

The Newcomer

Volume 24, Issue One
Winter/Spring 2018 \$3.00

A publication of the Newton County Historical Society, Inc.
Newton County: Indiana's Youngest County

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WWI -An Epic Conflict That Created the Loss of a Generation of Young Men

By Beth Bassett

The assassination of the Austro-Hungarian Archduke Franz Ferdinand on June 28, 1914 in Sarajevo by Bosnian Serbs created the spark that ignited Europe into a war where empires toppled, millions died, and the world was changed forever. The war of 1914-1918 also known as "The Great War," was a world historical event.

Summer of 1914

America focused on Babe Ruth playing for the Boston Red Sox and Charlie Chaplin on the silver screen. Bread cost six cents a loaf and you could buy the Ford Model T for \$500. One out of three Americans lived on farms; women could vote in 12 states, and the U.S. Army was ranked 17th in the world. The British pound was the world reserve currency.

America was a leader in steel production, transportation networks and energy resources. There were 100,000,000,000 people living in the United States - the second largest population only to Russia. In a 4th of July speech President Wilson asked, "What are we going to do with all our power?"

In Newton County, the weekly articles that appeared in the local papers reflected the typical happenings of a farm community - news of the weather, county politics and social events headlined the front pages. Postal rates were going up; Mt. Ayr School had a new grading system; the Lake Village Presbyterian Church was organized; and George Ade had sold his rights for his plays and fables. The Kankakee and Iroquois Rivers were recognized as fish preserves by the DNR; Kentland was erecting a new bandstand and the Governor declared May 10th as Mother's Day. Public meetings were suspended in Brook due to a smallpox outbreak and there was shortage of housing in Kentland. Jennie Conrad and Warren T. McCray were boasting of their prize livestock - not knowing that in November, Hoof and Mouth disease would be found in the county. The news of war was yet to reach the headlines in Newton County.

Inside pages contained world and national news, with scattered articles regarding the issues in Europe. Typical newspapers at the time utilized preprinted newsprint containing world news and advertising, giving the publications a variety of state and national news. Readers were kept abreast of the developments of war in Europe this way, including President Wilson's responses and reactions.

The Declaration of War

Upon the assassination of Ferdinand, Austro-Hungary's ally, Germany aides in the creation of an ultimatum issued to the Serbs that would compensate for his death. The Serbs rebuke the ultimatum. Consequently, on July 28 Austro-Hungary and Germany declare war on Serbia. Serbia's ally, Russia, begins mobilization for war. Germany responds by declaring war on Russia on August 1. Germany knew that if they engaged with the Russians on the Eastern front, it would trigger France, Russia's ally on the west. On August 3rd, Germany declares war on France.

On July 31, Germany mobilizes - crossing Belgium to get to France. Germany was de-

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SOME ONE HAS NOT FORGOTTEN

My heart to-day
Is far away
Across the rolling brine.
So while I sit
And knit and knit
You're still my Valentine.
—George Ade.

Drawing by McCutcheon.



HER CHOICE THIS YEAR

Columbia wants you to know,
That you're her particular beau,
She's likewise "particular." So
That's why you've been picked as her beau.
—George Ade.

Drawing by McCutcheon.

McCutcheon and Ade partnered to create a series of valentines for charity during WWI for the Indianapolis Branch of the American Fund for French Wounded. Proceeds went towards furthering the work in France among wounded soldiers and destitute families. Source: <https://blog.newspapers.library.in.gov/tag/george-ade/>

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terminated to reach Paris within 12 days after the invasion began. Sovereignty was granted to Belgium by all major powers, including Britain in 1839. This swing through Belgium risked bringing the United Kingdom into the war – which it did. On August 4, Britain declares war on Germany and her allies.

America could not understand what was going on and President Wilson proclaims that we must remain neutral stating, “America must bide its time.” The President sends reporter Richard Harding Davis, one of the most celebrated figures in journalism at the turn of the century, to cover and report back on war news in Belgium. Davis reports that the German army is a force – witnessing 50,000 troops push through the town of Leuven in two days – ruthlessly putting down any resistance – mowing them down with machine guns and destroying churches and colleges. He said that the Germans were not fighting a fair fight and that the United States should get involved. This news shocked Americans.

War on the Western Front

American young men who lived in France rushed to join the French Foreign Legion. The volunteers showed up in time to help the French Army before the Germans invaded France on their way to Paris. It was the French troops, the French Foreign Legion and the American Volunteers that would stop the first German offensive that began on September 5th, pushing them back to the Marne River, just east of Paris. This would become known as the Battle of the Marne River.

Both sides dug in – literally. Five hun-

dred miles of trenches extending from the English Channel to the Switzerland border. A new form of siege warfare was introduced by the creation of these trenches. Mud separated the zig-zag trenches, blasted with holes, decaying corpses man and animal alike, and barbed wire. It became known as “no-man’s land.”

1915 – At Home and At War

In Newton County, *The Brook Library* was opened in February, and the dredge was at work on the Kankakee. A new school was dedicated in Lake Village in April and Harry Arnold and Carroll Murphy took top honors in the Boy’s Corn Club in May. Newspaper articles appeared on the farms of McCray and Conrad in the late summer – topped only by the story of a chicken thief in the county. In September, a tablet honoring Newton County’s Civil War Company B was installed at the Brook Library. The story of Ade’s golf course would be reported in November, and the sale of the Harris lands made headlines in December.

By the spring of 1915, 4,000 Americans were in the French Foreign Legion. Casualties mounted in the first five months of war – 300,000 Frenchmen killed; 30,000 British and 150,000 Germans. In America, the women were staging peace marches. Tin Pan Alley in New York produced anti-war songs such as “I Didn’t Raise My Boy to Be A Soldier,” to help inspire their movement.

The U.S. economy is in recession – so Americans begin selling goods to the Allies – agriculture products, artillery and clothing. Germany of course, wanted to stop these shipments, and the only way to do so was via submarine, aka U-boats. One hundred ships were sent to the bottom that sailed to Britain. One of those, the *Lusitania*, a 787’

Luxury Liner, was sunk on May 7, 1915. This brought the war to the United States – 1,200 were killed, 124 of which were Americans.

President Wilson reaffirms after warnings sent to Germany, “U.S. is neutral in war because Peace is needed.”

1916 – A War of Attrition

The feeling in America was that they were not neutral – that we were supporting the Allies. That summer, the “Preparedness Movement,” organized by Teddy Roosevelt, gathered together 1,300 men to train for war – unofficially. More of these “camps” sprung up across the country. Parades of these groups were held in New York, some lasting all day. The familiar “Uncle Sam,” created by Leslie Magazine artist James Montgomery Flagg was born, promoting the movement stating, “Uncle Sam Wants You!”

By March of 1916, Germany had had enough of America supplying the allies with goods. U-boats were prowling the Atlantic once again. German spies blow up an ammunition depot in New Jersey – and finally, Germany announces unrestricted submarine warfare to resume.

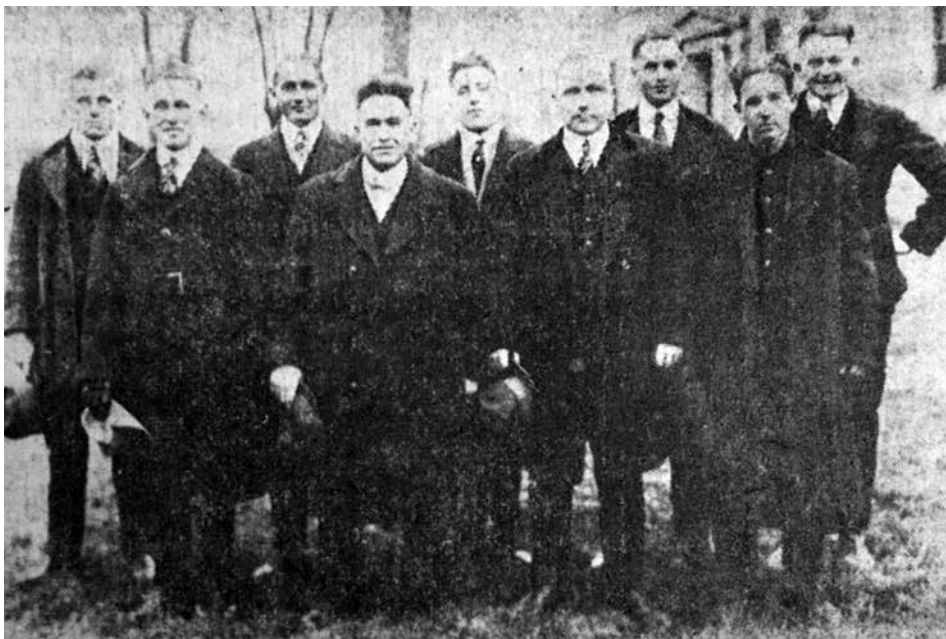
By the end of 1916, the European War had become a war of attrition. At the Battle of the Somme, a unit of 45 men in the French Foreign Legion were sent “over the top,” (from the trenches to battlefields) as part of the first wave – four lived. The leader, Allen Seeger, stated before he left, “I have a rendezvous with death.” He too, was killed.

At the beginning of 1916, Newton County was discussing the possibility of a County Farm agent, and candidates were vying to fill county offices. March saw the organization of the Kentland Boy Scouts and discussions began regarding the construction of a coliseum in that town. The Mt. Ayr Tribune made its debut in June and in August, oil well activity was reported in and around Thayer. It was Indiana’s Centennial, and Newton County hosted their celebration in September. By the end of the fall, George Ade was in the planning stage of building his club house at Hazelden.

1917 - Making the World Safe for Democracy

On February 3, American diplomacy was broken with Germany. In mid-March British intelligence intercepts what would become known as the “Zimmerman Letter,” that urged Japan and Mexico to declare war on the U.S., making promises of land acquisitions and more to them if they did so. Three more American ships are sunk – and the President’s cabinet votes for war – but Wilson does nothing.

On April 6, 1917, the United States declares war on Germany. Things begin to move fast. The call for conscription (draft) goes out. The first drawing held in July produced 680,000 selected names. The ground work was laid for the largest U.S. ground force ever made.



Kentland Volunteers, Dec. 3, 1917. Left to right, Leo Reed, Butch Todd, Guy Littlejohn, Roy Murphy and Mike Dowling on the back row. Earl Corbin, Bert McCartney, Elmer Littlejohn, the other one unknown on front row. *Newton County Enterprise*, 1965 photo.

By June, General Pershing had arrived in France. By this time, one million French and 350,000 British soldiers had lost their lives in battle. He did not want to hand over his troops – he didn't like the way France and Britain had handled the war. President Wilson wanted an independent role in the war – no collaborating – for future assurance of independence in the new democracy.

Newton County was gearing up for their part in the war effort, but still until mid-year news of the community dominated the papers. In May, the first Roll of Honor for WWI appeared in the Newton County Enterprise, listing those who had enlisted from Newton County. By the end of the war, the Roll of Honor would become a list of those who had perished during the war from the county. These soldiers would be known forever as "Gold Stars." Letters home from local soldiers were published and in June a complete list of the registrants of WWI was published.

Organizations such as the Red Cross and the Home Guard began to evolve. Liberty Bond Sales were in the headlines; this effort was headed up by Warren McCray, C.C. Kent and Wm. Darroch. The Newton Knitters were busy "gathering wool so-to-speak," for socks, wristlets and sweaters to be sent to the boys via the Red Cross.

In other news, McCray Grain announced in August they would build a grain elevator at Enos. Mt. Ayr's new school building was well underway and the Kentland Presbyterian Church celebrated 50 years. The Ainsworth Bros. Seed Company was drying corn in December, and that same month, the Newton County Bar Association was organized.

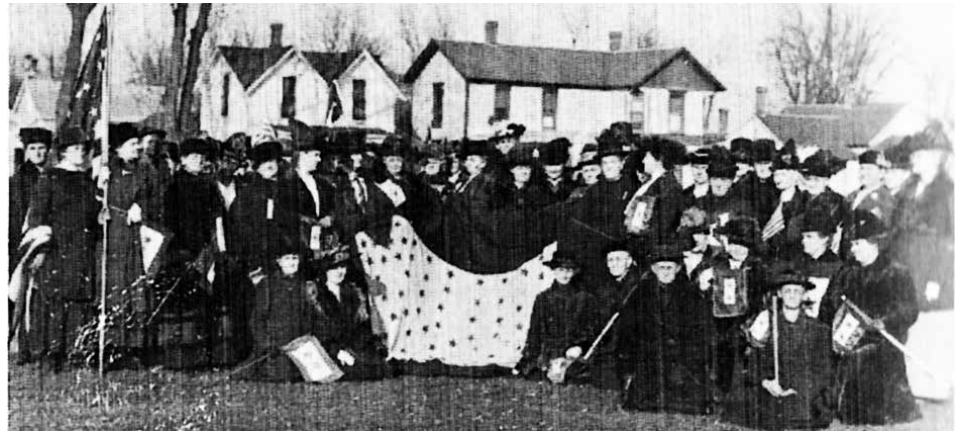
By late spring 1918, the United States had boots on the ground – one million yanks, and the Germans had advanced within 50 miles of Paris. The scene was set for The Battle of Belleau Wood, the American's first major battle. The battle has become a key component of the lore of the United States Marine Corps.

End of the War

In September, The Meuse-Argonne Offensive and Battle of the Argonne Forest would become a major part of the final Allied offensive. The 47-day battle involved 1.2 million American soldiers, the largest in history. The battle killed an unknown number of French soldiers; 28,000 Germans and 26,277 Americans.

In the United States, President Wilson was in New York City to deliver his first speech in months after his "14 Points" speech in January when he suggested the creation of the League of Nations and an outline for peace. He carried a lot of morale authority with his demeanor as he spoke on the meaning of the war and taking on the role as spokesman for the common people of the world.

Influenza had hit the public gatherings shutting down schools and churches. The wounded were arriving back home with am-



The War Mother of Kentland displaying the quilt with stars representing boys in service. Reprinted from "Kentland Centennial 1860-1960."

putations, "shell-shock," and the after effects of poison gas. War heroes were also immersing from the western front such as flying ace Eddie Rickenbacker and Corporal Alvin York, aka "Sgt. York."

In mid-October 1918, Pershing collapses and gives up his field command. Field commanders take control of two divisions. Exhausted and disorganized, the troops get ready for their next offensive. The British-French were wearing out, as were the Germans. The United States is advancing and puts pressure on the Germans – the allies were moving forward and surrounded the Germans. Germany was collapsing into poverty, yet America was just coming into its stride. The Central Powers were well aware that more and more Americans are about to descend upon the front.

Via the Swiss Embassy – the Germans agree to Wilson's "14 Points For Peace," as they would rather surrender to America than the Allies, giving President Wilson the leading role. He meets with Congress who wanted Germany to surrender to France and Britain, but Wilson stands fast, "The Kaiser must go, leaving allied territories."

On November 11, 1918, German signs the agreement for peace, forever marked in history as Armistice Day. Later, the newspapers reported that Eddie Rickenbacker had flown over "no-man's land" and witnessed both sides erupting with joy over the peace agreement – the war was over on the battlefields.

Meanwhile, back in Newton County, the worst blizzard in 34 years hit the county in January. Letters from the boys "over there," continued to be published throughout 1918, and a column penned by George Ade, "War Hints and Helps," appeared weekly.

The War Mothers meet and form a society – 51 in Jefferson Township have boys in the service. Later, Goodland War Mothers emerge. The first "Gold Star," or war causality for Newton County was Chester Harry of Brook, who dies of pneumonia at Camp Taylor, Kentucky, on April 25, 1918. The March 8, 1918 Morocco Courier reported

that Bernard J. Beckwith, the first Morocco boy to enlist and was the first to be injured while serving in France.

In May, a wind storm blows down 32 windmills in the county; and the first week of June heralded the news that the Germans had surrendered. In October, the flu epidemic hits Brook, closing schools and public gatherings, several died, including the Eastburn family who suffered with the loss of four sons, a married daughter and son-in-law. They buried three of the brothers in one grave. The flu has claimed more Newton County lives than lost in the armed forces of WWI.

Still on the western front, Samuel Molter portrays Santa Claus for the troops in France; and the Liberty Guard (home guard), was mustered out at Kentland, the first to organize in the state.

Armistice Day

On November 11, 1918, an armistice brought an end to more than four years of slaughter. There were scenes of rejoicing in America and in the victorious countries, but relief and pride were tempered by grief of the fallen. In the defeated countries, chaos and bitterness reigned. World War One had lasted more than four years and caused the collapse of the Russian, Austro-Hungarian, Ottoman and German Empires. New states asserted their independence as the old empires collapsed, including Poland, Czechoslovakia, and the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (later Yugoslavia). In the Russian Empire, civil war was still raging.

Editor's note: WWI was called just that – worldwide. Many countries were involved in this epic conflict. I have focused upon the Western front, but it involved 32 countries. The Allies included Britain, France, Russia, Italy and the United States. These countries fought against the Central Powers which included Germany, Austria-Hungary, Ottoman Empire and Bulgaria. I suggest watching the DVD "The Great War," a PBS production and reading the book, "World War I, The Definitive Visual History from Sarajevo to Versailles," published by DK Publishing, New York. And of course read our local newspapers from the era, located at the Resource Center of the Newton County Historical Society, Kentland.

President's Thoughts

By Kay Babcock

In November, Gary Payne and his son, Tyler, who are involved in frontier reenactment came to share with us their costumes, guns, and needed gear to live back then. One interesting item was the gourd that served as a canteen, an adaption from the Native Americans. Gary was dressed as an American frontiersman. Tyler is a Canadian, probably from Montreal. Several of our members even got to fire a musket. They are loud and several said they had quite a "kick".

In December the annual Open House was held at the Center in Kentland. There was a wonderful array of snacks to choose from, Ron Norris came to play carols on the old pump organ. And Santa (Lynn Bozeman) came!! Marica came along to help him out. They brought the Society a present - a horse hair carriage robe, circa 1800s.

December's 5th Friday Fun Day was well attended. The snacks have turned into mini-meals. Diane Elijah brought us beef barley veggie soup - wonderful on a cold snowy day. Lots of story telling, lots of laughing, some history was even discussed.

In March, Gig Young spoke to us about Indiana Regiments fighting at Gettysburg. There were 2,200 Hoosiers on the field on July 1, 2, 3, and 4 1863.

Dan Voglund came in April to share with us about the history of bees and bee keeping. David Truby brought a tray out of one of his hives for us to see. Refreshments were all made with honey.

The May meeting was at Hazelden Country Club. George Ade (aka Mike Davis) came to be interviewed by Sportscaster Kealy Myers. The golf course was built in 1910. Some upcoming dates for the Society is the Annual Picnic in June. We will again go to Sig Boezeman's home for fishing, eating and visiting.

In July, it will be time for the Punkin' Vine County Fair. Visit our booth in the Commercial Building, we will have a display about the 100th anniversary of the ending of WWI.

The Research Center in Kentland is open on Monday, Thursday, and Friday from 11 to 3. Come visit and look around at what we have. Volunteer your time, you will learn things about your county, make new friends and have a great time.

Society Programs and Activities



Right, Gary Payne and left, his son Tyler gave a program os American Frontiersmen.



Christmas Open House, 2017. Above, Ron Norris accompanes members (l-r) Sharon Collins, ??, and Diana Elijah on the pump organ during the open house; Top right, Sig Boezeman shared his wish list with Santa.



Winter Programs

December 5th Friday Fun

Above, (l-r) David Truby, Janet Miller, Becky and Larry Lyons, and Mike Haste exchange stories that day.

Soldiers at Gettysburg

Right, Gig Young and his partner pictured right, spoke to the group about the Indiana Regiments who fought at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

Beekeeping

Far right, Dan Voglund's program on being a apiarist, aka honey bee keeper, was interesting and informative.





Touring AdKey in Goodland. Above member Phil Boldman talks with ??, in background (l-r) members Larry Lyons, Tim Myers and Russ Collins.



George Ade At Hazelden County Club
Above, George Ade (Mike Davis) and Kealy Myers discussed the golf course and golf club he established at the Hazelden Farm in Brook.

WWI Information Available at the Resource Center



Do you have ancestors that were part of the WWI era in Newton County? Perhaps we can help you uncover a bit of history on them and their participation either as a soldier or their contributions to the war effort.

Above is a collection of items we have on display. Newton County was an integral part of the nationwide war effort! Stop in and visit soon!

South Newton Fourth Grade Students Visit Resource Center



Members welcomed the fourth grade classes from South Newton Elementary in May. Top left and above, Tom "Coyote" Larson depicted a Mountain Man of the post Lewis and Clark Expedition era 1820-1836. His presentation and collection of animal hides and furs fascinated the students. Beth Bassett told them about Beaver Lake, the counterfeiters and horses thieves of Bogus Isand and Larry Lyons was on hand (top right) to share facts about the Indiana Torch Relay in 2016. Each student left with a bogus coin commemorating their visit to the center.

Pages of the Past

Submitted by Janet Miller, Newton County Enterprise, Winter/Spring 2017

Newton County

New Flag Will Wave Over Court House

A handsome new American Flag, ten by twenty feet in size, will be unfurled over the Court House on March fourth. This date was selected in honor of the inauguration of President Wilson. Meddie Sego, former county commissioner, and on whose motion the flag was purchased, will raise the banner. Mr. Sego is a Frenchman, and other attaches of the Court House trace their lineage back to the shores of Germany, England and perhaps other countries, but who are first of all Americans, and who will join in a chorus to the Stars and Stripes as it is raised on this occasion.

AD: For Sale: A practically new barn, about 16x30 feet, half hardwood lumber, balance pine. Actually worth \$150.00, but if moved before March 1st, will sacrifice for \$50.00, cash or note. Mrs. E. S. Steele

Suggests Naming the Road Systems

County Highway Superintendent Skinner was down from his McClellan township home yesterday; inspecting the bridges and culverts of Jefferson township. Mr. Skinner is working on a map of the improved roads of the county, and will show on the map all bridges and sewers. He also makes the good suggestion of renaming the roads, more in accordance with the localities they serve. Each little strip of road now bears the name under which it was petitioned for. Mr. Skinner would link the roads in a few large systems and give them names that would indicate their location. For instance, the several roads that now join and make complete connection between Kentland and Lake Village, or rather the south county line and the Kankakee river, which is the most direct route through the county, Mr. Skinner would call the "Newton Road." There is another line nearly connected between Goodland and Thayer that would bear one name, and the roads that connect the several towns could be given suitable names. They might also be marked by signboards for the information and guidance of the traveling public. The idea is a good one and we hope will be carried out.

Goodland

Thomas Gott vs. Gladys Gott, action for divorce, decree granted defendant on her cross complaint, and name changed to Gladys Roe.

Implement Opening at Goodland

Do not fail to attend the Grand Opening at Goodland March 8th, 9th and 10th. There will be an illustrated lecture on corn and alfalfa culture on Thursday, given by

Professors Reese and Hayne, under the direction of the International Harvester Co. Hot Lunch served free daily. Geo. Mitten

Kentland

Fred Brown returned from New York City Saturday where he purchased about twenty thousand dollars worth of machinery for the stone quarry, including a steam shovel and an additional crusher. The capacity of the plant will be doubled when these machines are installed. Mrs. Brown and children, who were visiting in Chicago during his absence, returned home with him.

Two weddings at St. Joseph's Church. Mr. Wesley Rheude and Miss Lela Kelly married Tuesday. Miss Anna Sego and Mr. Martin F. Master married Wednesday.

School News

Room 5 has entered the war zone. The seventh grade are studying the Revolutionary and the eighth grade are studying the Civil War. We are endeavoring to study war from the stand point of peace and could have no better illustration than the present conflict raging across the sea.

A year or so ago C.C. Kent suggested the idea of placing large sign boards out a few miles from Kentland on all main roads, giving directions and other information to automobilists passing this way. It was a good idea and should have been done. Automobile clubs all over the country are now engaged in this work.

Pearson Pendergrass has purchased of Grant Whaley the forty acres of land 'down by the river known as the Ellis farm, and on this land will erect his new reduction plant. Mr. Pendergrass informs us that work on the building was started yesterday and that the machinery is on the road.

New doors and aisle carpets have been placed in the Kentland Theatre the past few days which add greatly to the appearance of this popular play house. A sanitary drinking fountain is consideration now also to be placed in the lobby for the convenience of the patrons, which will also add greatly to the appearance and pleasure to the show going public.

A. L. Smart Succeeds to Lumber Business

In the settlement of the estate of the late Isaac Smart, made Tuesday by the heirs of the lumber and coal business conducted for twenty years by Mr. Smart, was taken over by A. L. Smart, and will be continued by the son. Mr. Smart has been associated with his father in the lumber business since the purchase of the yard in 1897. The Smart lumber yards is one of the largest in this section and does a great volume of business.

Brook

Word that Indiana had gone dry had scarcely reached Brook Friday afternoon until the pastors hurried to their churches and the bells were set to work spreading the joyful message. For thirty minutes they were rung steadily and meanwhile in many homes telephones were busy echoing the news from neighbor to neighbor and friend to friend. Word was sent to the school house and that bell gladly chimed in and the whistle at the terre cotta mills added its approval by several lusty toots. Lawrence E. Lyons, who represented Brook at the State House, and R. E. Hershman, who attended the hardware men's association in Indianapolis, told many interesting incidents relative to the busy scene there upon their return.

On Monday night the railroad bridge over the Iroquois River near Foresman was discovered on fire, but was saved from serious damage by prompt action of the people of Foresman. Cause of the fire unknown.

Montgomery & Snyder last week placed an elegant twelve foot iceless soda fountain in their drug store. It is white and silver in finish, sanitary and attractive.

Mt. Ayr

Jolie Miller has purchased the house on the old grandpa Miller 40 acres, of Jake Schanlaub, southwest of town and Jolie has it moved on his 80 acres 2 1/2 miles west of town.

The school house here has been condemned by a state officer as unfit and unsafe for school use. And it's to be hoped that a suitable building will be built next summer.

Charley Summers of south of Rensselaer has moved into the former Ed Stahl farm which Mr. Summers purchased last fall.

Trustee Hopkins was in Kentland Tuesday. Mr. Hopkins is studying plans for the new school house to be erected in Mt. Ayr.

From Central and North Newton

Mrs. Melinda Saylor, living north west of Pilot Grove, is having lumber sawed for a new barn.

Chicago has a woman by the name of Grace Vanden Boom Baumberger. Sounds like a base drum.

Oh, for the good old days again, when the grocer was in the habit of sticking a goodly sized potato on the spout of your coal-oil can.

Uncle Isaac Best was down from Rose-lawn Monday appearing before the grand jury. Mr. Best has been losing chickens for some time, and finally located the chickens and landed the thieves. The court will do the rest.

News Letter Covering

The Kankakee Country

The right of way for the big river ditch has been cleared of the timber to three miles west of the C. & E.I. railroad. Several hundred logs have been hauled up on high ground to be sawed into timber.

The barn where William Kepperling lives at Thayer was struck by lightning Saturday night and burned. A cow and implements were destroyed. The fire was not discovered until it was too late to save anything.

Morocco

The seventh annual spelling contest was held here last Saturday with the largest attendance of any contest previously held here. The contestants were 42 in number and acquitted themselves very ably. Only two being put down in the first hour's spelling before noon. It required one-hundred and eleven rounds to spell down all the contestants. The contestants were given a number of rests during the contest, in which time several numbers of good music, both vocal and instrumental were rendered. A reading, "Your Flag" was given by one of Kentland's best readers. Prizes were awarded the three youngest contestants: Fern Ellis, Enos, 8 years old, first; Edward Rouse, Roselawn, 9 years old, second; and Orville Hunter, Decker College, 10 years old, third. The prizes for the ten best spellers were awarded as follows: Clifton Templin, Brook, first; Harry Martin, Enos, second; Clara Hopper, Roselawn, third; Bertha Madison, State Line, fourth; Marion Long, Brook, fifth; Forest Gring, Brook, sixth; Nora Stoner, Morocco, seventh; Ruth Tedde, Thayer, eighth; Lucile Williams, Goodland, ninth; Garnet Henderson, No. 1, Jefferson township, tenth. The first prize was an unabridged dictionary and was much coveted by all contestants and is surely a prize to be appreciated. Other prizes were given, the second being a book with an additional prize of the poem "Your Flag" with a hand painted flag in a beautiful frame. The judges were Rev. Cecil Smith, W. D. Stevens and Bruce Stevens. Rev. Daniels of Kentland was the official pronouncer.

Do You Know?

By Janet Miller, Answers on page 13

1. George Ade's clubhouse was once called by another name. What was that name?
2. According to the Official Rural Farm Directory, Newton County, Indiana (1967) there was five elevators in the advertisements. Can you name them?
3. Between 1870 and 1910, Kentland was struck by how many disastrous fires?
4. Newton County has always had its share of colorful attorneys. When was the Newton County Bar Association formed, and who was its first president?
5. Gov. Warren T. McCray's Orchard Lake Stock Farm drew cattle buyers from around the world to purchase his Hereford cattle. What was the name of the famous bull which sired the McCray herd?
6. What do the five Newton County buildings picture below have in common?



Lake Village School



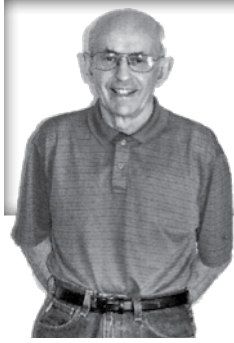
Lake Village Presbyterian Church



Kentland Coliseum



George Ade's Hazelden Club House



Salt

Jigger Sirois
by Jeff Manes

Originally published in Sept. 2009

"...O my Lord, I am not eloquent. ... I am slow of speech and of a slow tongue."

"... Is not Aaron the Levite thy brother? I know that he can speak well. ...Thou shalt speak unto him." – Moses and God.

Leon Duray Sirois was named after a race-car driver. He was nicknamed after a race-car mechanic. From 1957-77, Jigger Sirois drove midget, spring and stock cars.

Sirois, 74, lived in Shelby for the first 29 years of his life, then resided in Hammond for more than 20 years. He and his wife, Juanita, currently live in Williamsburg, VA. But he comes back home to Indiana every year to watch the Indianapolis 500.

Sirois recently returned to Northwest Indiana. He stopped by my apartment for a chat the day before his Lowell High School reunion. Sirois had something to tell the Class of '54. No small feat, he has been a stutterer most of his life.

The 1969 Indianapolis 500 time trials?

"We went out first to qualify," Sirois began. "You get four laps. During the four laps, the owner has the option of waving off the run at any time. I was so excited; I got my three laps in. I remember coming off the fourth corner like it was yesterday. I was thinking, 'I'm going to get qualified.' But out of the corner of my eye, I saw the owner waving the yellow flag.

"As I slowed down on the back straightaway, it started raining. That was it for the day."

And the rule at the time was the fastest car on the first day received the pole position for "The Greatest Spectacle in Racing."

"Correct. It would have been a fluke, but I would have had the pole position as long as there weren't 33 faster cars. It ended up that we would've been the 31st fastest car."

But drivers get three stabs at it; what happened?

"Our second attempt, the next weekend, I was running even faster than the first day. The owner waved it off again on the final lap."

Why?

"He was wanting to go faster. He admitted after the first day, that he was confused and didn't use good judgement. The second weekend would have made me 26th fastest."

"But I was still sticking with my crew because they took me there. Maybe someone

else could have driven it faster, but I was on the edge with the car. I was hanging it out, so to speak."

Your third and final chance for fame and glory?

"The engine blew."

Jigger, a good horse can be run to death. Sounds like Mr. Offenhauser's turbo was all tucked out.

"I did qualify for Indy in 1970 and '74 but ended up getting bumped out by faster cars. Both years I was 35th."

Worst crash?

"Springfield, Ill., 1962. It was a wicked little quarter-mile track with high banks, good for the fans, but the cars slid around a lot. I got bumped by another car. There were no cages on those cars."

What happened?

"I was told the car went end over end eight or nine times – really high. I was unconscious when it came to a stop. The exhaust pipe ran down the right side of an Offy four-cylinder engine."

Jigger, while we've been talking, I noticed that long scar on the inside of your right arm. It's the shape of an exhaust pipe.

"Yes, it is. I came to a week later. There was another time when I was on fire from alcohol when a fuel tank split open.

"Jeff, there is fear that goes along with automobile racing, but it doesn't compare to the fear a youngster who stutters feels when asked to talk in school."

Would you like to talk about that?

"I would like nothing better than to talk

about it."

You speak perfectly; how did you overcome the stutter?

"My first class therapy wasn't until age 65 at the Hollins Communications Research Institute in Roanoke, VA. It's a 19-day, 100-hour program. I was part of a class of 14 which was comprised mostly of youngsters ages 13 through 19.

"Everybody makes a final three-minute speech there. Some of those kids, on the first day, could hardly say their names. By the conclusion of the program, some of them spoke almost perfectly. I was so inspired, I decided to become involved with helping stutterers."

Why did you wait so long to get help?

"I tried professional therapy after high school for an extensive period of time; it was quite costly and didn't help me. That's how it was 50 years ago. There wasn't a lot of proven therapy in this area."

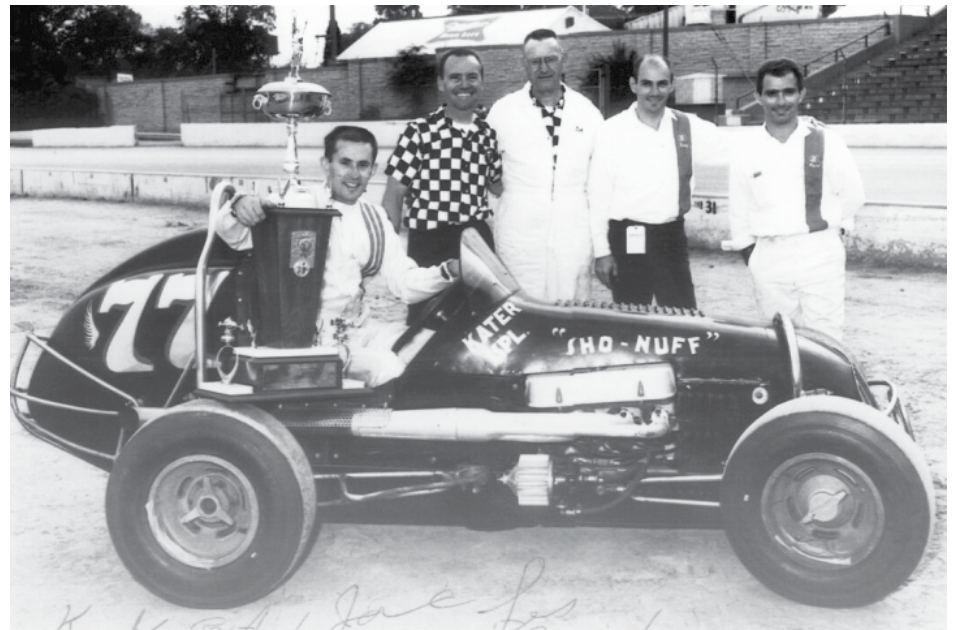
Some researchers believe stuttering is a physical thing, resulting from a distorted pattern of muscle movements by the speech mechanisms. Can emotional disorders attributed to, say, an abusive childhood or maybe a single traumatic event cause stuttering?

"Jeff, when I was 3 years old, I was in a car with my mother, sister and a neighbor lady. We were going to Albert Larson's farm between Shelby and Lowell to get eggs and butter like people did in 1938."

And?

"A tornado hit. I remember our old Chevy bouncing up and down; the car ended up stuck on top of a fallen tree. It made me get down on the floorboard. That was worse than the tornado was those ladies screaming.

"We went inside the farmer's house. I



Leon "Jigger" Sirois is the driver in the car, and Frank Kater (the man in the checked shirt) is the car's owner.

looked upward; rain was hitting me in the face – the roof was gone. There was a piano with a washtub on top of it. I was perplexed by that.

“They said I lay in bed for three days and didn’t utter a word. After the third day, I started to talk.”

Yeah?

“I stuttered. I didn’t bother me until third grade. You become more self-conscious by third grade. Well, that exacerbates the condition.

“The doctors in that era told parents if you discuss it with the child it could increase the problem; they didn’t know what to do about it. My stuttering was never talked about at home.

“I dropped out of Sunday school; we had a wonderful Sunday school teacher, Red Luchene. I was never made fun of in Sunday school, but I was ashamed of the way I talked. Jeff, I wanted to become a Boy Scout so bad.”

Scouts recite oaths.

“Yes; I remember trying to read from a book in the seventh grade. They always had you stand back then. I was really struggling with speech blocks and repetitions. The teacher, God bless him, always placed strong emphasis on certain syllables when he spoke. He also used long dramatic pauses between each word.

“Jeff, it indelibly etched in my psyche, he said, ‘Leon, I cannot understand why you have such difficulty talking and reading. Your brother and your sisters were good talkers and readers.’”

You know, Jigger, God can get away with mentioning to Moses that his no-account golden calf-idolizing sibling was a better orator. But that teacher needed a good punch in the chops.

“I wasn’t angry at him, but I was crying, I felt ashamed.”

“I would have given anything to change my surname to Brown or Jones. I became very accomplished at two things that are self-defeating. I used substitution words and starter sounds.”

Example of a starter sound?

“Uh-Sirois.” It is imperative for boys to start therapy before the age of 5, age 7 for girls. Four times as many boys stutter as girls.”

You mentioned helping those afflicted.

“Yes, I became involved with The Stuttering Foundation, a not-for-profit organization based out of Memphis that provides self-therapy resources in the form of books and DVDs. There are 8,000 public libraries across the country that have the resources available.

“The big difference between self-therapy and professional therapy is economical. My therapy cost in excess of \$3,000 for 19 days, 10 years ago. For some families, that is cost-prohibitive.”

Are you paid a salary for spreading the word and distributing the resources?

“Not a penny. I just want to help peo-

ple. Jeff?”

Jigger?

“Have a green-flag day.”

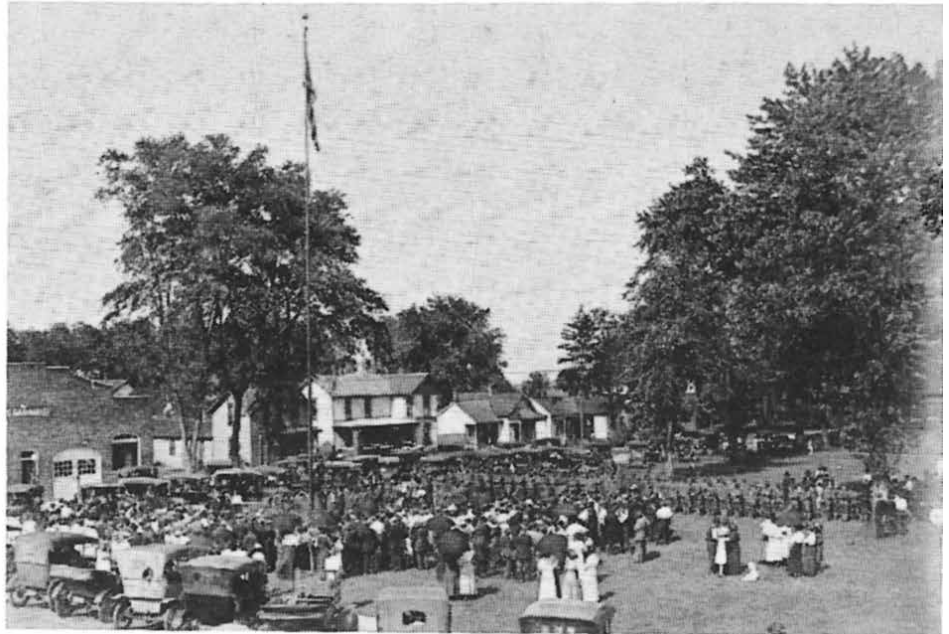
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Many years have passed since the day Sirois stood stammering and trembling with a book in his hand. He told me that never

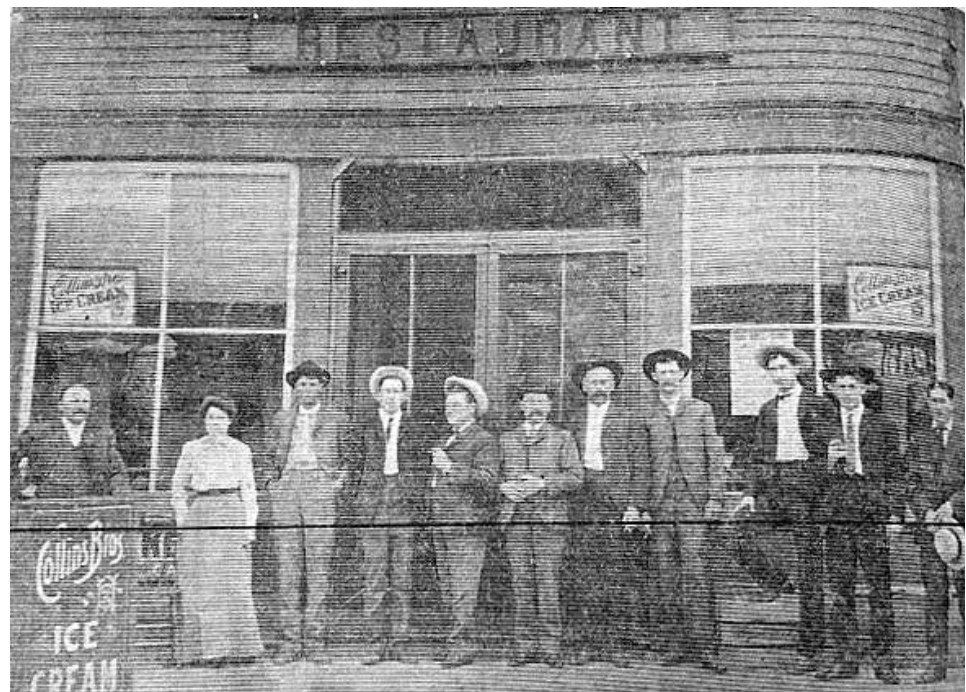
once in four years at Lowell High School did his classmates make fun of him.

Sirois said he wanted to stand in front of the class one more time and do something he couldn’t do back then.

Leon “Jigger” Sirois wanted to say, “Thank-you.”



On March 4, 1918, a new American flag was raised on courthouse square in Kentland. See page 6 of this edition for more information.



While searching for obituaries in the 1950s *Morocco Courier*, we came across this photo. The identification stated: The picture was taken in front of what is now Gilbert’s Hardware, (later Morocco Glass and Trim and Pizza King.) Those in the picture are left to right: Pet Clark, Ance Clark, Unknown, Dr. Lewis, dentist, Reuben Hess, Silas Recher, Jasper Collins, Bill Hitchings, Unknown, Guy Tincher and Ed Gorman.

Historian's Corner The Red Cross

By Diana Elijah,
Newton County Historian

Clara Barton went to Switzerland in 1869. During the Franco-Prussian War she served as a nurse at the front. In 1873, she worked to convince people of a need for taking part in Red Cross work. She helped establish the American Red Cross in 1881. She encouraged the U.S. Senate to ratify the Geneva Convention. She originated the clause in the Red Cross Constitution that provides relief in calamities. She was in charge of helping in Florida's yellow fever epidemic in 1877, Johnstown, PA in 1889, and the Galveston, TX flood in 1900.

The Red Cross is an international organization and you will see, very busy in WWI.

During WWI, Henry P. Davison, a financial genius of the J.P. Morgan firm assumed management of the American Red Cross with masterful results. He was quoted in newspapers as follows:

"The greatest humanitarian test that had to be faced is that which now confronts the American Red Cross. Success can only come when the whole nation realizes its immensity and its urgency and responds with true American generosity and patriotism.

"The problem we face is not merely how to win the war but insure future peace and security for our country and the world. Sacrifices made by France and Belgium were made for us as well as for themselves.

"Success of Germany would make Germany the supreme power of the world. Their methods are incompatible and irreconcilable with American ideals."

The Red Cross worked with the Young Man's Christian Association (YMCA), and used many of their facilities in Europe. The YMCA was founded in England in 1844, originally as a Christian and athletic organization, spreading throughout Europe and Canada. In the U.S. and overseas, there were many wonderful camps constructed. The Red Cross needed facilities in Europe, and the YMCA facilities were made available to them for their programs, making a great partnership in WWI.

The Newton County Red Cross was organized in 1917 with 669 members. One of their tasks put set the members to the task of knitting. They were to knit a sweater and

two pairs of socks for the soldiers in the war. Over 450 people were listed in an article appearing in the Newton County Enterprise from all over the county. Forty-nine sets were given to Jefferson Township soldiers. Other local boys also received their handy-work, as noted in their letters published in the local papers thanking the senders. Some knitters included personal notes with their items.


Areas were set up at the courthouse for their sewing projects. The Newton County Enterprise featured a column for the Red Cross on an on-going basis. In August 1917, it mentions "The Red Cross Shop will be open from 1-30-5:00 Monday afternoons for the making of surgical dressings. This time was

set aside for those who could not make it during their usual times, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday."

It was reported that up to April 1919, the following supplies were shipped from Newton County: 12,194 surgical dressings; 6 comforters; 142 hospital garments; 382 refugee garments; 1,542 knitted garments. Fifty service men's families also received assistance.

A carnival was held and \$670.00 was collected for the cause. The Junior Red Cross and Parochial school children collected over \$100.00. A lady in Jefferson Township had socials and raised \$273.00. People made and sold afghans, adding \$134.00. Donations totaled \$3,259.50. This was a lot of money 100 years ago!

Do Your Bit!



Buy a Liberty Loan Bond

THE Banks of Kentland will receive subscriptions to the Liberty Loan Bonds. The issue is for Two Billion Dollars. Bonds are in denominations of \$50, \$100, \$500 and \$1000, and pay 3½ per cent interest, payable semi-annually. A deposit of 2 per cent is required upon signing an application for an allotment of these bonds.

Inquire at either Bank for further information.
Do it now.
No subscriptions taken after June 15th.
We will handle this for you absolutely without profit.

**Discount and Deposit State Bank
Kent State Bank**

The Liberty Bond Drive was just one of the war support efforts taken on by Newton County citizens when American joined the Allies in WWI. This ad appeared often in the *Newton County Enterprise*.

A Letter To My Grandchildren

By Helen (McCabe) Thompson

This article comes from
"Short Stories and other Selected Writings" published in 2008

This heartwarming story is a narrative from grandmother to grandchildren that is full of life lived in Washington and Iroquois Townships, and the Brook, Indiana area. Helen Josephine McCabe Thompson, wife of Harvey Thompson and mother to four boys, went back to school as an adult and became an English teacher. She taught English at South Newton High School for 19 years. Perhaps some of you reading this were her students.

Helen was the daughter of James Alva "Deacon" McCabe and Josephine Corbin McCabe. She has deep roots in Washington Township. Her great-grandfather, John Myers, settled near the Iroquois River, where the Strole Bridge is in 1838. He came from Pennsylvania. Another great-grandfather Travis Dolman Corbin, settled in the same area in 1853, coming here from Luray, Virginia. A Corbin married a Myers and these were her grandparents. Her father came here in the 1880's with his parents and six siblings, and settled on the farm just north of the river bridge on Road 55. The old iron bridge that went down some years ago was known as the McCabe Bridge.

Dear Grandchildren,

This cold, winter afternoon in late January, I wish I could talk to all of you. I wish you were all seated in a circle before the Franklin stove, the fire crackling, the snow drifting down in lovely crystals outside the window – but you aren't, and I can't. That is probably just as well-first because I'm not a talker; next, because you would soon be bored out of your minds. So, I'll write to you and you can quit reading whenever you wish – but please keep the missal because, someday you, or another descendant of mine, will want to know about the times when I grew up.

I am old, chronologically. My mirror says so. The stairs say so. My bones shout it and anyone with as much past has to old. But sometimes I feel young: when I hear the music of Glenn Miller; when I see birds soaring or see a big jet leaving a trail across the sky; when I stand on a seashore or see a mountain range; when I prepare for a trip that will show me a new view of other lands, of history. I still "want to know" and don't ever forget – it is learning which keeps one 'young.'

This narrative begins with a time long before I ever crossed an ocean or saw mountains, a time when I rode in a wagon behind a team of Percherons called Cap and Bob, sitting on the high spring seat of a box wagon with Deacon, my dad, to haul a load of corn to the elevator at Ade.

Then we lived on the Corbin farm west of Brook, land homesteaded by my great-grandfather, Travis Dolman Corbin. I was born while we lived on this farm, but I was born in Brook at the home of my mother, Jose's brother, Frank. I had only one grandparent, William Franklin Corbin, living and he lived with Uncle Frank. He died when I was one and my memory of him is dim-an old man sitting in a big Morris chair who wanted to hold me, but I would run from him, afraid of his long, white beard.

I wish I had known my other grandparents but, since my mother was 47 years old when I was born, they were dead. That is another reason I am writing this. Some of you are quite young. Someday you may have questions which I might have answered but you do not know the questions yet. I am full of questions – and no one to answer them. I can only suppose and imagine and, for someone who always wants to know, that is not very satisfactory.

Well, here I am, high on the spring seat, watching Cap's and Bob's flanks strain as they pull the wagon to Ade. Cap makes a loud, rude noise, lifts his tail and reveals a pink rosette forming from which issues another rude noise. The rosette was rather pretty I thought. Then out roll brown lumps of steaming manure and he lowers his tail. Soon Bob, given the hint follows suit. The sight was quite memorable. Cows make gross, smelly plops but not horses. Horses leave steaming piles that look like chocolate cupcakes. The air was crisp. The horses' breaths left steaming trails which drifted behind and we passed field after field where the harvesting was done, and the land was resting for spring. I am sorry for any child who has never experienced a ride in a wagon on a brisk fall morning.

Once at the elevator, the load of corn must be dumped. The wagon was driven into the alleyway, chains were fitted over the hubs, and the wagon was gradually tipped up until the corn ran freely out the end gate. My dad, Deacon, let me stay on the spring seat while the wagon tipped up slowly; until it seemed almost vertical. There was a bin for the corn beneath the elevator floor. Deacon got into the wagon and kicked the last of the corn out. This, to me, was the equivalent of any present-day thrill ride, and probably it was more dangerous since I was not secured in the seat by any kind of belt and could have



Helen Thompson, 1980 South Newton High School Yearbook photo

low. I still know where it was, but I doubt if anyone else does.

My great-grandfathers, John Myers and Travis Dolman Corbin, had chosen well the land which they homesteaded. Question: How did they know about this land; how did they journey to it in the years before the Civil War – Myers in 1838, Corbin in 1853? There was no river transportation very near. They might have come down the Ohio and then up the Wabash as far as it was navigable. Most settlers in Indiana came up through the Cumberland Gap and then north. How interesting would have been any kind of written account of their decision to come, their means of travel, the route they took! Great-grandfather Corbin was a teacher. Therefore, it is safe to assume that he was literate and could have left a record. He was also the first trustee of Washington Township in Newton County.

Back to the flat land, the rich soil, the hot summers and cold winters. South of the Corbin land, about two miles, a river, the Iroquois, flows sluggishly, westward to a junction with the Kankakee. The Indians, who had been moved farther west in the 1830s, called the Iroquois the Pinkamink. They were Pottawatomies, so the river is not named appropriately. Great-grandfather Myers homesteaded south of the Corbin land and some of his holdings were along the river. These homestead acres covered most of a section and his granddaughters and grandsons, my mother's cousins, *Continued on page 12 >*

12 The Newcomer

> *Continued from page 11*

lived on these farms when I was a child and many of them are still held by Myers' descendants. We lived on the Corbin land, which was co-owned by the children of William F. Corbin—my mother and her brothers and sisters. William had come from Virginia with his father, Travis, the oldest of the children.

The buildings on the Corbin farm were old but sturdy; a large barn with a huge mow and pigeon roost in the peak; two corn cribs, one very old with grain bins on the north side; two chicken houses; several small pig stys; a row of small buildings across the back of the yards – pump house, woodshed, cob house, privy. These were located where they would have adjoined an older house which burned when I was a baby and the sidewalk that ran to them began about 10 yards behind the present house – which had been moved out from Brook.

A pile of stones, too large to be moved manually, stood in the back yard. These were from the foundation of the older house. They were covered with a vining weed known as deadly nightshade which had a small, purple cluster flower. Later I learned that it was poisonous. Sometime in these years the privy was moved out beyond the rockpile near the chicken yard. South of the chicken yard lay the orchard which had surely been started by Travis Dolman, perhaps with seeds or roots which he brought from Virginia. There were, and I can't be exact here, at least 15 varieties of apples and most of these were kinds which

are not grown today. Many of them were delicious eating apples and we had boxes of apples stored in the basement for winter. There was a huge, spreading crabapple tree at the west end of the orchard, from which apples Jose made crabapple jelly. Deacon would find morels under this tree in the spring. In the pasture lot north of the barn, we would pick fall mushrooms, the kind known as pasture mushrooms and a kind that one needed to identify very cautiously. Besides the chicken yard, the orchard and the pasture lot, there was a hog lot, the barn lot, a truck patch and the house garden, a fenced plot just south of the house. This fence was covered by a vining old-fashioned pink rose and there was a yellow rose just north of the kitchen door. The Asbury Strole farm down on the south side of the river had the same roses and the Stroles had also come from Page County, Virginia. Both families must have brought those roses with them to Indiana from Virginia. Unless someone has uprooted them, they are still growing on both farms.

The farm was on a north-south road which was not graveled. It was about ¼ mile to the south graveled road and ¾ mile north to the road into Brook. At that time the county fair was the second week in September, usually the rainy season in northern Indiana, and we nearly always got stuck on the south ¼ mile when we started for the fair. My mother blamed John Stonehill, who lived on the next mile south and was married to one of the Myers cousins, for our road not

being graveled. She claimed that he had gone to the commissioners and objected because it would raise taxes.

We farmed the Corbin quarter-section and the Dowling eighty which lay in the next section south. There was a crib on this land also and a straw stack that I could roll down. The older crib on the Corbin place had rotting floorboards through which, over the decades, people had deposited trash. One object, which I could see peering down into the dark recess between the cracks, was an ancient typewriter. Since I had never seen anyone use or have a typewriter, I have no idea whose it might have been, but it was intriguing.

Winters, it seems now, were full of snow and wind. I played outside, sometimes walking right over the fences on the high drifts. The windows in the house would frost over with a beautiful tracery of ice particles. We had a baseburner which burned hard coal and, once filled from the top, would glow for hours through the ising glass windows, and along with the kitchen range, heated the whole house, although the upstairs was only minimally heated through floor registers. There were six rooms.

Before I describe these rooms, I am taking a slight detour. I created a problem by mentioning that old typewriter. I will call this diversion "A Tale of Two Typewriters." This Christmas I received from the Paris Thompsons, a beautiful little Limoges box shaped like a typewriter—perfect in every detail. I con-



Taken at the Roy Sell farm on SR 16. Standing, left to right, Nate Dangerfield, separator man, Alva Hoover (3), Alva McCabe, Bert Miller (5), John U. Myers, Till Watson, George Wirerick, Harry Sell (4), Webb Sell, John Kline Sr., Ad Burton, engineer, Kermit Whaley (boy), Philip Bonebrake (11), water monkey, Orge Bentley, blower man, unidentified. Sitting: Charles Liskey, Charles Stonehill (10) George Kellenberger, Chauncey Merchant, Frank Strole (1) Frances Whaley, Oscar Strole (2), Orville McCabe and Barney Hood. Roy Sell (6) Walter Sell (7), Otto Hood (8), Deacon McCabe (9). *Threshing photo from the "Brook, Iroquois, Washington Township Sesquicentennial Collection, 2006," page 33.*

sidered it a great compliment that they had seen this and purchased it for me. It seemed to indicate that they considered it a symbol of my efforts to write and thought the writing might be worthy of this icon. When I began writing these memoirs, most days forcing myself to the typewriter to write one page, I remembered that some writer, who may have had forced himself to the typewriter, had said, "Always stop with the next days' writing idea started." I try to do this. But this diversion is because I lay awake last night and thought of typewriters-the one I received and one under the crib floor. Somehow, that typewriter, resting in the dust under the rotting floor of an old crib, is an intriguing mystery-one that I cannot solve but one that I cannot forget. Whose was it, why was it discarded, what frustrated hopes and dreams did it represent? When I was five and saw it there, discarded, I only thought it would be nice to play with but, of course, I couldn't reach it and didn't ask about it. Now, at 76, questions about it can never be answered. My older brothers, my sister, may have known the answers. They are dead. I believe it must have been my dad's. I understand that Deacon attended Indiana University for a short time in the late 1800s. He was the next to the oldest son in a family of five boys and two girls who grew up a short mile from where I now live. Probably financial reasons kept him from completing college studies. The old typewriter, the vanished hopes and dreams must have been his.

Deacon was never meant to be a farmer. As my brother, Jim, said. "Nothing ever turned out right for Dad and he always tried so hard." I only wish I knew the story of that typewriter under the crib floor.

There were usually five or six farms on a threshing run. The big steam engine and the threshing machine went from farm to farm. We usually knew, the day before, when the machine would come to our place and advance baking and some food preparation could be done ahead but not too much - there was no refrigeration, only the cellar, the well pit and a small icebox.

Usually the men would finish at one farm in the afternoon and move to the other late in the day, setting up so that they would get an early start. I would see the steam engine coming up the lane and get very excited. I loved threshing. I would get to ride with Howard Cheek in the buggy to take drinking water to the men in the field. The water was in a gallon jug wrapped in wet gunny sacks to keep it cool. When the thresher was at the Dowling eighty, that meant a nice long ride and there was a straw stack there which I liked to tumble down.

The threshing machine would be hauled out under the big haymow door and the tractor would maneuver to a position where its belt would run from the flywheel to the threshing machine. Men would pitch the

bundles hauled in from the fields into the machine's maw. It would whirr and rumble and spew grain into waiting box wagons and blow straw through a big tube into the mow. If the mow became full, the whole apparatus would move to the north pasture and a lovely, yellow straw stack would grow there, promising future tumbling and hidey holes. Some farms had a wooden platform about eight feet off the ground and the straw, blown on top and around the platform, made a snug shed for livestock.

Corn shelling procedures were much the same as far as cooperative efforts were concerned. The sheller would make the rounds, the men would scoop the corn from the cribs where it had been drying and haul it to the sheller where the grain would flow in a lovely, yellow stream into the waiting wagons and the cobs would pile up in the barn lot. Some cobs would be hauled to the cob house to use for starting fires in the range. We also had a hand sheller for shelling small amounts of corn for the chickens and this hand sheller, with its crank, was also good for hulling walnuts.

During the last few years we lived on the farm, Deacon sold mineral mixture for Moorman and later for Eagle Brand. He covered a four-county area, driving from farm to farm, and often I rode with him. I never forgot a farm or how to get there. I probably knew the layout of more hog lots than any kid in Indiana. I loved these trips. I loved the smell of the hog lots. There was sort of a hickory nut scent. In summer we would take a picnic lunch and eat this while we stopped along one of the drainage ditches in the northern part of Newton or Jasper County. The ditches held small crappie and schools of minnows which I liked to watch. It fascinated me that these were called schools of minnows. I met Harvey on one of these excursions. I didn't know at the time, not until we had been married for years in fact, that I was meeting my future husband.

A favorite thing was helping select seed corn. We would go to a neighbors crib and test the ears of corn by taking out a grain and checking with a knife to see if there was a good 'heart,' the tiny white sprout in the kernel. When enough ears were selected, and this was a painstaking job, we would take the ears home and run them through the hand sheller. Then the corn was kept till planting time late in May.

So, this was life on the farm. My brothers and my sister had all gone to Chicago to live before we moved to Brook. I don't remember much about the farm sale. I know that selling old Daisy, a 26-year-old saddle horse that had carried Orville and Jim and Kathryn to Miller school, must have been sad for everyone. I can't remember riding her, but she was always there, in the north pasture, having earned a comfortable retirement. Kathryn's husband,

Vern was a streetcar conductor and got Jim a job for a while until Jim got on the police force. Before he went to the city, Jim took a truckload of sweet corn into the city to sell, but he had to give most of it away - a typical example of McCabe failed business ventures. I think that must have been when he decided to go to the city and get a job! Deacon never made much money selling mineral mixtures, but he enjoyed it. So did I!

I believe that writing these long-ago happenings has made me appreciate the family which I was part of - the persons who loved and protected a homely little girl who came late to their midst. Aunts, uncles and cousins were all part of the community where I grew up. These were my roots - honest God-fearing, ordinary people who were quite industrious, very intelligent, and, I fear, simply in the wrong place at the wrong time.

This story is a part of the letter Helen wrote to her grandchildren. We treasure her amazing writing of farm life as she knew it. The remainder of her narrative dwelling on home and family life will be published in an upcoming Newcomer.

Answers to Do You Know?

By Janet Miller,
Questions on page 6

1. The name of George Ade's clubhouse was "The Pavilion".
2. The five elevators advertising in the 1967 Official Rural Farm Directory of Newton County were: Kentland Grain and Feed, Inc.; Barnett Grain Company, Inc. Morocco, Indiana; The Lochiel Elevator Co., Goodland, Indiana; Enos Grain Company, Inc. Morocco, Indiana; and Newton County Farm Bureau Co-op, Brook and Ade, Indiana.
3. There were 13 fires in Kentland between 1870 and 1910. Buildings of the time were mostly frame, and roofs were largely wood-shingled. Because the buildings were close together, most of these fires were in the downtown business district. The first of these fires was also the most damaging. On the night of December 13, 1870, fire broke out in the Kent Building at the corner of Third and what is now Seymour or US 24 at the present site of the NAPA store. The main business district was along US 24 at that time, and by the time the blaze was extinguished, 15 buildings had burned.
4. The Newton County Bar Association was formed on December 13, 1917 with Judge William Darroch as its first president.
5. The name of the famous bull which sired the Hereford cattle herd at Warren T. McCray's Orchard Lake Stock Farm was Perfection Fairfax.
6. All of the structures were planned, built or completed during the WWI era.

Write and Write Again . . . Letters From The Soldiers

By Beth Bassett

"Send the letters chasing after him ... as soon as he leaves ... make them cheerful and don't be afraid to put in all the local gossip and the fool cat and dog news of the neighborhood." George Ade, March 1918

George Ade's role was varied during World War I, from hosting galas and parties for the Red Cross and Liberty Bond fund drives, to serving as Publicity Director of the Indiana Council of Defense. In his publicity columns "War Hints, Helps and Duties," he urged the families and friends of soldiers to start a writing campaign to the soldiers that would not stop until they returned safely home. The community responded wholeheartedly, sprinkling them with news from the home front.

In turn, many of the soldiers sent letters home, many which were shared with the local papers. From the onset America's involvement in WWI, letters began to appear from our local men and women serving their country. In researching WWI, these published letters revealed a glimpse of life as a soldier during WWI that cannot be found recorded history.

We found letters in the *Morocco Courier*, *Newton County Enterprise* and *Goodland Herald*, as well as pasted into one of the Ladd family scrapbooks we have in our archives at the resource center. Space does not allow me to reprint each letter, however, I will include excerpts that I feel represent the role that these letters held during WWI.

Unfortunately, locating service records on WWI soldiers was not possible. The website www.worldwarvets.com stated that the original Indiana military records of the Federal government were completely destroyed in a fire at the National Archives, July 12, 1973 in St. Louis. 80% of the WWI records were lost, all of the records from Indiana were gone. Over the past 15 years, this group have been working to recreate the files. Some of the names could be found, but there wasn't enough information so that I could not validate them as Newton County soldiers. Some information was included with the letters, others did not.

For most of the soldiers, this would be the first time they had ventured so far away from home. They were eager to tell the folks back home about the way of life where their camps were located, and when they arrived "over there." And, they were always anxious to hear more about what was going on back home, and mentioning that they had or had not seen, their companions who had also joined the fighting forces. When the Newton County War Mothers and members of the Red Cross began sending knitted sweat-

ers and socks to them, thank you letters from grateful recipients quickly appeared. Some of the letters have been edited for space allocation.

**1917, Harry Harris,
Somewhere In England, To the Editor.**

"Harry Harris, who lived in this neighborhood two years ago, is now serving in the English army. He writes to friends concerning the brutality of the war.

"By the way, I was only at the base three days before being shot out here.

"Now that the US has entered you may be able to realize more fully the senseless brutality of the German warfare. Wait until the American troops first go through a gas attack. Of course, they will be provided with gas helmets, as the British troops were not when the Huns first sprang gas attacks on them. Wait until they write home, they will wonder why the States could possibly have stayed out as long as they did." This letter contained vivid details about German warfare, witnessed by Mr. Harris.

**May 1917, Glen Boothly, Co. B.
BWNG. Alcova, WY to his parents,
Mr. and Mrs. John Boothly.**

"I was looking over some of the Goodland papers you sent me last night and I see that there are a lot of the boys back home who are ready to follow the flag wherever she goes, and I am sure glad to hear it for the country may need them before the war is over and I hope I will get to see some of the boys at some of the training camps. We have 150 men in our company now and it makes a large company. Tell the boys all "hello" and that I am glad they are going to help out when the country needs them.

**May 28, 1917, Ft. Washington,
Paul Cunningham, 1st Company
C.A.C., to Editor Enterprise.**



"I am writing to acknowledge receipt of the last three issues of *The Enterprise* and to try and express my appreciation for same, as when one gets this far from home, next to a letter from the folks, the paper from your old home town

is the best the mail can bring.

"The last four weeks have been eventful one for this bunch of Hoosiers. There are 140 in my company and over a hundred of them are from Lake and St. Joseph Counties, Indiana. Very few of them have ever been over 100 miles out of the state and none of them had the least idea what army life was like.

"We were at Ft. Thomas, KY for ten days, when we were examined and issued our

uniforms and given the first insight on army life. We thought after we had been there that length of time and been clothed in khaki that we were real soldiers, and when told we were to be sent to Ft. Washington all we would have to do would be guard the Capitol from German U-boats and other war crafts that might get up the Potomac River. But we found it to be different when we got here, as we have been here two weeks and done nothing but drill. The only thing that has made us feel more like real soldiers is that we have been issued rifles and bayonets since we got here."

**February 1918, Raymond E. Mashino,
1st Sgt. Co. A. 332nd Machine
Gun Bn. to Mrs. Triplett.**

"I want to thank the Morocco Red Cross for the sweater and the wristlets I received today. We are out nearly all the time in the day time and tomorrow we are scheduled to go out to the range and have machine gun firing, so you will see we will have a hard day ahead of us, it is snowing tonight. Just a word for the Red Cross: All of us soldiers appreciate very much what they are doing for us and what they will do for us Over There, such as keeping us warm and taking care of the few unlucky ones who get wounded. (You know the Machine Gun Companies are called the Suicide Clubs.) It is because they do so much dirt to the enemy and their artillery always tries to get them the first thing. That is the beauty of being a First Sergeant, I won't have to be right where the guns are at, not that I am afraid, but you know a live coward is better than a dead hero. With the best wishes for the Red Cross."

**February 4, 1918, somewhere in France, Pvt.
Bernard J. Beckwith, 1st Trench Mortar
Battery, AEF, to Mrs. C. E. Triplett.**

"Dear Madam:

I wish to thank you and other members of the Morocco Red Cross, for the sweater and things you sent Clayton Milligan and myself. They are very useful articles and will not doubt come in handy. We have been having some fine weather, January is one of the best months they have in France during winter weather. Thank you again in behalf of my comrade and myself."

**May 31, 1918, somewhere in France,
Sgt. Percy M. Perkins, 15 Co.,
2nd M.M. Reg., SCAEF, to his folks.**

"Dear folks at home: The Germans have visited us every night except one, for more than a week so you see it gets pretty interest-



ing around here at times, their big gun drops a shell around here every once in a while. I have a few souvenirs of its projectile, which bursts as it hits the ground. Now don't worry about me mother, for this Company is only a small part in France and I am a smaller one. The Y.M.C.A. has furnished us with a base ball outfit and the 15th company is leading the league. Love and best wishes."

**July 20, 1918, Camp Merit, NJ,
Bennie Wilson to his parents**

"It is drawing near time to bid goodbye to the old US, but we hope it won't take much longer to lick the Huns. We realize we will encounter some dangers, but I am glad that I have the opportunity to honor and serve my country and parents. I am in the best of spirits. These times are rather trying, but we will never finish until it is over-over there. I would like to have seen you before I left but some day may the Lord grant that we'll all come home which will be the greatest day in our lives. All take care of yourselves and pray for us boys and the poor orphans on the other side. I am sending my identification number, 2,039,863. That is how they keep account of us."

**July 24, 1918, A. M. "Lon" Skinner,
AEF, France, Co. F., 105th Supply
Train to his mother.**

"You would laugh as I did at the short ten-ton freight cars they use here, but they have a lot of them. There are not many roads that have air brakes on their cars. I have seen several large American locomotives. The passenger coaches are of a different design, they are built small with doors at the side of the carriage, one door for each section and each section large enough for ten persons. They look so funny to us but when you come to consider they never had any sue for such railroads as outs before the war, I guess they will get there just the same. I received the pictures all right and they are fine. Funny I don't meet anyone here I know, bu I will run on to them some day. We are quartered in a billet or an old barn. Well my dear mother, I am well and hoping this will find you the same, I remain your loving son."

**July 30, 1918, Pvt. Arthur L. Bassett,
Medical Dept., 15th Field Artillery, AEF,
France, to his folks, (Ira and Susan Bassett).**

"Dear Folks, guess you thought I had forgotten you buy haven't, I think of you often and to tell the truth a person gets a trifle homesick at times, but I am getting along fine. I was lucky to be assigned to this organization. Have been at the front since I arrived until day before yesterday. I stopped at a replacement (camp) two days and was assigned to the medical department of the 15th US field artillery. They have been in some of the hardest fighting on the western front. I was with the battery until we arrived at this

place and am with the battalion infirmary now. (Started to write two weeks ago and just got started when we received orders to move.) Haven't been in the same place more than three days since the 25th of June so it is no wonder I haven't received any mail. We have been lucky so far, although I must not brag. Have been under shell fire and gas. I got a piece of shrapnel through the tail of my rain coat, had it on too. You guess right, I had business somewhere else and wasn't long getting their either, but at that I don't mind the shells half as much as the gas.

"This is pretty country, harvest is just starting. They raise wheat mostly where I have been and some rye, oats and stock beets. Haven't seen a field of corn since I left the states. We are starting a long trip by train this time, so I don't know when I will get time again to write. Am well, believe I am the healthiest man in this company. I have to laugh when I think of myself sometimes and the funny part of it is I half-way like it. The most fun I've had for years was when the Boche got the range on our battery. I got out of the fire pit first to get my blouse, wasn't more than 10 feet away, then it started raining and had to get my raincoat when I would hear a shell coming I'd lie flat on the ground and believe me a person doesn't always hunt a comfortable place to lie either."



**August 2, 1918, Harry Hays, Bat. E.,
somewhere in France
to the editor, Morocco Courier.**

"We have only lost six men and are on our third front now. We are having fine weather now, haven't had bad weather for a long time, they do just as much fighting in bad weather as they do in good weather. I haven't been in much shell fire myself, they fired on our picket line one day and we sure had to move around to get our horses out of it, I was frightened for a while I had a team on the line we sure worked for all there was in it. I was on guard this morning from 5 to 6. I saw 5 German air plans right together. The Frenchmen have their wheat and oats shocked. I suppose the farmers are getting ready to gather their crop. I think I have seen the biggest part of France. I have been traveling in this country for the last eight months. We hardly ever see a frame building - they are all stone, the roofs are covered with pieces of tile instead of wooden shingles. We are camped in the woods. We have got bet-

ter than 200 horses to tend to it keeps us busy feeding and grooming them. Weill, I will close for this time, and go and water my team. I remain, very truly yours."

**August 9, 1918, Sgt. Rex McCabe,
Bakery Co. 322, APO No 721, AEF,
to Roy and Mayme Pettigen.**

"Well how is the "Beanery?" You out to see the bread we bake over here, 14 lb. loaves, just a little bigger than they were there. Well I haven't run across Bob (Stanley) or Bernard (Beckwith) yet an don't suppose I will, still might, can't tell. Say! Believe me we have to work over here, but of course, we have to do it if we win this war. Oh! Gee talk about high prices, you even have to pay to look at anything here. Bananas \$1.20 per dozen and so little even in the states they would throw them away. It takes five Francs to make a dollar in our money as we get paid francs. I haven't learned much French but wait until I get back and then I will teach you all to talk French. Oh! Yes, when I was up town I saw a name the same as yours over a grocery store, I wonder if they are any relation to Roy. We as news is scarce guess I will close for this time - hoping to hear from you soon."

**Monday, August 12, 1918,
Bob Stanley, Base Hospital 43,
Annex 1, APO 726 AEF to his folks.**

"Just a few lines to let you know that I am still alive and well, but in the hospital with one arm on the bum yet. Bernie, (Bernard Beckwith), was in to see me yesterday and was sure surprised to see him. It was the first time I had seen him since we left home. He was looking well although he wasn't feeling quite as well as he looked, as he had quite an attack of gas some time ago. He didn't have long to stay here, but we certainly had a fine visit while he was here. Have been in Paris twice and it is sure some city, although I didn't have much time to look around, but what I saw was certainly beautiful. This will be all for now and hope to hear from you soon. Much love to all."

**August 23, 1918, Pvt. John
Lane, Co. A, 6th Engineers,
AEF, France to his family.**

"Dear Mother, Bros., and Sisters - I am feeling fine, if I was better I'd have to call a doctor. The only kick I have is it gets so lonesome lying around doing nothing after being used to a little excitement. We are at Allery on the Saone River in the Province of Saone is Loire. Th e Soane is a tributary of the Rhine river emptying into the Mediterranean Sea. They have commenced threshing here. There has been a machine humming all day about one-half mile from here, they are sure some machines too - no straw carrier and only about 10 feet long. The straw is kicked out behind and then bound up in bundles

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again by hand. I don't suppose I'll ever get back to my outfit again, am going to try for a transfer to a permanent post outfit so I can take care of my eyes. When I sit down to write I can't think of anything, so I am going to stop."

September 18, 1918,

Pvt. McKinley L. Johnson,

Co. M. 23 Infantry, AEF to his siblings.

"Took a bath yesterday, hiked about 2 miles down to a lake - first bath I've had for 3 weeks. Have not picked up any cooties yet, though some of the fellows have them - in fact all the old men have plenty of them. Life up near the lines and on the line is not very clean place to live. Not any place to wash clothes hardly or a place to wash hands and face. I had a chance to go over the top in short order after I got here it I did not get to take a gun along. See the liter bearers have a Red Cross on their arm and are not allowed to carry a gun. But we get to be right in the line with the rest of the outfit. That sure was some chase we gave the Germans. They must have been scarred to death. From the way they run, and those that do not run, threw their hands up so got a lot of prisoners. They sure were a tough looking crowd - young boys and some gray headed men. Belie me, those Germans that are taken prisoners are the lucky birds. Because I do not believe they are fed extra, did not seem that they had anything but bread, honey hardtack and apple-butter, some salt fish. Say that honey sure was some dope guess they had boiled it down with maple sugar or that is what it tasted like - believe me we done away with a lot of it. They had a lot of beer in those towns - guess the Dutch like that but, they are not only ones, not when the Yanks are on the job.

"Been over three weeks since I slept under a roof, besides a shelter, have to get used to it. Up on the line did not even have a blanket, for three nights, had a chance to get a Boche blanket one afternoon but passed it up that was my hard luck. The last night up there we slept in a German billet with plenty of Boche blankets - they did not bother with any blankets or anything else when they were running - take it from me. I will close as stationary is scarce, something we can not always get, hope this reaches you well also hope to get some mail from ozone one before long."

September 18, 1918, Boyd T. Smart,

Co. F., 7th Reg., Camp Perry,

Great Lakes to editor, Morocco Courier.

"I will try to describe briefly the radio work as it is taught to us here. The first of the instruction is mastering the code. This includes the alphabet, numerals and punctuation. The Morse International code is the one used in wireless work. It is somewhat sim-

ilar to the Morse telegraph code but differs in that every character is composed of certain arrangement of sounds while the time between sounds is also used to form characters in the Morse telegraph code. The characters have more sounds each in radio code, so it is not possible to send messages as rapidly as in the Morse code. At a speed of twenty words a minute, it requires about 260 motions on the key to form the sounds. The sending is not so hard to learn, however, as the receiving.

"In order to prevent important messages being received by enemies, they are sent in code words usually of four or five letters or figures each. By means of a code book or key these may be deciphered and the message read. Only the operators and the head officers are allowed to learn the code book or key, so an enemy, even on board a ship would have small chance to get any information for a code message. It is very difficult to learn to print fast enough to keep up with the sender. At eighteen words a minute you have about seventy or eighty letters or figures to print and separate into code words."

February 12, 1919,

Lowell Pfrimmer, Bad Neuanahr, Rhineland, Germany, Army of Occupation to Mrs. Sarah Smith, Kentland.

"Here we are, away over here in Dutchland watching their darned old Rhine river for 'em and cryin' for home every day. Glory be, how we do want to get back! As for our travels, we landed in France, Halloween night, 1917. After a couple of weeks at the port of St. Nazaire, France, we went to an artillery training camp close to Guer France. After our three months there we took up a position on the Lorraine front, a quiet sector down toward the Swiss border. We were in and around Baccarat, France, for about four months. Then we pulled stakes and started for a more active field.

"We went on to the Champagne front, before Chalones and for three days, July 15-18th, were with the French in stopping the German drive for that city. It was the holding line at this point that gave French Commander Foch the chance to hit it up all the rest of the fronts the way he did. But those three days were awful. That was the most intense artillery bombardment of the whole war (or at least that is the word we got), but personally I think the beginning of the last big drive in the Argonne on November 1st was about as bad, and all the shooting was on our side. The Champagne firing was the combined efforts of the Dutch and the Allies. All night long and all day long it was the same, never diminishing in the least, but rather growing more intense until finally it just seemed to quiet down and then it was left to the long-range guns to pick out the vital spots on both sides of the lines in the rear. We left

this front about the 21st or 22nd of July, entrained at Chalones during a night air-rad for chateau Thierry. The anti-aircraft guns were firing about as rapidly as a machine gun, and that together with the cracking of all sorts of smaller arms made quite a celebration for our departing hours. We finally reached the dump, about 8 miles from our regimental headquarters. After a few days spent mostly on the roads between our camp and the supply depot, our regiment was assembled near Buzancy, and were awaiting further orders when the armistice was signed.

"We started up here about the middle of November, and it took us a month to make the trip, traveling overland. We are just as ready to leave here and start for home as we were to drop things and come over here. Give my best regards to my friends there, and if you can find time drop a little note. Goodbye for this time and Good Luck.

February 21, 1919.

A. M. "Lon" Skinner, Co.

"F" 105th Supply Train to his father, Elmer Skinner, Morocco.

"Dear Dad - We'll I haven't written you for a long time, so I guess I had better drop you a line. I am OK and waiting to board the train for Brest. This camp is near LeMans. You see the troops are all sent through here for their final inspection and delousing. We had our final inspection today and passed all right. Most of the division is stationed here now, all but the Engineers and I understand they are held here for road work. That is pretty tough for them I think, if they are as anxious to get home as I am to get to mother's table. We are quartered in little billets here that have just been put up. The dope now is the division starts moving tomorrow but - well don't look for me until I wire you. I figure if the news is OK I will be mustered out by April 1st. By the way, I saw one of my old buddies in the Artillery. He was from Kentland and his name was Arnold. I don't think you know him. With love to all."

An earnest attempt was made to find photos of these soldiers and/or of the military gravestones. Find complete text and more letters in the newspaper files at the Resource Center, Kentland.

**Newton County
Census Records,
Cemetery Transcriptions,
Marriage and
Death Indexes
can all be found
on our website:**

www.ingenweb.org/innewton

Newton County Home Guard

At the end of October 1917, Fred Berger was appointed by the County Council of Defense to organize Home Guard companies throughout Newton County. Together with the help of the local boys, he secured the names of 68 men, enough for a full company. This effort changed his mind to organizing a company from throughout the county. He stated in an article published in the Newton County Enterprise that, "the other towns, providing they did not come forward with enough men for a full company, would be organized in units and be made a part of the Kentland company."

It was reported the next week in the Enterprise that at an organizational meeting held at the Kentland Coliseum James F. Mulligan was chosen Captain; John Ly-

ons of Brook, First Lieutenant; and Harry Little of Goodland Second Lieutenant. The new company had a membership of about 75 from Kentland, 40 from Goodland and 30 from Brook. Mr. Berger express a belief that Morocco and Mt. Ayr could jointly secure enough to form a company, and if so, it would be more convenient for them to meet together than to become a part of the Kentland company. In the December 5, 1918 *Newton County Enterprise* it was reported that the "Liberty Guard," a name given to the Newton County Home Guard company was mustered out at Kentland, and it noted that they were one of the first to organize in the state.

Reprinted from the *Newton County Enterprise*, November 1, 1917. Editor's note: un-

fortunately, there isn't a source for a listing of any other companies that may have been formed as the home guard in the county. Submitted by Beth Bassett.

The following names were published as the roster of the company as of November 1, 1917

Thomas B. Mulligan	Ray A. Ross
Josiah L. Biddle	Clifford Todd.
John Coburn McCain	H. C. Guthrie
Vincent E. O'Neill	Cloyd Taylor
Harry Schmidt	Arthur H. Tilton
Earl B. Gardner	G. H. VanKirk
Charles Arendt	S. R. Sizelove
William M. May	John E. Easter
G. G. Lowe	H. P. Crawford
James Hassett	Van E. Cox
R.A. Shobe	Russell D. Virgin
H. W. Denney	Henry Duttenhaver
O. E. Glick	Fred A. Brown
William J. Hendry	John B. Cassidy
Max Virgin	John O. Ade
Ernest W. White	Ed. Cassidy
Charles E. Hosier	Rolland Ade
Ermal C. Baker	Floyd Hedrick
T. J. Deiter	James Whiteaker
Walter L. Burman	Paul MacDonald
Claude Herr	Burr Camblin
William M. Largent	Michael Dowling
D. K. Frush	C. E. Corbin
Gerald Prue	Thomas M. O'Neill
Howard R. Heistand	Louis F. Kime
J. F. Mulligan	Joseph J. Egan
Charles L. Simons	Clyde C. McCarty
R. R. Cummings	G. E. Plunkett
B. A. Gardner	Bernard G. Hassett
Chester S. Laughbridge	John A. Baxter
Clifford W. Martin	L. R. Murphey
Paul Bruck	A. M. Schuh
Frank Easter	Wm. D. Littlejohn
W. C. Mathews	C. W. Doyel

An Infantryman's Gear

"Sammy will go to France, or Russia or Mesopotamia, or wherever the fates decree, carrying on his person the most complete, most adaptable, lightest, handiest and most thoroughly efficient living, working and fighting outfit of any soldier on earth. The personal equipment of the infantryman - and we describe him because he has both the backbone of the army and the bulk of it - represents American business efficiency and applied common sense in its highest practical manifestation." *Newton County Enterprise*, 1918.



The Uniform

Underclothes, socks, shoes, canvas leggings, breeches, belt, flannel shirt, hat and blouse (the military name for the jacket or coat). A sweater or overcoat added in cold weather.

Other Essentials

Rifle, (this alone weighs 8.5 pounds.); Ammunition, (220 cartridges; 100 worn in the belt, 120 in bandoleers slung over the shoulders.); Bayonet and scabbard; Intrenching shovel (a pickax or wire cutter.) Cartridge belt; Haversack; Pack carrier.

These two items with their suspenders, form the cylindrical roll carried on the back, commonly known as the pack. Shelter tent half and rope. Each man carries one-half of a tent, the halves buttoning together.

Metal canteen and padded cover; Drinking cup; Meat can; Bacon can; Condiment can; Fork, spoon, knife; whatever rations may be issued.

One extra suit underclothes; two extra pairs of socks; extra shoelaces. Comb, toothbrush, soap and towel.

Housewife - a small handy sewing kit. Identification tag - a metal disk, and tape to fasten around the neck. Each squad of eight men has a square kit-bag which is carried in the wagons, and in this bag each man must always have an extra pair of breeches, flannel shirt, two additional pairs of socks, suit of underclothes, a spare pair of marching shoes and extra shoelaces.

The Extras

Winter or summer, these glorious extras were accepted: jack-knives, pipes, matches, tobacco, mouth organs, sneakers to rest the feet at night, razors and shaving equipment, metal pocket mirrors, electric flashlights, compasses, knick-knacks of all sorts - personal necessities that men want to have with them.

All-in-all an infantryman's equipment weighs 75-80 pounds, yet it was a marvel in its compactness.

Reprinted from *Newton County Enterprise*, 1918. Submitted by Beth Bassett

18 The Newcomer

War Hints, Helps, and Duties

George Ade, Director of Publicity

Submitted by Beth Bassett

The National Council of Defense was organized after the United States entered WWI. Its purpose was to coordinate resources and industries in support of the war effort. This included transportation, industrial and farm production, financial support of the war and public morale. Each state would have their own council, with members appointed by the governor of each state. The committees would consist of nineteen men and one woman. The woman would coordinate the women's section of the council. In May 1917 the Indiana State Council of Defense was organized by Governor Goodrich, to coordinate Indiana activities during WWI. The Indiana State Archives recorded eighteen members of Indiana's council which included George Ade.

The appointment of George Ade as the Director of Publicity for the state council, was a wise choice. In his unique writing style, he summarized the multitude of policy directives from the capital in Washington to the nation via a weekly columns entitled "War Hints, Helps and Duties." It was published in newspapers throughout the State of Indiana, we found a few in the *Morocco Courier* during the summer and fall of 1917. These columns brought the national war effort to the local's front door - advising them to conserve, ration and continue to rally around the soldiers. Ade's whit added a bit of sparkle to these directives by serving them up as fables of sort. Here are a few of them - can you detect his famous writing techniques at work?

June 14, 1918.

"From June 17-22nd at Purdue women will be taught how to do effective war work in the home. They will learn about canning, drying, and preserving, cooking Hooverized dishes and making the old clothes last a while longer.

"Don't forget in the Fourth of July parade the foreign-born citizens who made good as Americans are to be put up front, right next to the bass drum."

June 21, 1918

"The nut sundaes heads the causality list this week. The soda fountains, must cut out all special drinks require sugar syrups Candy makers and soft drink dispensers and housewives are expected to cheerfully obey orders these days and get ready to save more sugar.

"Save the ice. Ammonia is required in the making of munitions and should not be used in the making of ice which is carelessly wasted. Save the manpower required for the manufacture or delivery of ice. Keep the refrigerator in a cool spot and close the doors. Don't open it except when necessary. Don't load it up with warm food.

Don't think that you have to freeze your innards by slamming fragments of an iceberg into all the food and drink served during hot weather.

"You are in partnership with every American soldier and sailor in service with every man under the flag an ally, with every civilian in the regions laid waste by German cruelty. Play fair with your partners even if they have no chance to look over the books every week."

July 5, 1918

"Remember, we are not saving wheat and sugar and beef products because we are stingy or hard-up, but because we are good sports who observe the rules in order to be loyal to our friends.

"One ton of garbage is used as hog-feed will produce 100 pounds of good, firm, first-quality pork. Garbage is valuable. Keep it clean. Don't disappoint some friendly hog that is waiting for it."

"The 'fight or work' order by General Crowder is now in effect. Any registrant who is merely fighting against work will not be classified as a fighter."

July 12, 1918

"Keep the flag flying over the wheat bin and the sugar bin.

"Does Germany begin to suspect that the greatest 'bone-head play' in all history was to bring into the war a nation of 100,000,000 people controlling vast natural resources and saturated with latent abilities to produce and organize? Whatever the war may have cost you in money or the sacrifices of private conveniences, aren't you repaid when you read that we have a million men in France and that we launched 100 ships in one day? Whatever you do in support of your government just now, remember that you are not only helping fight back a murderous attack but, you are laying the foundations of a new and bigger America.

"Probably the most important discovery since Columbus landed in 1492 is the discovery by Indiana housewives that syrup can be used instead of sugar even for preserving and jelling."

July 19, 1918

"We are learning things every day, thanks to war instructors. For instance, don't wash eggs if you expect to keep them for a while. The shell of an egg is coated with gelatinous substance which prevents air and germs from entering. The dirty egg is probably in better condition in regards to the Department of the Interior than one that has been scrubbed clean.

"Yes, you may eat bologna and weenies. Also the following by-products of beef: heads, tails, tongues, livers, hearts, tripe, feet, barreled beef, potted beef, beef loaf and Chili Con Carne."

July 26, 1918

"All the tides have turned. Germans have begun to move in the right direc-

tion. The U-boat peril is on the wane. The production of ships and airplanes and big guns is gathering speed after a period of uncertainty. Two of the big grain crops are being harvested. It is in the air that our people have come to bat for the decisive inning and that we are going to win. But it is no time for sitting back and taking things easy. Put increased vigor into all war work and don't waste valuable time discussing compromise peace terms.

"Sauerkraut has been investigated. It is said to be of Dutch origin and you can eat it without being pro-German. The Food Administration says it is a patriotic dish in spite of its name.

"Two thrift stamps will buy for some soldier boy somewhere a pound of smoking or chewing tobacco; or Chevrons, and a pair of shoe laces; or a canvas basin, a comb, and a cake of soap; or a shaving brush; or a hair brush; or a bath towel and a face towel; or a pair of knit woolen gloves; or a pipe, or a pillow or a chambray shirt or a first aid packet."

August 2, 1918

"When it comes to saving food-stuffs we are all in Class I.

"Even in the sultry heat of the dog-days don't forget that you will require a lot of fuel next winter and that all coal orders will not be filled. Can you use some team-hauled wood as a substitute for coal? Put into your war work the willing and resolute spirit of our soldiers at the front."

August 9, 1918

"It is not too late to plant turnips.

"Last year a great many Indiana hogs that were over fed with soft corn went into market too fat and heavy for the export demand. Our friends in Europe are not accustomed to so much fat in their pork. Foreign buying agencies now request a return to customary weights.

"Save the junk and get money for the Red Cross or some other good war activity. Some communities are establishing headquarters to which the rags and paper and old iron may be delivered. Nearly everything has a salvage value these days except old tin cans. However, they can be used to hold the single worms that catch the fish, that saves the meat that goes to Europe to feed the bunch that's going to get the Kaiser."

August 16, 1918

"The food administrator has lifted the ban on macaroni, spaghetti, noodles and vermicelli. He says, "the situation in regard to wheat has eased up" and he grabs the first chance to show his friendship for the Italians."

October 25, 1918

"Do your Christmas shopping this month and next month, the sooner the better. Don't ask for special deliveries and don't involve the merchant in a lot of book-keeping on your account.

Home is Where Your Story Begins

The Bingham Family of McClellan Township - Submitted by Beth Bassett

My research on the Bingham families of Newton County began with a notebook loaned to me by a fourth-generation member, Larry Bingham, who attributes the research to his sister-in-law Billie Sue (Peevy) Bingham. Family group sheets, photographs and obituaries put together a history of the first known Bingham settlers in Newton County, John A. and Anna (McDonald) Doyle Bingham. The family did not have any records on these two, so a visit to ancestry.com revealed a few more details. Here, I found another John and Anna Bingham, but after reviewing the data, the occupations revealed that they were not the same as our Bingham - our John was a farmer, and the other a Lithographer.

Some advice to new genealogists: the hints that are put forward onto a family tree on ancestry need to be evaluated closely, not just taken for granted that it is correct information. It can lead you on a few wild goose chases and get you very confused! Obituaries and Census records are still the best validation method in my findings. Organizing these records allows a complete stranger to put together a timeline for a family tree - but it is the memories and photographs of the family members that keep the family tree alive and well.

John A. Bingham was born in New York in 1831. He meets Anna Doyle, born in Ireland about 1837. By 1860, they are living in Coldwater, Michigan. In 1861, their first child Fannie was born, and in 1862, William James is born into the family. Their third child, John "Jack," born in 1865, places them in Ottawa, Illinois. Census records and cemetery records show that Jack was born in 1865 - however his obituary stated 1856.

By 1870, the family has arrived in Kankakee, Illinois. John's occupation is listed as "Teaming," and another child, Sarah J., born in 1869 has joined the family. Also living with the family here is a Margaret McDonald, age 54, born in Ireland. It is possible that this is Anna's mother or a relative, as Margaret would have been born in 1816. This entry brings some new questions to the table. If Margaret is Anna's mother, then her maiden name may have been Anna McDonald, which would mean that Anna could have married someone prior to John by the name of Doyle, or that Doyle may be her maiden name. Obituaries of descendants referred to her as Anna Doyle. In 1871, their son George was born.

Still living in Kankakee in 1880, John now is listed as a farmer in Pilot Township.

William, age 14; John A. "Jack," age 12; Sarah, age 10; and Edward, age 4, has joined the family in 1876. Oldest daughter, Fannie is not listed here, but elsewhere in Kankakee, working as a servant for the Frank Chester family.

Sometimes it pays to look through the names of other families listed on the same page of the census records. In 1880, a few households away, William's future wife, Matilda, age 15, is listed with her parents, Pierre Frederick "Peter" Merrilat, born in Switzerland and Henrietta born in Canada. Others listed are Rose, 18; Frederick, 13; Pierre, 8; Thadd, 8; Caroline, 6; Henry, 4; Joseph, 1.

Census records for 1900 placed mother Anna in the home of son George and with her son William in 1910. In both places she is listed as a widow. This is the last information that we have on her, and nothing was revealed about her or John's passing or burial.

John and Anna's Children the 1900s and Beyond

At the turn of the century, the Bingham siblings moved forward into the world.

Fannie (1866-1941) was married and lived in Kankakee, Illinois. In 1888 she married Fred Nicklas, born in Wisconsin, married 12 years by that time and living in Kankakee, Illinois. Fannie died in July 1941.

William James had married the neighbor girl, Matilda Merrilat in April of 1885, and had their children, Fred, Tillie, Harrison, Bessie and Myrtle Mae. However, at the age of 41, records show that Matilda passed away in 1904. However, the Newton County 1900 Census records suggests that she had passed by that time, as her children are enumerated in the homes of William's siblings, and he as a widow. Myrtle Mae was living with her Aunt Fannie in Kankakee; Fred and Tillie were living with their Aunt Sarah Gerard in Aroma Park, Illinois; and Harrison was living with his Uncle George in Lake Township. (There was also an enumeration for George in McClellan Township that same year which is where William was listed as a widow.) I could not find Bessie, but we know that in 1910 she was living with her Uncle William Doyle, working as an office clerk in Cook County Illinois, and in 1917 she married Harry Francis Doyle. Further investigation here may reveal more about Bessie's grandmother, Anna Doyle.

In 1910, William has moved into property in McClellan Township, with his children Fred, Tillie living with him once again,



Matilda Merrilat Family
Back, **lr**, father, Pierre Frederick "Peter" Merrilat (1834-1917); sister Alice Clara, 1874-1940); mother Henriette "Hattie" Merrilat (1839-1892). Front, **lr**, Matilda J. Merrilat (1866-1904), half-sister Rosemary Ellen (1863-1928). Matilda married Wm. J. Bingham in 1885.

as well as his mother Anna and son William H. (Harrison). In February, 1913, he married Etta May (Brenneisen) Johnson, who brought to the family her daughter Margaret May Brenneisen. A daughter, Pearl J. was born in to their union in June of 1914 and died in August 1914.

John A. "Jack" Bingham may have been the first to own land in Newton County. The 1904 Map of Newton County landowners shows that he was a land owner in Section 11 of Lake Township, two miles east of Lake Village. He lived his life as a farmer. The 1900 Census records show him living in Cedar Creek in Lake County. In 1896 he married the Denmark born Matilda "Tillie" Hansen. They had one son, Milford and three daughters Helen, Gladys and Lucille. John died in 1958 and his wife "Tillie" in 1953. They are buried at the Lake Village Cemetery.

By 1910, **George** and his wife Rose (Pombert) are listed only in McClellan Township along with their son Cecil, born in 1904. George served his first of two terms as Township Trustee beginning in 1936. He and his wife Rose, along with Mildred Graves in 1940 are accredited with the hot lunch program at the Enos School, a first for the county. Their son Cecil, was the principal and teacher of the advanced grades at Enos School in 1936. He received his training at DePauw University; State Teacher's college and the Central Normal School in Danville. He never married. Cecil and George were both killed in

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an automobile accident on election day on November 8, 1966. The accident occurred on the north side of Morocco at the entryway onto 41 from old 41. They were crossing the southbound lane and were hit broadside - George, 95, died at the scene. Cecil, 63, died three hours later, before he knew that he had been elected a Newton County councilman that day. Rose passed away in February of 1963. They are buried at Oakland Cemetery in Morocco.

Sarah Jane married Edward K. Gerard in 1884 at Kankakee, Illinois, and as stated above, she lived in Aroma Park by 1900. Their daughter Birdie M. was born in 1886. In 1907, Birdie married Walter Dailey; son John E. was born in 1910, who married Lucille Flatt in 1929. Sarah passed away in 1944. Edward Lewis married Mary Vicory in 1900. According to the 1940 census, he worked for the railroad in Chicago. They had four girls and two boys. Mary died in 1925 and Edward in 1957. They are both buried at Lake Village Cemetery. Ed worked on the railroad, and after his wife died worked on the farm until his death.

William James Bingham Legacy

William James Bingham set his roots into Newton County by 1916. He had purchased 240 acres of land formerly owned by Thomas Gaff, aka the Gaff Ranch in Section 34 in McClellan Township, just across the road from Enos. His brother George owned land, which they called the



William J. Bingham
1862-1940

101 Ranch just east of his farm. Given this name Larry's father Harrison said, because the farm was 100 rods wide on the East end and 1 rod on the west - so the 101 Ranch. William worked the land with horses and hard labor. After persevering through the long winter months, together the family worked the fields and planted in the spring; embracing the warm summer sun and preparing for the harvest in the fall. He and his second wife, Etta, raised the children in McClellan Township. William J. served on the McClellan Township advisory board during the rebuilding of the time of consolidation of the one room schools in Newton County, and the building of the present day Enos school building, which was completed in 1921. He farmed his own land until his accidental death in 1940. He was hit by a truck

on SR 14 near his home and died at the age of 78. The land eventually passed into the hands of his children.

Wm. J. Bingham

Children and Grandchildren

Elizabeth "Bessie" (1886-1965), married Harry Doyle, (1885-1959). Their children were **John B., Loretta T. and Sara J.** They are buried at Marywood Cemetery in Aurora, Illinois.

Frederick James, (1888-1959), married Goldie Fenters, (1894-1937), in 1912. They had three daughters, Marie, born in August 1915, and died that same year in October; Fred worked as the janitor at the Enos School about 1923 off and on over the years. Frederick died at the age of 72 and was buried at Oakland Cemetery in Morocco. They had two daughters and two sons.

Jennie May, (1912-2001), who married Henry Neibert, (1899-1972), had one son, Richard. They are buried at Oakland Cemetery in Morocco. Her descendants continue to live and farm their original farm acreage.

Norma Lee, (1930-2006), married John Pascal. They had four children, Deborah, Michael, Steven and James. Norma Lee met her husband working as a registered nurse in Ohio.

Clifford Lawrence, (1913-2004), married Elsie Smart, and had three children, Diana, William and Joyce. After his service in WWII, he farmed acreage located on SR 55N and 300E.

Leonard, (1915-1993), who married Nellie Menser. Together they ran the Pull-

man Café in Morocco for several years and farmed. They had five children, James, Judy, Roy, Rita and Ruth.

Matilda "Tillie" Bingham, (1895-1972), married Alonzo Monroe Vicory and had three children, Nona M., Margaret V. and Leo John. They both are buried at the Lake Village Cemetery in Lake Village, Indiana. In 1940, the census shows Tillie and Alonzo living in Schneider, Indiana, he was a repairman for railroad cars. He died in an accident at work in Kankakee. Prior to 1964, Mary was married to Arthur Harper, and resided at Schneider, Indiana.

Myrtle May, (1891-1964), married Tom Printy. They had five children, Sybil, Bessie, William "Bill", James A. Jr., and Rosa May "Toots." They are buried at Oakland Cemetery in Morocco. Their son Bill owned and operated Printy's Repair Shop in Morocco. Upon his retirement in 1974 it was purchased by his cousin Larry Bingham.

William Harrison, (1889-1965), aka Harrison, married Margaret May Brenneisen (1903-1955). Together, they had ten children, one dying in infancy, Allen Leroy, in 1923. He retired as a farmer and lived his entire life in McClellan Township. His wife Margaret died at the age of 52, serving but one year of her second term as McClellan Township Trustee. All his children were born in their home at Enos, Indiana. Harrison and Margaret are buried at Oakland Cemetery in Morocco.

Lenore Pearl, (1919-2009), married James Smith. They had two children, Jeffrey



The Harrison Bingham family. Back, l-r, Dottie, Alice, Audrey, Juanita, Raymond, Lenore, seated, l-r, Larry, Harrison, Dennis, Margaret, Gary.

and John.

Raymond Frances, (1920-2008), married Billie Sue Peevy. They had two children, Douglas and Carol. Billie Sue was a teacher at Enos school and Morocco Elementary, and made their home in Morocco, Indiana. Raymond lived in Chicago after serving in WWII, then returned to Newton County after his marriage and worked in Morocco and Enos. He is buried at Oakland Cemetery in Morocco.

Alice Etta, (1923-2011), married Frank Nemecek, they had one daughter Mary. Alice lived her adult life in Berwyn, Illinois and worked as a secretary. She is buried at Oakland Cemetery in Morocco.

Juanita Evelyn, (1926-2016), married Norman Banister and had one daughter, Myrna. Juanita lived many years in Berwyn, Illinois, working as a secretary for Leaseway Leasing, a subsidiary of the Pennsylvania Railroad for almost 25 years. In 1988, she returned to Remington, Indiana, where her daughter lived. She is buried at Oakland Cemetery in Morocco.

Audrey Anastasia, b. 1930, married Arthur Gene Johnson. They have five sons, John, Brian, Mark, Wesley and Michael. They reside in Escondido, California.

Myrtle Marie "Dottie," (1932-2017), married Richard "Dick," Kaupke. Dick worked for Storey Implement and they made their home in Morocco. Upon retirement, they moved to Florida. They have five children, Richard, Margaret, David, Gregory and Michelle. They are both buried at Memory Gardens, Rensselaer, Indiana.

Larry Michael, b. 1939, married Judith Cady. Larry graduated from Morocco High School in 1956, and in 1962, was drafted into the U.S. Army, upon his return to Morocco, he went to work at the Parr Elevator in Jasper County, later accepting a position with the Morocco Implement Company. In 1974, he purchased Printy's Repair Shop from his cousin, Bill Printy in September 1974. He retired from the everyday work world to spend time with his growing family. He still works however, driving a bus for the North Newton School Corporation since 2004. He and Judy have three children, Julie, Ricky and Deborah. They have made their home in Morocco, Indiana, enjoying their five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Gary Jan, (1941-2012), married (1) Claudia Thallas and (2) Cheryl Gary. He had three children from his first marriage, Anthony, Gregory and Jason. Gary and his second wife Cheryl made their home in Escondido, California. Gary was buried in California.

Dennis Patrick b. 1945, married Barbara Keen. They have two children, Sean and Douglas. They have made their home in Escondido, California.

The Bingham family lost many family members to accidents over the years and infant deaths, bring tough times and sorrow to the tightly-knit group. And although the descendants of John Bingham may have scattered a bit over the generations, they stay in touch and gather together as often as they are able, they celebrate, remember and embrace the strong roots brought to Newton County by their ancestors.

Friendship Quilt from 1898

The Bingham family have a family treasure housed at the Kankakee County Historical Society. A friendship quilt made up of blocks with the names of neighbors and events held in common was completed by W. J. Hunter for the Ladies Sewing Circle of the Congregational Church in Chebanse, Illinois.

The name of their ancestor, Etta Brenneisen sewn into a block with others. Etta was the grandmother of Larry Bingham of Morocco.



Friendship Quilts: A Tradition Of Friends

Excerpts from *The Sunday Journal*, Kankakee, IL January 24, 1993

By Mary Lu Laffey

"Long before the video camera, instant photography and 8MM cameras, memories were lovingly stitched into a permanent keepsake called "a friendship quilt." They were made by groups of women in quilting bees or circles in cities and rural country sides from coast-to-coast.

"What the quilts had in common was their reason for being - to offer a memory to a friend. For a woman being married, a friendship quilt from the members of her new family was made as a token of welcome. For a family moving away, a quilt with the names of soon-to-be-former neighbors would serve as a remembrance.

"A few years ago a quilt was made by a family for a new bride. One of the squares proved to be of interest to a lot of people. The square in question is a square depicting a full raisin pie - with a piece cut out of the pie. It seems raisin pie is a specialty of one of the groom's aunts. The exact meaning is lost to the ages. By including each person's specialty in the quilt, it helped the new family member to become acquainted with the rest of them."

Editor's note: Anyone out there have a similar story? Send the information to us! newtonhs@ffni.com.



The Harrison Bingham family, later years. front, l-r, Dottie, Alice, Audrey, Juanita and Lenore; standing, l-r, Raymond, Larry, Gary and Dennis.

I Grew Up in Enos, Indiana

By Beth Bassett

I sat down in March of this year with Larry Bingham, who was born and raised on a farm located in Section 27 in McClellan Township, just a bit northeast of Enos. Later his nine siblings and parents Harrison and Margaret moved to a farm located directly across from the old Enos elevator and lumber yard. At that time the elevator was a wooden structure owned by the Walt Atkinson and John Colburn, and patrons of the elevator brought their grain in horse-driven wagons.

"As a kid, I watched them build the elevator that is there today. They used a chair lift that pulled supplies and workers up and down the sides. This would have been in the early 1950s – it took the whole year to complete the project," Larry began. Farmers still used horses in farming and husked corn by hand, as the combine was not in use in the area until about 1954. He has memories of his buddies, shucking corn and working in the cribs after football practice when he was in high school. He also remembers the variety of corn husking gloves that hung in the elevator office – which belonged to the different workers and farmers in the area.

Of course, the railroad depot was a busy place in those early years. When Larry lived there, Harry Blaney was the in charge of the New York Central railroad depot at Enos, which was also a mail stop for the area. "There was a side spur that held cars that would be filled with grain. My Uncle Jim Printy, Jr. was the elevator manager, so I was always hanging around. Eventually I was put to work and learned to drive a grain truck to help out."

The Enos school, built in 1921, was the center of community activity in 1939 when Larry was born. "I was about four years old and would run across the street to the school." Larry's cousin Cecil was a teacher and his Uncle Fred was the janitor there. He added, "I used to sit in with the first-grade students at that age, the teacher didn't seem to mind. So, I guess you could say I started school at an early age. The different grades were in their own row, so as you progressed you would move from row to row. My classmates were Percy Styck, Richard Neibert, and Karen Phillips."

Larry remembers collecting milkweed pods for the war effort – a project led by then County Agent Zell in 1944. The armed forces used milkweed in the manufacture of life preservers needed for airmen and sailors. About 1100 filled sacks were collected in the county – furnishing enough floss for 550 life jackets. (Read more about this project in the Winter, 2011 *Newcomer*.)

"There was very little farm land in our area. Most of the land was owned by major land owners such as Curt Meyers, the Raff

Ranch, Merlin Karloch, Everett Madison and Major Rafferty, who covered it with cattle and used the land for grazing. North of Enos was all wetlands; mucklands were to the East. We didn't venture far in those directions. There were only dirt roads at that time, and we used the horses to get around the area. My Uncle George told me that they were able to cut grass for hay just about anywhere in the area – as far East as the Gumz farm in Beaver Township. There was great cooperation between the families in the area, everyone helped their neighbors when they could. There were about seven families who lived in the Enos area."

Included with this article is a map that Larry drew that reflects the families that lived in his neighborhood circa 1950s-1960s. As industrial technology advanced in transportation and agriculture, the area became more settled. Farming became a more profitable business, so the cattle herds began to decrease, and the acreage was planted with corn and soybeans. Homes for the tenant farmers were built, therefore increasing the population of McClellan Township, as well as the number of students attending Enos School. Enos school never had more than three teachers, in fact only two were needed after the year 1918, reflecting the population of the area. There were two levels of education, Primary and Advanced. These evolved into grades 1-4 and 5-8 by the 1950s. Grades 9-12 were bussed to Morocco High School. Later, the grade levels were changed to 1-3 and 4-6. The last two teachers at Enos were Virginia Davis, Grades 4-6, and Larry's sister-in-law, Billy Sue Bingham, Grades 1-3. In 1967, the northern end of the county consolidated their schools and grades 7-12 would attend North Newton Jr.-Sr. High School. The elementary students at Enos were bussed to Morocco Elementary.

Larry continued, "I do remember U.S. 41 before it was dual lane. I also remember the building of the dual lane highway we use today. They just about eliminated Bogus Island by using the sand from there to create the roads; only a shadow of the island remains today.

"Dick Styck, kids from the Enos area and I hunted arrowheads over by the island, and trade them at the store. Sure wish I had some of those today," he added. We traded the arrowheads for a Coke and candy bars at the store.

The little grocery store in Enos was a popular destination for all ages. It was opened by the Porter family, who sold it to the Bennetts, who sold it to the Stycks, who sold it in 1963 to Ed and Fern Hale, who owned and operated it until they retired in 1992. "Every kid from the area remembers going there with their parents or after school," Larry added.

As traffic increased on U.S. 41, busi-



Texaco Station, US 41 (one-lane) and SR14.



Enos Grain Elevator, looking northwest.



Enos School.



Enos Store, note railroad spur to elevator.

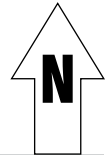
nesses sprouted up where it intersects with S.R. 14. Tindle's Restaurant and Cox's Texaco Station were thriving businesses in the 50s-60s. Later, the Willow Inn was built by Lawson Cox and was famous for their steaks and fish with customers coming from far and wide. They had little cabins behind the restaurant rented to travelers for an overnight stay. (Read the Spring 2014 *Newcomer* for more information about these cabins.)

Larry concluded, "I hope every kid growing up have as good of memories as I do. We all got along great and notified each other when anything was happening. I spent much of my youth outside and getting into trouble – all the places we had and nothing cost us a dime. We didn't need money—we had too much fun for free!"

Larry's memories are endless. I am sure I have only uncovered but a bit of the history that is stored in the backroads of his mind – and I am hoping that he will sit down one day and record them all for his family – and those of us who want to know what it was like to grow up in Enos, Indiana.

The 1950s-60s Neighborhood

1. Lloyd Brunton
2. Jim Printy, Sr.
3. Glenn Phillips
4. Harrison Bannister
5. Forrest Lovall
6. Frank Lomax
7. Charles Iliff
8. Elmer Jackson
9. Fred Bingham
10. Leonard Bingham
11. Lawson Cox (gas station/cabins)
12. Harrison Bingham
13. Enos School
14. Enos Grain Elevator/Lumberyard
15. Enos Store - Percy Styck Owner
16. Charles Collins
17. Lester Blann
18. Lazy L. Ranch - Bill Lomax, Owner
19. Paul Wynn
20. Henry Neibert
21. Faye Potts
22. Migrant Worker Houses (Gumz Farms)
23. Robert Delaney
24. Howard Cox
25. Raymond Bingham
26. George Bingham
27. Joe/Nancy Hendryx
28. Jack Manchester (Sport Shop)
29. Robert Delaney, Sr.
30. Lawrence Dawson



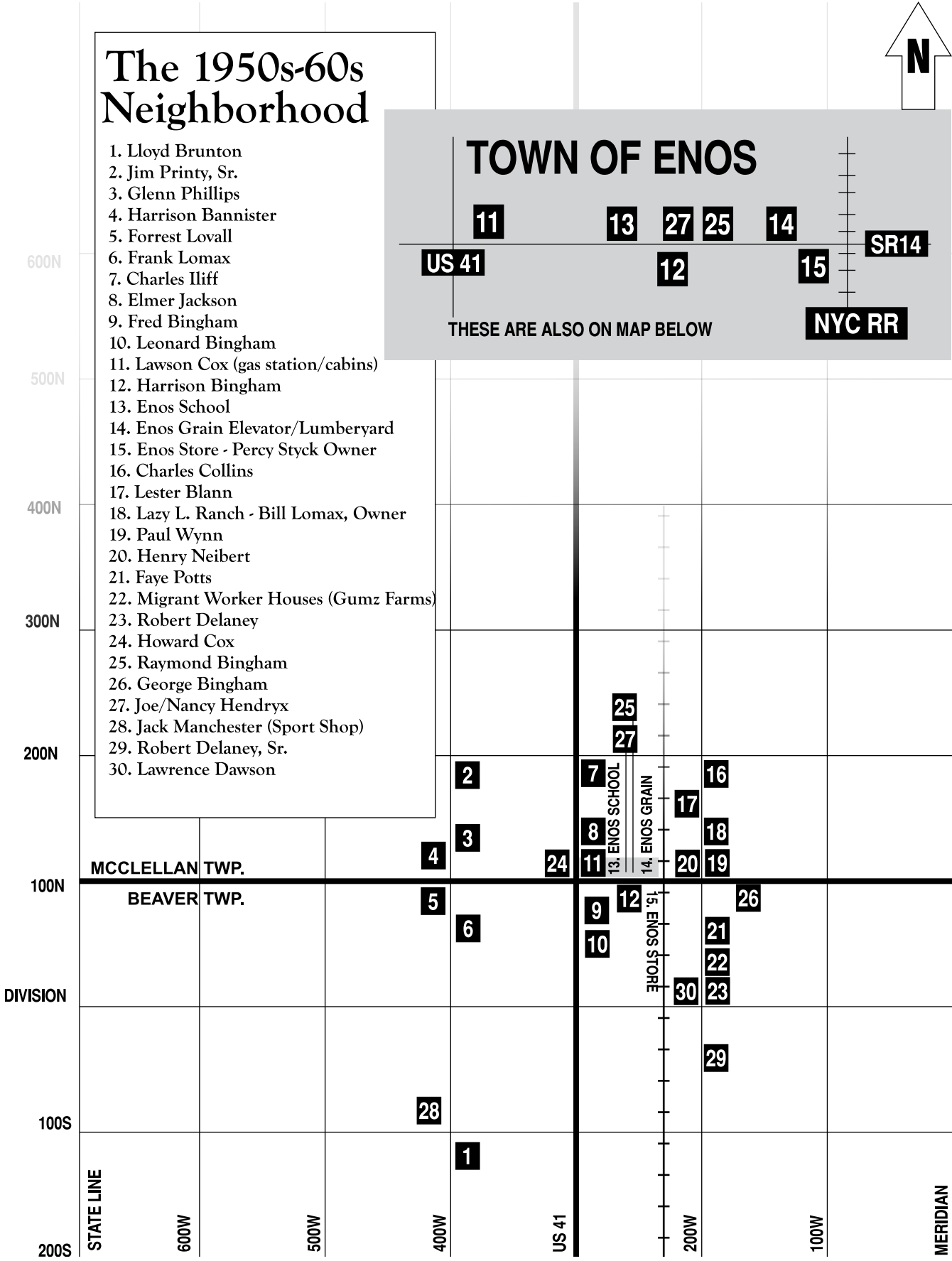
TOWN OF ENOS

11 13 27 25 14

US 41 12 15 SR14

NYC RR

THESE ARE ALSO ON MAP BELOW



WWI Slang Terms and Definitions

Further research will produce a more extensive list; Military abbreviations can also be found on-line for help deciphering military records.

Ack-Ack	Anti-aircraft fire
AEF	American Expeditionary Forces
Big Bertha	Large German artillery pieces
Bully [Beef]	Canned boiled or pickled beef
CAC	(Army) Coast Artillery Corps
Chat	Nickname for body louse
Chit	British slang for a piece of paper.
Chew the fat	To sulk, to be resentful or talk in such a manner
Chew the rag	To argue endlessly
Chow	Food; rations
Coal Scuttle	German field helmet
Conchie	A conscientious objector
Conk Out	Slang for stopping, failing, passing out or dying.
Cootie	Slang, body louse.
D-Day	Initial day of military operation.
Devil Dogs	Nickname given to the US Marines by Germans who faced them at Belleau Wood.
Dogfight	Air combat at close quarters.
Doughboys	US soldiers of the WWI
Draftee	Conscript soldier.
Duckboard	A board laid down as a track or floor over wet or muddy ground.

Dud	A shell that fails to explode
11th Hour	Just in time, at the last moment.
Fritz	Sympathetic nickname for German soldiers by Allies.
Gassed	Slang for tipsy or drunk.
Gone West	Slang, To die; fail; decline.
Hedge-hop	Flying near the ground.
Huns	Derogatory term for German Soldiers.
Jerry	Sympathetic nickname for German soldiers by Allies.
Kaput	Slang for ruined, broken not working.
Kraut	Derogatory term for anything Germanic.
Last Post	British equivalent of Taps.
Lousy	Infested with lice
Potato Masher	Nickname for standard German hand grenade
Push Up the Daisies	To be killed and buried
Put a sock in it	Imperative telling some one to shut up.
Shell Shock	To suffer from an acute neuroathenic condition due to the explosion of shells or bombs at close quarters.
Slum	Slang, a thin stew eaten by the American soldiers.

Stormtrooper	Specially trained German assault troops used in their 1918 Offensives.
Strafing	Machine-gunning enemy troops and planes on the ground.
Toot sweet	Americanism for doing things at high speed.
Trench Fever	A louse borne relapsing febrile disease which struck soldiers of the Great War; characterized by fever, weakness, dizziness, headache, severe back and leg pains and a rash.
Trench Foot	Common disabling problem among WWI soldiers
Trench Mouth	Formerly called Vincent's Infection, characterized by painful, bleeding gums and bad breath, this was another common affliction among front-line soldiers
Trench Rabbit	Slang, rat
U-Boat	German submarine
Whiz-bangs	A high speed shell whose sound as it flies through the air arrives almost at the same instant as its explosion; later synonymous with excellent or topnotch
Willie	Canned corn beef
Zero-Hour	Starting time for a military operation; later - critical or decisive time.

The Newcomer



A publication of the Newton County Historical Society, Inc.
 Post Office Box 303, Kentland, Indiana 47951
 ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PRESORT STANDARD
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 PERMIT
 NUMBER 27
 BROOK, IN 47922

The Newcomer is a publication of the Newton County Historical Society, Inc. A 501(3)c approved organization. Send membership dues/inquiries to: PO Box 303, Kentland, Indiana 47951; 219-474-6944 - newtonhs@ffni.com; Officers of the Newton County Historical Society: President, Kay Babcock, Goodland; Vice President, Russ Collins, Kentland; Secretary, Becky Lyons, Brook; Treasurer, Darlene Truby, Kentland; Member at Large, Sig Boezeman, DeMotte, County Historian, Diana Elijah, Morocco; Ex-Officio, Bernie Murphy, Kentland. Printing by Rensselaer PRINTCO.

