

*A Pictorial History
of
Swanton, Ohio
Then and Now*

THE YEAR OF THE BICENTENNIAL OF OUR COUNTRY
1976



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Preface

Swanton — How well do you know your town? Do you know where the town started? When? When it moved? Why? Location of the school prior to the present one?

Do you know when the Doughboy was presented? Why? Where the U. S. Food Company was? What was made there?

The pictorial history presented here for your reminiscing pleasure will not answer all your questions, but it will perhaps start you on your way to delve into some of the incidents and events that made the history of Swanton, to learn some of the poignant memories of yesteryear and to take time to treasure those future memories being lived today.

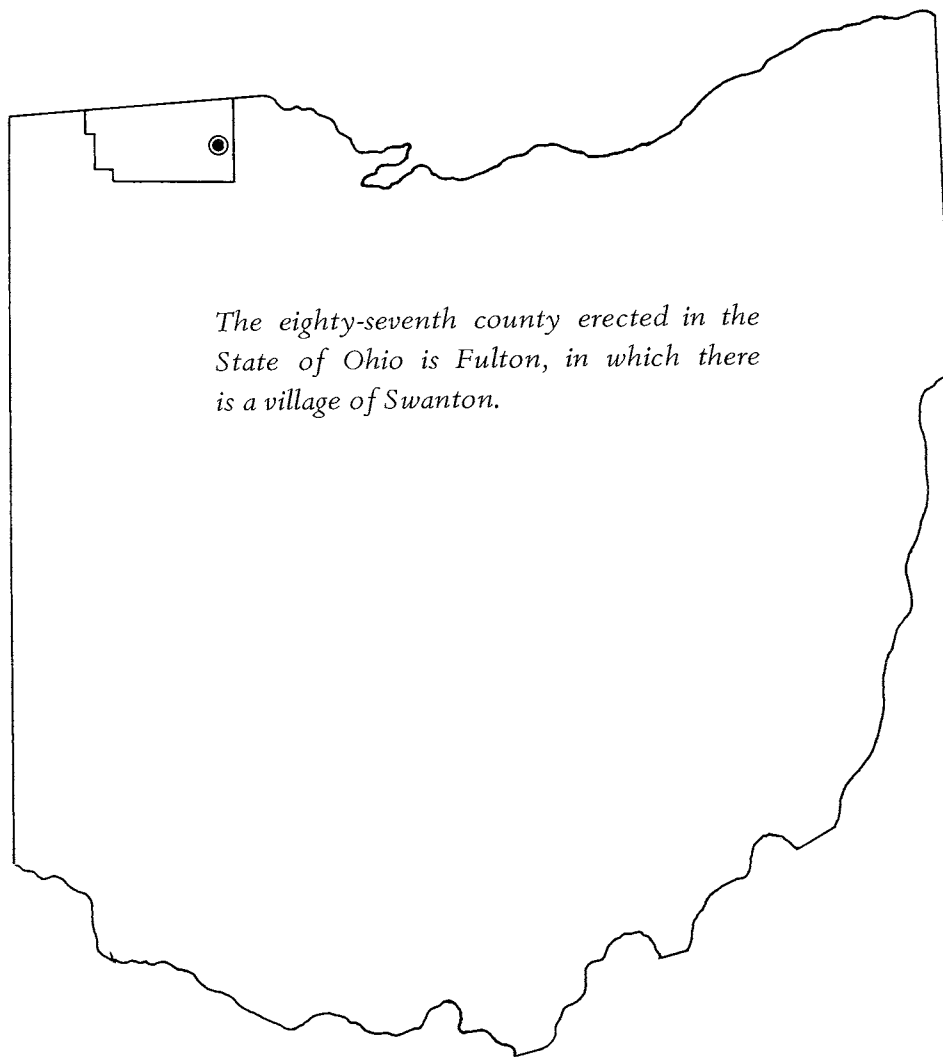
Elaine Keller

The committee does not offer this as a complete history of Swanton, rather it has been compiled from pictures submitted by some interested persons in response to a plea in the local news media. A sincere thank you to the many who shared their pictures and their memories; our apologies for any misnomers.

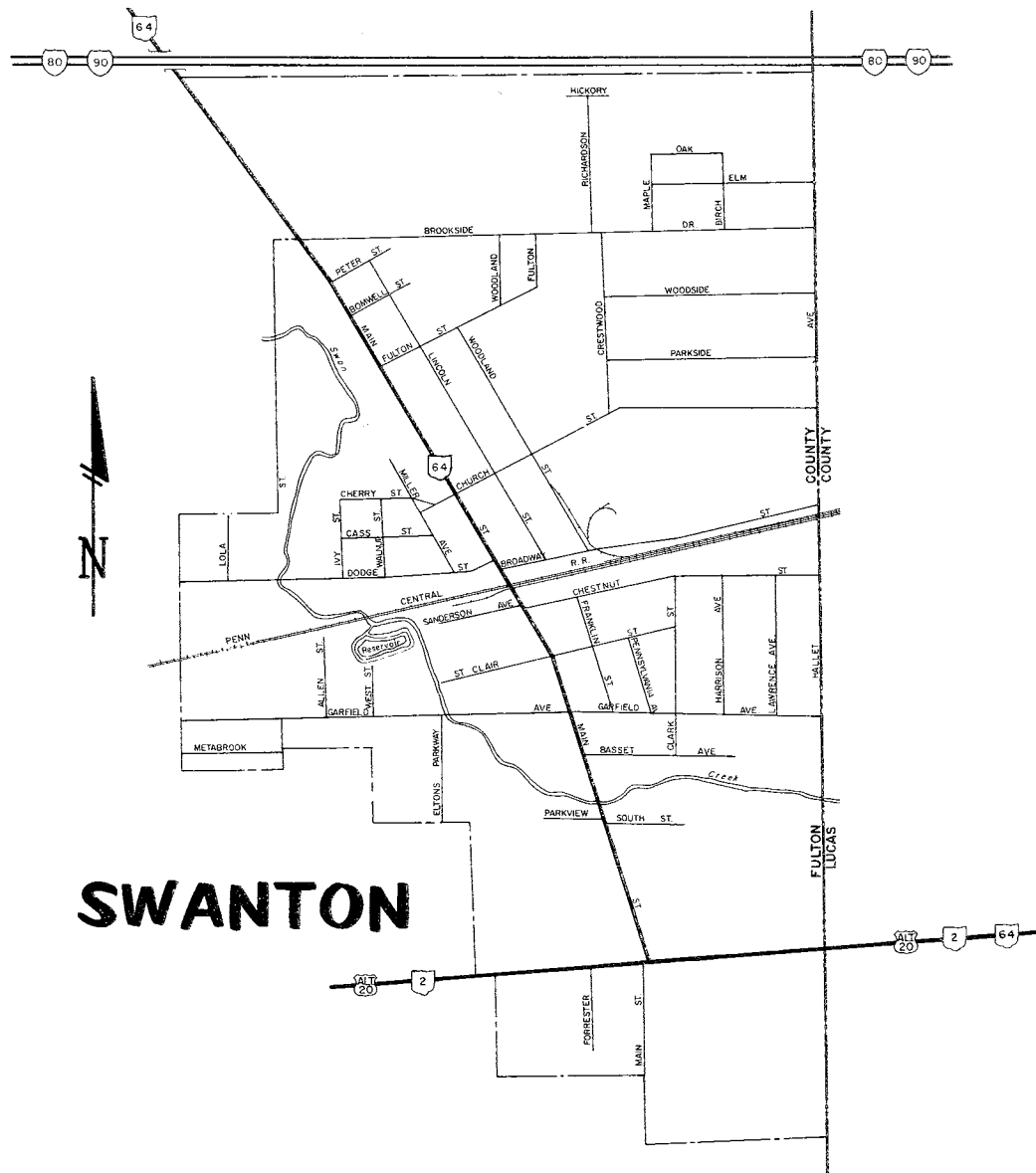
Bicentennial Book Committee: Elaine Keller, Midge Walter, co-chairwomen; Jana Broglin; Norma Slawinski; Myrna Purdy; Richard Harding; Nancy Miller; Bill Miller; Eva Carpenter; John Bonam; Gail Phipps, sketches.

A Pictorial History of Swanton, Ohio

Then and Now

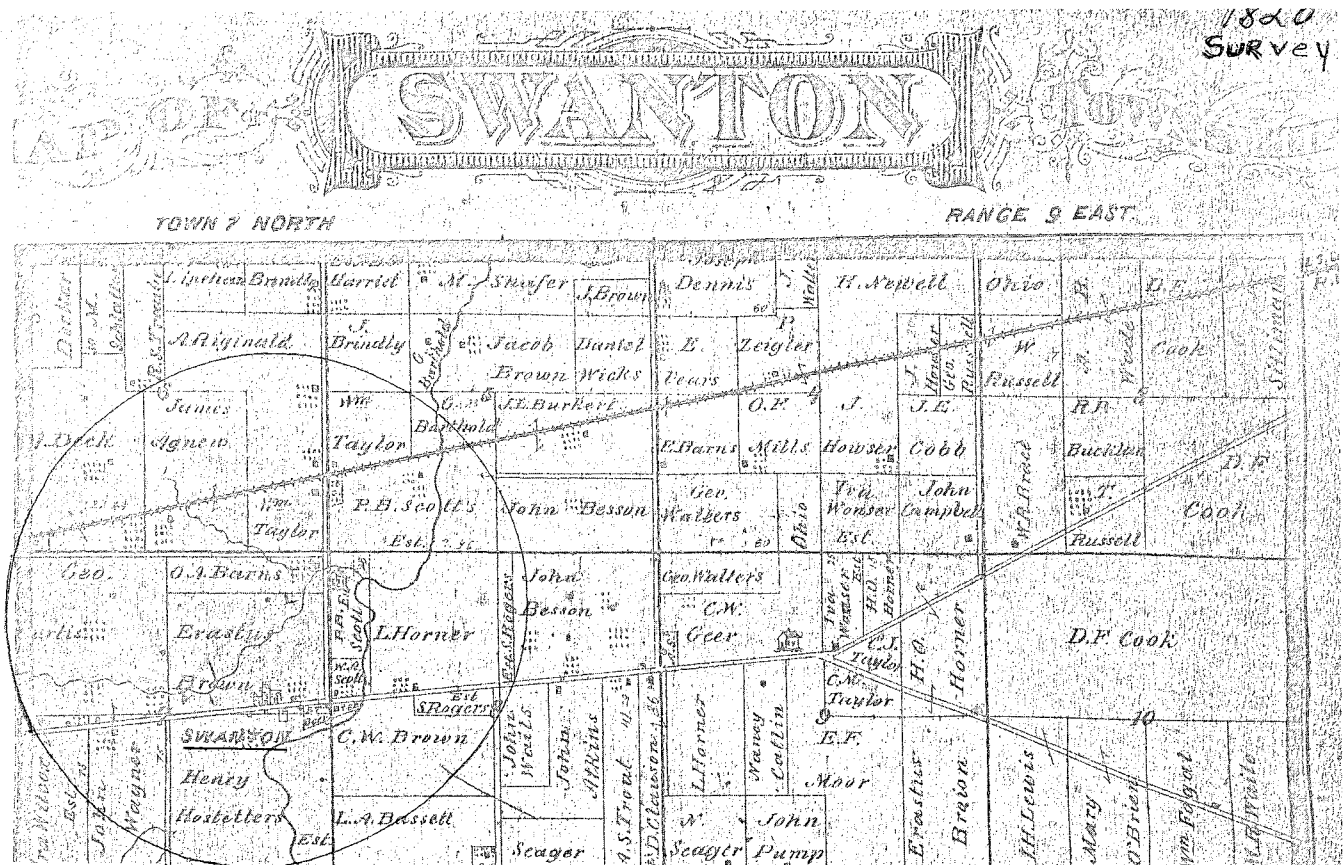


OHIO STATEHOOD	1803
FULTON COUNTY ERECTED	2/28/1850
SWANTON INCORPORATED	2/19/1883



In the Beginning

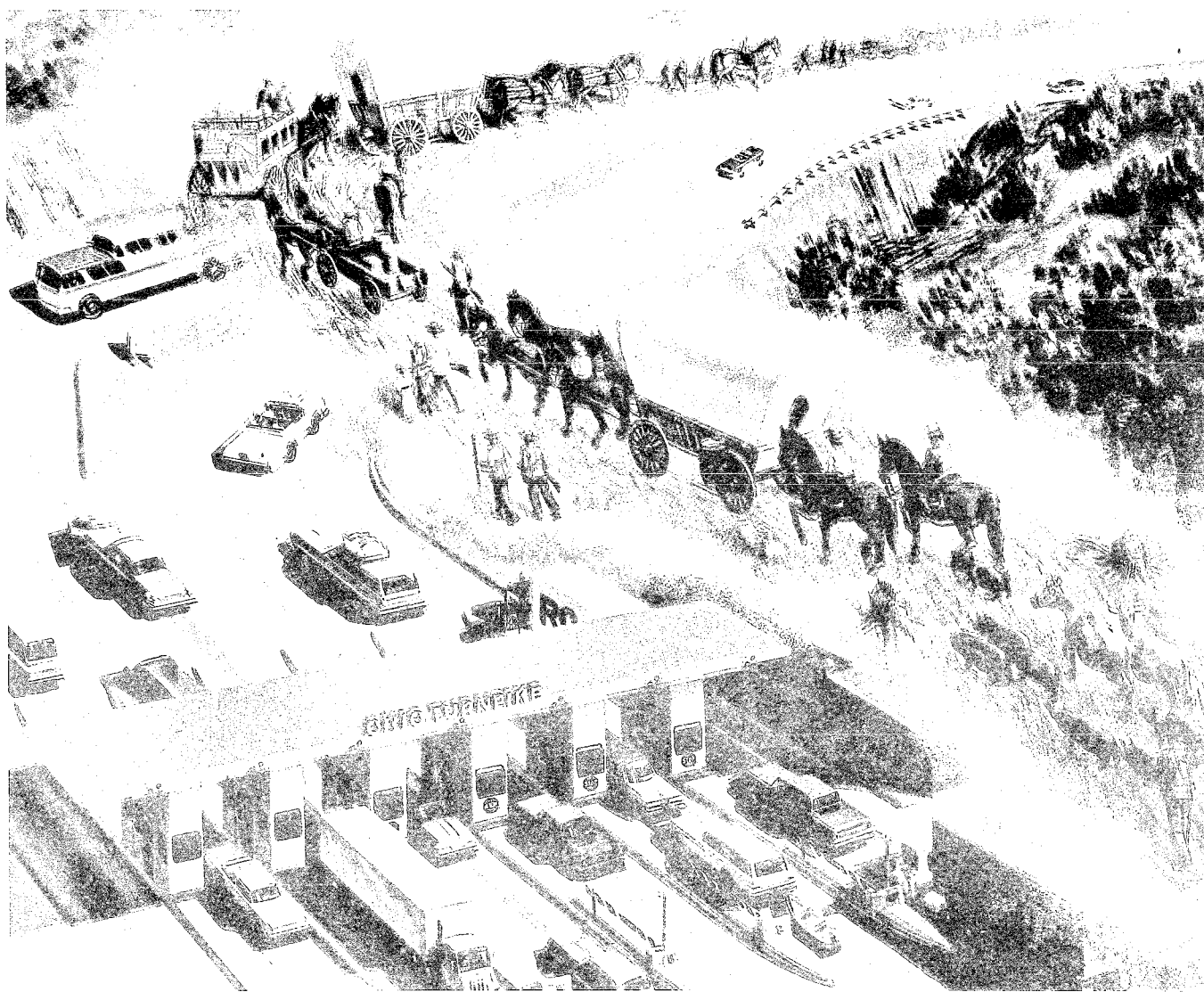
In the Beginning



Swanton had some difficulty deciding where to locate. In 1848 the first settlement called Swanton was established about a mile east of the Fulton—Lucas line on State Route 2 at the end of the present Scott Road. It contained a store, a wagonshop, and a blacksmith shop. Both Mr. Kirkland and David Miller had hotels there. These were used by settlers on their way to Maumee, the nearest trading post.

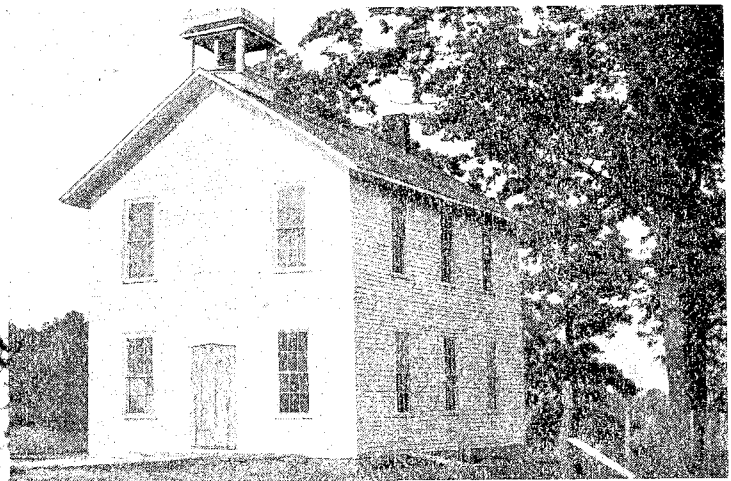
About 1850, the plank road called "The Pike" was built from Maumee, through Lucas County into Fulton County about eleven miles, stopping between the present Delta and Wauseon. Few motorists skimming along Airport Highway today realize that they are riding over ghosts of sturdy old logs, split lengthwise and lying side by side at intervals of six to eight inches which our pioneer founders cut from the virgin forests and rolled into their places in the mud.

Nor are these motorists aware as they collect a toll ticket on the Ohio Turnpike that follows the northern border of Swanton, that a toll gate for the Plank Road Pike was situated about one and one half miles east of Swanton, to collect fares from people using the road. Toll charge: 10 cents.



Turnpike — Then and Now!

A Pioneer cemetery was located on Scott Road hill north of the Old Plank Road, and on the hill north of that was a log school overlooking Swan Creek. This was replaced in 1867 by a two story frame building.



East Swanton School
1867 – 1909

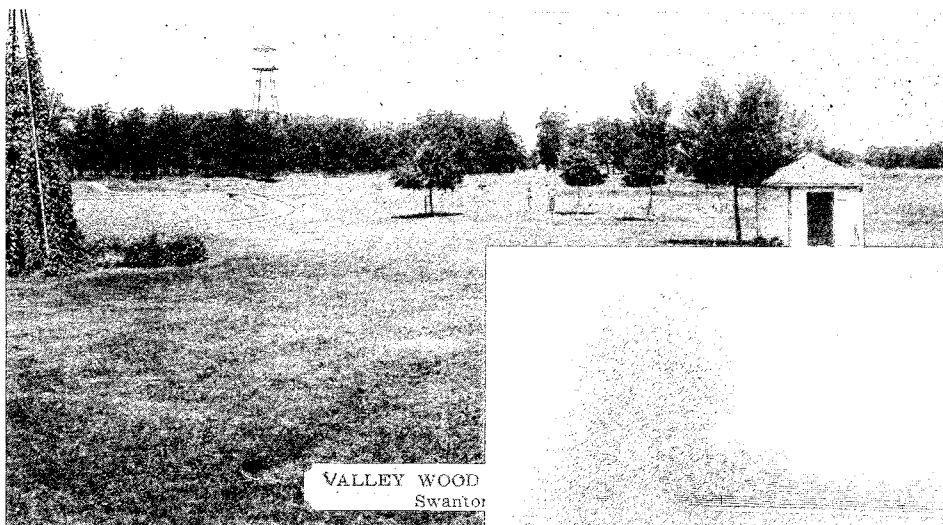
Former students remember when Swan Creek overflowed and the bridge collapsed as the school wagon was crossing to take the children home. The horses swam the wagon to safety, but it was a long remembered excitement.



East Swanton Cemetery



East Swanton School – Teacher: Lottie Matzinger



Valleywood golf course c. 1940.

This was the house which became the first Valleywood Clubhouse.



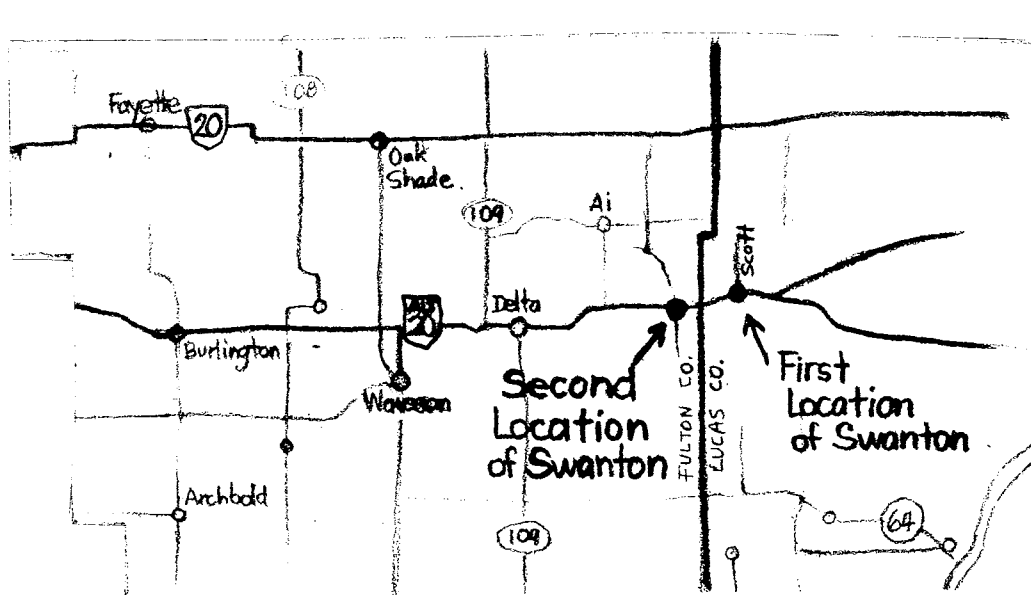
Others beside the present day golfers have “played” on the land now known as Valleywood Golf Club, located on Airport Highway. This was at the location of the original Swanton and their neighbors, a tribe of 300 Indians who lived in a village on the north bank of Swan Creek. The farm was originally owned by Erastus Brown, later by J. E. Coon who remodeled the house. When the golf club was organized, the house was again rebuilt and remained in use until the new club house was built.



Reunion picture of the class of 1939 in front of the old clubhouse. The new one can be seen under construction in the background.



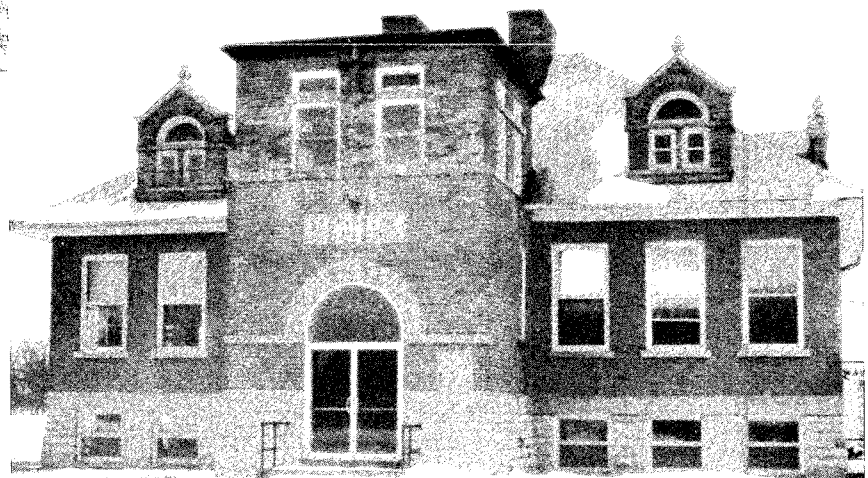
Valleywood today.



East Swanton thrived for a while, but with the building of the Plank Road, a village began to grow about one quarter mile west of the Fulton County line. It was called Centerville at first, later Swanton. To distinguish between the two Swantons, they were called East Swanton (Lucas County) and West Swanton (Fulton County). A former school now called Swanton Township Hall number II marks the site.



The "Hall" in 1914 when it was still a school. Claire Webb Coon was the teacher.



Township Hall as it is today.

West Swanton continued to grow. A. J. Allman opened a dry goods business. Then Wesley Knight bought the hotel and about Christmas time his intentions of running a Temperance Hotel from the first of the year were made known. The laborers from the railroad and other sympathizers decided they should make the most of their last chance, and they had a riotous time at the hotel on Christmas Day. When the Knight family arrived Christmas night they found the landlord and his wife lying on the bed in a drunken stupor; the bar-room floor was covered with whiskey up to one and one-half inches deep, the barrel-bungs having come loose; and the stove was broken into many pieces. The Knight family slept on the sitting room floor, the most nearly decent place in the house. The next morning Wesley Knight opened for business, which continued for another forty years and never once served intoxicating beverages.



Wesley Knight



“Grandpa” John Templeton lived west of the Centerville settlement in this log cabin he had built. He raised a large family of stout, hardy boys and girls. John weighed about 450 pounds. He came to this area in 1853.

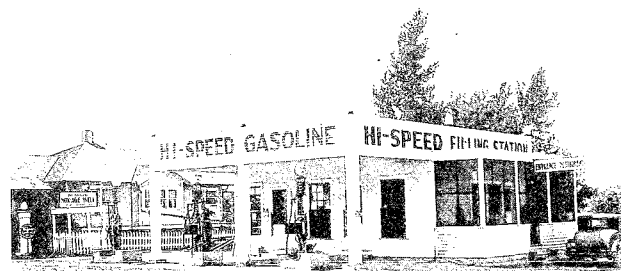


View of Airport Highway and South Main in the early 1900's. The combination gas station, grocery store & colonial bus station, shown on the left, was later used for storage by the Lee & Cady Co.

On the right the road signs directed drivers to Blissfield, 16 miles; Metamora, 10 miles; Swanton, 1 mile; and Caraghar (Assumption), 7 miles.



Mobilgas — on the SW corner.



Present location of Chrysler Plymouth.



Today — a little farther East.

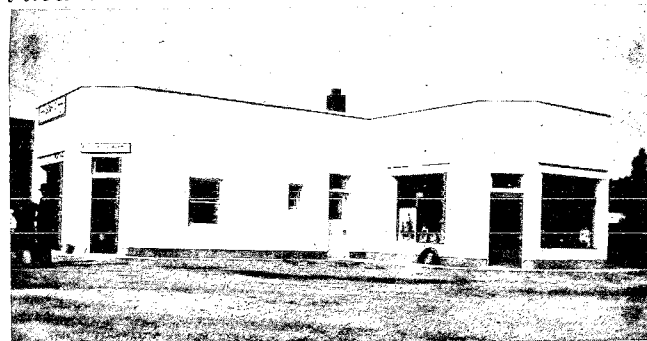
Centerville or West Swanton located on Airport Highway

- Chicago Pike
- The Pike
- Plank Road



Some persons will remember this small gas station that was once located at the corner of Airport Highway and South Main St. There were no gas pumps, so gas had to be measured by either a one gallon or a five gallon container. The far left portion, or the brick building, was left and then remodeled, and.....

And then.....



made into the building shown above. This was a familiar sight for many years. At one time the Hollie Bartletts owned a grocery store in the right section of the above building and the Sohio Station was operated out of the left section.

And Now

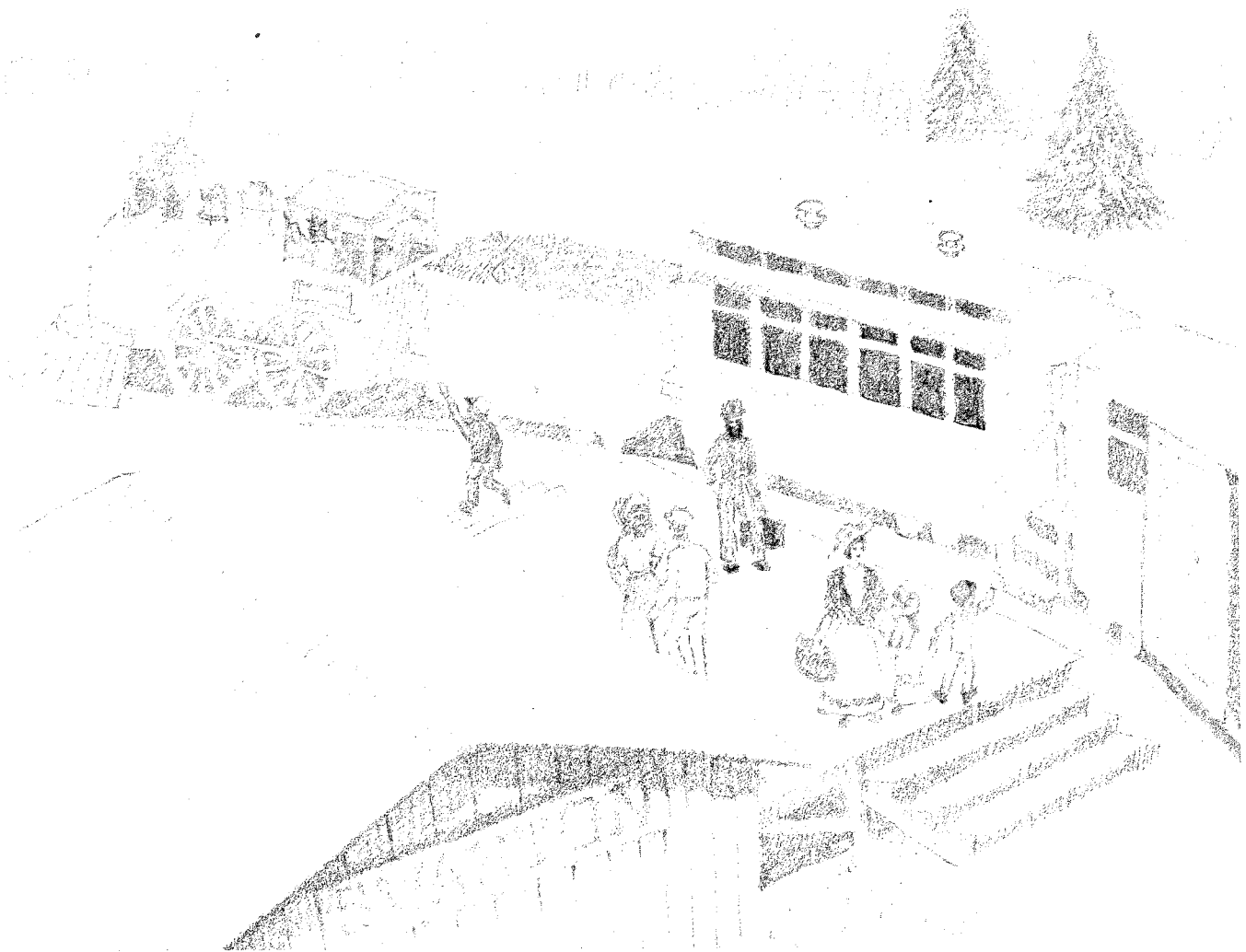


Just last Thursday the Swanton landmark was razed to make way for a new Sohio Station. B & L Wrecking, Toledo, was in charge of the destruction of the station. Within 15 minutes, the building was completely down. Bill Paxton and Roosevelt McCoy were part of the team in charge and were given instructions not to destroy the tulips located on the boulevard. It seems Wayne Mohr, former owner of the station, is a sentimentalist about tulips and was concerned for the tulips.

Aerial view of Centerville c. 1950



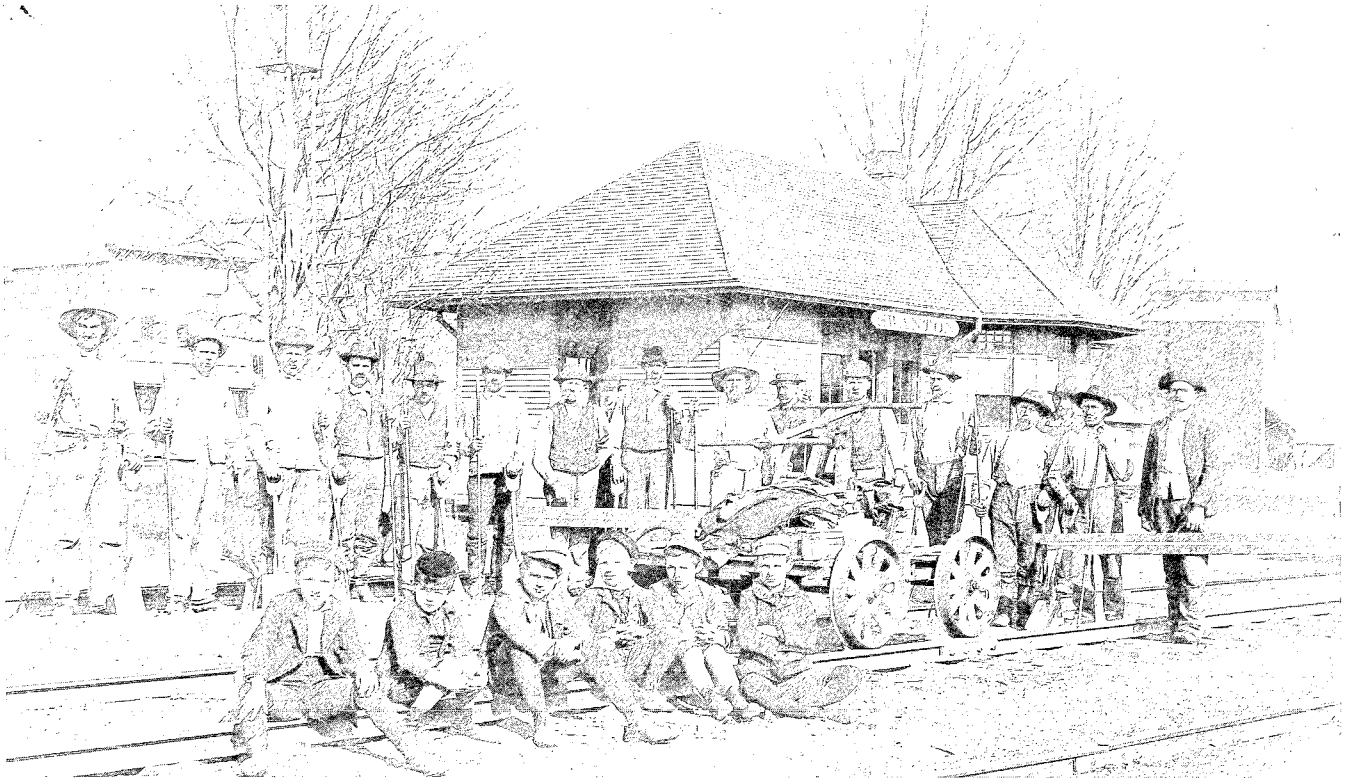
Even before Fulton County was formed, the pioneers saw the need for better transportation and they tried to promote the establishment of a railroad in the area. When the Junction Railroad was started it was planned to connect the markets from Cleveland to Chicago. Some work was done and stocks were purchased by many area residents. It failed to carry through its project because in 1854 it was bought out by the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern. About then they had started their own railroad, the "Air Line" and it was rapidly put into service. It ran from Toledo, west through Fulton and Williams counties into Indiana and on to Chicago. In 1853 the Air Line passenger train was serving Swanton and the mail was carried by train instead of by wagon. These early trains caused much excitement and residents thought it a real occasion to "see the train come in." The coming of the railroad brought an increase in settlers and in business affairs. A new age was begun.



The New Age

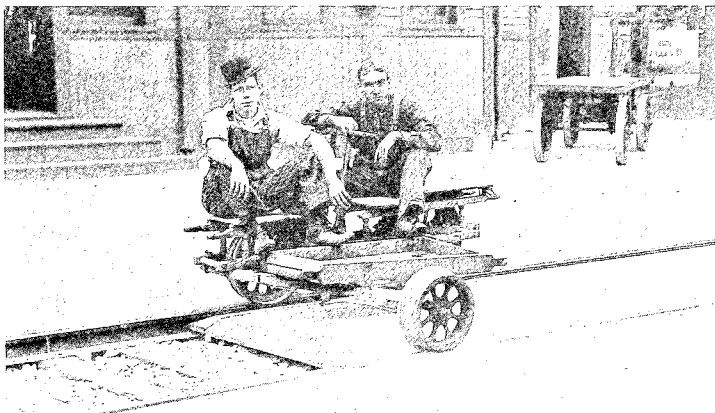
The New Age

With the beginning of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern, Swanton began to flourish.



Section gang at Swanton Depot, 1892.

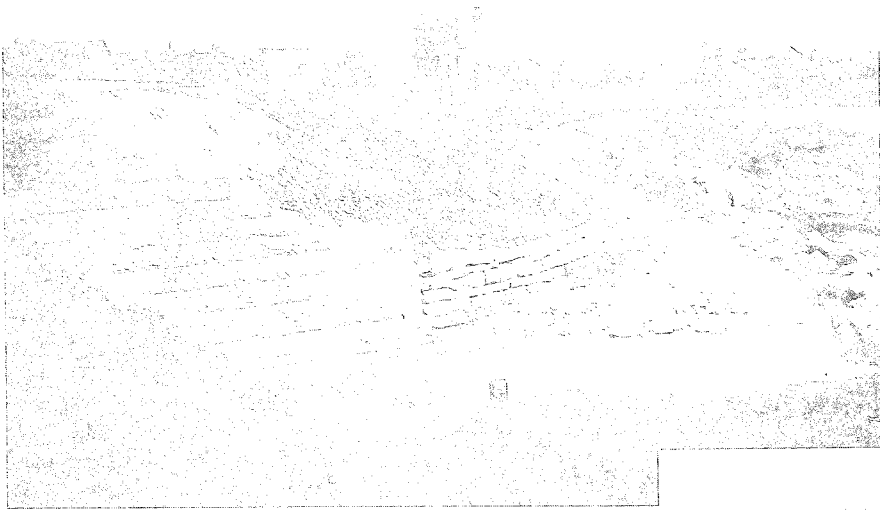
Keeping the tracks in order required a lot of work and this crew had not only men as workers but small boy admirers. Shown are Doc Metz, Henry Fisher, Jacob Fisher, Emerson Wicks, Louis Bowers, John Dill, John Caskey (foreman), Martin Fels, Albert Gilmore, Otto Sperling, Sam Minnich (crossing watchman), Jesse Ickes Sr., Philo Scott, Gottlieb Bringhoff, Frank (Benny) Mills, August Berban, Charles Turnbull (foreman), Boys: Ray (Colonel) Beecher, Guy Marsh, Wallace Hallett, Ed Caskey, Fred Brindley and Guy Rowland.



These two workmen were the only people employed to check the tracks for broken rails on the New York Central System in 1911.

Charles Jacobs

Frank Gardner



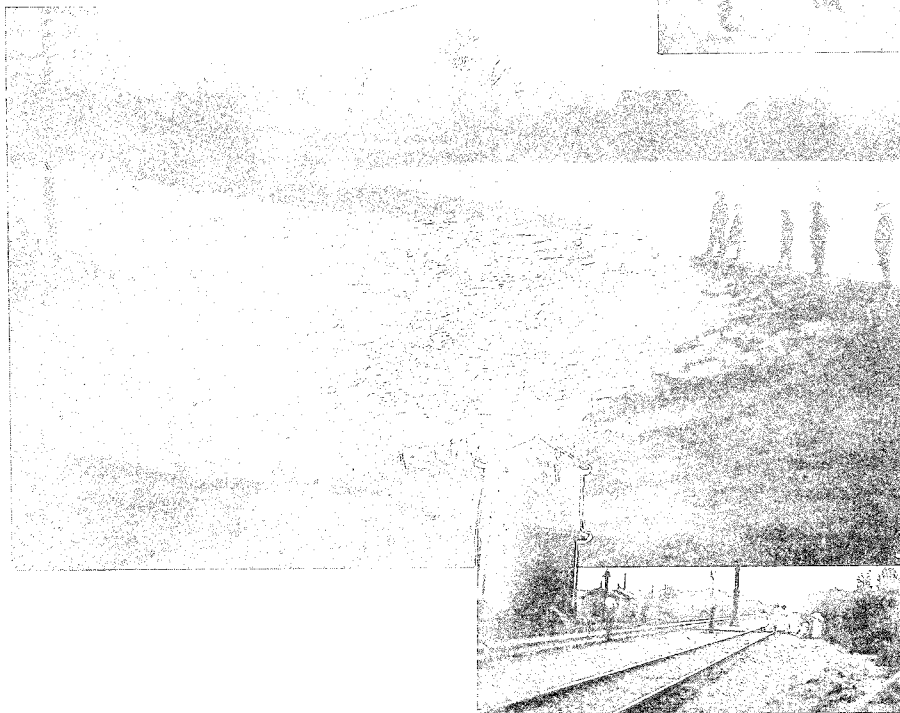
A view of Swan Creek that goes under the railroad tracks and around the side of the reservoir.

When the railroad tracks were constructed a large reservoir was dug beside them.

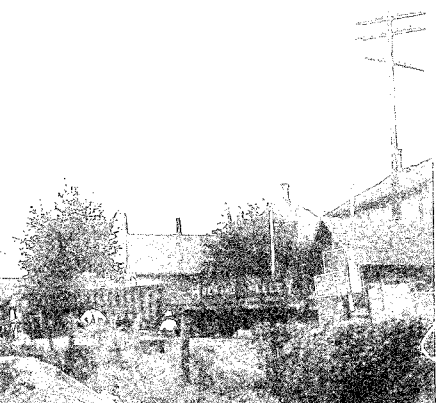
In the early days the citizens of Swanton made good use of their reservoir. In the summertime they swam in it, and in the wintertime, ice was cut from it and stored in an ice house on its southern bank.



This water tank was located on the south side of the railroad, west of the main street crossing. Trains passing through took on water for the steam engines. The water was pumped into the water tower by a gasoline engine.



In the early 1900's the water broke through the banks of the reservoir and caused flooding.





1909 — C. F. Smith & Family, J. C. Curtis

S. 2876-1,000 Bks.-100L.
H. F. & J. Co.

SHIPPING RECEIPT.

THE LAKE SHORE & MICHIGAN SOUTHERN RAILWAY CO.

JUL 22 1901

190

Received from F. J. CURTIS,

By THE LAKE SHORE & MICHIGAN SOUTHERN RAILWAY CO. the property described below, in apparent good order, except as noted (contents and condition of contents of packages, packages, marked, numbered and described as indicated below, which the said Company agrees to carry to said destination, subject to its rules, regulations and to any other orders on the route to said destination. It is mutually agreed, as to each article of said property, that every article to be transported hereunder shall be subject to all the conditions, whether printed or written, herein contained, BOTH ON THE FACE AND ON THE BACK HEREOF, and which are hereby agreed to by the shipper, and by him accepted for himself and his assigns as just and reasonable.

Upon all the conditions, whether printed or written, in contained, it is mutually agreed that the rate of freight from Swanton to Toledo is to be 1.00 per 100 lbs.

And advanced charges at Swanton \$ 1.00

MARKS, CONSIGNEES AND DESTINATION.	DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLES.	WEIGHT. Subject to Correction.
<u>Red the Bros</u>	<u>3-30 Eggs</u>	
<u>Toledo</u>	<u>1-36</u>	
<u>marked 125</u>	<u>1 coop of cho,</u>	

Freight Agent.

Shipping receipt, 1901.

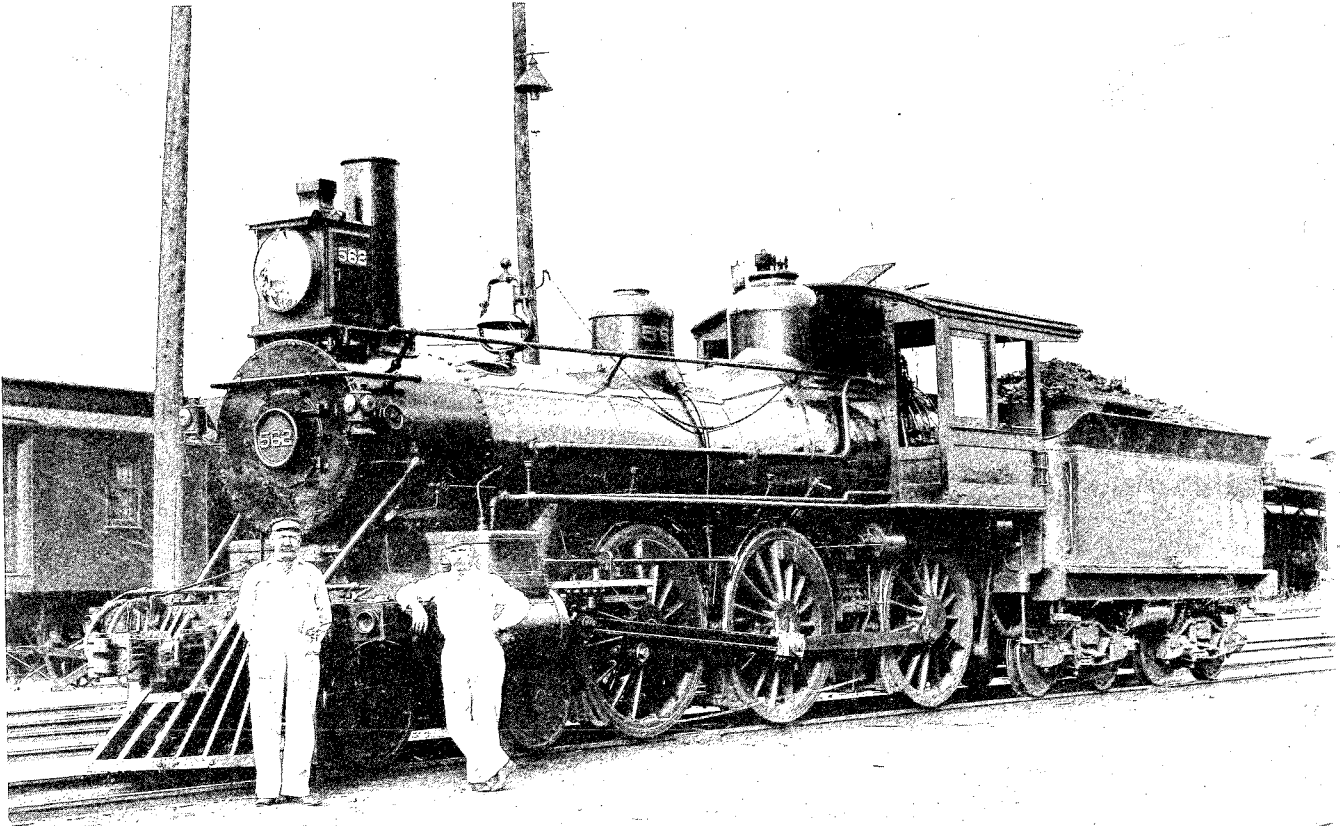
The Lake Shore and Michigan Southern started about 1854. It first consisted of a wood burning engine, a car for hauling wood and water, and one passenger coach. It sometimes reached the fantastic speed of 15 miles per hour, which was considered so fast as to be unbelievable by many pioneers.



The buggies may have been left by the people boarding the special theatre train which was run from Swanton to Toledo on the Lake Shore railroad. Fare for round trip was 40 cents.



Lake Shore & Michigan Southern



Engineer and fireman pose proudly beside their engine 562 loaded with coal and ready to roll.

L. S. & M. S. R. R. TIME TABLE.

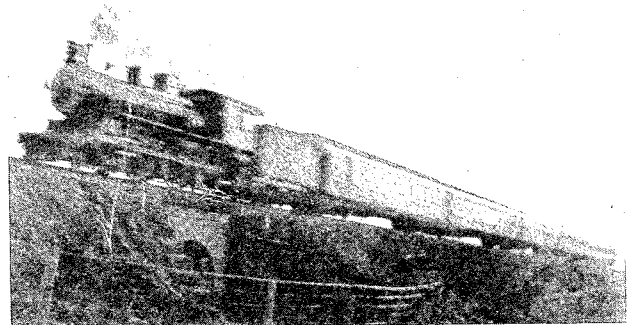
J. GEHRING, Agent, Swanton

A. J. Smith, G. P. A. Cleveland, Ohio.

GOING WEST.....	No. 37.	No. 157.	No. 151
Toledo.....	11:05 a m	7:45 a m	5:00 p m
Swanton	11:42	8:12 a m	5:35 p m
Wauseon.....	12:09 a m	8:32 a m	6:00 p m
GOING EAST.....	No. 152.	No. 2.	No. 28
Wauseon	7:40 a m	2:46 p m	2:57 p m
Swanton.....	8:08 a m	3:13 p m	
Toledo.....	8:40 a m	3:50 p m	3:50 p m



A crossing East of Swanton.

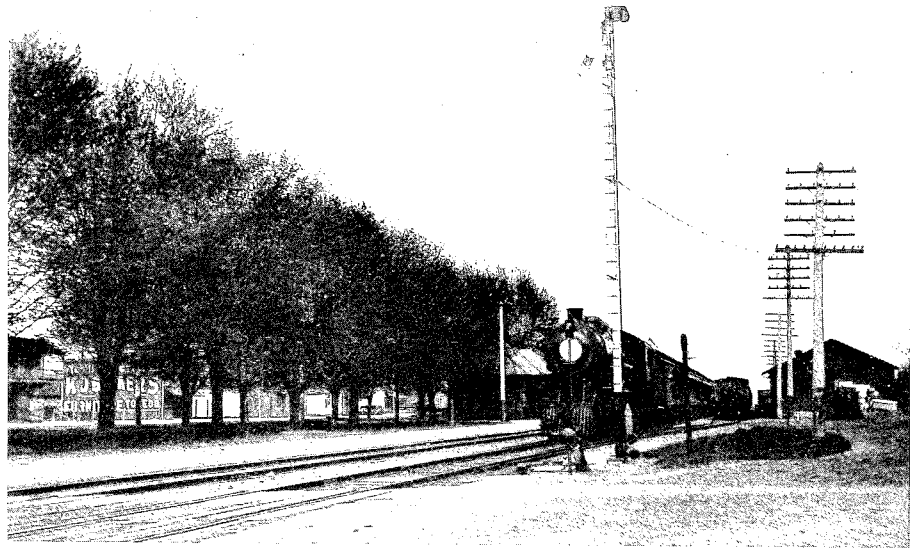


The smoke was not a sign of pollution — only a sign to “come watch the train go through”.

The building on the right was the freight depot where the train stopped daily to unload the mail, as well as pick up or unload freight. This is the present location of the rescue squad building.

The little building is where coal was kept to heat both depots.

Burr Allen's livery barn, present location of McQuade's law office.

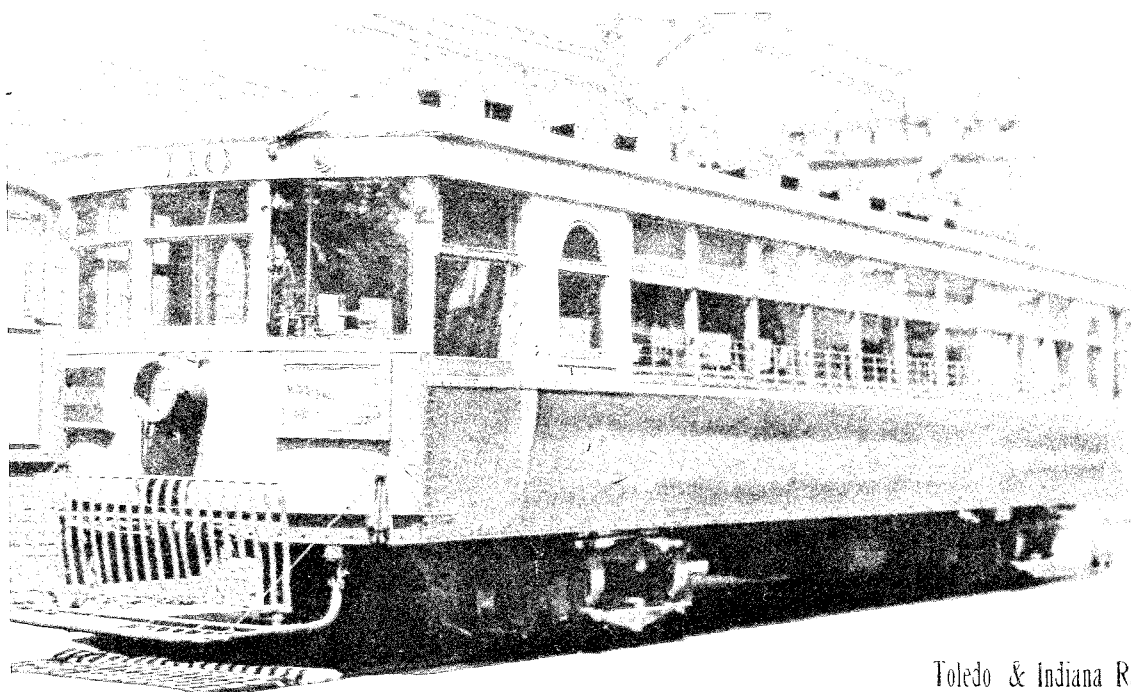


Board walk
of
Swanton.

See the street car coming down the track!

Broadway N. Y. city never looked like Broadway, Swanton, Ohio.





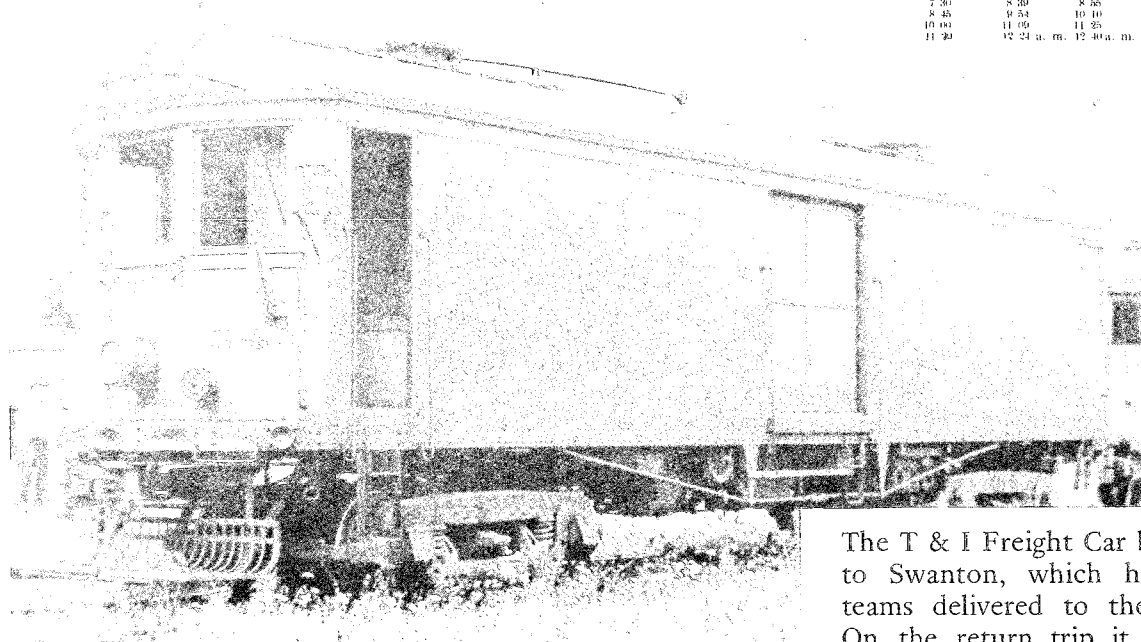
T & I
Passenger
Car

Early in 1903 the Toledo and Indiana Electric Railway was built along the north side of the New York Central railroad. It curved into Broadway, crossed Main St. and turned west on Dodge. A frame building next to the corner of Main and Dodge was moved back and became the depot. This allowed the street car a more direct path and explains the unusual shape at the rear of the corner building. From Swanton the "trolley" went on to Delta, Wauseon, Pettisville and Archbold. On the return trips passengers could board anywhere along the line. This was called "taking the car".

Toledo & Indiana Railway.

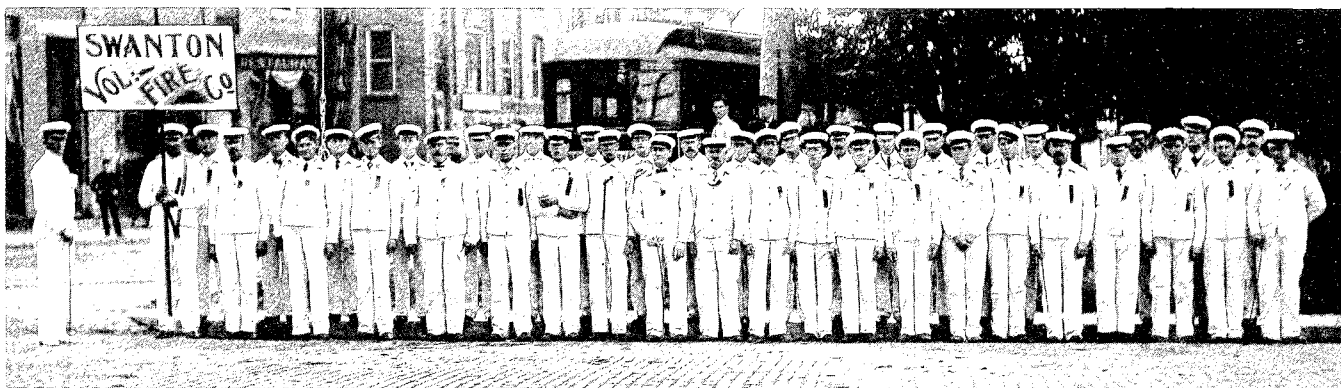
TIME CARD.

GOING EAST.			
Leave, Wauseon.	Leave, Delta.	Leave, Swanton.	Arrive, Toledo.
1 00 a. m.	1 30 a. m.	5 50 a. m.	7 00 a. m.
6 30	6 55	7 05	8 15
7 15	8 05	8 21	9 30
9 00	9 30	9 35	10 45
10 15	10 35	10 51	12 01 p. m.
11 30	11 50	12 06 p. m.	1 15
12 45 p. m.	1 00 p. m.	1 21	2 30
2 00	2 30	2 36	3 45
3 15	3 35	3 51	5 00
4 30	4 50	5 06	6 15
5 45	6 05	6 21	7 30
7 00	7 20	7 36	8 45
8 15	8 35	8 51	10 00
9 30	9 50	10 06	11 15
10 45	11 05	11 21	12 30 a. m.
11 45	12 05 a. m.		
GOING WEST.			
Leave, Toledo.	Leave, Swanton.	Leave, Delta.	Arrive, Wauseon.
6 00 a. m.	7 05 a. m.	7 35	8 45
7 00	8 00	8 25	9 30
8 15	9 21	9 40	10 45
9 30	10 39	10 55	12 01 p. m.
10 45 a. m.	11 54	12 10 p. m.	1 15
12 01 p. m.	1 00 p. m.	1 25	2 30
1 15	2 24	2 40	3 45
2 30	3 39	3 55	5 00
3 45	4 54	5 10	6 15
5 00	6 09	6 25	7 30
6 15	7 24	7 40	8 45
7 30	8 39	8 55	10 00
8 45	9 54	10 10	11 15
10 00	11 09	11 25	12 30 a. m.
11 30	12 34 a. m.	12 40 a. m.	1 00 a. m.



T & I
Freight
Car

The T & I Freight Car brought groceries to Swanton, which horse and wagon teams delivered to the grocery stores. On the return trip it picked up flour from the Swanton Mill for Toledo.



Members of the Swanton Volunteer Fire Department c. 1900, no doubt posing before boarding the trolley seen in the background, for a days outing at Toledo Beach.



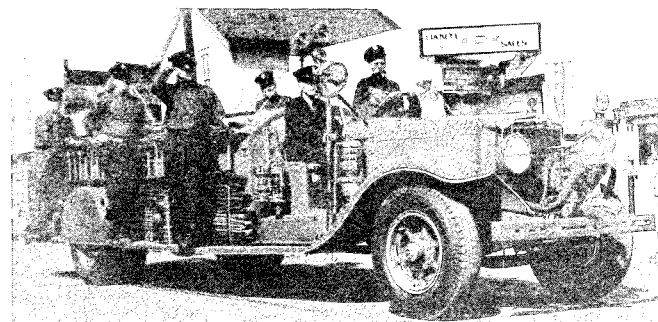
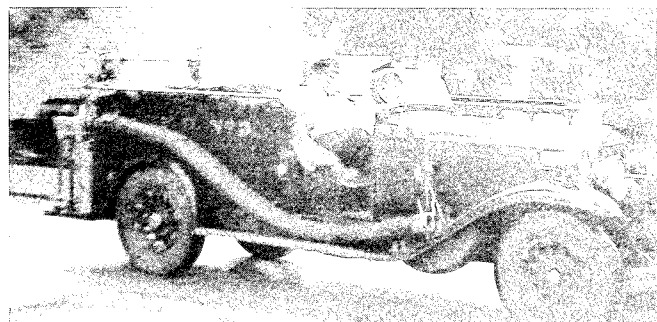
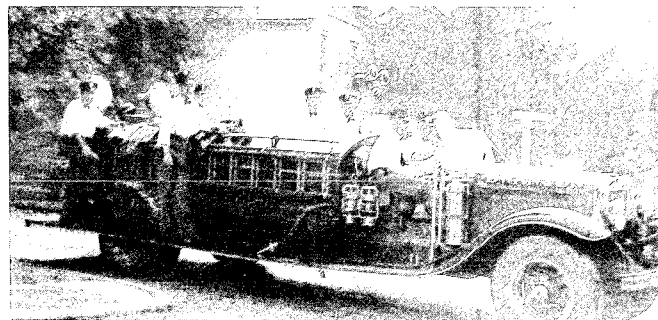
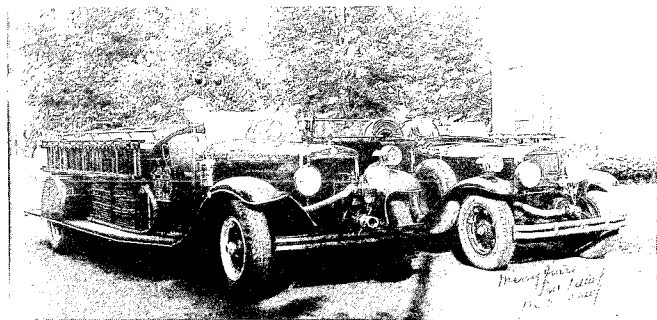
T. J. Pilliod,
Fire Chief
1928 – 1949

The first equipment consisted of a hand pumper, requiring twenty men to operate and a ladder truck. The hose was carried on a reel supported by two large wheels. All this equipment was hand-drawn and hand-operated, and for this reason, the department consisted of a great many members, usually from 50 to 100.

Water was supplied from cisterns located every few blocks from the center of town out into the residential district.

The hook and ladder truck was equipped with possibly 25 to 30 leather buckets. This bucket brigade, and the hand pumper, supplying water through a hose line were Swanton's only protection until the village installed a waterworks system in the 1900's. At that time, the hand pumper was dispensed with, and an additional reel of hose was added, which could be connected to hydrants spaced throughout the town.

Swanton Village Trucks



Swanton Volunteer Fire Department.

First Meeting 20 Years Ago

A meeting of the interested citizens of Swanton was held for the organization of a fire company on Wednesday, Feb. 20, 1895 in the Curtis Bldg. which served as temporary headquarters for the engine.

The following officers and committees were chosen.

F. E. Pilliod, Chief.
C. E. Marsh, Asst. Chief.
B. F. Mills, Foreman.
Theo. Little, 1st. Nozzelman,
A. F. Coon, 2nd. Nozzelman.
Side Captains

W. A. Scott, Jr.
Herb Mills
Ambrose Brown
J. B. Templeton

Committees on By Laws.

W. A. Scott, Jr.
F. E. Pilliod
W. W. Geer

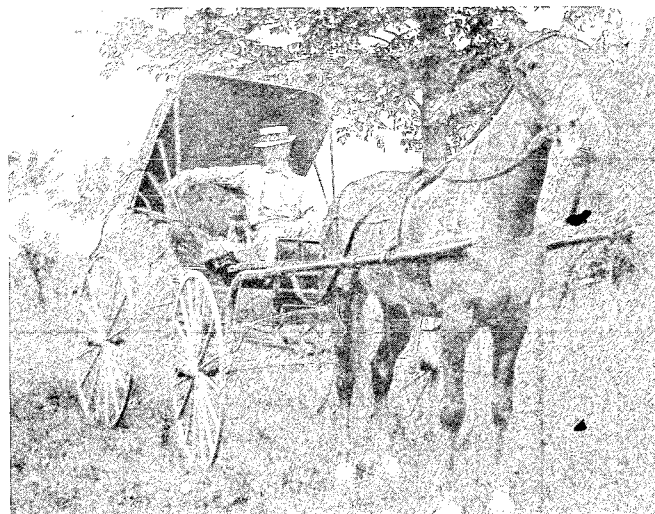
Constitution and By Laws were adopted on Feb. 28, 1895.

Other means of transportation were available in the early days.

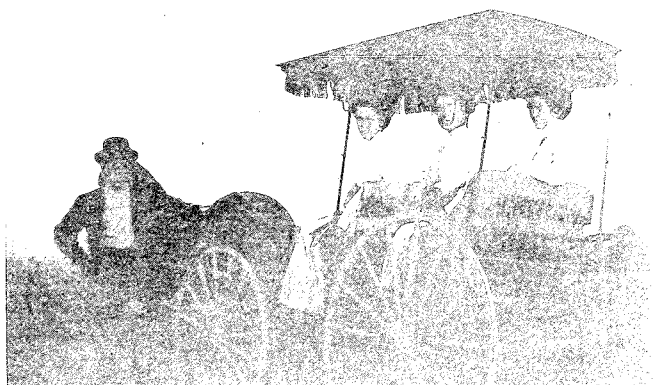


Sleigh Ride in 1910.

Plummers, on the corner of St. Clair and South Main, has been built right around this house. Joe Perkins rented sleighs for sleigh ride parties.

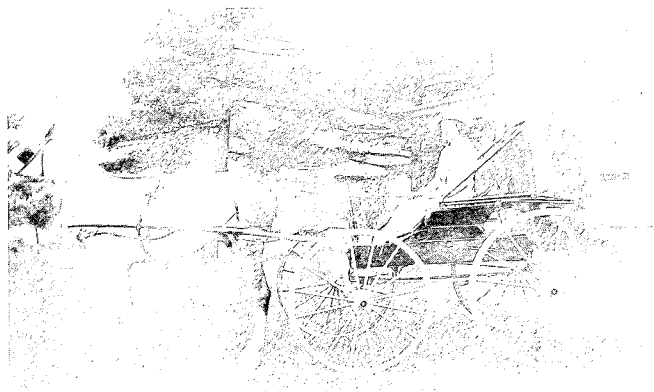


Seal Fleming



Surrey with the fringe on top.

Peter Dumaresq and daughters — Carrie, Minnie, and Besse.



Horse and Buggy
Ethel Hamilton — the driver.



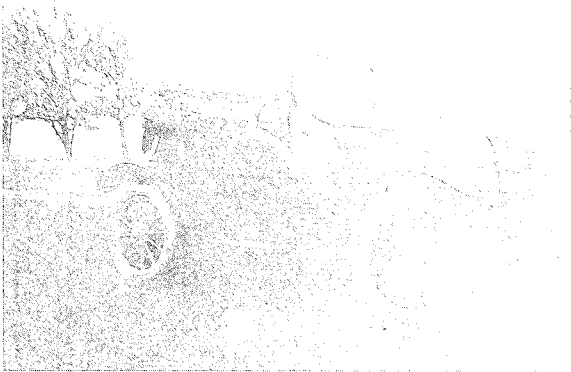
Store keepers and city folk welcome farmers with horse drawn wagons, in town for shopping or bringing grain to the mill. Fancy fly fringe hung over the horses.

But if they couldn't get "in" to town W. H. Mills peddled tin wear and dry goods through the country for 61 years. He lived at 201 Clark Street, present home of the Ira Hardings. He used to stay with them when they lived in the country — late in the evening just drive in and unhitch his horses — knew he'd be welcome.



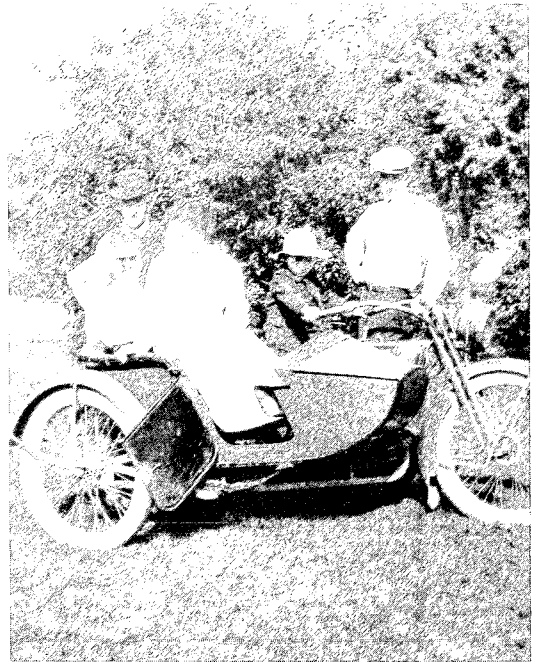
All dressed up in their finest bonnets and headed for a social gathering in a wagon with mud coated wheels.

After the horse came these “new fangled machines”, and Swanton residents began driving motorcycles with sidecars and high, spoke-wheeled, open and side curtained automobiles.

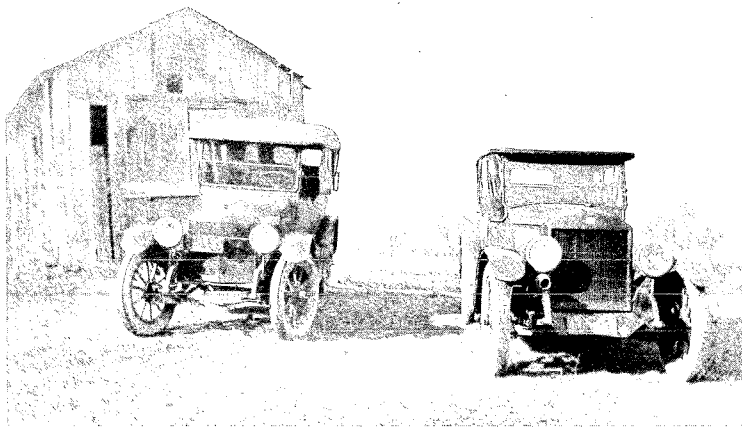


Henry Leist's car “Little” Auto.

Automobiles of the day were referred to as Machines or Autos.



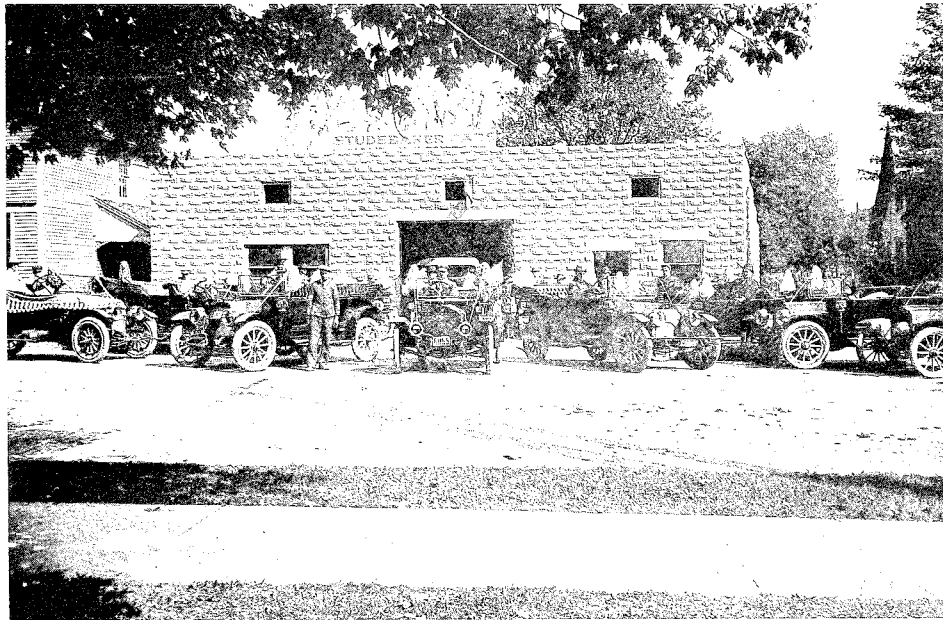
Peter Dumaresq, Ferne Baker, Bill Butler, Besse Dumaresq, Edgar Baker in a motorcycle with sidecar.



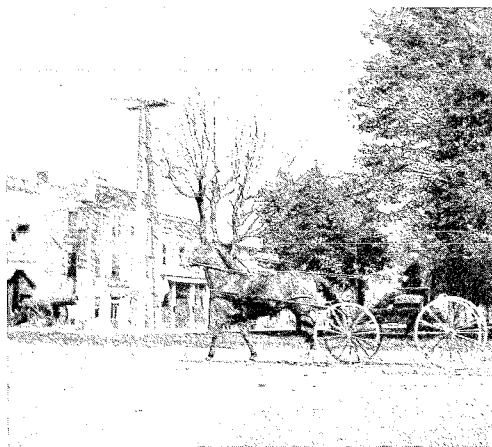
The Stanley Steamer



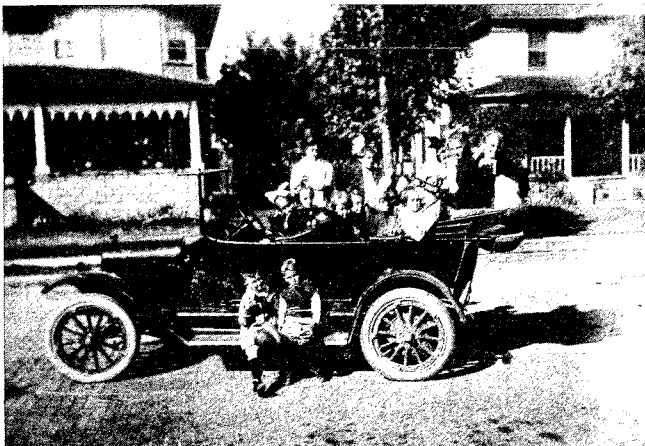
“Pope Toledo” Auto.



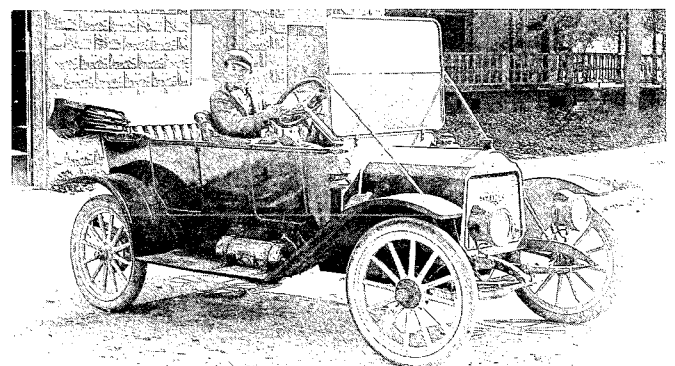
1912. New cars lined up in front of the present McNeills garage after a Corn Festival parade the year the garage was built. Josie Deck, dealer, standing. Dick Harding is in the center car. These are EMF (every morning fix-it) and Flanders Cars made by Studebaker.



Buggy horse on Main Street. The cannon in the background was moved to the park.

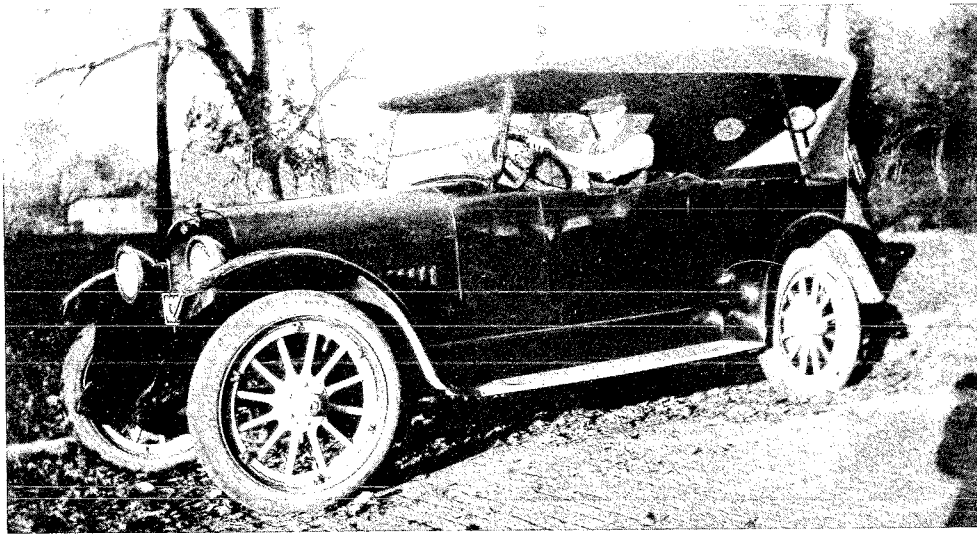
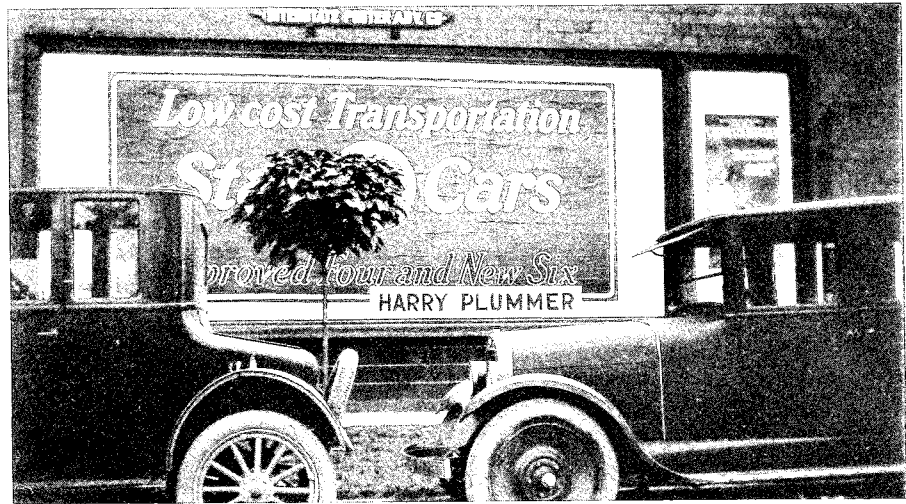


A Chalmers c. 1920. Wright & Grove Houses in background.

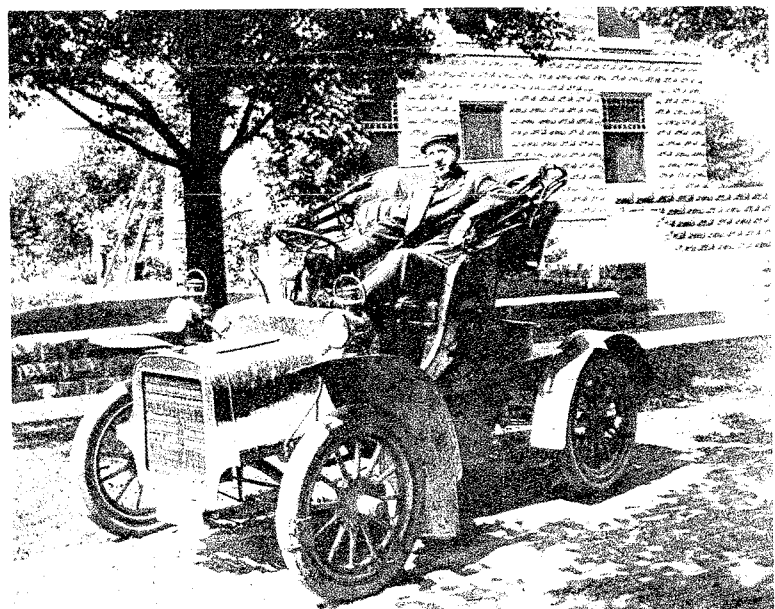


Dick Harding — 1912 — behind the wheel of a right hand drive "machine".

Star Cars sold by
Harry Plummer.



Edgar Baker
in
Nash Touring Car
1919



1 cylinder Cadillac — 1902.

A fella could always go horseback — — —



— — — as this picture of Frank Curtis in front of his home on North Main.

Or even walk — as is Abe Kaley, seen hoofing it along North Main — no doubt going to Swan Creek fishing. Fish in Swan Creek? Old timers swear to it!



Swanton - The Town

Swanton - The Town



SWAN CREEK NEAR SWANTON, O.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

TOWN OFFICIALS.

Mayor.....Dr A B Lathrop
 Treasurer.....F E Pilliod
 Clerk.....Chas Marsh
 Marshall and St Comm.....Wm Donnelly
 Police Justice.....J B Templeton
 Councilmen.....{ Fred Helfrich R W Fenton
 { J W Vaughn T W Knight
 { T Livingston S W Sly
 Justice of Peace, Fulton Twp.....G W Humphrey
 Swan Creek.....J B Templeton
 { Hon W A Scott, Sec J Hall
 School Board.....{ Dr A B Lathrop L D Boyer
 { G D Spaulding E C Wilcox
 Health Board { John F. McBride, J. E. Mianich
 { Dr. W. A. Scott, G. D. Spaulding
 { Fred Helfrich, M. R. Martin.

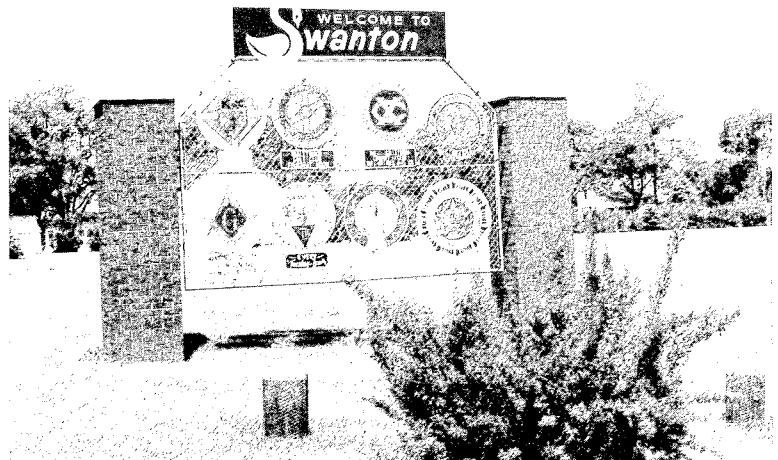
CHURCHES.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.
 REV D S BOYD, PASTOR.
 Services every Sunday at 11 a m and at 7 p m
 Sunday school at 9 a m.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.
 REV N B C LOVE, D D., PASTOR.
 Services every Sunday at 11 a m and at 7 p m
 Sunday school at 9 a m.
 Junior League 2.30 p m. Epworth League from
 6 to 7 p m.

THE NEW GERMAN BAPTIST CHURCH.
 REV SEBASTIAN LIPE, PASTOR.
Services.
 At Swanton, every other Sunday at 2 p. m. and
 every other Sunday at 8 p. m.
 At Spencer, every other Sunday at 12 m. and
 every other Sunday at 8 p. m.

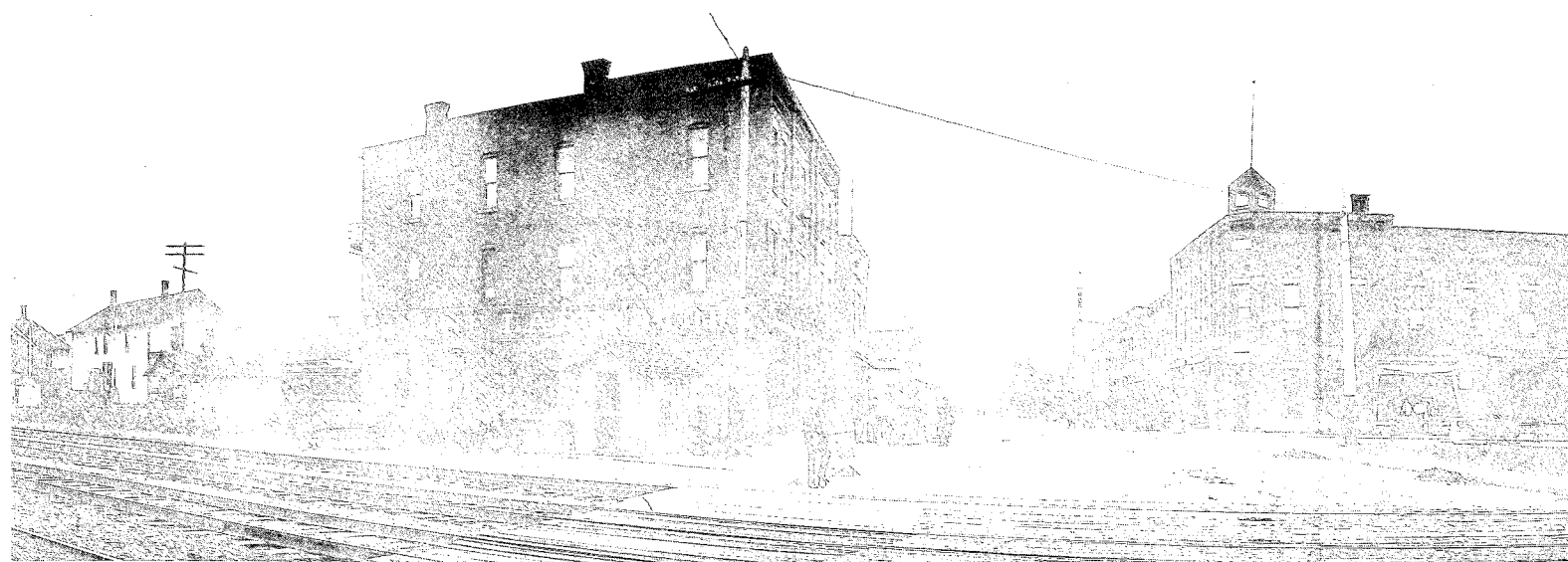
The name of Swanton came from Swan Creek, but the origin of the name of the creek is uncertain. It has been said that some early settlers mistook some cranes on the creek for swans and thus named the stream Swan Creek.



Today: A welcome extended by the service clubs and lodges to all who travel Airport Highway.



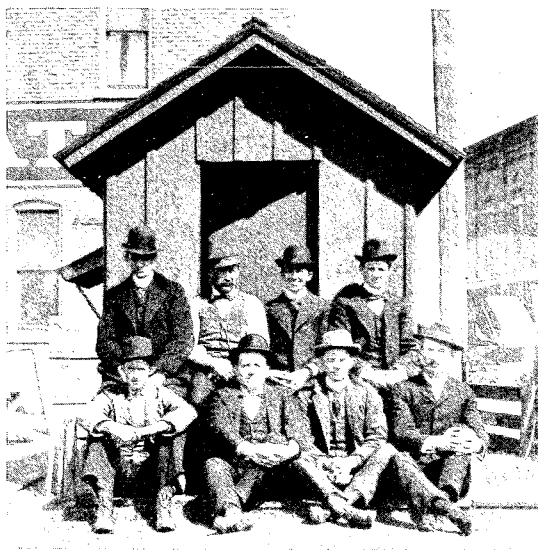
- | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Football Field | 11. Food Locker | 21. A. D. Baker Company |
| 2. Swanton School | 12. Koepfer's Farm Implements | 22. Depot |
| 3. Methodist Church | 13. Masonic Temple | 23. K of P Building |
| 4. Swanton Missionary | 14. Smith House | 24. Busack Lumber Co. |
| 5. Catholic Church | 15. Pilliod Cabinet Company | 25. Czajka Heating |
| 6. Swanton Hardware | 16. Pilliod Company | 26. Buckeye Chevrolet |
| 7. Klings 5 & 10 | 17. Old Grain Mill | 27. Missionary Alliance |
| 8. A & P | 18. Water Tower | 28. Town Hall |
| 9. F & M Bank | 19. Scottdel | |
| 10. Ned Hill's Garage | 20. Foundry Building | |



A sweeping view of the village taken just South of the Railroad track in the early 1900's.



A new piano would be a nice Christmas gift!



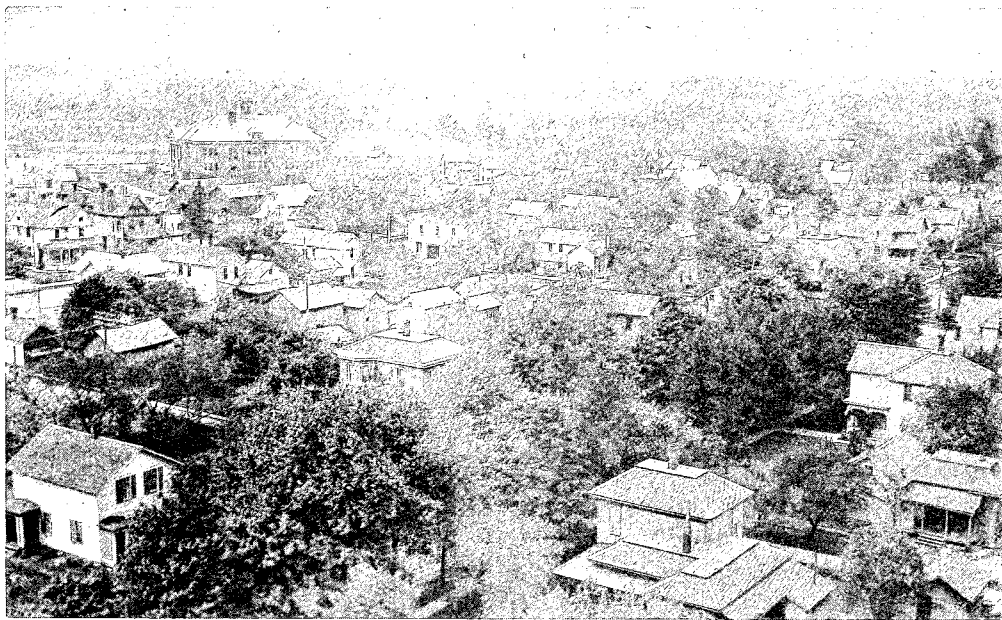
Timeout to smile for the birdie as these gentlemen pass the time of day with the flagman.



An interesting display in Nofzinger's Jewelry Store window. Don't miss the ornate clocks, the model train, and the watches hanging just inside.

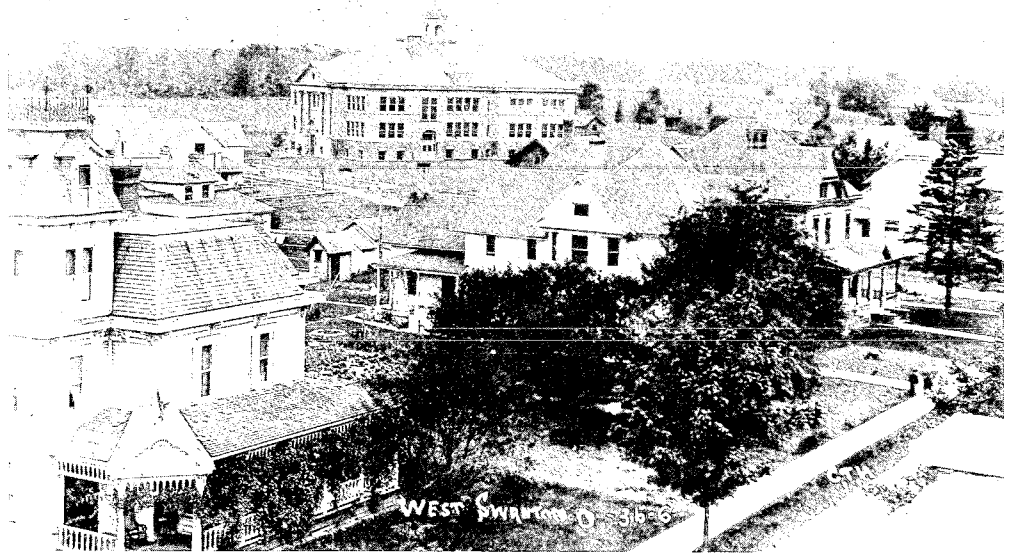


See the Baker Co. Band in the tractor drawn wagon coming down Broadway.

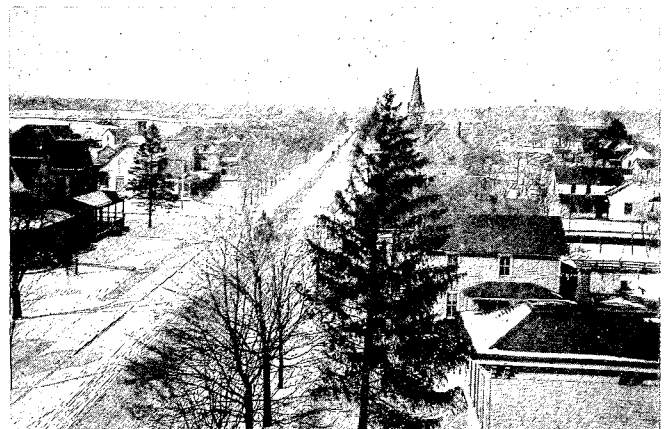


Roof top view
of Swanton.

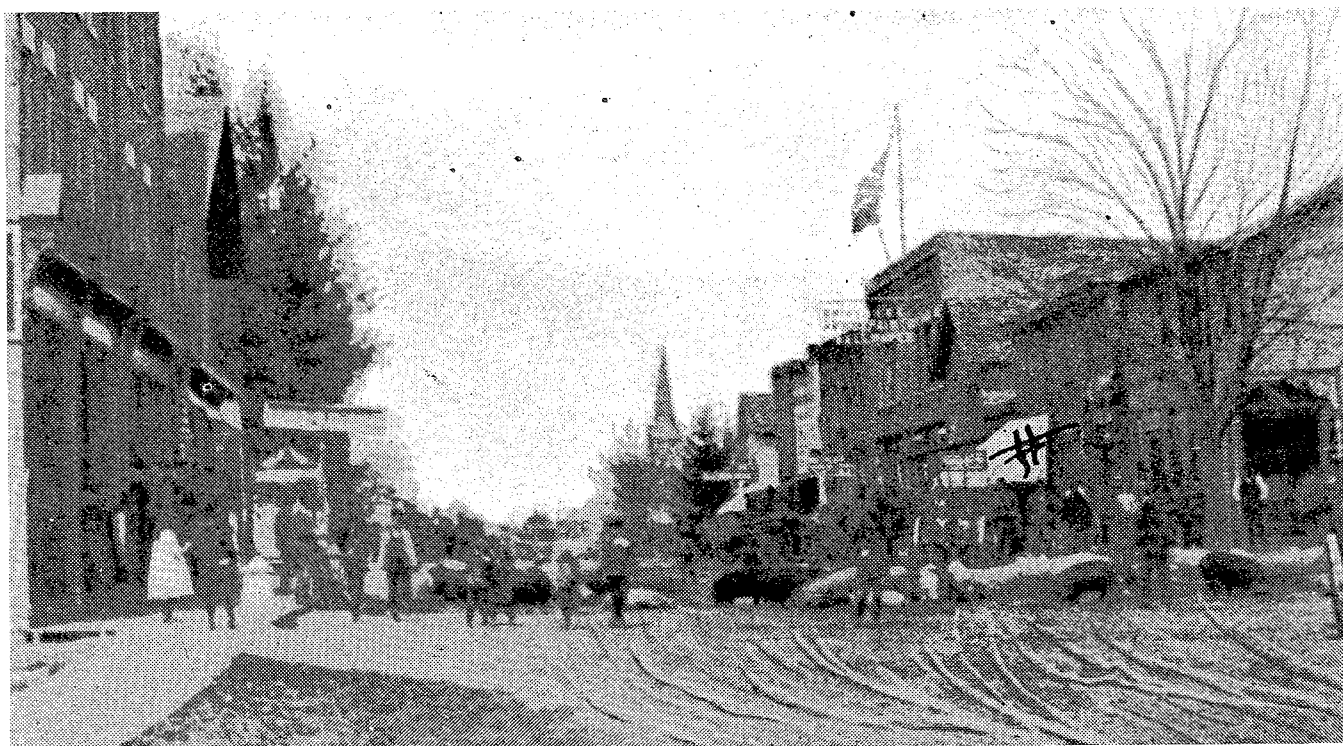
The spot where Swanton's young 'uns spent their days dominates this view.



Who can remember when Miller and Cherry Street looked like these two-track wagon paths??



Swanton Main street on a snowy winter day.



Building on the right corner was a hotel. People drove their stock into town for loading on the train — this was the day for pigs!!

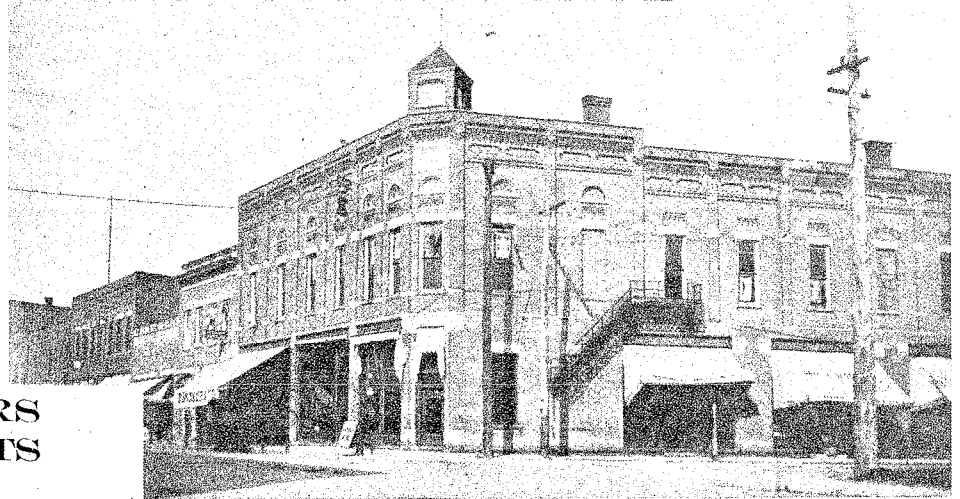


Some time later — the hotel on the right corner was replaced by the Pilliod Opera House building.



Main Street
looking North
1900's

The Farmers and Merchants
Deposit Company, a State
Bank, was organized in
May, 1901.



THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS DEPOSIT CO.

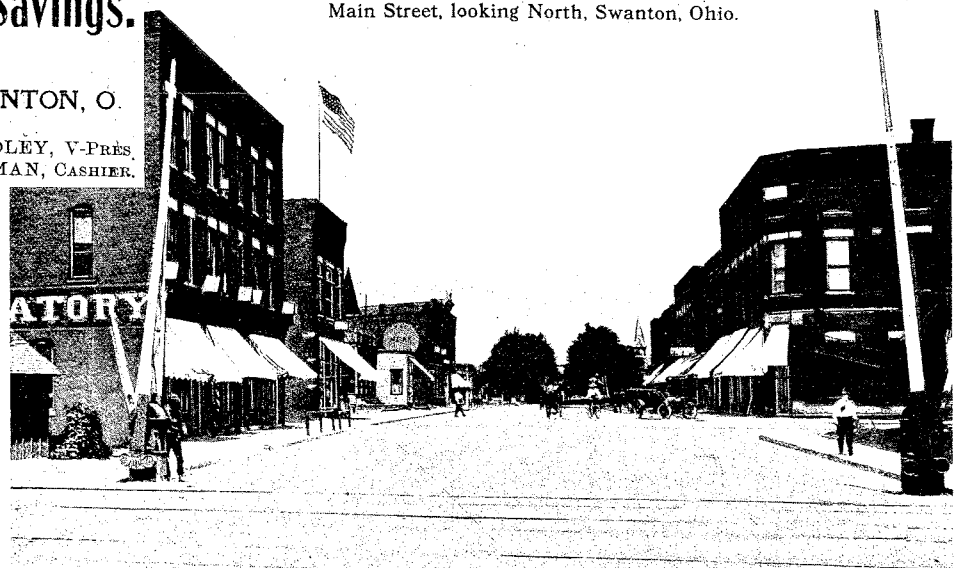
General Banking & Savings.

OPERA HOUSE BLOCK, SWANTON, O.

L. N. PILLIOD, PRES. C. J. BRINDLEY, V-PRES.
L. D. BOYER, SEC'Y. GEO. R. ACKERMAN, CASHIER.

The house was for shelter
for Mr. Crane who was
the watchman at the rail-
road tracks.

Main Street, looking North, Swanton, Ohio.



North Main looking South
on a blustery winter
day in 1900.

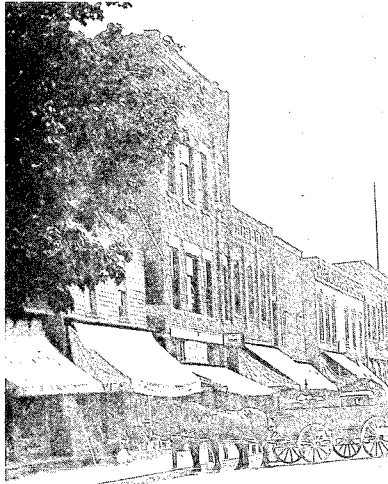


A thriving
business
community
c. 1910.



1909

The streets are still unpaved. The first building on the left was a laundry, next an ice cream parlor, then a hardware.



Progress — from dirt streets to brick paving —

From all horse and buggies above to one auto in the picture on the right.



Then in the 1920's some half-dozen Model A coupes and sedans line the streets.

Bricking Main Street



This picture dating back to August 30, 1897 was taken on North Main Street. The bricks for the pavement can be seen in the background on both sides. The man with the shovel in the fore ground is Wales Griffin.

YOU FURNISH THE FAMILY.
I'LL FURNISH THE HOME.



Call and see our line of Furniture before furnishing your home.

C. J. BRINDLEY,

UNDERTAKING A SPECIALTY.

SWANTON, OHIO.

An ad from the 2nd annual
Farmers Institute Program,
Jan. 4 – 5, 1904.

Here he is doing just what his
ad says — furnishing the
home!



C. J. Brindley — 1921



In Affectionate Remembrance of
SARAH PITMAN ELSON,
Who Died at Exmouth, September 4th, 1870,
Aged 72 Years. Interred at Littleham.
These are they who came out of much tribulation
Rev. 7. 14th verse.

A memorial card from 1870.



This was the location of Ned Hill's Chevrolet and Auto Supplies at one time. The front was the office and the back a showroom for the new model cars.

Early 1900's

Louis Pilliod, Mildred Noe Koepfer, Ned Hill

Al Sagert in his restaurant, presently "Helen's", where one could get a good hot meal, a stick of penny candy, or even a 5¢ ice cream cone.



At the time of the Civil War, Sagerts Restaurant (Swanton Savings and Loan now) was a visiting spot for the boys on furlough, a place where they could get warm by the hard coal stove seen in the background.



Mother Sagert, Art Sagert, that's "Dad" with the moustache, Roy Sagert, Elsie Munson.

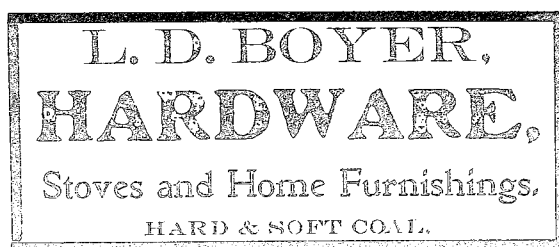


Telephone office typical of the early 1900's. Swanton's was located above the Farmer and Merchants bank. Notice the Currier and Ives prints.



Below — Boyer's Hardware Store
Located North of J & J Pharmacy, the long-bearded man was Mr. Boyer. There's the pot belly stove for "sittin' and visitin'," Wilson heater stove, oil stove, lawn mower, nail bins, and don't miss the old cook stoves.

Frogley's Clothing Store
Harry Frogley A. A. Purdy
Customer or "loafer"



NORTH MAIN STREET — EAST SIDE



Charlie Brenner in front of the harness shop where Dr. Cooley's office is now. The wooden hitching rail is there waiting for customer's convenience.

LaFrance Theatre
Ad — "Curse of
Frankenstein."

LA FRANCE Theatre

SWANTON, O. — UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

OPEN SUN., MON.; THURS., FRI., SAT.

FRI., SAT. MAY 16-17

— DOUBLE FEATURE —

DEAN MARTIN, JERRY LEWIS IN

"SCARED STIFF"

— ALSO —

"THE CURSE OF FRANKENSTEIN"

WILL HAUNT YOU FOREVER

SUN., MON. MAY 17-18

MATINEE 2:30 SUNDAY — SHOWS CONTINUOUS

GARY COOPER, INGRID BERGMAN IN

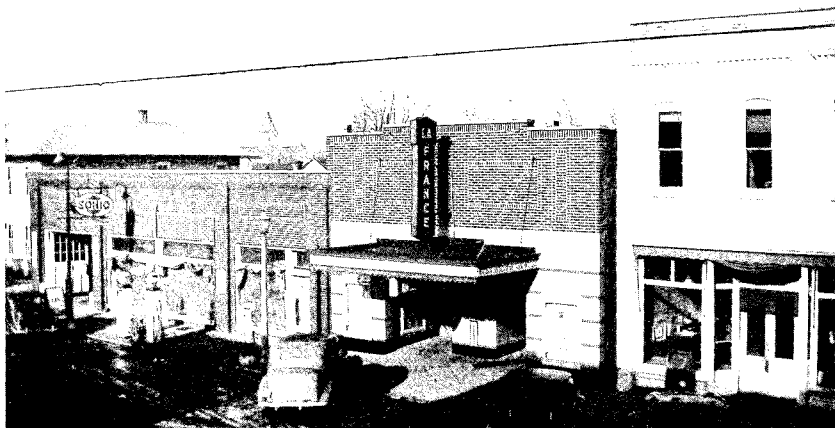
"FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS"

BY ERNEST HEMINGWAY



c. 1950 — Steve & Leslie Geer. "Doc" Stine's Dental office in the background. Later Doctor Bowman's office.

Ned Hill's Garage, LaFrance Theatre, Post Office





Banker, Shot At, Hits Gas To Foil Robbery Attempt

Swanton Man Wins Race, Saves \$5,000

An elderly bank president from Swanton, who was transporting \$5,000 in his auto, escaped a holdup attempt yesterday on West Bancroft Street after the bandits fired two shots into his car.

M. J. Linehan, 80, president of the Swanton Farmers & Merchants Deposit Co., said he sped away from the bandits' car after the shots were fired and managed to elude them.

On Way From Westgate

The bank president had obtained \$5,000 in silver from the Westgate branch of the Toledo Trust Co. at West Central Avenue and Secor Road and was carrying it in his car to his bank.

He said he was driving during a rainstorm on a deserted section of West Bancroft when he noticed another car following him. When he slowed because of the heavy rain, the other car did likewise, he said.

Reports Hearing 2 Shots

Then, he said, the other car, containing two men, pulled alongside as if the driver intended to pass. But the passenger in the car held his hand toward Mr. Linehan and said: "Hold it; hold it; hold it," according to the banker.

Mr. Linehan said he believed something was wrong with his car and was preparing to stop when he heard the two shots.



M. J. LINEHAN
80, still fast on accelerator

He said he immediately pressed down on the accelerator and outdistanced the would-be robbers. By the time he reached Crissey Road, he said, he had lost the other car.

One of the shots hit the front seat of Mr. Linehan's car, and the other struck the left rear hub cap.

Twelve years later Mr. Linehan provided a service to his community in quite a different way.



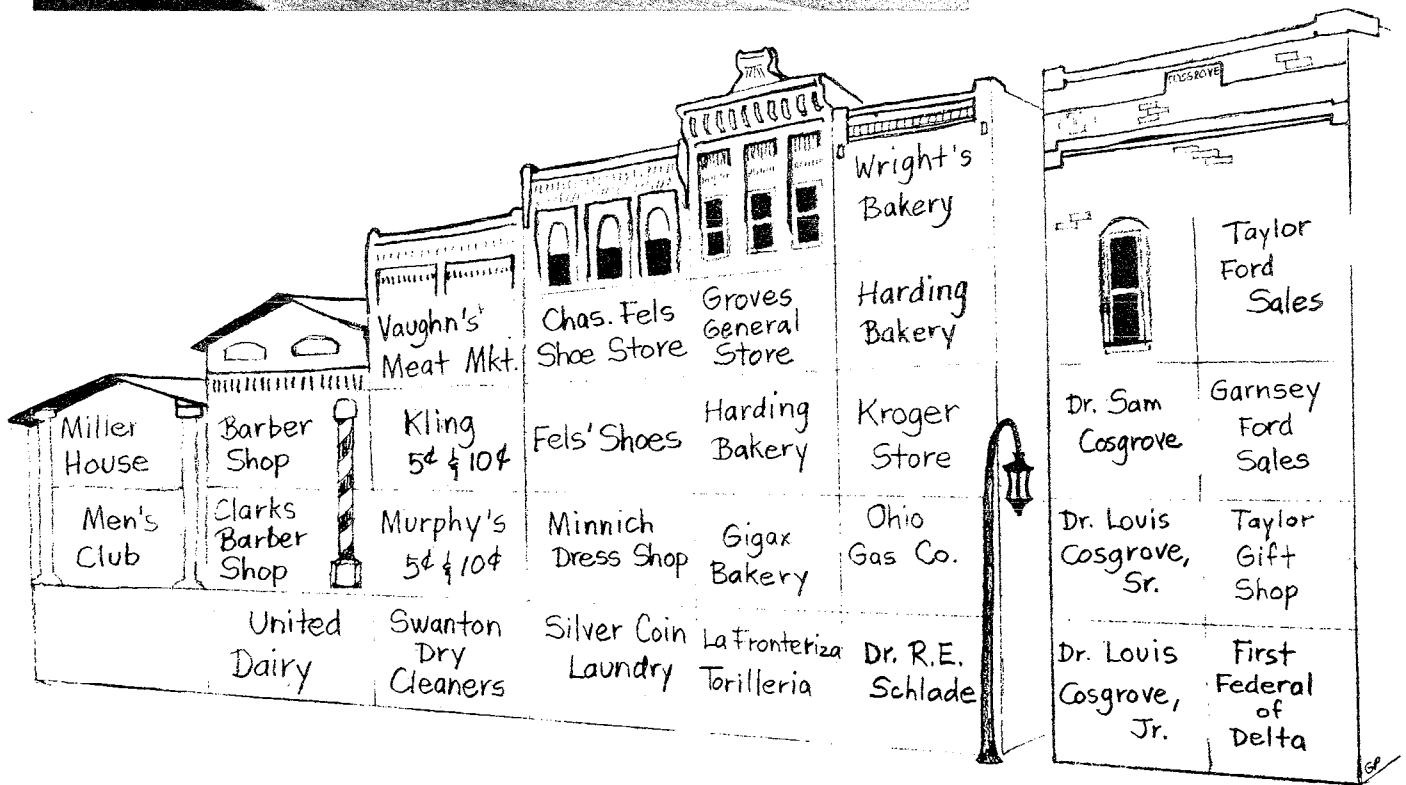
War Bond Drive — 1943

This monument was erected on the railroad grounds where the rest room now stands. John Linehan was the county chairman, Richard Harding the Swanton chairman. The monument was replaced with the memorial now located on the railroad grounds where the depot stood.





1976



Depicting former occupants on the west side of Main Street.



1900



Wright's Bakery where Dr. Schlade's office is.

Wilbur Wright and two helpers.



W. C. WRIGHT

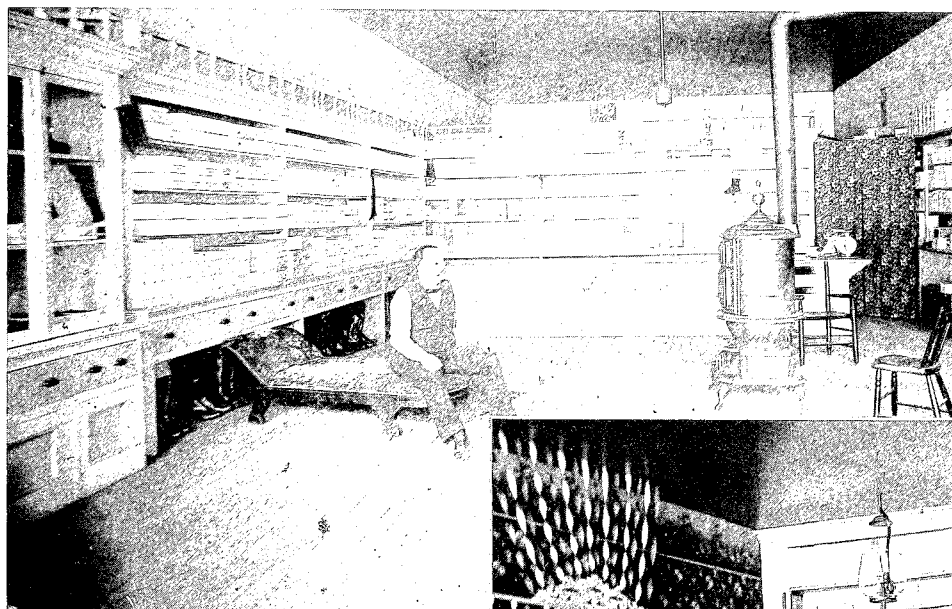
THE BAKER,

In his new quarters on the west
side of Main Street.

Fresh Bread, Pies & Cakes Daily



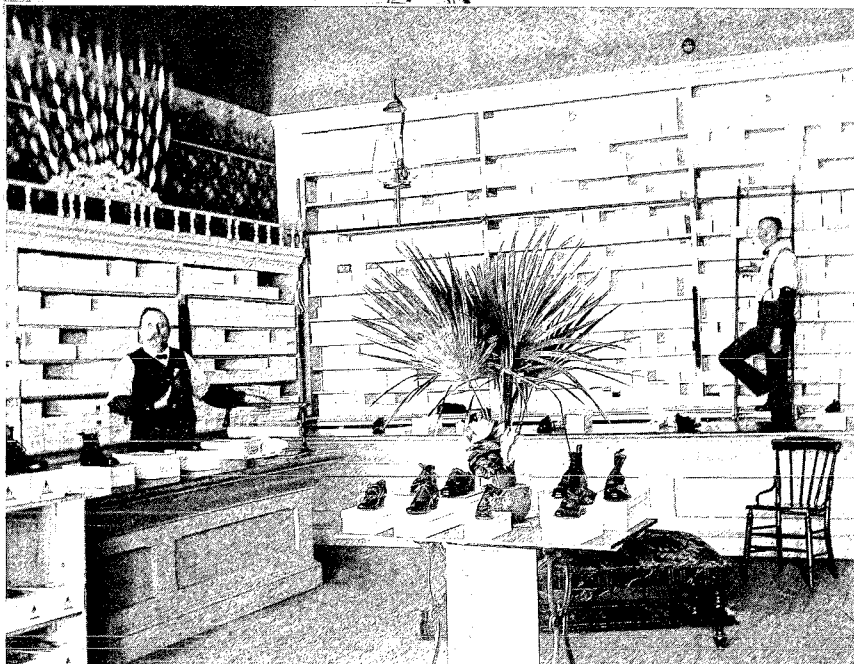
Inside this orderly bakery, we see Winnie Sagert behind the counter ready to serve you from the neatly stacked canned good shelves, candy jars, cigars and of course the goodies fresh from the oven.



Fels shoe store.

1899
Charles Fels

The finest array of shoes
anywhere, and boots neatly
lined up under the counter.



1903 — Charles Fels, John Fels



Wallpaper on the far side added to the merchandise as well as the
improved lighting that came with the times.

Welcome Farmers!

And when in Swanton and need
anything in the Shoe Line

Come and See Us.



We are Headquarters for
Men's, Women's and Children's
SHOES.

We are also selling the best grade of Rubber Boots that can be bought.

Again we welcome you all
CHAS. FELS.



Roy Grove standing in front of his store, decorated (we think) for a Corn Festival celebration.

J. F. Grove.



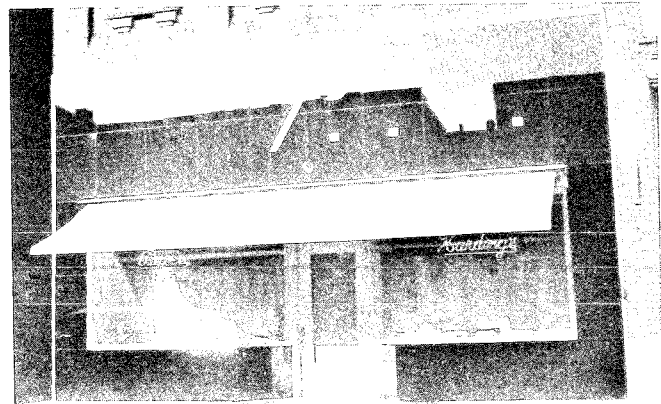
Has the most complete and Up-To-Date line of

Dry Goods, Boots, Shoes & Groceries

In Swanton. Come in and examine our goods.

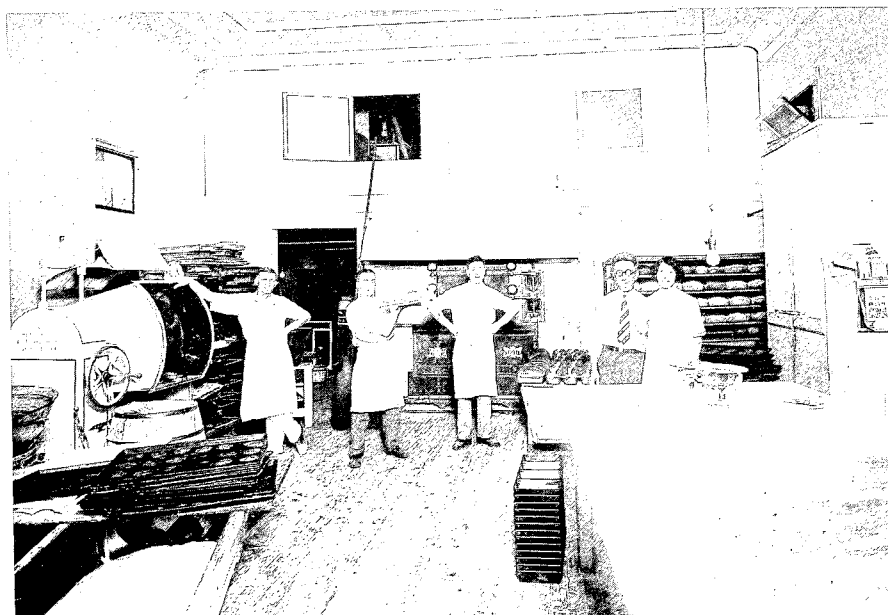


Grove store being renovated



into

Hardings "New" look



Two workers, Ralph Harding,
Salesman, Mabel Harding Rowley



Where you see the vacant
lot once stood the Miller
House.

This building served in its
early days as one of the
town hotels. Later it was
known as the Men's Club.



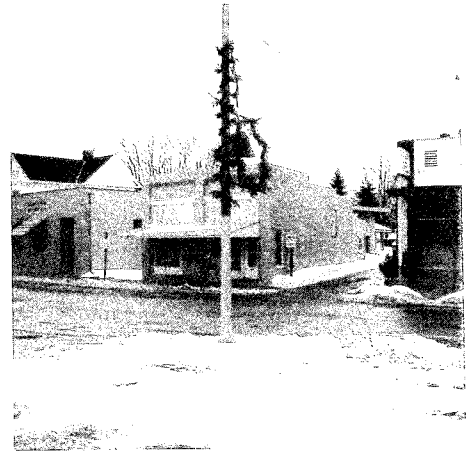
This little fella is the same fire
hydrant you see next to the Men's
Club, all dressed up for the bi-
centennial.



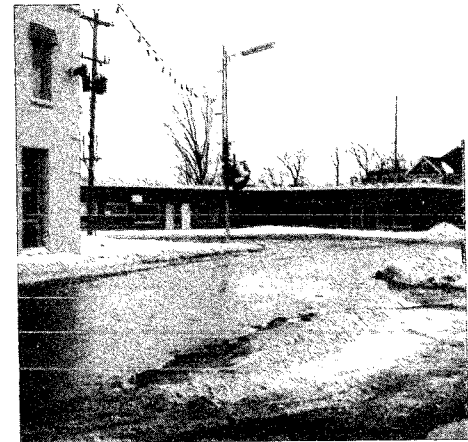
The men with the shovels are leveling the ground to the street level.



1934 — Nancy Koepfer
Kennedy Beauty Shoppe
Presently Ginnie's Dress Shop



In 1976, the north side of Dodge,
dressed in Christmas finery.



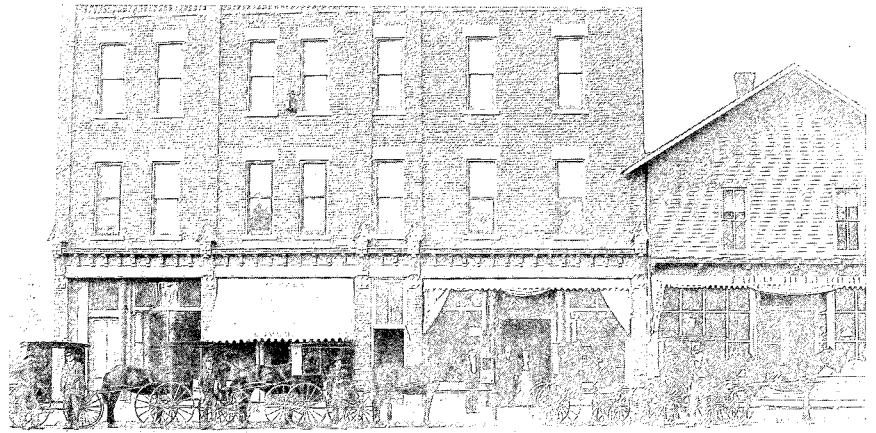
South side of Dodge Street, where
the T & I depot once stood.



In 1939 - 1953 a Civilian Conserva-
tion Corps (CCC) camped on Dodge
Street. The men lived in tents
while their barracks were being
built.



Section just North of the railroad tracks where the Post Office was once located. The mail was brought from the station to Swanton by Alpheus Seaton, who would stand on a frame built for the purpose, would hold the mail in both hands, and the route agent would catch the mail on his arm.



“The mail must go through,” say

these Postmen:

Fred Kelsey

Elwood Jones

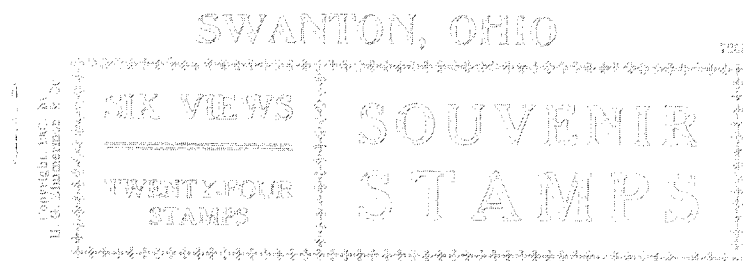
Sherm Ribble

Orm Curtis — Postmaster

???

Gail Getterman

Earl Knight



Swanton, Ohio Souvenir Stamp
C. 1907



Same scene in 1976






Swanton Post-Office.

O. W. Curtis,
Postmaster.

E. C. Mauchly,
Clerk.

CARRIERS.

E. C. KELSEY, Route 19.	S. O. RIBBLE, Route 21
M. PROUDFOOT, " 20.	GEO. FETTERMAN, " 22.
W. C. SMITH, " Route 23.	

MAILS CLOSE.

EAST MAILS CLOSE.	WEST MAILS CLOSE.
Train No. 12, 5:55 a.m.	Train No. 15, 9:37 a.m.
Train No. 2, 2:58 p.m.	Train No. 21, 2:27 p.m.
	Train No. 14, 5:20 p.m.

Foreign and Domestic Money Orders Issued.

Train 12 carries closed pouch to Toledo.

Train 14 carries closed pouch to Watseon.

Carriers due to leave on their routes at 5:30 a.m.

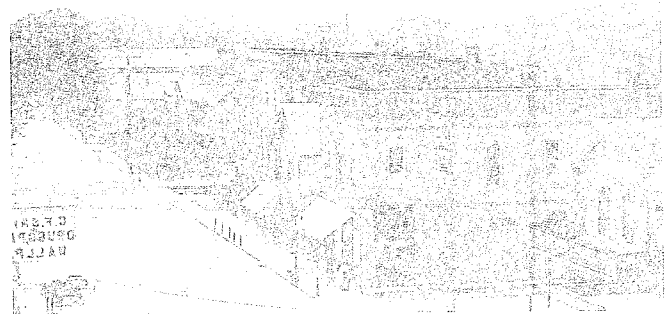
Carriers due to return from their routes at 2:20 p.m.

POST-OFFICE CLOSSES AT 7:45 P. M.

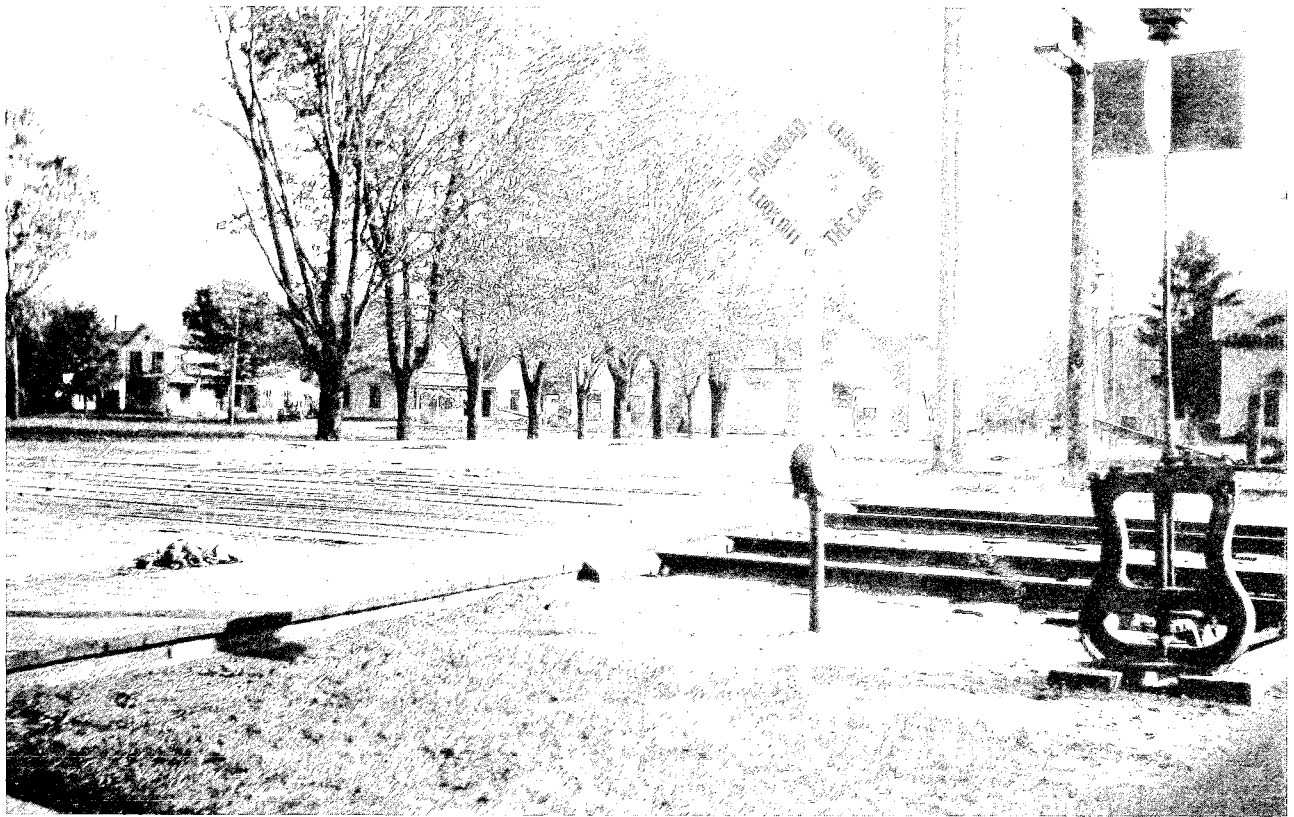



At this same location in the early 1900's, this picture of a reunion of the Spanish American war veterans was taken. Perhaps they had already participated in a Memorial Day parade.

William Palmer, Siles Minnich, Ave Huftile, William Mabry, William Hill, William Jones, George Conklin, Charles Merrill, Gilbert Smith, William Barnes, Jerry Waters, James Hallett, Luther Marsh, Carl Griffin.



Nofzinger Jewelry Store. The building at the left was moved back to make way for the trolley to cut through. It became the T & I depot.



South Main from the railroad tracks.



As we cross the tracks — 1909.



Lochbiler Lumber Company



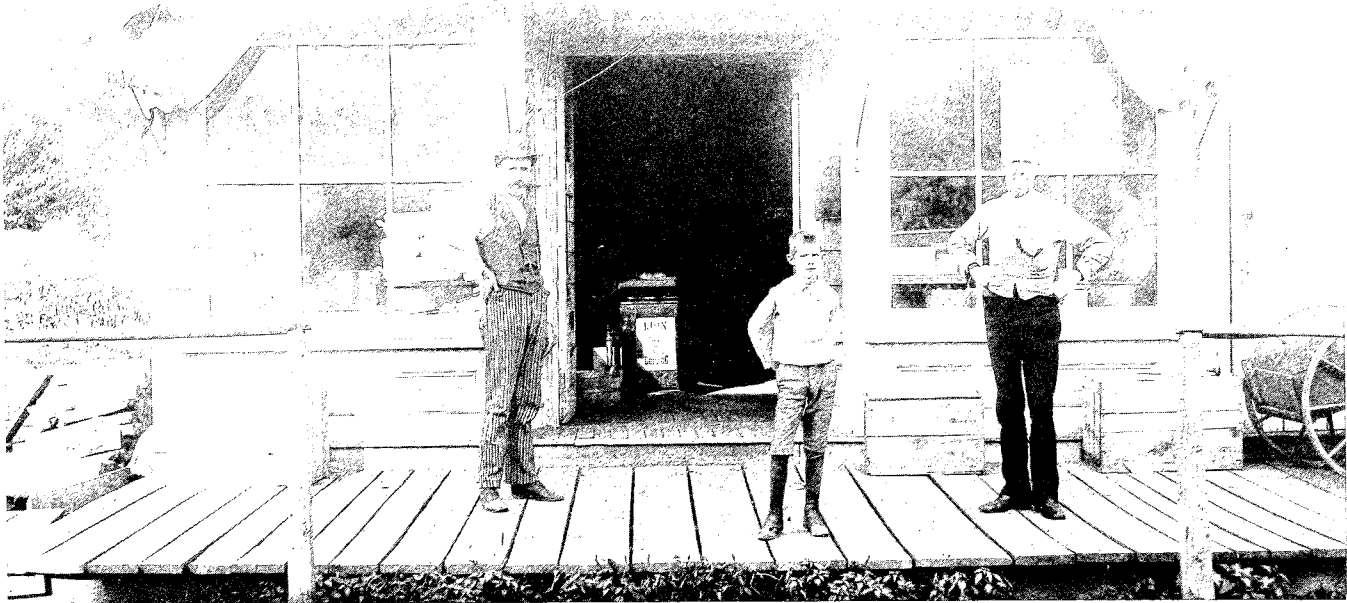
1930

That's the DeWeese Drug Store in front of the first car on the right.



1976

BUT SOUTH MAIN STARTED LIKE THIS — — —



This store was built in 1892 on the East side of South Main Street. The hand cart on the right was for deliveries or to pick up freight from the depot. In the doorway is a LION coffee cannister. One could send in a specified number of Lion head labels for premium gifts.

Theodore Knight 65
Swanton
Swanton Co.
Ohio.

came to mind this
morning
Enclosed please
find our circular
containing all particulars
and terms to Agents
which you will see
are very liberal
Hoping we
shall soon hear
from you again
Very Respectfully
Family Sewing Machine Co.

Hand written business letter.

THE FAMILY GEM, RUNNING STITCH, \$5 SEWING MACHINE

THE EMBODIMENT OF
 PRACTICAL UTILITY
 AND
 EXTREME SIMPLICITY,
 takes the useful running
 stitch very rapidly,
 AND
 with the Common Needle,
 WILL NOT GET OUT OF ORDER
 AND WILL
 LAST A LIFE TIME.



IT WAS AWARDED THE
 FIRST PREMIUM
 AT THE
 NEW YORK STATE FAIR
 FOR ITS
 Simplicity, Efficiency,
 AND
 PRACTICAL UTILITY,
 THIS MACHINE
 Its superiority over all others.

operation is noiseless, and so very simple that it requires but a slight degree of judgment to use. It will Hem, Gather, Ruffle, Shirr, Tuck, Run-up Braidings, &c., &c., with a Single or Double Thread, on any material adapted to the running stitch, from the thinnest and thinnest up to two thicknesses of ordinary silk. The thinnest and finest, usually the most difficult to sew by other machines being sewed the easiest, for ladies' and children's apparel and other articles, it will therefore be found almost invaluable. It requires no lubrication or change of stitch, is always ready for operation, and such a marvel of simplicity that a child of six or eight years can understand immediately and use it successfully.

This ingenious and useful machine, is perfect in its construction, and has none of the Faults of the High Price Sewing Machine. No one will pay \$50 to \$100 for a Sewing Machine, when this beautiful gem for the family can be purchased for the small sum of \$5.

All persons are cautioned against selling, or purchasing any imitations of this Genuine Article, as said persons will be liable for infringements on the patent, and can be prosecuted according to law; our novelty being the only one manufactured at such a low price.

A single one of the Family Gem Sewing Machines, forwarded to any address in the United States, or British Provinces or Empire, carefully packed in a box, on receipt of price \$5.

Each Machine will be accompanied by full and plainly printed directions, for its operations, also, properly adjusted needle, and some of its work, and ready for immediate use. We take pleasure in referring to the following extracts from some of our most popular journals.

"The chamber for infants' clothing, the Swiss machine for Swiss waists, skirts of soft fabric, Nanook muffs, and muscadelines delicate, (all wool), can be done faultlessly by it.

Breadths of fine fabrics, muscadelines, summer poplins, and all thin fabrics, can be run up with it.

For the housewife, in spring and summer, it is invaluable; for the housewife it requires a special place for more delicate uses. As in sewing by hand one sometimes is required for heavy work, another only undertakes one sewing, or certain parts as it sews with sewing machines. Every owner of these household blessings is willing to give \$5 dollars for a "sucker" or "lamer" or any improvement that will save work—it is just the price asked for this little gem in the great harvest of industry, that modestly keeps its own place, nor seeks to usurp one already filled. It is a most useful and appropriate gift for the holidays, being packed for its purpose in a pretty case.

"A wonderful Machine.—While at the late Ohio State Fair, we saw on exhibition the Five Dollar Sewing Machine. It is one of the most ingenious and useful little pieces of mechanism in the way of sewing machines yet invented. We saw it sew in all the various ways which it is claimed it can perform. Unless we are much mistaken, this machine will be the universal favorite.—*Western Chronicle, Ohio.*

Having witnessed its operation, we are prepared to recommend it as almost invaluable. This machine was awarded the First Premium at the New York State Fair; it sews so rapid, and is so simple in its construction as to make it a jewel for the ladies.—*New York Illustrated News.*

"Wherever they have been tried, they have given the greatest satisfaction."—*(Herald and Union, Lancaster, Pa.)*

"For light sewing, requiring the running stitch, it is 'tip top.'"—*(Oswego Reporter.)*

"We have seen the machine, and are prepared to endorse all that is claimed for it."—*(State Falls Gazette.)*

"It is a regular ladies' 'made mecum.'"—*(Democratic Banner, Ohio.)*

"Its utility bears a wonderful ratio to its cost."—*(Wells Commercial Express, Chicago.)*

"A person with one of these machines can do about seven times the work that one can do by hand."—*(Salem American.)*

"There can be no doubt that for some kinds of work it is even better than any of the high priced machines."—*(Democratic Republican.)*

"Those that have used the machine speak in high terms of the neat and efficient manner it executes the work."—*(Democratic Republican.)*

"It is indeed a perfect little gem."—*(Newport Daily News.)*

"Mrs. — has used the machine in her own family, and has the highest opinion of its working qualities."—*(Daily Evening News, Fall River.)*

Brochure for sewing machines.

This letter was entitled "Centerville" but it seems to refer to Swanton, probably an attempt to entice "new" business to town.

Centerville
The City of Centerville is pleasantly situated on or near the Air Line Rail Road, and about twenty miles west from Toledo. It contains a population of one hundred or less inhabitants. It contains one Dry Goods store, also one Grocery which is a nuisance to any City. It is noted for its flouring mill as there is a Grist mill about seven miles west on the Air Line. It is also noted for its great sugar works and cane is worked up on the shares. The Grand Army of the Republic meets once in two weeks on Saturday evening at G. K.'s Grocery.

We also have a new Blacksmith shop on Cherry street where work is done to order. Prices moderate. It is also noted for its educational advantages as they are trying to raise a tax to build a new school house. We also have a Hotel pleasantly situated on corner of Cherry and Broadway where cold bites can be obtained at all hours. There is also a drug store one half mile north where the best of Niagara Bitters can be obtained at the lowest rate. Prescription free. For further particulars call at Post Office No. 104.
Theo. Knight

The Letter reads . . .

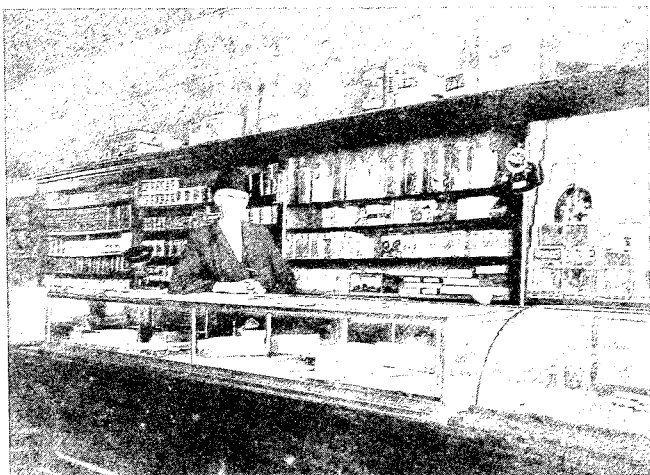
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For further particulars call at Post Office No. 104.

Theo. Knight"



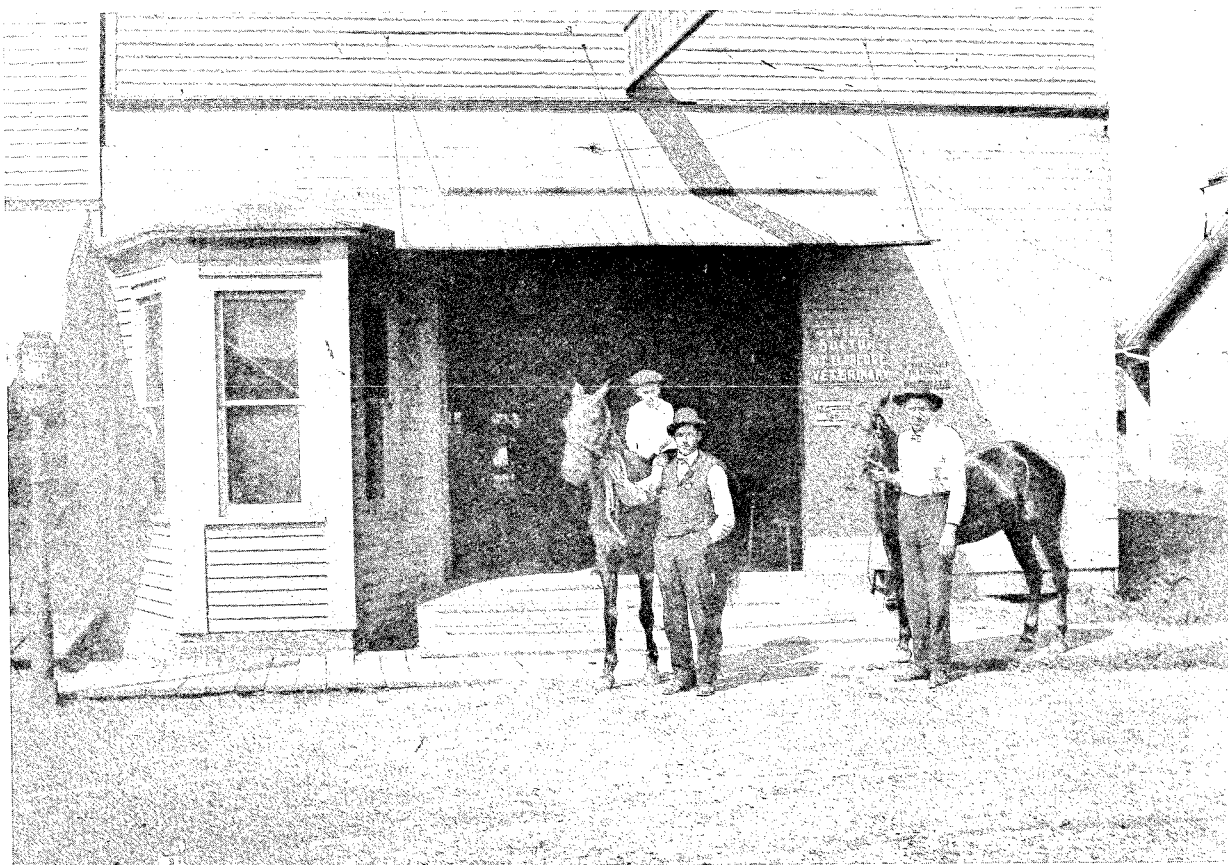
Go to **T. W. KNIGHT'S**

 If you wish to save money.
 If you wish to get the best of Teas & Coffees.
 If you wish to use the Best Groceries.
 Highest Price Paid for
FRESH EGGS and BUTTER
Phone 35. SOUTH SIDE GROCERY.

Inside Knight's store.
 Mr. Knight himself in top hat and blue serge suit
 posing by his neatly arranged wares.

On the West side of South Main Street about
 where McSurleys is stood the Hollis Opera House.
 The gas light stands ready to light the plank
 sidewalk at nightfall. The sign above says: Livery
 — Feed. By the door-Office: Doctor B. C. Eldredge
 Veterinary.

Graduate Ontario
 Veterinary College. Passed State Board
 of Veterinary Examination.
B. C. Eldredge,
VETERINARY SURGEON AND DENTIST.
 Residence: First Door Office: Brick Livery.
 North of Hepfinger's Shop Phone 9.
 Phone 121.



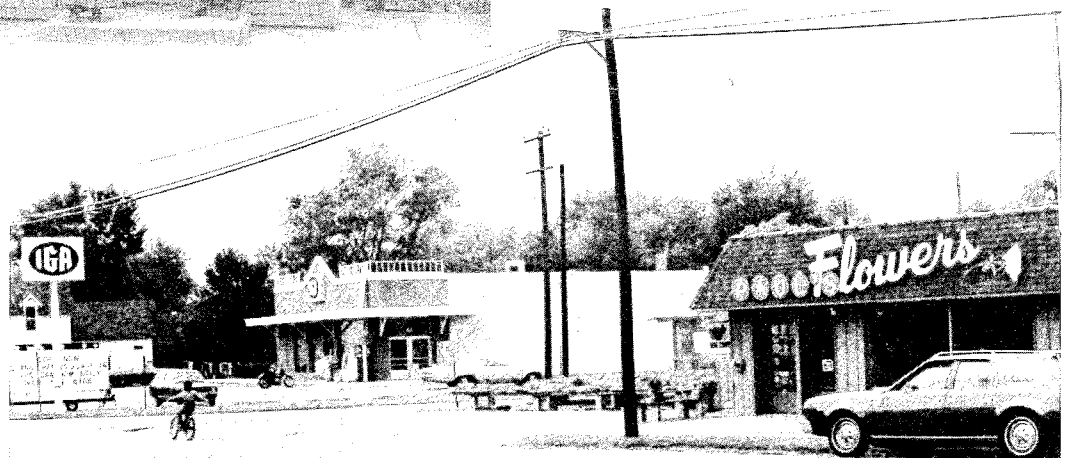


South of the Hollis Opera House was Housemans. Upstairs was the photo shop.



Hiram Whitney and wife Sarah.

Mr. Whitney made shoes at one time for Swanton residents. The Whitney's lived here from 1906 — 1921. Their dwelling was located on the northwest corner of the McNeill Chevrolet parking lot. It was razed to make room for the parking lot.



1976

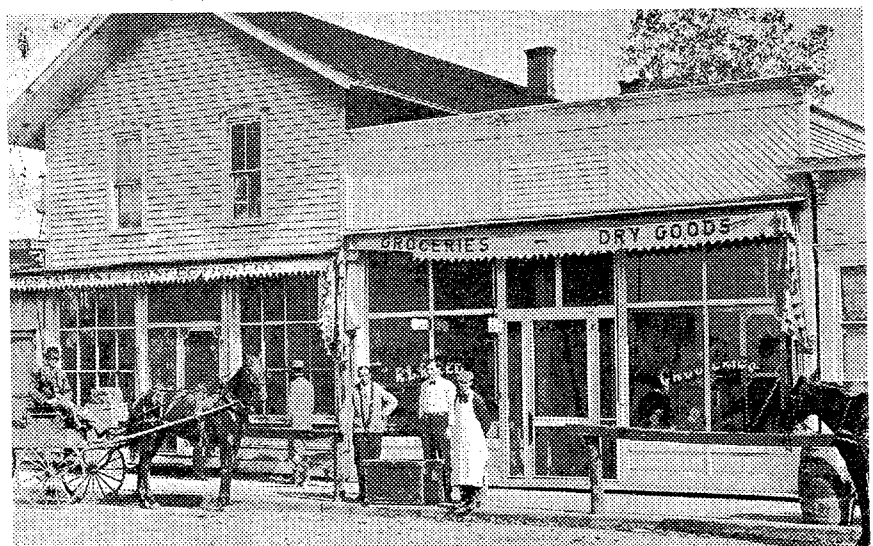


Plummer's pressing shop is on the corner. The horse drawn wagon is parked at the wooden hitching rail as the two gentlemen go about their business.



c. 1900

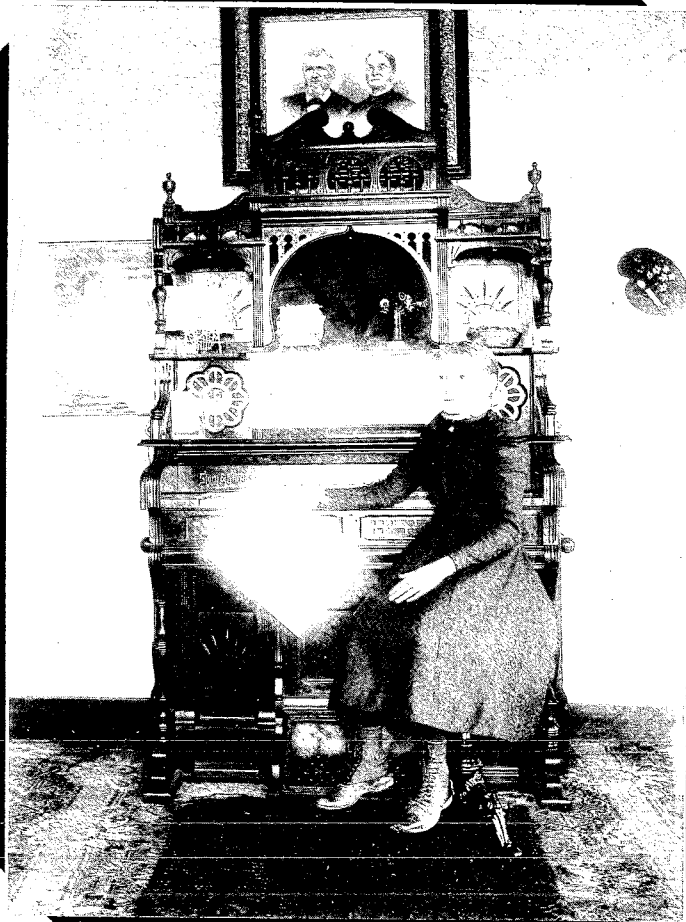
At the far left was a restaurant and confectionery. Directly behind the men was Reed's Grocery and Dry Goods store.



Bob Reed

Frank Busack

Enoch Bratton



Hannah practising for her organ recital



*Sister Louisa with
her prayer book*



Baby Altis



Grandma + Grandpa on their anniversary



*Miss Caldin and her
son and heir in 1864*



*this is Ora, Lillie and Rachel
in a fashion show of the '80's*



in their Easter bonnets



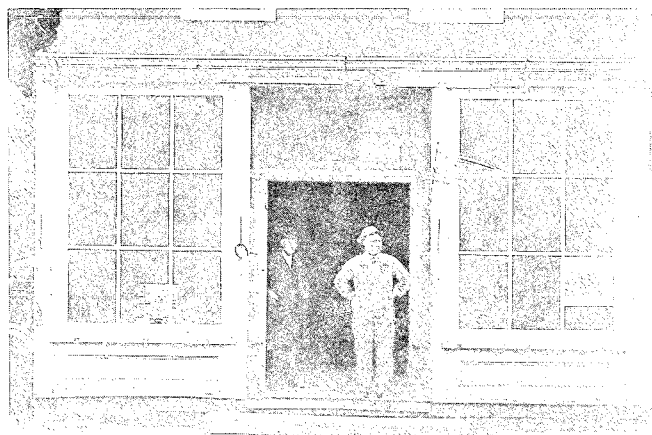
Reed's Market — the delivery wagon was a familiar sight — a far cry from today's busy super markets; just crank up the phone and PRESTO — groceries delivered to your door.

FARMERS! Why not raise thoroughbred chickens. You can secure eggs or stock at reasonable prices from the following varieties:

WHITE PLYMOUTH ROCKS.
 BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS.
 WHITE WYANDOTTES, WHITE
 LEGHORNS & BUFF LEGHORNS.
 at the Swanton Poultry Yard.

CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED. R. L. REED, Prop.
 PRICES ON APPLICATION.

When in Swanton call at the
Eager House Barber Shop.
 R. L. REED, Prop.
 Full line of Cigars, Pipes, Tobacco, Shaving Soaps and
 Toilet Waters.



South Side Feed Store
 Charles Nies



Irene Berkebile (Sagert) Lola Nickel — 1936

West Garfield when
Swan Creek flooded
the banks. Thomas
Farm is on the left,
White Farm on the
right.



c. 1907

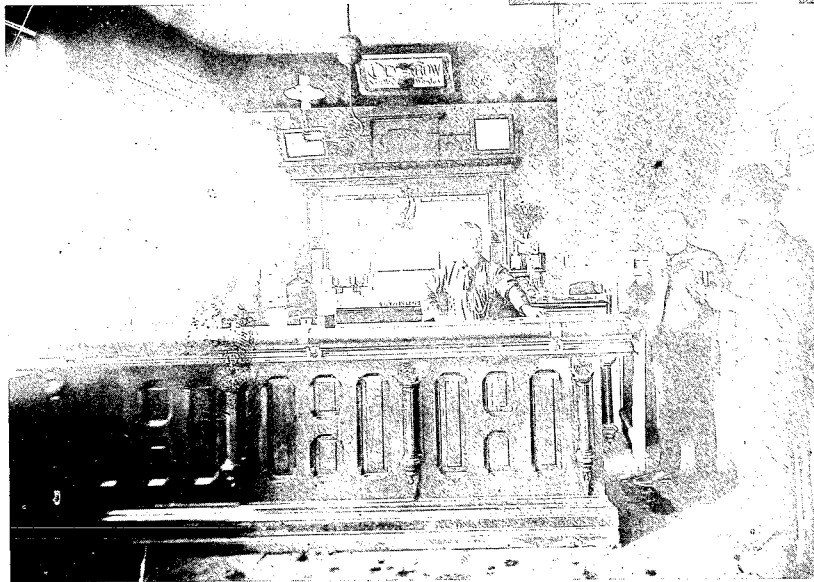
Maybe not 40 days
and 40 nights,
but lots of rain!



Bridge over Swan
Creek just before the
turn to Swanton Park
and Elton Parkway.

64

Located somewhere
along Broadway.



Ike Hopkins

Willis Cameron



CORNER BROADWAY & MAIN ST. SWANTON, O.

Cameron Hotel Bar
in 1900.

Doc Lamb

Perhaps discussing the politics of the day.




J. L. BICK.
E. A. BRATTON

Bick & Bratton.

LEADERS IN

Staple and Fancy Groceries.

FRESH AND CURED

MEATS.

EVERYTHING UP-TO-DATE.

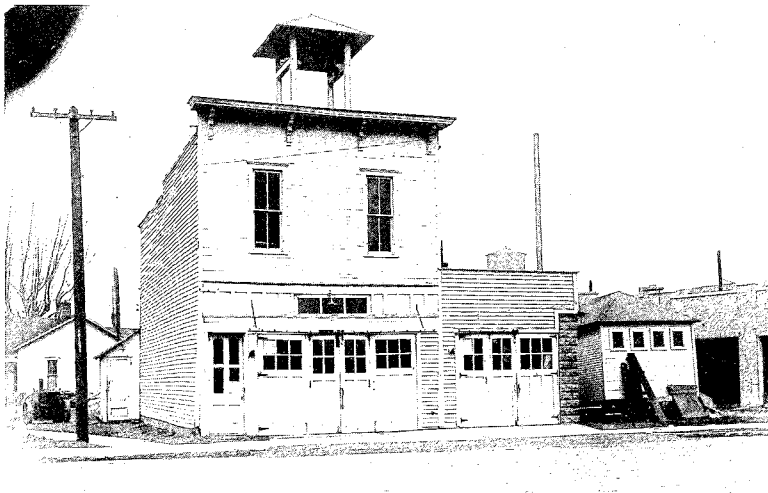
MAIN STREET

Cash for Produce.
Swanton, O.





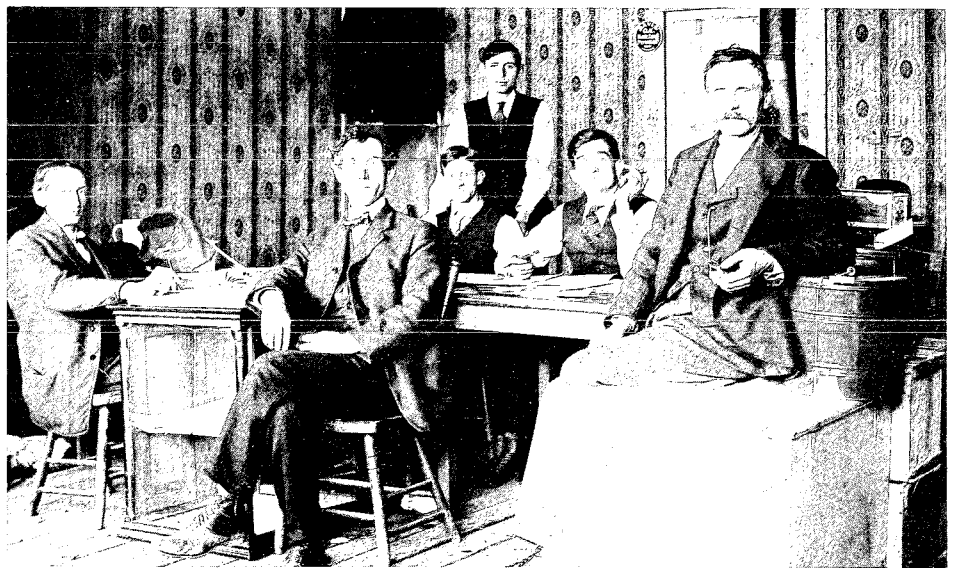

Blakes Barber Shop — 1900's
In the Broadway Street portion of Hilty's Hardware.
Earn Miller — Sid Blake — Art Sagert



The old City Hall and Fire Barn constructed in 1903. The water tank in the rear is now at Valleywood. The new hall was being constructed in the background, and that's a voting booth on the right.

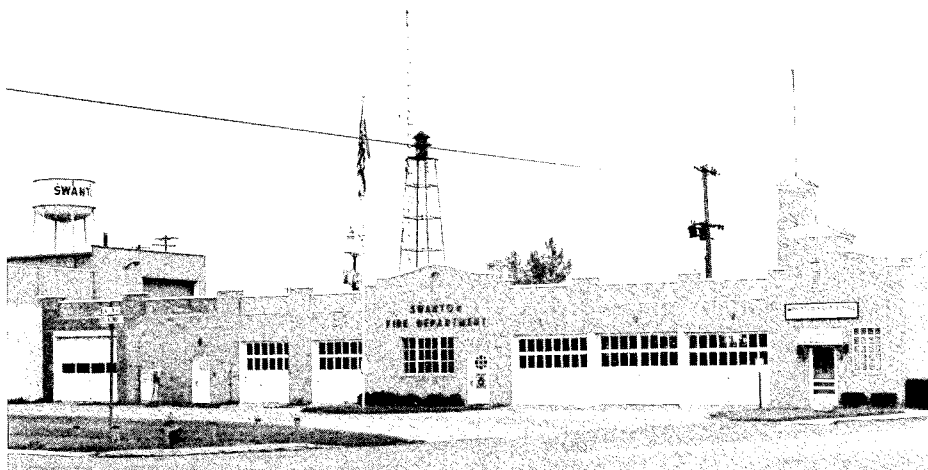


William Harding, owner of the hotel, is "resting" while the rest are waiting for the T & I in front of this building that stood on Broadway. It's now a parking lot west of Race Track Inn.

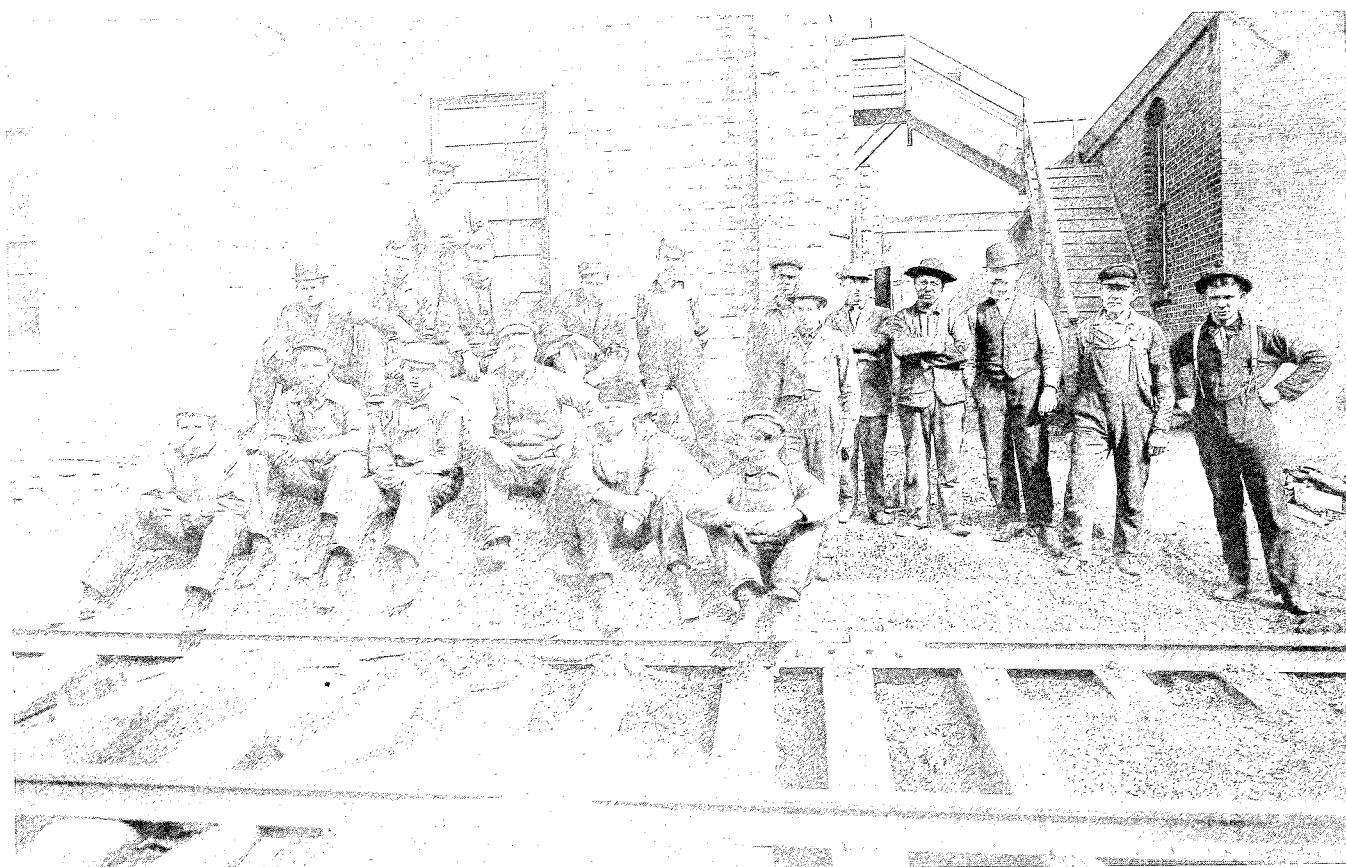


Board of Elections — 1910, meeting in the Village Hall — upstairs at the fire station.

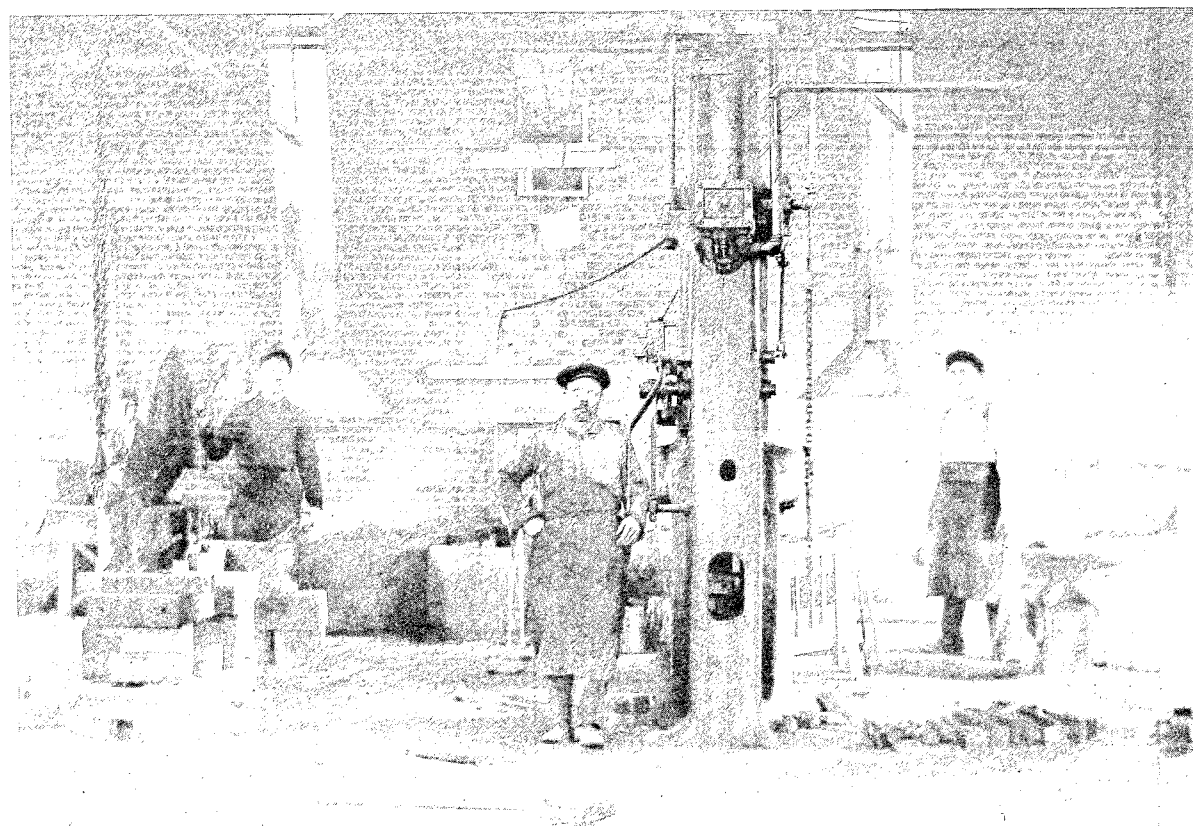
Al Hockstrasser
Paul F. Beard
Ladmer Fenton
William Sloan
Owen Forrester
Lloyd Remsauer



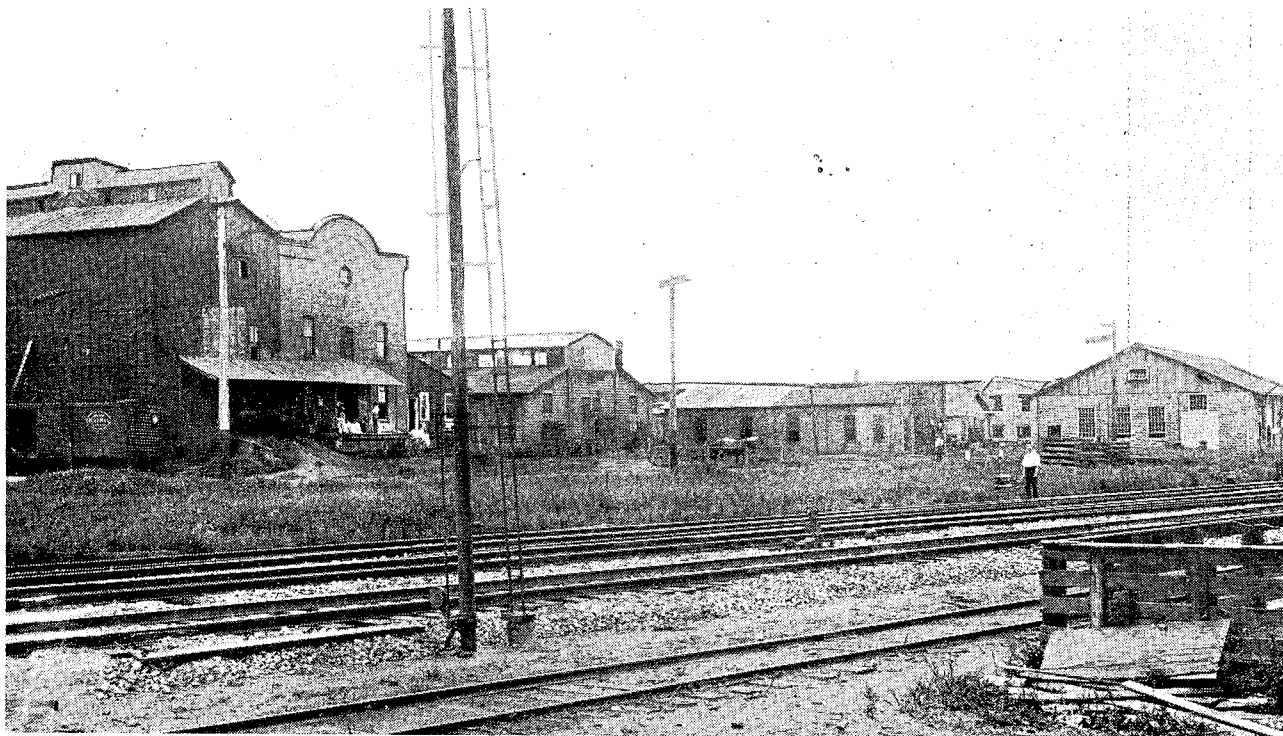
1976



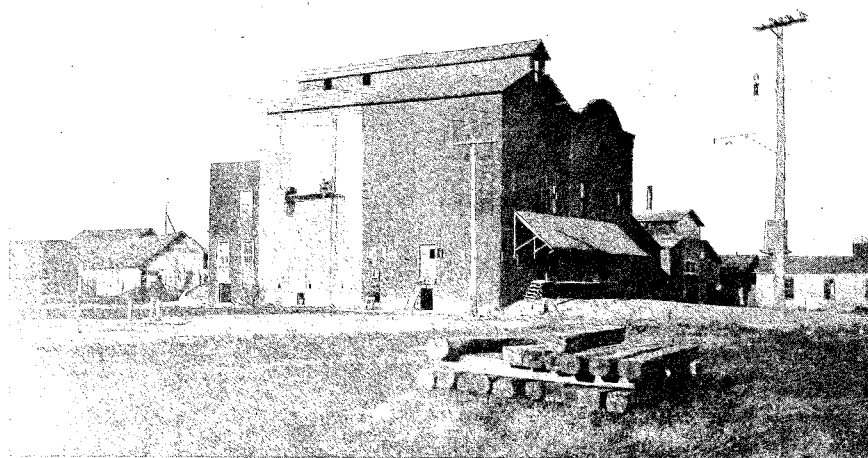
Our Gang from the Baker Valve Geer on a picture break.



The forge shop, inside.



The Swanton "Grist Mill" on Mill Street (now known as Broadway) was built by subscription, donated material and labor. The man responsible for this was William Geyser, business man, soldier and mayor of Swanton in 1901 - 1902.



When You Buy

"PILLIOD'S BEST"

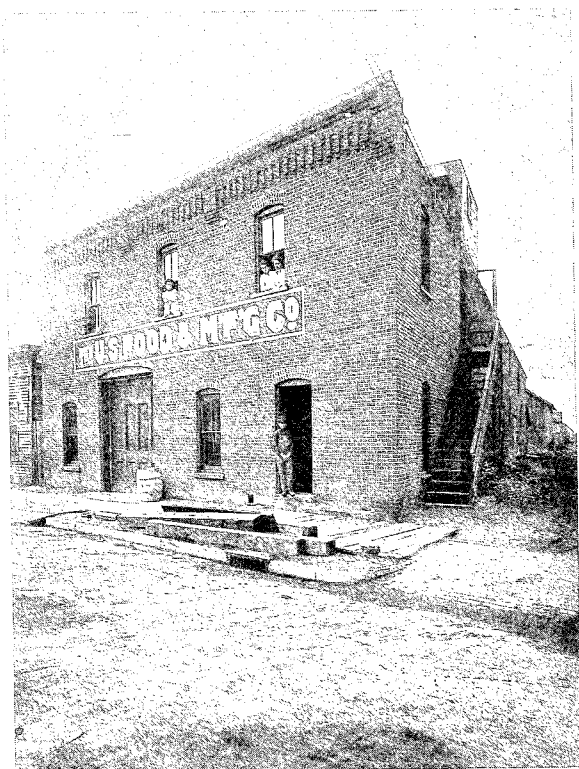
You Get a Flour

That Has No

Superior

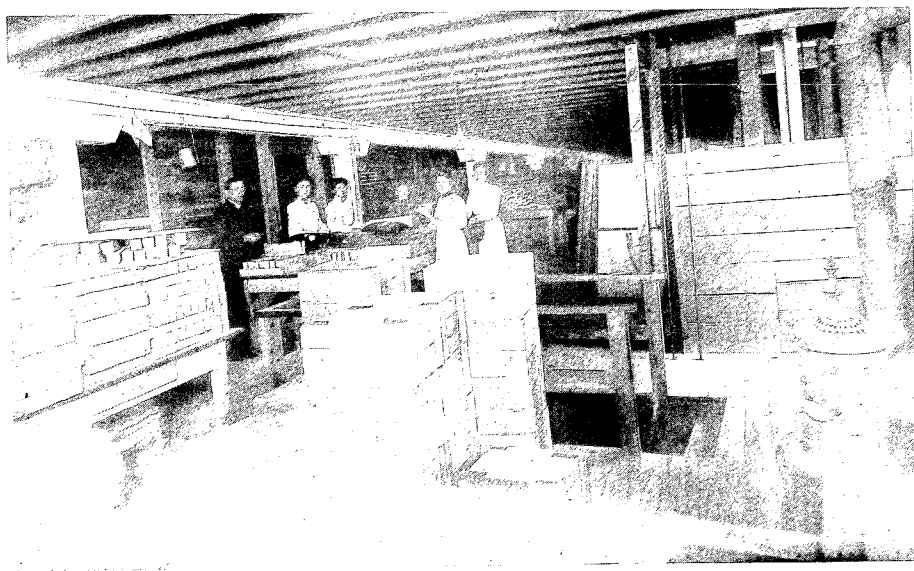
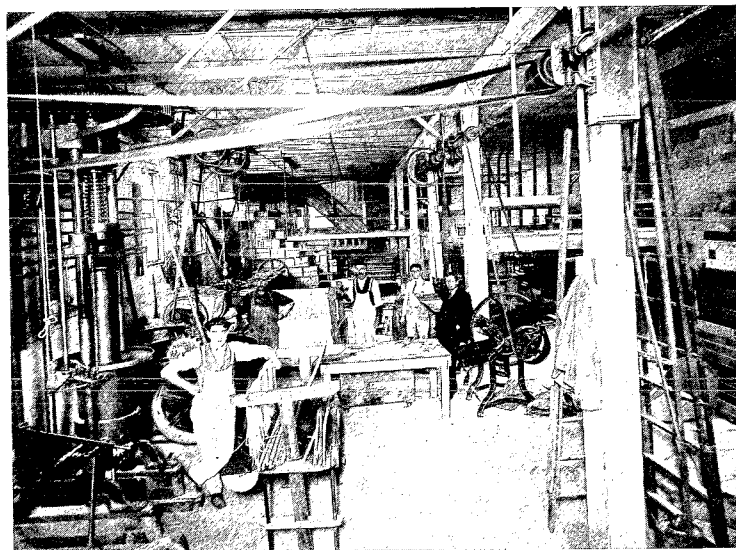
For
Family
Use.

THE PILLIOD
MILLING CO.



U. S. Food and Manufacturing Company, better known as The Noodle Factory. From 1906 to 1909 they made macaroni, spaghetti, and noodles. It was on the corner of Broadway and Lincoln. Before being renovated it was a livery stable.

The noodle machine is on the left. Adam George is leaning on the drying rack. The table is where the product was cut, and the man on the right, Mr. Hockstrasser, one of the men in charge, also published the Swanton paper.



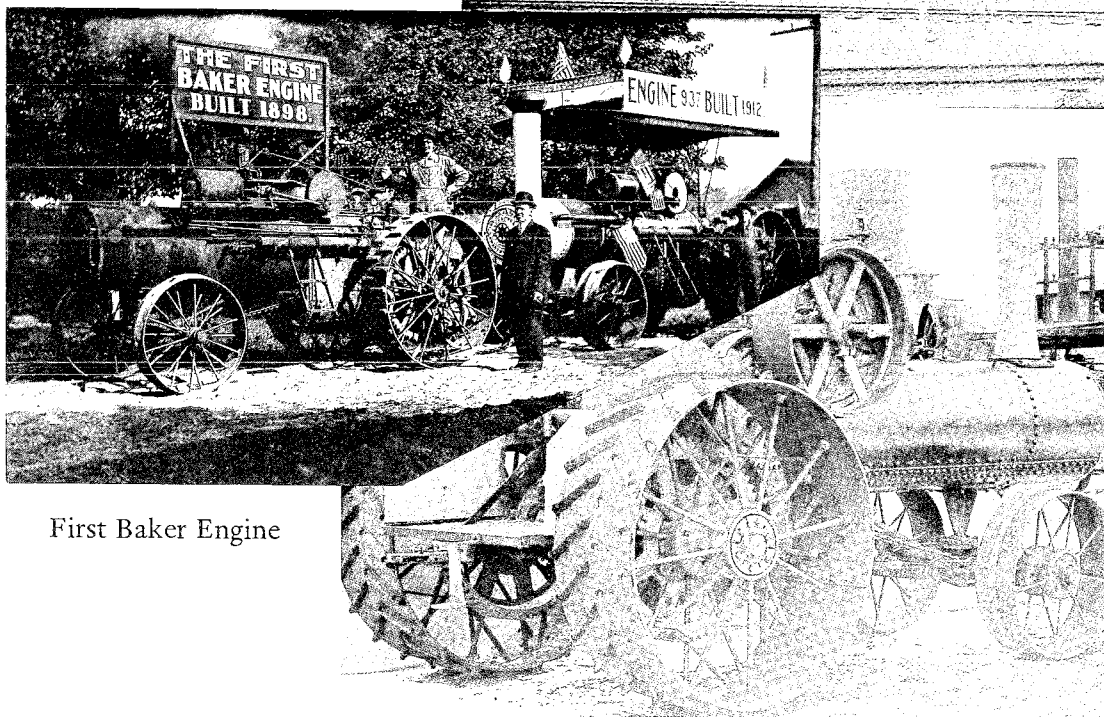
Second floor where the product was packaged. Left to right: Mr. Hockstrasser, Ella Bowers, Fred Katgy, Gladys McCormick, "Goof", and Mrs. Mann, the supervisor.



A. D. Baker

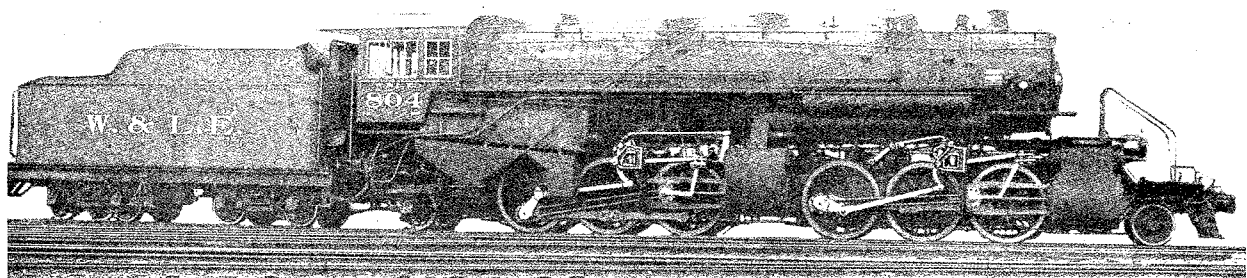
The A. D. Baker Company
Makers of threshing machinery, established in 1888,
an important factor in the economy of the area.

THE A. D. BAKER CO., SWANTON, OHIO.

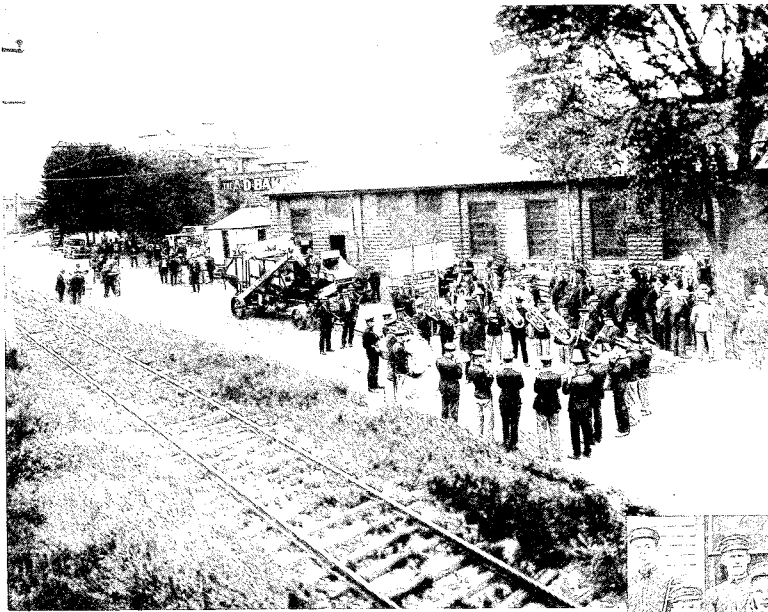


First Baker Engine

Baker Standard



The Big Brother — Equipped with "Baker" Valve Gear.



A. D. Baker Company Band
performing for a Steam Convention

On the steps of the Men's Club in 1888
stands this sprightly band. Only a drummer
could smoke a cigar and play!



Back row: William Sloan, Joe Perkins, L. S. Plummer, John Schondel, Lawrence Geer, Albert Fels, Earl Kline. Front row: Frank Berkebile, Frank Schondel, Charles Schondel, William Schondel, George Turnbull, Gordon Turnbull, Jr., Gordon Turnbull.



Band at Toledo Beach

August — 1907

Back: E. A. Kline, Lawrence Hastings, Will Verbau, Albert Fels.
Frank Berkebile, Fred Estel, W. B. Sloan,
Joe Perkins, Grover Regenold.
Arthur Brindley, J. W. Klein, Ray Turnbull,
Lloyd Dowell, Tom Jacquot, Ed Sperling,
Roy Grove, Chas. Pilliod.
McCurdy, A. W. Lane, Rob Plummer.



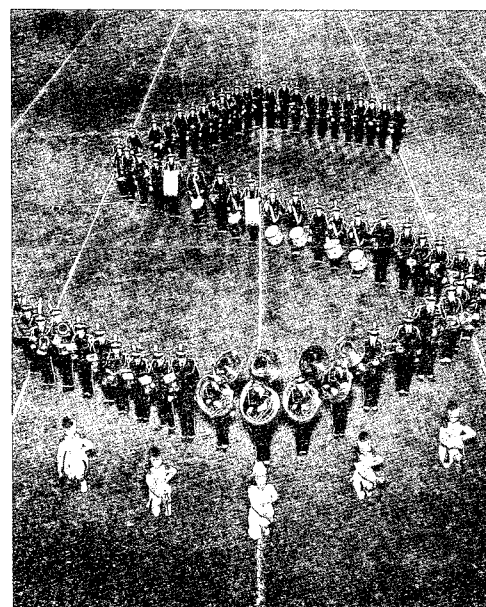
"CAPT. RACKET"
 Farce Comedy in 3 acts given by
 Swanton Home Talent
FOR BENEFIT SWANTON BAND
THURSDAY, MAY 4th., 1916
 AT
PILLIOD'S OPERA HOUSE
EVERYBODY COME
 Help The Band to Prepare for Summer Concerts
THE BEST LOCAL TALENT TO BE HAD
 The Following Have the Leading Parts
 Messrs Mann, Gougeon, and Trumbull
 Messrs Dosovau, Trumbull, Drennon and Hred
 A Sure Cure for the Blues A good Laugh Guaranteed
 Reserved seats on sale at Supper's Restaurant May 1.
ADMISSION 25 cents and 35 cents. Children 15 cents
GOOD ORCHESTRA
 Band concert on street at 7:15
 Curtains at 8:15

Swanton Band — 1884

Fred Pilliod, Wm. Smith Jr., Wm. Smith Sr., Harry Frogley, Hollis Bassett, John Estel. Seated: Chas. Pilliod, Jas Hardy, Tully Hill, Louis Pilliod, John Raab, James Purdy, and Albert Wales in front.

For benefit of the band.

On the railroad tracks — A
 Saturday night concert maybe?



Swanton High School Band
 1955
 Elmer Girten — Director

Some of the Early Homes

Some of the Early Homes

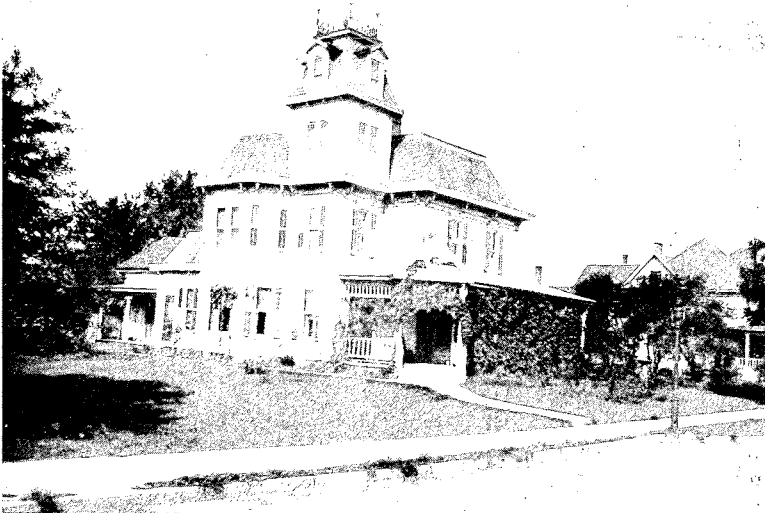


North Main Street

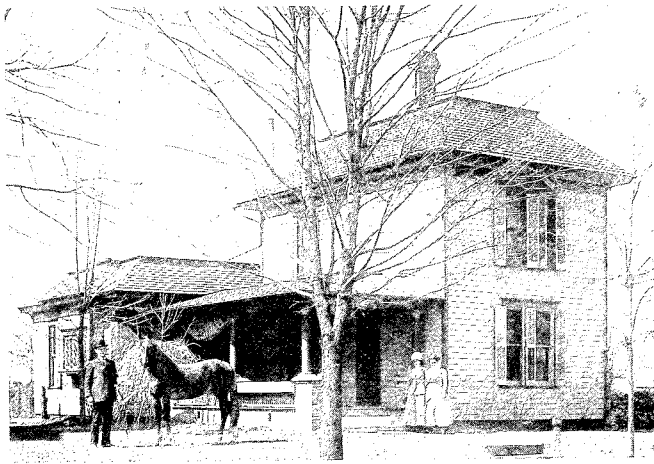
1910

The trees are not yet very tall and stately.

This corner of the picture and below is the Sanderson house where First Federal now is. Here one could get room and board for \$9.00 per week!



The house next door.



Frank Curtis — North Main



Peter Dumaresq, 229 North Main — Built in 1895



Mary Berry on Lincoln Street. She operated a neighborhood grocery in the back part of her home.



Charles F. Smith — North Main



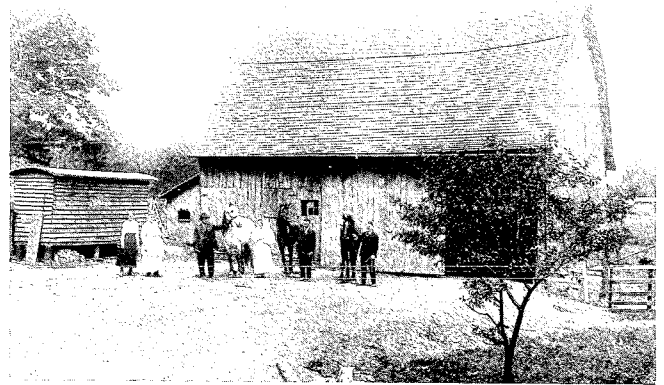
C. J. Brindley — Chestnut Street
Built in 1900, now is Beihl Malone funeral home.



Ed Brindley — Franklin Street



South Main Street
 Louella — Maude — Joe
 — Anna — Gournio
 Notice the board walk in front.



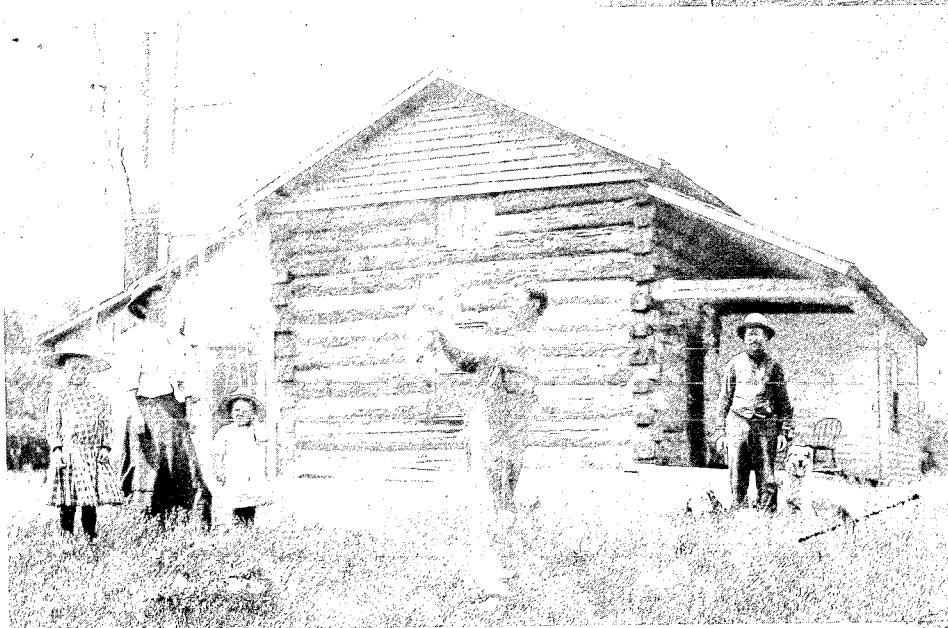
Richard Harding house and barn on South Main Street.

A. M. Brailey house on the corner
 of South Main and East St. Clair
 where the Cordes jewelry shop is.

New in 1919



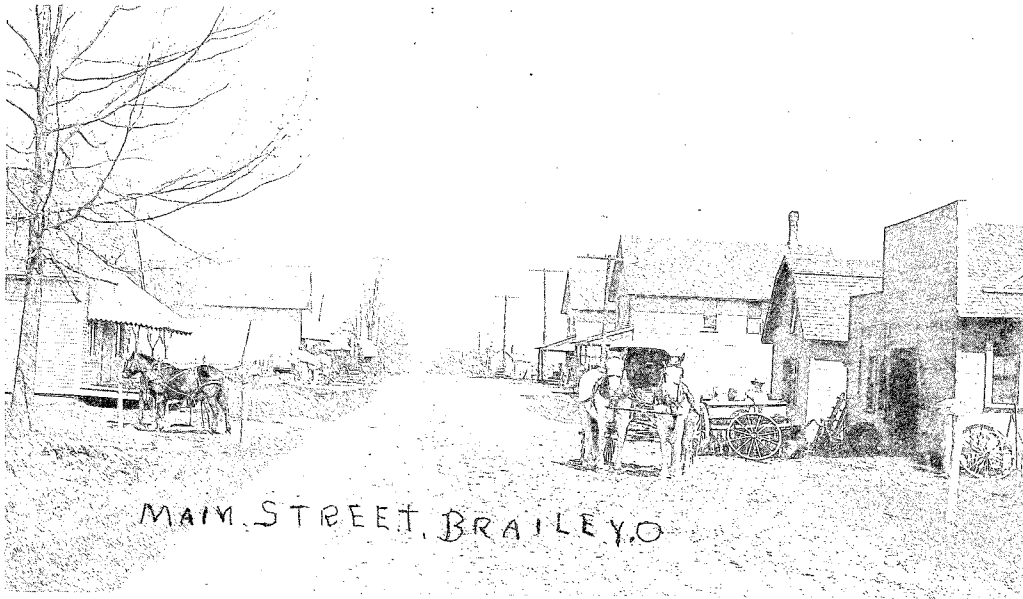
EARLY HOMESTEADS OF THE AREA



The Hockenberger Family.

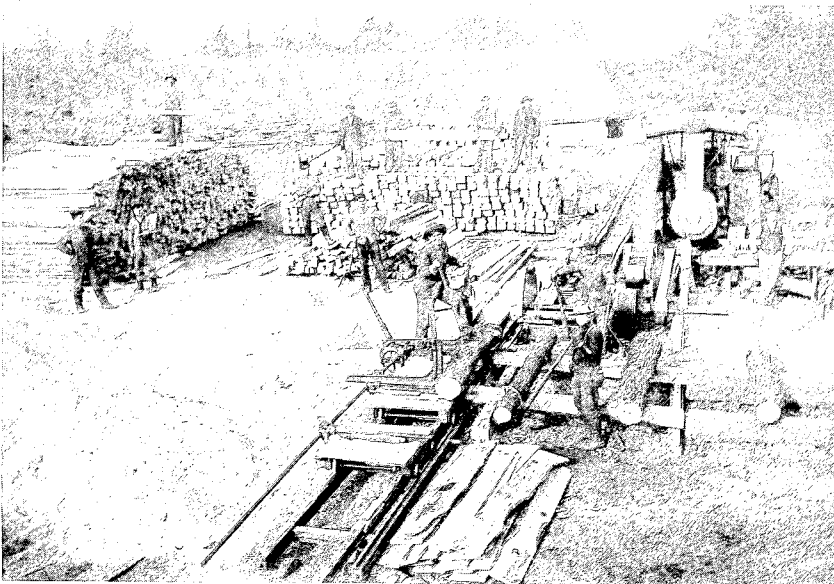
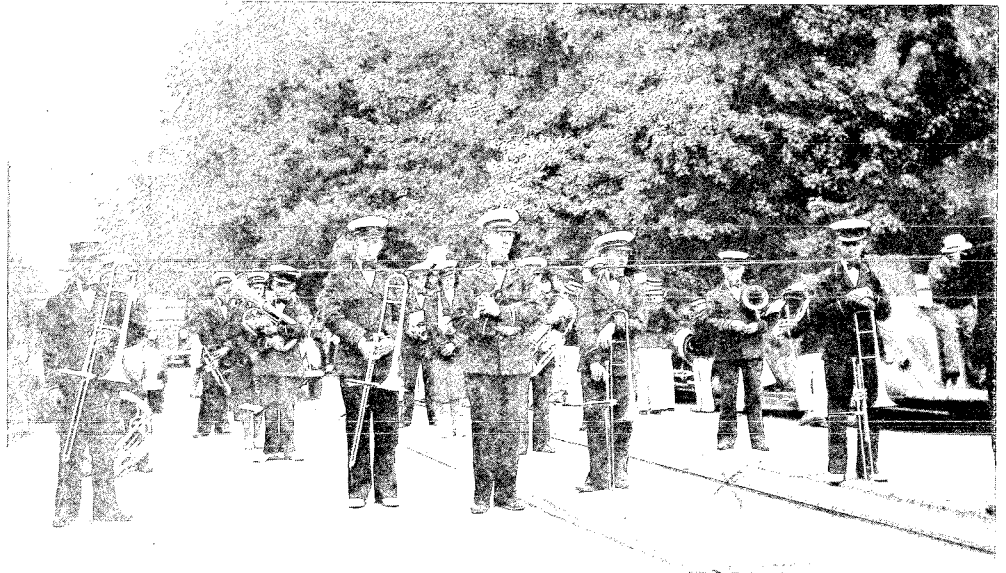


The Brailey home was built for Moses R. Brailey at the end of the Civil War for a cost of \$6500.00. The home had an open stairway in the center of the building with steps long and wide enough for a six foot man to sleep on them. It was on the corner of county road E and F off Brailey Road. It was referred to as the Brailey Mansion.



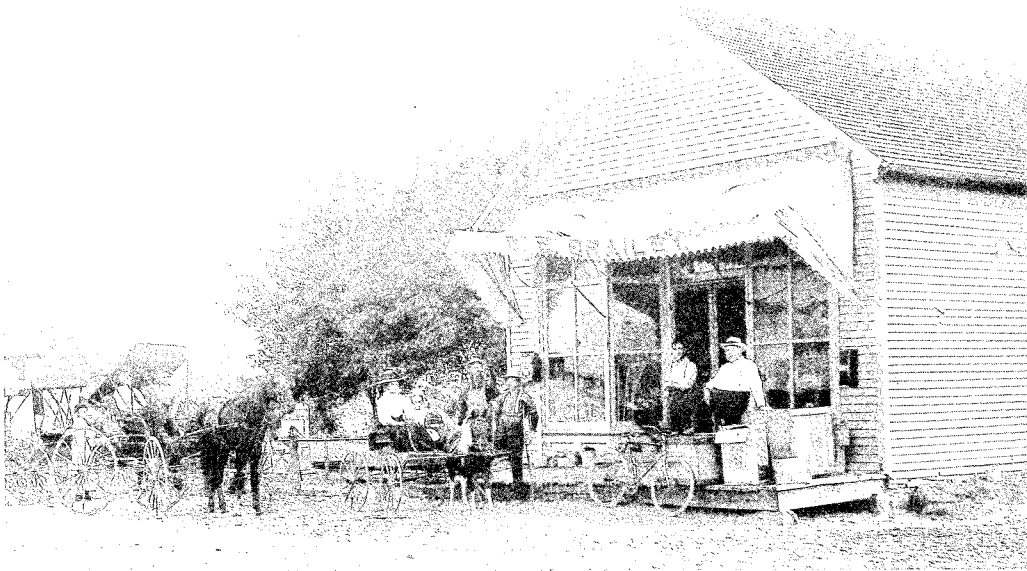
The Main Street
in Brailey.

Where they had
their own band
led by Clark Noaker.



And their own lumber camp on
the old Leininger farm, one mile
South and one-half mile West of
Brailey — a most important enter-
prise for this area.

Brailey's horse and buggy days of the early 1900's.



Brailey's General Store
Geahlen and Roth
1930

A store well stocked with
a large variety of items
for the folk in the area.

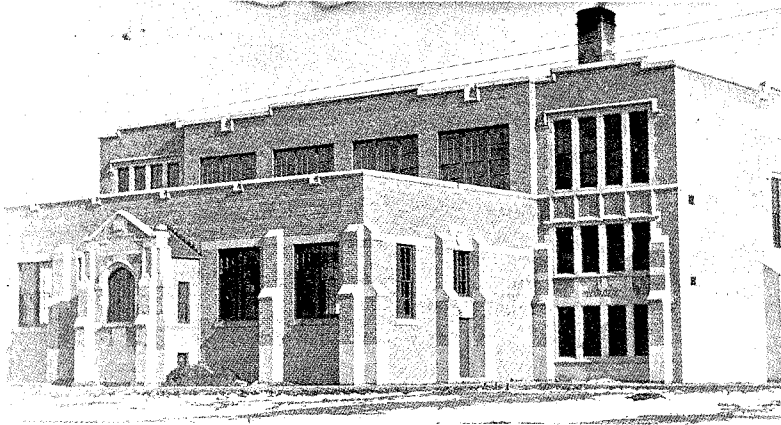


The Feed Store can be seen in the background, and
that's the hardware store next to it.

The girls are Dorothy and Norma Roth with Jenny
the donkey.

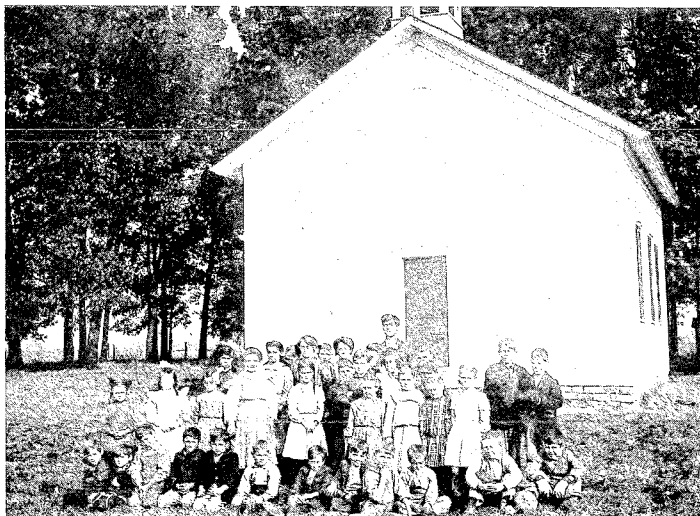
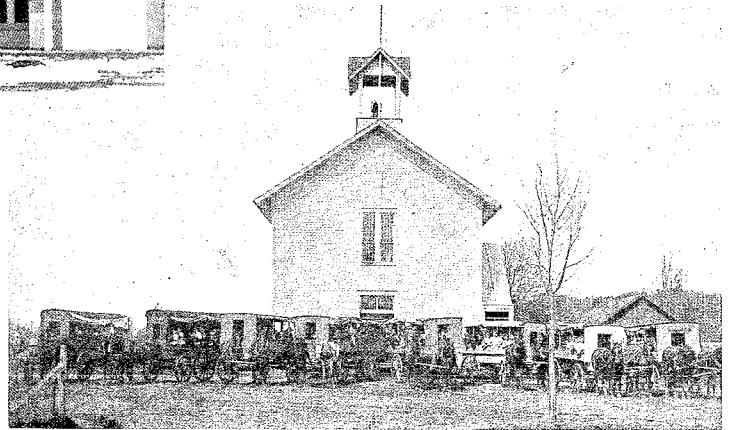
Early Schools in the Area

Early Schools in the Area



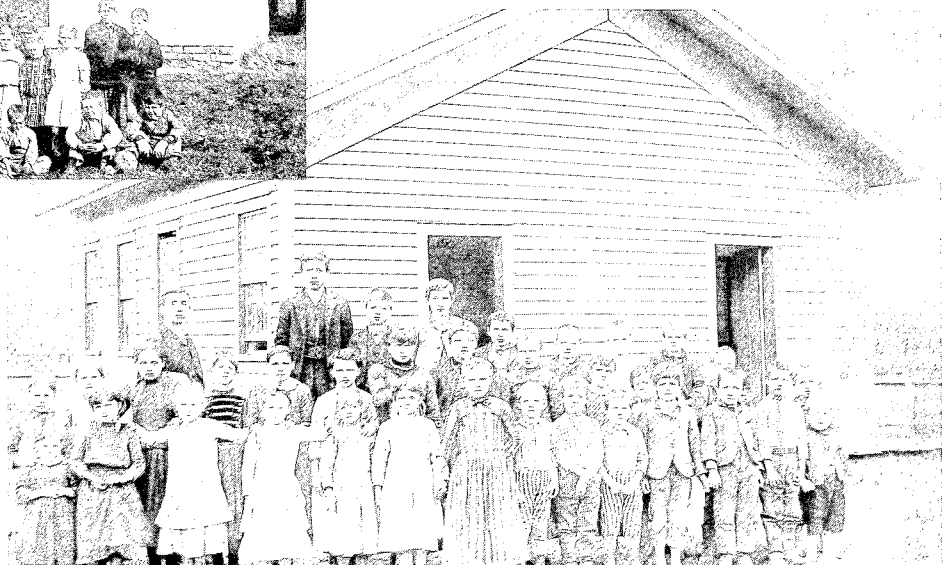
Fulton School, known as Ai,
under construction.

But on the right we see it in earlier days, the first school in Ohio to provide transportation for students by horse drawn school wagons. In 1840 Gideon Raymond received \$15.00 a month but by 1879, Jim Burroughs received \$35.00 a month with this stipulation: "He is to quit anytime we think he don't do justice to the school."



A typical country school of the 1900's.
The teacher is Ray Michael.

See their happy smiles
on picture taking day?



THIS WAS A CLIPPING INCLUDED IN AN OLD SCRAPBOOK.

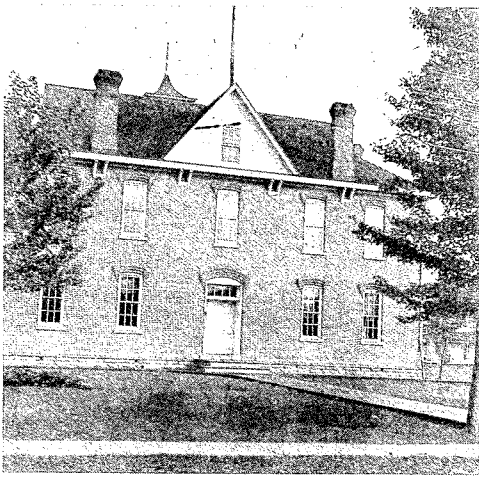


1904

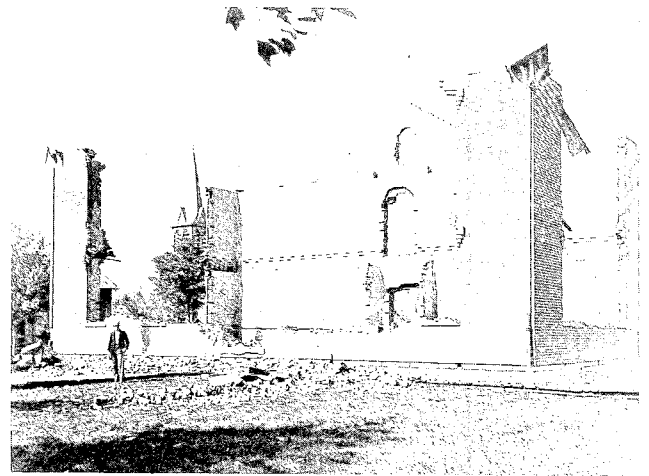
We have the pleasure of presenting a picture of the new school house which will be built at once. R. A. Bradley is the architect. The building will be of brick and will cost \$30,000. Including the basement there will be twenty-one rooms and an assembly hall. The building will be heated by steam throughout. The new building will be situated on the north side of Church street between Miller Avenue and Walnut streets. The grounds will consist of two acres of land, giving ample play grounds, and being situated near the creek, will give good drainage. The new building will be done about Christmas time. The following are members of the Board of Education: J. F. McBride, C. J. Brindley, T. W. Knight, Charles Regenold, Charles Fels and E. D. Curtis. C. O. Castle is the Superintendent.

1839

We have in our office the record of school district No. 1, Wing township, Lucas county, Ohio, dated September, 1839, handed to us by William Mauchley. The book, although 65 years old, is in a good state of preservation. Luther Dodge was the district clerk, David Mills, Robert Fullerton, Luther Dodge and James Egnew were chosen directors at a meeting held in Dodge's home at 4 o'clock p.m. A contract was let to James Dean to build a school house for \$175.00. Persis Scott received \$18.00 for the first term of teaching. In May, 1844 the directors met and hired Ruthett Deblin at one dollar and a half per week.



This school was built in 1887 on the northwest corner of Church and Independence Street (Lincoln St.), also called "The Back Street". North Main was "The Front Street."



When the school burned to the ground in 1904, classes were held in the local churches, and in, or above various stores.

TEACHERS' CERTIFICATE.

No.

Chas. M. Ohio, Nov. 4 1876

The Undersigned, the Board of Examiners of Fulton County, Certify that *J. F. Grove* is of good moral character, and is qualified to teach Orthography, Reading, English Grammar, Geography, Penmanship, Arithmetic, and is versed in the theory and practice of teaching.

THIS CERTIFICATE is to be valid for the space of *12* months from date, unless sooner revoked.

Knowledge of Teaching	80	per cent.
Orthography	95	"
Reading	85	"
Writing	85	"
Arithmetic	80	"
Geography	85	"
English Grammar	95	"

(100 Perfect, 80 Good, 65 Passable.)

A. M. Smith
W. D. Cramer
J. E. Sater

Examiners.

This teachers certificate for J. F. Grove was issued 100 years ago.

Teacher's Certificate

Grade No. 3 Valid for the Term of 12 Months

We, the School Examiners

T. W. Knight is a person of good moral character and is qualified to teach Orthography, Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Geography and English Grammar.

This Certificate is to be valid for the term of *Twelve* months from this date unless revoked by the Board.

Dated this *23* day of *Oct* 1875

Board of Examiners:

GRADE—100 PERFECT.

Orthography	80	Reading	80	Arithmetic	90
English Grammar	80	Writing	85	Geography	90

W. D. Cramer
J. A. Gandy
A. M. Smith

Board of Examiners.

Teachers Certificate issued to T. W. Knight — 1875

TEACHERS' CERTIFICATE

The Undersigned, the Board of Examiners of Fulton County, Certify that *J. F. Grove* is of good moral character, and is qualified to teach Orthography, Reading, English Grammar, Geography, Penmanship, Arithmetic, and is versed in the theory and practice of teaching.

THIS CERTIFICATE is to be valid for the space of *12* months from date, unless sooner revoked.

EXAMINER	PER CENT OF CORRECT ANSWERS IN THE SEVERAL BRANCHES	OTHER BRANCHES
Orthography	95	Reading
Reading	85	Writing
Writing	85	Arithmetic
Arithmetic	80	Geography
Geography	85	English Grammar
English Grammar	95	Theory and Practice of Teaching

(100 Perfect, 80 Good, 65 Passable.)

A. M. Smith
W. D. Cramer
J. E. Sater

Examiners.

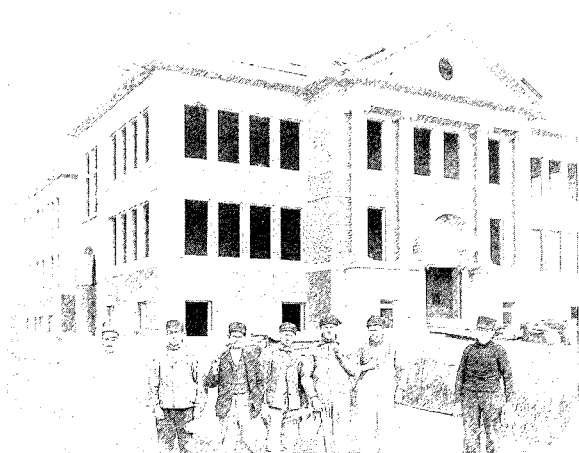
This certificate of 1892 is a work of art.

Some 1899 Rules & Regulations for the Swanton Public Schools:

Teachers will give careful attention to ventilating the rooms, so that children will not be allowed to sit in currents of cold air. At each intermission, a proper supply of fresh air should be admitted to each room.

Fire Drills — the aim shall be to empty rooms expeditiously and orderly, keep and maintain a rapid military step until ordered to halt by superintendent or teacher.

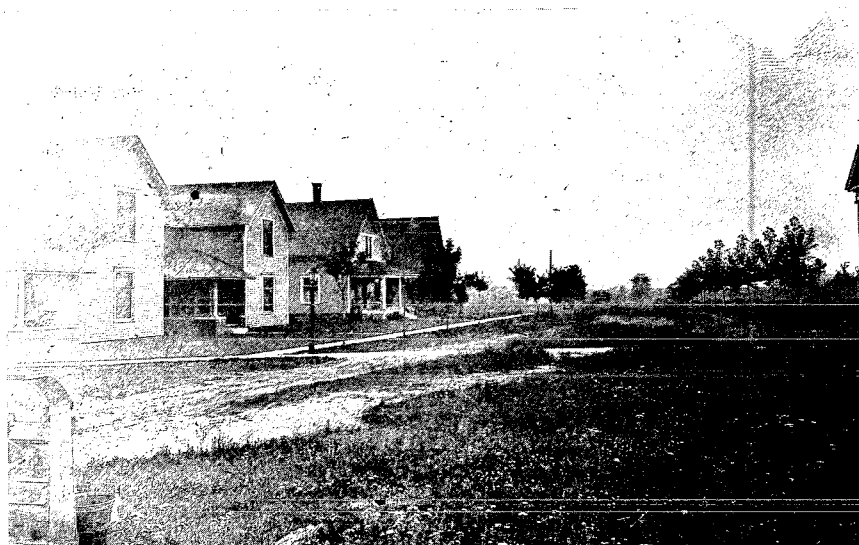
Duties of Janitor — Keep woodhouse full and wood piled. Build all fires, keep boxes full of wood in the winter season; sweep and dust once a day; wash the blackboards the last Saturday in each month; clean erasers once each week; fumigate once each month by burning two pounds of sulphur in each room and halls; mop the floors every four weeks.



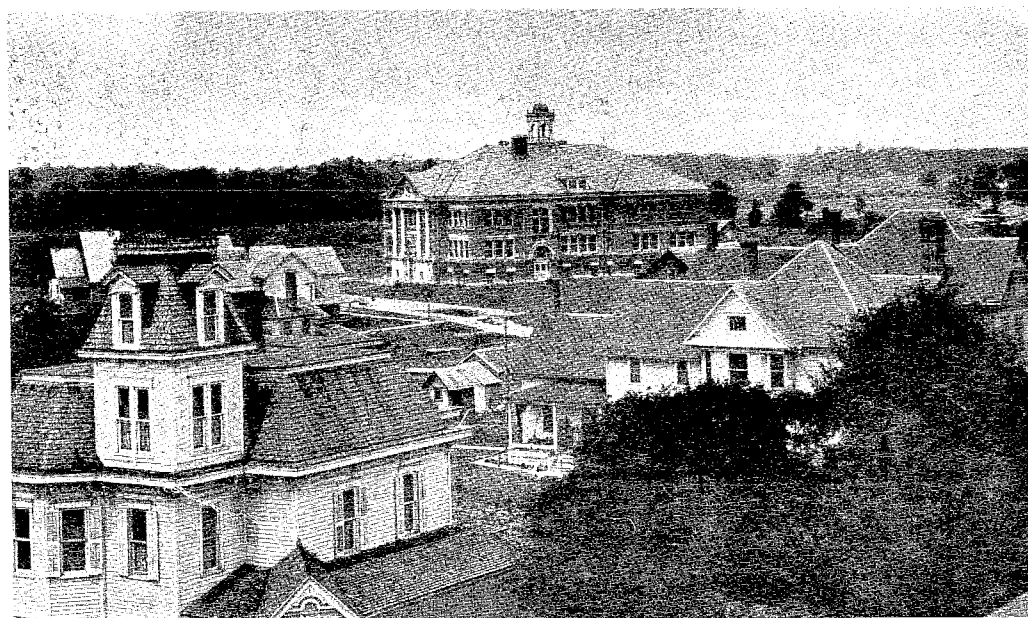
Swanton School under construction. Building materials were hauled by horse and wagon to construct this \$30,000, three floor brick ediface.



Cherry Street looking East.



School is on the right side. That's a water pump in the left corner. The sidewalks are new as are the stately rows of trees.



Birds eye view of the school.

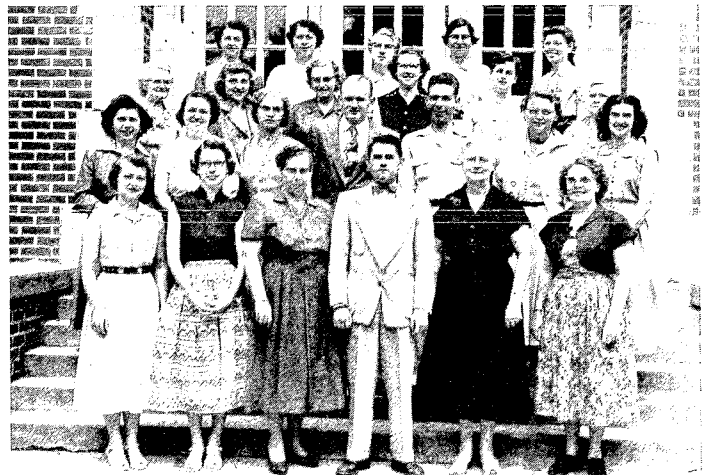


The baskets
may indicate
a picnic!

ROW 4: Otto Vorbau, Lawrence Hastings, Louie Shaffer, Lydia Matzinger, Teacher - Ray Zeller. ROW 3: Tom Jacquot, Joe Sero, Arthur Brindley, Blanche Keeling, Mahlon Dowell, Myrtle Robinson, Everett Crosby, Will Wier, Ella Hepfinger, Roy Lacy. ROW 2: Harry Pilliod, Leone Scott, Marie Sero, Cleo Curtis, Grace Winslow, Georgia Porter, Bessie Sperling, Frank Pfaff, George Wicks. ROW 1: Charles Vorbau, Marie Drennan, Edna Fleming, Christina Murbach, Lena Spaulding, May Frogley, Ola Grove, Edith Lilley, Florence Elwell.

Elementary Faculty

TOP ROW: Irene Sagert, Virginia Kruez, Ardys Slaninka, Florence Sperling, Elsie Blevins. THIRD ROW: Louella Spaulding, ???, ???, Olene Deboer, Virginia Ptyyak, Sylvia Adams. SECOND ROW: Ethel Gibbons, Margaret Daniels, Martha Lindhorst, Carl Long, Charles Jennings, Edna Eckley, Yolanda Raker. FIRST ROW: Dorothy Vose, ???, Murtie Elton, Tim Juett, Julia Pearson, Lavona Eaton.



School Board — 1950

Nell Kline; Fern Bartlett; George Pilliod; George Raker; L. A. Walker, Superintendent; Cy Runnels, Principal; Albert Keener.

FIRST ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT, SWANTON HIGH SCHOOL, 1897.

PROGRAMME.

Voluntary,		DOROTHY GEYSER.
Invocation,		DR. LOVE.
Class Song,	Words by Oane Hamlin. Music by Dorothy Geyser.	HIGH SCHOOL.
Piano Solo,—Tendresse,		NETTIE BRINDLEY.
Recitation,—Press On,		OANE HAMLIN.
Piano Solo,—Wedding Chimes,		LAURA PRICE.
Recitation,		BESSIE VAUGHAN.
Duet,—Liszt Rhapsodie No. 6,		DOROTHY AND WILLIE GEYSER.
Recitation,		S. J. MAUCHLY.
Vocal Solo,—Lullaby,		BESSIE HALL.
Essay,—Our Nation,		RAY PAYSON GEER.
Violin Solo,— <i>Cujus Animam</i> ,		L. N. PILLIOD.
Presentation of diploma and address,		L. D. BOYER.
Farewell Song,	Words by Pearl Williams. Music Appropriated.	HIGH SCHOOL.
Benediction,		DR. LOVE.

The Kranich & Bach Piano used for this entertainment was kindly furnished by J. W. Greene & Co., Pythian Castle, Toledo, O.

Class of 1902

Blanche Sly, Fred Smith, Verna Geer, Minnie Dumaesq, Gertie Kuebler, Mildred Templeton.
Six in the Sixth Graduating Class.



Sixth Annual Commencement

Swanton High School

at

Pilliod's Opera House

Tuesday Evening, June Third,

Nineteen Hundred and Two,

Seven Thirty O'clock.

—•—

Baccalaureate Sermon

Sunday Evening June First.

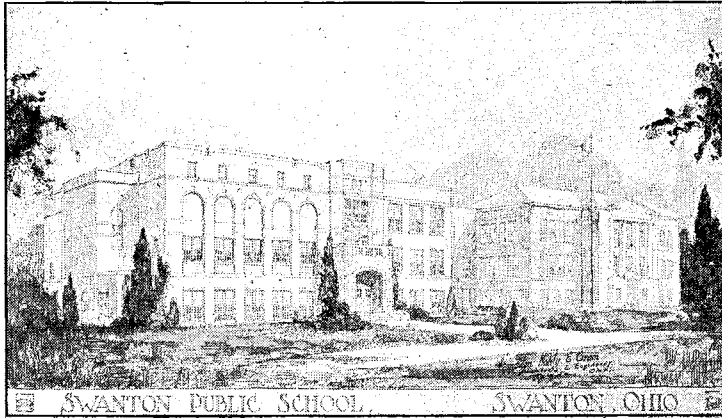
at

M. E. Church by Rev. Wm. Boyers.

PROGRAMME

—•—

Voluntary.....	MISS DOROTHY GEYSER
Invocation.....	REV. HIGHT
Ionian Male Quartette	
Oration, "One of America's Youngest Heroes".....	FRED SMITH
Oration, "A Nation's Progress".....	MINNIE DUMARESQ
Ionian Male Quartette,	
Oration, "The Star of Hope".....	VERNA GEER
Oration, "Difficulty the Forerunner of Success".....	BLANCHE SLY
Ionian Male quartette,	
Oration, "Under a Star".....	GERTRUDE KUEBLER
Oration, "At the Crossroad".....	MILDRED TEMPLETON
Ionian Male Quartette.	
Class Address.....	HON. O. T. CORSON
Presentation of Diplomas.....	J. F. MCBRIDE
Benediction.....	REV. BOYERS



CONGRATULATIONS

Langdon, Hohly & Gram, Architects and Engineers
TOLEDO, OHIO

Swanton, Feb. 11—Dedication of Swanton's new public school addition will be Friday, Feb. 17, when the entire building will be thrown open to the public. The Swanton school is shown in the accompanying picture.

The gymnasium, library, domestic science, junior high, music and English rooms are in the building.

The auditorium, which is beautifully decorated, has a seating capacity of 600 on the main floor and 300 in the balcony. The stage settings are up, the grand piano has arrived and is in readiness for occupancy. The building and equipment cost \$160,000.

Langdon, Hohly and Gram, Toledo architects, planned the building and supervised construction.

L. A. Walker is the superintendent, Karl Zartman is principal. The members of the board of education are: M. L. Linehan, president; L. R. Baker, vice president; Mrs. Amy Smith, clerk; B. J. Moorman and C. O. Castle.

Dedication of New Public School Addition, February 11, 1928.

Excerpt from Toledo Blade.



Freda Loyer, Director



M. E. Lewis, President of Choral Society.

First Concert 1927-1928

SWANTON CHORAL SOCIETY

FREDA LOYER, Conductor

Howard Zimmerman, Accompanist

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

February 14 and 15, 1928

At 8:15 o'Clock

Soloists

C. C. PREMO GORDON TURNBULL A. R. TRUMBULL

PART I

1. Orchestra—
 - a. March from "Athalia" F. Mendelssohn
 - b. Gavotte from "Mignon" Ambrose Thomas
2. Mixed Chorus—
 - a. Salutation S. R. Gaines
 - b. Prayer of Thanksgiving Netherland
3. Vocal Solo—
 - a. The Two Grenadiers R. Schumann
 - b. Trees Kilmer-Rasbach

C. C. PREMO

4. Vocal Trio—
 - a. The Piper of Love Molly Carew
 - b. Fairy Cradles Molly Carew

MRS. A. A. PURDY, ARLENE PURDY and EVA HOOK

5. Violin Solo—
 - a. Gypsy Dance Tivadar Nachez
 - b. Souvenir Drdla

GORDON TURNBULL

6. Mixed Chorus—
 - a. The Sea Hath Its Pearls Ciro Pinsuti
 - b. Pilgrim's Chorus (Tannhauser) R. Wagner

PART II

7. Mixed Chorus—
 - a. The Bells of St. Mary's Emmett Adams
 - b. Bridal Chorus (The Rose Maiden) F. H. Cowen
8. Vocal Solo—
 - a. Evening Star Song from Tannhauser
 - b. Kashmiri Love Song Amy Woodfin Finden

A. R. TRUMBULL

9. Male Quartette—
 - a. The Lamplit Hour Arthur A. Penn
 - b. Drink To Me Only With Thine Eyes..... arranged by C. O'Hare

W. J. PINKSTONE, C. C. PREMO, MILO LEWIS, M. E. LEWIS

10. Mixed Chorus—
 - a. The Sands of Dee G. A. MacFarren
 - b. O, My Love's Like a Red, Red Rose G. M. Garrett
11. Mixed Chorus and Orchestra—
 - a. The Heavens Are Telling Jos. Haydn

Dedication Concert.

THESE MAKE THE MEMORIES



Good times as this Class Play - 1917. Chas. Latimer, Victor Buckenmeyer, Fred Cass, Joe Morris, Florence Lachbihler, Albert Lorymer, Norma Kelsey (Fetterman), Naymo Perkins, Florence Lewis, Beatrice Rethinger, Hattie Dull (Wheating), Ralph Gull, Edward Minnich, George Smith, Lorence Latimer, Olive Wiley, Fanny Lombard, Helen Lewis, Tom Sunday, Melvin Wentz, Frank Viers.



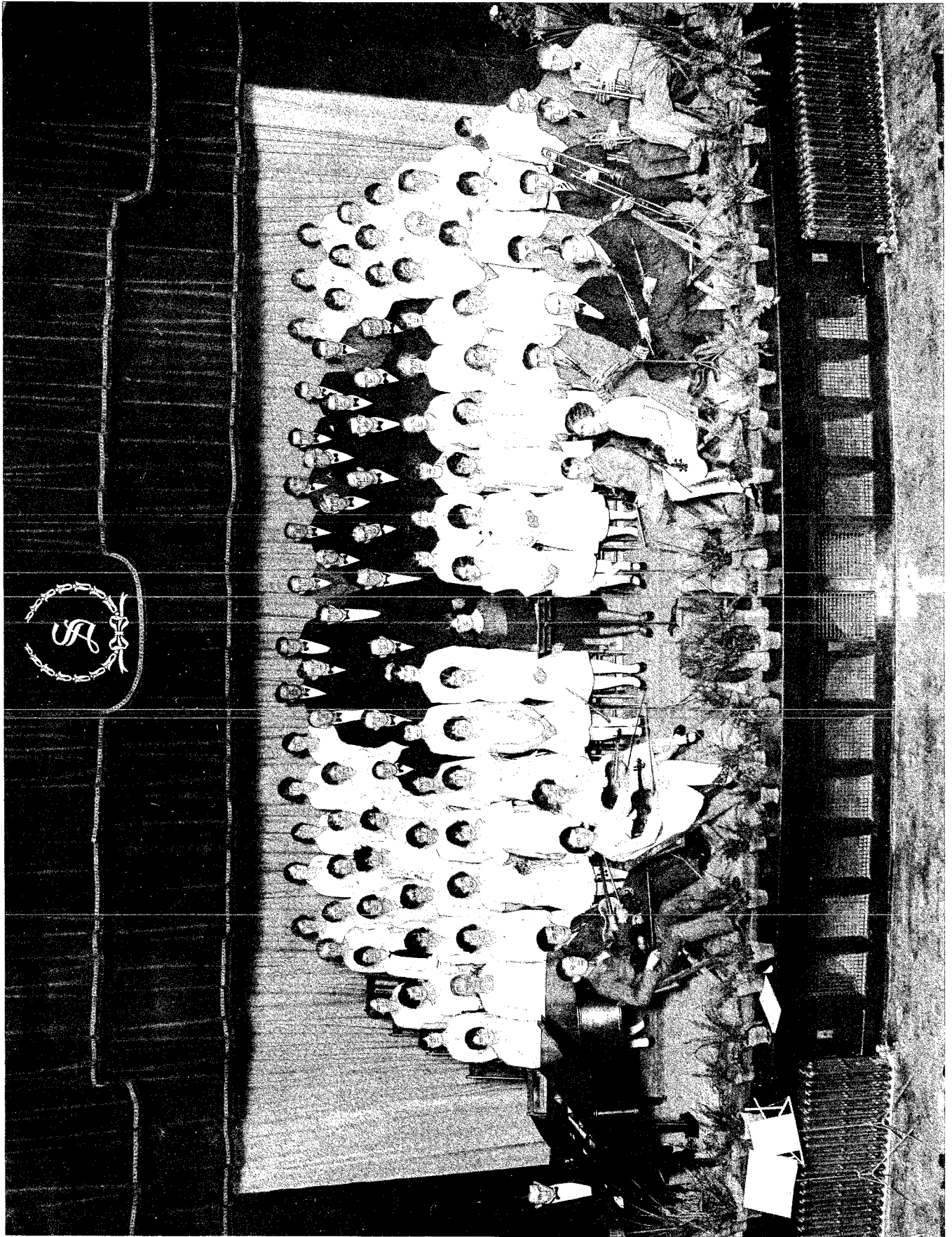
Honored Times



Not for school but for life we learn.



Souvenir books given to each class member at year's end by Besse Dumaresq, the teacher.



CHORUS — SCHOOL DEDICATION

Trombones —

Floyd Hagerman
Homer Matzinger

Drums

Price Reed

Trumpet

Lester Brailey

Howard Hagerman

Flute

Robert Smith

Clarinet

Raphael Mathias

W. G. Minnich

Violin

Verena Cunningham Maltby

Gerald Schug

Amy Smith

Majorie Keener

Raymond Kelsey

Robert Hahn

Piano

Howard Zimmerman

Ladies 4th Row

1. Mrs. J. F. Sundah
2. Ethel Farner
3. Enid Baum
4. Lily Scott Kuebler
5. Ethel Klotz
6. Cornelia Camp
7. Leila Gaiman
- 8.

Ladies 5th Row

1. Phebe Boyd
- 2.
3. Ida Kimberlin
- 4.
5. Alta Kelley
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

Men 1st Row

1. George Pilliod
2. Milo Lewis
3. W. J. Pinkstone
4. Allen Trumbull
5. Robert Reed
6. Ralph Wilcox
- 7.
8. Basil Moorman
9. Rev. W. J. Amstutz

2nd Row

1. John Fels
2. Homer Carpenter
3. C. C. Premo
4. M. E. Lewis
5. W. J. Van Horn
6. Rev. C. W. Horn?
7. K. E. Zartman
- 8.

3rd Row

- 1.
- 2.
3. Burton Elton
4. Homer Elton
- 5.
6. Leo Jacquot
- 7.

First Row

- 1.
2. Georgiana Price
3. Mrs. M. E. Lewis
- 4.
5. Alice Fels
- 6.
7. Betty Pfaff
- 8.

9. Frieda Loyer

10. Iva Gorman

11.

12. Helen Castle Brailey

13. Irma Lathrop Moorman

14. Mrs. F. E. Pilliod

15. Mrs. A. D. Baker

16. Eva Hook

17.

18. Elnetta Bratton ?

Second Row

1. Hilda Minnich
2. Violet Zeller
3. Lawrence Berkebile
4. Florence Lewis
5. Esther Drennan
6. Mayme Stine
7. Blanche Bradshaw
8. Meda Purdy
9. Maude Gournio
10. Gertrude Newcomb
- 11.
12. Ella Merrell
13. Helen McTigue Pfaff
- 14.
15. Laura Reed
16. Mrs. Marion Brailey
17. Mrs. Al Pruden

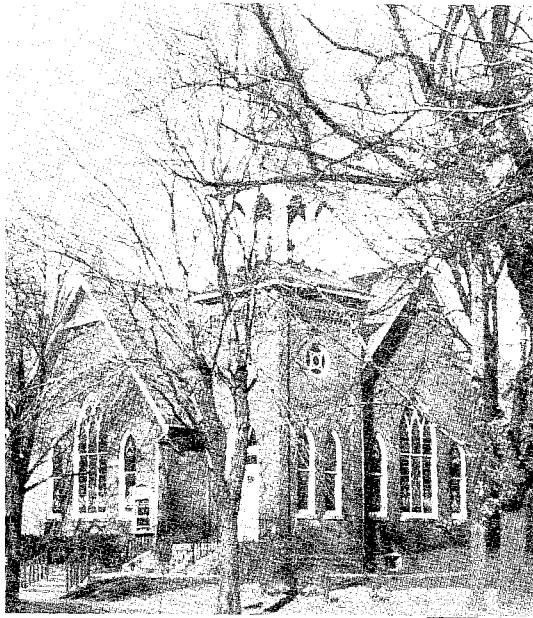
Ladies 3rd Row

1. Hilda Rethmyer Dick
- 2.
3. Mary Ethel Gunder
- 4.
5. Virguas Hahn
6. Ruth Klotz Castle
7. Frances Bradshaw
- 8.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100.

Some of the Early Churches

Some of the Early Churches



The original Swanton Methodist Church was built in 1863 on Plank Road, later moved to the corner of South Main and St. Clair streets. In 1888 it was moved to the present location on North Main Street. The main structure of the church was built in 1892 after the first church constructed there burned.

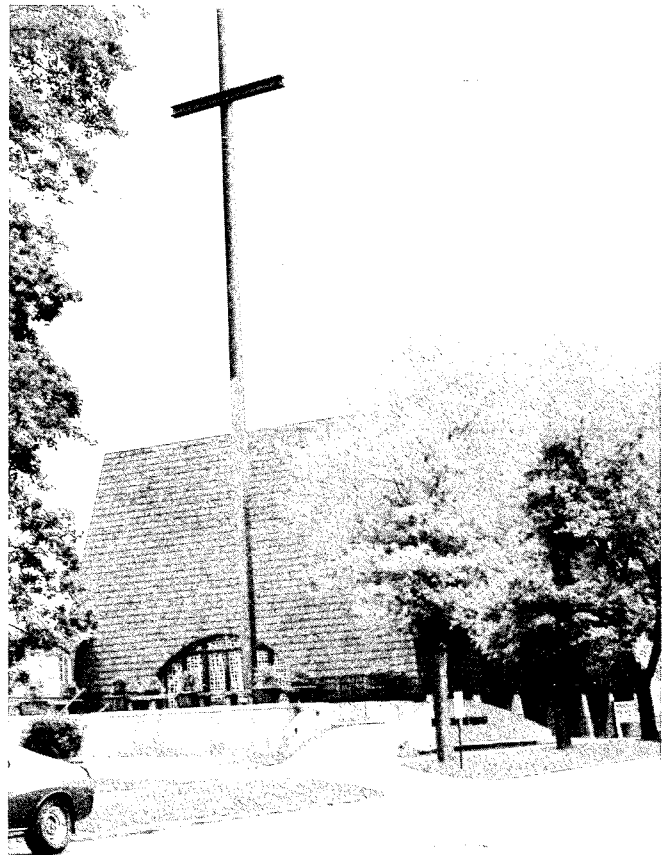
1889-1966



Rachel Mauchley's Sunday School class Party, 1911.



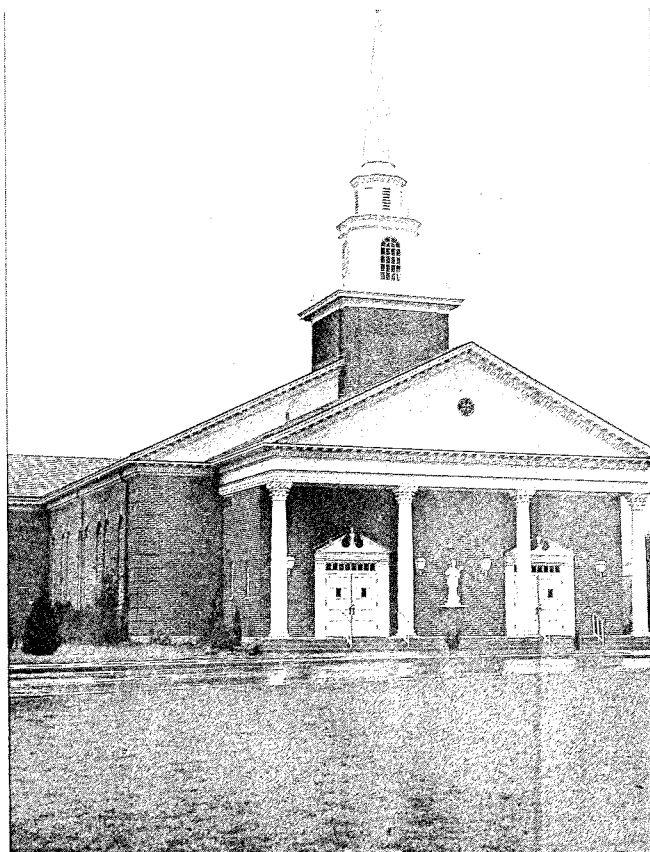
Laying the cornerstone, October 23, 1966.
The Rev. I. C. Wynn and Pastor Ben Edwards.



1967



The Old Church
May 7, 1893 to April 13, 1957



The New Church
Dedication August 18, 1966

The mission parish of St. Richard was established by Father Thomas McGuire, pastor of St. Mary's at Assumption. Construction of the church on Dodge Street was begun in the autumn of 1891. The first mass offered there was said by Father Schaffield on May 7, 1893. Father Bertholet became pastor of St. Richard's in 1909 when it became an independent parish.



Reverend John Bertholet
1909-1912



1976



The People of the Holy Faith meet at the Faith Lutheran Church which was dedicated April 29, 1956.



Dedicated June, 1968



The Christian Missionary and Alliance Church was built in 1891. It was known as the new German Baptist Church of Swanton until 1904.

Disasters of the Town

Disasters of the Town

A COMMUNITY PAPER WORTH LOOKING INTO

SWANTON, O. ENTERPRISE

PUBLISHED THURSDAYS

APRIL 1, 1920

SWANTON IS BADLY WRECKED BY TORNADO SUNDAY EVENING

Swanton, hard hit by Sunday evening's storm, is putting forth every effort toward reconstruction and rebuilding.

Monday evening about 30 citizens met with the council and made plans for reconstruction. Peter Drum reported that he found 18 homes on the north side which have been made uninhabitable in cold weather. A similar condition exists on the south side.

Mayor Baker appointed as a relief committee, P. H. Drum, John Fels and C. E. Brindley. They are to make a survey of the town, learning the needs, and securing material from other towns to build. He appointed P. E. Pilliod, M. J. Linehan and A. D. Baker as a finance committee to raise funds, which will be used to assist those in need, and to back loans to those who are in immediate need of money.

F. E. Pilliod and Mr. Linehan announced that the bank will go the limit allowed by the state in loaning to those whose homes have been damaged. An appeal has been sent out to several nearby towns for workmen, as many are needed immediately to make temporary and permanent repairs.

Mayor Baker issued a proclamation Monday against loitering, and asking all who are able to go to work toward cleaning up the town, and requesting all who have no business on the streets to keep off after seven in the evening. Special officers have been appointed to guard

Swanton from all directions nights.

By Monday night a large part of the debris had been cleared away, the streets cleared to a large extent and the total appearance of the town changed.

Visitors flocked into Swanton Monday and Tuesday from every direction, swarming the village to look at the ruin.

Sunday was a warm, cloudy day. About four in the afternoon it appeared stormy. It began to storm a little about seven, new time, and about 7:30 the wind, cyclone or tornado, reached a terrific velocity. It lasted only three to five minutes, and was accompanied by hail. It was followed by a hard rain and continued wind, and it was half an hour or more before many persons began to stir out.

The lights went out a few moments before the heavy storm. Soon lanterns were seen around town, and the report was soon spread that most of the town had been blown to pieces. This appeared to be true, as Main and other streets were covered with debris. Few realized the extent of the damage Sunday night.

The damage in Swanton village will probably be about \$500,000, and \$1,000,000 is a low estimate for the community, from Utah to Rad's Corners, in a path a mile wide.

The entire front of the Swanton garage fell in, crushing the engine of Henry Zeller's machine, and the women in the machine narrowly missed being struck by a large, heavy beam. Two Over-

The Most Destructive Storm Ever Witnessed Passes Thru This Community, Causing An Enormous Loss, Estimated that Swanton Lost A Million and Half Dollars; May Be

BAKER COMPANY IS HARDEST HIT OF

Practically Every Home in Swanton Suffers A Loss, Ranging to a Complete Loss; North Part of Town Hit Hardest. Loses Entire Line in Corporation and Miles

PILLIOD LUMBER CO. FIRST TO RES

Reconstruction Going On At A Fast Gait, Over 600 Men Out the Town, Wauseon, Delta, Whitehouse and in Carpenters and Laborers; Swanton Th

lands, new, owned by F. Mester, were badly damaged, and several other ones were slightly damaged. The rear part of the garage still stands.

All the front windows in Beed's store were blown in, and some damage done to the stock. The front and back end of the ten cent barn were blown out. Nearly all the trees in the railroad park were broken off, and with roofs and other material scattered about, the park was a mess. Trains were held for several hours.

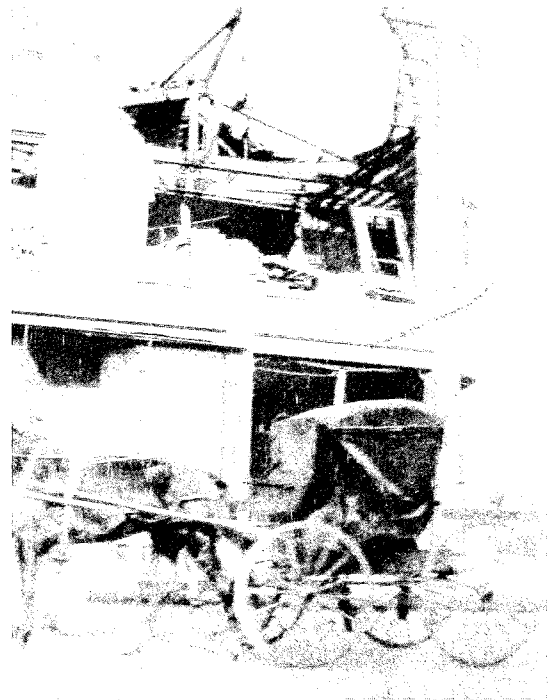
The upper half of the opera house is in ruins, the greater part of the front wall being gone. Melcher's and the Curtis hardware stores received slight damage. The rear end of the Masonic hall was torn out. Windows at the restaurant, bank and Curtis were blown out.

A large part of the top of the Odd Fellows building was taken away, leaving a table, chairs and stove standing exposed to the open. Above the postoffice the upper rear story was torn off. The roof was torn from Fels' store, and the bricks flying from the upper story of the bakery building went into Dr. Cosgrove's house, narrowly missing Mrs. Cosgrove. The Cosgrove home was badly damaged.

North Main street appeared like a French shelled village. There are few houses on that street, or in Swanton for that matter, which escaped without some damage. The entire top of the Castle house was torn off. Dr. Frank Stine's barn was completely wrecked, the roof torn away, and the house badly damaged. James Brennan's home was literally torn to pieces, leaving the side exposed. It is almost beyond repair.

The street south of Main street

CLAIMS CENTURY-OLD FUND; THANKS--SORRY



Opera House



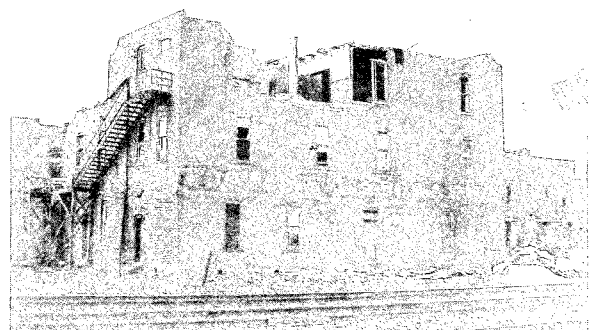
Dr. Cosgrove's on the left, Wright's Bakery on right.



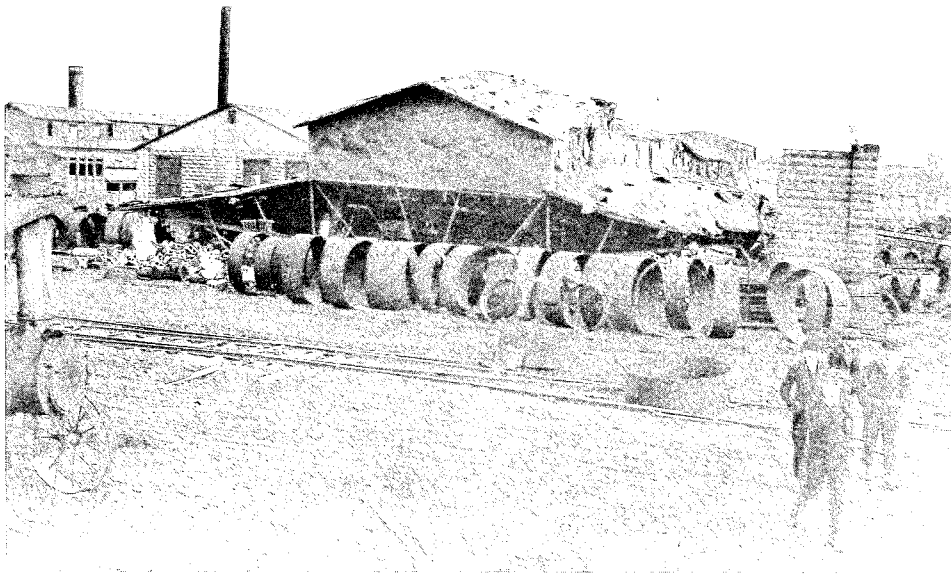
Opera House



Back of Post Office and K of P Hall

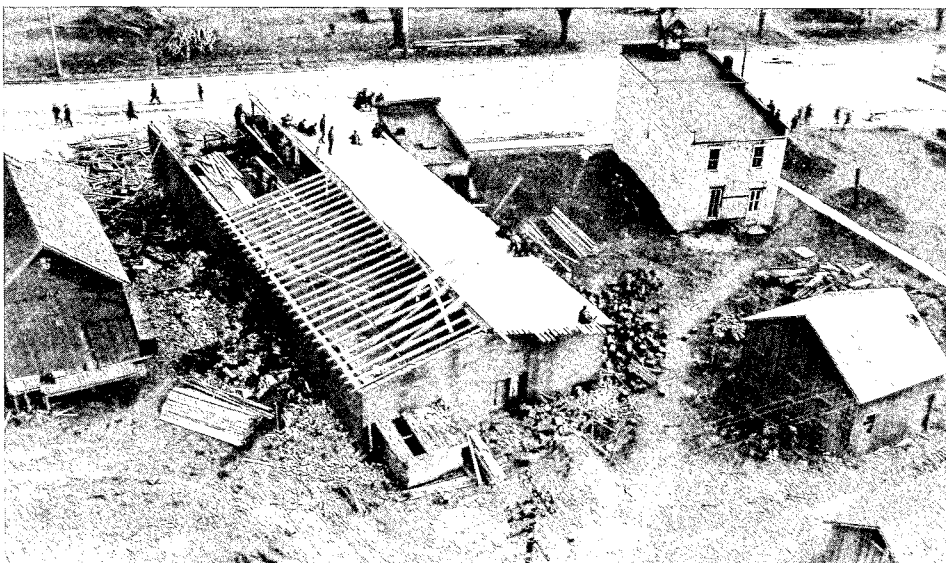
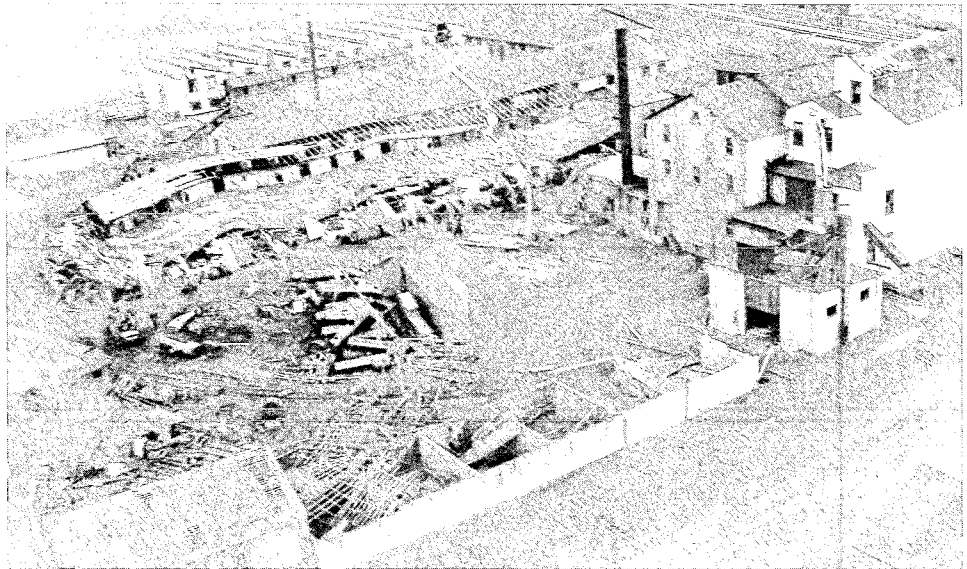


West Side — North of the tracks.



A. D. Baker Co.
Steam tractor in
the left corner.

Aerial view of the damage
to the manufacturing area.



Noodle Factory — Town
Hall is the one on the right.



Windows blown out of the Methodist Church.



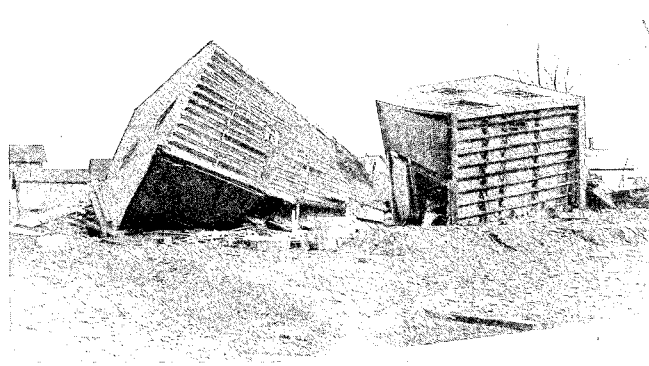
Drennan's house — or what was left — is in the foreground.



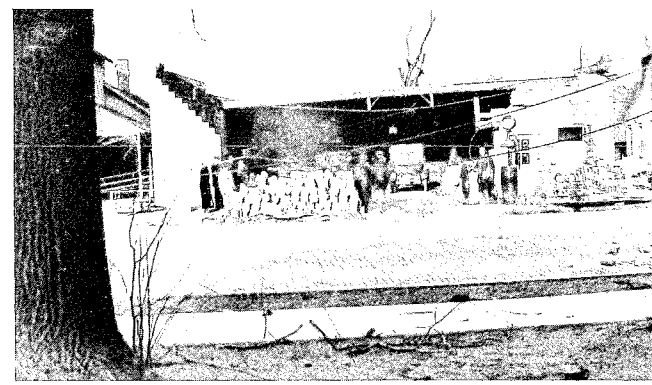
Frank Elton's House



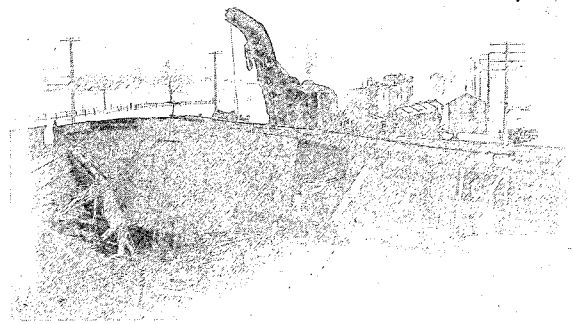
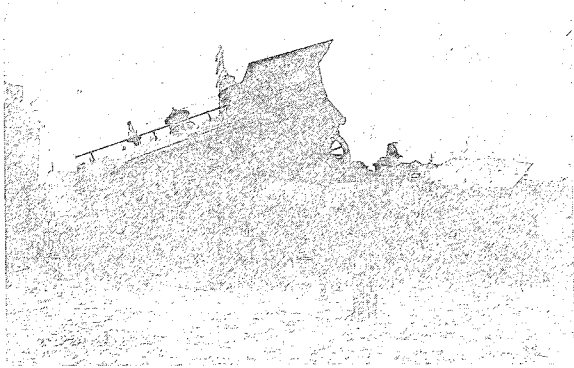
Back of O'Dell's home on North Main.



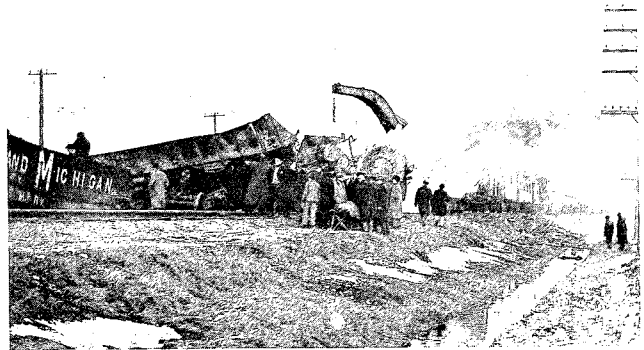
Joe Perkins house.



Block Garage — present location of McNeills.

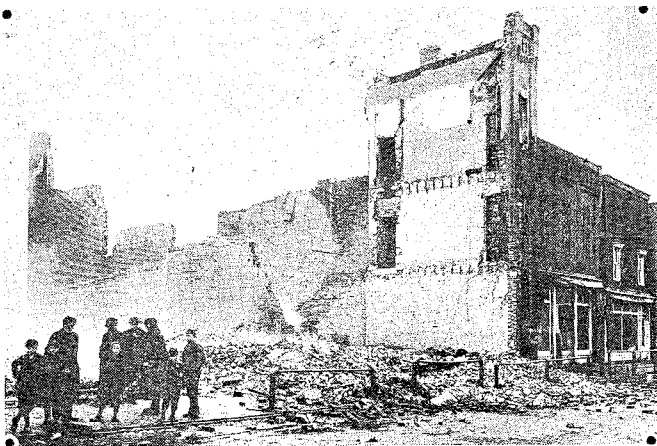


THE TRAIN WRECK OF 1900 FEBRUARY 15



TRAIN WRECK:

In 1921 a New York Central freight train was derailed, caused by a hot box on one of the wheels, just west of the village railroad crossing. The freight cars were loaded with hogs on their way to markets west. They escaped into town and people shut them in the Livery Barn, that was sometimes called "The Ten-Cent Barn," on the corner of Main and Sanderson. It was being run at the time by John Coon, who, when he heard that railroad detectives were looking for their freight, and being advised that he could be accused of stealing the hogs, opened the doors and chased them out into the streets again.



January 25, 1912 — \$36,000 Fire

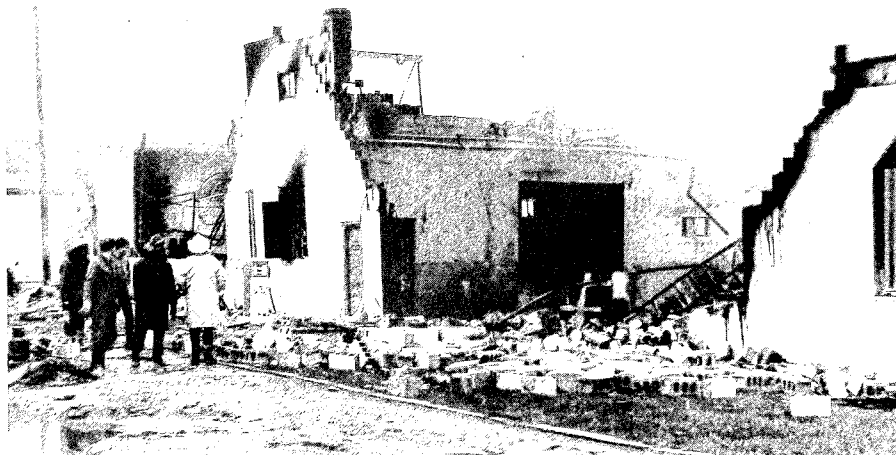
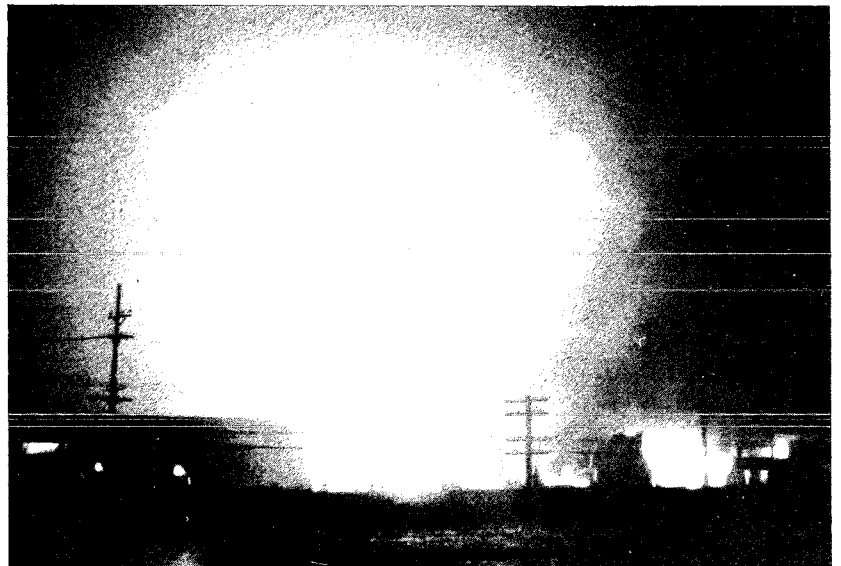
At 3:30 a.m. a disastrous fire broke out in the Hite Clothing store, first floor of the 3 story K of P Building. Because of bursted water pipes during cold weather the only available water supply was an old well 5 x 30 feet on the old hotel corner put down by Joe Miller years earlier. Running a hose from this well, and with a small hand engine and an heroic bucket brigade the fierce blaze was brought under control.



Explosion in 1903

At 11:15 a.m. an explosion heard for many miles caused much excitement. People rushed to the scene and found everything in a state of confusion around the badly wrecked building. It was a boiler that furnished power for the sawmill and the pulley factory that had exploded. It caused the death of John Hubbard.

A more recent explosion was January 26, 1970 at 5:30 a.m. which resulted in a fire at the Raymond Chemical Company. The mushrooming smoke and flames took all of Swanton's units, one from Delta, using 250,000 gallons of water. The flames were contained and there were no injuries.



Celebrations

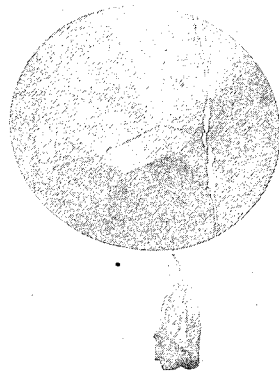
Celebrations

DECORATION DAY — 1900



Swanton Band on the Railroad Grounds

Otis Geer, Robert Taylor, ? ? ? Grether, Homer Lathrop
L. S. Plummer, Joseph Beecher, Fred Brindley, Guy Marsh
Edward Hastings, William Minnich, E. A. Kline, William Smith
Robert Plummer



SWANTON JULY 4th 1902

Dare Devil Balloonist thrills all at
Swanton Community Celebration on July 4, 1902.



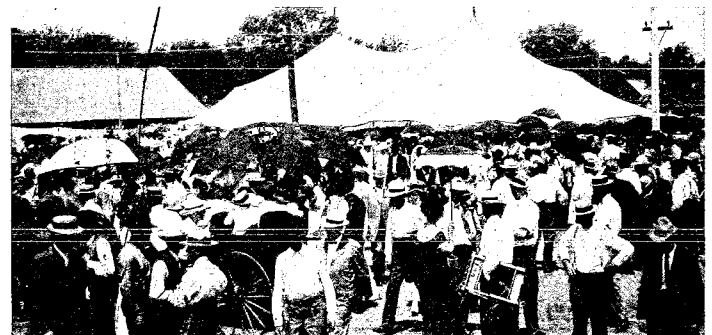
July 4, 1906

Crowd enjoys
gymnasts on
Main Street
Note group on
balcony
(top left).



Threshermen
Convention held in
Swanton in June, 1929

The Chautauqua was an annual week long Community reunion with days of Inspiration, Education and Recreation. It was held on the east side of Main Street across from the park.



Week's Program

Swanton, Ohio, July 22-26

CHAUTAUQUA SESSIONS BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 3 P. M. AND 8 P. M. Season tickets are good for all sessions, the price being \$2.00 for adults, and \$1.00 for children aged 6 to 14.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS AT 9:00 A. M. AND 3:30 P. M. EXCEPT FIRST MORNING.

| TUESDAY AFTERNOON | | TUESDAY EVENING | |
|---|--|---|--|
| Concert.....Royal Welsh Quartet | | Concert.....Royal Welsh Quartet | |
| Children's Hour..... | | Lecture....."Smiling Through" | |
| Admission 35c, Children 20c | | Herbert Leon Cope | |
| | | Admission 20c, Children 15c | |
| WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON | | WEDNESDAY EVENING | |
| Concert.....Furnum Entertainers | | Comedy-drama....."Olive and Take" | |
| Children's Hour..... | | With a cast of New York players | |
| Admission 35c, Children 20c | | Admission \$1.00, Children 50c | |
| THURSDAY AFTERNOON | | THURSDAY EVENING | |
| Accordion Concert.....Joseph Baldi | | Concert.....Joseph Baldi, Accordionist | |
| Jean MacDonald.....Popular Entertainer | | Lecture....."Pay Dirt" | |
| Children's Hour..... | | Hon. William L. Harding | |
| Admission 35c, Children 20c | | Admission 50c, Children 25c | |
| FRIDAY AFTERNOON | | FRIDAY EVENING | |
| Popular Concert.....College Singing Girls | | Concert.....College Singing Girls | |
| Children's Hour..... | | Magic and Mystery.....Brush and Company | |
| Admission 35c, Children 20c | | Introducing spectacular illusions | |
| | | Admission 75c, Children 40c | |
| SATURDAY AFTERNOON | | SATURDAY EVENING | |
| Novelty Program.....Herrick and Jensen | | Herrick and Jensen in "Something Dif- | |
| Children's Hour..... | | ferent" | |
| Lecture....."Purified Politics" | | J. Franklin Caveny, Cartoonist and Clay | |
| Ben A. Arneson | | Modeler | |
| Admission 35c, Children 20c | | Admission 50c, Children 25c | |

(KIMBALL PIANO USED)

Corn Festival Parade To Be Spectacular Event of the Day

First Division to be Lead by Swanton School Band
Followed by School Groups
and Floats

HORSE SHOW NEW FEATURE IN LINEUP

Line of March to Move Promptly at One o'clock,
According to J. A. Weir,
in Charge

The spectacular parades which have been one of the main features of previous Corn Festivals will not surpass the one planned for this year. The parade will be in charge of Capt. J. A. Weir, who will lead it throughout the line of march. According to Mr. Weir the parade will begin promptly at one o'clock and all float and displays must be in line at that time, next Thursday, October 4th, ready for the whistle to blow.

Some changes noted elsewhere in the paper: the free entertainment stage will be located on the Koepfer lot, the cafeteria will be moved from Dodge St. intersection to Broadway in front of the old Hallett Hotel block. The German Village will be on the depot grounds instead of in the old noodle factory and close by will be a hot dog and hamburg stand. The bandstand will be on North Main. Everyone will want to remain to the end as they may be the winner of the nice new maroon colored car.

SWANTON CORN FESTIVAL

These articles appeared in
the Swanton Enterprise
Thursday, September 27, 1933

Some of the entertainment:

Donkey Baseball Games
Fulton Co. Orchestra
Swanton School Band
148th Infantry Band
Sob Busters (6 rube musicians)
Red Ted the Wonder Dog and Clowns
German Bands Horse Show and
Dance to begin at 9 in the Athletic
Hall (Opera House).

First Corn Festival Was Held Here in Year 1908

The first Swanton Corn Festival was held in the year 1908 and was an event sponsored by the merchants of the village as a good will gesture to the citizens of the community. Everything was free. It was just a day of fun and frolic for everyone. The merchants defrayed all expenses.

Jake Lochbihler, deceased, the first president of the Commerce club, was master of ceremonies for that first event twenty-six years ago. For several years the Corn Festival was put on in the same manner, and then for a few years was dropped entirely. In 1918 a festival designated as Soldier's Day was given and later the idea grew into erecting a monument,

or building a library as a memorial of the World War soldiers.

Finally the thought of a Memorial Park was advanced and Mr. L. N. Pilliod organized a group to purchase the first parcel of land which was added to and is now what citizens of Swanton and surrounding vicinity proudly boast as Swanton Memorial Park, with a beautiful landscaped entrance, ball diamond, tennis courts and playground.

After twenty-six years the 20th Corn Festival is rededicated to the spirit of cooperation of its citizens as motivated the first day back in 1908. May they continue with as much success in the years to come.

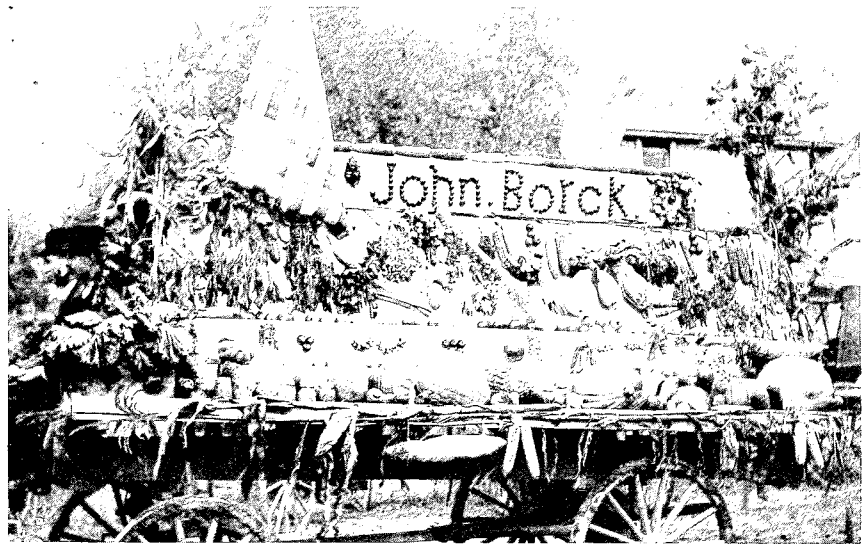


Corn Stalks, Flags and colorful bunting set off both floats and horses on these sophomore and senior entries.



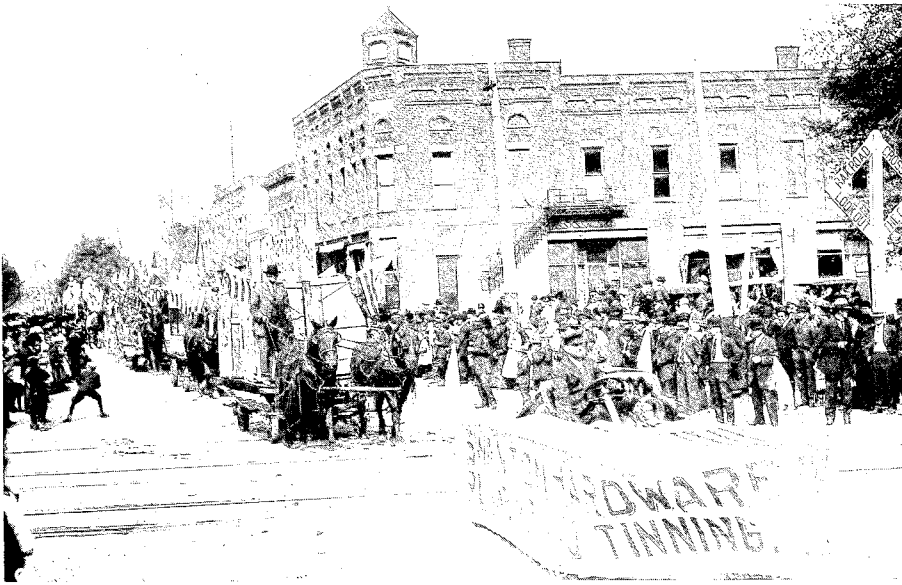
John Borck, his name spelled out in Harvest Apples, brings this beautifully decorated float to the parade. A prize of \$10 was awarded for the "Best Display of Farm Products."

Mr. Borck has a large variety including squash, pumpkins, and corn. Also included were jars of home canned produce.



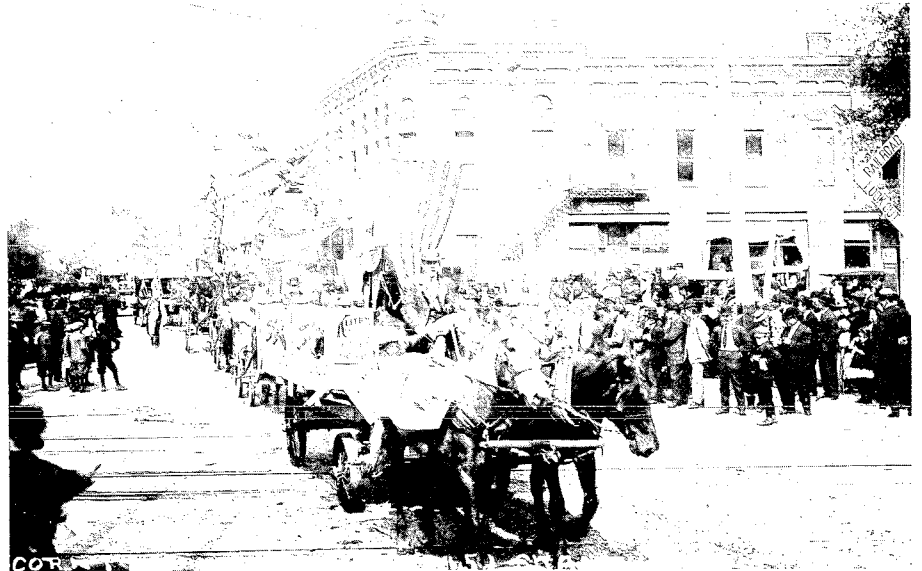
Even a large box of Corn Flakes was featured on this float of the Main Street grocery partners, Wilcox Bros. and Martin. Could those be small boxes of matches used to spell out the stores name?



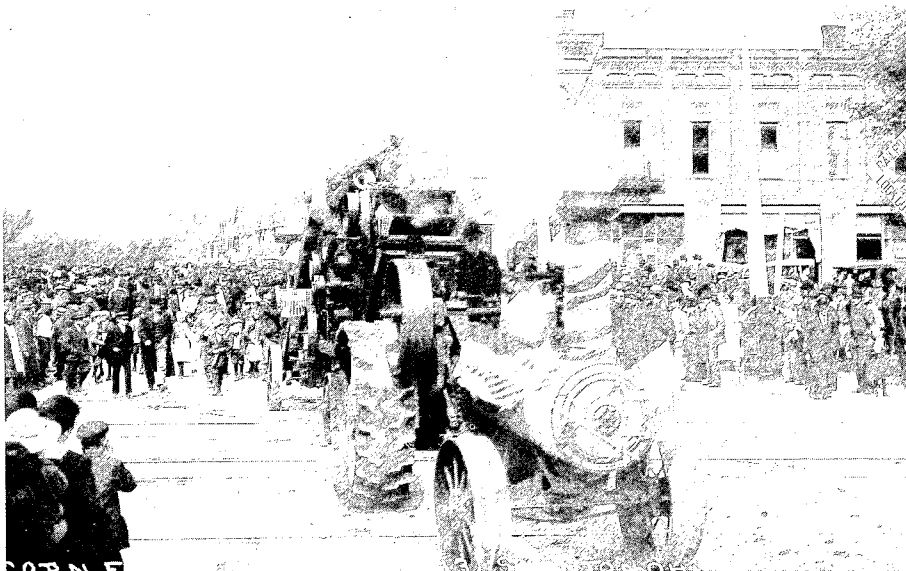


Parade continues across Rail-
road tracks headed south.

Merchants proudly advertised
their services on both horse
drawn and motor car floats.



October 5, 1911



Pictured at left is a closer
view of the famous engine
complete with its own
decorations.



Horses were called upon to pull wagons advertising other "modes" of travel on these floats by local merchants.



Could this be the forerunner of a travel trailer complete with bathroom?

The ladies took an active part in planning the day's festivities.

Art, Baked Goods and Relics

will be displayed on Broadway, at the
Zeller Coal Co.
SWANTON CORN FESTIVAL, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1924

ART DEPARTMENT

CLASS A — EMBROIDERY

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|
| 1 Sheets and Pillow Cases | .50 | .25 |
| 2 Pillow Cases | .50 | .25 |
| 3 Luncheon Set | .50 | .25 |
| 4 Center Piece | .50 | .25 |
| 5 Buffet Set | .50 | .25 |
| 6 Towel | .25 | .15 |
| 7 Child's Dress | .50 | .25 |
| 8 Night Gown | .50 | .25 |
| 9 Dolly | .50 | .25 |
| 10 Console | .50 | .25 |
| 11 Library Scarf | .50 | .25 |
| 12 Handkerchief | .50 | .25 |
| 13 Apron | .50 | .25 |
| 14 Couch Pillow | .50 | .25 |

CLASS B — CROCHET

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|
| 15 Library Scarf | .50 | .25 |
| 16 Dresser Scarf | .50 | .25 |
| 17 Pillow Cases | .50 | .25 |
| 18 Sheets and Pillow Cases | .50 | .25 |
| 19 Luncheon Set | .50 | .25 |
| 20 Center Piece | .50 | .25 |
| 21 Towel | .25 | .15 |
| 22 Yoke | .50 | .25 |
| 23 Dolly | .50 | .25 |

| | | |
|------------------|-----|-----|
| 24 Napkins (six) | .50 | .25 |
| 25 Door Panel | .50 | .25 |
| 26 Doudoir Cap | .50 | .25 |
| 27 Booties | .25 | .15 |

CLASS C — TATTING

| | | |
|------------------|-----|-----|
| 28 Yoke | .50 | .25 |
| 29 Pillow Cases | .50 | .25 |
| 30 Dolly | .50 | .25 |
| 31 Handkerchiefs | .25 | .15 |

CLASS D — BEDSPREADS

| | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|
| 32 Embroidered | .50 | .25 |
| 33 Quilted | .50 | .25 |
| 34 Applique | .50 | .25 |
| 35 French Knot | .50 | .25 |

CLASS E — MISCELLANEOUS

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----|-----|
| 36 Luncheon set cross stitch | .50 | .25 |
| 37 Towel cross stitch | .25 | .15 |
| 38 Rugs Crocheted | .50 | .25 |
| 39 Sweater Crocheted | .50 | .25 |
| 40 Sweater Knitted | .50 | .25 |
| 41 Lamp Shades | .50 | .25 |

Committee:

Mrs. H. C. Frogley
Mrs. Grace Wright
Mrs. C. W. Crisman

BAKED GOODS

CLASS F

BREAD

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|
| 42 White one Loaf | .50 | .25 |
| 43 Brown one Loaf | .50 | .25 |
| 44 Nut one Loaf | .50 | .25 |
| 45 Salt Rising Loaf | .50 | .25 |
| 46 Light Biscuits 1/2 doz. | .35 | .25 |
| 47 Fried Cakes 1/2 doz. | .25 | .15 |
| 48 White Cookies 1/2 doz. | .25 | .15 |
| 49 Brown Cookies 1/2 doz. | .25 | .15 |

CAKE

| | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|
| 50 Angel Food | .50 | .25 |
| 51 Sponge | .50 | .25 |
| 52 Layer-Light | .50 | .25 |
| 53 Layer-Dark | .50 | .25 |

PIES

| | | |
|----------|-----|-----|
| 54 Lemon | .35 | .25 |
| 55 Apple | .35 | .25 |
| 56 Berry | .35 | .25 |

Committee:

Mrs. Blanche Neis
Mrs. Day
Mrs. Meda Waddy

OLD RELICS AND CURIOS

Please bring in all old relics and curios and let us all enjoy them.

Committee:

Mrs. Ella Merrill
Mrs. Erman Moorman
Mrs. Geo. Ackerman

All Baked goods will be auctioned at 4:00 P. M. Day of Corn Festival.

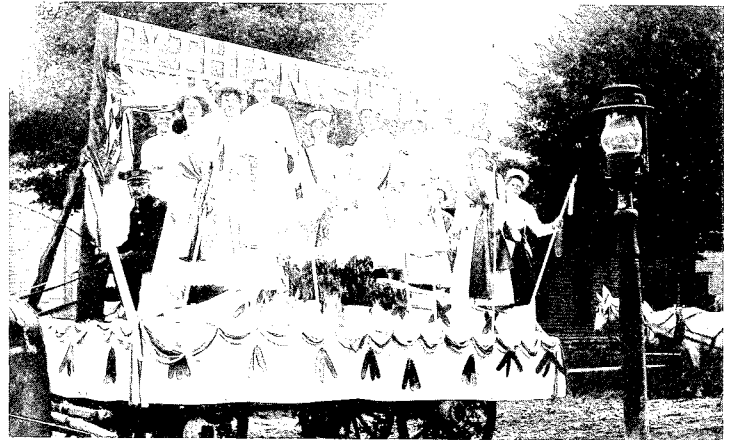
All Baked goods on exhibition are the property of the Festival Committee and the proceeds of the sale will go to improve Memorial Park.

Bring Baked Goods to Art Department on morning of Corn Festival Day, not later than 9:00 A. M.

Bring all articles in Needle Work Department to Art Department on Wednesday Afternoon, October 1st. All Art Goods to be left in Department until 4:00 P. M.

Premiums will be paid by check within one week from date of Corn Festival.

GENERAL COMMITTEE: — MRS. H. C. FROGLEY, Harry P. Hall



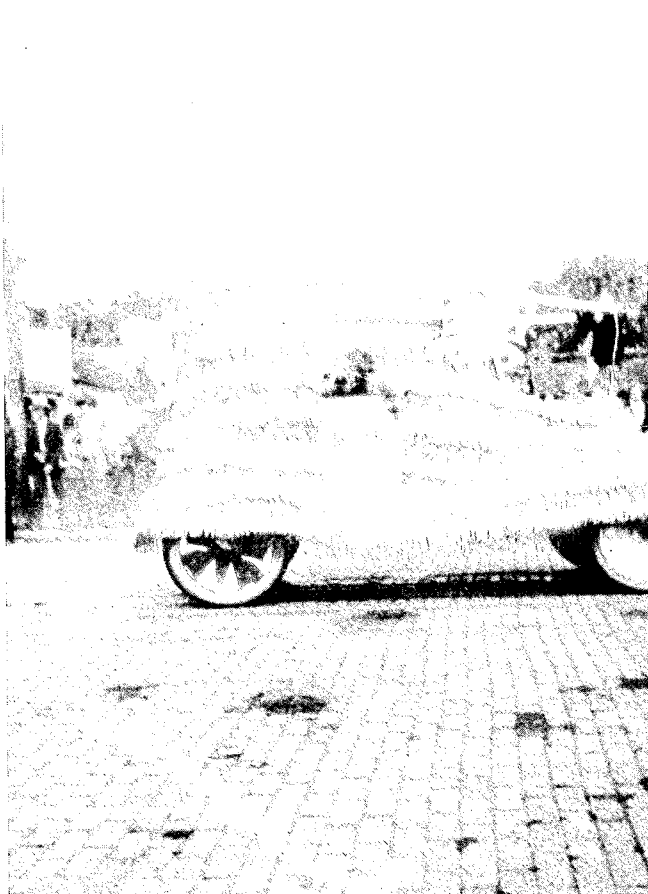
Floats required lots of "woman power" as evidenced in these 1912 and 1920 entries. (But there is a man driving.)



Ladies pictured here are Molly Manley, Mildred Eldredge, and Mrs. Doren.



Ed Brindley (pictured left) owner of Brindley Furniture Store, dresses up to march in Corn Festival Parade and delight the viewers. Below is John R. Fels who must have decided to join the parade on horseback in 1934. Mr. Fels' 1923 parade entry (pictured left) was a more modern mode of travel.



The school children all took an active part in the spirit of the parade as is witnessed in these early photos of wagon loads of grade and high school pupils and their teachers.



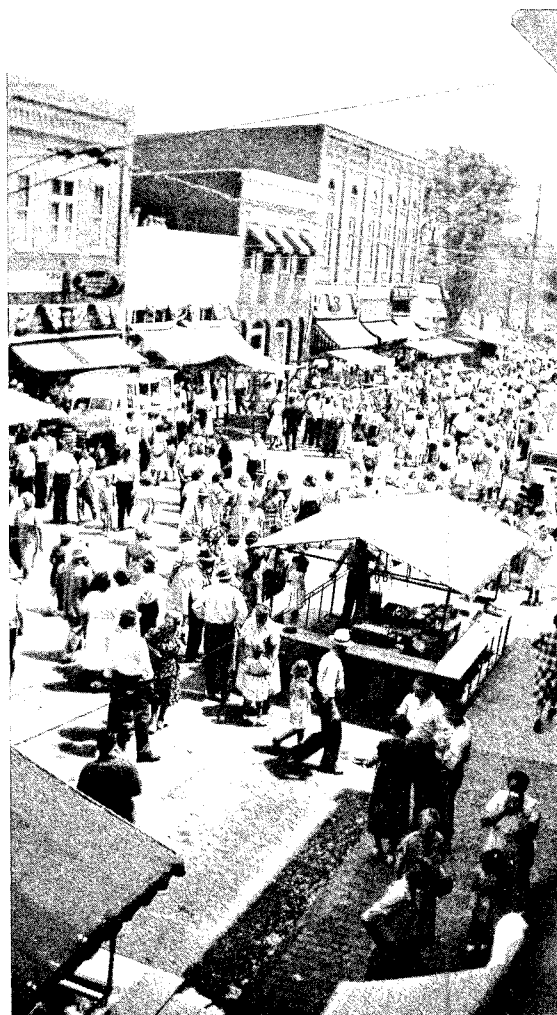
1915



Even on foot the young people came through with flying colors.

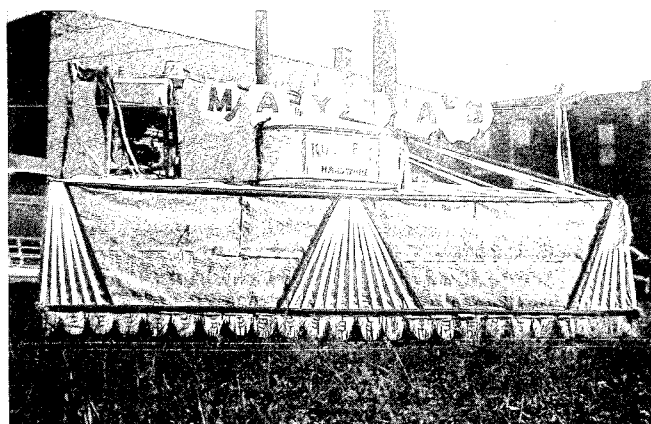
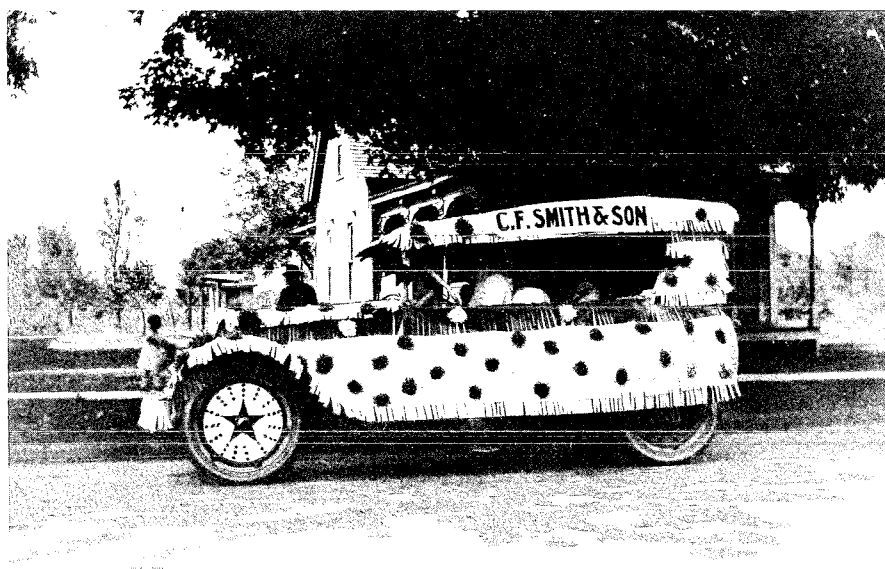
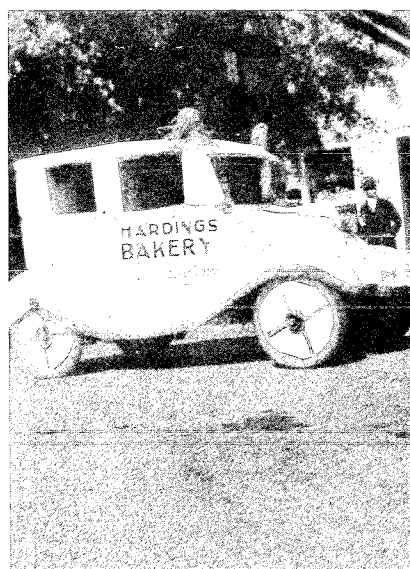


Crowd scenes do not change much over the years as shown in this 1911 above and the two below of later years. Booths lined both sides of Main Street. The round tent across the tracks could have been the merry-go-round.





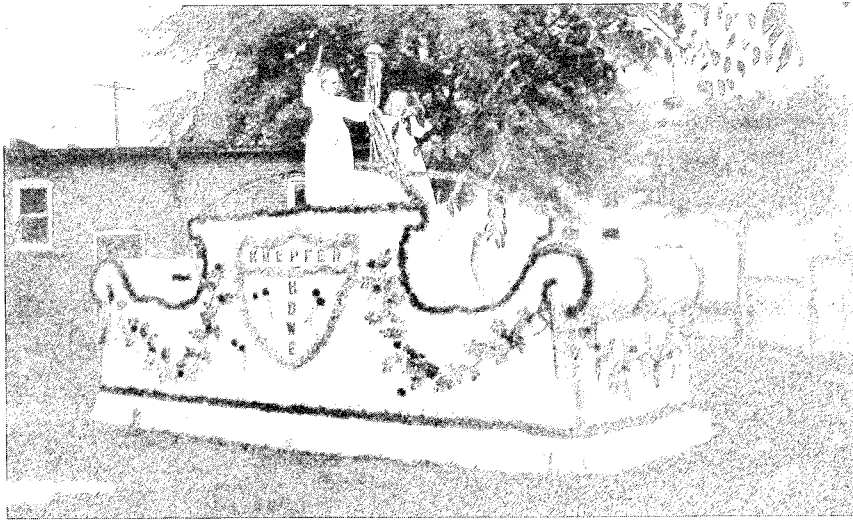
Parade entries over the years



This Koepfer Hardware entry shows the 1936 Maytag washer.



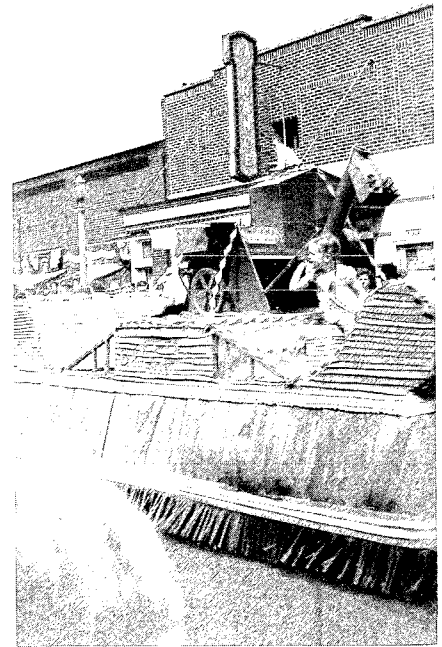
1946 — DeSoto from Girdham and Beard. Ride the ferris wheel and see the parade.



Peggy Klein and Mary Ann Klein ride the beautifully decorated 1941 Koepfer Hardware float.

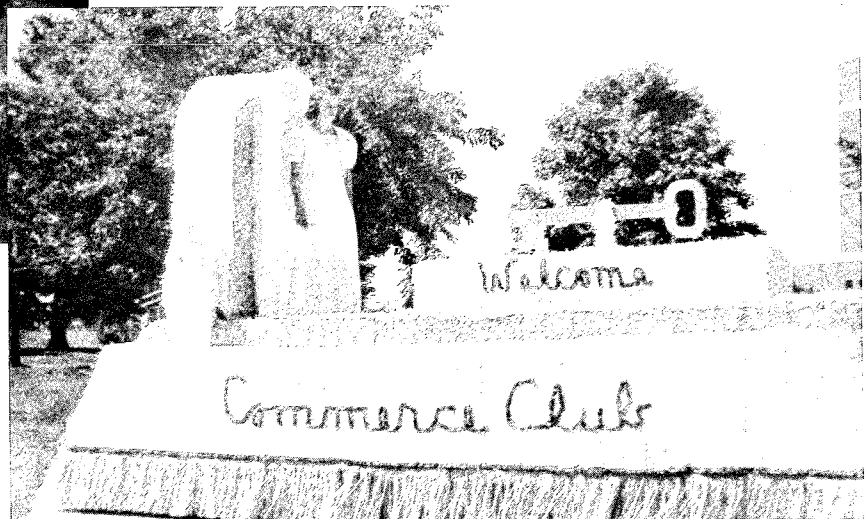


Note popcorn wagon at curb in picture at left.



LaFrance movie theatre marquee provides a seat for one parade viewer.

Merchants and service clubs used lovely young ladies on their parade entries.



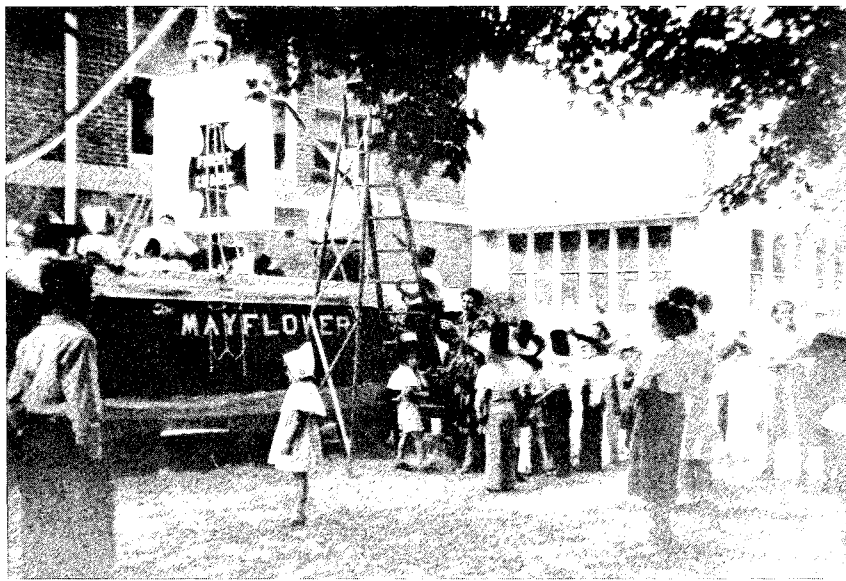


Art Barrie on Main Street getting information for a WSPD radio advertisement for Swanton's famous Corn Festival about the year 1950.

Being interviewed here is Dick Harding owner of the Buckeye Chevrolet. Seen with him are Durb Noe, Art Ruggles, Ralph Harding, Fern Lehman, Francis Sham, Bill Watts, Julius Gombash, Lottie Matzinger and the Matheny and Kline girls.



The Zebra Kid, well known Toledo wrestler, was one of the big features of the 1949 Corn Festival Parade. A wrestling show was part of the day's festivities.



Themes were varied over the years as we see in these first, fourth, and seventh grade floats.

You need a ladder to get up on this float in the above picture.



Picture on right shows pupils who didn't practice safety first — wore bandages as those in the rear.

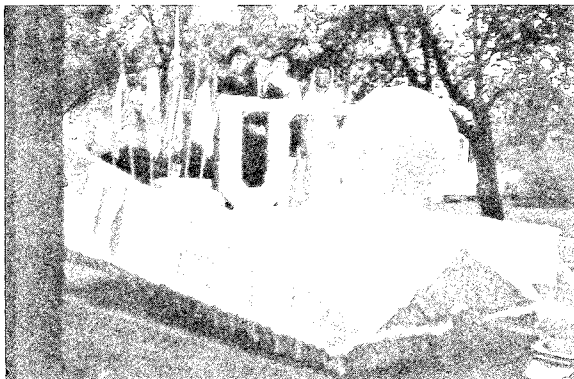


The villagers are asked to vote for a School Bond on the junior high entry.



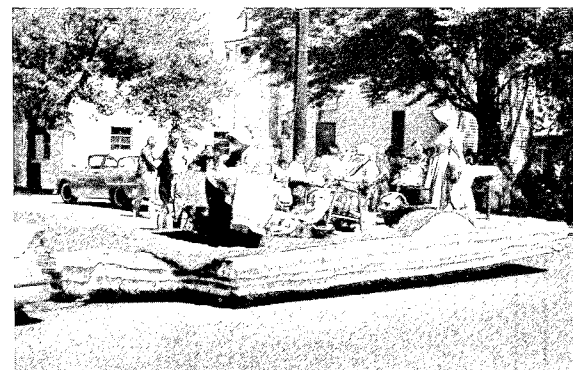
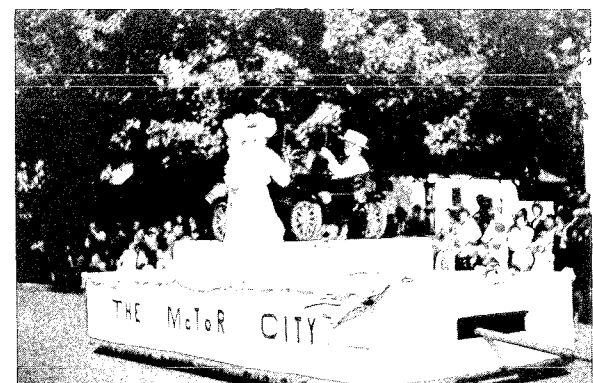
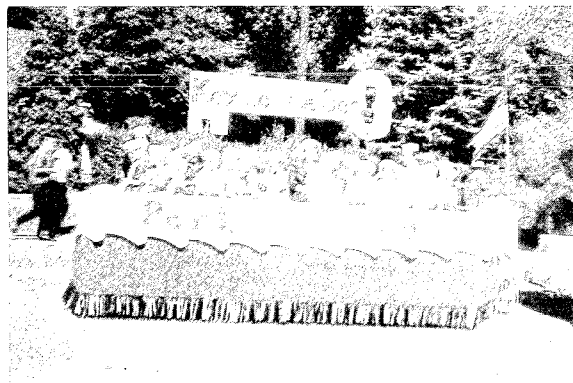
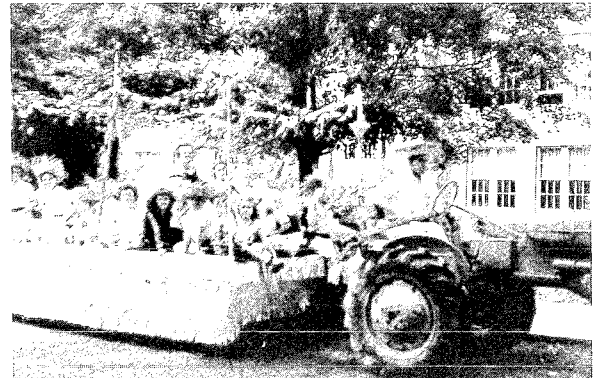
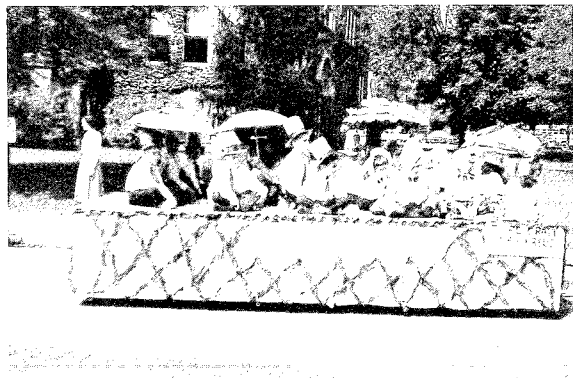
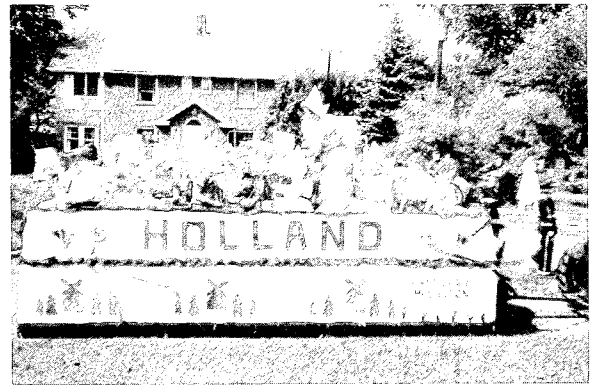
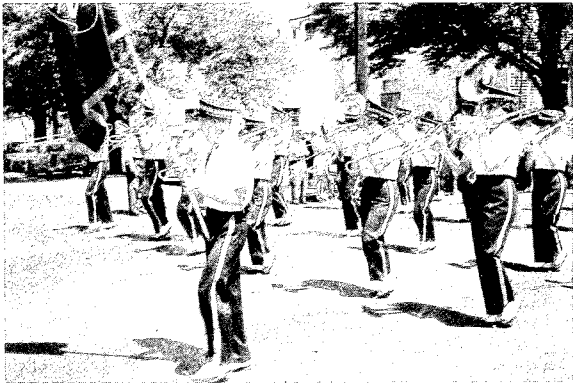
Miss Castle's 5th graders are lined up before the parade in 1936.

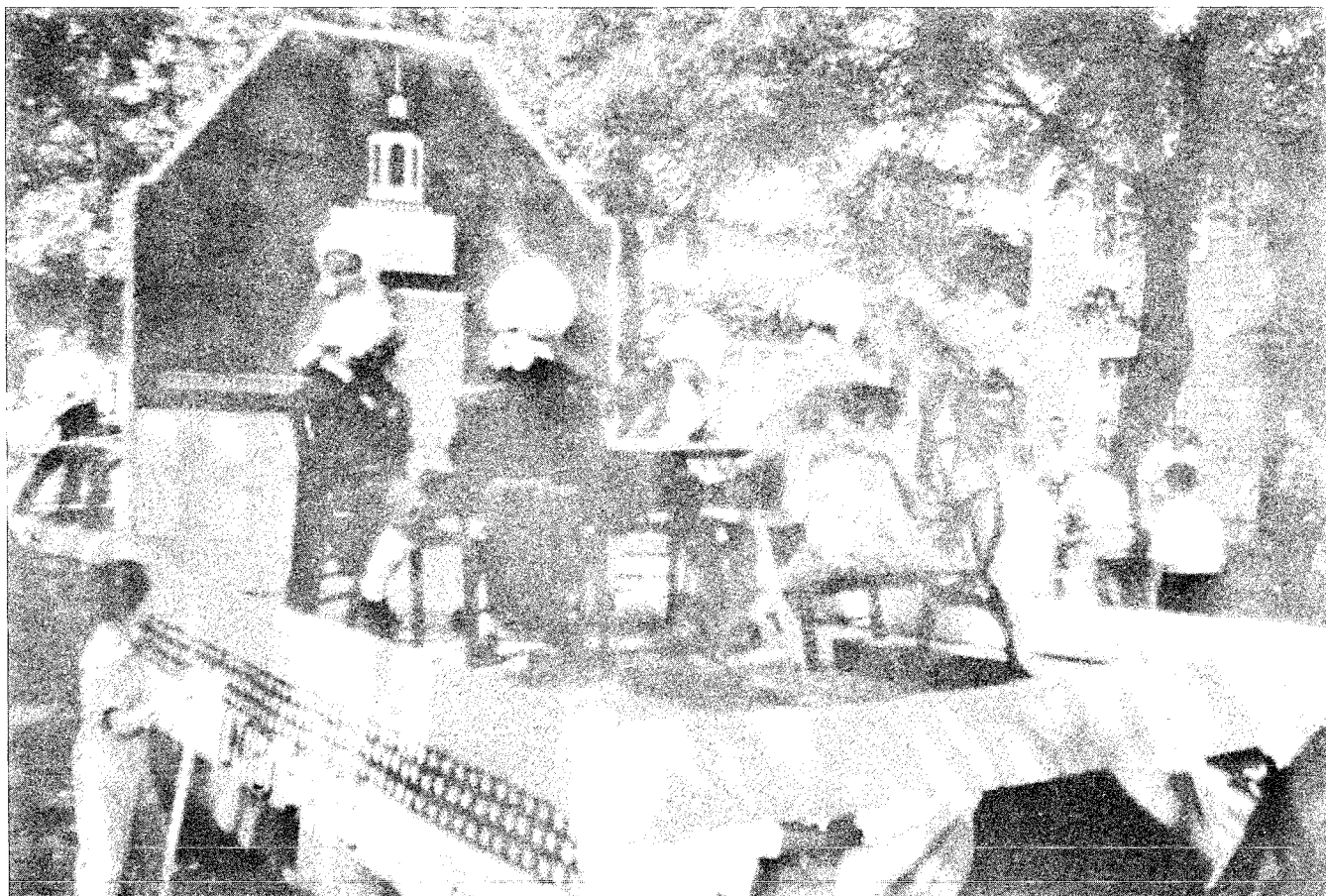
BACK ROW: Julie Pinkleman, David Schondel, Jim Buckenmeyer, Janice Overmyer, Alice Miller, Evelyn Michael, ? ? ? , Esther Kurth, ? ? ? , Agnes Welch, Arden Good, Earl Gearing, ? ? ? . FRONT ROW: Ellen Adams, Phyllis Kinney, Rose Ann Camp, Paul Spengler, Edward Lamb, "Dog Tray", Burl Davis, Frank Dennis, Bob Poole, ? ? ? , ? ? ? , Bonnie Hill, Edwina Judson, Carl Nichols, ? ? ? , Betty Lou Spaulding.



The United Nations are honored in these entries.

GRADE SCHOOL FLOATS LED BY SCHOOL BAND





The theme of the above float is most appropriate for this our country's bicentennial. This group was seen in one of the last Corn Festival Parades.

“———— So long as the good fellowship
that has been productive of much good
in this community continues to predom-
inate and prevail, and so long as our cit-
izens continue to work together for any and
every common good, we shall go forward,
making this part of the world a better place
in which to live, and a more delightful one
in which to grow old —————”

An excerpt from a speech
given to Swanton Commerce
Club by Mr. M. J. Linehan
in 1940.

*A place for your own
special mementos of Swanton.*

