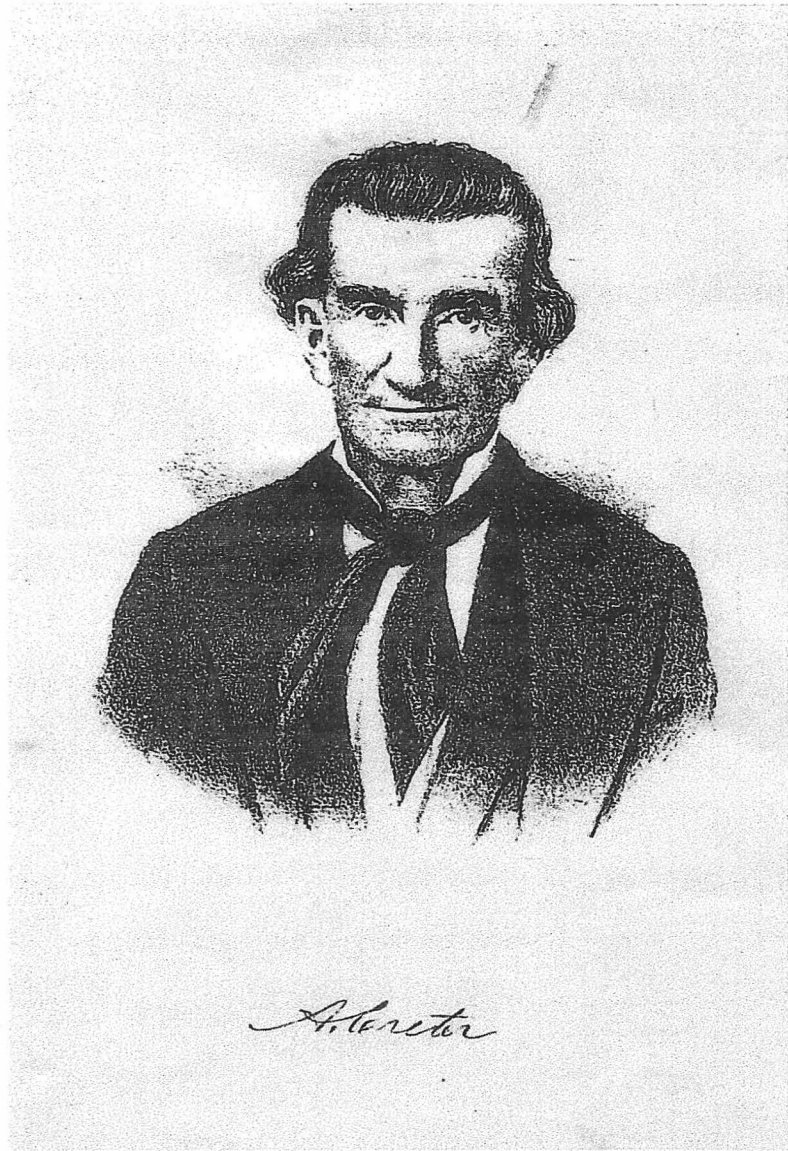


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History of The Temperance Tavern Museum

Andrew Creter came to Newcomerstown prior to 1818, probably in one of the first caravans of immigrants brought here by Nicholas Neighbor from Morris County, New Jersey. He married 18 May 1818 to Elizabeth Neighbour, eldest daughter of Nicholas. He first resided about two miles south of Newcomerstown on the Post Boy Road, where he farmed and conducted a tavern in his home. They were the parents of five children, Clark, Catherine, Anna, Elizabeth and Andrew Jackson. When his wife died after the birth of his fifth child in 1829, he sent for his sister, Sarah Plum Creter to come to Newcomerstown to care for his children. She also helped serve patrons in the tavern. The Post Boy road was not a busy thoroughfare so in 1841 he removed to Newcomerstown and built the present Temperance Tavern near the thriving Ohio Canal and near the Old State Road where many traveling by stagecoach and horseback stopped overnight. Many travelers were seeking new homes, some prospectors going westward to seek their fortunes.

The Tavern was built of black walnut which grew abundantly in the vicinity. The original floors can be seen today with their square handmade nails. The staircases are of the original walnut timber. No two doors have the same locks and all are located at different levels from the floor.

Guests were ushered into the basement tavern room where they could warm themselves and were served a hearty meal before the six foot fireplace. The original fireplace is still in place as well as the huge walnut serving table, cabinet and oven for baking bread and warming food.

After the evening meal and conversation the overnights were led to the attic room where they were given cots and bedding for the night. Andrew then locked the door to the attic and they were virtual prisoners for the night. He was fearful of being robbed and was protective of his family living in the house, also.

The Temperance Tavern had only four owners before it was sold in 1973 to the Newcomerstown Historical Society. They were Andrew Creter, Lellan Shoemaker, Titus Weaver and Harold Rivers. It is the aim of the Historical Society to collect, preserve, and pass on to the next generations artifacts, histories, textiles and any items pertaining to the History of Newcomerstown.

HISTORY OF THE OLD TEMPERANCE HOUSE TAVERN, ANDREW CRETER, PROP.

as presented by BEATRICE (NEIGHBOR) KISER in 1964

THE FIRST INN IN NEWCOMERSTOWN

Taverns in the early times performed an important function in the growth of villages. A constant stream of incoming settlers who made their way to the west by tedious, toilsome journeys, and of prospectors for future homes, supplied them with an abundance of guests. In those times, provisions were also made at the Tavern for the traveler's thirst, and at the bar, liquors could always be obtained.

SOMETIME IN THE EARLY THIRTIES THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT WAS PUBLISHED:

Back in the days of 1841 when the stagecoaches were the vogue and thirty miles a day was considered good traveling, Andrew Creter built a Tavern out of the innumerable black-walnut trees surrounding Newcomerstown, then a little hamlet on the crossroads. Travelers would make it their headquarters on long journeys.

Today the Tavern still stands, having been converted into a home where Mr. and Mrs. Lollan Shoemaker may settle down for a peaceful evening before the blazing log fire, which once was also a haven for the weary way-farer.

The old "Temperance House Tavern, Prop. Andrew Creter" still holds the charm of its former days for the new owners. In the early days, Sarah Creter, Andrew's sister, greeted travelers at the door and escorted them to the cozy kitchen. Here a great, six-foot open fireplace radiated its comforting warmth throughout the room.

Slowly the evenings would pass away and at bedtime, Andrew would pick up the candle and lead the visitors up three flights to the triangular room beneath the sharp slanting eaves of the roof. As most travelers were total strangers to the inn-keeper and his family, extra precautions were taken against robbery, by closing the heavy black walnut door and turning a hand-made lock, virtually making them prisoners for the night.

Today the attic stands bare and cold, with only huge floorboards, and well-worn attic stairs to recall the days of almost a century ago. Down in the basement, however, the kitchen with its big fireplace stands as it did in the stagecoach era.

Mr. Shoemaker and his painter worked many days to scrape off all the old paint and dust from the rooms. Beneath the several coats of white-wash and dingy paint showed a beautifully grained black walnut framework. In these days, such wood is too expensive for most construction work, but here nearly all the braces, beams, panels, tables, floors and stairs are made from it. Many boards come in over two feet in width.

To transform this basement room back to the days revered, in so many oldsters' memories, a long serving table was re-discovered and placed at the foot of the stairs where it was, years ago. The fireplace is also the same, the swinging crane from which the blackened cauldron hung and the stone-lined oven still symbolizing their crude ways.

The original heavy fireplace andirons are today used often by their present owners.

Memories of the old-time carpentry and foundry work are ever present throughout the house. Many of the latches, no two of which are at the same height from the floor, are considerably worn and rusted. Crude work is evident in many places, although painstaking efforts were made to pound their hand-made nails in the right place.

Most of the attic timbers are held together by well-fitted joints and wooden pegs. The west basement door, also built out of black walnut, has been exposed to the weather for 96 years, and is still in excellent condition and has never been painted.

Leading from the heavy planked floor of the basement up the stairs to the first floor, a very striking ultra-modern kitchen greets the eye of the visitor. One of the most modern kitchens in Newcomerstown has been built to enlighten Mrs. Shoemaker's task. They returned early this month from their wedding trip to Cuba.

Old latch-string locks still guard the home against intrusion. In every instance, it is evident that construction was guided by the hand of necessity rather than beauty. Yet today these crude articles present an attractive front to the visitor.

Adding to the former Tavern's appearance, Mr. Shoemaker has used ivory paint to cover the exposed corner braces and door jambs. The walnut doors are in their natural color and the grain shows clearly. The long, low-ceilinged living room has been converted back into a colorful setting with a new wall paper artistically covered with light brown colonial ladies and fleecy cinnamon colored sheep. A corner cupboard ingeniously hides steam pipes. Blue carpeted floors and several attractive prints on the walls turn the former crude dwell-

3

Upstairs the bedrooms are as different as the basement and first-floor kitchen. One room has been furnished with early American furniture, while another presents a much more modern appearance. Hardwood floors have been relaid over the crude hand-hewn planks used by the Creters.

Radiators now replace the old-fashioned fireplaces. The chimneys, however, still remain as part of the house. In the attic, at first glance at them, one has the impression they are falling over. The foundation for the house had been laid first, then the house built over it. In finishing the chimney, bricklayers miscalculated the hole provided in the roof and then had to lay their bricks crooked to come out the right place. One chimney was out more than a foot.

A piece of the old Tavern sign was discovered by painters on the east basement door frame. In raised wooden letters the words "Temperance House Tavern, Andrew Creter, Prop" are still discernible. After the purchase of the house, a contractor brought to light a book showing the wages paid for construction of the Tavern--60 cents a day was the pay for a laborer, but money was scarce in those days. Food was the main-stay for bartering, pickled pork being down at two cents a pound, and other meats at similar prices. Every once in a while, a notice read, "to Folcock--one gallon whiskey, 40 cents."

So it is through the efforts of its present owner that the old Tavern has been brightened to rank along with other homes in the village. The exterior has been painted white with green shutters; old porches knocked off, and new ones erected in their place, and improvements made in the landscaping. Once more will this converted Inn, which once welcomed the weary traveler, be opened to friends and visitors showing that even the same Ohio hospitality remains, although nearly a century later.

SOMETIME IN THE EARLY SIXTIES:

It seems only proper that the inhabitants of this home be the sort to welcome weary travelers, and so it is that Mr. and Mrs. Weaver are the prop.'s of the Modern Frontier Motel, and so brings up to date a story that started with the town.

IN APRIL, 1973, the Temperance House Tavern became the property of the Newcomerstown Historical Society, who will restore it, as nearly as possible, to its original appearance, and who will make of it a museum and a landmark of which the town may justly be proud.

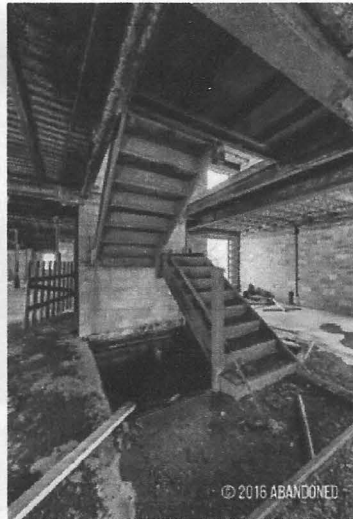
ABANDONED BY SHERMAN CAHAL

THE STORY OF A FORGOTTEN AMERICA.

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Cooley Hotel

The Cooley Hotel is a never completed hotel in Newcomerstown, Ohio. It used as a showroom and repair shop for farm machinery, office and manufacturing space for a canvas product company, and as a museum.



Construction on the four-story hotel began in late 1929 by John W. Cooley,² who was the owner and operator of the Fountain Hotel on Bridge Street. The hotel was originally proposed at Bridge and Church streets, but a committee from the local Chamber of Commerce suggested a location along West Canal Street instead. Proposed inside were 44 sleeping rooms, coffee shop, a barber, kitchen, private dining

rooms and public toilets. Seventeen of the rooms would contain private baths and 24 rooms featured running water.

The building cost \$150,000 but was never finished after financial difficulties plagued Cooley.^{3,5} The hotel, sans minor construction details, was essentially completed by late 1930. On January 17, 1931, the unfinished building was sold at a sheriff's sale to Charles Loader for \$26,000; it was appraised at \$39,000.⁴ Ownership was later passed into the hands of the First National Bank.³

In the July 1941 *Elks* magazine, an advertisement, taken out by Newcomerstown BPOE 1555, stated that the lodge is willing to purchase the building if a "practical hotel man" agrees to finance its completion and to manage it.³ The BPOE 1555 would occupy the top floor with the remainder of the building used as a lodge.

The prolonging of World War II caused a shortage of housing in Newcomerstown.⁶ On July 24, 1943, federal National Housing Agency proposed to finance the completion of the Cooley Hotel to house 30 employees of the Heller Bros. tool plant, who were having to travel long distances to work at the factory. Despite the assistance from the government, there was still 530 employees at Heller Bros. that needed shorter commutes. Gasoline and tire rations also added to the housing shortage. The closure of the war led to the project being abandoned.

On May 18, 1944, the unfinished hotel was sold to Clyde E. Schumaker, a sales and service representative for the John Deere Company.¹ Schumaker planned to use the basement and first floor of the hotel for a showroom and for the repair of farm machinery, with the goal of finishing the upper three floors. In mid-1960, the building was used by Globe Specialities, makers of canvas products, and employed eight.⁵ Mid-Ohio Canvas operated the business in 1975 when it made the decision to relocate to Columbus.

The Newcomerstown Historical Society purchased the Cooley building in August 1976 to use as the Newcomerstown Cultural and Study Center adjacent to their Temperance Tavern Museum.^{5,7} The purchase was made possible through the generosity of Shannon Rodgers, a new York dress designer for Jerry Silverman. Rodgers also donated a collection of 500 antique gowns and dresses that were to be displayed in the Cooley building.

After years of vacancy, the Cooley Hotel – never used for its intended purpose, is slated for demolition in 2016.⁸

► Sources

Share:    

The history of the Cooley Hotel building

It was just four months from the devastating Wall Street crash of 1929 and the beginning of what America knew as the Great Depression.

Hotel entrepreneur John Cooley had a dream of a great, new modern hotel for Newcomerstown.

According to a news clipping from the June 9, 1929, edition of the Columbus Dispatch, a new four-story brick and terra cotta hotel is being planned to be constructed in the middle of the business district in Newcomerstown. The cost for the new hotel is at \$150,000. The building will be 50 foot high, and 90 foot depth.

Cooley, the owner of the Fountain Hotel (located next to the Newcomerstown Union Depot) is planning for the new hotel building to have fifty rooms, a lunch room, dining room, barber shop, and spacious lobby with textured walls. The hotel will be of fire proof construction. The interior finish of the first level will be of black walnut wood with a terrazzo floor. The remainder of the building will be finished in gum wood. The building is of an Italian Renaissance design. The architect for the project is Ray Sims.

Following the Oct. 29, 1929, Wall Street crash and many, many persons, and businesses all over the United States loosing thousands of dollars within one day, Cooley halted the project.

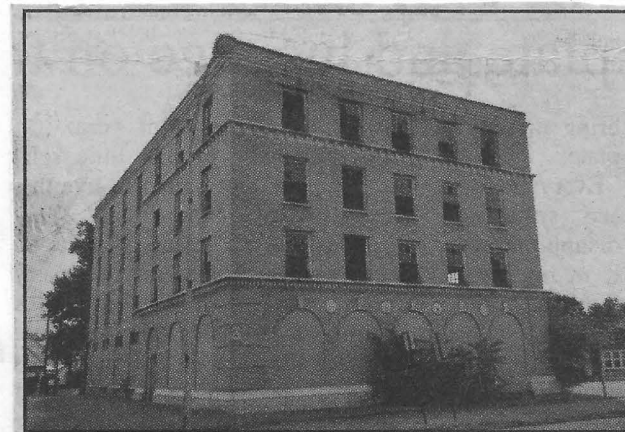
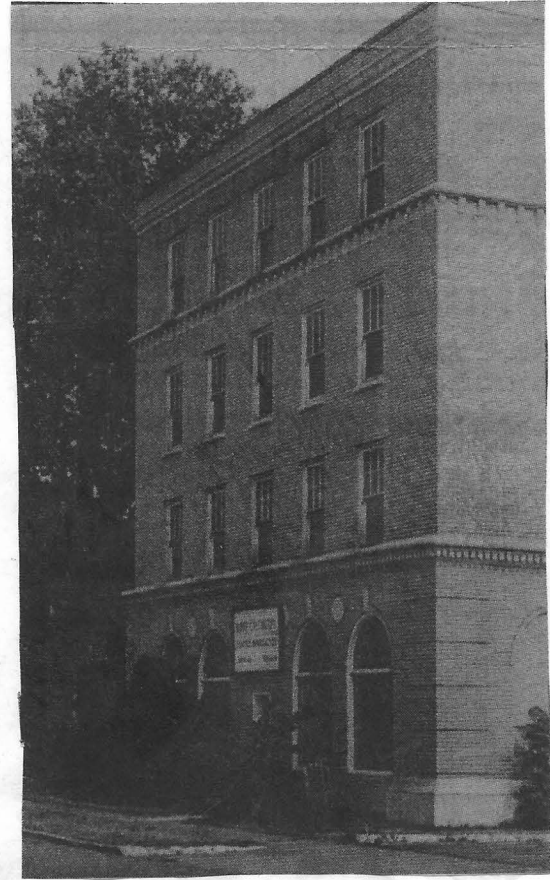
The building was left standing in the midst of unfinished construction, never to be completed. The upper floors were never completed, the interior was basically nothing more than a shell of dream of what is was intended to

be. Cooley eventually lost the building in 1931 and the structure was sold at a sheriff's sale for \$26,000. The building sat vacant for many years and at one time a hospital was being considered to occupy the structure.

In the early 1960s, it housed Globe Industries, which was a small factory that manufactured mattresses, and cushions. The factory either ceased production, or relocated after several years. The building was once again vacated, then was eventually sold to New York City fashion designer, Shannon Rogers whom had family roots in Newcomerstown. The building was planned to house Rogers's fashion collection until Rogers decided to donate his collection to the Kent State University School of Design archives. The building was then donated to the Newcomerstown Historical Society who used it for storage for several years. The Newcomerstown Chamber also held dinners in the structure over the years, and the Historical Society also had used the building for several of their events, one being a quilt show during the 1976 Bicentennial celebration.

The current owner, David Kinsey of Dover, purchased the property in 1991 with intentions of developing it. The property has taken a major decline over the past several years and is now being ordered by the Tuscarawas County Health Department to be razed due to Newcomerstown officials being concerned with the run-down appearance, and potentially unsafe conditions.

Effective on March 1, 2016, Kinsey was given 45 days to have the structure razed.



William Casteel/Newcomerstown News
The Cooley Hotel in Newcomerstown

Newcomerstown hotel owner had second career as proprietor of showboat

By Jon Baker
GateHouse Media Ohio

John Cooley of Newcomerstown had a colorful career as a hotel owner and the proprietor of a showboat, the *Wonderland*, that plied the Mississippi and Ohio rivers in the early 20th century.

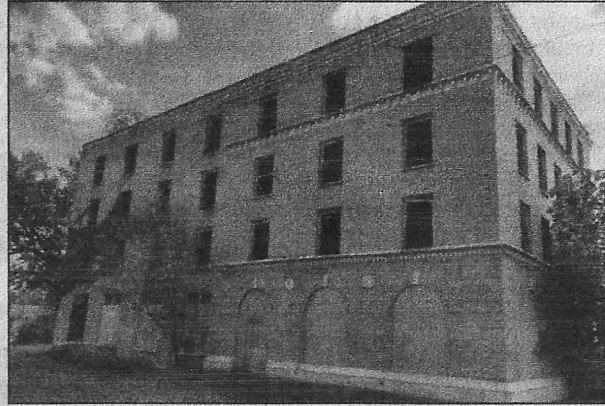
"John Cooley, a giant of a man, more than six feet tall and heavy-set, was easy-going and fun-loving; somehow one got the impression that a joke or a good story was always in the offing," was how he was described in the book, "Showboats: The History of an American Institution," by Philip Graham.

Cooley's "genial good nature" was evident on his showboat.

"Unlike most of his competitors, he ignored melodrama to specialize in comedy, with vaudeville and specialties between the acts of the play," Graham wrote. "A typical handbill promised a play, 'A Foxy Bachelor,' a comedy of domestic life, to be presented, we are assured, 'for laughing purposes only.'"

Cooley was born on Dec. 20, 1867, in the small Coshocton County community of Orange. He married Rachel Alexander on Nov. 7, 1894, and they became the parents of three children.

In 1895, he purchased the



Joe Wright, GateHouse Media Ohio

Hotel owner John Cooley began work on this hotel in Newcomerstown in 1929 but was never able to complete it.

Fountain Hotel on Bridge Street in Newcomerstown, near the Pennsylvania Railroad train station. The two-story frame hotel, one of four in town at that time, got its name from a fountain in the yard.

According to the *Newcomerstown News*, the hotel had 15 rooms in addition to two adjacent business rooms, the lobby, the dining room, kitchen and lunch counter. The Fountain Hotel, like the other hotels in town, catered to the traveling salesmen who went from town to town selling their wares. The hotel was filled to capacity nearly every night.

In 1906, Cooley decided to go into the showboat business.

In partnership with James Hagen, Cooley had the *Wonderland* built in West Virginia at a cost of \$9,000. Equipment for the boat increased the cost to \$27,000 (\$761,000 in 2018 dollars). It had seating for 500 people.

"This novel, modernly devised steamer will make its initial trip in a few weeks, going eastward, giving en-

tertainments at all riverside towns of any considerable size," the *Newcomerstown News* reported on April 25, 1906.

It added, "This is truly a 20th century ideal consolidation of entertainment, amusement and business which may prove a great success, if care be taken to make it strictly first-class and of high order, which no doubt will be done."

During the summer months, the *Wonderland* played at all towns along the Ohio River. At Cairo, Ill., it went north on the Mississippi River as far as Red Wing, Minn. Then it turned south, going all the way to New Orleans. In the winter months, the boat was docked at Point Pleasant, W.Va.

The dozen actors on the boat also had to serve as stagehands and orchestra musicians.

The *Wonderland* continued to operate until 1918, when the pilot ran it aground off the West Virginia shore and knocked out the bottom. The boat was repaired, but the water was so low that it

wouldn't float.

"Sometime later a flood swept her down the river," Cooley told the *Newcomerstown News*. "That was the last I ever saw of her."

Cooley returned to Newcomerstown to operate the Fountain Hotel.

In the spring of 1929, Cooley announced plans to build a modern four-story hotel in town.

"Mr. and Mrs. Cooley have conducted a successful hotel business here for many years, and are to be commended for their enterprise in deciding to erect and operate a modern hotel which will fill a long-felt need," the newspaper commented.

That summer, work began on the hotel, located on W. Canal Street. It was supposed to have 44 sleeping rooms, a barbershop, laundry, coffee shop, public and private dining rooms, kitchen and public toilets. Seventeen of the rooms were to contain private baths and 24 rooms would have running water. The rooms on the first floor were to have a terrazzo floor finish.

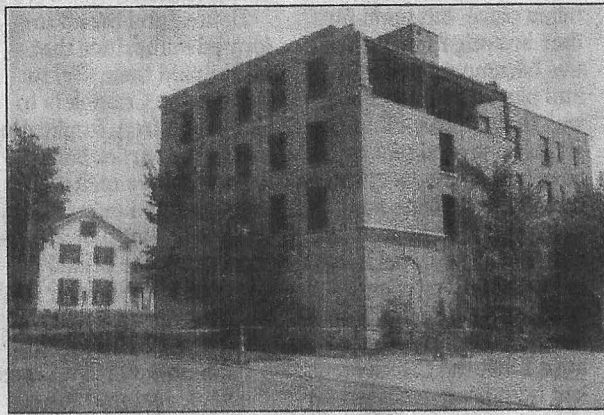
Unfortunately, Cooley ran into financial problems, and construction was abandoned on the half-finished structure. In recent years, village officials have been discussing tearing down the old hotel building, which has become an eyesore.

Cooley retired from the hotel business in 1935. He sold the Fountain Hotel to the Darrell O. Beiter Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in June 1946. The VFW met there for 10 years until the building was condemned by the state in 1957 and torn down.

Cooley died in May 1950 at age 83.

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Cooley Hotel implosion scheduled for Sept. 11



Ray Booth, Correspondent

Preparation has started for the demolition of the old Cooley Hotel on Bridge Street in Newcomerstown. The structure is scheduled to be imploded on Sept. 11.

If a successful event can be known as "bringing down the house," then bringing down a four-story hotel building near downtown Newcomerstown will be a true party.

The Cooley Hotel is scheduled to be imploded on Sept. 11, according to Joe Riley, president and CEO of TR Construction, Inc., who was on site Tuesday afternoon with a crew making preparations for the demolition. The hotel, located on Canal Street between the Temperance Tavern Museum and Canal River Auto Sales, has been vacant since the day it was

the idea of a developer's eye some 90 years ago.

In the spring of 1929, John Cooley, who operated the Fountain Hotel in Newcomerstown, announced plans to build a modern four-story hotel in town.

Jon Baker of The Times-Reporter wrote an historical feature about Cooley in May of this year and quoted an article from The Newcomerstown News in 1929.

"Mr. and Mrs. Cooley have conducted a successful hotel business here for many years, and are to be commended for their enterprise in deciding to erect

and operate a modern hotel which will fill a long-felt need."

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See Page A2 | Hotel

Hotel

From Page A1

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10 years until the building was condemned by the state in 1957 and torn down.

Cooley died in May 1950 at age 83.

Newcomerstown Mayor Patrick Cadle recently gave a report to village council, and according to the report, several local establishments are contributing to the cost, and donating their time, or equipment for the demolition, including the Newcomerstown Historical Society, the Baptist Church, American Legion and Little's Tree Service. It was reported that the cost for the fill-in of the structure's basement foundation is \$38,000.

The building demolition is planned via implosion, not with

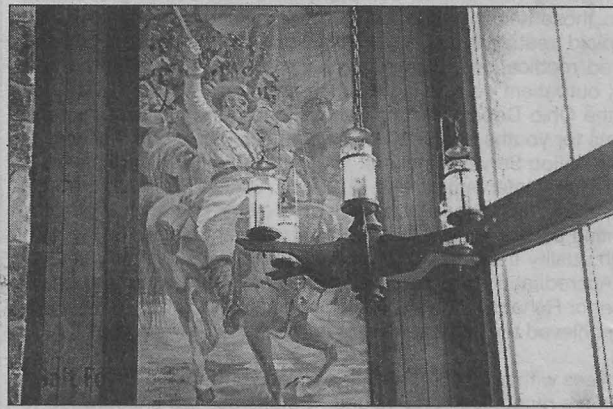
use of any explosives, but with use of a special technique of cutting into the structure layer by layer until it slowly collapses in a straight downward fashion. The village reports that they will be recommending anyone within a two block radius to take precautions due to an extensive amount of dust that will be created from the implosion.

Once the site is filled-in and stabilized a parking lot will be constructed and utilized by the Newcomerstown Historical Society, the American Legion and the Baptist Church. Mayor Cadle also said the parking lot will be helpful during the annual Cy Young Festival.

Jon Baker of The Times-Reporter contributed to this story.

During the Civil War, General Morgan led a raid into Ohio, which went through Guernsey County before Morgan and his men were captured near East Liverpool. In the painting, General Morgan is depicted leading his men in battle. Morgan's Raid has been a part of Guernsey County lore ever since the incidents in July of 1863.

Local historian Rick Booth has written articles about Morgan's Raid, calling it "an unusual affair, conducted against orders in mid-1863. From his base in Tennessee, Morgan had been ordered to take his roughly 2,500 cavalymen up into Kentucky as a diversionary move to get Union troops to chase him instead of attacking some vulnerable Confederate troop positions in Tennessee. Specifically ordered to not cross the Ohio River, Morgan nevertheless did so near Mauckport, Indiana, less than a week after the twin debacles of Lee's defeat at Gettysburg and the fall of Vicksburg on the Mississippi. Living off the land (i.e. stealing food, money and horses), his men marauded eastward, passing north of Cincinnati. They then tried unsuccessfully to re-cross the Ohio River into Kentucky at Buffington Island, located about half way between Gallipolis and Parkersburg. They were narrowly prevented from doing so by Union troops and gunboats. A few days



later, Morgan's men crossed Guernsey County from the southwest to the northeast in a desperate attempt to get away from pursuing cavalry and reach another place to cross the Ohio River farther north.

"Having lost men continuously along the course of the raid, General Morgan was finally forced to surrender near East Liverpool, Ohio.

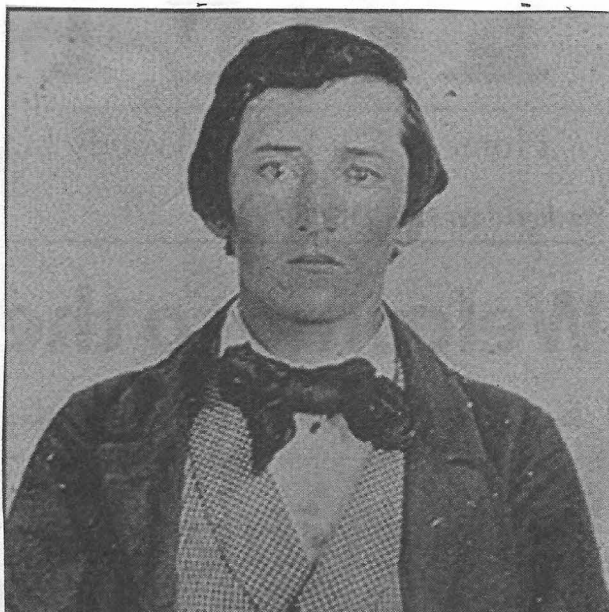
"... Sent to the Ohio Penitentiary for ultra-safe keeping, the wily brigadier general escaped, made his way back to the South, and resumed his command of cavalry. The Ohio raid and his subsequent flight to freedom catapulted Morgan to the heights of rock star status inside the Confederacy."

While luck was with General Morgan and six of his men in the escape, he was not so lucky later in the war.

"By early September, 1864," Booth wrote, "he (Morgan) was leading a force of 1,500 men in the vicinity of Greeneville, Tenn. Underestimating the proximity and danger posed by Union troops nearby, Morgan opted to

sleep the night in pampered luxury at a local mansion rather than tent uncomfortably with his men outside the town. When Union commanders chose to march on Greeneville through the night, Morgan's choice of pleasantries over safety turned fatal. As federal troops approached Greeneville, several reports came in that Morgan was resting in the lightly guarded town mansion. Two cavalry companies were quickly dispatched to rush into the town and surround the mansion with orders to bring back Morgan dead or alive.

"General Morgan, loathing the thought of ever spending time in Union captivity again, had promised his wife he would do everything in his power to avoid capture. And so, when confronted by an armed cavalrman demanding his surrender, Morgan chose to run. A shot rang out, and the man who barely a year before had led Confederate forces through Guernsey County's Cumberland, Senecaville, Lore City, Old Washington, Winterset and Antrim fell dead."



William Quantrill

Many, if not most, Tuscarawas County residents are probably unaware that an individual labeled as "the bloodiest man in the early annals of American history" was born and raised in Dover, Ohio (then known as Canal Dover).

William C. Quantrill was infamously known for Quantrill's Raid that took place in Lawrence, Kansas in 1863. Quantrill, and his gang of ruffians were responsible for the mass slaughter of 180-plus men, and young boys that resided in Lawrence (considered to be an abolitionist strong-hold in the Midwest). Their intention was to wipe out the male population, crippling the authority and protection of the citizens of Lawrence.

Quantrill gained his infamy during the years of the Civil War. According to historical accounts, he was noted as an enigmatic, intriguing character. Although he lived only 28 years he achieved his notoriety in a brief period of time, and his story continues to have mystery and conflict according to historians.

Many accounts have been written on Quantrill over the years, and his name has been spelled in different variations. Quantrill, himself even used a variety of spellings on his name, and also used alias names during his violent life. Among the alias names was the name of Charlie Hart, and Captain Clark (his middle name was Clarke, and his mother's maiden name was also Clarke).

Quantrill was born July 31, 1837 at the family's residence that was located at the corner of Tuscarawas Avenue and Fourth Street in Dover. Tuscarawas Avenue was known as Factory Street in 1837. His parents, Thomas H. & Caroline (Clarke) Quantrill were respected citizens of Dover. Both parents were natives of the state of Maryland. His father was a school teacher, and began teaching in the Canal Dover Union School in 1851, later becoming the school principal, a position he held until his death. His father is now regarded as the first school superintendent of the Dover school system.

Young Quantrill followed in his father's footsteps, also becoming an educator in the Tuscarawas County schools. Quantrill completed the requirements for a school teaching certificate, and became a teacher at the age of sixteen. He taught in the Canal Dover Union School for one year, then transferring to a country schoolhouse the following school year.

Quantrill taught in Tuscarawas County country schools until the spring of 1856, leaving Ohio and moving to Illinois that summer. He began teaching in the Illinois schools in the fall of 1856, but Quantrill's life suddenly changed, a change that seemed to mark a turning point in his life. He had written a letter

to his mother, but said he could not disclose the nature of an incident that had taken place. He left Illinois, moving to Fort Wayne, Indiana, teaching there very briefly. Quantrill then ended up back in Tuscarawas County, and took a teaching position in a country schoolhouse near Uhrichsville, but did not

finish the term. He left Ohio again in March 1857, this time moving farther west, settling in Kansas where he took a teaching position.

Quantrill never returned to Dover and spent the remainder of his life in Kansas. He later became less involved in the education field, and more involved in the Kansas-Missouri border raids that were in progress during the years of the Civil War. There were various legends about Quantrill, however the preponderance of evidence is that he had no real moral perceptions during the years after he left Dover. He later became known in Kansas as an individual that brought terror to the plains of the Midwest. Quantrill was technically a nineteenth century, American terrorist. Historians have concluded that Quantrill clearly had latent characteristics that came into full development in the last few years of his life, characteristics that seemed to take full possession of him.

Quantrill's notoriety began when he engineered an ambush for three abolitionists from Kansas who made a raid into Missouri for the purpose of liberating slaves of a wealthy farmer, Morgan Walker. Quantrill secretly forewarned Walker who proceeded to set a trap for the abolitionists. Quantrill remained in Jackson County, where Walker resided, gaining the confidence of the residents by explaining his part in the ambush. He had told them that he had sought revenge for the murder of a brother that had supposedly been committed by Kansas jayhawkers (guerrilla fighters who clashed with pro-slavery advocates).

The outbreak of the Civil War gave Quantrill his opportunity to join Missouri bushwackers (ruffians that fought against the jayhawkers). Quantrill later formed his own army of bushwackers who operated in their own lawless fashion. Quantrill and his men became known as the most formidable revolver fighters the West ever knew.

Lawrence, Kansas was a known area comprised of many abolitionists, a place the western Missouri bushwackers wanted to obliterate. After careful planning, Quantrill and his gang of nearly three hundred ruffians completed a ruthless act that has been documented as one of the bloodiest slaughters in the history of the American annuals of crime.

In the pre-dawn hours of August 21, 1862, the sleeping town of Lawrence was awakened by galloping horses, gunfire. The gang, comprised of hundreds of bearded, long haired, wild-eyed men, yelling, shooting guns.

At first, Quantrill informed the defenseless townspeople that nobody would be harmed if they did not resist. Later, the owner and guests of a hotel were lined up on the street and the ruffians helped themselves to any valuables that were surrendered, and not surrendered. The hotel was then set ablaze, and the killing then began. Shrieks from the wounded, and cries of the dying soon filled the air, women were heard crying, pleading for the lives of their husbands, sons, and fathers. At a second hotel, the male guests were lined up and mowed down through gunfire, one by one. This hotel was also set on fire, and any wounded men were thrown into the burning structure, left to burn to death.

Pillaging, destruction was everywhere. Small bands of the ruffians were assigned by Quantrill to each street throughout town. Every house was thoroughly searched for valuables, the houses plun-

dered, and any male persons, including youth, were killed. Only a few men were able to escape, but very few. What items pilfered that could not be used, or carried was burned. Less than a hour later, the town was utterly silent, the sounds of the crackling fires from the burning structures was all that could be heard.

Miss Sophia Bissell, a Lawrence resident, later shared her experience of the horror. She said that whenever the men surrendered, they were shot. She said one man was being chased all through his house by several ruffians. He stumbled and fell, and his wife threw herself on top of him to shield him from harm. Finding no place to shoot him, the ruffians lifted the wife off of him just enough to find target, and shot him. Miss Bissell recalled there were approximately 180 men, boys killed. The event left the town with no male citizens, and eighty-plus widows.

The raid was considered one of the most atrocious events of the Civil War, yet it was not really part of the war. After the raid, the bushwackers scattered. Some were later captured by Union forces, but Quantrill managed to escape. By the fall of 1864 were killed in another Kansas raid, one that was unsuccessful. Quantrill, and a small band of his followers fled to Kentucky, continuing small skirmishes with the Union forces. Murder, and robbery continued to be the object of his life.

In the town of Hickman,

Kentucky, Quantrill raided and then burned part of the small town. He also killed citizens, this time nobody was spared. Men, women, and children perished in the raid. The deadly raids continued until it all finally caught up with Quantrill. Union forces relentlessly pursued him. On May 10, 1865 Union forces surprised Quantrill and several of his gang as they hiding in a barn in Louisville, KY. Quantrill was shot multiple times, and severely wounded; several of his gang were killed. Quantrill was transferred to a Union forces military hospital, and later succumbed to his injuries on June 6, 1865.

Quantrill was originally buried in the St. John's Catholic Cemetery in Louisville, his body remaining there until 1887 when his mother requested the body be relocated to the family burial plot in Dover, Ohio. There were later rumors that some of the bones, mainly the skull of Quantrill, had been removed, and the whereabouts are unknown.

Another interesting fact is that Jesse and Frank James, and Cole and Jim Younger, cold-blooded, murderous, ruffians of later years, actually trained as guerillas with some of Quantrill's early forces, and learned many of their tactics from him.

Much research has been done by historians over the years, but much remains a mystery concerning the true life of Quantrill, and the event(s) that formed his ruthless, murderous character.

*This display is to honor Newcomerstown's
Medal of Honor Recipient*

**FREEMAN DAVIS Sgt.
Co. D 80th Reg't O.V.I.**

**Medal of Honor awarded March 22, 1898 for most most distinguished
gallantry in action at Missionary Ridge, Tennessee Nov. 25, 1863.**



Freeman Davis (soldier)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Sergeant **Freeman Davis** (February 28, 1842 – February 23, 1899) was an American soldier who fought in the American Civil War. Davis received the country's highest award for bravery during combat, the Medal of Honor, for his action during the Battle of Missionary Ridge in Tennessee on 25 November 1863. He was honored with the award on 30 March 1898.^{[1][2][3]}

Contents

- 1 Biography
- 2 Medal of Honor citation
- 3 See also
- 4 References

Biography

Davis was born in Newcomerstown, Ohio on 28 February 1842. He enlisted into the 80th Ohio Infantry. He died on 23 February 1899 and his remains are interred at the Oak Hill Cemetery in Missouri.

Medal of Honor citation

This soldier, while his regiment was falling back, seeing the 2 color bearers shot down, under a severe fire and at imminent peril recovered both the flags and saved them from capture.^{[1][2]}

See also

- List of American Civil War Medal of Honor recipients: A–F

References

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Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Freeman_Davis_(soldier)&oldid=723826173"

Categories: 1842 births | 1899 deaths | People of Ohio in the American Civil War | Union Army officers

Freeman Davis	
Born	February 28, 1842 <div>Newcomerstown, Ohio</div>
Died	February 23, 1899 (aged 56) <div>Butler, Missouri</div>
Buried	Oak Hill Cemetery
Allegiance	 United States of America
Service/branch	 United States Army
Rank	Sergeant
Unit	 Company B, 80th Ohio Infantry
Battles/wars	Battle of Missionary Ridge
Awards	 Medal of Honor

CAPTAIN FREEMAN DAVIS

WHILE SERVING WITH 80TH OVI CO. B
AT LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN, TN,
NOV. 25, 1863, DURING THE BATTLE OF
MISSIONARY RIDGE, THIS SOLDIER,
WHILE HIS REGIMENT WAS FALLING
BACK DURING THE FEROCIOUS
HAND TO HAND BATTLE, AND SEEING
THE TWO COLOR BEARERS AND
THREE COLOR GUARDS SHOT DOWN
UNDER SEVERE FIRE AND AT IMMINENT
PERIL, RECOVERED BOTH FLAGS AND
SAVED THEM FROM CAPTURE.

THE GOVERNOR OF OHIO SENT
SGT. DAVIS A COMMISSION AS
2ND LIEUTENANT, LATER HE WAS
COMMISSIONED TO GRADE OF
CAPTAIN OCTOBER 6, 1890.

MARCH 22, 1898, THE CONGRESS OF THE
UNITED STATES AWARDED HIM THE
MEDAL OF HONOR

CAPTAIN DAVIS WAS BORN IN
NEWCOMERSTOWN, OH 1841
DIED BUTLER, MO 1899.

DEDICATED BY
NEWCOMERSTOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MAY 26, 2006



Levi Dawson served in Civil War 1861-64

1983

EDITOR'S NOTE — The following information was provided by Arthur M. Dawson, 504 W. State St., Newcomerstown.

The military record of Levi Dawson, of Newcomerstown, shows he entered the service Sept. 25, 1861, at the age of 21. He was first sent to Camp Chase at Columbus, Ohio, and assigned to Company H, 40th Volunteer Infantry.

The organization of this regiment was completed at Camp Chase on Dec. 7, 1861, and on Dec. 11 it left camp for eastern Kentucky, going by railroad to Paris, Ky., and then marching to Paintville, Ky., where it formed a junction with Col. Carfield, who was then moving up Sandy River.

On Jan. 10, 1862, the regiment participated in the Battle of Middle Creek, defeating Humphrey Marshall, and after that remained in camp at Paintville, suffering very much from sickness. In February it moved to Pireton, where, in connection with a Kentucky regiment, it remained as an outpost until June 13, when the troops moved to Prestonburg. A month later, Prestonburg was abandoned, the 40th going to Louisa, where it remained until Sept. 13, when it left Louisa and moved to the mouth of the Sady, and a few days later ordered to Gallipolis, Ohio. On Oct. 4, it moved

to Guyandotte, Virginia, and on Nov. 14 was again ordered into eastern Kentucky.

The regiment started for Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 20, 1863, and on its arrival was assigned to the 1st Brigade, 1st Division, Reserve Corps, then at Franklin, which point the regiment reached in the month of March. At this time it went on a forced march after the Rebel leader Van Dorn. On the 10th of April, when the 40th was on picket south of Franklin, Van Dorn attacked the line with a large mounted force but was repulsed by the regiment alone.

The 40th moved to Triune on June 2 and on June 23, the Reserve Corps moved forward, forming the right of Rosecarns on its advance on Shelbyville, Martrace and Tullahoma. The regiment was stationed at Martrace and Tullahoma until September, when the Reserve Corps pushed forward rapidly to assist in the movement on Chattanooga. The regiment participated in the Battle of Chicamauga, losing quite heavily.

On Sept. 20, Levi was captured by the Rebels and moved to Andersonville. According to War Dept. records, Levi was mustered out at Nashville, Tenn., on Dec. 6, 1864. He was a prisoner at Andersonville at this time. As Gen. Sheridan recalled the Andersonville area, all prisoners that were able were moved to Wilm-

ington. After the capture of Wilmington, the prisoners were sent to the Naval Academy at Annapolis. All soldiers were paid 25 cents per day in prison. After a few weeks of rest, all were sent to their respective homes for 30-days leave. They were to report to their nearest military base for separation.

Levi was the grandfather of Arthur Dawson, 504 W. State St., Newcomerstown. Levi married Jane Baker and the couple had nine children (three boys and six girls). Those children were: Charley, Jim (married Ema Kirk), Sam (married Maggie Osborn), Ella Lum Delong, Hattie Clark Boldwin, Hannah Dent Lasey, Debbie George Redeck, Eritin Howard Bassett, Prudence (not married).

Sam and Maggie had four children, including Arthur, Harvey, Clarence, and Irean.

It was reported that when Levi was 16-17 years old, he ran away from home three times (at least). His father went and got him back twice. The third time, he let him go.

Village once had four hotels!

WILLIAM CASTEEL
NEWCOMERSTOWN NEWS

In the days before the Hampton Inn or Super 8 motel, Newcomerstown once had four hotels in town. Between those four hotels there were a total of 70 rooms for rent, and it was not unusual for all four hotels to have full capacity nearly every night.

The four hotels located in Newcomerstown, each in operation for many years, were the Fountain Hotel, Central Hotel (also known as the Central House), Globe Hotel, and the Mitchel Hotel (later known as the Maurer Hotel, then much later as the Keith Hotel). The Fountain was located just behind the Union Station railroad depot on Bridge Street. The Fountain was rightly named so because of the existence a beautiful water fountain that once stood in the yard. The Fountain Hotel was built by M. Mayberry in 1876 at the time the nearby Pennsylvania and C&M railroads were just starting to become the popular mode for traveling. The Ohio-Erie Canal located in the middle of Newcomerstown was gradually becoming less favored by travelers.

The Fountain and Mitchel Hotels were in an ideal location, right near the depot where passengers could easily find their sleeping quarters for the night, and leave on the morning or afternoon train for their intended destination. The Fountain had fifteen rooms, as well as a lunch counter, and a formal dining room where their patrons could get a sandwich or a complete meal. The Fountain Hotel was a popular establishment, and was the leading hotel in Newcomerstown during the 1890s and early 1900s.

In 1895, John Cooley

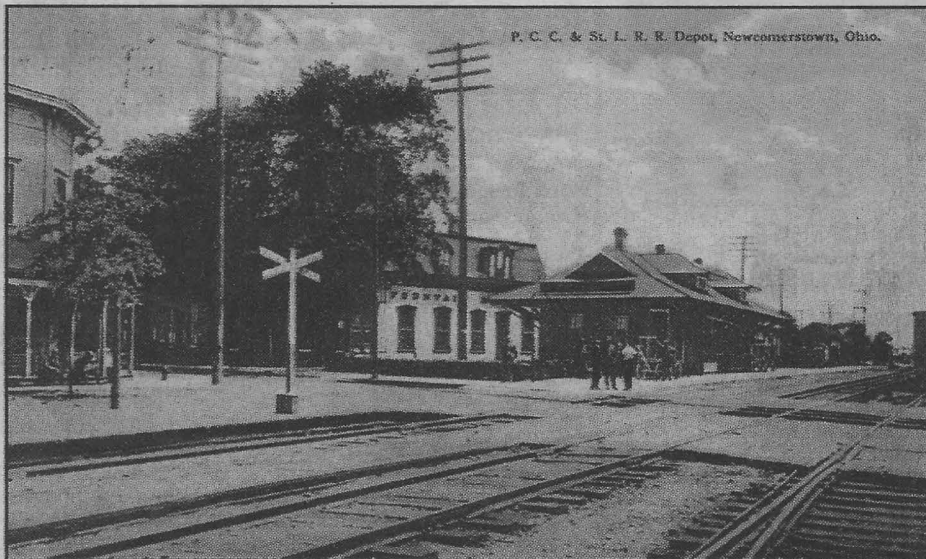


Photo courtesy William Casteel, West Lafayette

The former Pennsylvania, and C&M railroad intersection at Bridge Street is seen in this postcard that is post-dated November 16, 1914. The former Mitchel Hotel (later known as the Keith Hotel) can be seen on the left, and the Fountain Hotel is seen just behind the depot.

purchased the Fountain Hotel from Mayberry, and owned the Fountain until it ceased business. Cooley was no stranger to the hotel business as in 1929 he started a much larger hotel venture on Canal Street. The intended plan was never realized, as the Great Depression hit Newcomerstown, and Cooley was unable to finish the project due to the lack of funds. The four-story, yellow brick building remains standing to this day, and has changed ownership many times over the years since Cooley had owned it. It has been used for various purposes over the years, but never as its' intended purpose.

In June 1946, the Darrell O. Beiter VFW (organized in 1935) purchased the Fountain Hotel building where it served as the VFW Post headquarters until the mid 1950s. The former Fountain Hotel building was later condemned and razed in June 1957.

The Mitchel Hotel, owned by Porter Mitchel sat adjacent to the depot (across Bridge Street) where the parking lot for

Newcomerstown Senior Citizens Center is now located.

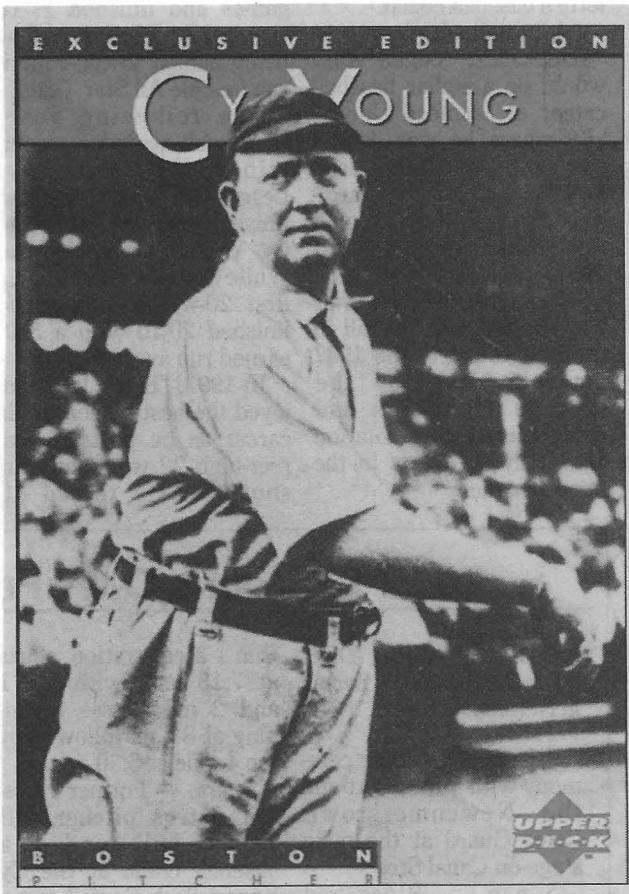
It later became known as the Maurer Hotel, and remained so for many years. Herbert Keith eventually purchased the establishment in December, 1947 and it was known as the Keith Hotel up until it ceased operation sometime in the late 1960s. The building was vacant for more than several years, and was later razed in March 1977.

The Globe Hotel was formerly located at the corner of Canal and Bridge Street near the current site of the Touraine Club. The Globe was a three story, wooden structure, having been built around the 1850s. The hotel was in business for many years, closing in the early 1930s. The building slowly fell into disrepair and was razed. The empty lot was sold to Harvey & Lottie Reger in October 1942. The lot eventually was purchased by the Lenzo family for parking, and the construction of an addition to the Touraine Club building.

The Central Hotel (Central House) was in business from about 1900

through the late 1930s. The Central Hotel slowly faded out of popularity with less patrons being interested in a sleeping room, and looking more for a place to dine. The Central Luncheonette opened in the former hotel for business in May 1940. The business later changed owners several times over the years. Many local residents still recall when Skip & Ruth Hurst owned the Luncheonette during the 1960s, and it was the place where many NHS students went after school for a Coke, burger, and fries. A few of the ladies that cooked and waited tables during the mid 1960s were Mary Mason Watts, Arlene Jones, and Susie Wise. The business changed ownership a couple more times during its' last remaining years.

The Luncheonette served several generations of Newcomerstown residents up through the mid 1980s when it finally ceased operation completely, and the town lost one of its' local landmarks. The former Luncheonette building was later razed and it is now no more than a distant memory.



Denton True Young, better known as "Cy" Young, was a Major League baseball pitcher and a long-time resident of Newcomerstown who is arguably one of the greatest pitchers of all time.

The right-hander won 511 games in his 22-years in the Major Leagues which is 94 more than any other pitcher in the history of the MLB.

Young recorded five 30-win seasons in his hall-of-fame career including the years of 1892, 1893 and 1895 with the Cleveland Spiders and 1901-1902 with the Boston Americans.

In his 22 years in the MLB, Young recorded 15 different 20 or more win seasons with four different teams.

He spent the first nine years of his tenure with the Spiders and had one of his best seasons in 1902.

In his third year with Cleveland, Young posted a career high 36 wins with only 12 losses while recording 48 complete games, nine shutouts, 168 strikeouts and a stellar 1.93 earned run average.

Following his nine years with Cleveland, the Spider's owner Frank Robison bought out the St. Louis Browns and renamed the team the "Perfectos" with Young and the other top players from Cleveland being transferred to the St. Louis team.

Young spent the 1899 and 1900 seasons in St. Louis where he had two more impressive seasons.

In 1899, he finished with a 26-16 record posting a 2.58 earned run average. The following season would be the first time Young did not have more wins than losses. He finished the 1900 season at 19-19 with a 3.00 ERA.

Following his short two-year stint with the Perfectos, Young signed with the Boston Americans and spent the next eight seasons of his career in the American League.

Young's best season with Boston came in 1901 when he led in strikeouts, wins and ERA. This marked the first year of the American League and he represented the AL in a big way winning the Triple Crown.

Two seasons later, Young won a pair of decisions in the first modern World Series, pacing Boston to the title.

If his resume wasn't already impressive enough, the right-handed hurler tossed the first ever perfect game of the 20th century on May 5, 1904.

In Young's eight years with Boston, he finished with 192 wins and 112 losses with a 2.00 ERA before returning to Cleveland where he pitched parts three years for the "Naps."

In his return to Cleveland Ohio, the pitcher averaged a 2.50 earned run average and his overall record broke even at 29-29 in parts of three seasons.

The pitcher hurled the last half of the 1911 season with the Boston Rustlers where he averaged the highest ERA of his career at 3.71 and decided to retire at the age of 45 at the end of the season.

Young notched three total no-hitters throughout his time in the MLB. He was the oldest pitcher to ever throw a "no-no" at the age of 41 in the 1908 season for the Boston Red Sox.

His record still stands for innings pitched with 7,356 in his career.

He also still holds the records games started (815), complete games (749) and total wins (511).

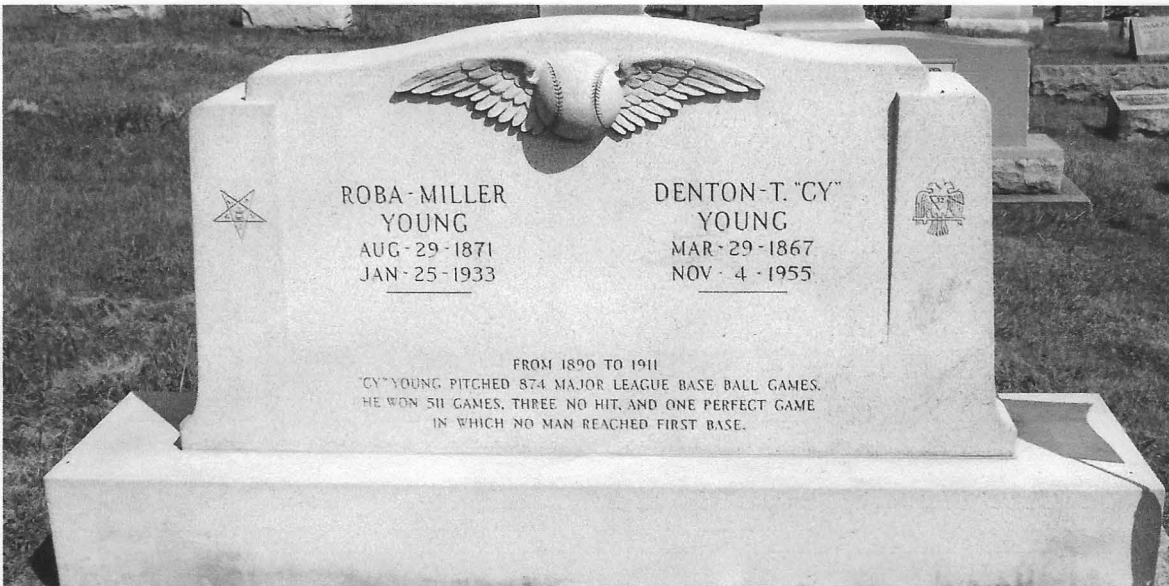
The pitcher finished his career in the MLB with an overall record of 511-316 with an ERA of 2.63 and totaled 2,803 strikeouts.

Young was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1937.

In 1956, Ford Frick, the Commissioner of Major League Baseball at the time, started the "Cy Young" award in honor of the pitcher's career, which was given to the single best pitcher in baseball.

Following Frick's retirement in 1967, William Eckert took over as the new Commissioner of Baseball and started the tradition of awarding the Cy Young honors to the best pitcher in the American League and the National League.

After retiring at the age of 45 in the year of 1911, Young's legacy is still one of the greatest of all time.



Manuel Yingling



Manuel "Manny" Yingling known across the United States, Canada and Europe as the best trombone soloist of his day. Businessman, instructor, composer, director, and musician. Mr. Yingling was a featured trombone soloist for many famous bands and orchestras, including the world famous John Philip Sousa Band. He was born October 24, 1872 in Newcomerstown, Ohio.

Manuel "Manny" Yingling

By JOSEPH WILLIAM FRYE
The Florida State College of Music

An unsung talent from Newcomerstown

With the departure of Ralph Corey in early 1920, John Philip Sousa was again tasked with replacing a long-time trombone soloist. The twenty-nine day Willow Grove Park engagement of 1920 served as an audition for the vacant trombone soloist position. Manuel Yingling, Charles Gusikoff, John P. Schueler each had an opportunity to stand in the spotlight as the trombone soloist for the Sousa Band and become the successor to Ralph Corey.

Manuel "Manny" Yingling was born in Newcomerstown, Ohio on October 24, 1872. He became a career musician after going through the public school system in Newcomerstown. After leaving Ohio, Yingling pursued music studies at both Oberlin College of Music and The Boston Conservatory. He was associated with several bands and orchestras throughout his distinguished career, including the Theodore Thomas Orchestra (1893), Michael Brand's Cincinnati Band (1893), The Ellis Brooks Band, The Grand Army Band, Duquesne Theatre Orchestra (1896), Waite's Grand Orchestra (1897-98), Beilstedt and Ballenberg Band (1897-98), the Great Eastern Band (1898), The Thayer Mili-

tary Band (1905), Prouty's Orchestra of Boston (1905-09), Neddermeyer's Band (1909-10), The Royal Scotch Highlanders Band (1914-1920), Conway's Band (1919), Sousa's Band (1920), and Weber's Prize Band of America (1921). In nearly all of the bands that Yingling was associated, he was the featured trombone soloist.

In addition to his performing career, Manuel Yingling was also a conductor, composer, and musical entrepreneur. As various engagements led him throughout the United States, He maintained a home in Newcomerstown, Ohio, and for many years, served as the conductor of the Hyperion Band, based out of that same city. Yingling was also a composer of band music. The majority of his compositional output is limited to marches and two-steps, although he did compose a solo for trombone entitled Hyperion Polka, which was named after the band that he conducted in Newcomerstown. Yingling also owned a music store in Newcomerstown which sold mainly sheet music, records, and Victrolas, an expensive internal horn phonograph.

Unlike Sousa band trom-

bone soloists who uniformly endorsed C. G. Conn instruments, Manuel Yingling endorsed the instruments of other manufacturers during his career. Yingling endorsed the Distin trombone until 1909 when Henry Distin sold his factory to Brua Keefer. When Keefer assumed control of the business, he changed the name and began manufacturing Keefer instruments, which Yingling would endorse for at least fifteen years. As the conductor of the Hyperion Band in Newcomerstown, Yingling arranged for the ensemble to play exclusively on Keefer instruments. After a factory fire in 1941, the Keefer Instrument Company went out of business, although some instruments still exist today.

Yingling had a reputation as a very fine trombonist. The director of the Scotch Highlander Band once stated that he considered Yingling the equal of Arthur Pryor. In 1920, Yingling would finally get the opportunity to prove true the claim that he was Pryor's equal when he performed as soloist with the Sousa Band. The exact date that Yingling began playing with the band is, at present, unknown; however, he was a section trombonist and soloist with the Sousa Band during the Willow Grove Park season in the summer of 1920. In a postcard sent [to his friend, Charles Leiser, Newcomerstown]

from Willow Grove Park dated September 7, 1920, Yingling wrote: "This pavilion in which we play seats nine thousand people and we have had it packed full on several occasions. This is our fourth week here. We start out on the road next Monday."

Yingling anticipated the fall tour with Sousa; however, he would not remain with the Sousa Band very long. Tragically, his career with the Sousa Band was cut short when he suffered a stroke in late 1920. After recovering, Yingling returned home to Newcomerstown, Ohio, and invested the majority of his time into directing the Hyperion Band and operating his music store. The next few years were difficult for Yingling, as his health declined due to a series of strokes. Ultimately, it was a stroke that claimed his life on March 7, 1925, at age fifty-two.

NOTE: The text of this biography was archived for educational and historical research purposes from A Biographical Study of the Trombone Soloists of the John Philip Sousa Band: 1892-1931 by Joseph William Frye, The Florida State University College of Music. A Treatise submitted to the College of Music in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Music. Degree Awarded: Spring Semester, 2008.

Newcomerstown's Renowned Son

We feel proud to honor Manuel "Manny" Yingling with a special day; Manuel Yingling Day. We hope that Newcomerstown residents will take this opportunity to discover another famous Newcomerstown son and to celebrate the history of music in Newcomerstown.

Manuel Yingling was born Oct. 24, 1872, in Newcomerstown, Ohio. He was a very talented career musician who was not only deemed the best trombone soloist in the country but was also a composer, arranger, and conductor.

Manuel was also a family man and married his Newcomerstown sweetheart, Cecil Crater on June 25, 1902. In 1898 he had written a two-step called The Summer Girl and dedicated it to Miss Crater. They remained in Newcomerstown and had one daughter, Almena C. Yingling.

His musical education and training included the Newcomerstown public schools, Oberlin College School of Music, Boston Conservatory of Music, and private lessons from well recognized musical authorities in New York City and Boston.

A few of his known compositions include: Cycle Club March, 1897; The Buckeye State (march), 1898; The Summer Girl, 1898; Yankee Boy (march), 1899; A Kentucky Thoroughbred, 1900; Coontown Doings (march/two-step), 1901; Hyperion March; Hyperion Polks (solo for trombone); Salute to St. Petersburg (march).

A selection of the bands and orchestras that Mr. Yingling played for include: Theodore Thomas' Symphony Orchestra at the Chicago World's Fair, 1893; Michael Brand's Cincinnati Band, also at the Chicago World's Fair, 1893; Ellis Brook's Chicago Band (as soloist); The Grand Army Band, (as soloist with Emil Reinkendorff, director); Duquesne Theatre Orchestra, Pittsburg, 1896 (soloist, with Emil O. Wolff, director); Waite's Grand Orchestra, Poughkeepsie, N.Y., 1897-1898 (with James C. Fulton, director); Beilstedt and Ballenberg Band, 1897-1898 (soloist); Great Eastern Band, Union Opera House, 1898 (soloist); Thayer Military Band, St. Louis, Mo., 1905 (soloist, with William E. Strassner, director); Prouty's Orchestra of Boston, 1905-1909 (with Edward W. Prouty and P.G. Parenteau, directors); Neddermeyer's Band, Columbus, Ohio and Coronado Beach, Calif., 1909-1910 (soloist); Hyperion Band, Newcomerstown, Ohio, numerous years (with Ira Loos, director, a position eventually filled by Yingling); Royal Scotch Highlanders Band, St. Petersburg, Fla., Ashville, N.C., and Atlantic City, N.J., 1914-1920 (soloist); Patrick Conway Band, Texas Cotton Palace, 1919 (soloist); John Philip Sousa's Band, Willow Grove, 1920 (soloist); Weber's All-American Band, 1921 (soloist).

During his career, Manuel maintained his home in Newcomerstown. He was active in local and area music circles, playing with the bands in Cambridge and Marietta. In addition to being the leader of Newcomerstown's Hyperion Band, he owned a popular music store in Newcomerstown that sold sheet music, Victrolas, and records.

Manny suffered a series of strokes, the first in late 1920. This explains his short career with Sousa. He died on March 7, 1925, at the young age of 52, a victim of his final stroke.



John Phillip Sousa band and audience at Willow Park Grove, 1920.

A postcard to a friend

"Friend Charles (Lieser) -

This pavilion in which we play seats nine thousand people and we have had it packed full upon several occasions. This is our fourth week here. We start out on the road next Monday.

Yours truly,
Manuel Yingling
Philadelphia, Pa. Sept 7, 1920"

Manuel Yingling's Sousa Band uniform



Michael A. Wise/NCTnews

Manuel Yingling's Sousa Band uniform and trombone are on permanent display in the Newcomerstown Historical Society's Old Main Street Museum, 213 W. Canal St. The museum also has a collection of historical photographs and sheet music of his various compositions. Stop by the museum to learn more about Manuel Yingling and the history of music in Newcomerstown.

'First Sermon' Memorial at NCT dedicated seventy-five years ago

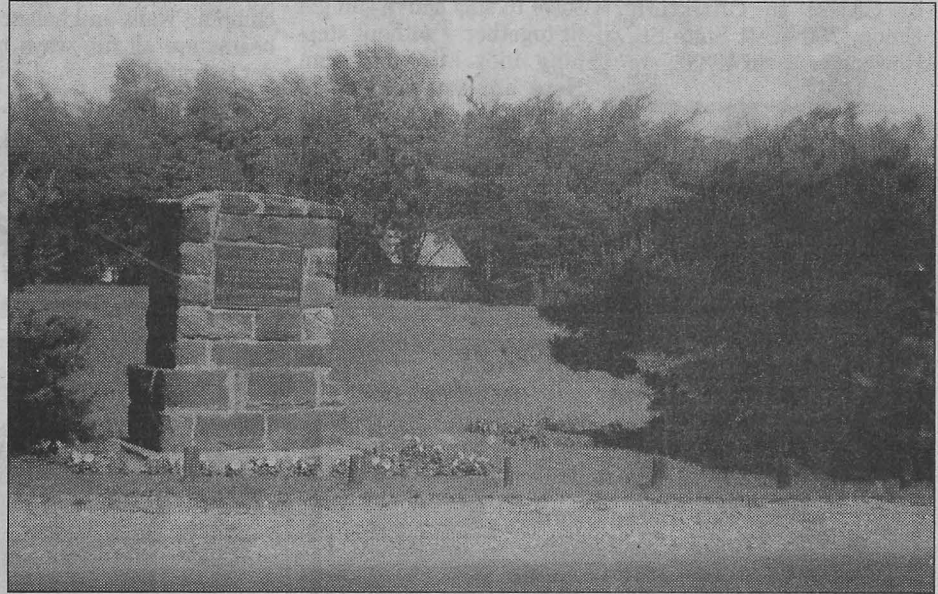
By **WILLIAM CASTEEL**
Correspondent, NCTnews

It was the winter of 1770-71 and a small-pox epidemic was ravaging the Delaware Indian tribe that resided in the peaceful Tuscarawas Valley. The Delaware village being Gekelemunpechunk (now Newcomerstown), was located along the Tuscarawas River (now the site of Riverside Manor Nursing & Rehabilitation Center). The village consisted of a mixture of huts, and log cabins. Chief Netawatwes resided in a larger size, log cabin which boasted a wood shingle roof, plank wood floors, a large stone fire place & chimney, and a staircase leading to a second level.

After several weeks, tribal leaders had exhausted all efforts to resolve the dreaded disease that was taking the lives of their tribe members. As a last resort, Chief Netawatwes, leader of the Delaware tribe, sent runners to Fort Pitt (now Pittsburg, PA.) to request for ministerial aid. Rev. David Zeisberger, a native of Austria, responded to Netawatwes's plea for help.

Shortly after Zeisberger's arrival to the Delaware village, he delivered the first Protestant sermon to several hundred Delaware tribe members on March 14, 1771.

History attests that about a week after the delivery of the sermon, the devastating epidemic broke its' gripe on the Delaware tribe, and disappeared completely from the Tus-



Photos courtesy of William Casteel, NCTnews

carawas Valley. According to historical accounts, Rev. Zeisberger was known by many to possess unusual power in a spiritual manner.

According to the April 11, 1940 edition of the Newcomerstown News-Index, the members of the newly established Newcomerstown Historical Society (the Society formed in January, 1940), reported plans were underway for a monument to be constructed at the 'First Sermon' site on Pilling Street. The Historical Society president, Charles Leiser announced plans for the monument to be constructed within the year, and a special dedication ceremony to take place.

In April, 1941 a large sandstone monument was realized, and dedicated at the site of the former Delaware village, where the



first Protestant sermon was presented in 1771. A 2x3 plaque on the front of the monument reads, The First Protestant Sermon in the Northwest Territory was delivered near this spot by Rev. David Zeisberger March 14, 1771. The monument was constructed by local stone masons, Edward Hammersley and William Nay. During the dedication ceremony a copper box was

sealed inside the monument and contained numerous historical documents pertaining to the Delaware village, the sermon, and the construction of the monument.

On March 14, 1971 a two hundredth anniversary rededication took place at the monument. Pastors of the local churches gathered to take part in the ceremony, and speak.

Ritz Theatre

opened Feb. 14, 1927



The Ritz Theater building as it appears today. The marquee, still intact, though vacant of the latest movie releases.

For those of us old enough to remember the Ritz Theater on Bridge Street, in Newcomerstown, the memories of that theater are still very vivid for some of us. The sight of the marquee lit up with the title of the latest movie that was playing, the bright lights, the ticket booth, the smell of the popcorn, the candy counter, the sloping floor, the rows and rows of plush seats, plus the excitement of waiting for that movie that we so badly wanted to see was quite a thrill. I remember the last movie that I saw there in 1973, Walt Disney's *Bedknobs & Broomsticks*. My Mom took my brother and me to see it one evening. While I cannot recall the what and why of the movie, I can still remember seeing that flying bed with the children in it, gliding across that big silver screen at the Ritz. Of course, we enjoyed the candy, popcorn, and icy cold Coca-colas while we watched the movies. Yes, common things you may think, but they always seemed to taste so much better at the theater.

The Ritz Theatre was built on the old Ohio-Erie Canal bed (the use of the canal was discontinued, and the canal bed filled in around 1916). The Twin City Theater Company later purchased the vacant lot and began construction of the theater in the fall of 1926. The construction of the building was completed by the Jacobs Construction Company. Interestingly, the building materials were purchased from some of the local businesses at that time. The building materials were purchased from Eureka Hardware and Zimmer Lumber Company. The brick for the exterior was purchased at the Canton Brick & Fireproofing Company. The wiring, and electrical fixtures from Beiter Brothers Electric and

Crater Hardware. The theater seating and accessories were purchased through Rose Brothers Company.

Just prior to the grand opening the owners, Jordan & Wheland announced a contest for the community to participate in by helping to give the new theater a name. In quick succession, many suggestions poured in for various names. The owners pondered over the responses and finally agreed that the name, Ritz Theatre, suggested by local resident, Howard Stocker, was most fitting to reflect the image of the sophisticated design of the new theater. Stocker won a prize of a \$20 gold piece. Another local resident, Mrs. Elizabeth Stein suggested the name of The Jordan & Wheland, in honor of the owners. She won second place with an award of \$20 worth of admission tickets to the theater.

On Monday evening, February 14, 1927, the Ritz Theatre welcomed the public to its grand opening. The movie, titled "It", featured a popular young actress, Clara Bow, who was all the rage at that time and fast becoming known as the "It Girl" as a result of the movie.

Beauty, safety, and substantial comfort were the governing principals in the construction of the Ritz according to a news feature that appeared in the February 9, 1927, edition of the Newcomerstown News. The steel and brick structure measures fifty feet width by one hundred seventy feet in length. The theater featured a spacious lobby, a men's smoking room, a lady's retiring room with toilet area connected. The theater also offered its patrons a mother's room, which had a child's play area. Mothers could take crying infants and fidgety youngsters to the room and yet still be able to

watch the movie through a viewing window and listening via a special speaker in the room. The theater auditorium boasted seating for six hundred patrons. At the front of the auditorium were a stage and the large silver screen. The stage was fully equipped with foot and border lights. A Hilgren-Lane three-manual organ was located on the right side of the stage in an orchestra pit. The lobby and auditorium featured beautifully crafted chandeliers, as well as complementary lighting fixtures throughout the building.

The price of admission to the Ritz in 1927 was ten cents for a daily matinee, and thirty cents for the evening feature, Wednesday-Sunday, and forty cents on Monday, Tuesday evenings (the first two nights of the newest featured movie that was showing that week).

The Ritz Theater was owned by the Ort family for many years, before being sold to the Manus Entertainment, Inc. of Toronto, Ohio in 1950. Business at the Ritz slowing began to dwindle in the early 1970s, and business ceased completely in 1974. The structure was later sold to the present owners, Don and Doris Best who have converted the theater into a private residence. The Bests manage two rental spaces on the first level and several rental apartments on the second level of the building.

The Ritz had been in business nearly fifty years and created memories for many persons over that span of time. These days the doors are closed and the marquee is void of any movie titles, but the Ritz will live on in the memories and hearts of those that are still captivated by her past history.

Newcomerstown's movie theater history

No longer playing at a theater near you! Well, at least not for Newcomerstown. At one time, Newcomerstown had two movie theaters and a drive-in theater located at nearby Isleta.

In the early 1900s, shortly after Hollywood introduced silent movies, The Grand movie theater opened its doors to the citizens of Newcomerstown. The theater was located on Bridge Street in the north side (located closest to the Ohio-Erie Canal) of the building now occupied by Dick's Place. The Grand remained there for several years, later re-locating to Main Street in the building now occupied by The Feed Barn. In those early years, the silent movies were flashed upon the silver screen while a theater employee would play the piano to emphasize drama or emotion for each scene in the movie. The Grand Theater remained in business at Newcomerstown until the late 1920s. The Grand later moved to nearby West Lafayette where it remained in business before closing sometime in the late 1950s. The structure is currently home to the Victory Center Pentecostal Church of God.

By 1926, the movie theater business was booming, and it was decided that a more modern, spacious theater was needed at Newcomerstown. Purchasing a vacant lot on the west side of Bridge Street that had been created after the Ohio-Erie Canal was closed, and filled-in the Twin City Theater Company (also owners of The Grand) began construction in the fall of 1926. The actual construction was done by Jacobs Construction Company. Building materials supplied through Eureka Hardware, Zimmer Lumber Company, and the Canton Brick & Fireproofing Company. Wiring and fixtures

was installed by Beiter Brothers Electric and Crater Hardware Company. Theater seating and other related furniture items were supplied through Rose Brothers.

Shortly after breaking ground, the owners announced a contest for the local community to give the new theater a name. Many suggestions were given, and eventually a name was chosen, being suggested by Howard W. Stocker, Newcomerstown. Stocker won the first place prize of \$20 in gold. The second-place prize, 20 admission tickets to the new theater, was won by Mrs. Elizabeth Stein, a resident of south River Street, Newcomerstown. Her suggestion was in honor of the two owners of the Twin City Theater Company, a combination of their last names, Jordan and Wheland.

The owners modestly declined having the new theater named in their honor, and decided Stocker's suggested name, The Ritz, would more appropriately reflect the image of a new modern theater.

On Monday evening, Feb. 14, 1927, The Ritz Theater held its grand opening with the showing of a comedy movie titled "It." The movie featured a popular young actress, Clara Bow who later became known in Hollywood as the "It Girl."

Beauty, safety, and substantial comfort, these were the governing principals in the constructing of The Ritz Theater, according to a news feature printed in the Feb. 9, 1927, edition of The Newcomerstown News. The steel and brick structure measures 50 feet wide, and 170 feet in length. The theater features a spacious lobby, a men's smoking room, lady's retiring room with toilet connected. The theater also offered patron mother's a cry room, and a children's play

room where they could take a fussing infant or fidgety youngsters. The room featured a view window to enable the mother to continue watching the movie while tending to her children. The theater auditorium offered seating to 600 patrons. At the front of the auditorium where a stage is located, the large silver screen is surrounded by two handsome sets of velvet drapes one set in taupe, and the other in steel gray colors. The stage is fully equipped with foot lights and border lights. A magnificent Hilgren-Lane three manual organ is located to the right of the stage in an orchestra pit. The lobby and auditorium features beautifully crafted chandeliers and complementary lighting throughout.

The price of admission at The Ritz in 1927 was 10 cents for daily matinee and 30 cents for evening feature, Wednesday-Sunday, and 40 cents on Monday and Tuesday evening features (the first two days of the new featured movie that was showing that week).

The Ritz Theater closed in 1974 and the structure was later sold to Don and Doris Best.

It was the evening of July 4, 1949, when Newcomerstown and vicinity residents flocked to the Starlite Drive-In on County Road 9, between Newcomerstown and Isleta, for its grand opening. The establishment had been constructed earlier that year by owners, Oliver and Ida Mae Ortt of Newcomerstown. The Ortt family were also owners of the Ritz Theater at that time. In 1950, both the Ritz and Starlite were sold by the Ortt family to Manis Entertainment, Inc. of Toronto. Oliver and Ida Mae Ortt later owned another popular establishment in later years, Ortt's Furniture, once located on Main Street (now the site

of The Feed Barn and ironically the former site of The Grand Theater many years before).

The Starlite was situated on 33 acres, on the south side of County Road 9. Its original screen, constructed of wood and canvas, was destroyed by fire several months later. The screen was replaced (in 1950) with concrete blocks. The construction was completed by Albert Construction Company of Coshoc-ton. George Underwood also of Coshoc-ton painted the large Starlite Drive-In logo on the front side of the structure.

Persons that lived in Newcomerstown, West Lafayette and vicinity from 1950s thru the mid 1980s will most likely recall going to the Starlite. The movies, the concession stand, the rows of car speakers, the play ground that was located below the 50 foot high screen. There are more than likely many memories of the Starlite. Some will most likely remember their first dates at the Starlite and maybe even remember what movie was playing that night!. Others may recall some teenage hijinx that took place, maybe stowing away in the trunk

of the car to avoid the admission fee or sneaking into an R rated movie!

The Starlite ceased operation in the fall of 1986 and the structure was razed in January 1987. The property was purchased by the late Ken and Rosalie Porcher, and was developed for private residential housing.

Physical reminders of the Ritz and the Starlite are far, and few these days, but the memories will live on and remain vivid as long as the stories are shared.

BUSINESSES

If all of the businesses that have been established in Newcomerstown would have stayed and grown, the town would be one of the major cities in Ohio.

The first actual business was a distillery run in partnership by David Johnson and a Mr. Sills.

A tannery was next in business and then in 1825 the Ohio Erie Canal land was opened and the canal digging was begun. Upon the completion of the canal in 1827, shipping flourished in Newcomerstown and businesses began to appear in greater numbers. An interesting note to the building of the canal is that President Garfield's Father worked at building the Ohio Erie Canal in Newcomerstown and the President (then a small boy) played along the canal banks.

A pottery by Harmon and Gustavus Fox in 1845, another tannery by David Mulvane, a saw mill by Edmund Smith, the Eureka Planing Mill - John Wilson, George Benton, and J.R. Mulvane all came into being during these early canal years.

William Gardner and Paul Roberts started the first mill in 1836, a second mill was opened in 1853 by William Craig.

A woolen mill was built in 1838 by James Pilling and in 1845 Thomas Benton became Mr. Pilling's partner.

A foundry in 1879 by Kenyon and Ferguson which was destroyed by fire was opened for business. In 1880 another foundry was established by a Mr. Elliott and a Mr. Clark.

The railroads came into town in the 1880's, which helped Newcomerstown to grow, but also spelled the end to business on the canal.

The Enterprise Manufactory was one of the most thriving industries of the town. It manufactured cigar boxes, churns, and bee hives, besides being an extensive planing mill business.

At one time Newcomerstown had its own carriage shop which was owned by Charles Schneider, a wagon shop, three blacksmiths, three boot and shoe shops, two barbers, two lumber yards, a bakery, two livery stables, two billard halls, five saloons, four good hotels - the Commercial, the Fountain, the Globe, and the Central, six general stores, three queensware and grocery stores, two groceries, four hardware and tin stores, two drug stores, one millinery store, two furniture stores, one boot and shoe store, one clothing and gent's store, one book store, one jewelry store combined with a music store. These above named businesses were all in business before the 1880's.

During the 1880's several professional men had settled in town - Andrew J. Wilkin, an attorney; Dr. John Upson, the first doctor who had already moved by 1830; Dr. H.G. Clark, also Dr. A. Brown, and Dr. James Brown. Other doctors during this era were: O.G. Sheldon, Dr. Case, Dr. Welty, Dr. Solomon Beers, J.R. McElroy, A.M. Beers, and Dr. John W.S. Goudy and a few others. As you can see at one time Newcomerstown had several doctors.

In 1887 the W.M. Brode Company began operating. This company builds bridges and roads and are in heavy construction and engineering. The Brode Company still has its offices in Newcomerstown and is still in the construction business.

The 1890's saw the Clow Company open a plant in town and also are responsible for bringing our first black citizens to Newcomerstown. This Company manufactured iron pipe, and radiators. In the 1950's this Company moved its operations to Coshocton, Ohio, leaving the whole of the facilities vacant in Newcomerstown.

We also had other industries such as: 1913 brought the Sterling Faucet Company, 1917 saw the Heller Brothers File Company opening for business with the manufacture of files, hammers, chisels, and other tools. By the end of World War II in 1945 about 1200 - 1300 people were employed there.

The Goshen Brick Company started the making of building bricks, among the buildings constructed from the Goshen Bricks are the Municipal Building and the Sewage Disposal Plant.

A big event in 1927 saw the Ritz Theatre open for business. This theatre operated to full houses for many years. The Ortt family operating the theatre the majority of these years. The movie house closed in the 1960's.

After the expansion of all industries and gearing up for the War effort during the 1940's (1941 - 1945) years all over the Nation, things were going back to normal by the beginning of 1946.

In Newcomerstown Alchrome Products Company began making chrome products and bath fixtures. This plant was located on the site of the old Sterling Faucet Company, and in 1948 the Tiny Tot Corporation opened for business thanks to the efforts of the Junior Chamber of Commerce. Another note of interest is that parking meters were installed in 1947 in the downtown area, and Route 21 was designated as the 83rd Division Memorial Highway.

During these years business in town was good and all store rooms in the downtown area were being used as stores. In this period we had at one time seven medical doctors, three dentists, three shoe stores, three clothing stores, two Five and Ten Cent stores, four drug stores, three furniture stores, four hardware stores, ten grocery stores, three restaurants, two jewelry stores, two skating rinks, two pool halls, one theatre, one drive-in theatre, and many more. The list is endless.

The Newcomerstown School System: 1818 to present



This early picture features a first grade class at Newcomerstown in 1881-82. Newcomerstown resident Anna (Nicodemus) Dorsey was a student in the class, but has not been identified. The teacher (seen sitting among her pupils) is also not identified.

"School days, school days. Dear old golden rule days. Readin' and 'ritin' and rithmetic," lyrics by Will-D. Cobb (1907).

Reading, writing, and arithmetic, the three key elements of a basic education were also commonly known to many as the three Rs.

Education, or the teaching of the three Rs made its formal debut in Newcomerstown only a couple years after the village of Newcomerstown came into existence.

Jacob J. Miller, the first documented formal educator in Newcomerstown, and the son-in-law of Newcomerstown's founder, Nicholas Neighbor, began independently teaching what was called "learning sessions" to the local children. These learning sessions were initially held in a log structure that was once located

near what is now known as Pilling Street. The learning sessions continued to be held in the log structure, but as the village's population grew, and more children were in attendance at the sessions, the need for an actual school house became evident.

Conflicting historical accounts have attempted to identify the original site of the first actual school house in Newcomerstown, but the majority of the information favors that the large, one room log structure that was later built was located south of the Pioneer Cemetery on Bridge Street.

Between the years of 1825 and 1850 several other small school houses were constructed in, and around the village. As the population steadily increased, overcrowding in the small school houses became a problem. According to the 1850 census, Newcomerstown's population was nearly 500.

In an attempt to resolve the issue of overcrowding, a suggestion of consolidating all of the schools in the village was presented. The suggestion was met with very strong opposition by many of the residents of Newcomerstown. The law (a new law known as the Akron Law) at that time required that all voters must be a "free holder", meaning that they must have ownership to land in the village. This requirement limited the amount of individuals that were deemed eligible to cast votes, thus consolidation could not be achieved without approval of a greater number of free holders.

Colonel, Robert H. Nugen, a Newcomerstown native, and primary builder for the railroad in Columbus, Cincinnati, and Pittsburg, along with a leading Newcomerstown merchant, George Dent, became interested in the school consolidation issue. Nugen was also a member of the district government at that time.

After going door to door

throughout the entire village, Nugen, and Dent discovered that the number of free holders that opposed consolidation was equal to the number that approved it. Nugen was a free holder of property in the eastern portion of the village, and saw it as an opportunity to offer resolution to the problem. He quickly devised a plan to increase the approving number of free holders by purposely deeding one of his employees, G.B. Smith a small tract of land in the middle of the Tuscarawas River. Smith would then become eligible to vote, which would increase the approving free holders by one. The end result, Smith's vote was just enough to pass the plan for consolidation.

The newly consolidated school building, the Union School was constructed in 1855 on College Street (the site of the current East School building). The wooden frame structure was comprised of two levels, and had a total of four large classrooms. The lower grades were taught

on the first level, and upper grades on the second level. An additional two rooms were later added in 1880 as the school's population continued to increase. The new school thrived, remaining very feasible to accommodate the growing population for the next decade.

Newcomerstown's first school board was organized April 12, 1856. The board consisted of L.C. Davis as President, G.H. Dent as Treasurer, George R. Little as Secretary, Robert H. Nugen, W.H. Craig, William Gardner, and Mrs. Amanda Brown.

About 1896-97 it once again became evident that an even larger school building was soon going to be necessary, and in 1898 construction began on what would later be known as the East School. The next year ground was also broken on the corner of State and River Street for yet another school building.

On January 4, 1901 the doors of the new school buildings were opened
See SCHOOLS, page 2

The Newcomerstown School System: 1818 to present

Continued from page 1 to the public for the first time. The High School (later named the East School), and the State-River Street School (later named the West School, then re-named Maplewood Elementary in later years) would serve the village's educational needs for the next fifty-five years.

Both of the new schools were identical, being constructed of brick, and boasting large bell towers near the front entrance of each building. There were four rooms on the first level, and four on the second. A large room on the third level was reportedly used for additional classroom space.

From 1900 to 1923 high school classes were taught on the second, and third levels of the High School (East School), with pri-

mary grades (1-6) being taught on the first level. The State-River Street School (West School/Maplewood) accommodated more primary grade classes (1-6), as well as grades 7-8. The determining factor for which one of the school buildings a grade school child would normally attend depended on which area of town the child resided. This was not always the factor in later years, as in some cases larger classes, and less teachers being available would be the determining outcome. Also in later years many of the country schools closed or consolidated with nearby communities, forcing some children to be bused to Newcomerstown. For several years bus students mainly attended the West/Maplewood building, but they reportedly were bused to the East School during several school years when attendance at the West School/Maplewood was in high volume.

In 1923 a new High School building (now known as the Middle School) was constructed.

In the beginning it had been intended for grades 9-12, but grades 7 and 8 were later admitted probably in an effort to overcome crowding in the elementary buildings.

The seventh and eighth grades remained a part of the High School until 1968, when the current Newcomerstown High School building was completed, and the Middle School evolved.

In September 1951, the Newcomerstown School Board approved a kindergarten program. Classes were held in the school's annex (which was located behind what is now known as the Middle School).

The classes were taught in two sessions, morning and afternoon by Mrs. Mary Perkins. Kindergarten classes remained at the annex until September 1957.

On March 11, 1955, just before dawn, a tornado struck the village of Newcomerstown damaging many buildings, and

homes.

The East School received substantial damage, and was immediately deemed as being unsafe, and beyond repair. As for the West School/Maplewood building there has been conflicting reports from various sources regarding whether it had received minimal damage, or none.

According to The Coshocton Tribune, Friday evening, March 11, 1955, edition, Superintendent, D.B. Roeder informed the community of an immediate plan of action for classes to resume. The plan stated that the 289 students from the East School would be sent to the Maplewood building until other arrangements could be made. The schedule was for East students to attend classes in the mornings from 8 a.m. to noon, while the Maplewood students will have classes from 1 to 4 p.m.

Following the end of the school year in May 1955, the Maplewood Elementary School was closed due to structural concerns, related to the building's age. It was later slated for demolition along with the East School building.

Even though there were now no school buildings for the children of Newcomerstown, school remained in session.

Beginning for the 1955-56 school year, classes from both East and Maplewood were held in several churches, and establishments throughout the community for the next two years. Among these places of educational refuge were the Presbyterian, Nazarene, and Trinity Methodist Churches, as well as the C.I.O. Hall, Masonic Temple, and the Newcomerstown Municipal Building.

The citizens of Newcomerstown later gave approval for the construction of two new school buildings which would be scheduled to be completed within the next two years. One would be built at the former East School site, and the other

on Beaver Street.

On March 24, 1957, the newly constructed East Elementary School was dedicated. Several of the first through sixth grade classes (mainly comprised of students residing in the north-east section of town) were held in the new building for the remainder of the 1956-57 school year. The balance of the classes (students residing in the south-west section of town, and bus students) remained at the local churches, and other temporary sites until the second building was completed.

The 1957-58 school year welcomed the opening of the new West Elementary School, with the official introduction taking place on Sept. 1, 1957. Kindergarten classes were then transferred from the school annex to both the East and West Elementary School buildings.

Mrs. Mary Perkins continued to teach morning and afternoon sessions at the West Elementary, and Mrs. Elizabeth Watson was hired to teach Kindergarten at the East Elementary.

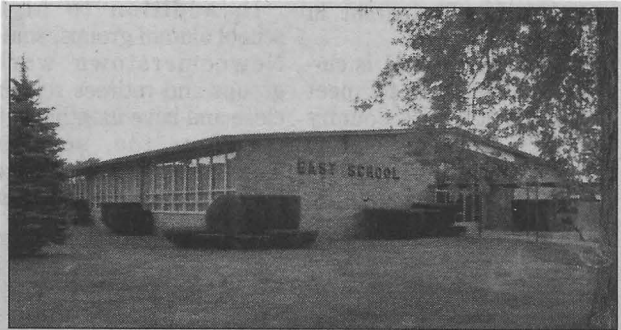
Grades 1-7 were taught at the West Elementary, with the seventh grade transferring to the High School building the next school year (1958-59).

Fifty-plus years later, the buildings, as well as the educational curriculum have been expanded, and upgraded in an effort to meet the current, as well as the future educational needs of Newcomerstown.

In spite of these changes, the philosophy of the three Rs will forever remain incorporated as the three key elements to a basic education.

Newcomerstown Elementary

Schools



File photo

The first of the new schools to open was East Elementary School on March 24, 1957.

It was on March 11, 1955, just before dawn when a tornado struck the village of Newcomerstown. In the tornado's wake, the village found itself minus a school building. The East Elementary School, one of the two elementary schools in town, housed first through sixth grade, was damaged beyond use. The building was deemed unsafe after the majority of the roof was destroyed. The weight of the collapsing roof caused further damage to the fifty-seven-year-old structure's second floor, and walls. With the substantial damage, it was obvious that students would have to be housed elsewhere in order to continue the remainder of the 1954-55 school year.

At first, the two hundred eighty-nine East students were transferred to the Maplewood Elementary where half day classes were taught for both East and Maplewood students. The East students went to

class from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. and Maplewood students were in class from 1-4 p.m.

Following the end of the school year in May 1955, the Maplewood building was closed after more inspection revealed the building had some structural concerns related to normal aging and wear. Approval from state and federal officials was received around that same time for the construction of two new elementary school buildings. The East and Maplewood buildings were both razed between the summer of 1955 and early 1956.

During the transition in the construction of the new school buildings, classes would continue as usual, but in a variety of locations throughout Newcomerstown. Classes were held at the Presbyterian, Nazarene, and Calvary Methodist churches, Masonic Temple, C.I.O. Hall, and the Municipal Building.

Construction of the new East Elementary building began following the removal of the former structure and was the

first of the two new buildings to be completed. The East Elementary opened on March 24, 1957, for students residing on the east and north sides of town. The remaining students from the south and west end of town, and bus students residing in the rural setting continued classes at the various community establishments while the West Elementary building was finished. The new East Elementary building was constructed on the site of the former East School and is the third school building that has been constructed on this same site. The first school building, the Union School, was constructed there in 1855, and later moved to a location behind the next school building (the East School) after it was constructed in 1898. The Union School was dismantled in 1930 and the wood from the structure was used to construct several small private residences in town.

The West Elementary School, the larger of the

two new structures was constructed on a vacant lot located on Beaver Street. The building opened for classes September 1, 1957. The new structure housed Kindergarten through seventh grade for the first school year (1957-58), with seventh-grade classes transferring to the High School building beginning the 1958-59 school year. The East Elementary building also housed a Kindergarten class and grades first through sixth.

Originally, Kindergarten classes were held at the Annex building, behind the Middle School (then known as Newcomerstown High School), beginning in September 1951, and taught by Mrs. Mary Perkins. After the new school buildings were completed the Kindergarten classes were moved with one Kindergarten class located in the East building, taught by Mrs. Elizabeth Watson, and the other taught at the West building by Mrs. Mary Perkins.

The East Elementary School was comprised of seven classrooms, a gymnasium and stage area. The

building being 96 feet in length, and total square footage 13,194. The total cost of construction \$176,600.

The West Elementary School was originally comprised of seventeen classrooms, a larger gymnasium with stage area, and a cafeteria. The West building being 385 feet in length, and a total square footage of 30,388. The total cost of construction was \$370,700. The architects for both buildings was Sigman & Tribbie of Cambridge. Contractors were W.H. Howard & Sons of Columbus, Whisler Plumbing of Massillon, Columbus Heating, and Burris Electric of Coshocton.

Fifty years later, the West Elementary building has now expanded since it was constructed, and the interiors of both structures have been modified and brought up to date. It is most likely expected that the buildings will continue to serve the future educational needs of Newcomerstown, and create many pleasant memories of school days for those that have attended there.

The schools of Newcomerstown have progressed in 150 years from the teaching of a few children in the log cabin homes of the settlers to the instruction of a total of 1,405 students in three public school buildings. Kindergarten classes and grades 1 through 8 now meet in two modern, well-equipped elementary school buildings built in 1957. Grades seven through 12 attend classes in the high school building that was erected in 1924.

In his cabin on the north bank of the Tuscarawas river, Jacob J. Miller, son-in-law of Nicholas Neighbor, founder of the town, held classes for the children of the settlement as early as 1818. Instruction in the three R's was also given to the pioneer boys and girls in the two-room cabin of the Stouffer family that had been built near the river in the area of Pilling st.

As the little hamlet grew into a village, classes were moved from the cabins to the first school building of the town, a one-room log school house on the State rd., south of the pioneer cemetery located on Bridge st. Other small schools were built in the area surrounding the town.

In 1846 some of the little children of the community attended a private kindergarten in a home on Neighbor st. This was known as a "Dame School" since it was taught by a "dame" of the town.

By 1849 the population of Newcomerstown had increased to five hundred, causing crowded conditions in the schools. Uniting the schools in the area into one school was suggested. Under the existing laws such a school could not be established without an approving vote of the freeholders of the territory to be affected. After a canvass of the township, it was found that the number of freeholders who opposed the change in schools exactly equalled the number that approved it. Then it was that Col. Robert Nugen, who was on the staff of Gov. Medill and later a member of Congress from this district, saw his opportunity to perform a great service for the children of this valley. On the day preceding the elec-

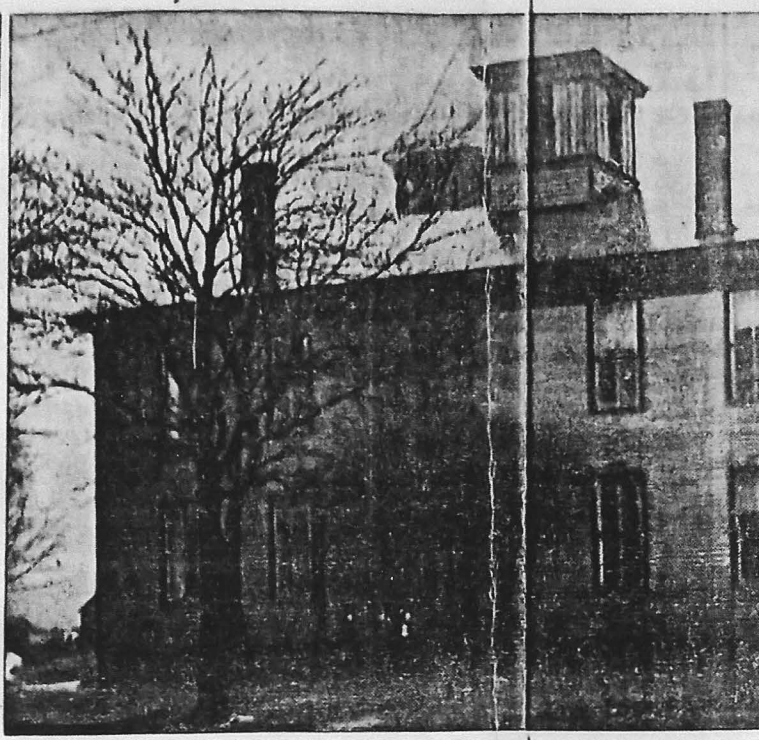
tion of his employes, the island in the Tuscarawas river east of Nugen bridge. On election day this newly-made elector, deed in hand, made his appearance at the polls and cast the deciding vote for the establishment of the school.

Union school was built on College st. in 1856. It was a two-story frame building topped with a bell tower. The two rooms on the first floor were used for the lower grades, those on the second floor for the higher grades. In 1880 it was necessary to make an addition of two rooms to this school building. It was also in 1880 that a class of five students received certificates for completing a two-year teachers' course.

The first class to graduate from Newcomerstown high school was in 1882 when a class of five received diplomas for completing the three-year course then offered. The requirements were changed to four years in 1905. Since neither the school nor the town had an auditorium, commencement for the first graduating class was held in the Presbyterian church on Friday, June 2, 1882. The program consisted of music by the Banks' orchestra and essays by each of the five graduates on the following subjects: "Backbone," by Mary F. Neighbor; "Our Martyred President," Willie R. Renecker; "Shall the Pond Law Stand?" Clancy Brown Vogentz; "Shams," Ella Roseborough, and "Hoe Your Own Row," LouLou A. Johns.

Graduation ceremonies for the next two classes, in 1883 and 1884, were held in the same church. The following year the school used the auditorium of the newly-constructed Opera House for the commencement of the Class of 1885. From that year until 1924 the stage of the Opera House continued to be used by the schools for graduation exercises as well as for the presentation of school operettas and class plays.

In 1900 when the steady growth of the town had again caused the need for expanding the school facilities, two red brick two-story buildings with four



At left is old Union school, which was replaced by elementary building. Tower and portion of latter structure

class rooms on each floor and of identical design were built. One, for grades one to eight, was erected at the corner of River and State sts., the site now occupied by the Kroger supermarket. The other was built on College st., replacing Union school that had served as a place of learning for 44 years. High school classes occupied the rooms on the second floor of this building, while grades one to six used rooms on the first floor. The ringing of the school bells of these two buildings was a familiar sound heard throughout the town.

Spacious lawns surrounding these schools provided playground space for all the children. The water supply came from a pump beside each building. The pump often became the scene of friendly water fights. Safety and sanitary conditions were improved later by installing fire escapes to each building, drinking fountains in each hall, rest rooms in the basements.

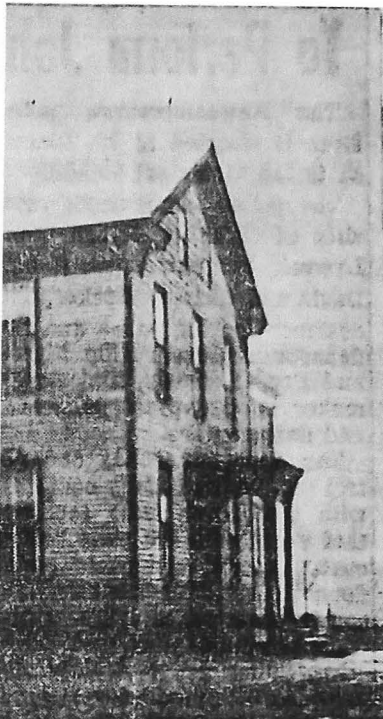
Further expansion of the school system became necessary in 1924. At this time a

large three-story school building was erected at the corner of State and River st. which provided rooms for the high school classes on the first and second floors, and for the seventh and eighth grades on the third floor. This school building had features that had not been available in the earlier structures such as science laboratories, locker rooms, school library and a combination auditorium-gymnasium. The latter gave the schools a place for physical education classes and indoor sports, school assemblies, dramatics and graduation exercises.

The class of 1964 was the 41st to receive diplomas from this auditorium and the 82nd to graduate from Newcomerstown high school.

An addition was made to this building in 1936. A few years later the school acquired the two story red brick building on Goodrich st. that is now known as the school annex.

The tornado that struck Newcomerstown on March 11, 1955, damaged the two red brick elementary school buildings beyond



former East | seen behind frame building. Completed East school is shown at right.
structure can be | This was later demolished by tornado.

repair. Until new buildings could be planned and erected, the classes for these schools were taught in several buildings of the town, the Masonic temple, CIO hall and three churches, the Trinity Methodist, Nazarene and Presbyterian.

By September, 1957, two new one-floor-plan school buildings of modern functional design had been built and were ready for occupancy by the elementary classes. One of these, the East school, a seven room building, was erected on College st., the third school building to occupy this site. The other, the West school, a 17 - room building on Beaver st., was built on a 32-acre tract of land.

Grades one through six and kindergarten classes are housed in these buildings. Each structure has a multipurpose room that is used for school programs, indoor recreation and assemblies. The multi-purpose room in the West school is equipped with a cafeteria which serves lunches for teachers and students of the West building and the high school.

As the program of school buildings has been expanded to meet the needs of the growing community, so has the curriculum been extended and developed to meet the high standards of education that have always been maintained for the schools by the superintendents and the boards of education of the town.

The men who have served as superintendents of the schools of Newcomerstown are: C. T. Emerson, Christian Forney, Joseph Rey, J T. Duff, C W Elliott, C.A. Bagnell, J.T. Duff, E. E. Smock, R. M. Marlowe, Wayne B. Hayes, C. L. McMahon and D. B. Roeder.

The first board of education, elected April 12, 1856, consisted of the following members: Robert Nugen, G. H. Dent, George R. Little, L. C. Davis, W. H. Craig and Amasa Brown. This board had the responsibility of building the Union school on College st.

Members serving on the present board of education are: Carl Krebs Jr., president; Thomas

Addy, vice - president; Roger George, Annabelle Stocker and Virgil Ervin. With the help of the rich heritage of the past, this board is now planning for the future developments of the public schools of Newcomerstown.

Town Swallowed Cemetery of Early Settlers

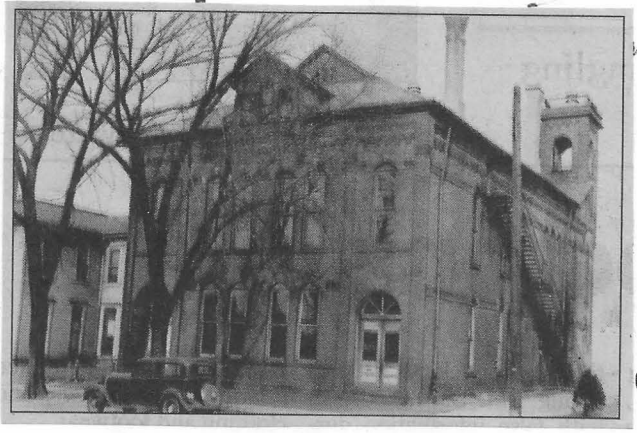
A quiet and peaceful spot far removed from the roar and rush of a busy world is usually selected as the last resting place of a community's dead, but progress has no thoughts of the sacredness of the past and builds its present and plans its future on the very graves of those who were responsible for its birth.

Such is the history of Newcomerstown's pioneer cemetery on South Bridge st. Originally on the edge of the small hamlet it is now surrounded by the hub of industry and the roar of traffic. Enclosed by a white fence the plot is carefully tended. Practically all the graves have markers originally, but time and the elements have worked their will upon them and many have crumpled and broken. Markers on others are completely obliterated or only faintly discernible.

The first burial in this cemetery was that of Nicholas Neibor, who died in 1818, and in 1819 the second burial took place, that of Mrs. George Starker. Side by side in a row are six or seven gravestones bearing the name of Tuffo. Among those who were buried between 1820 and 1850 are names of Daniel Harris, Jr Gaskill, Conard Miller Synt Hewett and Catherine Brem

SPANISH CUSTOM

Newcomerstown, Ohio Municipal Building / Opera House



It was 1884, and America was leasing the way with great new innovations. The Statue of Liberty was brought to America from France and placed on her pedestal in the New York harbor, long distance telephone communication was established between Boston and New York for the very first time, the first skyscraper was built in the city of Chicago, and author, Mark Twain wrote "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn."

In Newcomerstown, Ohio, village officials approved the construction of the Municipal Building/ Opera House at a cost of \$12,000. The original floor plan included the village fire department, police station, jail, and a banquet hall on the first level. The Mayor's office, council chambers, and the Opera House would occupy the second level. The building contained a front, and back staircase, as well as an outside fire escape leading from the second level to an alley-way on the east side of the building. A cupola was located above the second level, and was used for seating of "special VIP guests" attending events at the Opera House. The cupola seating contained the best seats in the house. The price of tickets for the cupola seats was considerably higher than the cost of seating on the second level. The Opera House boasted a 22x44 foot stage, and seating capacity for 500 persons. The

original Municipal Building/ Opera House was constructed on Church Street at the site of the present Newcomerstown Municipal Building.

The Opera House quickly brought many exciting, popular shows, music recitals, and plays, both comedy and drama, to Newcomerstown shortly after opening to the public. The John Phillip Sousa Band played at the dedication ceremony when the Opera House opened. The cost (to the Opera House management) for the Sousa Band to appear at the Opera House was \$2000. The event was reported as spectacular, and seats were sold out. All attractions at the Opera House were booked by Redpath Lyceum Bureau, a national booking agency with offices located in Chicago, and Boston. The last show at the Opera House was booked in 1917.

Newcomerstown native, Normal Bel Geddes, who later became a Hollywood stage designer, attended shows at the Opera House as a youth. Bel Geddes most likely attained some of his later set design ideas from seeing some of the spectacular sets that were used at the Opera House.

Many patrons came from neighboring towns, even bigger cities, to attend some of the shows, and plays as the events were highly publicized and were sought after by the public at that time. One of the

popular plays was The Farmer's Daughter which included a frightful scene where the daughter was tied up by a villain and put on a conveyor belt heading towards a large saw blade (a real saw and blade was utilized to create the authenticity)! At the last minute a hero rescued her each time. The saw blade scene was very popular with the audience, and caused quite a stir. No accidents ever occurred. The show ran for several weeks by popular demand.

In July 1907, a large scale musical performance was held titled, College Festival. The show featured over one hundred-fifty of Newcomerstown's own citizens as the players. The Hyperion Orchestra provided the music. The cost of admission was 25 cents, and 35 cents was required for reserved seating. Tickets were available at the H.H. Eagon Drug Store on Main Street (formerly located next door to the Newcomerstown News office).

For many years the high school graduation ceremonies took place in the Opera House

as the high school building (located at the site of the current East Elementary School) at that time had no auditorium. In 1924, a new high school building (now the Middle School) was constructed, and the new auditorium was used from that time until 1968 for the NHS graduation ceremonies. From the mid 1920s to the early 1940s, the Opera House was utilized less, and less, and eventually fell into disrepair by 1945.

In November 1946, the village approved for the Municipal Building to have a complete over haul. The Wendling Brothers, a construction contractor from Dover, Ohio began the \$32,000 project, financed from village bonds. The original Opera House roof was removed, and the building's second level height was reduced. Rooms inside the structure were added, some walls removed. New walls, new staircase, new windows, doors, and a buff colored brick exterior was added. On May 12, 1948 village officials, and employees moved into the new Municipal Building.

The Municipal Building continues to be utilized by the village, and has had multiple upgrades over the past seventy years since the 1946 update project took place.



WHERE THE PIONEERS SLEEP.

The men and women who trekked across the mountains from New Jersey in 1814 to found Newcomerstown, evidently had no idea that its railway depots and factories would ever locate where they have in the town. If they had, they would certainly never have laid out their cemetery where they did.

The most sacred spot in the town—the spot where sleep these hardy, self-reliant Jersey pioneers—is a most uninviting one. Encroachments have been steadily made upon this sacred burial ground, until now it is completely environed by railroads and shops.

The first burial in this cemetery occurred in 1818. The body was that of Nicholas Neighbor, and reposes near the clump of trees shown in the left of the picture. No other record of any other death was made until the following year when Mrs. Geo. Starker was buried in the lot.

The little rude sandstone on which is carved the name "And. Duford" is the first quaint object to attract attention. The stone, not more than 18 in. high, might have been a block picked up from the woods. It must have been done by some unskilled workman. The name and date, 1819, are all that is legible. Side by side and in the same row are half a dozen stones all bearing the name Tufford. Whether the name of Tufford was originally Dufford, or whether the stone was prepared by hands not familiar with the family name we have not learned.

Among those who died in 1820 to '30 and whose virtues are carved in

crumbling sandstone are Mathias Tufford, Daniel Harris, John Gaskill, Conden, and a number of others whose names have crumbled until they are no longer discernible.

Many died during the '30's, and among these the following names appear: Conrad Miller, Synthia Hewitt, Catherine Bremer and Oliver Sullivan. The inscription on the last tells that he was "born in Delaware, New-castle Co., Feb. 19, 1785."

Of those who were buried here in the '40's were the "seven daughters of G. and U. Fox," Joseph Myers, Dorothy Flock, Amy and Jeremiah H. Gaskill, Sally, the wife of Jos. Duffy, Mary Wiandt, Sarah, the wife of Paul Roberts and James McMahon.

Looking to the right of the three trees in the center, is the grave of "Paddy the Cobbler" who was drowned in the lock by the mill. Nobody knew his name or whence he came. The six Irishmen who carried the body to the grave, got drunk, so the story goes, and put the rude coffin down three times before reaching the cemetery, in order to engage in a fight. Paddy the Cobler was buried in 1851.

The tall slab to the right of the picture marks the resting place of one of our first settlers. He taught us how to live and how to die.

When the civil war broke out in '61 there had been more than 200 burials in the old cemetery, and then it was that the new cemetery was laid out. Since the war but few burials have occurred in this cemetery. Public spirited citizens have from time to time urged the removal to a more fitting spot, the bones of those who came when the town was a forest, but thus far their appeals have been in vain.

A Hundred Years

By Wa

[From Graduation Oration delivered in Newcomerstown, Ohio, May 28, 1914.—Editor.]

Within the next ninety days Newcomerstown will celebrate its centennial. From the north and west will come the pioneers who once made this valley their home, and their fathers and the scenes of greeting which they left behind, as long as life shall last.

Already we are preparing for the coming of the pioneers whose blood of the pioneers who toiled and died for our freedom, and their privations are about to be remembered by their fathers.

Nobody seems able to put his finger on the spot where Newcomerstown began, but the faintest echoes of our beginning, through the tangled forests will never be forgotten. Revolutionary War, a thriving Indian village, Gekelemuckpechunk the inhabitant. From this dusky son of the forest our town was born.

How long King Newcomer and his family remained here, is not known. But one day they strapped their papposes on their backs and started west. Why they left nobody knows. The Tuscarawas over there were battling with the Indians, and the patches of corn were across from our present pumping station. They were buried in the old plum orchard, where they left behind.

Following Newcomer's band came another band, they were not already here, pointing the way. An Irishman, John Mulvane, and his people probably near the old Fair Grounds, real beginning.

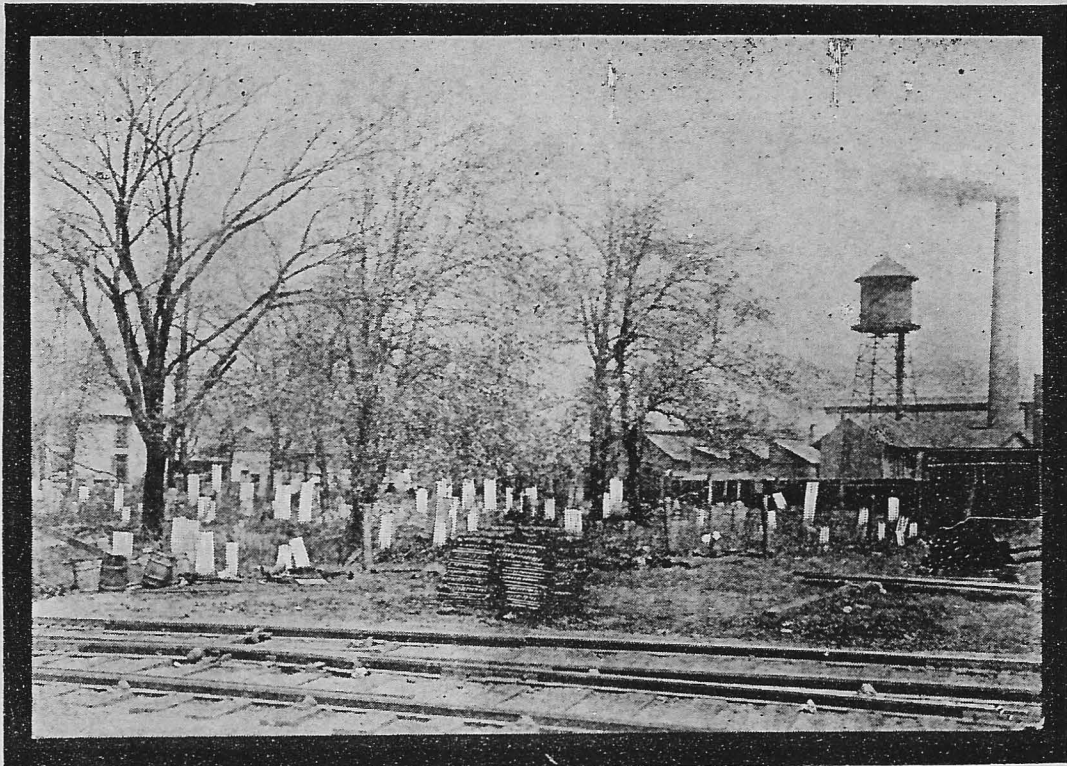
Now we turn our faces to the blue hills, its mosquitoes and its imperious swamps. Nicholas Neighbor came from New Jersey, a people in this wild and wooded west. Neighbor may have been surprised to find in this valley, but here his journey ended. He had found an Eldorado for his people. He was to lead our ancestors to this land, men were to level the forests and but they had never known, was to rejoin.

How they, seventy souls in all, how they journeyed over mountain and valley along the way, we may not know, but our forefathers. From the land laden with the women and the little children, last reached the spot which we today call Newcomerstown. I had the power.

But we can easily imagine their last. We can see them looking down on the face patches of tan before, and see the tumble-down cabin on the fringe of hills beyond and picture the scene. Like the children of Israel they had traversed Snell's Hill, had struck the scene and a glorious hour. Who can say had reached their new home, your home.

History tells us that our forefathers and occupied them as best they could, we said that the first cabin built by the settler, and that it stood where State and Co. cabin, near the cemetery, William, the first another, and another of these rude structures we now call State Street, until this bridge, westward to the Coshocton C

The Old Cemetery, Newcomerstown, O.



0. 1. 5



Carrie Nation, the one time leader of the Temperance Movement, came to Newcomerstown around the turn of the 19th Century.

Newcomerstown Saloons and a Visit by Carrie Nation

In the early eighteen nineties, Newcomerstown, still a small village, had a surplus of saloons. As I recall it, there were twelve, give or take one or two, and there was no occasion for a man to go without a drink providing of course that he had the money.

In those days there were plenty of lumber being sawed and hauled into Newcomerstown to be carried and shipped out on the railroad. Hauling was, of course, done with wagons and quite often a driver would have a few drinks before he started his homeward journey. One such man, I saw one day heading back home, evidently having had more than one drink. He had also bought himself a sack of bananas. He was sitting on the rear hounds, or axle of his wagon with the lines wrapped around the brake handle, busily eating bananas, while the horses plodded along the dusty road. However, he did not take the time to take the rind off the bananas but was eating them rind and all. I'll bet he was a sick one when he got home!

Sam Douglas had a saloon on Main Street, where

Joe Visintainer now has a meat market. Sam ran an orderly place; no swearing, no loud talk and if you had too much to drink when you came in Sam would refuse to sell you anything and politely escort you out of the front door.

Sam's saloon was the only place visited by Carrie Nation of hatchet-wielding fame. She was notorious for walking into a saloon, berating the saloon keeper, and with a few swipes of her trusty hatchet (aided and abetted by some of her zealous followers) destroy anything in sight; bottles, glasses, etc. and always taking a few lusty swipes at the large glass mirror behind the back bar. Following the singing of a hymn, giving the bartender a thorough dressing down, and warning him to repent, she and her satellites would depart, leaving behind plenty of wreckage.

During this performance, Sam stood at the far end of the bar and never, never said a word. After the female wreckers had departed, he proceeded to clean the debris up. No doubt he thought aplenty.

This was the only saloon raided; as the word had got around, and the rest of the saloon keepers had very prudently locked the front doors to their establishments and departed.

While on the subject of saloons, I cannot help but

recall one run by Hanson Crater on Canal Street, where the Ortt Radio store is now located.

Hans was a large man, very pompous, dressed in the height of fashion in those days; a swallow tail coat white vest, string tie, and a "plug" hat. I think that Hans wore the first bifocal eyeglasses that I ever saw - if you could call two pairs of glasses that. He wore one pair which hooked over his ears; while the other pair which was called "nose pincers," were down on the end of his nose. When he wanted to see the person to whom he was talking, it would be necessary to tilt his head back; so he could bring the object in proper focus in both pairs of glasses.

Hans' living quarters were over the saloon. Whether he was a widower or a bachelor, I never knew. However, he had a big voluptuous blonde who was his housekeeper.

Hans decided that he wanted her picture painted, so he hired an artist to come out from Pittsburgh to make the picture. In four or five weeks, the picture was completed. It was about three feet wide and six feet long, long enough to cover the back bar. On the day the painting was completed, Hans very carefully carried the painting downstairs to the bar room and he and his bartender fastened it on the back bar glass.



Photo courtesy of Newcomerstown digital Archives

Carrie Nation with hatchet and Bible in hand.

Then stood back to look at it. It was a full-length picture of his housekeeper clad in her own bare skin reclining on a tiger-skin rug. Business boomed in that saloon. Many came to see the painting, and of course, would buy a drink or two.

Next week's story: Recollections of the Livery Stable Fire and the Stagecoach. Stories are reprinted from a series is stories by former NCTnews contributor, D.B. Moore. The historic tales are from Moore's book, My Hometown, Gekele-mukpechunk. The book is a collection of true stories that Moore recalled from growing up in Newcomerstown.

Carrie Nation Visits Saloon, Says 'Repent'

Have you heard about the "you put out my fire and I'll put out your fire" law that once prevailed in Newcomerstown? Or about the night Carrie Nation ruined Sam Douglas' saloon?

These are some of the interesting tales of the Good Old Says which David B. Moore of Newcomerstown has gathered together in a little booklet called "My Home Town Gekelemukpechunk."

The unwritten fire law sprung from an incident when a hotel owner didn't take his place in the bucket brigade when a shack near the canal burned.

He told other fire-fighters that it wasn't his building so why should he care if it burned. A few months later the hotel kitchen caught fire and remembrances are that not too many people turned out to assist in squelching the blaze.

Carrie Nation's visit to the Douglas saloon, a very orderly establishment as Moore recalls, was the only one she made in this area. She smashed bottles and glasses, sang a hymn and told Douglas he had better repent.

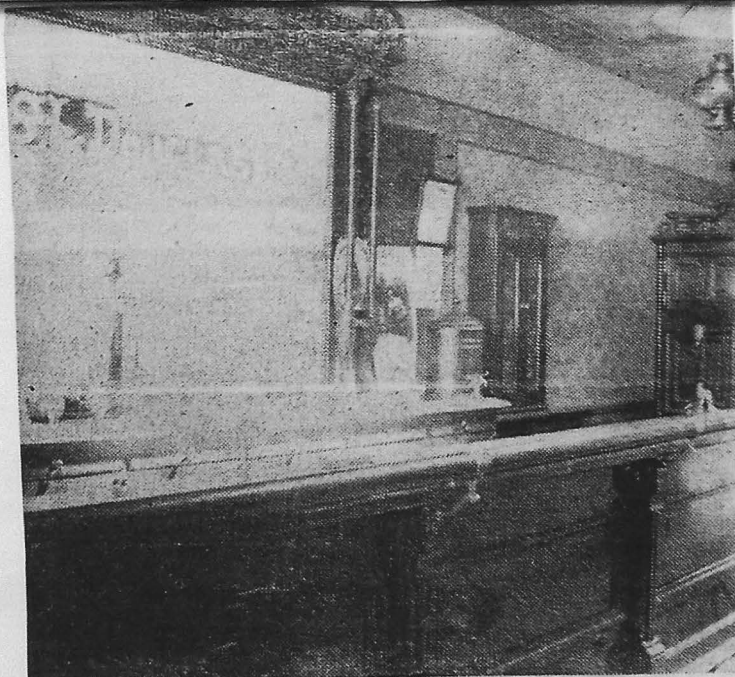
Throughout the performance Sam stood at the far end of the bar and never uttered a word. When the female wreckers left, he calmly cleaned up the mess.

When word of the incident got around town, other saloonkeepers kept their doors locked lest the ax-swinging females call on them.



Main Street Saloon in 1895

This is the bar of the Sam Douglas saloon, Main St., which now is the site of Joe Visintainer's market. The three men are unidentified. It is believed the picture was taken in August of 1895 when the James B. Clow Co. plant was officially opened. The pictures of parade floats on page 2 Section C are believed to have been taken at the Clow opening also.



MAIN STREET BAR. This is a view of the interior of the Sam L. Douglas saloon, believed to have been taken in the 1890's. It was located on Main St. where Joe's Market is now situated. D. B. Moore, in his book "My Home Town, Gekelemukpechunk," said Sam's place was orderly and that swearing and loud talk was not permitted. "Sam's saloon was the only local place visited by Carrie Nation of hatchet-swinging fame", Mr. Moore said. While Carrie and her satellites wrecked the place, Sam stood at the far end of the bar and never said a word.



Lincoln's visit to Newcomerstown

At one time, the north-east corner section of property situated along side the railroad intersection at Bridge Street was once a hub of activity.

People passed through the railroad depot that was once located there, traveling to and from various towns and cities across the United States.

During the mid 19th and early to mid 20th century, the railroad was a significant part of people's everyday lives. It was the main source of travel, as well as a transport modality for mail and other merchandise to various parts of the country.

Even though the Newcomerstown depot which was built in 1851, is no longer standing, the site could still be considered a historic landmark due to a little known fact that most area residents are probably unaware of. In 1861, Abraham Lincoln actually stopped at depot while passing through from Springfield, Ill., on his way to Washington, D.C.

The trip was significant for Lincoln as he was traveling to Washington for his inauguration as the sixteenth president of the United States.

The inauguration taking place on March 4, 1861.

In the midst of winter, Feb. 21, 1861, to be exact, the citizens of Newcomerstown gathered at the depot in hopes of possibly at least seeing his train pass by.

Little did they know they would actually get to see the great man himself.

Early that morning, three young teenage boys namely, Aaron Hodge, Orin Mulvane, and Daniel Miskimen, left their homes on foot, and headed east towards the village of Newcomerstown.

The boys, all childhood friends resided near each other on their family farms that were located in nearby Coshocton County.

For some reason, the boys apparently did not get an early enough start with their journey to the depot as by the time they reached the covered railroad bridge (now the site of the steel railroad bridge that is still in use today) the train was exiting the covered structure.

The boys were then almost ready to give up on their plan of going to the depot when the train slowed down and came to a stop. The surprised youths could not believe their eyes when Lincoln himself stepped out onto the train's platform.

He greeted the boys, saying, "I suppose you came to see Abe Lincoln."

As Lincoln finished speaking to the boys, the train began moving on towards its destination. In later speculation, it was thought that Lincoln spotted the youths running through the field towards the train, and ordered a brief stop so he could greet them.

When the Civil War began, and many of Newcomerstown's sons were responding, Hedge, Mulvane, and Miskimen, all joined the Ohio Volunteer Infantry. The three youths never forgot their encounter with Lincoln.

When Lincoln's train arrived at the Newcomerstown depot that day, he once again stepped out onto the train's platform to greet his admirers. Among the citizens that patiently awaited his arrival was the Dent family. Lincoln reportedly reached over and patted the curly head of little Mary Dent who was being held by her father. The train then proceeded on it's way after loading coal and water which was the primary source of fuel for trains during the mid 19th century.

Throughout the years, the Newcomerstown depot was the site of many other trains passing through, carrying famous persons.

Among some of the individuals that reportedly passed through were Teddy Roosevelt, William Taft, Franklin D. Roosevelt. Years later in 1952, a train carrying Richard Nixon stopped at the Newcomerstown depot.

The Newcomerstown depot closed its doors to railroad traffic in the mid 1960s as railroad travel was gradually falling out of favor.

The great freeways and skyways were now the preferred method for traveling. Practically, everyone owned a vehicle by then and drove to the airport, and traveled back and fourth across the country via the airlines.

The Newcomerstown depot eventually was torn down by Conrail in March 1981. The freight station which was located on the south side of the railroad tracks across from the depot was demolished about 1970 after no longer being a useful structure, and eventually falling into disrepair.

Behind the depot, on the corner of Church and Bridge streets, was one of the main hotels, the Fountain Hotel. It was a convenient place the train passengers could get a meal, or spend the night. There were several other hotels in the village as well, The Cresant Hotel, Globe Hotel, Maurer Hotel, and Central Hotels were also very popular with travelers.

At one time, there were anywhere from four to ten trains passing through Newcomerstown each day. There were two sets of railroad tracks, trains literally passed each other going in opposite directions, and at a fairly fast rate of speed. Yes, Newcomerstown's depot was quite a busy place in the good old days!

President-elect Lincoln stopped in Port

As it appeared in The Newcomerstown News in June 1950:

"This card, describing a stop made by Abraham Lincoln at Port Washington, Tuscarawas County, Ohio, February 21, 1861, as related by the late Philip Lamneck, an eyewitness, the father of Common Pleas judge John H. Lamneck of Tuscarawas County, Ohio, is presented to you with the compliments of Judge Lamneck, who has served 24 consecutive years on the Probate, Juvenile and Common Pleas Benches of his County, and who is State Welfare Director."

On February 21st, 1861, Abraham Lincoln passed through Port Washington, Tuscarawas County, Ohio, on his way from his home at Springfield, Illinois, to Washington, D.C., to be inaugurated President of the United States. When it became known that the president-elect would pass through Port Washington, there was great excitement in the Village. Most of the people of port and the surrounding country, including the teachers and the school children, of which I was one, gathered in the public square and formed a procession headed by the Port Washington Band, to go to the railroad depot to see Mr. Lincoln and the train on which he was traveling.

The procession reached the depot about 9 a.m., and pending the arrival of the train, the band kept playing at intervals to entertain the crowd. No one knew when the train would arrive because there were no telegraphs, telephones or radios in those days. After waiting patiently for several hours, the train came into view. Everyone

knew the train had to stop to take on wood and water because Port Washington was a fueling station on the railroad. The wood was sawed by hand in convenient lengths, and the water was pumped by hand from a big tank from which it flowed by gravity into the engine.

As soon as the train stopped, the crowd surrounded the last car, anxious to see Mr. Lincoln. The train was composed of a baggage car, a passenger car, and the engine and tender. There were no club cars, Pullmans or dining cars, such as presidents now ride in, journeying over the country. Neither were there any newspaper reporters on the train such as now accompany distinguished persons.

As the door of the rear car opened, Mr. Lincoln, a tall slender man, dressed in black, with a kindly look on his face, looking exactly like his pictures we saw in the campaign, stepped out on the platform, bowed to the people, and addressed them, saying:

"Ladies and Gentlemen - I am pleased to see so many pleasant faces here, and am sorry I am not prepared with a speech for you." He then laughed, and we knew he was going to say something funny. "I am like the man who was out hunting all day, and got nothing, for I have no pot to cook it in. So if I had prepared a speech for you, I have no time to deliver it."

By this time they had the wood thrown in and ready to start. Mr. Lincoln wished us well, and hoped we might all live to be old men and women, and enjoy good health. He kindly thanked us for the honor we had shown him, bade us good-bye, and as the train pulled out, stood on the platform, waving at us until the train disappeared around the bend.

Early Hunters Here 15,000 Years Ago

By Wayne Mortine
Newcomerstown Archaeological
Society

The pre-history of Ohio can be divided into five major cultures of people. These cultures appeared in the Newcomerstown area in varying intensity as they did elsewhere in the state. The first culture of people was called the Early Hunters.

THE EARLY HUNTERS

The Early Hunters were the first people on the North Ameri-

can Continent and were immigrants from Asia. They were people who hunted the mastodon and mammoth on the southern edges of the great polar ice cap in Ohio and over the continent. They were very nomadic, leaving little evidence of their passing. The only remains that we have are a small group of characteristic flint tools; projectile points, graters, scrapers, and choppers found in association with the remains of long extinct animals. In the Newcomerstown area, less than twelve Early Hunter projectile points have been found.

One was made from Pennsylvania quartzite, another from Kentucky flint, thus giving us a good example of their travels. These people were in the Newcomerstown area 10,000 to 15,000 years ago.

The disappearance of the glaciers and the warming temperatures brought many changes in Ohio. The giant ice-age animals vanished, new plants appeared and smaller game, such as deer, rabbits, wild turkeys, etc., became the diet of man in Ohio.

ARCHAIC MAN

The Archaic man was a later immigrant in North America, arriving 6,000 to 8,000 years ago. He lived by hunting, fishing, and gathering nature's bounty. He seemed to prefer living along the rivers, using them as waterways to fish and travel. The Archaic man practiced no agriculture, but harvested the berries, roots, nuts and acorns in their seasons. He developed larger, heavier tools, made up of grooved axes, hammer stones and pestles. Skeletal remains show that Archaic man was rather small in stature and slight in physique. He suffered from rickets, arthritis and dental abscesses. Infant mortality was high and the average life span was about twenty-seven to thirty years. The bulk of the Newcomerstown Indian relic collections are made up of Archaic artifacts. The terraces up and down the Tuscarawas River are dotted with small campsites, and the surrounding hill tops, when plowed and surface hunted, produce many Archaic relics.

THE ADENA PEOPLE

The Adena people appeared in Ohio about 800 years before the Christian Era. The center of this culture in Ohio was the present city of Chillicothe. They were the first people to build large earthworks, live in permanent locations, and practice agriculture. They introduced beans, squash, pumpkins, sunflowers and stored seeds against time of need. They buried a select few of their people extended in the flesh in prepared log tombs, placing skillful works of art with them. Over these burials they would erect conical earth mounds. Adena skeletons from this select company show that they were a larger, more robust group of people than the Archaic. Newcomerstown has good evidence of early Adena habitation. Some earthen mounds east of the village have produced Adena material. Surface finds among the local collection have been classified by professional archaeologists as Adena. Much more work needs to be done by these professionals to answer the questions about how extensive these people were in our area. The recent finding of the 300-piece Rothenstine Adena Cache Blades in the city of Coshocton has proven to many that the Adena people extended farther east in Ohio than has been expected.

THE HOPEWELL PEOPLE

The Hopewell people closely followed the Adena in Ohio. Its center of occupation was in the southern part of the state. Hopewell people, commonly referred to as the Moundbuilders, constructed geometric earthworks in the form of circles, squares, rectangles and octagons. Inside these enclosures were often found small sub-conical to large oval-shaped burial mounds. Hopewell people at the site of these enclosures. Certain sections were set aside for social, ceremonial and burial purposes. Most of the dead were cremated, while more important persons were interred in the flesh. Hopewell people practiced the most elaborate burial customs and while their everyday life differed little from other later Indian cultures, their artifacts buried with their dead manifest the highest degree of skill north of Mexico. The nearest large concentration of the Hopewell people was at Newark,

Ohio. Their presence in Newcomerstown was limited to small camps set up in passing through the area on trading missions. Little Hopewell material is found by local collectors and there are none of the characteristic earthworks in the Newcomerstown vicinity.

Early Hunters Here 15,000 Years Ago

(Continued from Page 7, Sec. B)

decline of the ceremonial aspects of Indian life as it is revealed by materials placed with the dead and by the amount of time spent in construction of tombs. These cultures made smaller projectile points that could be used with the bow and arrow. The most distinctive of the projectile points was the triangular point. These people were given many names and have been divided into many groups by archaeologists. The two best known are the Fort Ancient culture in the southwest part of the state and the Eries, an Iroquois speaking Indian nation along Lake Erie. They were semi-sedentary groups living in villages of from one hundred to a few thousand persons with strong dependence upon agriculture, which was largely practiced by the women, while the males concentrated their activities upon furnishing game for the food supply. They were well adjusted to their environment and had an excellent knowledge of the populations and different groups throughout the eastern United States. There was a large series of trails in existence by which both prehistoric traders and warriors passed from one area to another, either for trade or excitement. These Late Prehistoric Cultures differed little from the Indians the white men first met when they arrived in America. Newcomerstown was on the route of these people as they traveled north and south between the Ohio River and the Great Lakes. The east and west travel through our area was also very heavy. Many of the great trails were very near and the Tuscarawas River afforded an easy water route for these groups. The very thin triangular war points of these later cultures are found in the surrounding valleys and are highly prized by collectors as they are easily broken by farm machinery. The time period for these cultures was from 800 years ago up to historic times. (Reference used: "Prehistoric Indians of The Ohio Valley" Authors: Webb, Baby and Griffin, Published by The Ohio Historical Society)

of the canal barges and boats through the business district. He did have a night assistant to share in his responsibilities.

•...WHERE THE Sinclair Service and Gas Station occupies the corner of College and Canal Streets, there formerly

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The NEIGHBOR Family of Newcomerstown, Ohio

Descendants of Leonard Neighbour Immigrant To America 1738, by L. B. Neighbour, Dixon ILL. ©1906, 2nd Printing 1980

p 30-31

"The Coming of Our People"

Following is an extract from the commencement essay of Miss Rosa Crater, at her graduation from the Newcomerstown Schools, about 1890. She wrote of the pioneers of the village - of her own forefathers - and for an audience that included many of their descendants:

In 1814, Nicholas Neighbour, a man of great enterprise, of some learning and of considerable means, migrated here from German Valley, N. J., hoping doubtless to find a country where he might realize health, riches and honor. It is a great pleasure to add that his hopes were amply realized. For one thing, he was made one of the early judges of Ohio.

A road had been blazed out to the westward by some restless, undaunted Yankee, and that road, now known as the "State Road," was the only means of communication from the settled east. Judge Neighbour evidently thought he had reached the land of promise, when he arrived at the Tuscarawas Valley, as he bought hundreds of acres of the land all around us, and immediately returned to his native New Jersey.

With such thrilling tales of the "New West" did he beguile his neighbors that by July in the next year, seventy-two souls, headed by the indomitable Nicholas, had sold all their worldly possessions and were wending their way into the Tuscarawas Valley.

In wagons, some covered, some uncovered; some drawn by horses, some by oxen, were loaded their simple household belongings. Beds for the sick and the babies were improvised: but very sick or very young was the one who was willing to submit to the intolerable jolting. Mothers preferred to walk, carrying their babies in their arms.

A picture of this little caravan, slowly wending its way over the mountain and valley, nearly a century ago, is one that should hang on the walls of every memory. These people were to establish not only homes, comfort and independence for themselves, but they were to lay the foundation of liberty, of character and of happiness, for generations unborn.

We who are their descendants will surely be pardoned if, ninety years after their coming, we express a pride that we must feel because the blood of these sturdy pioneers flows through our own veins.

There were the Starkers, the Neighbours, the Hoaglands, the Tuffords, the Douglasses, the Craters, and others as worthy. I wish to-night, facing their descendants, I could characterize them all with the eulogy they deserve.

In the last day of July, 1815, the emigrants reached a spot known as the "Old Ferry," and there their journey was at an end. The old Coshocton county bridge, touching land now owned by George Miskiman, Jr., occupied afterward the site of the Old Ferry.

On the site of the present residence of T. A. Banks, Esq., David Neighbour built a rude log cabin, in the fall of 1815, (then the only kind of house possible) and this was the first house in the present corporation of Newcomerstown.

Soon after, Judge Neighbour, with the assistance of his brothers, built a log house near the present intersection of the State Road with the C. & M. railroad.

Just above the cabin of David, William the third brother built a shelter for his wife and little ones, and to-day (like a little grim old sentinel of the past), it stands, at the entrance to our new cemetery. So far as I can find, this, and a few unlettered mounds in the old cemetery, are all the visible remains of the founders of this beautiful village.



p 35

"Neighbour Town"

[From the Cambridge, O., "Scrap Book."]

As reference has been made in OUR SCRAP BOOK to a place called "Neighbour Town," we give the following facts concerning its history.

Among the earliest settlers of Oxford township, in our bordering county of Tuscarwas, was Judge Nicholas Neighbour, who came from New Jersey in 1814, and bought 1900 acres of land. Returning home in the fall, he, the next spring, led out a company of sixty emigrants to his claim. Among these colonists were the families of his brothers, David and William, and other relatives. The Neighbours had clearings along a road south of the Pan Handle railway, and from their number and association the settlement was called Neighbour Town. Judge Neighbour was the first postmaster. When, however, a village was regularly laid out in the locality, it was given the name of Newcomerstown."

Learn more about [Newcomerstown](#)



History of Tuscarawas County Ohio, 1884

page 876

"JACOB NEIGHBOR, farmer and stock-raiser, P. O. Newcomerstown, was born in this township March 6, 1844, and is a son of Jacob and Susanna (Neighbor) Neighbor (cousins); the former, of Irish descent, came to Ohio from Dutch Valley, N.J., when he was ten years old. He was born April 4, 1803, making him now an octogenarian; the latter, also of Dutch Valley, N. J., was born in May, 1804. The subject of this sketch was married, September 20, 1871, to Jane McFarland, born in Adams Township, Coshocton County, Ohio, in January, 1842, and a daughter of Ezekiel and Isabel (Corbet) McFarland, the former a native of Michigan, of Irish extraction, the latter a native of Coshocton County, and of German and Irish descent. By this union there are four children -- Alvin O., born September 3, 1873; Theodore C., born September 27, 1875; John A., born January 27, 1877; and Anna Belle, born June 27, 1879."

Contrary to what is stated in this brief biography, the Neighbor family was of German, not Irish descent. The original Jacob Neighbor, who I will refer to as Jacob, Sr., was the son of David Neighbor, one of the three brothers who are credited as founding Newcomerstown. Jacob, Sr. died in 1909, in Newcomerstown, and he is buried at East State Street Cem., Newcomerstown, Tuscarawas Co., OH. His wife, Susanna, daughter of William and Catherine (Swackhammer) Neighbor, died on 5 Oct 1885, and she, too, is buried at East State Street Cemetery.

Jacob Neighbor, Jr. was a soldier in the War of Rebellion, serving in Co. C, 51st Ohio Inf Reg.. He died on 18 Feb 1919, at Grant Hospital, Columbus, OH, following surgery, and he is buried at East State Street Cemetery. His

widow, Jane (McFarland) Neighbor was born on 2 Dec 1842; and died of "infirmities of age" on 3 Nov 1932, Newcomerstown. She, too is buried at East State Street Cemetery. Jacob and Jane's obituaries are included on the [clips & obits page](#).



page 875-76

"WILLIAM NEIGHBOR (deceased) late farmer and canal-boatman in New Jersey, was born in New Jersey in 1807, and was a son of William Neighbor. Our subject emigrated to Newcomerstown, and was married, September 24, 1833, to Sarah Cline, born April 11, 1815; died March 5, 1856. They were the parents of ten children, four living. Mr. Neighbor next married, April 9, 1857, Polly M., daughter of Milton and Catherine (Fasborough) Smith, and a widow of Martin Cline. She is a native of this county, born April 24, 1827. By her second marriage, Mrs. Neighbor had a family of two -- Marcia E. (deceased), and Frank Milton. A daughter by her first husband is the wife of G. W. Mulvane. She has one brother and one sister, two half-sisters and one half-brother. The subject of this sketch was a member of the Masonic order, and of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which church his widow is also a member." [information not relating to William Neighbor was cut from the paragraph]



page 876

"DAVID NEIGHBOR, of the firm of Hicks & Neighbor, Newcomerstown, dealers in boots and shoes, is by trade a cabinet-maker, and has been a traveling salesman and insurance agent for ten years. At the present time he is traveling for Millers & Hustons, of Columbus and Pittsburgh, and has been quite successful. During the war, he was a member of the Fifty-second Regiment, with Col. Daniel McCook, and served as Second Lieutenant. His brother, S. M., who was killed, was Captain. He received his wound June 27, 1864, and died at Chattanooga July 8, attended by his wife and brother. Our subject was wounded August 5, 1863, at La Vergne, Tenn., and had his left limb broken in two places. His mother was killed by being thrown from a horse. He was married twice; the first marriage was March 11, 1858, with Harriet A. Piper, daughter of Jesse O. Piper, who was born January 2, 1839 and died February 28, 1872. By this marriage there were born four children -- Jesse E., Elsie E. (deceased), Mary F. and Frank E. (deceased). The second marriage was on March 12, 1873, with Miss Emma O. Davis, a native of this country, where she was born March 2, 1850. She is a daughter of Charles F. Davis. By this marriage there are four children -- Frank S., Laura A. (deceased), Estelle H. and Edna O. Our subject was born September 24, 1836, in Newcomerstown. He bears the name of one of the oldest families in this vicinity, and from which Newcomerstown first received a name, it being formerly called Neighborstown."

[David Neighbor was the son of Lambert Bowman and Harriet (Meek) Neighbor, and the grandson of David and Elizabeth (Trimmer) Neighbor.]

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First Name

Neighbour



login



Nicholas Neighbour (1762 - 1848)

Nicholas "The Judge" Neighbour

Born **10 May 1762** in **German Valley, NJ** [?]

Son of [Johann Leonard Neighbour II](#) and [Louisa Elizabeth \(Wise\) Neighbour](#)

ANCESTORS [⌵]

Brother of [Leonard Neighbour III](#), [John Neighbour](#), [Maria Margarettta Neighbour](#), [David Neighbour](#), [William N. Neighbour](#), [Sophia Neighbour](#) and [Jacob Neighbour](#)

Husband of **[Elizabeth Catherine \(Sharp\) Neighbour](#)** — married 13 Feb 1785 in Oldwick, Hunterdon, New Jersey [?] [uncertain]

Father of [Leonard Neighbour](#) and [Catherine \(Neighbour\) Roberts](#)

DESCENDANTS [⌵]

Died **28 Jul 1848** in **Newcomerstown, Ohio** [?]

Profile last modified 3 Apr 2019 | Created 16 Feb 2015

This page has been accessed 529 times.

Nicholas Neighbor served his country in the Revolutionary War as a Captain in the New Jersey Militia under the command of Col. Jacob Ford. After the revolution he was a Whig in politics, voted for Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Harrison and Clay. He represented the county of Morris in the N.J. legislature from 1806 1808 and as a Justice of the Peace in 1799, 1804, 1809, and 1814. He visited Ohio in 1811 and purchased a tract of 1900 acres in the Tuscarawas valley, the present site of Newcomerstown, Nicholas Neighbor along with his brothers David and William led a group of N.J. settlers on a six week trek west on foot.

The Neighbor family of Newcomerstown, Ohio excerpt from "Descendants of Leonard Neighbour Immigrant to America 1738, by L.B. Neighbour, Dixon III. c 1906 In 1814, Nicholas Neighbour, a man of great enterprise, of some learning and of considerable means migrated here from German Valley New Jersey, hoping doubtless to find a country where he might realize health, riches and honor. His hopes realized, he was made one of the early Judges in Ohio. When Judge Neighbour reached the Tuscarawas Valley, he purchased hundreds of acres of land. Then he returned to New Jersey to tell tales of this country. By July 1815 72 people headed by the Judge, pack their belongings and made their way to Ohio. These pioneers established the foundation for generations to come.

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Nicholas

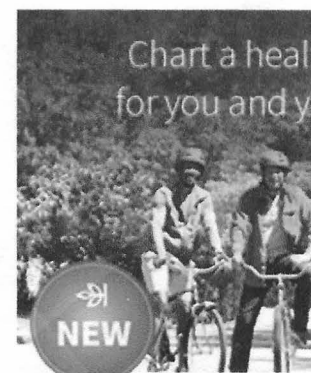
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'Message' From 1814 Pioneer

By George G. Shurtz

Accepting an invitation from our local paper to write an article for its sesquicentennial number, and to write an article of my own choosing, and to have a free hand, with no restrictions, I resolved that if there be any virtue in this article, due credit shall be given to the Newcomerstown News, and if there be any criticism, let the barbs be aimed at me.

So I climbed to a place upon my watchtower, there to scan the past, took a look at the present, and, adding up the past and the present, make a brief prophesy of the future.

To scan the past is not difficult, because we have memory. We have written records and we have monuments. We have, here and there, the ruins of our yesterdays as the succeeding years have abandoned the structures built in the long ago. We know now that the first World War sowed the seeds of the second. We also know that the second world war left so many divisions, hatreds, and so much confusion that the third great conflict is knocking at the door. Some will say "no" but as the heavy atmosphere fortells the coming storm, so the greed, the ambitions, the sunken morals indicate the coming crisis.

Before the men and women of New Jersey came, the spot where our village stands was beautiful for situation. The Tuscarawas was a ribbon of clear, pure waters, moving quietly among the towering trees; so clear, fishes could be seen beneath the surface; so pure it could be used to quench the thirst. The location was one great unending forest of oak, poplar and chestnut. No erosion was there for the great forest trees drank up the falling rains. Nor was there any refuse dumped in the river.

The wild deer roamed at will; the bear was often seen. Where we now live stood an Indian village, the capital of the Delaware nation. It was called Gekelemukpechunk, and was ruled by Chief Netawatwes, later called Chief Newcomer. The village of the Indians contained about 100 log huts. Many of these were abandoned later as the capital was moved to what is now Coshocton. Some of these huts were occupied later by the white men.

There were white men here early, before the settlement was made. John Mulvane was here as early as 1804. Records were found that showed he dealt with a Mr. Peters, a store keeper at Gnadenhutzen at that time. David Johnson was here in 1805. Daniel Harris was here prior to 1809.

GEORGE BIBLE was here when Nicholas Neighbor came. South of the river the Indians had cleared a tract of land on which they planted their corn.

From my watchtower I looked back to the beginning of our days, one hundred and fifty years ago. James Madison was President of the United States. He was the fourth, five feet four inches tall and weighing 100 pounds. But he was the father of the constitution, the champion of the Bill of Rights.

One hundred and fifty years ago, the British burned the city of Washington, including the government buildings. The president and Dolly Madison were forced to flee the White House and the city. Before leaving, Mrs. Madison grabbed up what she could, including the portrait of Washington, painted by Stuart. It hangs in the White House today.

One hundred and fifty years ago the War of 1812 had just been won, but, before the arrangements could be made, Andrew Jackson had won the great battle of New Orleans against the British, where in less than half an hour, seven hundred British soldiers were killed, fourteen hundred wounded, and seven hundred taken prisoner. Our loss was eight killed and thirteen wounded.

One hundred and fifty years ago Thomas Worthington was governor of Ohio. A boy, five years old, tall for his age, and not very attractive, played around a Kentucky cabin. The name of this small lad was Abraham Lincoln. Edgar Allen Poe, also a boy of five, was at play on the eastern seaboard. He, who was destined to live but thirty and five years more, but to leave a name as one of the greatest poets of America. U.S. Grant was not to be born for thirteen years.

IN THAT HOUR, which has so much meaning for us, a young Baltimore lawyer was standing on the deck of the Minden, the flagship of the British battle fleet anchored in Chesapeake Bay.

He had gone there to seek the release of a prisoner. The great

guns of the fleet were sending showers of steel upon Fort McHenry. At the twilight's last gleaming he saw the star spangled banner still flying. The shelling continued throughout the night. At the dawn's early light he saw that the flag was still here, and, taking an envelope from his pocket he wrote on it the immortal words, "Oh say can you see, by the dawn's early light, what so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming"? He finished the verse and on the way to the shore he wrote the rest of what has become the national anthem. He concluded with the words, which should forever be sung, "Then conquer we must, when our cause, it is just, and this be our motto, in God is our trust."

At ease on my watchtower I thought that the best way to visualize the past was to take a quiet trip, unknown to anyone, back through the long years and have a talk with Nicholas Neighbor, face to face and heart to heart. I did. I found him to be a fine character, a man worthy to lay the foundation of our present village. He it was who had heard of this location, who had scanned it and found it beautiful for habitation. He it was who became its first postmaster; its first merchant; also a judge who sat as an associate at the trial of John Funston. It was a delight to meet him and get this first hand knowledge. So, I asked him some questions and I give you his answers.

"Why?" I asked him, "did you and yours leave New Jersey, where you had access to so many markets: where you had so many contacts: where you enjoyed the comforts and the necessities of life?"

(Continued on page 5)

'Message' From Pioneer Of 1814 Spans 150 Years

(Continued from page 1)

HE ANSWERED. "From beyond the mountains word came to us that there was a spot, in the bend of a beautiful river, called the Tuscarawas, that was like unto the garden of the gods. That the plain was graced by a great forest of the oak, the chestnut and the poplar tree. That the soil was rich. The wild deer and the bear roamed at will, and at eventide naught could be heard but the song of the wind through the trees, and the plaintive notes of the whip-poorwill. And, sir, we longed for liberty. That liberty which our pilgrim fathers sought, who turned their backs on the oppressions of the old world. The right to be free: to be men: to grow, unfettered and unbosomed. To be what God meant his creatures to be. Free to come and go: to plow: to plant: to reap: to plan: to build. To love God with all your hearts and your neighbor as yourself.

"We came through the pathless woods. Your land today, sir, is covered with great highways. Bands of steel connect your coasts. The whir of motors is heard in your sky. It took us four weeks to come from New Jersey to this spot beside the river. We came in horse drawn wagons. We forded streams of water. We climbed the sides of great mountains. We marched by day and rested by night beside the camp fire. With us we brought all our worldly goods which did not amount to much, but it was ours. We slept at night within the wagons. We had a feeling, like unto the children of Israel, on their way to the land of promise. We were happy.

"Happiness is a condition. The child may be happy in an environment which would be terrible to an adult. The adult may be happy in an atmosphere where

a child would be miserable. Happiness is a condition. Some live in mansions, but are miserable. Some have great wealth and are strangers to happiness. We were poor, but happy. We lived in huts of logs. We had health and the willingness to work. Beneath some roofs there is misery. Beneath our rough hewn roofs we had oneness and peace. We had no labor saving devices. As we saw the sun rise over the forest at morn we were thrilled and when it went to its rest beyond the stately trees we turned to our rest, knowing that the same sun would come again, bringing its light and its warmth."

"THE RIVER still flows just as it did when we came to the west. Towns may rise and fall: people come and go, but it goes on forever. If it could talk, if it could reflect back, the things reflected in its waters, what a story it could tell. Just east of us there stood, a few years before we came, so few that the ashes could still be seen, and the mound is still there, there stood a small Christian Indian village.

"It was moulded and shaped into trusting, believing souls by the great Moravian shepherds who dwelt among them, who, while they were gathering their crops, noticed the coming of a small army of white men. Men who came with the friendly hand and the smooth voice of good will, both of which contained the poisoned dagger. Came, as they said, to befriend them: to, because of the dangerous conditions, take them to Pittsburg, where they would be cared for.

Trusting, the Indians surrendered to the white men all their weapons. Then, unarmed and helpless, they were herded into the cabins and told that they were to be destroyed. About ninety and six of them. Sixty two were grown persons, one third of whom were women. Thirty-four of them were children: many at the mother's breast. And Doddridge, speaking of them in his memoirs, says, "When their fate was made known to them these devoted people embraced and kissed, bedewing each others faces and bosoms with their mutual tears.

Asked pardon each of the other for any offense they might have given them through life. So trusting in the Great Father above, they began to sing the hymns the preachers had taught them. Then they began to pray and commit their souls unto God. And so, while singing and praying, they went out to the happy hunting ground about which they had so often dreamed.

"Mothers died holding their babes at their breasts. Babies died in mothers arms. Children cut to pieces. And so they all died, and the old river, which can't speak, was witness to it all."

NOW, NICHOLAS NEIGHBOR. I want to ask you a question. We know, we are ever reminded, that twenty-two-year-old John Funston, son of Nicholas Funston, killed the post boy, who was traveling with the mail on a trail that led from Coshocton eastward. We also know that it was a trader, with gold, who was to pass at that hour that he intended to kill. But the trader was late and, thinking the post boy was the trader, he shot him from ambush. This took place one hundred and forty years ago. But it's very fresh to us in song and story. Since you, sir, were an associate judge at the trial of young Funston, will you give us your version of the affair.

"I am glad you asked me that, sir. The father of John Funston, Nicholas Funston, was a squatter. That is, he settled on land that was not his own. In this case it belonged to the General Jno. Stark and his son, Lt. Archibald Stark, whose names were illustrious in the War of the Revolution. For their great part in the revolution the government gave them a thousand acres which has ever been called the Stark Patent. Nicholas had a large family. He was a rough character. He lived by the rod and the gun as did his son, John. What they wanted, the rod and the gun got for them.

"Remember, sir, there was no church not until several years later. No ringing of the bells calling to worship. No Sabbath school. No prayers did John hear at his home. No grace at meals. So far as known they never heard a sermon, and as for school, perhaps a few weeks. Money was scarce, not only for them, but for all, and it was precious; a prize worth having if gained honestly.

"Young Funston gained his by the use of the gun. So, yearning for gold and hearing that traders ever carried gold on their person, and with no appreciation of the value of human life, he set forth with a gun to get his gold.

"YOU, SIR, have fifteen churches in your village, and each thinks it is just a little bit better than the others; your bells ring out the invitation to worship on every Sabbath morn, but half of your people or more are deaf to the call of the bells, and blind to the keeping of the Sabbath.

Jno. Funston killed for gold, having not the benefit of preaching, prayers or Christian home, or Christian associates. He became dangerous in the atmosphere in which he was reared. But you, sir, have all that he didn't have. You hear the ringing of the welcome bells on the Sabbath day and many of you are busy at work. You have many ministers in the midst of you who would be glad to serve you and yet things are happening in your day far worse than that which happened in our day. You remember ours for one hundred and fifty years. Yours are so many and so common that they happen one day and are forgotten the next."

Maybe, I say, yes, maybe, the God of mercy who knows all things and knows all contributing causes, will have some mercy on the soul of young John Funston, more than upon some

who know better; who spurn the Sabbath; who put no shoulder beneath the burdens of the church; who contribute no oil to keep the lamps in the temple burning; who eat their bread and never look up to say "thank you".

"Hungry for the church? Ah, yes, but there was none. But as Naomi, traveled to Moab, took her faith with her, and by her faith won the lovely Ruth, so we brought our faith with us from the east and kept it, until at last it expressed itself in a temple built unto God.

"We were just an ordinary, simple group of people, but we believed that only a great and wise creator could fashion a world so beautiful as we found it here beside the river.

"You have great and imposing school buildings but great buildings don't necessarily make great schools, just as great houses don't make great homes, and large and stately churches are not always houses of God.

"JACOB AND God turned a wilderness into a Bethel, meaning house of God, and man sometimes turns a great edifice into a wilderness, without God.

"Our first classes were held in

cabins by day; the same were used as sleeping places by night. Then, finally, we banded together and shared the work and built us a school house out of logs, with a big fireplace at one end, where the small children could sit in winter and keep warm. The benches had no backs. Desks were placed on pins along the walls. Those with children paid fifty cents per month per pupil.

"The teacher's pay amounted to the grand total of ten to twelve dollars per month and they never growled. But since there wasn't much money they were paid in commodities. Each teacher would stay a week at a time in one of the cabins.

"The school term would last not more than three months. The subjects taught, generally, were reading, writing and arithmetic. Prayers were offered in the school room, but we have heard that you have a supreme court, so intelligent, so wise, so broad, so advanced, that it goes along with another nation, Russia, in saying that we don't need God. So in their wisdom they have abolished God and His Book from the public schools. That you can hear the name of God handled on your streets and in your shops as one would handle a handful of filth, but your children in your public schools can not say, "Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed by Thy name". That you and your children have access, almost everywhere, to all kinds of putrid literature, but your children are forbidden in your schools to read or have read, "Jehovah is my Shepherd" or, "The Lord is my light and my salvation," or "permit the little children to come unto Me," and even as we are talking I hear that the Ministerial Association of Youngstown in your state has gone on record against prayer and Bible reading in the public school and are opposed to any law requiring it. Youngstown: the town of murder: the town of bombings: the town of gangsters: the town whose reputation has been broadcast throughout the nation.

"These shepherds who are supposed to stand on guard: who are supposed to be a voice, crying in the wilderness, not only are not revealing a God in Youngstown, but want to abolish him throughout the nation. I am glad, sir, that we lived one hundred and more years ago when our ministers believed in God; believed that they were sent

from God; with a message from God, and that wherever they went, the glory of God was revealed.

"ARE YOU the better because of the present tendency. Are you the wiser; are you making better citizens; is the moral atmosphere purer? Hasn't your civilization become so broad that it is thin? So progressive that it has run away from the fundamentals of the republic? I wonder how you can sing "Faith of Our Fathers," or, "Our Fathers God to Thee: Author of liberty; To Thee we sing".

"Knowest thou not that civilization can be cursed with politicians and lost because of a lack of statesmen?"

"We fought our battles, we tilled the soil, we ate our bread by the sweat of our brow. We had no super government which taxed us in order to use the money to buy protection and respect. Neither can be bought any more than love can be bought. We weren't fed from the powers above, nor did we surrender our individuality nor our personality for a mess of pottage. We were the kings and queens in the realm in which we lived, where it was good to hear the watch dog's honest bark: bay deep mouthed welcome, as we drew near home. Our home was our castle. We prized life, liberty and the right to seek pure happiness and we refused to barter these rights away.

"Is it any wonder that more great characters appeared upon the American scene, and in the arena of public affairs, than in any like period in all American history, or in the history of any other nation.

"I mention a few. Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Clay, Calhoun, Jackson and Marshall and many more who took part in shaping a republic of free men. Yes, we lived one hundred and more years ago, but, we lived. We did not float with the tides, nor were we driven by the winds. We elected men to office who acted like the servants of the people and not as the masters. Men who challenged us, and not men who offered us the universe if we would just fall down and worship them.

"Then, our day differed from yours, in that it moved toward the center, and that is the direction it should take. Circumstances perhaps brought this to

pass. We could not escape to the rim having no means of exit. No transportation, so we were held together, socially and religiously. We shared, we neighbored, we were knit closely together. You in your day move toward the rim, away from neighborliness, away from the church, away from real brotherhood. Instead of controlling your modern inventions, you are controlled by them. You have means of getting away, so you go. When the church was erected in our midst we were grateful and took advantage of it.

"You have dedicated the Lord's day to sports, recreation and travel, using the time-worn argument that if you work six days a week you should take the seventh to enjoy yourself. But you don't work six days any more. You don't work ten and

twelve hours a day now. You permit your modern facilities to work against your greater welfare and truer happiness. Our lack of these perhaps held us together. It's wonderful when one can be the master of his fate the captain of his soul."

AND NOW I asked him about religion in his day and he told me and I pass it on to you.

"This town, as you know sir, was first called Neighbor Town because of the many Neighbors who made up the early settlement. Together with the Gardners, the Cobbs, Overholt, Welch, Starker, Morgan, Tufford, Miller, Flock, Creter and many others. The Mulvanes and others were already here. Most of these were of the Lutheran persuasion. Many were of the Methodist. There is no question but that the Lutherans and the Methodists were the first settlers of this village.

"A. J. Creter gave a parcel of ground south and west of what was the pipe shop ground and on this the first church building was erected by the Lutherans, a log house. The rest of the ground was to be used for a burial ground.

"If I could take you back to my day and reveal to you what we had, and then you could return to your now, how much more you would appreciate what you have. But this can't be.

"A minister by the name of James Watts was the first Methodist circuit rider we knew. His circuit was 475 miles long. It started at Zanesville, then moved toward Wheeling, then north-

ward through New Philadelphia to Canton, then west and south back to Zanesville. This, sir, on horseback, through a dense wilderness and over streams. As he went he preached. He sowed the seed which grew into future churches.

"For his pay, he received the satisfaction which is given to a devoted servant of the Lord. He was entertained in the homes or cabins of the people, but at times slept in the dark woods at night.

"This Methodist circuit started in 1807 and you may know how seldom we heard the preaching of the word. But when we knew that it was time for his appearance we became eager. When he came we met in the open when the weather permitted and when not, in a barn. Ah yes, hungry were we for the bread that satisfieth: These brave soldiers of the cross who served their day and then silently passed through the Western Gates. But their works do follow them.

"BUT THE LUTHERANS had the first organization. The Methodists, for a while, met in the cabins for worship. You who today worship in beautiful temples would laugh at our temple. A log house; benches without backs; and the windows were of paper, covered with tallow to let the light shine in. But friend, it's not so much the building as it is the occupant. God, who came down to the wilderness place, and looked upon Jacob, transformed that place into a Bethel, (house of God) so, our log building became aglow with God when we went there to meet Him. All houses are not homes and all church buildings are not Bethels.

"I remember so well, and you will appreciate this. At our first communion there were but six present and five of them were Neighbors: myself, William, Hannah, Elizabeth and Catherine Neighbor and Margaret Tufford. The Rev. E. Greenwald was our minister coming to us on the 11th of November, 1832. Our first communion was held May 4th, 1834. But it was a real communion, for you must know, sir, that at the first communion ever held there were but twelve present: one had gone out into the night and was not.

"Then, later, we built a brick church on what you call Rodney's Hill. And you tell me that much of it still stands."

I thanked Nicholas Neighbor for his information and as he left me, or rather, I left him, I thought, "Yes, the Neighbors, the Mulvanes, the Gardners, the Tuffords and the Creters and many others came upon the stage long years ago. They played their part, some large, some small, and then each in his turn

'Message' From Pioneer Of 1814

had his exit and others came up on the same stage, their children and their grandchildren and they had a part to play and then they, too, made their exit.

Now we are upon the stage. For a while; just passing through. Here for a brief period and with an opportunity that never comes but once.

AND I THOUGHT. "Have the ones who came and went made any deep impressions? Did they plant any flowers by the way, whose fragrance is wafted to us today. Did they build any bridges to span the tide? Did they make the crooked straight; the rough ways smooth? Did they build any shelters for the wanderer or places for the oppressed? But we are on the stage now. To play a part. When we have passed through and take our place in the silent halls of death can we look back from the portals of heaven and smile. Or will we look back and cry, "I'd give all to walk that trail again."

I remember as a small boy that I often saw Sam Neighbor, the son of the first settler. He lived at the base of yon hill. He lived in a small cabin beside a great rock. He was called the old fisherman. One day as a young man, he thrust a willow cane down in the earth on the banks of the then canal. It took root. It grew. It became a great

willow tree and there, under its shade, the boys of the village went to swim, and I was among them. It became the old swimming hole.

Maybe we can plant something during this celebration that will take root and grow so that future generations may come and rest beneath its shade. And then think of us kindly who thought of them in the long ago. If this celebration is just a hurrah, if it is but for a good time, if it be a bubble on the surface which will soon burst and pass into nothingness, what good will it do?

There is no question but that many who have lived here, made their money here and have died here have done very little for the town that gave them shelter. Will we do the same? Will we join the ranks of the forgotten? Or will we so act, so live, be a neighbor, a helper, a contributor to the things that are real and of good report? I have spoken much

of the past and with it some thoughts of the present. What of tomorrow? The hour will come when we will go the way of all the earth. The town will persist.

A THOUGHTFUL man makes his own garden beautiful. He plants his flowers and shrubs. He cares for his lawn. He makes his house, within and without, as attractive as possible. One I knew in the Shenandoah Valley, whose minister I was, lived in an old, somewhat tumble down house by the side of the road, but she had roses climbing all over the house and it became beautiful. Why can't we band together and make the town the pioneers gave us beautiful?

Plant our shrubs and trees and flowers and practice neighborliness...to be kindly affectioned, one to another. To greet the passing stranger. To create an atmosphere of good will to men. To put God above gold. A bro-

ther more precious than bullion. Souls of more value than silver. To restore the colors to the flag and rally again around the flag of patriotism. And assemble around an altar of faith, so long discarded.

Then will our houses be transformed into homes; our churches into Bethels, and there will we meet God face to face and there will we be able to sing, "Nearer my God to Thee, nearer to Thee. All hail to the ones who stopped here one hundred and fifty years ago; who loved it so much they remained. Let's take the torch of liberty they lighted and carry it, so high and so well, that its rays will penetrate the coming years and be seen by those who follow us upon the stage of action in the years to come. Maybe they will pause sometime and somewhere and pay a silent tribute to ones who helped to prepare the way for them, and who left them a goodly heritage.

1964

CHRISTINA
MACMILLAN
WAS
LIBRARIAN
FROM 1954
TO 1970

Library Started Here 29 Years Ago

By Christina Macmillan

The Newcomerstown Public Library was organized in 1935 the result of long and careful planning by citizens interested in securing a library for their community. Interest in this worthy project was first aroused by the members of the Women's Club who had hoped for many years for a public library, and by The Heller Brothers Company who had a small library in their factory for the use of their employees.

Enthusiasm for starting the library was shown by the generous response that was given to requests for help in launching this endeavor. Contributions to a library fund were made by many individuals and by local industries, merchants, lodges, and civic and social organizations. The proceeds from two Tag Days and from sponsoring a movie at the Ritz Theater added revenue to the treasury. An allotment of \$800.00 was received from county tax funds. Even the sum of \$5.00 the prize in a liars contest held at a Heller Brothers Company picnic, was donated to the library.

Gifts of time, labor, and materials were given to help build tables and shelves for the library. Rooms were rented in the Kaden building at 119½ Main Street. After the rooms were redecorated and furnished, donations of books were received from people in the community and from the public libraries of Dover and New Philadelphia. When the new library was opened on the first of June, there was a collection of two thousand books on its shelves.

FROM A BEGINNING of 2,000 books, the number has steadily increased until now, in 1964, it has reached a total of 14,000 volumes. In addition to these books, the library also offers its readers the use of fifty magazines and four newspapers.

The first librarian was Miss Mary Alice Justus. she held this position for six months, then was succeeded by Mrs. Doris Beauregard. Librarians who followed Mrs. Beauregard were: Miss Lillian Gombar, Mrs. William Beers, and Mrs. Arlie Wiandt. Those who have been employed as assistants are: Marguerite Burge, Florence Steffen, Jane Addy, Mrs. Elizabeth Collins, Carl Gray, Mrs. Cecil Norman, and Nancy Brown. Miss Christina Macmillan is the present librarian, having been appointed to that position in 1954. Mrs. Russell Glazer has been assistant librarian since 1956.

The library remained in its first location for three years, then in October, 1938, was moved to the Vogenitz building at 143½ Main Street where it remained until a permanent location was secured in 1960.

of many people. High School students carried the tables, chairs, and shelving up Main Street to the new location. The books were moved by members of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Jaycee Wives, the High School Library Club, the Girl Scouts and other willing workers.

Baskets borrowed from the Hackenbracht Apple Orchards were filled with books and the baskets numbered to correspond with numbers on the shelves on which they would be placed. The baskets were then lowered to a truck by a conveyor in reverse, delivered by the truck to the new library, empty baskets brought back and elevated by the conveyor to be filled with more books.

On April 15, 1961, Open House was observed in the new library with 900 visitors admiring the beautifully decorated rooms and the neat shelves of books.

THE CHANGE of location caused an increase in the use of library materials, as had been anticipated. In the three years since April, 1961, an average of 37,000 books and magazines a year have been borrowed for home use. This is an increase of 4,000 a year over the yearly circulation for the three preceding years.

The library, starting with an allocation of \$800.00 is now operating on a yearly budget of \$13,000.00 allocated by the Budget Commission of Tuscarawas County from intangible taxes collected in the county.

The members of the first Board of Trustees that established the library in 1935 were: Wm. E. Thomas, President; Mrs. Manuel Yingling, Vice President; Miss Christina Macmillan, Secretary; Rev. R. A. Morris, Treasurer; Mrs. C. B. Vogenitz; Charles Edwards; and Warren Prosser. Other residents who also received appointments as trustees were: Mrs. Charles Phillips, Chester Best, Archie Fletcher, Sr., Miss Neva Tidrick, Mrs. Kenneth Beall, Mrs. John Ross, Mrs. C. E. Ashelman, Rev. Charles Foust, Rev. Henry Holyoak, and Rev. Donald Doss. The members of the board now serving the library are: W. E. Ourant, President; Ralph Robinson, Vice President; Mrs. Vernon Lee, Secretary; C. Dale Johnson; Mrs. Max Julien; Mrs. Ray Cramlet; and Rev. E. F. Eshelman. Miss Christina Macmillan, librarian, also serves as Clerk-Treasurer for the board.

The public library, organized with enthusiasm in 1935, has developed as a valuable part of the community, giving extensive library service to the residents of Newcomerstown and the surrounding areas.

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AT THIS TIME a great step forward was made for the library and for the town when the building at 123 N. Bridge Street, appraised at a market value of \$22,500.00 was purchased by the Library Board from The Reeves Banking and Trust Company for \$10,000.00. This building would fill the need for more space for the library and especially for quarters on the ground floor. For a second time the community responded with generosity and enthusiasm to meet the needs of the library. Donations for buying the building and for remodeling and equipping it for library purposes soon reached a total of \$9,112.90. This amount, added to a building fund established by bequests from the estates of Mrs. Manuel Yingling, Mrs. Florence Yeagley, and Mrs. C. B. Vogenitz provided the necessary funds for purchasing the building and changing it from a bank to a library.

Moving the library from its second floor rooms was accomplished by the combined efforts



THE NEWCOMERSTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY — Offering a wide variety of services to area residents, the local library is located on the corner of Main and Bridge Sts.

Library Established Here in 1935; Changes, Improvements Are Listed

The Newcomerstown library was established in 1935 and located in the J. M. Kaden building at 119½ Main St.

The Women's Club and Heller Tool Co. were instrumental in organizing the first library, with Miss Mary Alice Justus as first librarian.

Donations of books from individuals, Heller Tool, the New Philadelphia and Dover Public Libraries totaled 2,000.

Three years later, the library was moved to the second floor of the Ortt Building over the former A & P Grocery.

Following a succession of four additional librarians, Miss Christina Macmillan was appointed librarian in 1954 and served in this capacity until her retirement on Dec. 31, 1970.

Under Miss Macmillan's supervision the library was moved to the present location at 123 N. Bridge St., 12 years ago in April 1961. This building was purchased from the Reeves Bank, with organizations, businesses, and individuals of

the community, contributing. One of the main assets of the move is the convenience to the public by locating the library on ground floor level.

Since moving to this location many improvements have been made through the years.

New electrical wiring, painting and panelling of walls, additional shelving in the magazine room, carpeting and new tables and chairs in the children's and adult areas are some of the physical improvements of the library, contributing to a comfortable and pleasant atmosphere.

Services offered to the patrons are varied. Reference collections have been improved, as well as the business, technical, and general collections.

The vertical file, consisting of pamphlets and leaflets on many current subjects, is a service added two years ago.

Last February, the Gaylor Charging system was installed. Results of this system enables

the librarian to check out books with more speed and accuracy.

Telephone directories of the larger cities in the U.S. is a service available to library and patrons through the New Philadelphia Public Library. This is useful for obtaining addresses.

A phone service contract with the Stark County District Library, Canton, is helpful in obtaining business and technical information and materials.

Many services listed are realized through Newcomerstown Public Library being one of eight member libraries in AIRS (Appalachia Improved Reference Service), a Federally Funded Program, for the last five years.

From a budget of \$800 in 1935, the library now operates on a \$16,500 budget allocated by the Tuscarawas County Budget Commission from intangible taxes collected in the county.

The library's book collection has grown from 2,000 at its

beginning to the present collection of 17,000 volumes.

Some 48 periodicals and three newspapers are available for circulation.

Members of the first board of trustees were William Thomas, president; Mrs. Manuel Yingling, vice president; Miss Christina Macmillan, secretary; Mrs. C. B. Vogenitz; Charles Edwards, Warren Prosser, and the Rev. D. A. Morris, who also served as treasurer.

Present members of the library board are Paul Parks, president; Mrs. Max Julien, vice president; Mrs. Vernon Lee, secretary; Ralph Robinson, William Ourant, Wayne Mortine, and Mrs. Myron Cramlet. Miss Macmillan serves as clerk-treasurer since her retirement as librarian.

Mrs. Russell Glazer, on the staff of the library since 1956, is the librarian. Miss Edith VanSickle is her assistant.



One Of First Houses Here

This pioneer cabin of roughly hewn logs was one of the first houses in Newcomerstown. Built about 1815, it was in the east part of the community. William Wiandt and three sons are shown. Each is holding a rabbit.

First Taxpayers Here Numbered 44

Here is a list of the first 44 land taxpayers in the old Oxford township.

Robert. Addy, John Bever, Benjamin Brison, Abraham Butler, Aaron Corey, James Douglas, David Douglas, Isaac Evans, Henry Evans, Isaac Good, Sr., Isaac Good, Jr., Peter Good, Matthew Grey, Daniel Harris, John Harris Jesse Hill Charles Hill, John Hartley, Andrew Johnson, David Johnson, John Junkins, John Musgrave, James Mulford, William Mulvain, John Mulvain, Joseph Mulvain, Robert McFarlane, Andrew McFarlane, Ezekiel McFarlane, Samuel McFarlane, William Morris, Robert Newell, Jacob Reed, Henry Sell, George Stringer, Richard Worth, James Worth, Sr., James Worth, Jr., James Welch, Sr., William Welch, David Wolgamuth, Joseph Wolgamuth, David Williams and Philip Waggoner.

First Store Here At Canal, Bridge

The first store ever started in Newcomerstown was located where the Odd Fellows building now stands at the corner of Canal and Bridge streets.

It was begun by Jacob Overholt shortly after the town was founded in 1814.

The first hotel, was started here in 1818 by Andrew Creter. The site is the former R. Lellan

Shoemaker property on Canal street, now owned by Titus Weaver. It has been remodelled since into a dwelling but part of the original structure still stands.

The first postmaster for Newcomerstown was the founder of the town, Nicholas Neighbor. He took office in 1818 and was succeeded by Tavern Keeper Creter.

National Anthem Marks 150th Year

While the citizens of Newcomerstown are celebrating the 150th anniversary of the founding of the town, the entire nation is commemorating the 150th anniversary of an other event — the writing of the national anthem, the Star Spangled Banner.

It was in 1814 that Nicholas Neighbor came from Morris County, New Jersey, to found Newcomerstown. It was also in 1814 that Francis Scott Keys wrote the Star Spangled Banner while a prisoner of the English during the War of 1812.

So, while Newcomerstown residents celebrate the town's 150th anniversary, they may also remember they are commemorating the 150th birthday of the national anthem.

Name's Different

"Gekelemukpechunk" is hard to pronounce. It was the name the Indians gave to the settlement in this vicinity before Newcomerstown was founded.

The Indian village of Gekelumukpechunk was situated on the high bank of the Tuscarawas River just back of the Newcomerstown Floral on East State street. The Delaware Indians came to that site in about 1750 and soon had a village of about 100 log houses. Chief Netawawes ruled over Gekelemukpechunk, which means Still Water.

Flood of 1913

It's been 100 since the legendary flood of 1913 struck Newcomerstown and surrounding areas. Nationally, the flood took 6,300 lives and caused millions of dollars of damage through the southern and central regions of Ohio, as well as several other neighboring states (Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois).

Locally, Tuscarawas County had two persons perish, one in Newcomerstown, and the other near Uhrichsville. Coshocton County lost four residents in an area known as Clowville, located south of Coshocton. The other persons that perished in the flood were from areas farther away, or in the other three states.

Newcomerstown experienced significant damage mainly to the south and west sides of town where there was reportedly depths of nearly sixteen to eighteen feet of water in some areas.

The middle span of the River Street bridge collapsed into the river, and a worker was killed several days later during the repair of the bridge.

The C&M railroad trestle (located east of the River Street bridge) was significantly damaged and required extensive repairs. Both the C&M and the Pennsylvania railroad tracks were damaged, and virtually stopped all railway activity until repairs could be completed.

This created inconvenience as the railroad was the main source for travel, and the mode of delivery for supplies, and the U.S. mail.

The following personal diary entries are from 12-year old Frederic Zimmer, who resided at the corner of Pilling and State streets (the Zimmer home no longer exists and the former property is now part of Riverside Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center's parking lot) at the time of the flood.

Zimmer's sister, the late Lois (Zimmer) Craig, had previously provided the diary entries to *The Newcomerstown News* for a feature about the flood in 1983.

Monday, March 24, 1913:

"Rained all day yesterday (Easter Sunday), and

again today. We went to see the Swiss Bell Ringers at the Opera House (now the site of the Newcomerstown Municipal building on Church Street) in the evening. The gutters, sidewalks, and streets are turning into a sea of mud. The river has started to rise."

Tuesday, March 25, 1913:

"Rained again today. River is still rising. Tonight it lacked a foot of filling the top of the arch way of the culvert (nearby his home, on State Street)."

Wednesday, March 26, 1913:

"The river was one foot deep over the road at the culvert this morning. It has rained almost all day. Papa came to get us after school ended this afternoon. (Frederic was in the sixth grade, Lois in the third grade, and David in the first grade. All attended the East School on College Street. A younger sister, Marian, was not yet born). In the morning, the river raised three inches an hour. This increased until when at noon it raised a foot an hour. The levee below Port Washington and Stark Patent have broken. At 3 o'clock, I walked to town for a lantern globe. The water from the river is now coming down Chestnut Street and pouring into the canal. I had to wade in, but got back home alright. We drove the cattle to the hill over by the sand bank, and carried the pigs and a calf into the barn. We carried out the fruit, sausage, lard, and other things stored in the cellar. By this time, we could scarcely get to the corn crib. Water was now rising three inches an hour. At 8 o'clock, it was washing over the bridge abutment (the East State Street bridge was formerly located just west of the current State Route 258 bridge). Our neighbors, the Smiths, who live in the old Nugen home (now the site of the David Barber Civic Center) have moved to their upstairs."

Thursday, March 27, 1913:

"This morning at 4 o'clock, the river stopped rising, having reached five to six inches over the bridge coping. Our cellar is full. The water is from hill to hill. The water floated whole tie piles from the railroad down the river. Smiths have been getting coal, milk, and bread from us by boat. Papa, Walter Sperling (the Smith's grandson), and I went to town

along the hills. We got one film at Eagon's Drug Store (was located on Main Street next door to *The Newcomerstown News* building). We went back up on the hill (near Park Hill) and took pictures. The whole town was flooded. The river has fallen six or seven inches. I went to Walter Sperling's house and we helped rescue chickens."

Friday, March 28, 1913:

"The river is down now, so we can get to the barn without boots. Miss Sadie Cochran, my sixth grade teacher, and two of the high school teachers, Miss Price and Mr. Dye came over and they, Papa, Mama, David, and I walked up the railroad to the Glasgow curve (east of the current Interstate 77 interchange). The track was washed out and the rails with ties barely hanging to them. We met a motor boat up there with the civil engineer, Lyle Scott, and another man from Uhrichsville. They were checking the damage, being sent there by the railroad (officials). We came back home, had dinner, then walked to town, and to the lower west end of town, it was awful (condition)."

Saturday, March 29, 1913:

"The Smith's chimney fell in the dining room and smashed a hole in the floor. We saw the first of the culvert come back into sight (water was receding considerably by now). The ballast trains are working on the railroad (repairing the tracks)."

Sunday, March 30, 1913:

"The water is down now so people can drive. Mama and Ma Moore (his maternal grandmother) worked in the cellar this morning, cleaning it up. Papa and I made a new horse stable approach. Smiths and Sperlings were here for dinner. There was no Sunday school in town today."

Monday, March 31, 1913:

"David and I went to town for a sack of lime and saw the Dennison work train. Mr. West came to drain the wheat field. Uncle Alvin and his crew walked along the hill from Trinway and got home at Dennison at 7 o'clock tonight."

Tuesday, April 1, 1913:

"We got our first newspaper (The Plain Dealer) since the flood started. The people are out all over town trying to identify their out building (outhouses)."

Unvarnished view of life in 1870s Newcomerstown

By **JON BAKER**
GateHouse Ohio Media

Writer provided unvarnished view of life in 1870s Newcomerstown

By Jon Baker GateHouse Ohio Media

A man who wrote under the pen name "Quintim" provided an unvarnished look at life in Newcomerstown and vicinity in the late 1870s for readers of the Tuscarawas Advocate newspaper.

He did not hesitate to express opinions about the people he was writing about — opinions that were often close to being libelous.

On July 12, 1877, he wrote, "The Board of Education has put up signs on the Union School grounds of this place, prohibiting trespassing upon the premises, but nearly every evening one of the committee turns his old horse in the yard to crop the shrubbery and grass. Well, such is life; saves paying rent for pasture, you know."

On March 8, 1877, he reported, "That damnable set of prostitutes who have been keeping the house commonly called Fort Jackson evacuated the 'Fort' one day last week, amid the cheers and jeers of the community in general."

Quintim was also a theater critic. "A company of boys from New Philadelphia, styling themselves 'The Alabama Minstrels,' gave an entertainment to a small audience — composed principally of dead-

beats — at Crater's Hall on Saturday night, April 5th," he reported on April 24, 1879. He noted that the expenditures exceeded the receipts for the show.

SMITH JONES

AND HIS WHITE SWAN

In the spring of 1877, Smith Jones, a farmer living near Isleta, about two miles west of Newcomerstown in Coshocton County, crippled a large white swan. Jones nursed the swan back to health and kept it as a pet.

But their relationship was short-lived. In May, some duck hunters from the nearby community of Orange killed the swan.

"We understand that Lew Huff, a notorious rough and whisky bloat, was the principal actor in the affair," Quintim reported. "Make an example of him, Smith."

Huff did not appreciate Quintim's reporting.

"Huff says that he is going to 'shoot us,' 'burn us,' or mow us down in some other way just as horrible," Quintim wrote a short time later. "Think of it! Your worthy correspondent to be wiped clear out of existence by a dirty, mean rapsalion, so mean that he would do most anything for the sake of a swig of whisky.

...It goes against our principles to spend too much time commenting on roughs, so we will suffice this article with, 'mend your ways young man or eternal damnation will be yours.'"

He never discussed the subject again.

THE PORT WASHINGTON WHANG-DOODLE

Quintim was not above printing unverified rumors.

On April 9, 1877, he repeated a rumor that the Argus, a weekly newspaper in Newcomerstown, was printing the Whang-Doodle, a scandal sheet that printed vicious personal attacks on residents of the Port Washington area.

"Is it a fact or a vague rumor calculated to injure you?" Quintim asked the paper's editor. "We do not think that you would be guilty of becoming a tool or pimp of a set of fellows — that have no principle whatever — to aid them in circulating a paper that contains nothing but slurs and obnoxious writing composed by roughs and off-scourings of humanity who think themselves very sharp, when they are simply making themselves disgusting in the eyes of the Christian community in which they live."

The next week, Quintim had to backtrack and point out that he was not accusing the editor of the Argus of printing the Whang-Doodle — just repeating a rumor.

GUNFIRE IN THE STREETS

In March 1877, Dennison residents Al Outcalt and Brad Voshel came to Newcomerstown looking for trouble. They succeeded in picking a fight with George

Riggle and Harvey Channell, in which Riggle and Channell got the worst of it.

During the fight, Riggle took a shot at Outcalt, but his gun misfired.

The next day, Riggle told several young men who had witnessed the fight that he was going to kill them. That night, he went to the home of A.B. Thompson and called for Thompson's son to come out and fight him.

"Finding that he could not get him to come he commenced throwing stones at the door, whereupon Thompson came out and greeted him with a shot from his revolver," Quintim reported. "Riggle sent a shot back."

By this time, a crowd had gathered. Riggle headed toward the Marietta, Pittsburgh & Cleveland Railroad depot, followed by several men and boys. He turned and told them he would shoot them if they came closer.

"A few shots were fired from both sides and the crowd left him, but he was arrested by Constable Shurtz on Saturday morning, on the charge of shooting with intent to kill, and was brought before his Honor, the Mayor, and in default of \$300 bail, was taken to Sheriff Price's boarding house at New Philadelphia to await the next term of court," Quintim wrote.

Quintim ceased writing for the Tuscarawas Advocate around 1880.

20-2-85

Canal history

More about a 'big ditch'

BY GORDON DeMARCO

For the period of 1827-40, the Ohio Canal had a monopolistic position resulting in the growth and economic development of our state. It allowed farmers the opportunity to export their products to markets for cash and resulted in opening up a great part of our state to immigrants from the east. The federal government was selling land in Ohio for \$1.25 an acre. The canal permitted settlers to take advantage of this bonanza and at the same time assure them outlet to markets on Lake Erie and the Ohio River. In fact, the population of the state increased by 70,000 in the 1820's.

The canal opened in 1827, and as one moved north toward Cleveland the price of wheat became more expensive. This was the result of grain being made available to markets in Erie and Buffalo. By 1833, wheat was worth 56-cents a bushel in Newark, but was selling at 75-cents per bushel in Akron and Massillon. The growth of shipments was spectacular. Cleveland was receiving 300,000 bushels of wheat in 1832, but eight years later this had jumped to 2,000,000. Wheat, corn, coal, pork barrel and salt were the major commodities transported on the canal. I understand that export of whisky was important, but I have no figures on this.

Most of the traffic on the canal was north to Cleveland. Here goods were transported to Erie and Buffalo and then by canal and river to New York City. Some of the canals that were in operation in Pennsylvania used "dollies" to carry canal boats over hills and cuts in the mountains by winching them on rails over high points. In fact, some canal boats were built in sections for ease of handling over this type terrain.

In 1836, the Muskingum Improvement was authorized. This provided the construction of the Black Water Canal from Dresden to Zanesville — a distance of 17 miles. When this section was completed, one could travel by canal boat from Newcomerstown to Zanesville, transfer to a steamboat and continue down the Muskingum River to Marietta. If you wished, another transfer could be made for the packet to Pittsburgh. At many places the railroad crossed the canal and this was to be a more common sight as years went by. In fact, the old C & M Railroad constructed a bridge across the canal on Bridge Street across from where the old Ritz Theatre used to play to Hopalong Cassidy and Janet Gaynor films.

Another canal constructed was the Walhonding Canal. It was supposed to run from Roscoe to Mt. Vernon, but it never got that far. It did get up to Killbuck. Today, one can view the triple locks at Roscoe. They are located near the gatekeepers' house (painted yellow) just west of the northern end of White Woman Street.

An interesting sidelight to the transportation on the canals was that the canals provided a source of water power to operate mills. Water flow rate from the canals was more reliable than natural streams. In fact, the canal water from the Ohio Canal in 1839 provided power for approximately 80 factories. This also contributed to the rise of industry in Ohio.

Prior to 1837, travelers had to ride on "mixed" boats — boats that carried commodities as well as passengers. In 1837, a packet line was opened on the Ohio Canal. The packet boats often traveled as much as 70 miles in a day. Roads were quite bad at this time, hence, travelers welcomed a ride in a boat. It was hard to beat the fares which were three-cents a mile and included meals.

Some packets provided sleeping accommodations, and some provided bed bugs at no extra charge. Some packets accommodated up to 60 passengers and had parlors that converted into dormitories at night. It was not uncommon for passengers to take a break by walking alongside the boat and to purchase fruits from farmers along the way. Passenger traffic reached its peak in 1843 when more than 20,000 passengers arrived by packet at Portsmouth. But by the late 1850's, the railroads of Ohio were transporting more than 2,000,000 passengers. The end of the canals and their way of life had reached its high water mark. The end was inevitable.

By 1845, Ohio had more than 800 miles of canals. One could not only ride from Cleveland to Portsmouth, but you could ride from Cincinnati to Toledo as well. Canals were tunneled through hills and an aqueduct carried a canal over the Mad River.

When the Ohio Canal opened in 1827, there were no railroads in Ohio. Tuscarawas County had between 10,000 and 15,000 residents. In fact, next year is the local Presbyterian churches' 150th anniversary in this area. One of their early ministers in New Philadelphia preached at a farm a few miles from our county seat during this period and found his way by following blaze marks on trees. Railroad construction did not begin until 1835, and by 1838 only 15 miles had been completed. After that, the rise and construction of railroads rose precipitously. But this is a story that will be saved for another time.

58



The "Old Sheet Mill" Gang

A group of workmen are shown in front of the Sheet Mill at the west part of town near the turn of the century. Among those identified are Howard Yeagley at left; Emmet Heskett, third from left; James Trees,

seventh from left; Denver Reed, 10th from left; Dickie Shoemaker, 12th from left; Jesse Shaw, 13th from left; Herman Tufford, second from right; Roy Welsh at right. Photo courtesy of Fred Trees.

Land Added By Sheet Mill Boom After Big Lottery

By Charles E. Lieser
President, Newcomerstown
Historical Society

Back about the turn of the century there was a strong desire, as there is in most small towns, to greatly expand in size and importance, in fact, to become a city if possible or near a city in size.

As a result, a group of citizens worked out a plan to double the town's size and bring in some new industries. A large tract of land just west of the corpora-

tion was secured and that was the beginning of the Sheet Mill Boom which was a failure as far as new industries were concerned but rather successful in adding to the town's area.

So although the committee in charge was unable to back up their guarantee that new industries would be provided on condition of the purchase of lots we never heard of much complaint or dissatisfaction about the deal, especially since there was a general rise in land values at that time and since no persons profited much in the deal and these

additional lots were needed for the town's natural growth.

THE PARTICULARS of the whole deal can best be made clear by quoting from the large handbill and map of the area distributed at that time. The officers and promoters were some of the town's most prominent citizens - bankers, business men, lawyers, etc.

EVERY LOT A BARGAIN
Over One Hundred Now Sold
In the Big Sheet Mill and
Tin Dipping Plant Addition

The Finest Building Sites
in the Town
The Terms in Full

The Citizens committee of Newcomerstown have accepted the option on the South Side Land Company Farm of 97 acres, as per their offer to wit: \$10,000 cash, and \$5,000 in lots, said lots to be sold to the Land Company on same terms as prescribed for all lot-buyers.

We have had said land platted by competent surveyors as follows: Twenty acres set off along the P.C.C.&St. L.Ry. for the proposed manufacturing plants.

The remainder of said farm, excepting 17 acres of low land adjoining the Tuscarawas river, is divided into 324 town lots, all equally desirable for building purposes, and all equally valuable save in the matter of location.

In order to equalize the value of the lots in the rear of said farm, we have divided the 17 acres of low land into 24 squares of about 3-4 acre each. These squares we have designated by the same numbers as are given to the lots above named. Persons drawing said lots will also draw the corresponding squares of land without extra cost.

THE PRICE of each and every lot is to be \$150, payable as follows: \$15 cash; a note for \$135 payable in 9 monthly installments of \$15 each. All notes to mature in October, 1901. All cash sales as follows: Sales during January, discount of 5 per cent on \$150; during February, 5 per cent on \$120; during March, 5 per cent on \$105; during April, 5 percent on 90, and so on. All lots must be paid in full to receive discount

Any purchaser having failed to make payment for two successive months shall forfeit his right to the drawing of a lot, payments already made shall be forfeited to committee.

Any person selling his interest, must notify the secretary, stating to whom and when sold, and all arrearages must be paid, otherwise his interest shall be forfeited.

All lots to be drawn as designated by the lot purchasers at the Newcomerstown Opera House, May 15, 1901, at 1 o'clock p.m.
Lottery Concluded

Sheet Mill, Tannery Among Earliest Industries

Canal Played Role In Early Flo

A veritable cornucopia of products have been created in Newcomerstown over the years as a piano factory, a sheet mill, an iron pipe plant, and even a tannery have passed in and out of the village's history.

in 1870 by a similar operation on State st, between River and Goodrich streets by George Bag-nall, but both plants have since succumbed to unrecorded causes.

Clay products have been manufactured in the area almost since the advent of organized industry there, presumably because of the readily available raw material, and the first known industry using the abundant clay banks was a pottery established in 1844 by Harmon and Gustavus Fox.

The first of three brick plants to appear on the Newcomerstown scene was a back yard operation conducted by Thomas Crawford west of the East State street cemetery.

Crawford dug clay from his lot, ground it in an old fashioned pug mill powered by a horse circling it, and turned out red brick which are still serving their purpose in a few scattered chimneys around the town.

Located on Main st near the then existing W. & L. E. Railroad, the venture was followed

Succeeding Crawford's initial

brick plant was "The Novelty", owned and operated by R. L. Shoemaker of Newcomerstown and a Mr. Cassingham of Coshocton, and it provided a first for the village as a side product of energy needed for its operation.

The first street lights in the town's brief history were supplied power from a electric generator at the yard.

A third brickmaking venture evidently met with more suc-

cess, even though it no longer exists, because the parent company is still in operation and some of the company's output was put into service as far away as Colorado.

Titled "The Globe Brick Company", its production was geared for blocks utilized in the construction of high smoke stacks, and through its organizer, the H. J. Heineke Company of St. Louis, Mo., some of the plant's product was used in the

stacks for ore smelters in Colorado.

Installation of water lines for the village in 1902 unveiled relics of the first tannery there as workers dug into old vats of Aaron Schwenk's tanning plant at the southwest corner of Canal and River Streets. It, and a second similar industry established by David Mulvane between River and Goodrich streets, evidently were victims of progress since Oak tan bark, formerly used for removing hair from hides, was found in the uncovered vats.

Mills also ran the gauntlet as modernized manufacturing procedures encroached on

markets of small town operations and forced them from the scene.

Water from the Ohio Canal powered the first of these mid-eighteenth century industries, a flour mill at the extreme end of Main st built and operated by William Gardner and Paul Roberts. But neither it nor its competitor, operated by William H. Craig directly across the canal, enjoyed the moderate life of a woolen mill originated by James Pilling in 1841 approximately a mile east of town.

Early Industries

ur Mill

* * *

The latter operated until 1880 and was successful enough for Pilling to also open a saw mill, enlarge the woolen operation, and engage in a partnership with Thomas Benton.

Pilling's saw mill was joined in lumber manufacturing by a planing mill on the north side of the canal, east of College st, operated by George Benton.

An entire family of trade shops then apparently sprung up in the area as Charles Schneider began a buggy and wagon plant, Dan Laub opened

a blacksmith shop, and a machine shop was built in a nearby location.

Shortlived as these operations were, however, they probably suffered a better fate than many plants organized in Newcomerstown for production of heavier or more complicated products.

Particularly vulnerable to their bigger competitors were, a sheet mill erected next to the Pennsylvania Railroad west of town, The Peerless Bell and Machine Works, and the Enterprize Mfg. Co.

Competition from larger plants closed the sheet mill within a couple of years, and the foundry built by Kenyon and Ferguson was moved just four

years after its arrival from the Ohio Canal to a site along the dropping from the scene. The assortment of cigar boxes, churns and bee hives produced by the Enterprize Mfg. Co. also must have been priced off the market, although available history does not indicate what caused its demise.

A group of empty foundry buildings are all that remain in Newcomerstown of the James B. Clow Company, moved there through efforts of citizens when its cast iron pipe producing plant in New Philadelphia burned down.

Departure of the Clow Company in 1911 after 16 years of operation there was decidedly more abrupt and less graceful than those of many other business ventures there, as it moved to Coshocton, citing more money as the motive.

Recent additions to the village's business inventory appear to be reasonably solid.

The Alchrome Company, originated in 1946 by present owner Herbert Smith, manufactures bathroom fixtures; Simonds Saw and Steel Company now operates the Heller Brothers Company which has absorbed the Rex File Company; and the Kurtz Kash Company, a branch of a Dayton concern provides employment for women by producing plastic dishes and novelties.

Added to the list in the past couple years are Groovfold Fabricators; Globe Specialties, engaged in producing sewing machines; and the Hillside Egg Farm operated by Kenneth and Gwendolyn Johns on their farm three and a half miles south of the town.

Ice Meant Cold Cash Decades

By IRIS FRUCHEY

Everyone remembers or has heard of the 1913 flood that raged through our little village.

Well, just about this time in our history, the old Produce Company was established and that meant an up-graded form of refrigeration for village residents.

J.S. Barnett started the firm and employed were Harold Woodard, Chester Neal, Bill Newell and Russell Reynolds. Reynolds, who later became a member of our local police force, and now is at Elmhurst, Ill., is the only one of the original crew living.

About this time, Frank Callentine returned to town with

his family and "Calley" as we all called him, hitched up old Frank (a black horse) and Dolly (a white horse) and started delivering ice to his many patrons.

The old metal boxes came down and two and three-door wooden ice boxes were placed in kitchens and basements throughout the area.

Some of the first businesses serviced by the "Ice Man" were Swigerts Meat Market, Emerson's ice cream parlor, called "Candyland," which was located in the building occupied by Phillips Sundries, and the lodge in the K of C building.

"The produce" was quite an operation. The ice was made

there and later butter. In a few years, they went into the business of cold storage for meats and installed a diary counter and one could go there and enjoy a big ice cream cone.

I can remember, as a kid, I picked raspberries for Jim Laning at the rate of 2 cents per quarter and then walked from the end of River St. to the Produce, which was located on the north side of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and squandered a morning's wages on three dips of the best ice cream in town.

Getting back to the ice wagon, that was free, if you were lucky "Old Calley" would pull up in

front of a house, where the ice card hung in the window, turn back the canvas, get his ice pick and hit a chunk of ice just in the right place, sink the ice tongs into the block and hoisted it onto his heavily padded shoulder and start for the house.

About this time, kids came from all directions. They climbed up on the back of the wagon just ants at a picnic. That was before the days of paper towels, and just a piece of newspaper would keep your hand from getting cold.

Speed was a requirement, not only in respect to eating the ice before it melted, but we felt it necessary to avoid being caught in the back of the ice wagon.

I am sure "Calley" expected some of this, and for the benefit of the kids, he'd make a few extra stabs at that old block of ice.

Delivering ice was a year-round job for "Calley." However, at other times during

Ago

the day, he would go to the farmers and buy chickens and turkey, dress them near the old barn behind the Barnett home on Canal St. Old "Frank" and "Dolly" were housed in this barn.

Along with progress at the Produce came the white ice boxes that were called Economizers. They looked like refrigerators and held 100 pounds of ice and of course by this time Frank and Dolly had been put out to pasture and a truck made the rounds through the village.

The only thing that didn't change was the kids "love for ice," "Calley's" loyalty to his patrons, and his ever-present humorous chatter.

He was a small man, rather gruff. Sometimes we kids through he was a bit rude, but who wouldn't be under like conditions?

That ice was cold cash to the Produce and the "Ice Man".



THE ICE MAN — Frank Callentine, "Calley" as he was known, is shown in this old photograph with his ice wagon and old Frank, his black horse. He also has a white horse, Dolly. Callentine's business was important at a time when up-graded refrigeration was needed. This photo is the property of the Old Temperance House Tavern Museum.

The Home Building and Loan Company



The Home Building and Loan Company was founded 84 years ago on March 15, 1898. The first meeting of the board of directors was held in the offices of Atty. E.E. Lindsay. The first officers of the company were: H.D. Howell, president; M.C. Julien, vice president; M.B. Kennedy, secretary; G.W. Miskimen, treasurer; and E.E. Lindsay, attorney. On March 12, 1900, J.E. Wood was elected president and served in this capacity until his death on October 11, 1919. On May 20, 1920, J.W. Miskimen was elected president and served until 1924 when J.A. Montgomery was elected president. Mr. Montgomery served until January 11, 1961 when C.J. Stewart was elected president. Mr. Stewart served until January of 1977 when C.A. Watts was elected president. Six secretaries have served the Home Building and Loan Company; M.B. Kennedy 1898-1914; M.O. Julien 1914-1920; M.C. Julien 1920-1922; John T. Keast 1922-1943; Melissa R. Palmer 1943-1964. Margaret E. Everhart presently serves as secretary-treasurer and managing officer. The cost of the original charters and certification of membership amounted to \$2,485, which was paid for by the first directors. While most of the meetings of the company were held in the offices of Atty. Lindsay, the directors occasionally met in Lucille Carr's Store, the Lydick Furniture Store, Peck's Store, Eagon's Store, the News office, and the homes of directors. On April 11, 1898, the company approved its first loan in the amount of \$250 at a meeting in the offices of Atty. Lindsay. No mention was made of the salaries of the officers until April 13, 1903, when the board approved the following salaries: President, \$15 per year; treasurer, \$25 per year; and secretary, \$100 per year. In April, 1924, the company rented an office in the K Of P Building, now owned by B.P.O.E. 1555. On April 16, 1925, the company purchased its present office building from the Oxford Bank but occupied only a small portion of the building until 1959, when the office was enlarged and modernized. It was at this time the company became a member of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati, and obtained insurance of amounts from the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation. In the 84 year history of the Home Building and Loan Co., the company has never failed to pay to a dividend.

hbl630

DIRECTORS FROM 1898-1982 - H.D. Howell, T.J. Shannon, M.C. Julien, M.B. Kennedy, J.L. Leland, H.H. Eagon, G.W. Miskimen, E.E. Lindsay, John E. Wood, George Benton, M.O. Julien, J.A. Montgomery, J.T. Keast, J.A. Calhoun, S.B. Mulvane, Bert C. Murphy, T.D. Leonhard, Melissa R. Palmer, C.J. Stewart, Max K. Julien, John A. Schlupp, L.D. Palmer, R.A. MacQueen, C.A. Watts, Margaret Everhart, Myron Hoobler, Daniel kees, Graham Marshall, D. Bruce Huffman, Donald Best, Daniel Loader, William Ourant.

The Home Building and Loan Co. Was Founded Here 75 Years Ago

The Home Building and Loan Co. in Newcomerstown was founded 75 years ago on March 15, 1898 with the first meeting of the board of directors held in the offices of Atty. E. E. Lindsay.

The first officers of the company were H. D. Howell, president; M. C. Julien, vice president; M. B. Kennedy, secretary; G. W. Miskimen, Treasurer; E. E. Lindsay, Attorney. The first Directors were: H. D. Howell; T. J. Shannon; M. C. Julien; M. B. Kennedy; T. F. Leland; H. H. Eagon; G. W. Miskimen; E. E. Lindsay.

Cost of the charter and the certificates of membership was \$2,485 which was paid for by the directors.

While most of the meetings of the company were held in the offices of Atty. Lindsay, the directors occasionally met in Lucille Carr's store; the Lydick Furniture Store; Pecks Store; Eagon's Store; The News Office and the homes of directors.

On April 11, 1898, the company approved its first loan in the amount of \$250 at a meeting held in the offices of Atty. Lindsay.

In the minutes of the early meetings, no mention is made of the interest rates being charged, but the company declared a dividend of 7 percent per annum in October 1898. In March, 1902 dividends of 6 percent per annum were being paid.

The first audit, Oct. 1, 1898, showed "resources" and "liabilities" of \$9,535.63 as compared to the statement of Feb. 28, 1973: "assets" and "liabilities" \$2,319,359.67.

No mention was made of the salaries of the officers until April 13, 1903, when the board approved the following salaries for officers:

President, \$15 per year;
Treasurer, \$25 per year;
Secretary, \$100 per year.

In April, 1924 the company rented an office in the K. of P. Building, now owned by the B.P.O.E. on April 16, 1925, the company purchased its present office building from the Oxford Bank but occupied only a small portion of the building until 1959 when the office was enlarged and modernized.

It was at this time that the company became a member of

the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati, and obtained insurance of accounts from the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corp.

On March 12, 1900, J. E. Wood was elected president and served in this capacity until his death on Oct. 11, 1919. May 20, 1920, J. W. Miskimen was elected president and served until 1924 when J.A. Montgomery was elected president. Montgomery served until Jan. 11, 1961, when C. J. Stewart was elected president. Mr. Stewart still serves in this capacity.

Six secretaries have served the Home Building and Loan Co. They are M.B. Kennedy, 1898 to 1914; M.O. Julien, 1914 to 1920; M.C. Julien 1920 to 1922; John T. Keast, 1922 to 1943; in 1943 the first woman to serve as secretary, Melissa R. Palmer, was elected and served in this capacity until 1964.

Margaret E. Everhart was elected secretary in 1964 and still serves in that capacity.

In 1962, Betty L. Thomas was employed as bookkeeper and was named assistant secretary in January, 1969. She still serves in this capacity.

In June, 1969, Barbara N. Mathias was employed as bookkeeper. She, too, still serves in this capacity.

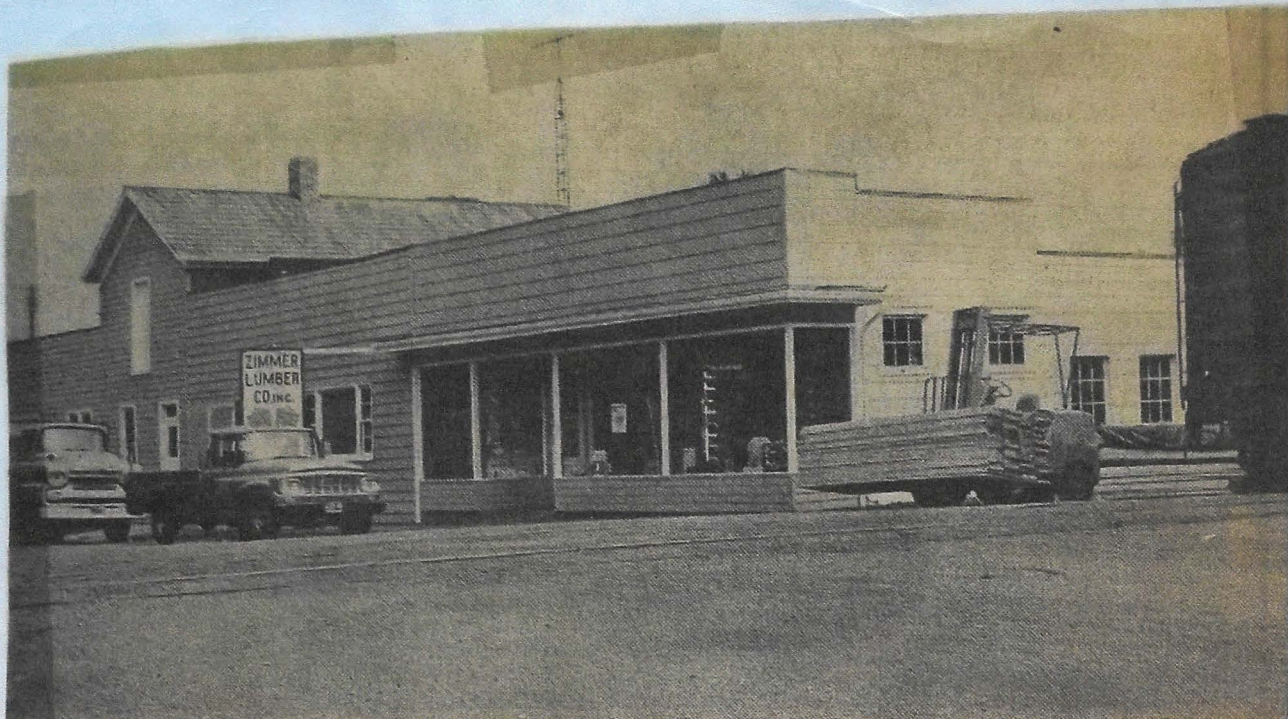
Present officers are C. J. Stewart, president; C. A. Watts and Myron W. Hoobler, vice presidents; Margaret E. Everhart, secretary-treasurer; Melissa R. Palmer and Betty L. Thomas assistant secretaries.

Directors are C. J. Stewart, Melissa R. Palmer, Daniel J. Kees, C. A. Watts, Myron W. Hoobler, Graham Marshall and

Margaret E. Everhart.

During its 75 years of business, Home Building and Loan has never failed to pay a dividend.

The company is completing plans to merge with Cambridge Savings and Loan Association subject to regulatory and shareholder approvals.



TODAY — Zimmer Lumber Co. as it looks today. Now 82 years old, the firm is still recognized for its outstanding service.

The Zimmer Lumber Co., founded in 1892 under the name of Howell and Zimmer, is now one of the oldest business firms in the town and has furnished materials for hundreds of its homes and other buildings.

The founders were Harrison Howell and Henry Zimmer, contractors and lumber dealers, whose last contract before their partnership was dissolved as a result of Howell's health, was the First National Bank building, completed in 1901.

This is now occupied by the Newcomerstown Public Library.

At that time, the lumberyard was located on the north side of Canal St., midway between Bridge and River Sts. on land presently used for parking lots.

Following Howell's retirement, Albert Zimmer joined his half-brother in the firm which withdrew from contracting and dealt in lumber, millwork and builders' supplies.

As a charter member of The Home Improvement Co., Albert Zimmer was among the group of local businessmen whose efforts in pre-Chamber of

Commerce days, attracted business and industry to the town and began creating the spirit of community service still exemplified by the firm's present owner.

In its early days, many of the company's shipments of merchandise are reported to have arrived by canal boat, right on the back door.

But one of the last uses to which the canal was put, was as the locale for tub races during street fairs.

Those were gleeful and soggy events in which schoolboys vied for prizes offered by the firm, for floating down the waterway in their mothers' washtubs. The last race advertised was never held, however, for the water dried to a trickle before the day of the fair.

In 1928, the Zimmers acquired the property of the former Cole Lumber Co. on East Main St. and following extensive remodeling, moved the business to its present location.

Failing health forced Albert Zimmer's retirement from the partnership in 1936, and Henry's son Arthur became actively associated with the firm. He became its owner at his father

death in 1942, by then having his

own son, Robert, as his partner. At Arthur's death in 1960, Robert became the sole owner.

The Zimmer firm has made many contributions to the steady growth of the com-

munity.

Today the company does a great deal of crating and boxing for local industries in the area.

And all of this lends itself to a healthy economic atmosphere for Newcomerstown.



The Baltimore Clothing Company has been in existence since 1884. It was one of several stores (there was one in Cambridge and one in Uhrichsville) operated by the Thalheimer family, which manufactured men's clothing in Baltimore, Maryland. This is how the store received its name. The first location was the building which became the Luncheonette (now out of business). In 1896 the store was moved to the corner of Bridge and Main Streets across from what is now the Huntington Bank. That building is shown in the photograph at the left. After the accidental death of Jack Thalheimer, the store was sold to J.M. Kaden in 1913. On Saturdays, Kaden threw dimes off the roof of the building as a promotion. Ten years later, his son-in-law, J.R. Bean, bought the store. He retired in 1957 and the business was purchased by Dale Johnson who operated it until 1978 when the present owner, Greg and Cheryl Fuhrer bought the store. The Baltimore has been a part of Newcomerstown for 98 years.

FUHRER'S

BALTIMORE CLOTHIER'S

121 W. Main St.

Newcomerstown

498-8188

Charles E. Lieser said in his writings that across the street from our store, which was located on the north side of Central Main St., was also the M. Yingling & Sons (Will and Manuel) Grocery Store. Next to the Yingling Store, east, was Zack Thalhelmer's Clothing Store. Next door east, still on the south side of the street, was the Wilgus Hardware Store. Further on was the barber shop of Joe Keiser. When Mr. Lloyd Murphy rebuilt on the corner lot a two story brick structure, Thalheimer moved his clothing store to the new location and it has been occupied by a clothing store ever since, and is known as the Baltimore Corner.

This location for the Zack Thalhelmer Clothing Store was his first location, not in the building which became the Luncheonette.

The buildings for Zack Thalhelmer's Clothing Store and the Wilgus Hardware store were torn down in 1900 and replaced with a three story brick building.

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REMEMBERING - The early days of business

Warner's Cider Mill was located just off the west end of what is now Main Street in the early days of this century and went out of business sometime before 1920, according to Dorothea Marshall, president of the Historical Society. A modern counterpart to the cider mill with its lines of wagons with the barrels may be Bud's Drive-Thru on the corner of Canal and College streets. Bud's Drive-Thru has an outstanding selection of beverages to choose from and also offers a sit-down restaurant as part of the business.

Ed Warner, a descendant of the Warner's who owned the mill, still lives in Newcomers-town.



WARNER'S CIDER MILL, AROUND TURN OF CENTURY

BUD'S E-Z DRIVE-THRU

146 E. Canal St.

498-5225

Haver's Supply has seen three generations

A three-generation business is located on River Street, one of three businesses in Newcomerstown which has been in the same family for over 60 years.

The business was started by one of the "Grand Old Men" of Newcomerstown, Cecil Haver, who began the Haver Electric Supply Co. in 1924 out of a garage at his home on McKinley Avenue. He sold Delco light plants and pumps to farmers in the local area. He eventually expanded his product line and moved

to a new location on River Street. He was assisted in the management of the business by his wife, Lottie, and his sons, Willis and Frank.

In 1966, Cecil stepped down from the management and the Haver Supply Co. became owned and operated by Willis Haver, Sr. A new building was built in 1968 and the business was expanded to supply industry, and plumbing and electrical contractors. Willis was assisted by Cecil, his wife, Pat, and his sons, Bill and Bob. After a prolonged illness,

however, Willis passed away in April of 1982.

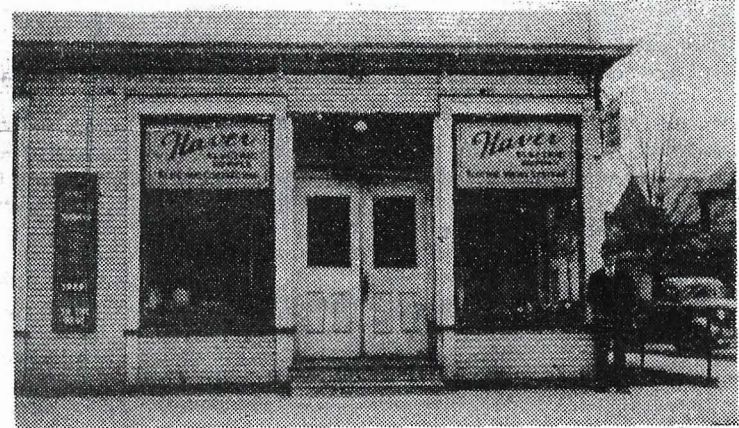
From 1982 to the present, the Haver Supply Co. has been owned and operated by Pat, Bill and Bob Haver. Cecil is still very active in the day-to-day operation of the company and is one of the biggest promoters of the community. Haver Supply also added a Radio Shack franchise in 1982.

"Our business is currently undergoing a rebuilding phase," Bob Haver said. "We plan on expanding and increasing our inventory and renovating the building exterior and interior. We are currently looking at the possibility of adding video tape player and tape rentals to the business."

In addition to being an authorized Radio Shack Sales Center, Haver Supply Co. has major home appliances by Hoover, Kelvinator, Maytag, Capital, Flint and Walling, and W.W. Grainger, with both sales and service on those brand name items. The company also carries a wide range of plumbing and electrical supplies.

"Our business philosophy is simple," Haver said. "We strive to be able to offer our customers the highest quality products at the lowest possible price. We stand behind every product we sell to insure customer satisfaction. It is important to us that each customer gets the best value for each dollar he or she might spend.

"We also feel that it is the responsibility of each individual to be active in the community. This tradition started in our family with Cecil and continues today."



EARLY PICTURE

[from the *OFFICIAL SOUVENIR BOOKLET*]
Newcomerstown's Sesquicentennial
1814 - 1964

Through the Years

How **Newcomerstown** got its name is rather a mystery. There is the legend and also the story which **David Zeisberger** passed on.

The legend tells of **Mary Harris** captured in **Deerfield, Massachusetts** in **1704** as a child and later becoming the white wife of **Chief Eagle Feather** whose tribe lived about half-way between **Coshocton** and **Walhonding** on what is now **Route 36**.

Mary Harris apparently had quite an influence in **Chief Eagle Feather's** tribe as his village became known as **White Woman's Town**.

Years later, on one of his raids into the **Virginia Territory**, **Chief Eagle Feather** captured another white woman for a second wife. What occurred between these two white women is not known but one morning **Chief Eagle Feather** was discovered dead with his own tomahawk buried in his skull and the "necomer," as **Mary Harris** supposedly called her was gone.

The newcomer was captured on the present site of our town and returned to the village of **Chief Eagle Feather** and put to death.

Christopher Gist, a surveyor for the **Ohio Land Company** had talked to **Mary Harris** in **1750** and gave no indication, as erroneously reported by several **Ohio** history writers, of having seen the newcomer executed.

David Zeisberger tells us that **Newcomerstown** was the village of **Chief Natawatwes** who later changed his name to **King Necomer**.

King Newcomer had invited **Zeisberger** to preach to his tribe and on **March 14, 1771**, **Zeisberger** preached the first **Protestant sermon** west of the **Alleghenies**.

Soon after this event the **Delawares** abandoned **Newcomerstown** and moved to **Coshocton**.

The **Revolutionary War** period found wandering bands of **Indians** using the abandoned **Delaware** cabins and perhaps such men as **Simon Girty**, **Brandt**, **McKee** and **Lewis Wetzel** used them too.

After the **Revolutionary War** several squatters moved into this territory and when **Tuscarawas County** was organized in **1808**, **Oxford Township** became one of the four original townships.

In **1813** **Judge Nicholas Neighbor** came from **New Jersey** and bought **1900** acres in the northwest corner of **Oxford Township**. He returned again in **1814** bringing a party of about **60** people with him. This group lived in the abandoned Indian cabins until their own were built.

Judge Neighbor was later an associate judge and lived in **New Philadelphia**. While there,

he served at the trial of **John Funston** for the mercenary murdering of the postboy. He returned here and in **1827** laid out the village, giving it the name **Newcomerstown** and served as its first postmaster.

Judge Neighbor's son-in-law, **Jacob Miller**, was the town's first teacher starting school about **1818**.

In **1825** by an act of the **Ohio Legislature**, the **Ohio Canal** came into being. This canal played a prominent role in the history of **Newcomerstown** for 81 years.

The canal was built in **1827** and the locks were about a mile apart. Over the canal in **Newcomerstown** there were several bridges which swung on pivots and were operated manually; one at **Bridge Street**, one at **River Street** and the railroad bridge crossing the **Cleveland and Marietta** tracks on **Canal Street**.

John Garfield, the father of **President Garfield**, was one of the construction superintendents of one of the locks and young **Garfield** often played along the banks of the canal.

Many local citizens worked on the canal as masons, millwrights, carpenters, boatmen, dock loaders and lock handlers.

The long, heavy boats hauled grains of all kinds from this vicinity to the storage bins in **New Philadelphia** and **Dover**. They also hauled coal, lumber and ores. There were specially adapted boats called packets which were used for carrying passengers.

The canal served as a center of life for the young people of the community too. There was fishing, canoeing, and Sunday School picnic excursions to **Port Washington** and **Orange** in the summer and ice skating in the winter.

The population expansion due to the canal led to the springing up of sawmills, grainmills, potteries and a woolen mill. The schools became overcrowded and in **1849** a regular school system was passed by a 1 vote plurality and in **1856** the **Union School** was built on **College Street**. Churches sprang up too and in **1830** the first church, the **Methodist Episcopal**, was organized; in **1832** the **Lutheran Church**, to which the **Neighbors** belonged, was established and in **1843** the **Methodist Protestant Church** (the **College Street Methodist**) was established.

The canal hit its peak in the **1860's** but with the railroads expanding their lines and service and having faster freighting, the canal began to decline and although it was not officially discontinued until **1908**, it then had been out of use for many years.

One outstanding event in **Newcomerstown's** railroad history was in **1861**. **President Abraham Lincoln** spoke here from a rear platform on one of his personal appearance tours.

After the **Civil War**, **Newcomerstown**, along with the rest of the North, boomed economically. **1876** saw the formation of the **Presbyterian Church**, in **1883** the **Oxford Bank** was founded by **George Mulvane** and **Theodore Crater**. In **1884** the **Baltimore Clothing Company** began and in **1887** the **W.M. Brode Company** began operating.

Then came the "Gay Nineties" with its high starched collars and **Newcomerstown** got the **Clow Plant**, the **Building and Loan Company** and the "**Opry House**" located on the present site of the **Municipal Building**. The **Opry House** was lit with kerosene oil lamps and an enormous chandelier hung from the ceiling. Such plays as *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, *The Farmer's Daughter*, and many minstrels played there. The schools also used the stage for plays and graduation exercises.

In **1900** the population growth forced the building of two new school buildings; one occupying the site of the **Union School** and the other was erected at the corner of **State and River Streets** where the **Kroger Market** is now located.

Three new churches appeared around this time also; the **Church of Christ** in **1901**, the **First Baptist Church** in **1902**, and the **United Brethren Church** in **1906**.

1907 was a banner year for **Newcomerstown**. This year saw the advent of street lights.

In **1913** the **Sterling Faucet Company** came to **Newcomerstown** (it was destroyed by fire in **1939**) and in **1917** the **Heller Brothers Company** began here and the **Saint Francis De Sales Roman Catholic Church** was organized.

The schools were expanded again in **1924** and the present high school building on the corner of **State and River Streets** was erected. The **Goshen Brick Company** started in that year also. It supplied brick for the **Municipal Building** and the **Sewage Disposal Plant**, among many other buildings.

In **1927** the **Ritz Theater** was built and in **1932** the **Foursquare Gospel Church** was established and in **1935** the **Church of the Nazarene** was organized.

Also in **1935**, the **Newcomerstown Public Library** was organized. When it opened in June in the **Kaden Building** on **Main Street**, it had a collection of two thousand books bought or donated by the townspeople.

In **1936** the school population growth led to the construction of an addition to the high school.

1937 saw the organization of the **Assembly of God Church**, **Cy Young** voted into the **Baseball Hall of Fame**, and an earthquake scare. The new post office building went up that year also.

Newcomerstown celebrated its 125th anniversary with a parade and a pageant in **1939**.

During the **World War II**, **Newcomerstown** did its part in the gas and meat rationing. Many local men and boys died in the **Armed Forces** and people back home worked in the local plants which had turned to defense work.

Post-war expansion brought the **Alchrome Products Company** here in **1946** where it was built on the site of the **Sterling Faucet Company**. In **1947** the first parking meters were installed downtown and **Route 21** was dedicated as a memorial highway. The **Junior Chamber of Commerce** and the **Tiny Tot Corporation** both began in **1948**.

The **Cy Young Park** with its swimming pool and picnic area was dedicated in **1950**. This same year also saw a **Pennsylvania Railroad** flier ramming a troop train and killing 33 men, and the worst blizzard on record with 20 inches of snow.

In a drive spearheaded by the **Newcomerstown Chamber of Commerce**, the **Seiberling Rubber Company, Plastics Division**, was brought here and began production in **1954**. Since that time it has expanded twice.

March 11, 1955 is an outstanding day in **Newcomerstown** history. This is the date of the tornado which damaged the **East School** building beyond repair, destroyed the **College Street Methodist Church**, damaged the **Lutheran Church** and spread general havoc over the whole town.

The tornado damage led to the construction of the present **East and West School** buildings in **1957**.

The **Goshen Brick Company's** production line was destroyed by fire in **1958** and with a monumental effort on the part of employees, employers and construction workers was soon back in production.

The library moved into its permanent home in the bank building in **1960** and the Laundromat opened.

In **1963** industry again expanded in our town with the **Kurz-Kasch** plant and the **Groovfold Company** and something new in the way of farming, the **John's Egg Farm** which has 6000 caged hens and 1 roaming rooster in a climate controlled chicken house.

The **Weather Seal Corporation** began operating here in **1964**. **Newcomerstown** is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year.

A bit of area history underneath our feet

Brick sidewalks still line the streets in several parts of Newcomerstown and many of those bricks have the letters NBCO imprinted on their side. Reportedly, the bricks used to pave North River Street and Canal Street also have those imprints.

The letters stand for the Novelty Brick Co., which was located south of the Tuscarawas River behind the present substation just past the River Street bridge. The company's demise came in 1930 after years of mining clay and coal for the manufacturing of bricks.

Marvin Loader, 504 Oak St., Newcomerstown, remembers his father, Lewis, was chief engineer for the Novelty Brick Co. His primary job was to operate the steam generating plant, which produced electricity and compressed air.

Some of the surplus electricity was sold to Newcomerstown for operating the electric arc street lights. These lights' luminescence was derived by electrical charges, causing two carbon rods to arc. This type of light often created a loud and sputtering sound.

Coal for the plant was obtained from the Timmons Hill mine, just behind the factory, and at another location near the Post Boy Tunnel. A four-inch steel air line was run along the railroad tracks from the steam generating plant to the coal mine near Post Boy to carry compressed air used in the mining operation. Coal was hauled by the C&M Railroad to the brick plant.

The father of Willard Ames of Newcomerstown was once a foreman at the southern coal operation.

One of the stories about the company said there was a very stubborn mule, named Pug, who had to be "influenced strongly" to pull his load at times.

A man named Dickey Shoemaker was one of the owners of the Novelty Brick Co. and reportedly built the brick house on State Street beside Boyd's Dairy Bar to prevent the continuance of South Goodrich Street.

Another old brick company in the area was The Globe Brick Company,

located on the east side of Old Route 21, a few hundred yards north of present U.S. 36.

Dan McConnell of Newcomerstown said the Globe Brick Co. produced brick for smokestacks. These bricks had a curvature and had holes through them to reduce their weight.

Robert Palmer of Newcomerstown said his father, Russell, was the last superintendent of the old Globe Co.

The plant mined its clay and coal from the hill east of the plant. Although the clay and coal came from the same hill, they were mined at different levels.

The 1913 flood apparently caused considerable damage to the Globe factory, but it was put back in operation. Local men who worked in the factory, if they were good workers, often made as much as 40 cents an hour. There were no unions, no cafeterias, and most men working at the plant, and the Novelty Brick Co., walked to work.

The C&M Railroad had a spur

line into the Globe Co. and it was not uncommon for three to four cars to be there awaiting their loads of brick.

After the company had ceased operations, the old smokestack was later dynamited.

McConnell said that when a smokestack was built, a post was placed in the center with a metal arm that may be rotated. This allowed the stack to be constructed in a circle. As the stack went up, a wooden platform was constructed within it and the pole was placed on top of the wooden platform. This procedure was repeated until the stack was completed.

So, the next time area residents walk on those brick sidewalks, they can note the bits of history under their feet.



THE NOVELTY BRICK CO.

Shown is the old Novelty Brick Co. of Newcomerstown. The pump shed in the foreground was used to pump water from the creek and the large shed to the left housed the mules used at the factory. The picture also

shows the tipple, the C&M spur and the kilns. The gash behind the plant was where shale and clay had been mined.

Old Records Rev

At the time the village of Newcomerstown was first laid out by Judge Nicholas Neighbor in 1827, it existed as a hamlet without a corporate charter until after the close of the Civil War.

First mayor was John Wilson, who had served as a lieutenant in the 80th Ohio Volunteers in the Civil War. He was elected in the fall of 1868 and files his bond in the sum of \$1,000 on Nov. 17 that year.

The first council men were A. J. Wilkin, William S. Dent, I. Creter Jr. and T. Hartshorn. The first village marshal was Joshua Wier.

Another vital service, the free delivery of mail, was inaugurated July 1, 1920. Judge Neighbor had been the first postmaster in the town.

Records now on file in Mayor J. A. Tufford's office show some interesting data including a Dec. 29, 1913, ordinance em-

Firemen Manned

ploying a night policeman who was to work 12 hours of each 24 — 6 p. m. to 6 a. m. It stated his duties were "keeping the peace, arresting offenders and taking them before the mayor or the officer."

The policeman was required "to patrol and inspect at least once each and every night, residential portions of said village as well as all business portions of same."

His pay was to include "such fees as are allowed to the marshal by law and ordered for arrests, service of writs and otherwise." He also was to receive \$50 per month. Mayor Lloyd Murphy signed that document.

Government services in Newcomerstown have expanded and modernized through the years and are presently housed in a modern municipal building.

The earliest records available of the volunteer fire department are in 1870, but there were departments for many years prior to that. The first method was a bucket brigade from the Ohio Canal and subsequently a hand pumper and hook and ladder wagon were purchased.

Later, five two-wheel hose carts were placed at different places in town. Firemen were first called by church bells, but when the city hall was built in 1884 a fire bell was placed in a

belfry on top of the building. It was rung with a pump handle on the first floor.

First records of the original Oxford Fire Department were in 1879. "Leb" Sargent was chief. The record then is blank until 1899 which shows L. H. Kelly, J. E. Hankshaw, Robert

Bicker chief. The had 50 Claren chief old H purch newer

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Newcomerstown

HAPPY BIRTHDAY NEWCOMERSTOWN!

SIDEWALK DAYS

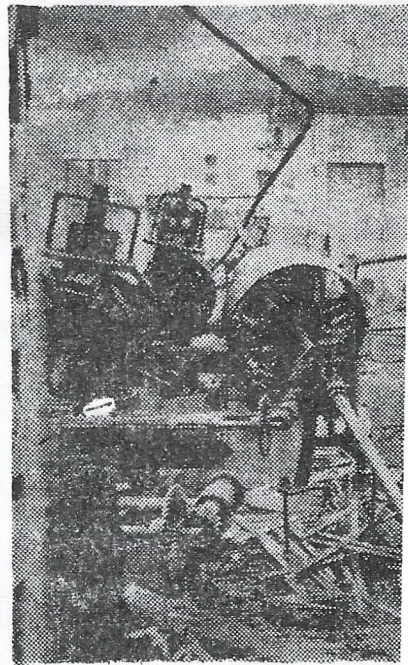
THURS. — FRIDAY — SAT.

50 Rolls Kodak B & W 127 & 620

FILM — 4c roll

Carrie Nation Visits Saloon, Says 'Repent'

Have you heard about the



DISASTER STRIKES—Plant Supt. perintendent, survey the damage which virtually destroyed that the workmen repair washed out rail in the background.



Local Village History

Bucket Brigade In Canal Days

John Warner as
 the
 members until 1924 when
 Warner was made
 new department. An
 Reo fire truck was
 then and several
 trucks have been bought

since that time.
 The emergency squad was
 founded when the Elks lodge
 presented the department with
 a resuscitator. It was the only
 equipment until 1945 when a
 Dodge panel truck was purchas-
 ed by the department and
 equipped for emergency use.

It served in the troop train
 wreck disaster at West Lafay-
 ette.
 Ordinances instituted in the
 village also provide interesting
 sidelights. A number were pass-
 ed July 30, 1913, requiring all
 vehicles to "keep to the right
 side of the street except when
 necessary to turn to the left in
 crossing the street or overtaking
 another vehicle."

Another unusual requirement
 stated no vehicle was to "stop
 any longer than to allow occu-
 pants to alight or persons to
 enter." Fines were from \$2 to
 \$50 or imprisonment for 30 days
 or both for violators of the reg-
 ulations, which filled several
 hand written pages.

A Nov. 4, 1878, ordinance list-
 ed procedures for mayor's court
 in the village, including provi-
 sions for juries. On Dec. 10,
 1900, a measure was passed al-
 lowing the mayor to appoint spe-
 cial police at \$4.25 per day.

An appropriation ordinance of
 Aug. 3, 1913, also shows how
 costs have increased through
 the years. It totaled \$7,254 and
 included some of the following

Marshall \$300, other police,
 \$325, buildings \$30, firemen
 \$150, fire apparatus \$550, detec-
 tive \$100, contingent \$100, street
 repair \$750, street lighting \$2,-
 300, uarks \$50, health \$212.50.

The village also established a
 health department Jan. 29,
 1900. Records indicate a small-
 pox epidemic was in effect Feb.
 14, 1918, leading to special ac-
 tion by the health board then.

The resolution stated that a
 "serious epidemic of smallpox
 is threatened unless adequate
 measures are undertaken to
 check the same by quarantine
 and frequent examinations of
 suspicious cases by a compet-
 ent physician and by a prompt
 vaccinations of appropriate per-
 sons."

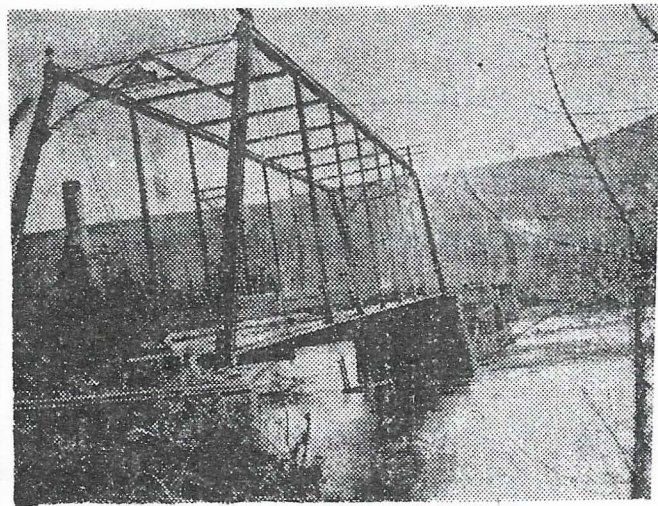
According to the old docu-

ment, Newcomerstown had a
 regular physician employed by
 its board of health. It provided
 that the health doctor, who was
 not named, would be paid no
 more than \$10 for each day he
 worked. His duties were to
 check all cases reported to him.
 He was to send his bill to the
 board of health and, if it was
 found to be correct, they would
 certify it to village council for
 payment.

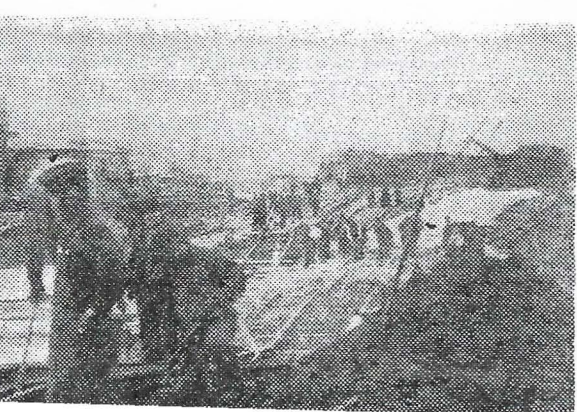
Other records indicated that
 the board of health was establish-
 ed Jan. 29, 1900.



Wilson and Russell Bean, son of a former su-
 the Rex File Co. following the April 12, 1917, fire
 village industry. In the lower photo, a group of
 track after the 1913 flood. The file company is



WORKMAN DIED HERE—A bridge repairman died and
 four other men were hurt on the River st bridge here
 in 1913. One of the spans toppled while they were at-
 tempting to repair it after the 1913 flood.



Zimmer Lumber Opens In 1892

The Zimmer Lumber Com-
 pany was founded in 1892 by

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