conrad Harlan a dentist on the west side of the public square."

The next Committeeman was John Bayne.

"John Bayne was a shoemaker. By that I mean that he really made shoes from heel to toe. He was a good workman and lived where Allie Wilson now lives."

The last Committeeman was C. W. Stuart.

"He was a retired preacher and kept a book store where the Pierson Clothes Shop is located. It was in a frame building then that has long since been torn down."

Milt Darnell was the next and he played the part of the schoolmaster.

"He was a hardware dealer. And by-the-way, his son was here in Danville last week after being away for fifty years. He said the only men left that he used to know were Otis Gulley and myself."

Ressie Hendricks, how about him?

"All I can remember about him was that his father was a crippled Union soldier."

How about Abe Douglas?

"He was the sheriff of Hendricks County at one time. He lived in the house at the corner of Indiana and East Main Streets that was recently moved away to make room for their new garage building."

The next one on the list is George C. Harvey.

"You should remember him. He was a lawyer in the firm of Brill & Harvey, a Union soldier and the father of the late George R. Harvey."

What do you know about Charlie Ayers?

"He was a brick mason and he and his father, Park Ayers, built the brick house where you live at the corner of Tennessee and North Streets. They built that soon after the father returned home from the Civil War, and lived there for many years."

The part of Hoke Smith was played by Walter Douglas.

"Walter Douglas was just a kid, the son of Abe Douglas."

I knew the next one, Nose Crawford. He was a farmer who lived down on the Clayton road for many years until he moved to town. Then he worked on the roads for the Highway Department until his death. I also knew the next one, Dr. Huron, a Homopathic physician. He and Dr. White and Dr. Hoadley were three of the grand old doctors of Hendricks County. Kate Huron, his daughter, was a teacher in Central Normal College for many years.

The next two on the list, I also knew very well. Edwin Searce, a brother of Bertha and Martha and Mrs. Charles Cook who is still living west of town. Thad S. Adams was a prominent Danville lawyer and the father of Miss Ruth Adams.

"I see there Mrs. Douglass played the negro character, Sis Cottonhead. She was the wife of Abe Douglass. The next one, Mrs. Martin, could have been Cora Fiddick as it would be like her to be in a play, since she enjoyed them so much. Mrs. C. A. White was the wife of Dr. White and one of the teachers who taught when I went to school. You know the next one, Elizabeth Commingore, who was janitor at the Methodist Church for so many years. You also knew Mrs. Ed Humston whose husband was County Recorder and whose son, Cly, lives out on one of the rural routes."

"The next one, Mrs. Kinnon, I just don't know at all. I might if the program printed her given name. Mrs. Marshall was the wife of Jot Marshall a Union soldier and the father of Mrs. Ola Hubbard. He was the sheriff of this county for two terms. Mrs. Dill was the mother of Harry Dill who used to work in the Republican office before you got on the job."

"Maggie Cook, referred to in the letter, was later the wife of Lucian Darnell, who for many years owned grocery stores in Danville and they were all called 'The Yaller Front' Sadie Cook was her sister who still lives in Danville and is res-

possible for many of your stories. The Mrs. Hill who played the part of Patsy Perkins, I can't place because it doesn't print her given name."

"May White was a daughter of Fred White and a sister of John Neiger who was in business on the west side of the square for many years. Miranda Ayers was the daughter of Park Ayers mentioned before. Mrs. Jim Dungan, wife of west side druggist, and Mrs. John Dunbar, wife of the local news man, played the part of twins. Mrs. Pike, Mrs. Daggy, Sadie Cook, Mrs. Anna Hadley and Ella Marshall finished the cast."

There you have the story of that particular play and the history of the players. Not very interesting to new comers. But with the old timers who were young folks fifty years ago this story may recall a host of pleasant memories. That is why this story was written.

H C H S

Our Society is grieved in the loss of three very dear members. Bertha Christie passed away July 23rd at Hendricks County Hospital after a brief illness. Bertha was a charter member of our Society and was faithful in her attendance. She and Bert would have celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary in September, and our sympathy is extended to him. As a sad sequel, Bert fell shortly after the funeral and was taken to Hendricks County Hospital, and is now being cared for at National Health Enterprises in Danville.

Mrs. Marvel Hunt Ross of rural Danville passed away September 25th at Hendricks County Hospital. Marvel was a very interested member, although because of her health, she had never been able to attend a meeting. Marvel's background includes two of the earliest settlers in Marion Township - the Hunt and Underwood families.

Mr. Dan Alig, another faithful member, passed away recently at an Indianapolis hospital. His wife, Glendora Alig, of rural Danville, is also a member. Our sympathies are with her and her family as well as the Ross family.

H C H S

Fashion Notes

I wonder how many of us think of "The Boutique" as a very modern way of merchandizing. Well, if you do, you may revise your thinking after you read the following ad which appeared in a Danville paper published in 1874:

"Mrs. Jennie Harding has just received the first invoice of spring millenry goods. Mrs. Harding is a lady of excellent taste, and is careful to select the newest styles. Her shop, on the west side of the square, is a wilderness of ribbon, lace, bonnets, flowers, hats, perfumery, jewelry, notions, etc., blooming in bewitching loveliness, and redolent with the aroma of a thousand flowers. The ladies will find this a delightful place to see the fashions, and to gossip of bonnets, damask ribbons, brocade silk and other beauties so dear to the feminine heart."

Other fashion notes: "Dainty draped waist of tucked mousseline de soir, is trimmed with bands of black ribbon velvet fastened by tiny cut steel buckles.

"The front is draped in soft folds slightly bloused which gives a stylish full effect so becoming to the slender figure. The close fitting sleeves of tucked

chiffon are finished with circular cuffs which fall over the hands."

Artists assert that the high collars now worn by young women have destroyed the pose of the head and the lines of the neck. They are also hurtful from a health point of view. A very high band around the neck tends to strain the muscles, the cords of the neck and shoulders. If the collar be very high in front, it will impede circulation, and in time, result in headaches and nervous strain. It is also thought that high and stiff neck bands are responsible, by impeding circulation, for much of the bad sight of the present day.

(Ed's note: It seems that even way back then some one was always trying to take the joy out of life!)

Other advertisements of that era are interesting, although almost painful, to read if you compare prices with present day ones.

The Country Fair specials

Ladies gloves	8¢	Men's socks - 1/2 doz. pair ..	38¢
Ladies shoes.....	\$1.40	Men's gray underwear	68¢
Ladies hosiery	10¢		

Rawlings Brothers

C C C Corset for summer wear 50¢
but they are really a 75¢ corset

The City Shoe Store

The price of a hog (picture) will shoe the whole family for a year

Alf Welshans, the clothier

Men's suits - \$4 to \$20
Children's suits - \$2.50 to \$6.00
Overcoat - \$3.50 to \$18

Shirley, Showalter and Co.

A fine line of worsted and cassimere pants from \$2.00 to \$6.00

Kennedy and Co.

Shawls in great variety - \$2 to \$10

We give you a good felt skirt, all wool for \$1.00

Plenty cheap prints
Plenty cheap muslins
Plenty cheap skirts

S. A. Russell

Full and complete stock of Spring and Summer Goods. In the way of Ladies Dress Goods may be found De Laines, Berege De Lanes, Challas, Gingham, Bereges, Tissues and a good stock of prints. Good fast colored prints at 11½ per yard time price.

For Men and Boys Wear, we have cloths, cassimeres, Satinets, tweeds, cashmerets, jeans, cottonades and linens. We have also a good stock of Brown and Bleached shirting and sheeting, tickings, checks and hickory shirting and sheeting, and I think the largest stock of hardware ever offered in this market.

One Word More

To those who are indebted to me for goods sold previous to last Christmas, I want to say that I need the money - this is no idle talk. If I fail to pay, my reputation as a business man suffers, and my credit is injured. This I cannot, must not permit, and I appeal to each one of you, as friends, to do something for me very soon.

Ladies skirts and corsets, 8 hooped skirts (steel hoops) for \$1.00 at Russels

Martin and Haynes

Have received a large and complete assortment of new goods which we wish to dispose of under the cash system, as we are convinced that that is the true way to do business - old fogyism to the contrary notwithstanding.

Mrs. R. Holt

Hair goods - switches, braids, curls, frizzes, puffs, fronts, wigs, etc. (Ed's. note - As they say, the more things change, the more they are the same!)

H C H S

On Sunday, September 26th, the Indianapolis Star Magazine Section contained two interesting articles of the revival of folk medicine. The introductory paragraph was as follows: "It's fairly common these days to see physicians from Duke University's prestigious Medical Center sitting around a table, engaged in shop talk with retired farmers, housewives, ministers and divinity students. The subject they discuss is folk medicine."

The following article written by our own Joe H. Davisson several years ago is pertinent to the new thinking on old remedies.

OLD TIME REMEDIES

Many of the remedies mentioned here once were the stock in trade of my maternal grandmother, Nancy (Bohanon) Harris. During her lifetime of 87 years, she seldom called for a doctor. She did much work both indoors and outdoors, ate heartily of plain food, had a sunny outlook on life and used her remedies on herself and occasionally on her neighbors when they required aid.

In her day many children were subject to head lice and itch. The first thing was to use a fine tooth comb, followed by a scalp treatment of some lard or vaseline in which several drops of coal oil had been mixed. After this, the hair was cleansed with hot water and lye soap. A quick cure for itch was sulphur mixed with lard or salve and rubbed into the affected parts.

If a child was extremely loose in his bowels, he could be helped or cured by drinking boiled milk or eating plenty of raisins.

To thin the blood and get rid of old time "spring fever", was to see that the boy or girl ate a saucerful of sorghum molasses into which had been mixed a spoonful of sulphur. A dose now and then did wonders.

Earache constantly plagued the youngsters who lived in houses that were little better than a modern cowshed. Two remedies were hot cloths applied to the aching ear or have hot tobacco smoke blown into the ear repeatedly.

Almost everyone on the farm got ivy poisoning sooner or later. It is told that the wild Indians often suffered from the poisoning of ivy, oak or white sumac. One preparation used by old timers was a strong solution of sugar-of-lead in water and rubbed on affected parts several times a day. Another remedy was copperas water applied in liquid form every few hours. Still another was rubbing on oil of sassafras, keeping it away from the eyes and mouth.

A simple and often effective remedy was to rub on poisoned parts the milk of a milk weed. This stung like blazes, but often got results. The milk of a milk weed was used and on application burned like fire.

For minor burns on feet or fingers, hold the blistered part as close to a hot stove or hot iron as possible and keep up for three or four minutes. The soreness would soon disappear. The theory was that it took heat to draw heat out.

A splinter in the hand or foot that could not be taken out immediately was made easier to extract by placing over the wound a thick slice of fat pork and leaving it wrapped until the following day. The drawing effect of the meat made the splinter come out easily and when it was out the wound was filled with turpentine. This brought groans.

Youngsters in country schools would throw snowballs if they knew they would suffer croup at night. Granny could stop croup in a sleepy boy in no time. She roused him up in bed and put into his mouth a teaspoonful of sugar that had five or six drops of coal oil mixed in. If this did not bring an entire cure the taste left in the mouth of the victim until breakfast time kept his mind off the croup that remained. At times a tea was administered made of boiled red peppers and sweetened with sugar or honey. Often turpentine and lard mixed were rubbed on the throat.

"Feed a cold and starve a fever" was an old saying that had proved its worth through numerous experiences. A fearful remedy for deep colds and flu was a dose of quinine wrapped up in a spoonful of apple or peach butter and washed down with milk or water. Such a thing as being allergic to a drug was never dreamed of by granny or others who had remedies.

For the person down with pneumonia, a reliable treatment was to apply to the victim's chest a hot poltice, made of onions. This writer recalls that years ago his father came home one winter night and announced that the doctor had given Beula

up to die. She was a 15 year old neighbor girl. Shortly after the doctor left three women started cleaning and slicing a gallon or more of onions and cooked them until they were a mush. This was put into a cloth sack and placed on the sick girl's chest. When morning came she was much improved and with repeated treatments, Beula completely recovered.

There were many remedies for tooth ache. If a child had it a strong string was tied about the tooth and the tooth was jerked out. Grandma was expert at this! A jerk, a big yell, and the lad was shown his incisor or whatever it might be and the ache was over. Clove oil was often used by older folks. An old uncle was once asked what was a good way to cure tooth ache and he said, "Take a mouthful of water, set down on a hot stove, and when the water boils the ache in the tooth will be gone."

A cough remedy that this writer remembers being tried one time was made of one fourth pound of cockleburs boiled in a gallon of water. When the water boiled down to a quart it was strained off, thickened with strained honey and bottled for use.

A remedy, and a much used one, was whiskey and rock candy. Many a man of years ago swore to the curative properties of this simple concoction that so many wanted to believe would cure sore throat, bronchitis, stomach upset, dandruff and broken arches. It was a household cure-all as chicken soup was in all Jewish homes. Harry Golden states that on New York's great East Side if a boy was run over by bicycle or auto he was given chicken soup before a doctor could arrive.

It is recalled that years ago anyone suffering from typhoid or other fever was remembered by neighbor men and boys who scoured the woods for a squirrel to make the sick one soup. It was famed for restoring strength.

Everyone sometime or other got a cinder or other foreign particle in his eye. A flax seed that never irritated was inserted to chase the cinder to the corner of the eye which could be easily wiped away. Washing the eye vigorously with warm water was often a help, or holding the lids away from the eye and blowing the nose repeatedly.

For a bleeding nose, cold cloths were placed repeatedly on the back of the neck and in extreme cases the nostril was plugged with cotton or soft cloth or paper.

Children used to turn their feet out to grass the first of May and remained barefooted until sometime in early October or November. Cracks often opened underneath the toes called dew cracks or sores. A severe remedy, but generally a cure was for the boy or girl to put their feet into a pan of fish brine. The salt solution was healing but hurt.

Doctors were few and far between in our grandparent's day and when accidents and sickness came one had to use some household remedy or "grin and bear" the trouble he was in. Often the remedy used was almost as fearful as the disease but the early parents had confidence in the remedy that experience had taught was not one hundred percent effective, but was better than no remedy. Those poor souls who sickened and died early were unfortunate in being born before the miracles of medicine and surgery came into general use.

H C H S

Too much can not be said for Dorothy Kelley who is doing double duty these days. It seems that when she is not at Jackson Zender working on the history book,

she is at the museum applying her time and talents there. Many of her waking hours are spent in behalf of the Historical Society, although she has many other interests and activities. We wish to say "thank you" to Dorothy for her efforts above and beyond the call of duty. Many others are working hard to help get the history out on time. These include, among others, Mary Jeanette Winkleman, Ruth Hall, Frances Fisher and Ruth Pritchard. There is no way to number the hours they have spent on this project, and when you see our Hendricks County History, I am sure you will appreciate their tremendous contribution.

H C H S

It is always interesting to note how many V I P's we have in our organization. This summer Mrs. Helen Jones was chosen "Citizen of the Month" by the Young Modern Home Ec Club of North Salem and the next month, Katherine Hamilton received the same recognition. They were honored because of their many years of community service.

Mrs. Mildred Smith of Brownsburg presided as Grand Marshall of the Brownsburg Bicentennial parade, an honor of which she was most worthy.

H C H S

I don't know when the following article was published in The Indianapolis News, but it tells an interesting story about one of the grand old men of Hendricks County.

by Agnes M'Culloch Hanna

"We had a jolly company on the steamboat," wrote Leander M. Campbell, a young man of 19, in his daybook as he was crossing the Ohio river from Henderson, Ky., to Madison, Ind., in 1852. He was coming to our state to make his fortune. He tells of many jokes and amusing anecdotes on the train between Madison and Indianapolis, and says in one entry:

"Nine-tenths of the buildings we saw were one story as the country (Indiana) is too level to build higher for fear of accident from windstorms."

In Belleville, Hendricks county, he found a position as teacher in the academy. There were plenty of students ready to be taught but he had difficulty in convincing their parents that he was worth a higher salary than they had been paying for instruction. He won his point and within two years he married a very lovely lady, named Matilda Hammond and went with her to Danville and its larger opportunities.

\$20 Paid to Architects.

In Danville Mr. Campbell rose to a prominent place in the profession of law. The house he built is one of the landmarks of that city.

His diary and account books belong to his granddaughter, Miss Ruth Adams, and from them we have a detailed record of each day's activities and the consequent expenses. In December, 1858, he writes:

"Paid to the architect for designs for the new house, twenty dollars." In January he paid \$100 to Miller & Curry on contract. The firm of contractors was William Miller, Robert Curry and Frederic Wangenlander. They had the contract for the Courthouse which antedates the present handsome and well-kept structure.

Among later items were :For digging the cellar, \$22; for a cast or wrought-iron balcony, \$28, and for a small job of "paint and toil," \$3.93. He lists the many articles needed for his comfortable, well-built house, from nails to door latches, a lightning rod and much else.

Brick in Good Repair.

The brick was well made and is in good repair today. Expenditures for the "rear house" were kept separately. Evidently that was an after thought. The long brick building which housed the stores of wood, coal and ice cut from the pond in the meadows, is now a handsome garage. The huge barn with an arched end into which a load of hay could be driven stands at some distance from the house, and shows the extent of the large acreage, high and low lands included. There were horses, carriages and a sleigh belonging to the family.

In the house were fireplaces and later mase burners, rosewood chairs, a sofa and a bookcase, once in this house, now belong to his granddaughter.

During the eighties the house was remodeled and second and third stories added. A bedroom was made on the first floor next to the living room. Some of the old quartersawed oak woodwork was changed and mill-made ornaments added. Mrs. Campbell and an infant died before the house was remade, and Mr. Campbell married Lucinda Hamrick who endeared herself to the two daughters and the remaining son.

Deep Ravine Nearby.

A deep ravine ran near the house and from time to time efforts were made to fill it in with dirt from excavations nearby. On one occasion a long rainy season and the many springs in the hillsides saturated the earth and resulted in a landslide, which was heralded by a great roar as the banks dipped to the bottom of the ravine.

The pond in the lowlands was a favorite spot for merrymaking and many romances developed there. Skating was very popular and was often followed by taffy pullings and other such frolics. Pond lilies grew in the shallow water and helped to make the whole a beauty spot. In later years the muskrats undermined the dam and the water seeped away, but not until many a local hunter had learned to shoot wild duck there.

In November, 1865, Mr. Campbell recorded that he had accepted molasses to the value of \$19.50 as a fee, and that he had paid \$1.65 for a copy of Godey's Ladys book. His law business prospered and he served his county in the Legislature. When Benjamin Harrison went to Hendricks county for any reason he always went to the Campbell home.

Proposal for Monument.

About 1885 Leander Campbell wrote to the editor of the old Indianapolis Journal proposing that a statue be erected to the soldiers of the civil war, to stand opposite to that of Governor Morton in the Circle. He said he was sure fifty men would be glad to give \$500 each to defray the expense and offered to send his share at once! From his generous offer grew the larger plan of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument as we have it today.

One of his daughters, Effie, was married to Thad S. Adams, now representative in the state Legislature from that county.

Miss Ruth Adams, the granddaughter, owns family portraits and other mementoes of various sorts.

Ogdens Were Neighbors.

Neighbors and friends of those early days were the Ogdens, parents of our present attorney general, James M. Ogden; Gen. E. W. Homan, whose small brick house is most interesting; Eli Ritter, later of this city; Dr. J. W. Hoadley, an Englishman who practiced medicine in Danville and whose delightful house stands waiting for a new and discerning owner.

In 1895 Judge George Brill bought the eight acres which include the brick house. He had studied law in Mr. Campbell's office, and was one of the young folks who enjoyed the friendship of the family. In speaking of the long period of time in which Mr. Campbell never missed a session of court, he said his own record of forty-four years was longer only because he had lived to greater age than Mr. Campbell.

Sixteen Birds Fall at One Shot.

Mr. Brill told of a day when wild ducks covered the pond in the lowlands so closely that there was no space observable between them, and his double-barreled shotgun worked havoc among them, sixteen birds falling at one shot! Buck ague interfered with his next shot, or more dinner tables would have served wild game that day.

Judge Brill spoke of some of the old and famous civil and criminal cases tried in the Hendricks county court. Danville and Indianapolis have been closely linked for many years. Danville is a pleasant place to live. This house in its original shape is the prototype of hundreds in our state, although few have the pretty balcony of wrought iron.

Mr. Campbell's diaries and account books should interest many of our citizens. I hope they may be published.

H C H S

Time is what allows us to remember the rich goodness of country butter without recalling all the churning.

H C H S

Our Heritage

Let's tell our children about their American heritage. Their right to become uncommon men! Let's mow down the myth of the common man as a worthy objective. Common is merely a polite word for mediocre. America was not made great by common men! It was made great by uncommon men. Let's keep on producing uncommon men.

Let's tell our children that neither security nor profit are dirty words. Let's admit that every reasonable man wants some security. Americans must earn security, not get it by forfeiting their freedom.

Let's tell our children that there are a million theories of Utopia. Every man has his own dream, but only in America can a man make his dream come true--if he is man enough. America's greatest resource isn't gold or iron, natural resources

or material wealth. America's greatest resource is the magic of free people living in a free system.

Finally, let's tell our children that their greatest inheritance is their God-given inalienable rights, including the priceless right to improve themselves by their own efforts.

H C H S

I like the following prayer published in "The Charlotte Observer".

"Lord, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and some day will be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and every occasion. Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs.

"Make me thoughtful but not moody, helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all - but Thou knowest that I want a few friends at the end.

"Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details. Give me wings to get to the point. Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing and love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by. I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of others' pain, but help me to endure them with patience.

"I do not ask for improved memory, but for a growing humility and lessening cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memory of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.

"Keep me reasonably sweet. I do not want to be a saint - some of them are so hard to live with; but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil. Give me the ability to seek good things in unexpected places and talent in unexpected people. Give me the grace to tell them so. Amen."

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