

Home For Village Founders

Clayton's First House Built in 1830's



ORIGINAL BIRD HOME, FIRST CLAYTON STRUCTURE, NOW OCCUPIED BY FIRE CHIEF RICHARD McCORMICK AND FAMILY.

It is not known when the first wagon tracks were made through the dense forest where Clayton now stands. But it was in the early 1830's when Mr. and Mrs. Chauncey Bird, their son and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Ruebin Bird and the second son, J. M. Bird, left their farm home in the hills of Connecticut to immigrate to the new country known as the Territory of Michigan.

There was a new company known as "Westward Bound" formed by Musgrove Evans and Austin Wing, who it is thought to be the first white men to settle in Lenawee County. They

wanted others to join and help start a settlement. The Bird family traveled west after leaving Detroit until they found a cabin where they spent the night just north of what is now Devils Lake.

In the morning they took the south trail as they were told if they followed it they would come to Bean Creek where there was a settlement started known as Brighton; several years later the name was changed to Morenci. As they continued their journey through the wilderness they found much difficulty as the wagon tracks had been underbrushed, show-

ing not many had taken the southern route. As the route could only be followed by "blazed" trees which marked its course.

However they never reached Morenci, as they came upon a large frame building under construction and upon asking what this building was to be were told it was to be "A Wayside Inn" being built by the Robb Brothers. Mr. Bird bought the unfinished house, and the family never arrived at Morenci as planned.

In a short time several families had settled here. Later Ruebin Bird plotted the village

out and named the street. He named the Village from a Presbyterian Minister D. R. Clayton, a friend of the family. Mr. Bird built the first store and was the first postmaster in 1837. He did much to promote the settlement into a village. He gave a strip of land to the village to build the first school house within the village limits and part of his farm makes up the north west corner of the village known as the Original Plat No. 1.

Mr. Bird passed away at his home in 1885, at the age of 74 years.

John E. Bird, son of Reuben and Carolyn Bird was born December 13, 1862. He attended local school and Adrian College. He was admitted to practice law in 1888 and in 1894 he was elected Prosecuting Attorney of Lenawee County. In 1904 he was elected Attorney General and in 1910 became Supreme Court Judge. He was married and had three children, Everett Bird, Gertrude Bird and the youngest son, Major Bird, who is a lawyer in Adrian at the present date.

fire bell until the siren was installed in 1949.

The Baptist Church was torn down in 1913, and that bell was sent to a church in Northern Michigan. Since 1844, the mail came on the train. The hotel was torn down in 1926. In 1969 when the school house was torn down, that bell was mounted in front of the new school. The Bible Church does not ring their church bell.

So after so many years and hearing so many bells, there is only one left. Every Sunday morning you will hear the church bell ring at the United Methodist Church.

Bill's Marathon

- TIRES
- LUBE
- OIL CHANGE
- TUNE-UPS

3488 State St.,
Phone 445-4373

Hat Shop Proprietor



MISS LYDIA BIRD

Miss Lydia Bird was the daughter of Ruebin and Caroline Bird and was born in 1853. Miss Bird never married. She started a mill shop and made her own hats for woman and children for many years. Her shop was in the south front room of her father's home. Hats were in great demand in those days for not even a child went to church or even to town without wearing a hat.

Miss Bird was well educated and she told some very interesting stories of the childhood when wolves and Indians from a neighboring tribe used to roam the streets of Clayton and almost seemed like a piece of Clayton was gone when she passed away September 28, 1926, in the house where she was born.

John E. Bird, son of Reuben and Carolyn Bird was born December 13, 1862. He attended local school and Adrian College. He was admitted to practice law in 1888 and in 1894 he was elected Prosecuting Attorney of Lenawee County. In 1904 he was elected Attorney General and in 1910 became Supreme Court Judge.

He was married and had three children, Everett Bird, Gertrude Bird and the youngest son, Major Bird, who is a lawyer in Adrian at the present date.



CLAYTON on a quiet Sunday morning. Stores from right to left, Judson & Hawkins, Drug Exchange Bank, Hotel, Barber shop, doctor's office on 2nd floor, Gale's Saloon, Fire Engine House, Store, E. J. Hadden Hardware & Grocery, the Feed Mills and Coal Yard office.

A Teenager's Day, Years Ago

(in Medina, but, I imagine, much the same as in Clayton)

The day started about day-break. We woke fast. Pug, our dog, had been allowed to come up the stairs and was tramping all over us and licking our face. Dressing was fast, a shirt and overalls both made by my mother.

Then we fed the cows and horse, cleaned the stables, and milked the cows. We met with a group of our friends in front of the store, with the family cows and then drove them down across the bridge and up to Strobeck hill. Then it was pancakes and sausage with honey from father's bees, and milk, perhaps sorghum mollasses made by George Camp in Colvins mill.

After breakfast, water and wood. The wood must be evenly split so mother could keep an even fire while cooking, baking, or ironing. Water was carried in from the well and the reservoir, filled from the cistern to insure a supply of hot water. Garbage and slops must be thrown out and disposed of. There was work to be done in the garden, often cherries or berries to be picked. The morning was apt to be quite well filled. There might be time to watch Mr. Brazee weaving some of his famous baskets or to slip over to the Carl Weber's blacksmith shop and watch him shoe a horse or work magic with iron.

When it was bake day, it meant warm biscuits and probably fresh doughnuts. Often there was pie, maybe suet pudding or cherry cobbler.

Afternoons were the time for getting together, quite often at the school yard. Seldom was there enough for two teams so it would be scrub or "two old cats". Our ball was hand made, cord carefully wound around a rubber center. The ball had been whittled and scraped from a piece of basswood or ash. If we had a glove, it was made from the top of a worn-out boot. Sometimes we played games of all sorts. Once in a while we went to the closed five story mill and played such games as "hide and seek" or just holler around its dusty stairways and narrow steep stairways. Sometimes we went "swimming" in one of the many deep pools of Bean Creek. More

often perhaps, there were small groups. Quite often there was fishing.

In any case, the hours passed all too quickly. I never remember asking what I could do but, rather, if I could do. With evening came the rounding up the cows and the evening chores. We liked to meet the stage which came from Morenci at 9 o'clock and back from Hudson at 5 o'clock. It was an event if you had mail to carry home.

For supper it might be fried potatoes with pork and beans, (uncanned). If it had been a heavy day of hard work there might be a kettle of corn meal mush bubbling on the stove. After supper there was time for croquet, ball or running games. You might want to rest in the hammock (made of barrel staves woven together with wire) or just swing.

When darkness came the kerosene lamps were lighted. Of course there was no form of electricity in use. There was no daily paper and, of course, no cartoon section. We did have good books and plenty of card and board games. Many informal evening parties were held. There never was a lack of something to do. Often the party closed with pop corn or a taffy-pull. All our music we made for ourselves, piano, organ, violin, banjo, mouth organ, and most of all, our voices.

When we crept up the stairs with our kerosene lamp, we had the satisfaction of having accomplished some thing worth while, of being able to take our place and work and play harmoniously with our fellows, and of forming a useful life as a family group.

What more could a teenager want?

Latham Coffin
Clayton, Michigan

HART'S LEONARD SERVICE
FOOD & NOVELTIES
Hudson
512 East Main 448-4441

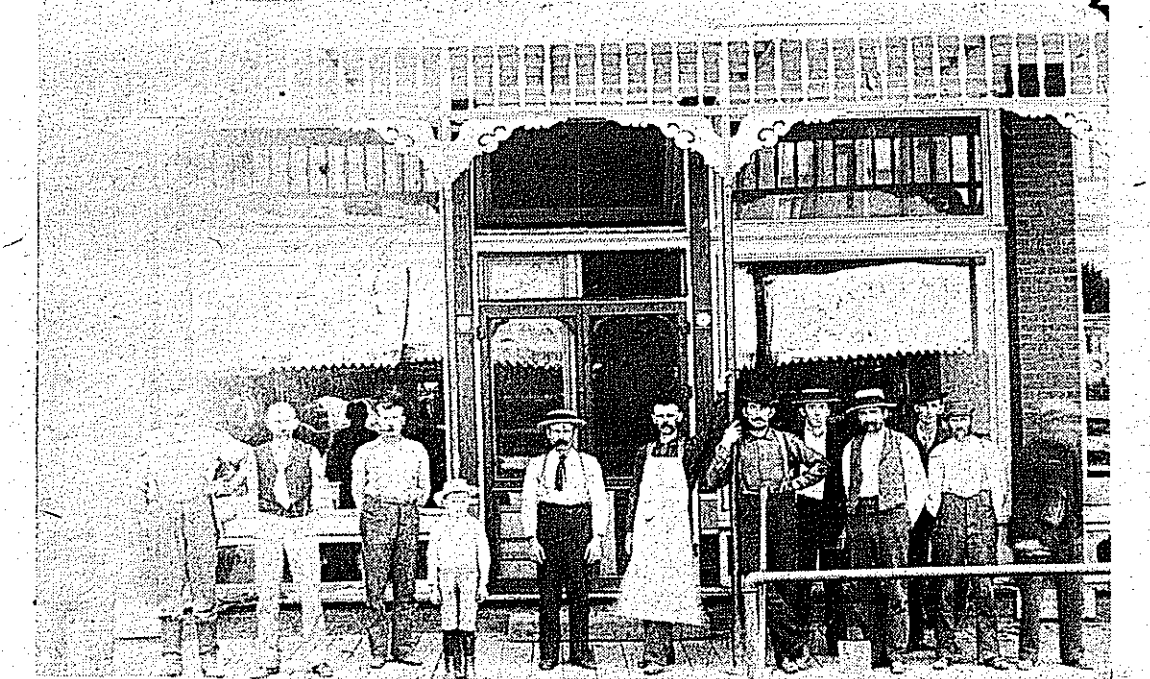


pink house. Roberts' father, Fred Shadbolt, offered \$500 reward to find out the persons who were responsible for putting it up there but the truth was not learned for years. The quartet were Stanley Foster, Carl Fritz Frank Miller and John Dowling.

Halloween Prank

It was Halloween night 1914 when Robert Shadbolt who was driving a new Saxon car had trouble with it about a mile north of Clayton in front of what was known as the pink house (the house was torn down many years ago).

Four young men of the village decided for a prank they would put this car on the roof of the



ADAM KURTZ with white apron is standing in front of his meat market north side of the K&K building, year 1895.



West Side Main St., Clayton, Mich.

PICTURE SHOWING part of the hotel looking north, bank, Hadden's Store, Judson & Hawkins, Bert Neasel run the grocery store at this time, 1904. Those sitting on hotel porch are Fred Shadbolt and Dr. McDonald.

New President Lincoln Stirs Controversy

Among the earlier settlers of Clayton Village were Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Abbott and sons. When they had lived here a while they decided to build a larger house. Before it was completed they had a chance to sell their older house and as they were very good friends of the Ruebin Bird family, they moved into the north side of the Bird house.

Everything went well until election day. Then their differ-

ence in politics, showed up. Mr. Bird being a strong Republican was so delighted when Abraham Lincoln was elected president that he bought yards of red, white and blue bunting and draped it the whole length of his long colonial porch across the front of the house. When Mr. Abbott saw the bunting over his door he at once tore it down and demanded of Mr. Bird in very strong language, to remove his half from the porch,

also. But, Mr. Bird owned the house, so the bunting remained, although the fueding in the two families went on for several days. However, they never came to blows, nor did the Abbott family move.

Now the Birds and Abbotts each had small boys that played together, and as the years passed by these boys became just as strict Republicans and Democrats as their fathers.

In fact folks used to say, "like father like son". John E. Bird went to law school became a noted lawyer and a Supreme Court Justice of the United States. Horatio J. Abbott also received a college education, married a Clayton girl, Florence Sutton, and for 30 years was leader of the Democratic Party of Michigan, and became the Democratic National Committeeman.

The Bells That Once Rang in Clayton

When the post office was first opened in 1937, mail was brought in on stage coach or horse back. Time, and even the day, when the mail would get in, was very uncertain. So Mr. Bird had a bell he would ring so people could rush to the post office, hoping to get some mail.

After the first Baptist Church was built in Clayton, and a new man, Perkins, was the undertaker, if a person would die in the village, Mr. Perkins would toll the church bell to let the folks know some one had passed away.

In 1860, when the Presbyterian Church was built, and when the Methodist Church was moved from across from North Dover Cemetery to Clayton, those churches rang the bells. In fact, many times on Sunday mornings all three church bells would ring at the same time.

Then in 1867 when the two story school house was completed, the school bell would ring.

It was in 1867, when the hotel was completed, and every noon time, Mr. Sales would stand by the front door and ring the dinner bell, letting the folks know that dinner was ready.

In 1874, when Clayton built its first Engine House, in the belfry was a bell with two ropes of different lengths. One was to ring for the Councilmen to meet, and the other was the firebell. They used this

1970 Centennial Year for Clayton Masonic Lodge

Clayton Masonic Lodge, No. 278, F.&A.M., is celebrating its centennial year along with the village, having organized in the year of 1870.

It is believed that the first meeting was held on the second floor of the Fluke Building, which is the first door south of their present lodge rooms.

After the bank building was built in 1874 a door was cut through and the second floor of that building was also used as the lodge became larger.

The first meeting was called to order by A. G. Metcalf, Grand Master of Michigan, and recorded by James Fenton, Grand Chapter Secretary Jan. 14, 1870. The following officers were elected: George W. Bailey, Master; Cash Fuller, Senior Warden; William C. Phillips, Junior Warden. The lodge opened in ancient form.

On Jan. 26, 1870 other officers were elected B. L. Sayles Treasurer; J. W. Rothrock, Secretary; J. M. Judson, Senior Deacon; George Southwick, Junior Deacon; Sylvester Vredant, Tyler; William Benson, Chaplain; Elias Ream, Stuart; L. A. Kinsley, Stuart. Each degree cost seven dollars and the dues was three dollars a year.

Officers for 1895 - Seventy five years ago were as follows: A. H. Hawkins, Master; Platt Smith, Senior Warden; Wilson Duncan, Junior Warden; Jack Reed, Treasurer; J. R. Wirsts; Nate Davison, Senior Deacon and W. I. Hobson, Junior Deacon.

It was in the early 1900's that some of the members thought they should build a building and call it the Masonic Temple. Finally four members

volunteered to put up the money buy the lot at the corner of State and North Railroad St. The four men were H.G. Noble, Jacob Gambee, Jacob Hathaway and Jacob Reed. They held lodge there only a few years, for owing to defective cement blocks and the heat from the buildings that stood next to it only the north when they burned to the ground in 1908 causing cracks in the cement blocks. The whole length of the building and the second floor was condemned. On the first floor they had a roller skating rink, a dance hall and sometimes a medicine show would come to town. Oscar Anderson ran a general store there at the last. The building was torn down as know one paid the taxes. The lot went back to the state who gave it to the village for a park with

the understanding a building could never be built on the site. At the present date it is used as a park where the flag pole and boulder is located.

By now the lodge is 50 years old and the following officers were elected-1920: Dr. A. E. Wilcox, Master; Dr. J. H. Boyd, Senior Warden; Sheldon Burt, Junior Warden; Joe Whitacre, Treasurer; Frank Ladd, Secretary; Carroll Hart, Senior Deacon; Charles Good, Junior Deacon; Cleo Kurtz, Stewart; Earl Holmes, Stewart; William Ladd, Marshal; Jesse Kunesy, Tyler. Frank Ladd was elected Secretary in 1912 and was the Secretary for 27 years.

In 1945 Wilbur Cooke was Master and Lee Green Secretary.

Now its the beginning of 1970 and the lodge rooms have been

on the second floor of the Judson & Hawkins Store for many years and the following are the Centennial officers: Master, Gleh Carr; Senior Warden, Kenneth Pickford; Junior Warden, Howard Close; Secretary, Ernest Swift; Treasurer, Hal Benner; Senior Deacon, Donald Beebe; Junior Deacon, Dorman Stout; Marshal, George Voorhees and Tyler, Charles Beebe. The Clayton Masonic Lodge has 45 members.

The following are life members: Frank Bowers, 61 years, Frank Horning, 59 years, J. J. Becannen, 54 years, Latham Coffin, 58 years, Scott Westerman, 53 years, LaVern Frayer 47 years, George Voorhees, 45 years, Maurice Griffin, 43 years, Alfred Kessler, 43 years, and Emmor Baker, 42 years.

Clayton O.E.S. Instituted 75 Years Ago

CLAYTON CHAPTER #141 O.E.S. Instituted February 13, 1895. Constituted October 10, 1895. Charter Members

- Mrs. Sarah Becannen
- Mrs. Sarah Cooke
- Mr. W. W. Cooke
- Mrs. Eva M. Cooke
- Mrs. Nellie Duncan
- Miss Jennie Duncan
- Miss Jessie Duncan
- Mrs. Agnes Frost
- Mr. Zopher Frost
- Mrs. Deborah Gambee
- Mr. J. C. Gambee
- Mrs. Eva Hawkins
- Mr. A. H. Hawkins
- Mrs. Mary Lefferts
- Mrs. Lizzie Littleton
- Mrs. Abbie Munson
- Mrs. Ida Noble
- Miss Florence Sladden
- Mrs. Lottie Torbron
- Miss Agnes Torbron
- Mrs. Mattie Wirtz
- Mr. J. R. Wirtz
- Mr. George Lefferts
- Mrs. Sarah Ellis
- Mr. George W. Littleton

First Officers elected under Dispensation February 13, 1895. Term ending September 30, 1895.

- Mrs. Mattie Wirtz, Worthy Matron
- Mr. W. W. Cooke, Worthy Patron
- Mrs. Deborah Gambee, Associate Matron
- Miss Agnes Torbron, Secretary
- Mrs. Eva Cooke, Treasurer
- Mrs. Lottie Torbron, Conductress
- Mrs. Lizzie Littleton, Associate Conductress
- Miss Jessie Duncan, Adah
- Miss Florence Sladden, Ruth
- Mrs. Nellie Duncan, Esther
- Mrs. Eva Hawkins, Martha
- Mrs. Nancy Lefferts, Electa
- Mrs. Agnes Frost, Warder
- Mr. Zopher Frost, Sentinal
- Miss Jennie Duncan, Organist

First Officers elected and installed under Charter Elected September 22, 1896. Installed September 29, 1896.

- Mrs. Deborah Gambee, Worthy Matron
- Mr. Emmor Bales, Worthy Patron
- Mrs. Mary Rice, Associate Matron
- Mrs. Agnes Frost, Treasurer
- Mrs. Agnes Torbron, Secretary
- Mrs. Lottie Torbron, Conductress
- Mrs. Eva Hawkins, Associate Conductress
- Miss Jessie Duncan, Adah
- Mrs. Carrie Bales, Ruth
- Mrs. Nellie Duncan, Esther
- Miss Jennie Duncan, Martha
- Mrs. Mary Lefferts, Electa
- Mrs. Abbie Munson, Warder
- Mr. W. D. Davidson, Sentinal
- Mrs. Jennie Littleton, Chaplain
- Mrs. Sarah Becannen, Marshal
- Miss May Lefferts, Organist

It was not until July 18, 1930 that a change in Grand Chapter law required the addition of the name of the Asso-

ciate Patron added to the list of elective officers. Clayton Chapter #141 O.E.S. meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday each month at 8 p.m. except July and August when recessed. The late Dorr Burcroff had the distinction of being Worthy Patron nine times. This was more than any other Worthy Patron in the history of Clayton Chapter.

Mrs. Antonette Judson was Worthy Matron five times, making her the person holding the office of Worthy Matron the greatest number of times for Clayton Chapter.

Life Members of Clayton Chapter #141 O.E.S. are as follows: Mrs. Anna Benner, Mrs. Sylvia Cooke, Mrs. Neva Gilbert, Mrs. Josephine Burger, Mrs. Mildred Hale Aaronson, Mrs. Etta Slater, Mrs. Myrtle Ladd*, Mrs. Florence Lord*, Mrs. Vinnie Baker*, Mrs. Elizabeth Boydston*, Mrs. Ona Fox*, Mrs. Marian Sladden*, Mrs. Jessie Ladd* - Charter Member *deceased

1969-70 Officers

- Worthy Matron - Barbara Hassenzahl
- Worthy Patron - George Voorhees
- Assoc. Matron - Jennie Voorhees
- Assoc. Patron - Kenneth Pickford
- Secretary - Mary Kindinger
- Treasurer - Iva Cleveland
- Conductress - Joyce Pickford
- Assoc. Conductress - Rose Neal
- Chaplain - Sandra Roe
- Marshal - Patricia Long
- Organist - Marjorie Stout
- Adah - Iris Stout
- Ruth - Cora Sword
- Esther - Dorothy Ryan
- Martha - Dortha Smith
- Electa - Kathryn Hart
- Warder - Ruth French
- Sentinel - Charles Beekel

Thank You

The Centennial Book Committee became deeply involved with the past in search for materials to include in this paper.

As you look through diaries and scrapbooks you read of deep personal tragedy, mixed with moments of high hilarity. Enthusiastic civil co-operation of crime, scandal, financial ruin and personal success accounts of deep patriotism as you talk to the local service men.

To all of you who have assisted in any way we offer our thanks.

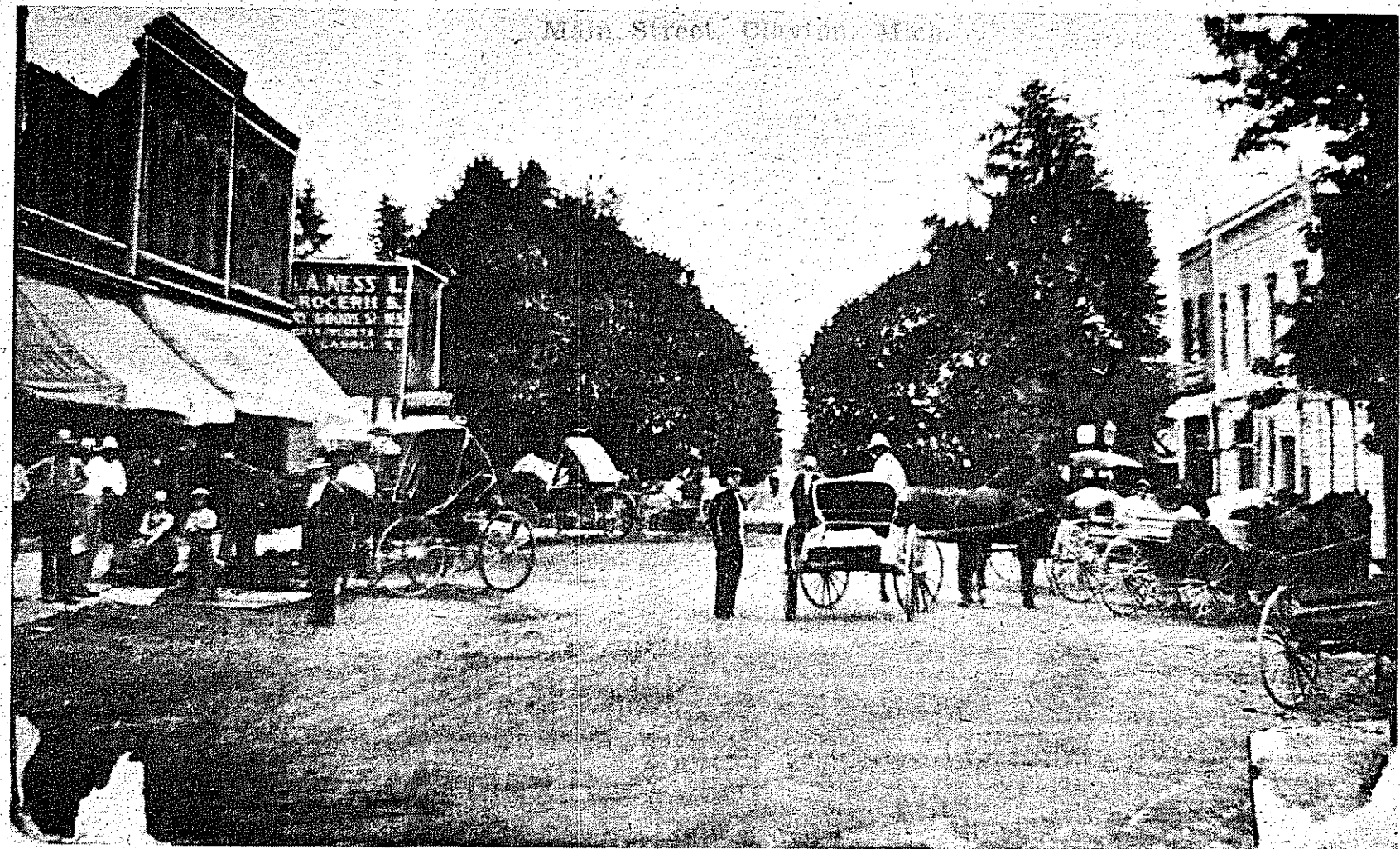
Every effort has been made to avoid offense, however, we ask your understanding if any segment of history has been omitted, and your forgiveness, if serious errors are noted. We hope this paper will be a source of interest to former residents and to the Clayton area. May this brief record of the past, serve as an inspiration to future generations.

The Centennial Fair Committee

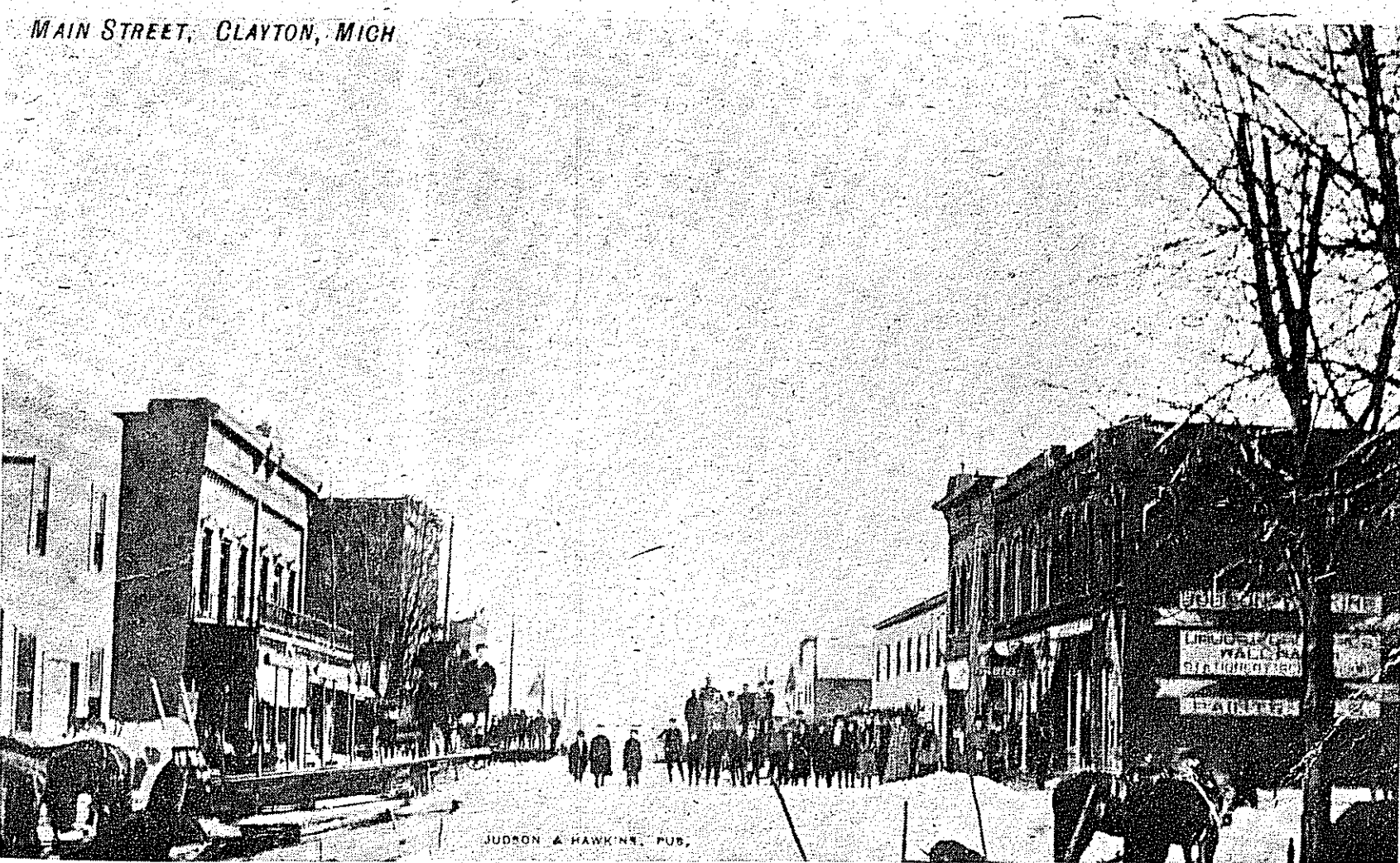
The Committee

Clayton Centennial

Anniversary Edition
CLAYTON, MICHIGAN
1870 - 1970



MAIN STREET IN CLAYTON AROUND TURN OF THE CENTURY



WINTER SCENE OF CLAYTON'S MAIN STREET IN EARLY 1900's

CONGRATULATIONS

TO THE

Clayton Masonic Lodge

F.&A.M. No. 278

ON THEIR

CENTENNIAL

The Fair Centennial Committee

1870 1970

Village Council Members 1970

President, Arnold Tuckerman; clerk, Arloine Aldrich; treasurer, Naomi Dowling; trustees, Ronald Mc Nair, F. Denver Hedge, Donald Roscrance, John Knauss, Mac Curtis, and Richard McCormick; street commissioner, Eugene Meach.

Special Note Of Thanks

A special note of thanks to Mrs. Naomi Dowling, our editor-in-chief, who has spent innumerable hours writing histories and stories and in compiling the pictures and other material for our newspaper, "The Clayton Centennial."

On behalf of all readers, we extend our sincere appreciation.

Last Private Bank in State Closes in Clayton in 1958

The first bank in Clayton was started on the south side of the three story building, by Herbert Haskins. Later his father constructed a building south of the Abbott Block, which was the location of the exchange until it was closed 1958.

Mr. Haskins got Warren Cooke, then a young man, to assist him in the bank. After a short time Mr. Haskins sold his interest in the bank to John W. Johnson, and Mr. Cooke continued to work there.

Later Mr. Johnson sold the bank to J.M. Judson and J. Mills Lamb. The new bank was known as the Judson, Lamb and Cooke Bank. The Johnson family moved to California. After a few years Mr. Judson retired, and it was then the Lamb and Cooke Bank. When Mr. Lamb retired, Mr. Cooke purchased the remaining stocks. Mills Lamb passed away in 1912, J. M. Judson in 1913 and Warren Cooke continued in the bank alone, with the help of Miss Leo Haley and Miss Carrie Culver, until 1918. At this time his son, Wilbur Cooke, graduated from Howe Military Academy, and his father gave him an interest in the bank and they started to work together and so continued until Mr. Cooke Sr.'s death in 1927. After that Mr. Cooke Jr. or "Wilbur", as he was known, took over the Clayton Exchange Bank.

In Oct., 1918, three men attempted to blow the safe. Their efforts failed but not until they had aroused several of the residents. There was a road block put up and they were caught going into Toledo. All three were sentenced to a term of years in Marquette prison. Then on a hot day, Sept. 27, 1929, a touring car drove up in front of the bank with a local girl as the driver. Two men got out, went in the bank, pushed Mr. Cooke and his bookkeeper, Mrs. Alice Gale, and a customer, Herbert Wheeler, into the safe and got away with \$1,300. They were caught a short time later and they too, served time.

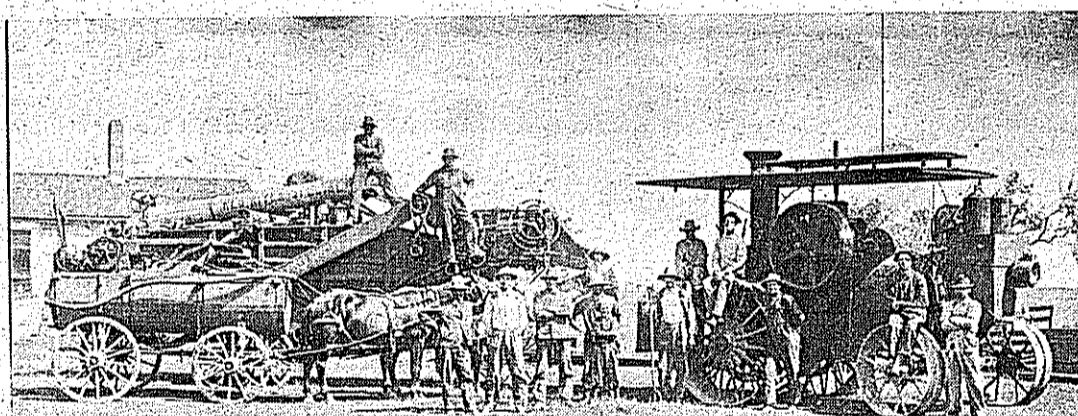
During the bank holiday the Clayton Exchange Bank didn't close its doors and many of the local depositors didn't demand their money. So the bank was able to pay 100% plus interest.

In 1958 it had the distinction of being the only private bank in the state of Michigan. In fact, the State ordered it closed March 1 of that year, but they granted Mr. Cooke's request to let it stay open until September of that year, so they could celebrate the 75th year of the Clayton Exchange Bank. His dream never became true as he died in his sleep May 27, 1958. Yes, the man who had been known as the "Clayton Banker" for 31 years was gone. He was



Wilbur W. Cooke

found by his wife, Sylvia Cooke. He left a daughter, Mrs. Dee (Marilyn) Dibble and a grand daughter, Stephanie Dibble.



THRASHING DAYS about 1913, John Dowling and Aldrich Bros., George & Elmer Aldrich.



THE PICTURE of the Perkins three story building and the new meat market. Among the trees you can see the Hyatt & Bennett Hardware, taken in 1910.

Clayton Improvement Committee

In October, 1958, after the Clayton Exchange Bank was closed, Russell McAfee of the Commercial Bank, in Adrian, met with a group of Clayton residents, at the Community Rooms, and the Improvement Committee was organized. Officers were elected. After giving us ideas how we could raise money, Mr. McAfee said the Commercial Bank would match every dollar made with fifty cents, up to \$500.

The group set out to improve the village. They put welcome signs at each corner, north and south, they bought the first clock the village ever had, they had five new lights installed in the business district and five tables and the chairs for the Community Rooms. They bought the library sign and roll-away book shelves for the library, and for the 4 H group work shop, they bought a large jig saw, a radio cut off saw, drill press, small belt sander and a band saw.

The group sponsored a banquet for the 4-H and gave prizes on the local achievement nights. They helped with recreation programs, such as Little League Baseball, swimming trips to Baw Beese Lake in the summer and skating parties at a skating rink near Adrian, during the winter months. They sponsored Mayor Exchange Day and gave a dinner with gifts for the visiting Mayor. As people bought homes in Clayton, the committee has presented them with gifts, they have donated flower arrangements to both churches. At Christmas time the streets were decorated with lights and prizes were given to the best out-of-doors decorated home. At Memorial Day they sold plants. They have also helped with many other activities.

The 1970 officers are: president, Edmund DeLine; vice president, Mrs. Herbert Hutter; secretary, Naomi Dowling; treasurer, Cecelia Knauss.

Clayton Telephone Co.

About 1904, the families in the Clayton area decided to have telephones, so two companies were formed known as South Dover and North Clayton. They hired Joe Badgely to operate the switchboard in this home. Each line had a call bell. This switchboard was moved to the Henry Walworth home and to Harry Gladden's store before the two companies combined and was called the Clayton Telephone Co.

The first officers were president, Arthur Bovee; vice president, Charles (Chap) Griffin; sec., Eugene Hadden, treasurer, Charles Baker; directors, Daniel Kelley, Aida Bovee, Fred Henning and Miles Baker; lineman Bert Wetherbee. In 1906 they bought the Ann Evans house and a new modern switchboard with drops.

In 1906 they bought the Ann Evans house and a new modern switchboard with drops. The first telephone operator was Mrs. Grace Shaw. She moved Sept. 1, 1908, and Mrs. Mayme Wetherbee took her place and

remained until her death, April 19, 1911. Then Miss Grace Vashburgh was the operator until Jan. 1, 1921. Then Mr. and Mrs. John Storer came and stayed one year, then Mrs. Rice took over. On April 1, 1923, Mrs. Olive Howard came and was the telephone operator until 1956. Then came Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Anderson who stayed only a few months to be replaced by Mrs. Bender, who was there until they changed to the dial system, Sept. 7, 1958. Mrs. (N. B.) Geraldine Curtis, who had worked several years as assistant operator, then took the office to her home, where she became the Clayton Telephone Co. information operator and bookkeeper and is at the present date, 1970.

The officers of the Clayton Telephone Co., 1970, are president, Clarence Richardson; secretary, Wayne Fish; treasurer, J.J. Becannen; directors, Carl Rin, Norman Jacobs, Clyde Goodlock, Lawrence Willetts and Robert Morris; manager and lineman, Roy Miles.

History of Clayton Recreation Inc.

In the 1950's, when the Clayton Kiwanis Club was active, its committee for boys and girls, enlisted some managers and organized base ball teams, outfitting them in uniforms. This was the beginning of the present recreation program. When the Clayton Kiwanis Club discontinued its existence, a concern for the continuation of supervised recreation for boys and girls in this area, led some to organize a recreation committee. A succeeding recreation committee, of seven members, became incorporated under the name, Clayton Recreation, Incorporated.

Activities now include bus trips to Baw Beese Lake, near Hillsdale, twice a week for supervised swimming during the summer, and bus trips, each month during the winter, to an evening of roller skating, near Adrian. This summer there were five baseball teams: two PeeWee teams of boys ages 7 through 9; two Little League teams, ages 10-12; and a Pony League team, ages 13-15, which has been playing in the Hills-

dale County Pony League Association. There also were two softball teams for the girls.

Over 10 years ago, a recreation-sponsored fair had its beginning and has grown each year since. Clayton Recreation, Inc. is still the main beneficiary of the fair profits and this money finances most of the summer and winter recreation program. Other sources of some income are \$5 membership fees in C.R.I., plus donations from the Village of Clayton, the townships of Dover and Hudson, the Clayton Fire Department, and individuals.

The past few years, the Clayton Improvement Committee has co-sponsored the annual fair, sharing some expenses and receiving none of the profit. We are grateful for this help, and for that of other individuals and organizations, in making the recreation program and the fair, the measure of success which they have been. Particularly, do I appreciate the fine cooperation and work on the centennial celebration.

Paul Burcroff, chairman

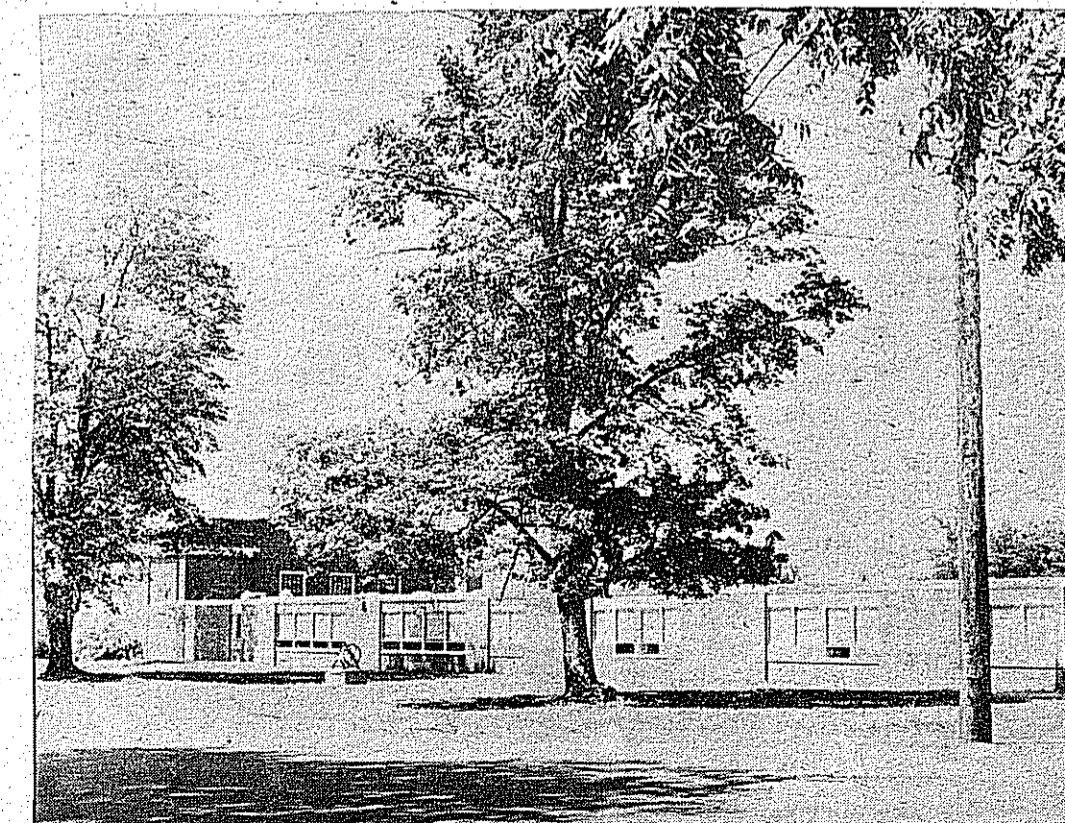
The Three Village Schools



The first school house ever to be built in the Village of Clayton. Built in 1867 - condemned and torn down in 1907.



CLAYTON HIGH SCHOOL - When the two-story building was torn down, this was built on the same site and finished in September 1909. It was condemned and torn down in 1969.



The new Clayton elementary school for K-5 pupils as it is today.

Clayton PTA

The first P.T.A. was organized in Sept., 1928, when eight mothers met with Miss Edythe Warren. They were Mrs. Musa Boyd, Mrs. Vita Abbott, Mrs. Alice Gale, Mrs. Merle Scott and Mrs. (B.C.) Florence Lord.

Miss Warren was the first president and they met at the school house every month. The group put on plays and suppers to raise money for things that were needed in the classrooms. At these meetings was the business meeting, interesting program and refreshments. At Christmas time the children put on the program and at Halloween they have a party.

They observed their 40th Anniversary Feb., 1968, with a pot luck supper and program. The stage setting was a school room of 40 years ago. Many of the ladies were dressed in clothes of yesteryear. At that date only two of the charter members

were living, Mrs. B.C. Lord of California and Naomi Dowling. Mrs. Lord passed away only a few weeks later. Naomi Dowling was honored and presented with a life membership to the PTA and a gift.

The PTA continues to meet each month, buying playground equipment and other needed articles for the classrooms.

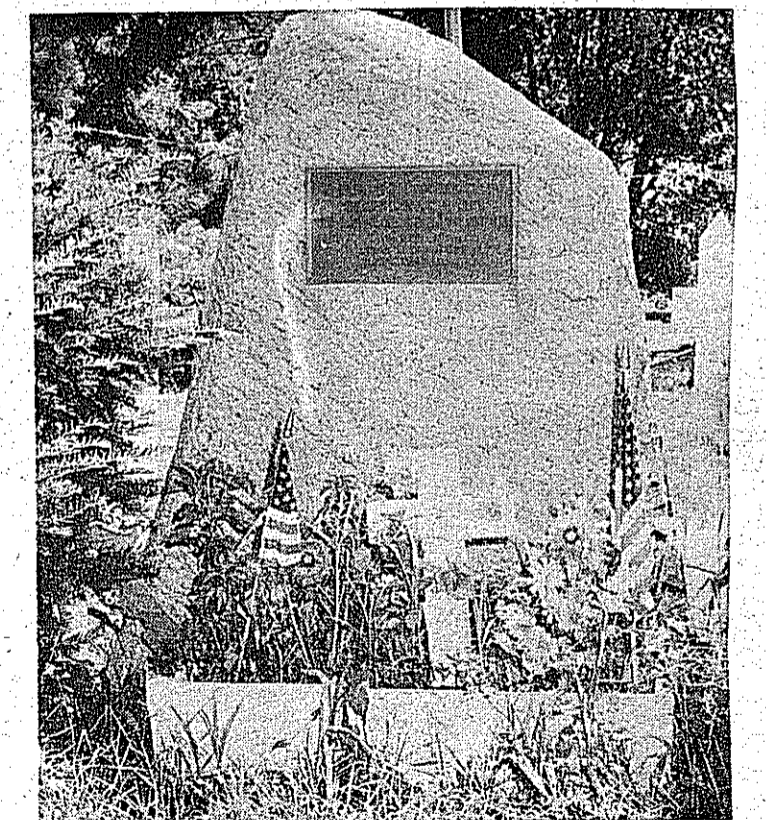
The officers for 1970 are president, Mark Jessup; vice president, Mrs. Mark Jessup; secretary, Mrs. Richard McNeil; treasurer, Mrs. Tim Sallows; historian, Mrs. Paul Burcroff; refreshments, Mrs. Roy Pelham and Mrs. Jack Stevens; teachers vice president, Miss Charlotte Harrison.

Rendel Oil Co.

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DR. A. E. WILCOX and his bride, the former Grace Maynard, came to Clayton in 1901 to start his life as a doctor where he continued to practice over 40 years. About 1909 he had the house moved away and built a new one on that site, the first place north of the present post-office.



CLAYTON WAR MEMORIAL

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Methodist History



Clayton United Methodist Church

(Taken from a history written in 1936 by Mrs. N.J. Morey)

The early history of the Clayton Methodist Church is so closely interwoven with that of the North Dover Church that it might be considered the original of Clayton.

The North Dover Society was organized in 1836 with a class of six members. The meetings were held in their homes until their church was built in 1845.

This church building was located 1-1/2 miles north of Clayton then east on Beecher Road to the first corner going north and just north of the corner on the west side of the road or about across from the North Dover Cemetery.

This Society prospered for a number of years but as the older members passed away or moved, the interest became weak and services irregular. Nearly all the remaining members then joined with a Clayton class.

The Clayton Society was organized in the early '60's. At first there was no Sunday appointment. They had an evening service on a week day once in two weeks.

A few years later, the Baptist Society having completed a new brick church, sold their old church to the Methodists who moved it to the present lot which was donated by Mrs. Caroline Graves. They repaired the building and worshiped in that church until April 14, 1876.

On March 7, 1876 under the pastorate of Horace Palmer the trustees met and decided to build a new church at a cost of \$4,000 provided \$2500 could be raised. In a very short time, aided by a liberal subscription from the citizens of the village \$3288 was subscribed. On April 14, 1876 the contract for the new building was let to John L. Perkins and Charles Haskins for

WSCS Organized In 1940

The Woman's Society of Christian Service was organized in 1940 with forty charter members. The officers were: president, Mrs. Neva Gilbert; vice president, Mrs. Blanche Wirick; recording secretary, Mrs. Elizabeth Boydston; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Myrtle Ladd; treasurer, Mrs. Maybelle Burger; secretary of Missionary Education, Mrs. Esther Croy; secretary of Social Relations, Mrs. Edna Bates; spiritual life committee, Mrs. Edna Bates and Mrs. Belle Baker.

Only four of the original charter members have had continuous membership until the present time in 1970. They are Mrs. Winifred Abbott, Mrs. Belle Baker, Mrs. Neva Gilbert and Mrs. Eloise Jacob.

Our newly elected officers for 1970 are: president, Mrs. Wilma Baker; vice president, Mrs. Fehrn Henning; secretary, Mrs. Hazel Phillips; treasurer, Mrs. Frieda Swander; secretary of Missions and Spiritual Life, Mrs. Beverly Crane and secretary of Local Church Responsibility, Mrs. Dorothy Kaiser.



CHARTER MEMBERS present at the 25th anniversary in 1965. Mrs. Rena Vinaski, Mrs. Myrtle Ladd, Mrs. Eloise Jacob, Mrs. Winifred Abbott, Mrs. Neva Gilbert, Mrs. Belle Baker, and Mrs. Ona DeLine.

Church Memories

by Latham Coffin

during the pastorate of W. S. Westerman.

The church in which we now worship was commenced during the pastorate of Horace Palmer in the spring of 1876. Since then our pastors have been as follows: J. M. Van Every, 3 years-1876-1879, Thomas Nichols, 1 year-1879-1880, A. W. Wilson, 1 year-1880-1881, E. A. Bray, 2 years-1881-1883, W. E. Dunning, 1 year-1883-1884, Wm. B. Pope, 3 years-1884-1887, E. P. Pierce, 2 years-1887-1889, F. E. Pearce, 3 years-1889-1892, W. H. McMahon, 2 years-1892-1894, C. B. Case, 3 years-1894-1897, Andrew Wood, 2 years-1897-1899, G. A. Fee, 3 years-1899-1902, H. C. Cooley, 2 years-1902-1904, J. A. Rowe, 4 years-1904-1908, M. J. Stevens, 1 year-1908-1909, C. M. Loomis, 2 years-1909-1911, Clifton Scott, 2 years-1911-1913, G. F. Winton, 3 years-1913-1916, F. A. Blake, 2 years-1916-1918, Justice Rowe, D. E. Birch, J. E. Price, 1 year-1918-1919, R. C. Scott, 1 year-1919-1920, W. S. Westerman, 3 years-1920-1923, W. W. Lowe, 2 years-1923-1925, T. S. Bottrell, 1 year-1925-1926, Louis Shanks, 1 year-1926-1927, J. J. Pearson, 1 year-1927-1928, Robert Davies, 1 year-1928-1929, Bruce Davis, 2 years-1929-1931, Robert McLean, 3 years-1931-1934, Verle Carson, 4 years-1934-1938, L. F. Merrell, 3 years-1938-1941, Edward Jones, 1 year-1941-1942, Bertram McNally, 3 years-1942-1945, Virgil Hann, 1 year-1945-1946, H. R. Youngberg, 1 year-1946-1947, Wm. A. Rush, 1 year-1947-1948, Dr. R. D. Leonard, Robert Benedict, 1 year-1948-1949, Dr. Thomas Rogers, 2 years-1949-1951, Harry Smith, 3 years-1951-1954, Robert Pevely, Bruce Leslie, Chester Brewer, 1 year-1954 to Dec. 1955, Jacob Turnbull, 8-1/2 years-Jan. 1956 to June 1964, John McNaughton, 3 years-June 1964 to July 1967, Supplied-July 1967-Jan. 1968, Lawson Crane January 1968-

My first memory of the Clayton Methodist Church goes back to 1920. At that time the building was forty-five years old. Originally there was only one room. Sometime before 1920 a nave on the east end had been removed and a room added in which there was a kitchen. At that time the church was the largest auditorium in town and was used for many community affairs. I remember many times that it was full, chairs in the aisles, the folding doors to the east opened and the east room filled. Some of these occasions were funerals, band concerts, and at least once when under the leadership of William Ladd, the Mikado was presented.

Several years later a room was added to the north and a gas stove installed. Later an electric stove was put in. Ray Jacob did the wiring. In the early years, sheds were built across the north side of the east lot to shelter the horses that brought the people to church. These were torn down long ago.

I remember George Jacob and Alda Bovee putting a hardware screen around the belfry to keep the pigeons out. I remember poking a pole through the roof while Charles Good on the roof added shingles to stop the leaks.

Over the years many have done much to add to the church, Gerald Baker very quietly unloaded folding chairs, sets of dishes, silverware, and for a number of years provided an electric organ.

Vic Gale raised the money for the first new furnace. (think Garrett Baker and Gerald got a second hand fuel furnace and the men of the church installed it. Some excavating in the basement was required for this. About this time the first inside restrooms were installed in the northwest corner of the basement and stairs put in. The old narrow stairs south of the pulpit were closed. This required new footings for the walls which Burr DeLine took care of. Leo Irwin laid the blocks for the two rooms.

A plaque on the south wall commemorates the joining of the South Dover Church. The Baptismal Fount was dedicated to the memory of Charles and Edna Good. The sacrament table to the memory of Sarah Becannen. The picture, Christ in the Temple, is dedicated to Mrs. Eloise McMath, whose funeral was conducted by Rev. Youngberg. She was the wife of one of the builders of the church and was brought here by her son at her request. The lighted picture of Christ back of the pulpit, is a memorial to Mr. and Mrs. George Jacob.

Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Bookwalter gave the first flags as a memorial to their son Robert, who was lost at sea in World War II and the drapes back of the pulpit were dedicated as a memorial to Marvin Richardson, who gave his life in Vietnam.

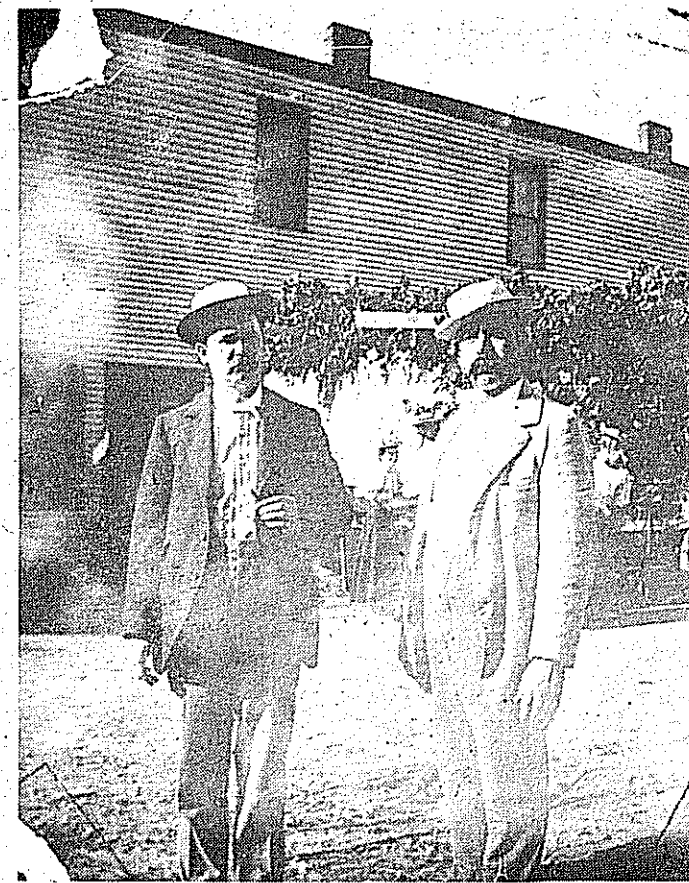
Over the decades there has been a multiplicity of gifts of time, labor and materials that have escaped notice, such as the hymn board at the north side of the pulpit made by Mr. and Mrs. Will Irwin. A substantial gift was given to the W.S.C.S. by Mrs. Charlotte Ambrose in memory of her mother Mrs. Emma Babcock.

The M.Y.F. did about the first toward using the basement. They dug out and fixed up the part under the kitchen.

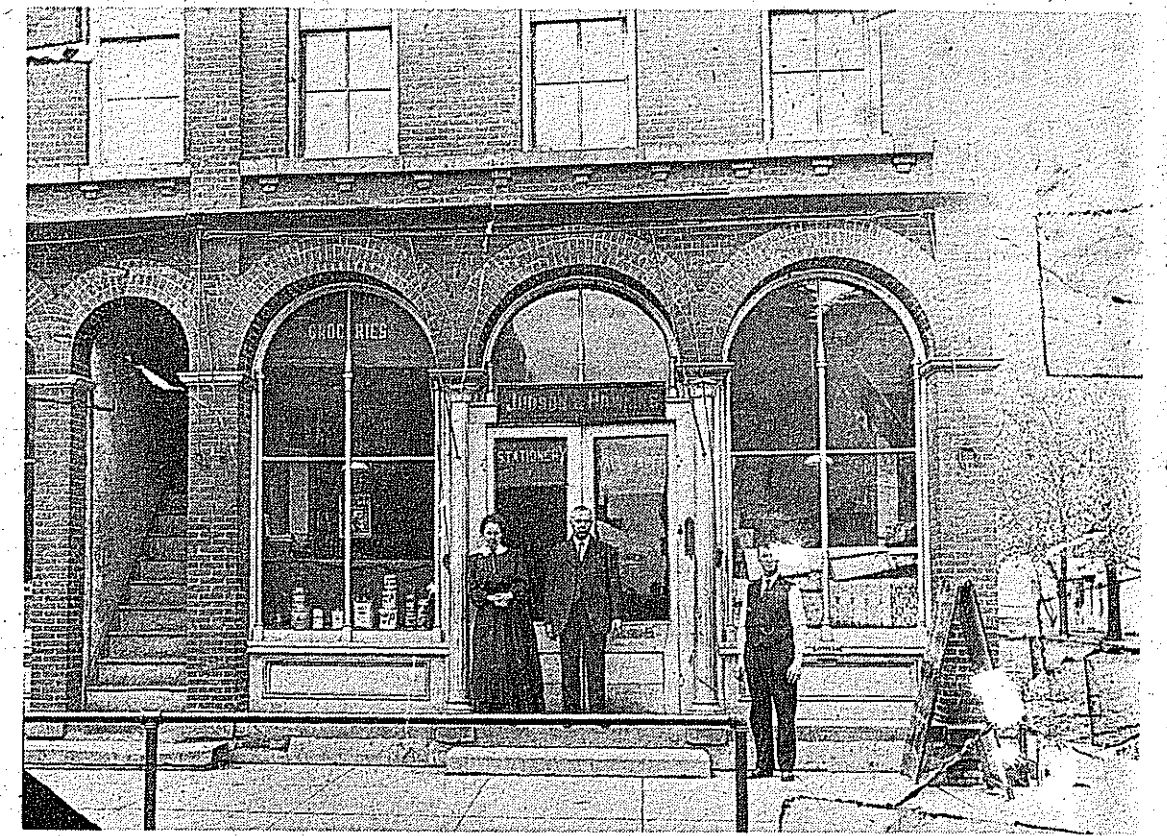
While Rev. Turnbull was here a real job was done on the basement and a very fine kitchen and dining room was fixed. Most of the kitchen woodwork was done by the skilled hands of the pastor. A new oil furnace was installed, a well and water system. Also restrooms and classrooms where the old kitchen and dining room had been. John Roberts and others donated their labor in putting in the restrooms and remodeling the east room and putting the east stairs from the basement in.

In all of the improvements, the Ladies Aid, to be called the W.S.C.S. in later years, was always in the fore front in planning and in raising the money.

The first parsonage was a block north of the church and the second house west. Rev. McNally changed a building to a garage. A new well and water system installed and a bathroom added, but the superintendent



TWO PROMINENT Clayton businessmen taken in the "Gay Nineties". At the left Capt. Littleton had a Dry Goods Store and Lucius Judson a partner in the Judson-Hawkins Drug Store.



THE JUDSON & Hawkins Drug Store, Clayton Post Office in the back of the store, taken about 1913. Hattie Kuney and Lucius Judson standing in the door, Arthur Hawkins at the side.

We **WOOD** like to congratulate the Village of Clayton on their Centennial.

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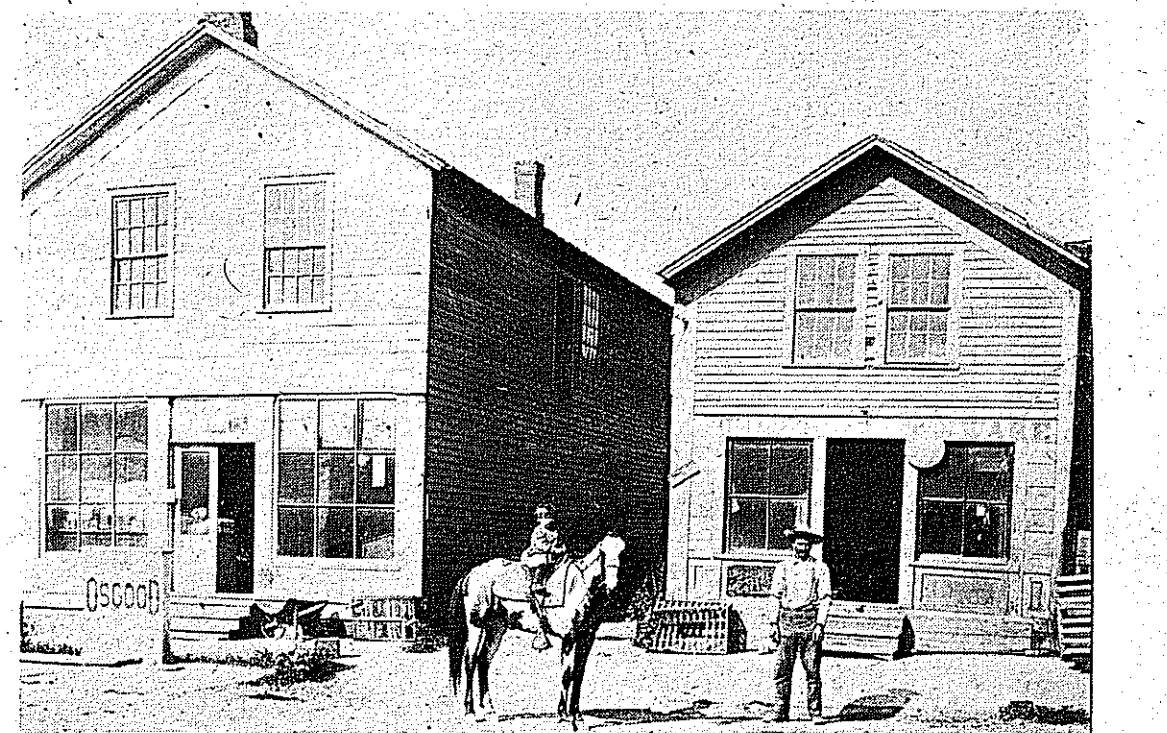
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MARTIN TOWNSEND, his son Wayne Townsend on the horse standing in front of Almon Bates Coal Yard office and Townsend & Bowers Feed Mill. Taken about 1908.



THIS IS THE graduating class of the Clayton School in 1907. Taken at the Clayton School reunion in 1957 with Superintendent Elmer Pockington that gave them their diplomas. The cake on the table is made in the shape of the school house that they graduated from. They are as follows, left to right, Mr. Pockington, Vera Powell Rockwell, Layton Powell, Olive Perkins Jacob and seated, Hazel Bennett Sutton. One member of the class was unable to attend Rena Pratt Day.

(Continued)

thought it was still inadequate. So it was sold and a new parsonage was bought when Rev. Turnbull came, which is the present one: 3283 State St.

The charge has changed several times. For quite a few years it was united with Weston. It has been served by students and professors from Adrian College and several who were pursuing their studies at the college. It had been with South Dover for quite a number of years. The pastor then drove horses to serve his people.

Rev. Westerman coached a high school basketball team. The only place that was available was twenty-two foot wide in the third story of a three-story building. Ernest Gilbert built the cement steps and railing to the east addition of the south side.

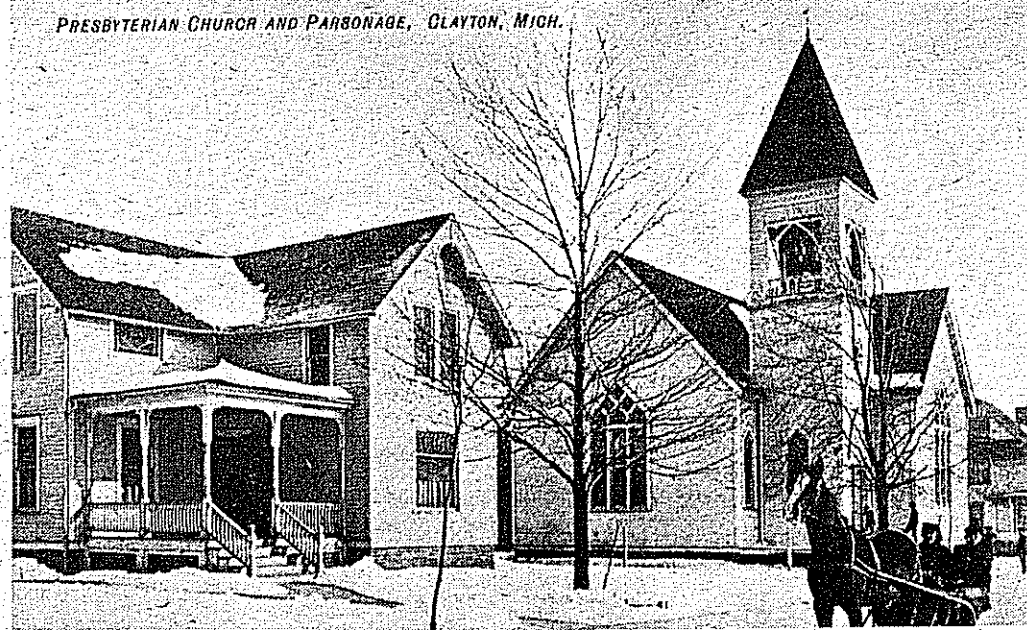
Lavern Lord and Bruce Raymond laid most of the Oak

floor. In the forties the ceiling was lowered and walls and ceiling were covered with the present celotex. Previously the walls and ceiling had been painted several times with a Bible verse painted over the pulpit.

Many of the people grew up in the instruction of the church. Most of them now away. Most of them turned out well. One, at least is a minister, Maurice Downer. There are probably plenty mistakes in these recollections as they are entirely from memory. No doubt, there are some that should have been mentioned but is due to faulty memory and not with intention.

On hand at this writing is a memorial fund consisting of gifts in memory of Mrs. Elizabeth Gage, Mr. and Mrs. William Rhoads, Mrs. Ellen Day, Mr. Donald Katsner and Mrs. Myrtle Ladd. Plans are underway for the use of this money.

Presbyterian Church History



THE PRESBYTERIAN Church and Parsonage soon after the parsonage was completed in 1908

The Presbyterian Society was organized Feb. 28, 1860, by Rev. George Nichols and Rev. Paul Shepherd of the Monroe Presbytery.

The initial membership totaled 17 persons. Ruebin Bird was elected first elder on Mar. 17, 1860; and Charles Shaw and Robert Smart were elected later the same year. The members bought a lot at the corner of State and South Church Streets and a small church was constructed. A few years later they built a small house a block east of the church for a parsonage.

Rev. Paul Shepherd, also serving at Cadmus, was the first pastor of the Clayton Presbyterian Church and served both churches for many years calling them sister churches. Later Rev. Nichols came to take his place.

As the village grew and the congregation increased rapidly, the members decided to build a larger church. On Jan 1, 1896, Rev. David McAllister became the first pastor in the new church.

It was about that time that the ladies organized the Ladies Aid. They had a branch north of Clayton so those living some distance (as those were horse and buggy days) could be members. This branch was called "The Home Class Department". The leader was Mrs. Earl Hutchison. These organizations joined together later and was known as the Mission-are Society.

The salary of Rev. McAllister, who served both the Cadmus and Clayton churches was \$600 a year from both churches.

In 1905 the congregation decided to build a new parsonage. Rev. Fredrick Dean was the first minister to live there. In 1911 Rev. L. R. Foltz moved there with his family. Mr. Foltz returned to Clayton many years later as a principal and later the superintendent of Clayton High School, which he held for 13 years. Rev. O.R. Stilson served from 1917 to 1936, the longest term of any minister. Rev. Sweir came in 1936 and later died of typhoid fever in 1939. After his death the church decided they wanted their own minister so they left Cadmus, their sister church.

In 1941 a bus was purchased and members took turns driving it each week for Sunday School.

In 1951 the church was remodeled and a nursery added. In 1952 Mr. and Mrs. Clarence

Richardson gave the church an outside lighted bulletin board in memory of their son, Hal Richardson. An extra Sunday School room was built on the east end of the church in 1953.

The names of the pastors serving the church in the past are Rev. Paul Shepherd, 1860; Rev. G. C. Nichols 1860-62; Rev. Horatio Shaw, 1862-68; Rev. D. R. Campbell 1868-69; Rev. C.M. Foote, 1869-73; Rev. Robert Edgar, 1873-74; Rev. S. A. Hamme, 1874-75; Rev. George Abbott, 1875-76; Rev. Henry Mott, 1876-77; Rev. Hervey Robison 1877-78; Rev. Albert Gustin, 1878-80; Rev. Prob Barber, 1881-82; Rev. John Van Antwerp, 1882-85; Rev. G.C. Griffith, 1885-90; Rev. Fred Cadwell, 1890-92; Rev. Robert Branfit, 1893-96; Rev. David McAllister, 1896 - 1900; Rev. George Gerluck, 1900-02; Rev. George Layman, 1904-07; Rev. D. C. Mackey, 1902-04; Rev. Fredrick Dean, 1907-11; Rev. L. R. Foltz, 1911-13; Rev. O.J. Roberts 1913-17; Rev. Stilson, 1917-36; Rev. Walter Swier, 1936-39; Rev. Andrew Spooltra, 1939-42; Rev. Wilmer Miller, 1942-47; Rev. Stanley Bowers, 1947-49; Rev. Albert Loubrand, 1949-51; Rev. Erwin Osterberg, 1951-1960.

The church celebrated it's centennial year in Feb. 1960.

Memories Of The Church

The first pastor of the Clayton Presbyterian Church that I can remember was Rev. David McAllister who was a very active man. It was the policy of the church to reach the unchurched through the Sunday School. Being on the south side of the R.R. track, we got some that were not used to Sunday School, but at Christmas time when the mothers got them all scrubbed and dressed in clean clothes, and they spoke their pieces, we felt well paid for our efforts.

Major Cole was an evangelist for the Monroe Presbytery and he came once a year to hold meetings.

Back in the horse and buggy days the young people did not have money so as soon as they reached adulthood, they were gone, and we never knew how much good was really accomplished.

The church was a giving church but never a rich church.

Lutherans, Free Methodists, Reformed and Baptists attended and were always welcome. The greatest work of the church was to "seek and save the lost", for "it is not the Lord's will that any should perish".

George Townsend

Clayton Bible Church

The Clayton Bible Church was formed April 1, 1963, by members of the Clayton Presbyterian Church who disaffiliated with the Presbyterian denomination. Rev. Thomas Hicks remained as pastor. The purchase price of the church, parsonage, and extra house and lot was \$10,500.

The purpose of the new church was to continue to maintain a Gospel ministry of preaching and teaching the Holy Bible as the inspired Word of God so that souls in this community will come to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour and be built up in the faith; that this same life-changing Gospel also be spread throughout the world by the support of missionaries until Jesus comes again as promised in God's Word.

In January of 1964, Rev. Hicks left to accept a call to a church near Manchester, and Rev. Lewis Barton was called to be the pastor. He served until Mar. of 1967, at which time he accepted the pastorate of a church in Indiana. On April 28, of that year, Rev. John DeLine, former pastor of the Canandaigua Community Church, began his duties as part-time pastor.

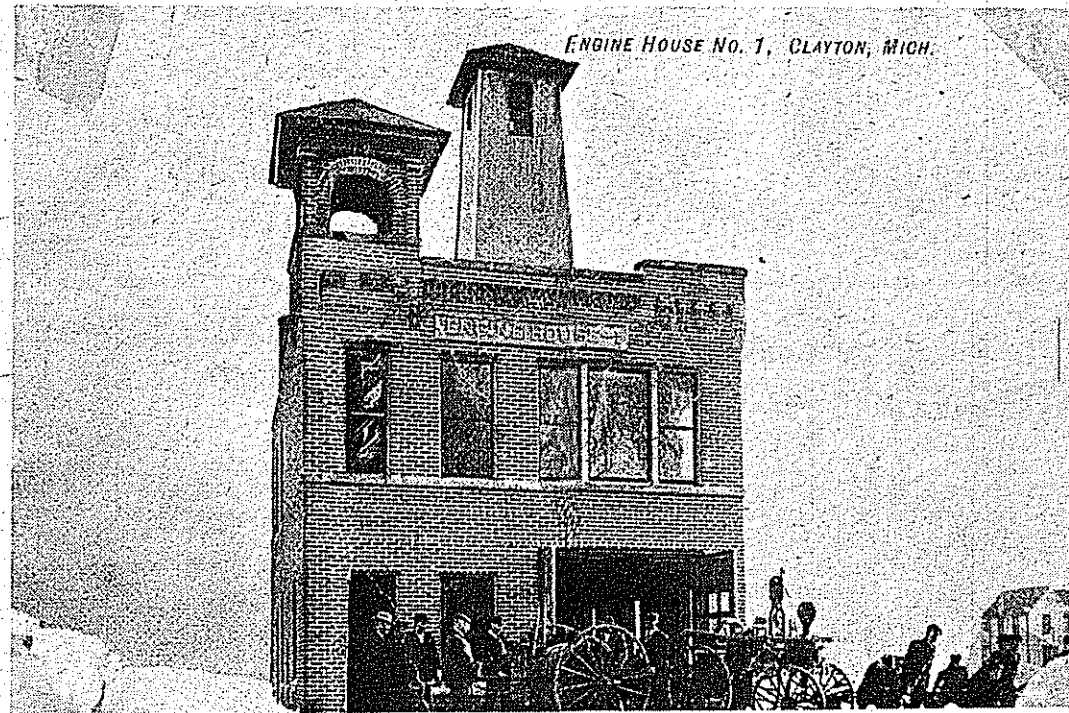
In December, 1968, the mortgage burning ceremony and victory service was later conducted in the church on Sunday afternoon, April 13, Former pastor Rev. Erwin Osterberg of Sioux City, Iowa, was the main speaker and former pastors, Rev. Hicks and Rev. Barton also took part.

Rev. DeLine is now serving full time. The schedule of Sunday services of the church is as follows: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 am; Young Peoples Meeting, junior and senior, 6:30 pm; Evening Service, 7:30 pm; Wednesday, Bible Study and Prayer Meeting, 8 pm. Evangelistic meetings are planned for this fall. The Clayton Bible Church is a member of the Independent Fundamental Churches of America.

Clayton Fire Department Engine House



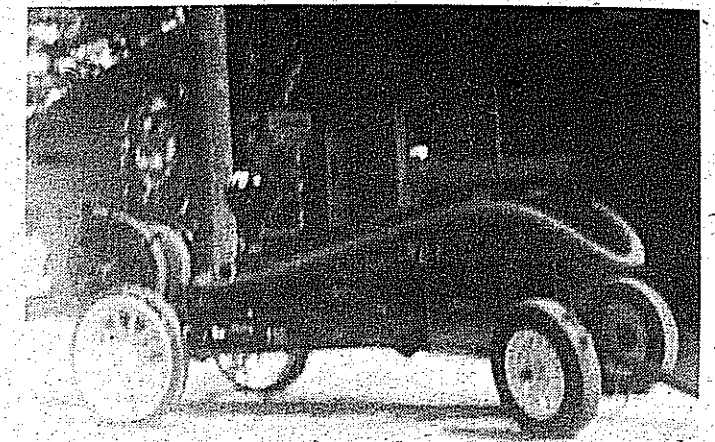
BUILDING THE Clayton Engine House which was complete in 1906. Standing in front of the Belfry is Dorman Jurden & J.J. Becannen, part way up the ladder, Channing Vosburgh, Frank Ladd is sitting on the peak, Joe Hynes and Bert Wetherbee standing on either side.



THIS IS THE Fire Engine House that was built in 1906. The men are answering a fire call pulling the fire engine. Taken about 1908.



THE CLAYTON HOTEL when it is owned by Kuney, Luther Shultz, Fred Sutton and Clark Brack Pelham. Pictured left to right, Hazel Rowison, Mrs. B. Pelham, Mr. Pelham, Ed Impp, next three unknown, Patsy Collins, Jesse



THIS FIRE APPARATUS for the Clayton Department was built in 1927 by John Dowling who used a 1914 Model T motor and the transmission from a 1926 Buick for the pumper. The pump and dome are part of an older piece of equipment that originally was pulled by hand by firemen to a fire.

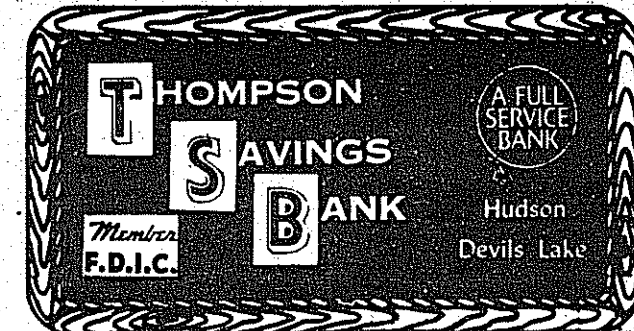
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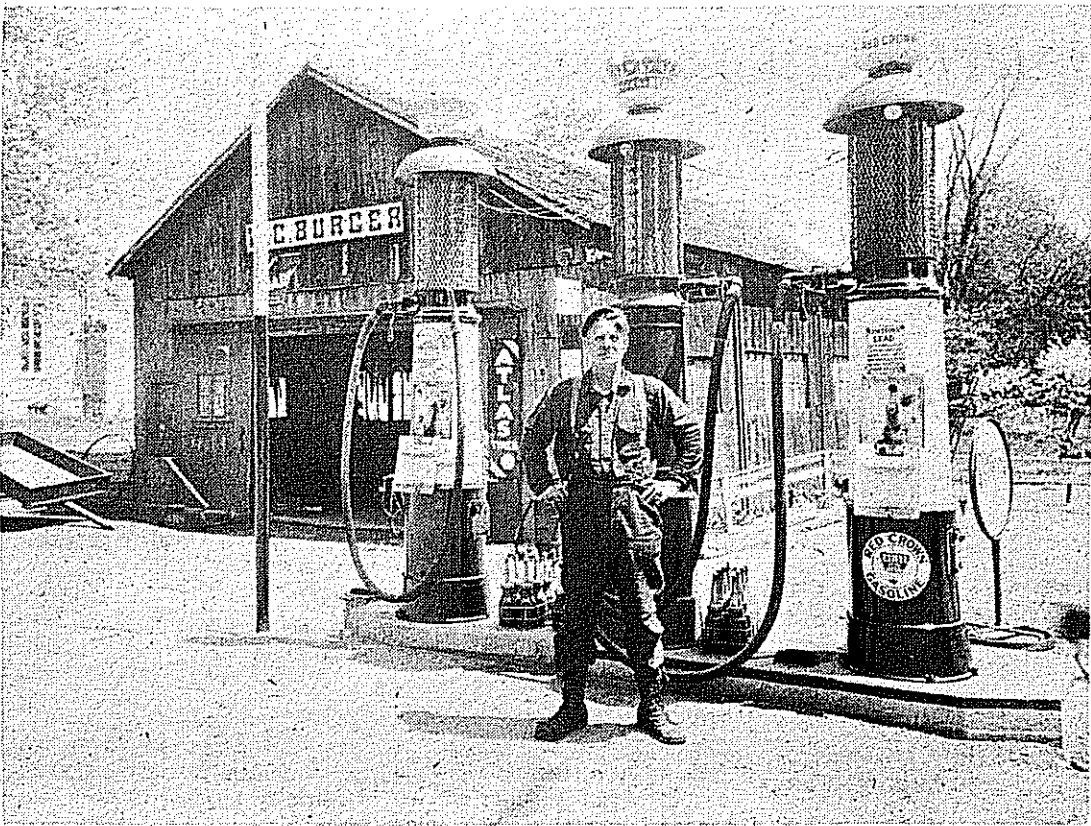
MR. AND MRS. JESSE KUNEY. Jesse and Hattie as they were known. Jesse was born at Seneca Falls, New York and Hattie, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Haskins was born in a little settlement north west of Clayton known as "Paupers City".

Both moved here when they were children and spent their entire life in Clayton taking an active part in village events. Hattie started to work in the Clayton Post-office when she was 16 years old. When J. L. Perkins was postmaster she worked many years for Judson & Hawkins Drug Store when the post-office was in back of the store. She worked when Cleo Aldrich was postmaster at the age of 82. She was also Village Treasurer several years.

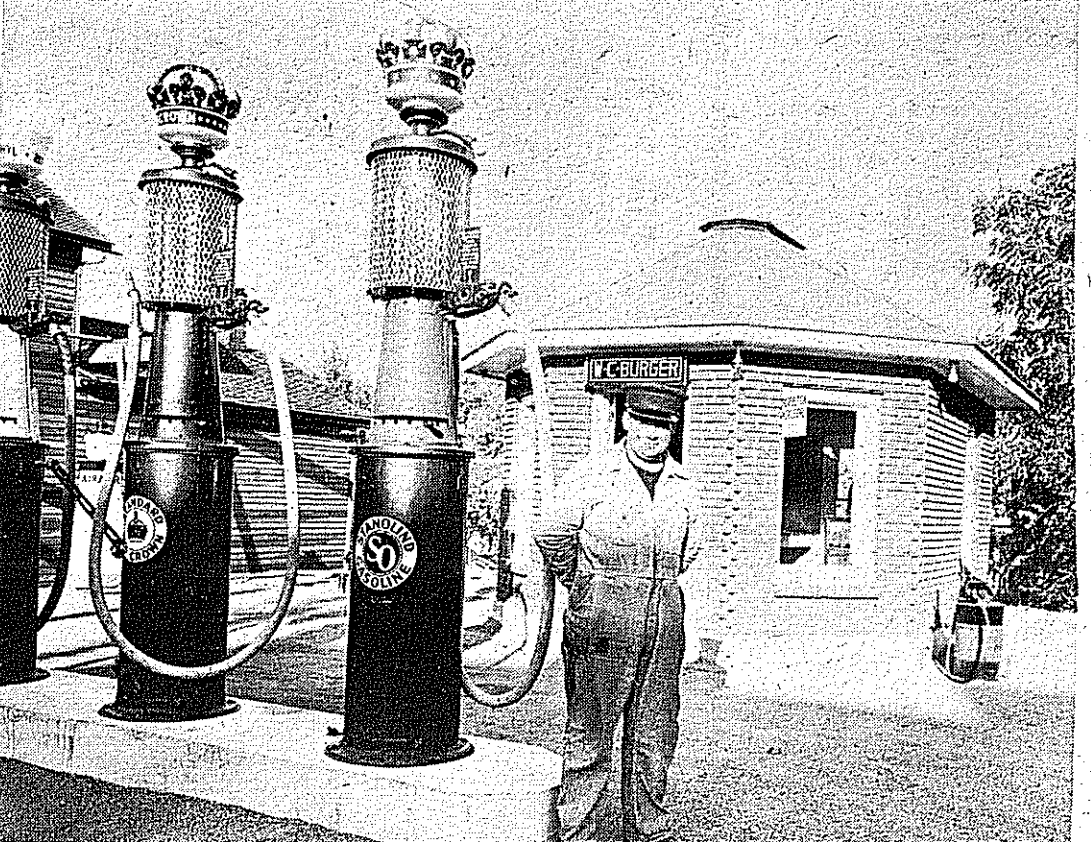
Jesse Kunev was substitute mail carrier, Clayton Postmaster and was the Clayton Village clerk for many years.



Clayton's new Post Office was completed in 1960. Cleo Aldrich was the post master. Others to work at the post office were Mrs. Virginia Pelham and Mrs. Virginia Gale.



WILLUS BURGER standing in front of his blacksmith shop where the post office now stands. He installed gasoline pump there while he was building the Standard Station uptown.



STANDARD OIL STATION on the day it opened.



The Ellas home on South Church Street, in Clayton. From left to right, Harry Gladden, his daughter, Musa Gladden, Boyd Meda, Hinda Meyers. Standing on the ground, Mrs. Gladden, Mrs. Hinda and Mr. Hinda.

Three Stations

Three gasoline service stations are in operation in the village in 1970. They are the Standard Station operated by Edward Gore, the Marathon Station operated by Harold Grubbs, and the Gulf Station operated by Jesse Tuttle.

The Youngsters of Clayton

For many years there has been either Blue Birds or Campfire Girls or Brownies and Girl Scouts. At present Mrs. Ernest Duncan is the neighborhood chairman for the Girl Scouts. The leaders are, Jr. Girl Scouts, Mrs. Charles Stoneking and Mrs. Lawson Crane. The Brownie leader is Mrs. Everett Johnson.

The scoutmaster of the local Boy Scout troop is Richard McNeil. The Cub Scout Den Mothers, Den 1, Mrs. Ray Pelham; Den 2, Mrs. Ruth Melon; Den 3, Mrs. Martin Grubbs; the Webelo Den, Mrs. Galen Rising.

In the girls and boys 4-H groups, the girls project is cooking, and the boys projects are working with wood and plastic. The leaders are Mrs. Edmund DeLine and Miss Charlotte Harrison.

All these groups are very active.

Do You Remember?

B.B. (Brock) Pelham, village Marshal for over 20 years, Ed Farnsworth, watch and clock repairman, John Williams, building mover, Sanford Spencer, Levi Baker, Burr Bedell, Ed Gambee, E.E. Grattan, Ezra Bertram, John Murty, H.G. Noble, George Hyatt, Silas Lawton, Ezra Bovee, Warren Bovee, Charles Shaw, Ed Farnsworth, Delbert Rowley, Seymour Bacheledor, Tom Toll, Martin Taylor, Bill Dodge, William Hood, Henry Goodlock, Pet Scolly, Phillip Aldrich and Mr. Wisner.

Some of the women were Mrs. Manwarren, Mrs. Marvin, Mrs. Julia Noble, Aunt Polly Ann Cross, Fannie Benfield, Ann Evans and Caroline Curtis.

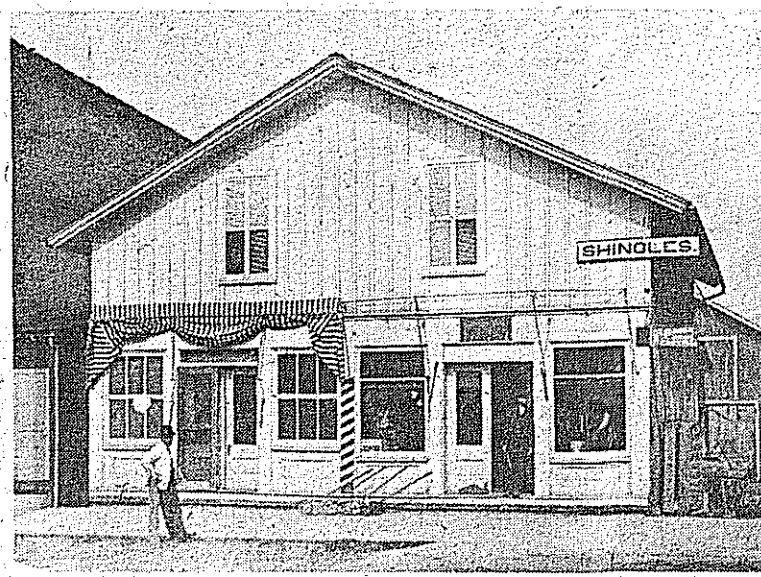
Not to forget Marvin Hood, the last one to be the village undertaker, and Richard Teske, who was killed while serving as the Marshal of the village. Others are Ephriam Bates, Dan Reppert, Ray Percell, Harley Hamden, Walter and Albert Haas, George Russell, Hans Spyker, Alfred Dunlap, William Eaton, David Pontius, "Shine" Dunchane, Tony Kaster, William Hyndes, Fred Banks, Sam Gambee, Harvey Dudley, William Hix, Ellisah Fish and Elmer Parkhurst.

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CLEO BURGER JR. was a local boy, being born in Clayton. He was mayor here in 1954 and was the youngest mayor Clayton ever elected.



SETH HYATT'S HARDWARE STORE that stood where Standard Oil Station is now. The hardware burned to the ground in 1906.

Clayton Extension Study Club

This group was organized in 1936. Former clubs were mainly Nutrition Clubs, working with local group and with volunteer leaders, getting lessons from the County Seat, by nutrition specialists from a State Land Grant College. Mrs. Fred Morse, of Jasper, was the first specialist to work in Lenawee County. From 1928 to 1959 only eight agents served our County Home Economics.

Extension is an educational program for women. Topic studies include Family Life, Health, Safety, International, and Citizenship. The program is based on the belief that "Today's Home Builds A Better World".

Each member belonging to an Extension Group also belongs to the County and Area Councils, State Advisory Board, State Association, National Association, County Woman's Council and the Association of Country and of the World.

When Louis Hall became Len-

awee County Agricultural Agent, the women's groups were changed from Nutrition Clubs to Study Clubs and taught other phases of homemaking.

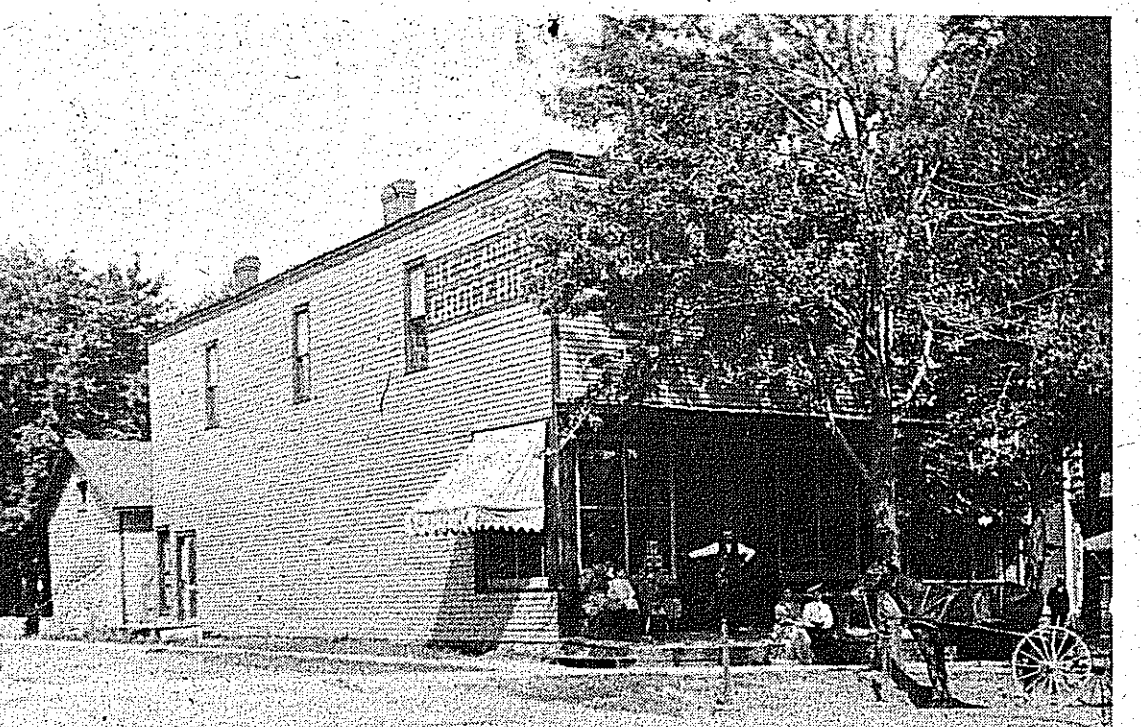
Among the first leaders of the Clayton Extension Club were Mrs. Forrest Grinnell and Mrs. Cleo Burger. Mrs. Burger is now the only charter member of the local club.

Besides homemaking and nutrition, the group has learned basketweaving, glass etching, chain painting, aluminum tray etching, copper tooling, wire jewelry, wooden trays and a sewing class of beginners to a class of tailoring.

The Clayton Club has participated in many community projects. One of the first was writing and preparing a radio program to encourage women to join extension clubs. This included an original song, written by Mrs. Ivah Hines, which probably was the only microphone experience for some of us. In 1951, the whole group started blood donations. At that time Mrs. Burger was underweight and was known as "half pint", because that was as much as the Red Cross could take at that time. She started eating to gain weight and is still at it (gaining weight).

For three consecutive years, the club prepared and gave "Ladies Minstrel Shows", to earn money for community projects. Some were donations to the Fire Department for the first resuscitator, installation of a shuffle board court, furnishings for the Community Rooms, and bought the first street signs for Clayton Village, 1957-58. The club gave a Charter Night dinner when the Clayton Kiwanis was organized, and took turns with other clubs getting dinner at their regular meetings. We completed and sold cookbooks. The club also gave a style revue with clothing from 1800 to the present. Some of the models were Judy Hauter, Dorothea Zimmerman, Richard Burger, Judy Cole and son, Ed, who at that time was an infant, and the youngest one in the style show.

Some of the members attended State Homemakers Conference on Campus at MSU, East Lansing. There were 99 women from Lenawee County who attended and the cost was \$14 for four days (1970 cost \$32 for the same time). They also attend County Camp at Camp O' The Hills, Wampplers Lake. Later they joined the Ohio Conference and attended Camp



PICTURE OF the grocery store at this time was run by Harry Shadden, he is standing by the door 1904. Notice the small building at the back of the store, it was the ice house.



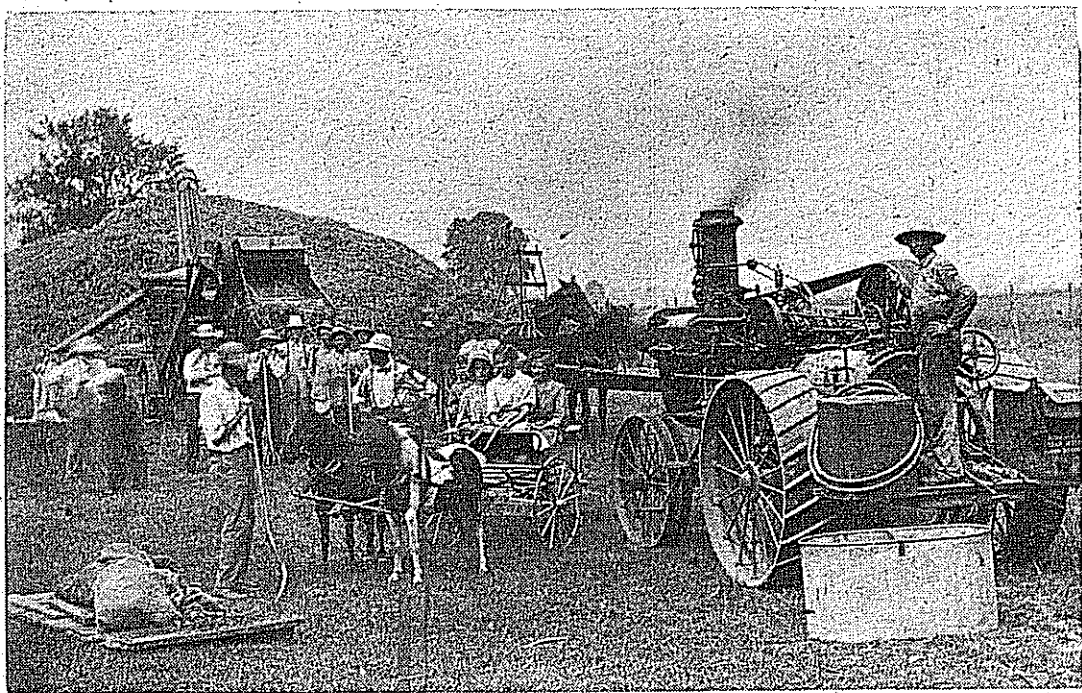
THE CLAYTON Depot the passenger train coming from the west.



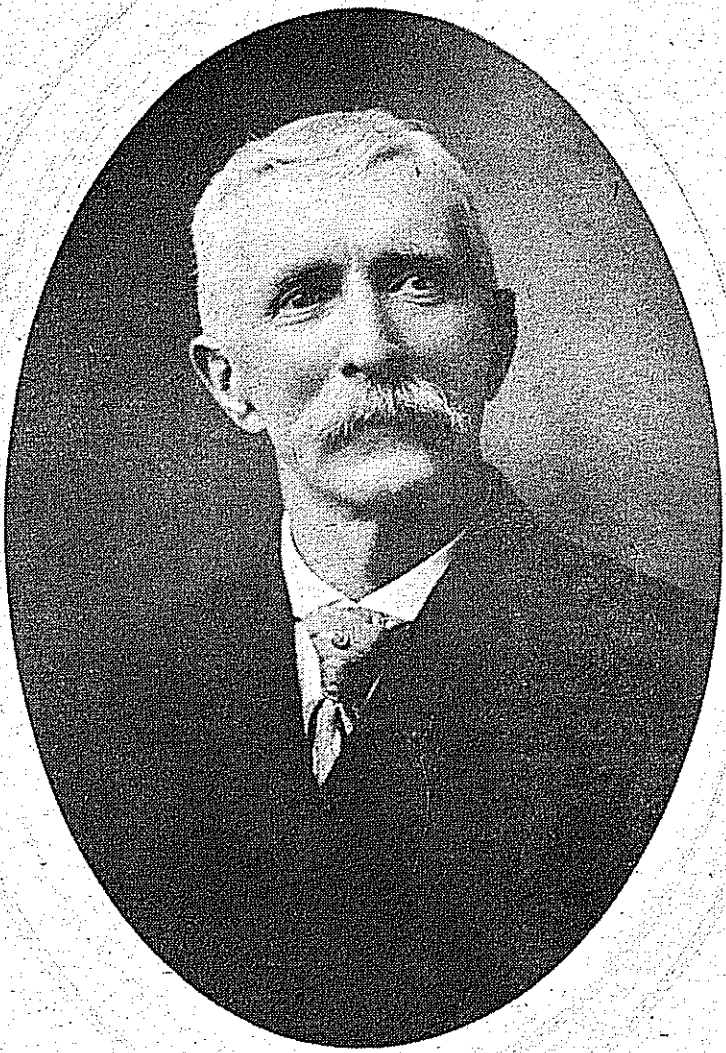
A GROUP OF Clayton people spending a few days at a cottage at Devils Lake in 1907. Bottom row, left to right, Musa Sladden Boyd, Jacquette Hathaway Herring, Vinnie Jurden Baker, Mr. Barnes, Rena Pratt Day, second row, Nell Herring, Mrs. Maggie Hadden, Mrs. Cecelia Comstock, Mrs. Pratt, Clifford Kurtz, top row, Margaret Hadden and Dorman Jurden.

CENTENNIAL GREETINGS
ARBUCKLE EQUIPMENT CO.
Bud and Carson
Adrian, Mich.

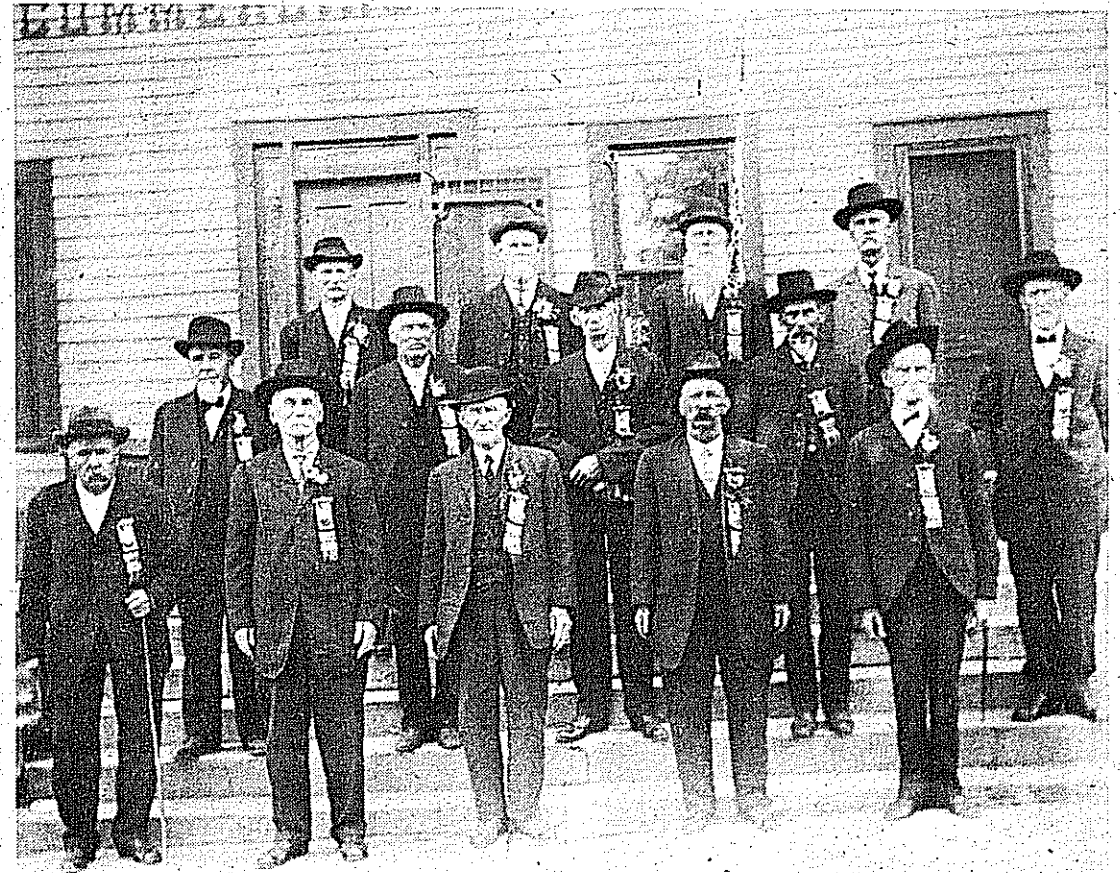
Palmer, Harrison Lake. Over the years our lessons have changed from demonstrations to lectures and study work on clothing, drugs, water pollution, child guidance, self improvement, preparing for later years and taxes. We find time for social activities, such as, trips, attending local talent shows, and flower shows. This is one club whose mainfunction is "Learning". It is continuing education at work. The 1970 officers are chairman, Mrs. Clifton Clifton Dowling; vice chairman, Mrs. Maynard Smith; secretary, Mrs. Kenneth French; treasurer, Mrs. Kenneth French; historian, Mrs. Virginia Pelham; leaders, Mrs. Cleo Burger, Mrs. Allan Townsend and Mrs. Percy Swartz; sunshine, Mrs. Ronald McNair; citizenship, Mrs. Allen Townsend; international, Mrs. Burr De Line; health, Mrs. Dorothea Kaiser; safety, Mrs. Clifford Renner; recreation, Mrs. Richard McNeil, and Mrs. Kaiser.



THE OLD STEAM engine threshing outfit owned by Marvin Aiyesworth. The little girls in the wagon are Vita Kurtz and Ada Noble.



MR. AND MRS. EUGENE J. HADDEN lived in Clayton and the Clayton area for many years. Eugene Hadden and Maggie Rosetta Beacon were married in Adrian Nov. 2, 1881 and lived on a farm a mile and half north west of Clayton. They were the parents of three children, Grace Hadden Richardson, now living with her daughter in Pontiac, Harry Hadden and Margaret Hadden Rueger, both living in Detroit. In 1903 Mr. Hadden sold his farm and bought the grocery store and hardware of W. E. Fluke. In 1914 he sold it and Mr. and Mrs. Hadden moved to Detroit. They kept their home in Clayton where they spent their retiring years. Mr. Hadden passed away in 1930 and Mrs. Hadden in 1939.



THE PICTURE of the Civil War "Boys in Blue" that was taken in front of the hotel Decoration Day, 1914. Bottom row, left to right, Jacob Gambee, John Murtz, unknown, Joe Badgely, second row, left to right, Benj. Rockwell, unknown, Hollis Yarick, William Hindes and Darwin Warren, back row, Will Hawkins, Eugene Terwilliger, George Kessler and Elias Hindes.



LADIES AID members in 1908: Mrs. Lydia Lawton, Mrs. Sarah Gratton, Mrs. Mary Morey, Mrs. Ella Gambee, Mrs. Percy Lawton, Mrs. Hoxter, Mrs. Arthur Hawkins, Eloise, Vona, Mrs. Henry Miner, Nova, Geivine Lawton, Hazel, and Mrs. Esther Gilbert.



WILL LADD and his son William with his horse and mail wagon ready to go No. 1 mail route out of Clayton.

Veteran's Mothers Club Clayton Woman's Club

During World War II, a group of mothers of the local boys serving the Armed Forces, joined the World War II Mothers group, and worked together to send the boys gifts and necessary articles. They also had a boulder put in the Village Park and on it a bronze plaque honoring all boys of the Clayton area who had served in any war or conflict. This was started in 1954 with a dedication service.

Soon after, the local group formed a club of their own, known as The Veterans Mothers Club. They meet once a month for a business meeting and social hour. The group sent donations to the Veteran's Hospital and help the veterans and veteran's families in this area when needed. They donate flags for the flag pole when they are needed, in the village. They also bought a flag for the Community Rooms. They also see to it that there is an arrangement of flowers in front of the boulder at all times.

For their social time they have an annual picnic and a pot luck supper and gift exchange at Christmas time. They send boxes to all boys serving in the Armed Forces, whose mother is a member of the club, for Christmas.

The 1970 officers are president, Mrs. Vern Carr; vice president, Mrs. Clyde Ferguson Sr.; secretary, Mrs. Esther Damon; historian, Mrs. Eva Burcroff and chaplain, Mrs. Clifford Renner.

The Clayton Busy Home Makers Ext. Club

The Clayton Busy Homemakers Extension Club was organized, Dec. 1950, by Mrs. Clyde Goodlock and Mrs. Harold Broderick. Mrs. Greenwood was the County leader at that time.

Members were mothers of the 4H group. The first officers were, leader, Mrs. Goodlock; vice chairman, Mrs. Broderick; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Clyde Ferguson Sr.; project leaders, Mrs. Clifford Marowell and Mrs. Lyle Pifer; recreation leader, Mrs. Way-

land Hart, community leader, Mrs. Grace Baker.

The club has continued and meets once a month at the different homes with their lesson and a social hour. They attend the different county meetings and always plan a Christmas party, with the husbands as guests.

The officers for 1970 are chairman, Mrs. Lyle Pifer; vice chairman, Mrs. Eloise Jacob; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Goodlock; project leaders, Mrs. Harry Van Zandt and Mrs. C.G. McNair.



--- You have wallop with the 1-2 PUNCH!



No other checking account available in this area has the wallop of a CHECKMATE Checking Account from Commercial Savings.

A CHECKMATE Checking Account looks like any other checking account, it does everything any other checking account does... PLUS, IT LETS YOU WRITE YOURSELF A LOAN! All you need do is stop in and say, "I want the checking account with the 1-2 PUNCH!"

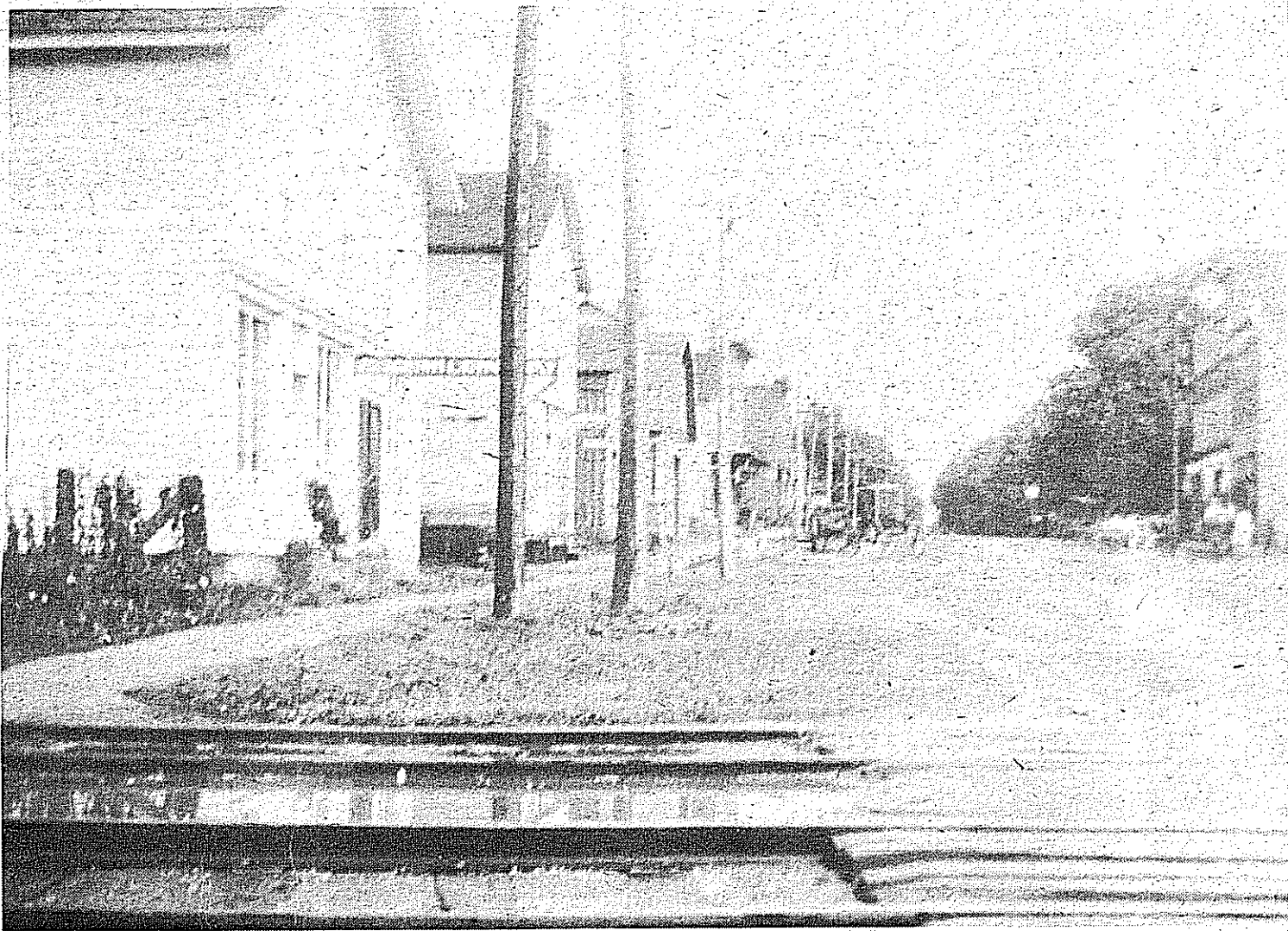
COMMERCIAL SAVINGS BANK
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D & C STORE, INC.
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Auto-Fire-Life
217 West Main phone 446-8361

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Congratulations to the Village of Clayton
CLAYTON TELEPHONE CO.
"Talk is Cheap"



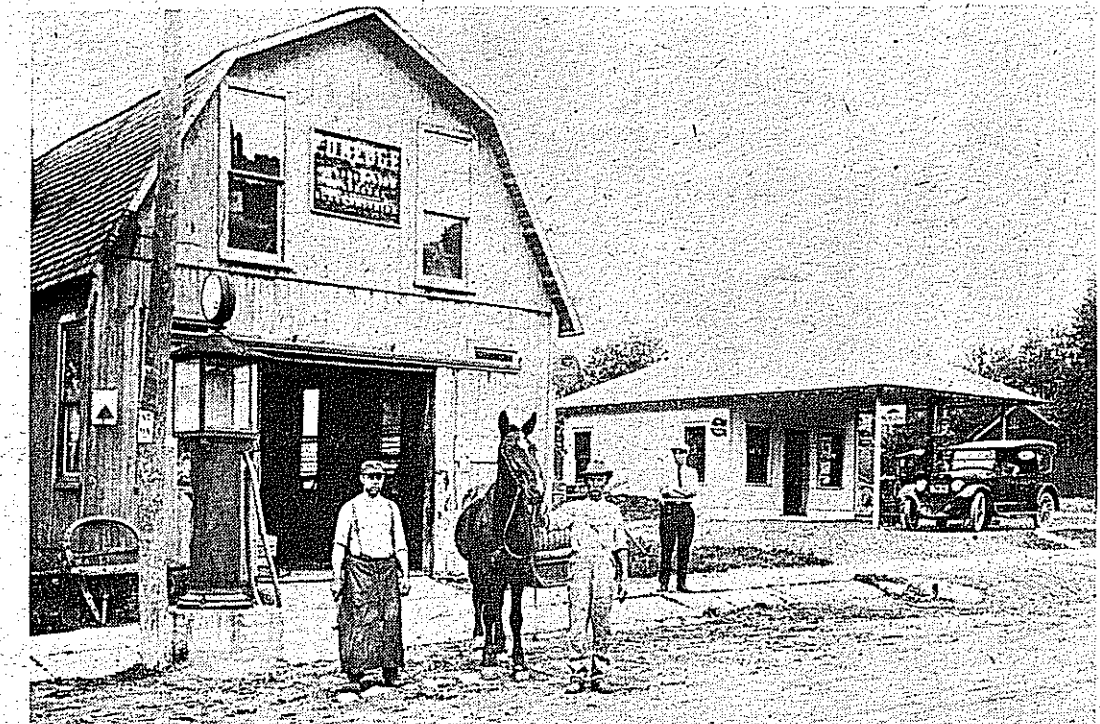
THE WEST SIDE of the street looking north—Clayton's first store and post office built by Ruebin Bird. Next the coal yard office, Almond Bates Townsend & Bowers feed mill, the old engine house, barber shop, hotel and bank.

**ATHA'S
Beauty Shop**
Complete Beauty Service
Sales & Service of
Hair Pieces & Wigs
BEECHER ROAD
CLAYTON 445-5277



WILLIAM DUNCAN standing front of the blacksmith shop his father built in the 1840's. After his father retired he took over for several years. See the Methodist Church sheds in the backgrounds. The Clayton Post Office now stands on that site.

**CLAYTON
TAVERN**
BEER WINE
POP
HAMBURGERS
SANDWICHES



FOIL HEDGE standing in front of his blacksmith shop. Andrew Baker is holding the horse and Arthur Adams is standing in the background.

**ELDRIDGE
MARKET
Canandaigua**
OPEN TUES.
THRU SUN.

COMPLIMENTS OF
**PAUL'S
BARBER
SHOP**
State Street
Clayton

FOR GOODNESS SAKE!
Before you trade cars, see
Bill Williams
(alias Lawrence Williams)
at HARPER CHEVROLET
in Hudson.

COMPLIMENTS OF
**H & H
Motor Sales**
Haley Road - Clayton
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HAL ROBERTS, Prop.

**Merle Norman
Cosmetic
Studio**
AND BEAUTY SALON
146 1/2 N. MAIN
ADRIAN
PHONE 265-2783

*Copeland
Furniture*
FURNITURE
CARPETS - RUGS
136-140 N. Main
ADRIAN
Phone 263-9055

**Chef Leggat's
RESTAURANT**
HOURS
7-4 Mon-Thurs
7-7 Friday
7-3 Saturday
140 Toledo St.
ADRIAN

COMPLIMENTS OF
**Burger's
Grocery**
Meats - Fruits
Vegetables
30 years service
CLAYTON
Phone 445-4342



THE VILLAGE of Clayton with less than 500 residents was honored in 1934 to send thier 65 piece High School band to participate at the National Band Concert at De Moines, Iowa. Bottom row, left to right, Elaine Huff, Marjorie Lord, Clifford Hathaway, Furman Roe, Densel DeLine and Marilyn Cooke. Second row, Irene Kerr, Lucelle Yarick, Ione Perkins, Wilton-Abbott, David Chase, Dorothy Worden, Carl Vineski, Wayah Pickford, Wallace Boyd, Esta Smoke, Mildred Bovee, Kenneth Kesler, Dorothy Czar, Wanda Dowling, Andy Cozmer, Merle Hawks. Third row, left to right, Sidney Moore, Jack Rodgers, Ruth Caswell, Clifton Dowling, Cecella Knauss, Bernica Coffin

John Dowling, Erma Griffin, Flossie R., Elizabeth R., Esther Hutchison, Richard Vinaske, Ferrella Gottschalk, Roberta Lord, Gerald Henning, Gerald Sturtevant, Jane Rodgers, Jean Rodgers, Richard Grinnell, Ruth Salsburg. Fourth row, left to right, Howard Shough, Mable Raymond, Ed Kamkee, John Moore, Elaine Kutzley, Budd Anderson, Dorothy May Jacob, Louella Knauss, Opal Brazee, Mary Mohler, Rupert Huff, Mahlon Lord, Edson Gallup, Lawrence Downer, Emily Boben, Wayne Bringham, Roberta Kamkee, Roxibell Schilling, William Mild Sleigle, Oakley Shoup and the band leader John Gottschalk.

**ONWELLERS
DRUG STORE**
213 West Main St.
phone 448-3111

COMPLIMENTS OF
**Meyer's
Dept. Store
Hudson
Dry Goods
Town & Country
Shop**
MEYER'S open evenings
till 9



THE CLAYTON dray that used to meet the trains getting supplies and deliver them to the business places. The driver William Hides and his son Horace (Hod) Hides used to help him. He sold it later to John Kesler.

**CAMP'S
MOBIL
SERVICE**
328 W. Main Street
phone 448-4351

**HUDSON
INSURANCE
AGENCY**
All types
of Insurance
222 West Main St.
phone 448-2911

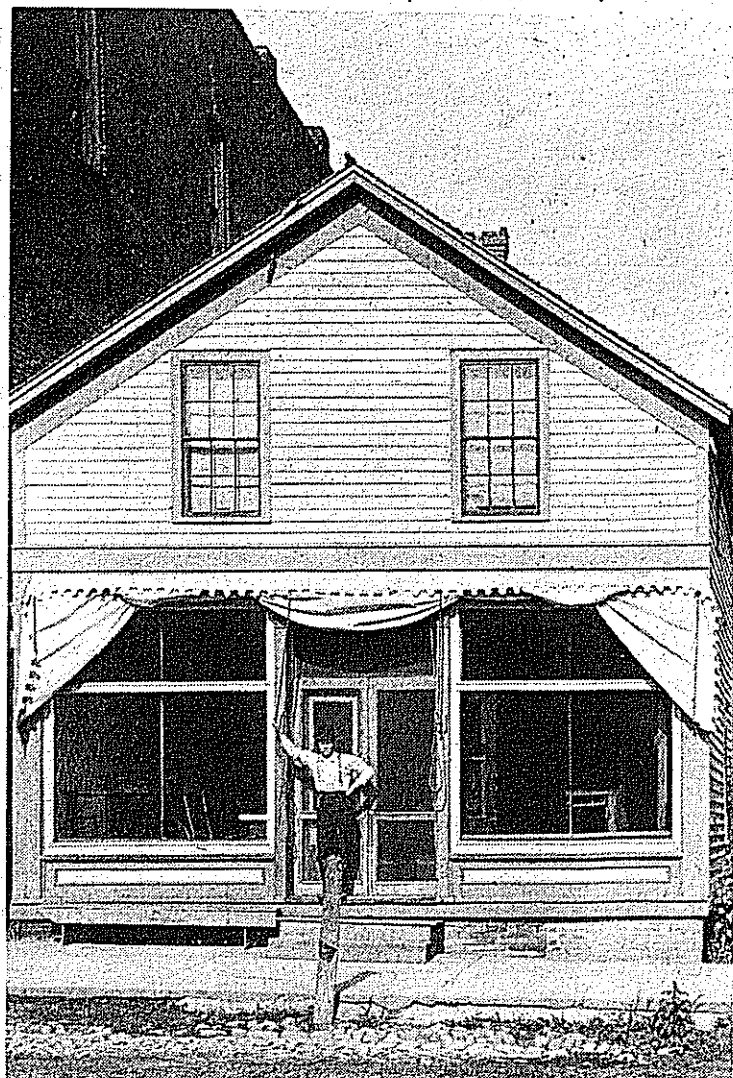
**Happy 100 Years
to the Village of Clayton**
STEPHENS-ALLDREDGE
Olds, Cadillac Inc.
4510 West U.S. 223
Adrian, Michigan

**ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS
to the
VILLAGE OF CLAYTON**
F. and A.M. #278

**GARDINER'S
VARIETY
STORE**
211 West Main St.
Hudson, Mich.



INSIDE OF the Kurtz Meat Market and Grocery Store of the new building that was built after other was destroyed by fire. Taken in 1910.



THIS IS THE Kurtz & Son Meat Market at the south of the three story building Cleo Kurtz is standing in the door. Mr. Kurtz moved his meat market here after he sold his interest in the K & K building. This building burned to the ground in 1908.

LEO **L & R GARAGE** RAY
 General repair, Painting & Welding
 445-4487 445-5383

Bob's Market House
 325 Railroad St.
 Hudson Mich.

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Johnson's
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 AUTO PARTS
 Hurshul & Everett
 Phone 445-5242 (Clayton)

COMPLIMENTS OF
BROWN Funeral Homes
 HUDSON & ADDISON
 Phone 448-2941
 504 West Main St.

COMPLIMENTS OF
DOBBINS Flower & Gift Shop
 384 Meridian Rd.
 Hudson
 Phone 448-6671

COMPLIMENTS OF
The Garden Spot
 U.S. 127
 Phone 448-8056

COMPLIMENTS OF
EAGLE Funeral Homes
 HUDSON & WALDRON
 Phone 448-3481
 415 West Main Street

COMPLIMENTS OF
Blanks Jewelers
 309 W. Main, Hudson
 Phone 448-4511

Compliments of
Marry's Barber Shop

W. MAIN STREET
 HUDSON

Compliments of
O'Reilly's Food Center

U.S. 127 North
 Hudson, Mich.

Compliments of
Dick's Citgo

Corner US-127 & M-34
 Phone 448-8160

Compliments of
Willard Alverson

MARATHON PRODUCTS
 Phone 445-4330 Clayton

Compliments of
PORTER Lumber Co.

Lumber, Building Supplies,
 Ready-Mixed Concrete
 General Contracting
 Hudson - Waldron

Compliments of
Wheeler Barber Shop

Wheeler Hwy.
 Clayton

Compliments of
Ma Brown's Restaurant

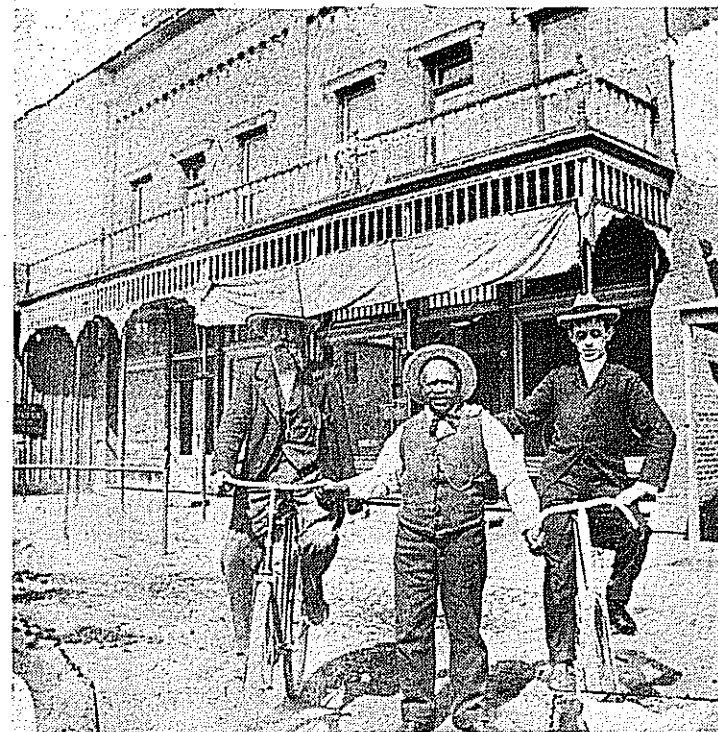
CLAYTON

Open Monday thru
 Saturday 9 a.m. - 11 p.m.



THE LADIES of the Woman's Relief Corp., wives of the Civil War Veterans taken in the early 1890's; left to right, back row, Mrs. Lottie Torbon, Mrs. Jennie Kessler, Mrs. Emmor Bales, Mrs. Robb Jones, Mrs. Joe Badgely, Mrs. Lydia Lawton, Mrs. Elias Hindes, Mrs. Anna Ray, and Mrs. Eugene Tervilliger. Second row, Mrs. D. H. Warren, Mrs. Bovee, Mrs. George Irving,

Mrs. Louis Sutton, Mrs. Matt Davis, Mrs. Bordine. Bottom row, Mrs. Lottie Torbon, Mrs. Jennie Kessler, Mrs. Emmor Bales, Mrs. Jerome Becannen, Mrs. Jacob Gambee, Mrs. Inez Bookman, Mrs. Hal Yarick. The little girl is Winifred Badgely Shadbolt.



PICTURE TAKEN in front of the Kurtz and Kessler Building about 1900. Charley Colyer, Clayton's first barber, and only negro to live in Clayton. On his right John Robb and on left Bert Kessler.



THE CLAYTON Garage when it stood on west side of the street soon after John E. Dowling bought it in 1916. In the car, Carl Fritz, standing, Bert Wetherbee, Stanley Foster and John Dowling.

The Fire Flames

The last group to form an organization in this area are the Fire Flames, who are the wives of the Clayton Firemen. They met for the first time in June and the following officers were elected: president, Mrs. Ray Pelham; vice president, Mrs. George Davis; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Arnold Tuckerman.

CONGRATULATIONS



CENTENNIALS ARE IMPORTANT TO SENIOR CITIZENS - SO ARE ADRIAN STATE'S 'NO MINIMUM' 'FREE' CHECKING ACCOUNTS. OPEN YOURS WITH YOUR VERY NEXT SOCIAL SECURITY CHECK.

Three Offices To Serve You

MAIN OFFICE
 Corner W. Maumee and Winter Streets

T.V. BRANCH
 Adrian Plaza
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ADRIAN MALL BRANCH
 Inside the Main Entrance to the Adrian Mall

STEVENSON LUMBER, INC.
 Serving Since 1873
 DIAL 265-5151 ADRIAN, MICHIGAN

A BACKWARD GLANCE AT CLAYTON

by Mrs. Naomi Dowling

and Emmor Bales. Henry Sladden worked there for many years.

It is now 1870, the village has been incorporated and there are over 500 people living here. The Lodge of the F & AM No. 278 has been organized.

In 1873 the members of the Methodist Church decided to build a larger church of brick. This was completed in 1876. The Abbott block had been completed that is the brick buildings on west side of the street has two stores. W. C. Fluke started a store in the one to the south and Mr. Aiken had the drug store in the one to the north.

Herbert Haskins started the first bank in Clayton in the south side of the three story building he also bought grain. His father, Charles Haskins, decided a bank should be in the building by itself so he built the building to the south of Flukes Store.

By the time the building was built Herbert decided he didn't want to run a bank but wanted to run a Cooper Shop which his father built at the corner of West and Center St., where wooden barrels were made and shipped out of Clayton by the carload.

Herbert Haskins sold his bank to John Johnson but he said but a short time when he sold out to J. M. Judson and Mills Lamb. Now we find Aaron Abbott running a grist mill. Robert Duncan had a blacksmith shop and wagon shed where he made wagon wheels.

Dr. Ely was the village doctor. Mr. Sales had sold the hotel to Mr. Severson. James Dowling, father of the late Walter Dowling, had a singing class. Mr. Perkins built a small building north of his house where he bought cream from the farmers.

The village needed fire protection so the fire engine house was built just south ways from the bank in 1874, with council rooms above.

Mr. Bird had given up the post office and John L. Perkins was postmaster with Hattie Haskins working for him. Two new doctors had now come to Clayton. Dr. Chaffee and Dr. James Abbott, a local boy, had graduated from Medical College and started to practice in his home town.

We find Judson and Hawkins in the drug store on the east side of the street. Seth Hyatt has a large hardware in the building north of his store. A. K. Dean is running a harness shop and employs two or three men to help him make harnesses for the horses.

Across the railroad track Edward Hawkins has a blacksmith shop while his twin brother, Edwin Hawkins, has a store in the south side of the three story building where he sold groceries and had a novelty shop of dishes and gifts for sale. Clayton's first library was in this store in the crude form of a cupboard full of adult books which was donated by the residents.

By this time, through politics, John L. Perkins lost his postmaster's position to Ralph Taylor and the post office was moved to the small building north of his home, in the front part of the building. As the

back part was Clayton's first barber shop and has a history for its own.

The owner Charley Colyer and his wife came from the cotton fields of North Carolina. They were the only negro family to ever live in this village. As their parents were slaves they had no way of knowing their real age. They were a very highly respected family and lived here until their death.

Then the town was saddened by the death of Dr. Abbott, having been able to carry out his dream as his hometown doctor for such a short time. Soon Dr. Ellis came to take his place.

There were so many trains going through Clayton at that time that they had to have a flagman at the crossing so a little shanty was built and Thompson took that job.

Neil Hayes opened his first shoe store in the southside of the three story building and his sister-in-law, Eliza Haley, clerked for him. In a few years he moved his store to Adrian where it is today.

Fred Shadboit had a lumber yard and his office was in a small building two doors south of the three story building he also bought skins and hides from the hunters.

In the back of this building the Clayton weekly newspaper was printed. The Clayton Record was sold to the Clayton Standard.

There were still many changes as the village goes into "The Gay Nineties".

The ladies in their hoop skirts and bustles riding into town "In the Surrey with Fringe on Top" and the men with handle bar mustaches would stop in the barbershop to chime in singing "Sweet Adeline" and "The Bird in the Gilded Cage".

There was a great time on Saturday night when everyone came to town to bring their baskets of eggs to exchange for groceries and listen to the Clayton Cornet Band. Those in that band in 1891 were Rellie Wetherbee, Charles Hutchins, Warren Cooke, Anson Van Aiken, Phillip Baker, Bert Wetherbee, Walter Dowling, Bert Kessler, John Voorhees, Frank Bryant, Eugene Hadden, Herm Abbott, Fred Hix, and Henry Middleton.

Yes there were large crowds in Clayton on those Saturday nights and all the hitching posts were filled. Lets not forget the old town pump, every spring someone would donate a five cent tin cup which was hung on the pump, everyone used the same cup and then there was the wooden water trough where the horses were given a drink.

The Clayton Cornet Band went other places to play at picnics, fairs etc. They went in a large covered wagon drawn by four horses. They stored the wagon when not in use in the Baptist Church sheds.

Ed Nichols purchased the two story wooden building across the street north from the Abbott block and put in a large supply of groceries.

The Presbyterian members built a new church just across the street from the Abbott block on the east side John B. Kessler and Adam Kurtz built a two story brick building and passer-

bys may look near the top of the building today and see K&K 1895 meaning Kurtz & Kessler.

Adam Kurtz had a meat market on the north known as the Central Meat Market and John B. Kessler had a hardware and sold farm implements.

We must not forget the village dray, which was a one horse light wagon. William Hindes owned the dray and went to the depot when the trains came in to get the shipment of goods and delivered them to each business place. Mr. Hindes who was sometimes assisted by his son Horace (Hod) Hindes sold his dray business to John Kessler.

Then the Spanish American War broke out and again our boys had to go to serve their Country.

By this time a new dance hall was dedicated on the second floor of the K&K building and there was a dance instructor and a dancing class every winter.

The second floor of the three story building was occupied by the lodge of the Civil War Veterans known as the G.A.R. and their wives group was known as the W.R.C. The Maccabbe Lodge for both the men and their wives was on the third floor.

Ralph Cleveland had bought the hotel besides the living room, dining room and fourteen bedrooms. Mr. Cleveland had a saloon in the northside of the hotel. At prompt noon Mr. Cleveland stood on the porch at the front of the hotel and rang a bell calling everyone who might want to eat the mid-day meal there. You might say that bell served as a town clock as the villagers would say, "It's noon the dinner bell is ringing".

Lets go to the north side of the railroad, and go east. First a restaurant known as "The Tom Barhydt Boarding House" - going east to the depot the grain elevator. Cliff Gale bought hay and baled it for many years to gether with his brother Victor Gale. There was a large saw mill and the stockyards where Milton Townsend, J. M. Judson and Bryan Pender bought and sold. But after a few years Mr. Bender and Judson retired. But Mr. Townsend continued as Clayton's Stock buyer until his health failed.

Yes, Clayton has had several weekly newspapers including the Clayton Standard and the Clayton Record that bought out the Journal in 1900.

But the following items are found in the Clayton Journal 1887: Village Council President, John B. Kessler; Clerk, Joe Hale; Treasurer, Harry Sladden; Marshal, Joe Lonis; Trustees, Emmor Bales, Dr. McDonald, Adam Kurtz, Wilson Duncan, Henry Sladden and George Bennett; Street Commissioner, Wes LaTurgey.

The Churches were Baptist S. C. Moore, pastor; Methodist, E. P. Pearce, pastor; Presbyterian, E. T. Branch, pastor and the Free Will Baptist Dover Center, Rev. Jackson, pastor.

Plenty of ads, the two general stores are run by Capt. Littleton and W. C. Aiken. Kessler and Bales are doing a good business in the hardware and

selling farm implements. At the Judson and Hawkins Drug Store you could buy St. Jacobs Oil for your rheumatism.

Ambrose Johnson is busy making barrels at the Cooper Shop. W. C. Fluke has a good grade of grocery's and Clayton had two confectionery shops where the boys might buy a box a candy for 25¢ to take to their best girl. These stores were run by George Foster and Bert Lawton. There was a jewelry store run by K. S. Troy who made a specialty of watch and clock repairs.

Two Blacksmith Shops run by Robert Duncan and Ed Hawkins. Two Village doctors, Dr. Edward Eaton and Dr. James Abbott. Elisah Baker run the livery barn and Charles Severson the hotel. He recently added billiard room next to the Saloon. George Griener run a saloon in the basement of the three story building.

The Exchange Bank was run by J. K. Johnston and Warren Cooke. Newman Perkins who was the undertaker and cabinet maker reported he had made 745 caskets in the past 19 years. Joe Hale who is the express agent at the depot is also kept busy with his boot and shoe repair shop. The large grist mill is owned by Aaron Abbott and William Hix.

Now for some personal items. Dover Township items, 10,000 bushel of sweet smelling onions were raised this season on the swampland in the southeast part of the township.

Clark Knowlan will give a wood "bee" at his farm three miles northwest of Cadmus for the benefit of the Cadmus Presbyterian Church Dec. 10-He will also furnish a free dinner.

The fair for the Cadmus Church will be held at the Potts Hall Dec. 18-supper will be served for five cents a plate.

There was sensation in Dover Township last week when a woman obtained a divorce from her husband, then ran away with the neighbors hired man the very next day.

Woody Jones family - and Fred Hyatts family are quarantined for Scarlet Fever and the school has been closed.

Mrs. Dave Bordine of Clayton was guest of her daughter, Mrs. Jape Bover Thursday.

Elias Hindes and his daughter, Meda, were in Adrian Tuesday. There will be a dancing school at the Perkins building this winter.

If you were living in Clayton in this year of 1887 these are some of the prices you would pay: butter 10¢ per pound, eggs 10¢ per doz.; lard 8¢ a pound; chickens 7¢ a pound. Trout fish 8¢ per pound. If you wish to live here and board you could very reasonably at the Thomas Barhite Boarding House. It didn't take long to leave town in those days as there was six passenger trains that stopped here every day. The time table as following: going east at 6:40 a.m., 3 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.; going west 8:33 a.m., 12:37 p.m. and 9:55 p.m. So I will close this little travel down "Dream Land 1887" with the thought for today in that paper by Mr. Foster.

"How seldom a person born with a silver spoon in their mouth have the price of the silver fork when they are grown"

Backward Glance

At the very end of the street was a cheese factory, east of the depot, where farmers would bring in cans of milk and sell them, to made into cheese. Willis Burger was the cheese maker and his helper was Arthur Ford.

Henry J. Miner had bought out Newman Perkins and had a furniture store in the north part of the K & K building. Neil Hayes had moved his shoe store to Adrian. There was a pool room and residence in the north side of the three story building, called the "Greasy Spoon". There was a wooden lean-to built on the north side of the three story building and John Benner run a tin shop there. George Griener had a saloon in the basement of the three story building.

One of the worst fires in the history of Clayton was in 1906, when Hyatt's Hardware burned, caused by the explosion of barrels of roof paint. It looked at one time like the whole town would burn. Elmer Raul had a barber shop in the building. Much damage was done to the Miner Furniture Store at the south and the lodge of the Modern Woodsman, which was over the Ralph Taylor store to the north was badly damaged by water.

It was in 1904 that the old fire engine house had to be replaced, so a strip of land was bought, and a brick one was built or completed in 1906. The hardware was rebuilt after the fire. The Presbyterian parsonage was built about that time. Arthur Hawkins became the new post master, so the post office was moved to the back of Judson and Hawkins drug store. Many of the children in the town were taking piano lessons of Mrs. Vinnie Jurden Baker.

In 1908 the town had another fire, when the meat market south of the three story building burned to the ground, along with another building owned by Adam Kurtz, where Elmer Raul had started another Barber Shop. This fire started from a water heater in the barber shop.

In 1913 the village voted to buy a power plant and hire a man to run it. The members on the Council that year were president, Dr. M.R. Sutton; clerk, Jesse Kuney; treasurer, W.W. Cooke, trustees, Lewis Judson, Wilson Duncan, Marvin Ayles worth, Joe Hale, Jerome Lord, H.W. Hedge; assessor, E. J. Hadden; marshal, Bert Wetherbee. When the streetlights were installed, the date was set, June 16, 1913, when they would be turned on. The Demings Lake Band was present and over 800 people turned out for the event. The power plant was in the engine house. The following report was given for the first year: operation for the 25 horse power engine operated by a kerosene burner, that furnished the power for the dynamo which made the current, was for one year's fuel, \$483. \$417 was paid to the man who operated it. Total expenses for one year \$900 or \$11 per street light for one year.

In the past few years Henry Miner's family had moved to Hillsdale and Victor Gale had operated the business alone, with the help of Charles Noble. Then Edwin Baker bought in the partnership and it was Gale

and Baker. Walter Bennett bought in partnership with the Seth Hyatt Implement Store and it was known as Hyatt and Bennett.

In 1914 the first garage was built in Clayton, next to Fall Hedges. John Dowling bought it Feb. 24, 1916, of Ernest Abbott. In June 1919, it was moved across the corner, where Thomas Barhydt had his boarding house, and continued to run the garage until his death, May 6, 1953.

In 1915 the first 12th grade class graduated from what was at that time a High School. This building was completed in 1909, on the same site as the two story building, built in 1867 and condemned and torn down.

During the next few years the town continued to prosper. In spring of 1907 trees were set out west of the new Engine House for the making of a Village Park. Clayton still had a newspaper "Clayton Standard".

In 1918 the town was struck with influenza and many of our residents died, including three businessmen, Sherman Layton, a barber, Edwin Baker, partner of Gale and Baker and John Burke, telegraph operator at the depot.

In 1927 the first hard top road was built through Clayton.

In 1913 the Baptist Church was condemned and torn down. In 1916 Dr. Sutton and his family moved to Flint, leaving Clayton with only two doctors, Dr. A.E. Wilcox and Dr. McDonald.

In 1917 World War I broke out and many of our boys were drafted. During the next few years E. J. Hadden sold his hardware and moved to Detroit, Walter Bennett and family went to California, Seth Hyatt and family moved to Quincy, and Fred Stoffer bought the implement store. Bert Nessel who had had a grocery store, sold out to Mr. Rosencrantz. Victor Gale passed away and Dorman Jurden took over the furniture store and undertaking. Edwin Hawkins sold his store to Charles Slater. Pixley sold out to Fred Oram and later to Schroeder. Mr. Hawkins and Mr. Judson both passed away and Abe Bersham took over the drugstore after Arthur Hawkins passed away. Miss Gertrude Aldrich and Mrs. Arloine Aldrich took over until a new post master was appointed, which was Harold Bovee. He was followed by Jesse Kuney and then Cleo Aldrich who retired in 1968. Mrs. Virginia Pelham is now the postmaster assisted by Mrs. Virginia Wentz and Mrs. Shirley Spohn.

In 1937 a gymnasium was built on the school building. During these years the hotel and adjoining building was torn down. We lost our high school in 1944. The Masonic Temple was torn down. The Masonic Lodge and Order of Eastern Star meet on the second floor of the north side of Abbott building, the first floor serving as the dining room.

By now the town has had its 75th anniversary. Lets see who has the business places. Going south on the east side, Standard Station, Cleo Burger; grocery store, Jay and Ola Hat-tiday. Mrs. Stella has just moved into the store with her used furniture business. This is where Ira Robinson had a pool room for many years. Then we come to Otte's Tavern owned by Frank Otte. Next the

three story building where E.D. Kerr has a stock of new furniture. In the Kurtz Market is Murphy's Cage, run by Jasper Murphy. Then we pass the Village Park and boulder, and come to the Clayton Garage owned by John E. Dowling. He has been assisted during the past years by his sons Clifton and L.C. Dowling. As we turn east we find a hardware and feed mill and coal yard, owned by J.J. Becamen. On the east the Bump and Ellis coal yard. Coming back toward town Herb's Place owned by Herbert Hauter, then on the west side of Main St., Fall Hedges blacksmith shop, and Hi Speed gas station, owned by Arnold McCormick. The barbershop with Barney Weatherman, the barber, and in the Fluke building, Ralph Van Norman's grocery and grill. Then the post office, Cleo Aldrich assisted by Miss Devera Hutchison and Mrs. Cloyd Lusk. Next the grocery store, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Cleo Burger. As we go further north, we find a flower shop and Earl Hedge's shoe repair shop. Still further north a gas station owned by Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Abbott. We find Mr. and Mrs. Cleo Burger still in the grocery store.

In 1948 the Lenawee-Monroe County Normal was moved to Clayton.

In 1950 the village recieved word that they were to have two doctors, Dr. C.W. Cogar and Dr. James W. Boyd (a local boy).

On June 22, 1951, Edythe Warren passed away. She was a teacher in the primary room at the Clayton School for 23 years. About this time the Clayton Post Office was moved to the first door south in the Fluke Building, after being in the Judson and Hawkins Drug Store for over 40 years. In 1957 an addition was built on the north end of the school gymnasium.

On Decoration Day, 1954, the World War Mothers dedicated a boulder in the Village Park to honor all local boys who had fought in any war.

In May 1958, Wilbur W. Cooke the Clayton banker passed away and our bank for nearly 75 years was closed and moved.

In Sept. 1958 the Clayton Telephone switched to the dial telephones. In Feb., 1960 the Presbyterian Church celebrated their centennial year. The new post office was completed and dedicated, Aug., 1960 and history repeats itself for the first time since 1937. The post office is in a new building and although the mail does not come by stage coach as it did in 1937, it does come by truck, and not on the train, as it has for years. Now the school house built in 1909, was condemned and torn down in 1969.

Here are a list of the doctors that once practiced in Clayton: Dr. Ely, Dr. Howe, Dr. Nix, Dr. Dodge, Dr. Eaton, Dr. Abbott, Dr. Ellis, Dr. Jurden, Dr. Wilcox, Dr. Sutton, Dr. McDonald, Dr. Huntley, Dr. Cogar, Dr. James W. Boyd.

No Clayton does not have a doctor or undertaker at this time, which only proves one thing, "it's a mighty healthy place to live", as all the doctors and undertakers had to move out or starve, because business was so bad.

This is a list of the barbers at one time were in Clayton: Charley Colyer, Ed Estes, Billy Harold, Fred Downer, Harry

Gardner, Harry Kesler, Lyndon Wheeler, Sell Wentz and our present barber Paul Burcroff.

On May 23, 1970 there was a dedication of the old school bell that has been placed with a plaque on it, in front of the new school building. Every year on the Saturday before Memorial Day there is a school reunion when former students return. In May 1970, the oldest class represented was the class of 1902.

We can not think of the history of Clayton without quoting Leander Fish, as he speaks to his dog, Skippy, and says, "It's dog-eat-dog in Clayton, come on Skippy, let's go home".

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