

# Yesteryears

Vol. 2, No. 1

Tuesday, June 9, 1992

50 Cents

## Hope College focused on higher education

By Lois Firestone

**H**OPE COLLEGE'S sprawling dormitory with its 40 rooms was nicknamed "the home away from home" by the students, young men and women alike, who lived and studied there in the 1890s.

But the heart of the sprawling campus grounds set on a hillside along Route 7 outside Rogers was the 13-room frame building which housed a chapel, recitation rooms, the commercial department, music room, library and elocutionary and art department. Glowing tributes to the building were paid in the 1893 catalog for the school's opening year: "The building is modern in design. The rooms are kept at the required temperature by heaters of the latest design. No expense will be

spared to make them comfortable and attractive."

Asher A. Galbreath founded the university in 1893 to answer the demand for higher education for young people — he repeatedly said that "Life is too short to lose any time. If you have determined to secure an education, be up and do it."

Galbreath's aim was to offer the best in education and he worked hard to accomplish his goal: "Rare advantages are to be found in each department and it is our determination to spare neither money nor means to make the Mount Hope College one of the most practical, successful institutions in our state. It is our intention to furnish opportunities for a thorough education at the least possible cost." The school was advertised to be non-partisan, non-sectarian, tolerant and "creating and keeping a religion of Christian civilization."

Galbreath, who held several degrees including a PhD and a law degree, was also a professor of psychology and mental and political science at the school. His wife Anna taught algebra, grammar and geography. The \$5,000 capital stock was divided into 200 shares of \$25 each. Trustees signed the articles of incorporation for the Mount Hope College Company on Jan. 20, 1893.

The advantages of studying at Mount Hope, according to Galbreath, included its location in a town of 400 people "on a beautiful eminence in a picturesque, fertile and healthful region, remote from the temptations of large cities and in the midst of an intelligent, moral and progressive community...There are no saloons or license houses within six miles of our colleges and our attendance is not so large so that

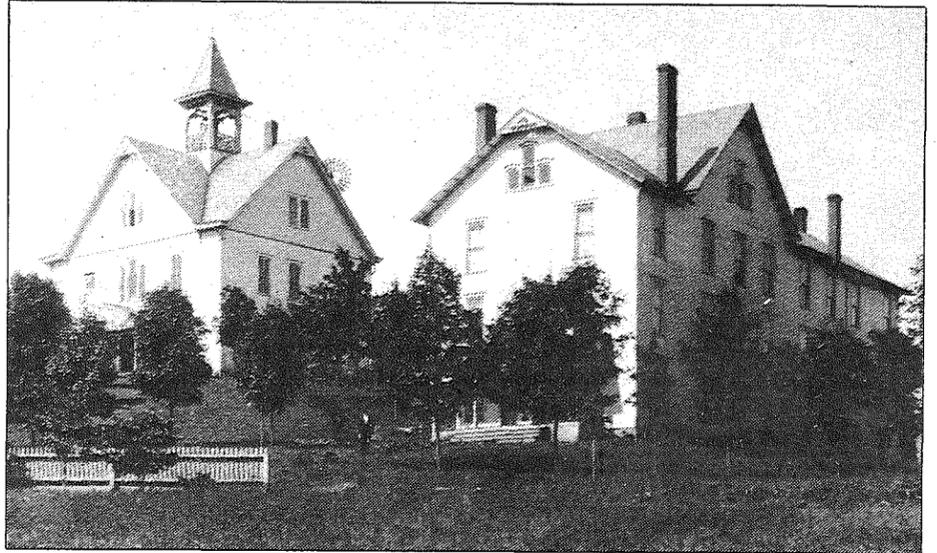
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Wearing their costumes and holding their masks for a school pageant are these students enrolled at the Hope College in Rogers in the 1890s and early 1900s.



One of the school's professors, dressed in white starched blouse and wool suit, poses for the camera. The Hope College photographs are courtesy of William Cope of East Fairfield.



The main building on Hope College's campus in Rogers is at the left in the photo taken in the 1890s while the dormitory is at the right. The private school closed in 1905 with the advent of state normal schools.

## Ending, beginning

By Lois Firestone

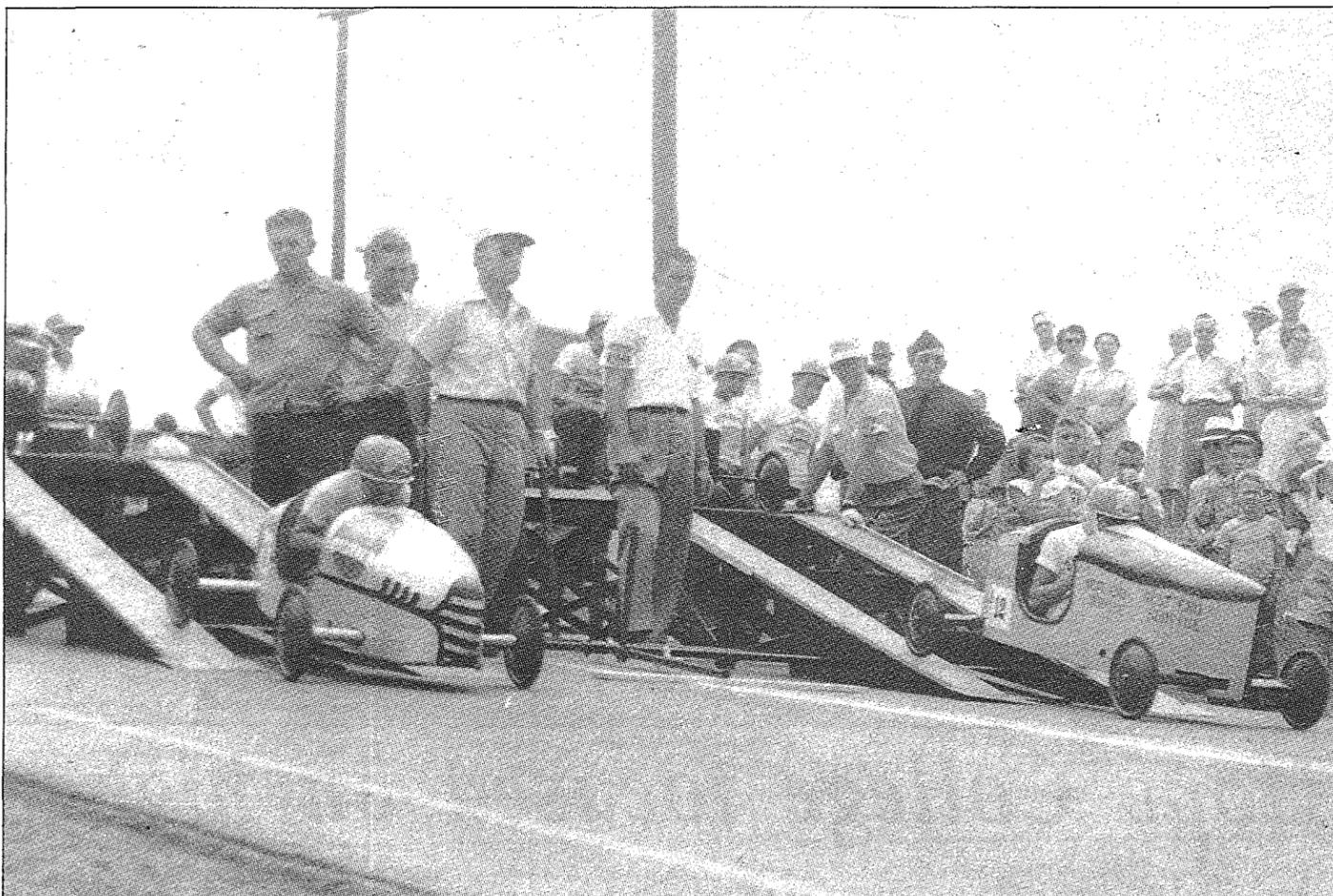
This issue begins our second year, and we hope our readers have enjoyed the stories we've brought you over these first 12 months — an index appears on page 8. Without Dale Shaffer's help we wouldn't have been able to do it. Dale's latest book, "More of the Salem Story...with Photographs" has been published and is available for \$18 at Fenske's and Cheshire Booksellers in Salem. The 324-page volume is the largest book ever written on Salem history, and is filled with 172 photographs.

Tom Grubbs writes from his home in Orlando, Florida with an interesting piece of area history. His letter was prompted by a news item in a 1921 front page we printed a few weeks back — the story told about a Mr. Ikert, an 82-year-old man, who had been found dead in his cornfield along Route 517. Tom immediately recognized the description of the farm as the one his father, John S. Grubbs, purchased in 1926 and ran until he sold it in 1946.

Tom was born in 1928. He writes: "Although I claim to be born in Lisbon (Elk Run Township) and went to school at Fairfield Township Centralized School, my mother maintains that I'm a native Salemite, since she stayed with her mother on Rose Avenue when I was due. I was born in the same room my mother was born."

Tom's father served on the county draft board during World War II and took over as chairman following the death of "Windy" Morris. John Grubbs was also Grand Marshall of the Salem Parade in the late 1970s. Tom's mother lives in Salem and, he says, "she's still going strong."

In 1946 Tom enlisted in the Army, was discharged in February 1948, attended Kent State University from 1948 to 1950, and re-enlisted in September 1950. After his discharge in 1954, he enrolled at Rollins College in Winter Park, Florida and has lived in Florida since.



Jack Zines (left) and Franklin Copacia roll off the starting ramp to begin another heat during Salem's third annual soap Box Derby on Sunday, July 18, 1954. Copacia defeated Zines and took third place in Class B. Gil Fennell of East Palestine won the derby which attracted about 2,500 spectators who lined the Blackburn Hill along the Damascus Road. Forty-nine boys raced in the event sponsored by the Junior Chamber of Commerce and Parker Chevrolet Co. Gary Ulitchny of Salem won the Mullins trophy for best designed car and Robert Freer of East Palestine won the Burgess Power Tool for the best upholstered car.

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# Edgerton piloted first airmail flight to D. C.

By Dale E. Shaffer

AT 9:20 A.M. ON JULY 26, 1949, the first airmail flight directly from Salem to Washington, D.C. got under way. There were over 1,000 special first day covers in the post office airmail pouch. The letters were to be canceled in the capital's post office.

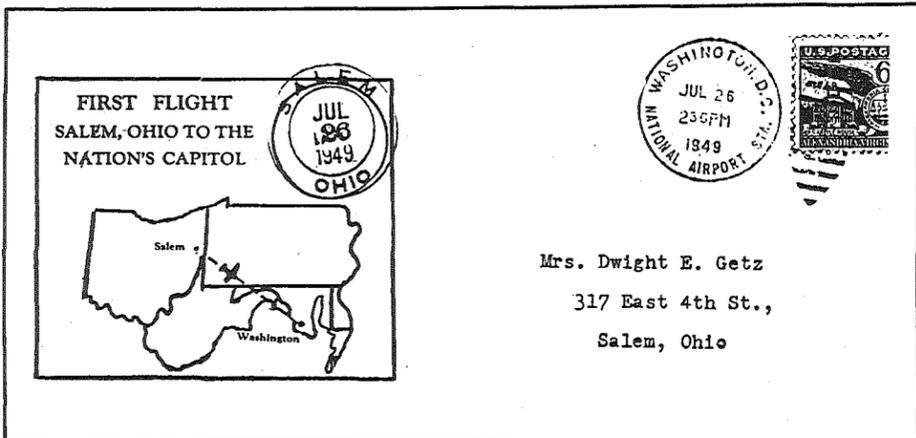
Virgil Edgerton, a farmer living on the Damascus Road, piloted his Cessna 120 for the flight, with Dwight Getz as a passenger. Dwight was the first postal clerk to personally deliver a pouch of mail to the postmaster general in Washington, D.C.

The plane left from the Salem Airport which was owned by Earl Grate, a Salem automobile dealer. They didn't file a flight pattern and there was no clearance for landing, so when they flew along the Potomac River they were told to get out of that air space.

Finally, they were permitted to land at the Washington, D.C. National Airport at about 11:30 a.m. After taking a taxi to deliver the letters to the post office for cancellation, Getz and Edgerton returned to the plane, took off and returned to Salem about 4 p.m.



Gilbert Edgerton is shown at the controls of his Cessna 120 preparing for the direct flight from Salem to Washington on July 26, 1949. Dwight Getz, the first postal clerk to personally deliver a pouch of mail to the postmaster general in Washington, D.C.



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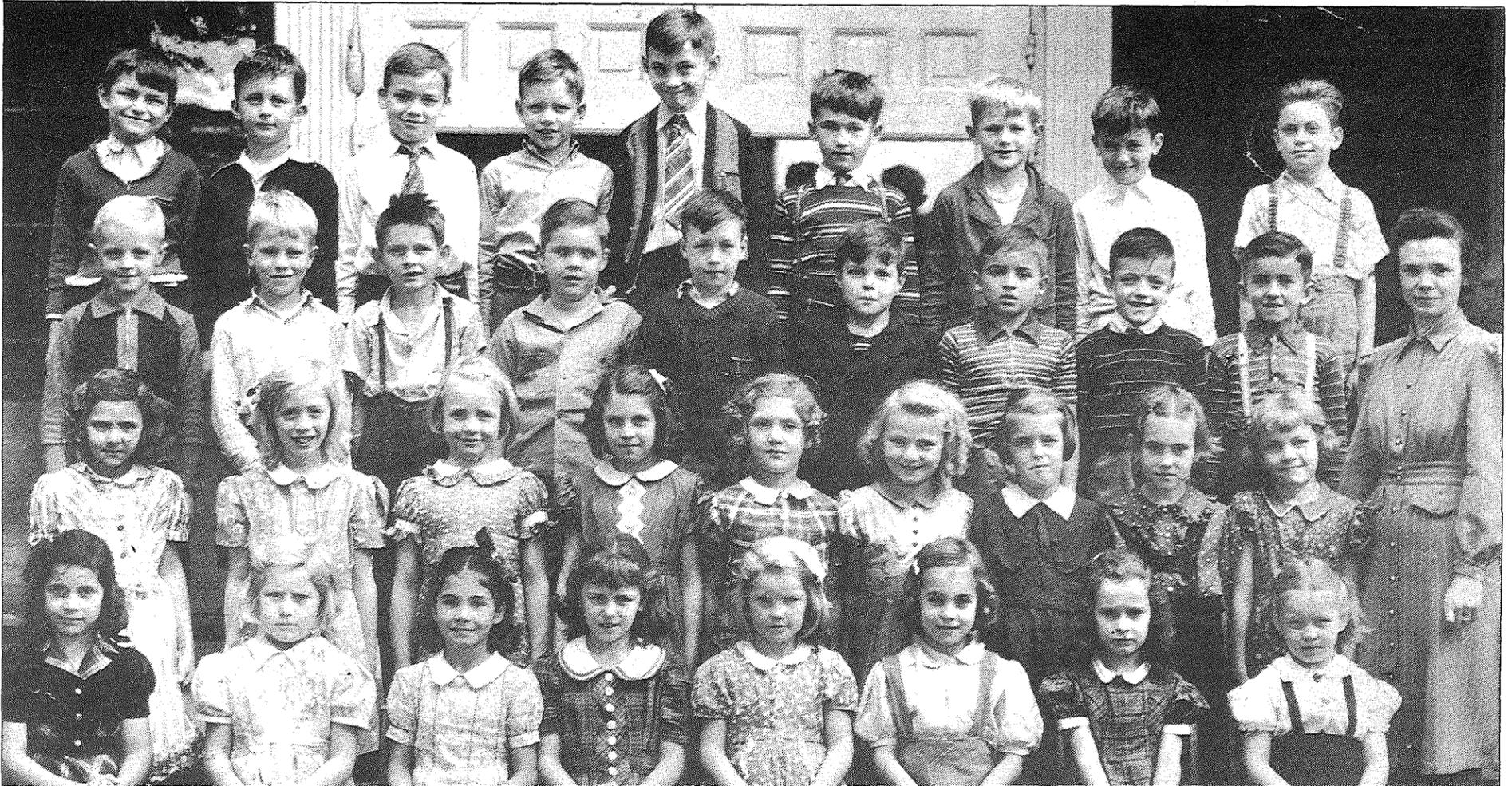
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Vivians



Miss Nellie Naragon posed for this photo of the Prospect School third grade class on Oct. 30, 1940. The youngsters are (first row, from left) Gloria Leone, Dorothy Cibula, Anna Crisco, Helen Ziccapoush, Paxson, Dora Jennigns, Shirley McCave, Blanche Beck; (second row, left) Martha Leiniger, Mary Lou ?, Peggy Gilbert, Barb Keans, Mitzi Lutsch, Helen Schuller, Barbara Richey, Katherine Winkler, Davidson, Miss Naragon; (third row, left) Dale Marietta, Kenny Hepler, Bill Jeffries, Dale Garlock, Ray Patterson, Leo Cline, Dennis Tracy, Frank Leone, Nick Cosma; (fourth row, left) John Bojenski, Jim Tausch, Norman Boals, Victor Lake, Bill Hollinger, Steve Tarzan, Mike Miller, Steve Yakubek, Nelson Elliot. The photograph's owner is Ray Patterson.

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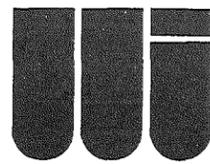
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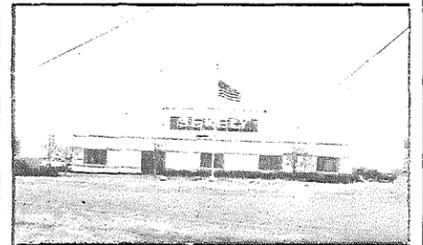
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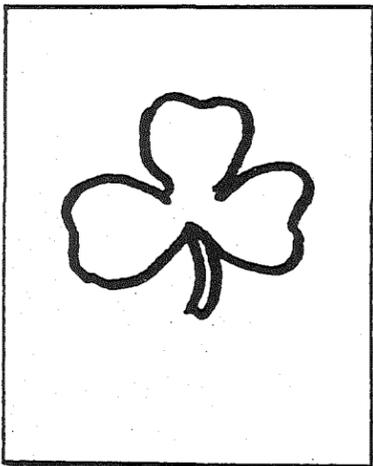


ANTIQUÉ  
OR  
JUNQUE

By James G. McCollam  
Copley News Service

Q. Enclosed is a picture of a small coffee table. Since I took the picture I have replaced the broken marble. The table is 20 inches high, 27 inches long and 18 inches wide.

A. This marble top coffee table was made in the early 20th century and would probably sell for \$325 to \$335 in good condition. It is an Empire style bench probably made in the mid-1800s. It might sell for \$500 or \$600.



Q. The attached mark is on the bottom of a cobalt blue porcelain vase. It is 11 inches tall and decorated with panels depicting 18th century scenes of romantic couples.

I would appreciate anything you can tell me about this vase.

A. Your vase was made by the Limbach Porzellan Manufaktur in Thuringia, Germany about 1900. It would probably sell for about \$165 to \$185.

Q. What can you tell me about a cane carved in the shape of a snake? The head turns over at right angles to form a handhold.

A. Novelty canes are very popular with collectors. Your cane was prob-

ably made in the late 1800s and might sell for about \$435 to \$450.

Q. I have an old calendar dated 1892. It has a picture of a pretty girl and was put out by Blatz Brewing Co.

Does this have any value as a collectible?

A. It sure does! In really fine condition, it might sell for as much as \$500.

Q. We have been given a porcelain humidor that has handpainted pictures of sailing ships. It measures 7 inches high and 4 inches in diameter. The mark on the bottom is an "L" in a wreath.

Can you tell me who made it, its value and vintage?

This was made by Lenox China in Trenton, N.J., early in the 1900s. It would sell for at least \$100 in good condition.

Please identify and evaluate my Limoges ice cream set consisting of a large bowl and six individual bowls. It is decorated with tiny blue flowers and red roses. It is marked "T & V."

Your ice cream set was made in Limoges, France by Tresseanes & Vogt about 1900. It probably would sell for \$365 to \$385.

Letters with pictures are welcome and may be answered in the column. We cannot reply personally or return pictures. Address your letters to James G. McCollam, PO Box 1087, Notre Dame, IN 46556.

McCollam is a member of the Antique Appraisers Association of America.



This marble top coffee table was made in the early 20th century.

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Keeping up with  
the past?  
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issue.

# Memories of old house near Winona revived

By Cessna Smith

**T**HE OLD HOUSE MUST be gone now, perhaps demolished decades ago by some urbanite who, yearning for the bucolic life of Butler Township, bought the property but wanted to build on it a finer home than the ramshackle edifice that then occupied it.

Well, that's alright, of course. Even seventy years ago, the place was ancient. It was a great gray-black two-story house, located on about five acres near the intersection of Winona Road and State Route 9. It set back about 30 yards off the south side of Winona Road, kitty-corner from Votaw School and about 200 yards west of the highway. And it was there my parents, my five siblings and I dwelt until the autumn of 1929.

to some passersby, I suppose, the house itself must have seemed a shabby anachronism. But to my family and to me, the place was beautiful, with any perceived inelegance amply compensated for by the attractiveness of the lawn, the trees, and the lush shrubs and flowers scattered about the property.

At the front of the house was a great crabapple tree, shading in summer the center of the expansive,

croquet-perfect lawn that sloped gently to Winona Road. Sheltering the east side of the yard was a cherry tree, while elsewhere on the property were quince, peach, Baldwin apple and pear trees, an arbor of Concord grapes and domestic raspberry vines.

Flowering plants on the property were abundant. Fragrant lilacs, roses, iris, gladioli, and dahlias, blooming profusely through late spring and the summer months, made our home a most pleasant place in which to live. Virtually self-sufficient, we, as did most of our neighbors, kept a milk cow, hogs and poultry, and raised garden crops in sufficient quantity to process, can, and store against the winter season. Additionally, we picked wild strawberries each summer from both banks of Winona Road, and elderberries were free for the plucking near the pond in the woodland behind the school house.

Two of my sisters, Joyce and Betty and I attended Votaw School, although I had just completed second grade when we left Ohio in late 1929. Still today, though, we recall with pleasure the names of some of our schoolmates: Peter Duda, Twila Ward, Elsie Steiger, Ruth Whinnery, and members of the Bennett,



A typical home in the village of Rogers in the late 1800s.

Mountz and Votaw families, names as well known in Columbiana County now as they were then.

Neighbors, in that era, were neighbors whether they lived across the road or a mile or more distant. Mr. and Mrs. Warrington, for example, whose home was just beyond the pasture behind our place, were kind and friendly people. Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Hall, who lived about a mile

down Winona Road, were equally amiable. (At their home, I was delighted to listen to the first radio I had ever heard, an early crystal set).

Ed Votaw was an especially cordial neighbor, allowing us each spring to tap the maple trees in his woods and to use his sugarhouse to prepare the maple syrup we bottled

Turn to next page

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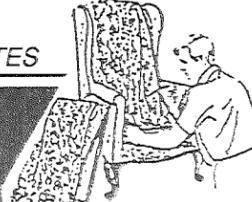
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## Old house

Continued from page 9

and stored for our use each season.

Social life in Butler Township was typical of the times. Many community events we enjoyed took place at the Methodist Church in Winona, at Votaw schoolhouse or at the Butler or Goshen grange halls. Though young at the time, we remember vividly the games we played, the food we enjoyed, and the music we heard at various times in those places. Also, during the winter months, many neighbors gathered at the frozen pond behind the schoolhouse to enjoy ice skating, with hot cocoa on hand for refreshment.

Occasionally, just to see the reaction, I will tell acquaintances that my first "paying" job was as a member of the road-graveling crew in Columbiana County, Ohio, in 1928. Actually, the statement is true, but I was only six years old at the time. On a warm, early summer morning, I was in our front yard helping my mother hang the washboard-scrubbed laundry on the clotheslines stretching from our pump house wall to the posts near the crabapple tree. A gravel-laden truck carrying the driver and three other men, pulled off Route 9 onto Winona Road near the schoolhouse. The driver dumped the load and departed, and the three men, wielding shovels, began spreading the gravel across the roadbed, deeply rutted by the cars, wagons and carriages that had sloshed through the mud throughout the winter.

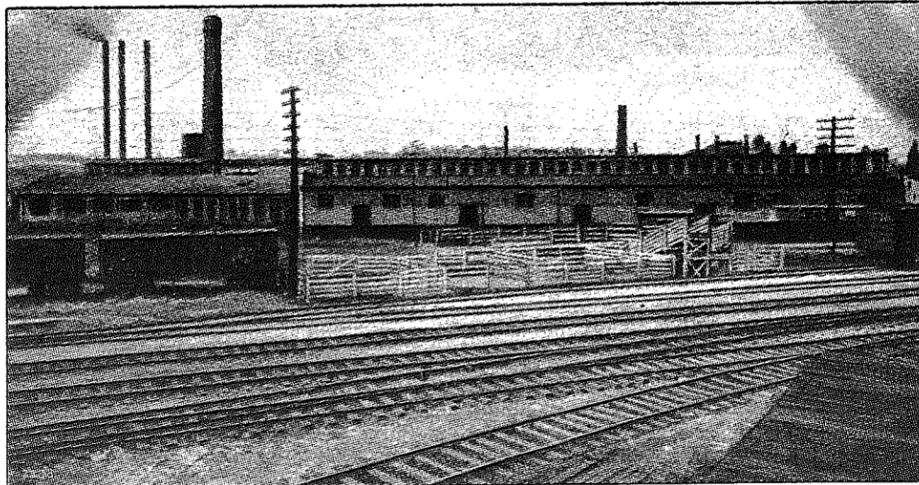
"Why don't you go ask the men for a job?" Mother suggested. So I did, and they agreed to put me to work provided I bring my own

shovel. When I reported this to my mother, she told me to take the ash scoop we kept by the pot-bellied coal stove in the front room. That scoop must have been all of 18 inches long, with a maximum carrying capacity of two pounds of gravel. No matter; the men put me to work. I spread gravel for about three hours a day for three days, as the truck kept returning with additional loads. By then, Mother had decided that I was too far from home (nearly to Votaw's woods). I told the kindly, avuncular members of the crew that I had to quit. Each of them, at the end of my daily three-hour shifts, had fished small coins from their pockets to me for my labor. I was both proud and pleased; I was no doubt the only kid in the family with money, and I had been treated, I felt, like a grownup.

My father was Cessna Amos Smith. My mother was Mabel Martha Miller Smith. Both were born and raised in Columbiana County. Both attended Salem High School. Cessna and Mabel had six children: Joyce Marie, Betty Aileen, Cessna Eugene (myself), Robert Miller, Mabel Charleen and Ronald Dean. Joyce, Betty and I were their only children of school age at the time the family lived in the Winona area.

My father's parents were William Edward "Billy" Smith and Belle Cessna Smith. Grandad Billy was born in England. Grandmother Belle was a descendant of Jean DeCessna, a 17th century French emigrant whose progeny now reside in great numbers in southwestern Pennsylvania and in Mahoning and Columbiana counties. Belle and Billy had ten children: Harry, Cessna, Joseph, John, Ralph, Paul, Isabelle, Dorothea and William. All of them attended Salem High School (Bill the youngest son, was pictured in the June 8, 1991 issue of *Yesteryears*, as a member of Salem High School's 1929 basketball team).

Grandad Billy was employed by the Mullins company for more than 50 years. During the first two decades of the 1900s, most of his sons also worked there. Billy and sons Ralph, John, Paul and Cessna are pictured in several area and official Mullins publications as members of the old Salem Fife and Drum Corps which was organized and led by Billy. The Corps participated in parades and civic functions in Columbiana County, especially during the World War I period. Billy and his son Harry were also members of



The American Steel and Wire Co. building lies along Salem railroad tracks.

the Mullins baseball team circa 1910.

Billy Smith and his seven sons, each at least six feet tall at maturity, were well known around Salem. Dad's brother, John, once told me that "when Billy Smith and his boys walked into Salem, everybody knew it." I'm sure they weren't notorious, now particularly hell-raisers. I would much prefer to think of them as perhaps just ornery. Nonetheless, when one of my brothers visited Salem on business about 30 years ago, he included in his introductory comments a reference to his grandparental background. Before he left Salem, he recalls, he walked past a group of oldtimers, one of whom nudged another and said quietly, "That's Billy Smith's grandson."

My mother's parents were Anson Elwood Miller and Lucy Katherine Yeagley Miller. Lucy was a descendant of Ludwig Benner, an emigrant from Germany who settled in Bucks County, Pennsylvania in the mid-eighteenth century. Mother had three sisters: Cora, Emma and Helen, and two brothers, Clem and Lloyd.

Traveling any great distance in Ohio in the '20s was sometimes an unpleasant experience. There were still many horse-drawn carriages and wagons on the roads, and most of those rural roads were in the same condition as Winona Road was at that time. The highway to Salem from our area was only partially paved until 1929, and the farther one traveled toward Indiana and the distant West, the more roads of sand, dirt and gravel were encountered. Even as late as 1928, the highway from Toledo to South Bend was only partially paved. Of course, though, only thirty-six years had elapsed

since the first concrete pavement in America had been poured, in Ohio's own Bellefontaine in 1891.

Good roads or bad, however, most rural area residents were bound to go to Salem on Saturdays. The trip was traditional. Farm life was remote, isolated. There was, for some folks, a need for an occasional change of milieu: a hankering to browse through city stores, to visit friends and relatives, or just to park at the curb in downtown Salem and watch the people go by.

There were plenty of stores in town, and the advertising industry was in full bloom, touting bargains to be found in every kind of store. The Woodbury Company of Cincinnati, for example, was offering their Facial bar soap at just 10 cents a bar. At the same time, William Procter and James Gamble of the same city, who had been advertising their Ivory soap since 1883, were telling the public that "Guest Ivory's modest price, five cents, is not a measure of its value." And, at the J.C. Penney store, where the children could see and marvel at the fascinating pneumatic tube system that whisked the cartridges of cash to the upstairs office, those ubiquitous BVDs could be bought for just "85 cents the garment." Meanwhile, over in Canton, the Hygienic Company was advertising their cans of Sani-Flush ("Destroys All Foul Odors"), and shipping the product to local stores to sell at 25 cents a can.

At the beginning of the Great Depression, those Salemites and other area residents who had a bit more cash than the average workers were finding new Victrolas to be available in 21 styles, ranging in price from \$25 up. For another \$1.50, they could buy a record featuring the baritone Werrenrath singing "Love Sends A Little Gift of Roses," with, on the flip side, "Dreaming Along in the Twilight."

To be continued

This fascinating and nostalgic trip back to yesteryear has been guided by its writer, Cessna Smith resides at 1720 Casa Villa in Albany, Oregon (zip: 97321).

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College

Continued from page 1

special attention can be given to each pupil." Also, "the college is accessible by several railway systems and only an hour's ride from Pittsburgh."

Once students paid the charges for room, board, light and fuel for a term, they had to adhere to some strict rules: "card playing and intoxicating liquors are forbidden; tobacco must not be used in the school building; no student is permitted to visit one of the other sex at a private room after the ringing of the study bell; students are not allowed to leave town without permission; and students must attend chapel unless excused by the principal."

The school offered a variety of subjects, including Latin, Greek, higher mathematics, German, algebra, psychology, physics, chemistry and international law. Master of arts, science and philosophy degrees were conferred after post-graduate work was completed. Non-attending students were permitted to study for bachelor of arts, science and philosophy degrees. Students who completed the literary courses could continue at the college and "after a sufficient amount of study" would be entitled to graduate in a higher course and then the corresponding degree would be conferred.

Pupils at colleges like Mount Hope were younger than college students today — most entered when they were 16 — and after graduation, they entered other colleges for



Playing a game of cat's cradle for the benefit of the cameraman are these students spending a leisurely afternoon on the campus grounds.

further education.

Three departments comprised the college: the college department which included scientific, philosophical, classical, musical and fine arts courses; the academic department which included normal and college preparatory courses; and a commercial department which included commercial, penmanship, stenography, telegraphy and typewriting courses. Reading was stressed in every course because, Galbreath said, "we find that the student, as a general thing, does not do a sufficient amount of general reading."

Classes began in September with commencement exercises held every June. Student body and staff the first year totalled about 75. The only entrance requirements were the tests given in the first days of the fall and winter terms. There were five ten-week terms with four days of vacation between each — the last three days of each term were taken up with final examinations. For one ten-week term, \$35 covered boarding, rent, tuition, light and fuel. One hundred dollars paid for three terms, with summer terms available. Books could be rented for 25 cents each or bought at a low price.

In the days before state normal schools were formed, there were numerous colleges in the area — Fredonia, Lebanon, Darlington, Pa., Rosepoint, Canfield and Poland. However, Galbreath believed his school's fees were lower than any other schools in the area, and in western Pennsylvania or eastern Ohio. Similar courses in other institutions cost \$60 to \$100 a term. He cited the reasons: the dormitory was owned by the school so students didn't have to be boarded out, teaching hours were shorter than in other academies, and, finally, "shows and expensive entertainments for amusement only are not permitted to come into our village, thus prohibiting the temptation for spending money from our students."

The campus had been used as a learning institution before Galbreath came on the scene. The Mount Hope Academy, a high school, operated in the early 1880s there. Professor A. Y. Taylor and his wife, Lucinda were founders of the school which flourished until 1890 when fire leveled the buildings. Amidst rumors that they had burned the academy down intentionally, the Taylors moved to California. Later they returned to the area and opened a school around Alliance.

The advent of state schools eventually led to the shutdown of schools like Mount Hope, and by 1905 the school was closed. For several years, the buildings were utilized by the Rogers Board of Education, Rogers High School and the Beaver Local School System. In 1951 the college burned and was replaced by a residential home. The dormitory was razed in 1953.



Bosom buddies clasp hands in this photo taken on the steps of the 40-room dormitory at Hope College.



Asher Galbreath and his wife Anna pose along with other members of their staff in this photo taken in the 1890s at Hope College.



Clad in white robes, girls from the school perform in a drama at the school with a backdrop of garlanded greens and pictures of Christopher Columbus and President William McKinley.

# Clippings from 45 years ago

Compiled by Bekkee Panezott

DR. JAMES E. JONES was elected president when the Lisbon Junior Chamber of Commerce organized. Other officers include William S. Frew and Ross Armstrong, vice presidents; board of directors: William Morgan Jr., Edwin Butcher and Jack Mills, two-year terms; and Howard Cole, William Kessler, David Edgerton, George Nace Jr., Robert Leggett and G.V. Weinstod, one-year terms.

H.E. ZEPERNICK was appointed general chairman of the Fall Festival of the Charles H. Carey Post 56 American Legion.

WILLIARD P. DAVIS retired from the Salem Post Office at the age of 70 after 47 years of service.

ADA DeRHODS was re-elected queen of the sisterhood of the Dames of Malta.

MRS. FRED HAGGERTY won first honors in "500" when the Just Us Club met at the home of Mrs. Wilmer Green along West Second Street.

FINAL FIGURES on the Red Cross annual fund drive amounted to \$17,900, Hazel Linn, executive secretary, announced.

ON JULY 2, 1900 Williard P. Davis began work at the Salem Post Office at the wage of \$7.69 per week.



Women employed in the wringer department at the W. H. Mullins Co. pose for a picture on top of the company's plant one roof. The girls are (from left) Millie Preisler, Clarabel Heinbuck, Mary Skowron, Helen McGowen and June Zaharris. Mullins made wringers for all types of washers. Note the Columbia Street School in left background.

Some 47 years later, he retired from the postal service at the age of 70. Davis has worked under six different postmasters — Dr. F. T. Miles, W.S. Atchison, George H. Gee, George H. Mounts, Frank J. Eckstein and A.E. Beardmore.

ADVERTISED SPECIALS at Bill Corso's Drive-In, 411 S. Ellsworth

Ave.: bacon, eggs, toast and coffee, 30 cents; cabbage, 5 cents per pound; half gallon vinegar, 29 cents; Oberti ripe olives, 9-ounce can, 35 cents; and extra large Florida oranges, 43 cents per pound.

MRS. CLYDE WILLIAMS carried off the honors in a spelling bee when the Lions Club Auxiliary held a dinner meeting at the Lape Hotel.

FRED COPE'S Salem tracksters participated in the Mansfield relays and managed to garner four points on Miler Glenn Thorne's third spot in a difficult event field. No one from schools of the annual Salem district meets bested his third place time.

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