

VIEW OF WALCOTT — FROM PAINTING IN 1869

The map shows a grid of streets in St. Louis, Missouri. The streets are labeled as follows:

- James Street** (top)
- Public Square** (center)
- OTIS Street** (below Public Square)
- Lincoln Street** (below OTIS Street)
- Bryan Street** (below Lincoln Street)
- DURANT Street** (below Bryan Street)
- Henry Street** (bottom)
- Grove Street** (right side)
- Rowe** (left side)
- Downey** (right side)
- Parker** (left side)
- May** (left side)

The map also includes a legend for the railroad and council bluff locations:

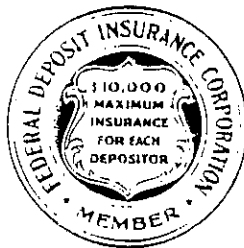
- Missouri & Missouri Railroad** (indicated by a line with cross-ticks)
- Navigation Co. Council Bluffs** (indicated by a line with cross-ticks)

The map shows lot numbers and street names for each block. The streets are labeled as follows:

- James Street** (top)
- Public Square** (center)
- OTIS Street** (below Public Square)
- Lincoln Street** (below OTIS Street)
- Bryan Street** (below Lincoln Street)
- DURANT Street** (below Bryan Street)
- Henry Street** (bottom)
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- Downey** (right side)
- Parker** (left side)
- May** (left side)

Walcott Trust and Savings Bank

WALCOTT, IOWA



Member of F.D.I.C.

Deposits Insured for \$10,000

Dedication

This history of the Walcott Community is dedicated to all who have lived here. May the courage and fortitude of the pioneers, coupled with their unremitting toil and high hopes for a brighter future, aid us to carry on in our determination to leave for posterity a better community in which to live.

No words of appreciation can ever express our gratitude to them who so nobly provided the rich heritage which is ours today. Only by striving to emulate their splendid endeavors can we hope to prove ourselves worthy of their magnificent bequest, a century of glorious achievement.

To write the history of the Walcott Community is such a comprehensive task that only a limited amount of the rich background can be presented in "Die Walcotte Geschichte."

The omission of any name or event of significance to you is not intentional. Brevity compelled the exclusion of much that would have made a richer and fuller portrayal of Walcott.

To all committees and to everyone who worked on any detail, great or small, pertaining to the Walcott Centennial, and also to our advertisers and friends who contributed so generously to the Centennial funds, we say from the bottom of our hearts, "Thank you."

D. C. CAMBLIN, D.D.S.
Chairman Centennial Committee

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AL SCHNECKLOTH, Mgr.

DIE WALCOTT GESCHICHTE

(THE WALCOTT HISTORY)

Early in 1854 the site of Walcott was open prairie. Knowing that the railroad would pass through here, the two promoters, William Walcott and Ebenezer Cook, bought a large tract of land surrounding the proposed station for \$1.25 per acre. An eating place had been built here to accomodate the railroad workers in December, 1853 and it was the center of the area which was to become a new town.

The town was laid out, and the plat was officially registered April 8, 1854 in the Scott County Courthouse. By May, 1854 a few buildings were constructed, and the progress of the new area was reported in the Davenport Gazette. On August 21, 1855 the Gazette carried an announcement by Cook and Sargent of a public auction of fifty lots in the new town. Now was the time for the real beginning.

On August 25, 1855 a Saturday morning, almost 500 happy, excited people climbed aboard the first passenger train, which operated west of the Mississippi in all Iowa. This was, indeed, a gala day and many people were anxious to be a part of the celebration arranged by the financial firm of Cook and Sargent to open the new town of Walcott.

The train ride was not only free but it was also an exciting event. Two locomotives, the "Antoine LeClaire" pulling and the "Iowa" pushing, puffed and hissed while the band played and the passengers cheered. There were two passenger coaches providing plush comfort for almost seventy-five women, who dressed in their finest gowns, enjoyed the memorable trip. The men were seated on the five flat cars rigged with temporary railings and wooden benches.

The trip was twelve whole miles long and ended at the first railroad station west of the Mississippi, Walcott. The first event of the day was a free lunch with roasting ears as a featured delicacy. Then came the business of the day. Mr. Hallett Kilbourne, a clerk in the Cook and Sargent office, officiated at the auction which featured the business and home sites in the village-to-be.

Mr. Kilbourne was at his best, and the visitors were in a holiday mood. The result was a very successful sale which realized almost \$12,000 for the railroad promoters. The choice lots went for \$200 to \$250 each, but the majority sold for \$100 to \$150, and some of the out-lots brought only \$50 to \$75. The happy crowd, tired and

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Dietz Sales & Service

WALCOTT, IOWA

satisfied, returned to Davenport, thus completing the first round trip passenger excursion in the state.

Much of the land around Walcott, and many of the town lots, were purchased by the land speculators who held them for some time. In the financial panic of 1857 many speculators were glad to sell their land for almost any price. This made it possible for numerous German immigrants, with limited finances, to buy land and settle in the new country.

Walcott was settled by two groups of people. Although they shared in the beginnigns of the town, they never really mixed with each other. One group, the Scotch-Irish, westward wanderers, came with the general westward movement and with the railroad. Many of them worked for the railroad builders, until they decided to live here. In general, they settled on the farm land south and west of the town, mostly in Fulton township of Muscatine County, and Cleona township of Scott County. They were very active in the early Presbyterian Church.

The first of this group was Vincent Carter who began farming $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of town in 1839. The names of some of the others are:

McClure	Allen	Riek
Byrnes	Carter	Meek
Connell	Manion	Deal
McKee	White	Corrough
Carroll	Paul	Stockdale
Russell	Skinner	
Johnson	Fluke	

While these people contibuted much to the early development of Walcott, they never really mixed with the German settlers. About 1871 they began to move farther west. At that time, the railroad was advertising excursions to Grinnell, Iowa, for the purpose of selling land to the immigrants. It seems that many of the Walcott people found that they could make a greater profit than they had expected, by selling their land to the German immigrants. So they moved west and settled around Grinell, Malcolm, and Newton.

Walcott is a town of distinctive character and culture, because of the people who have made their homes here. They brought with them the special characteristics and personalities of their mode of living. What brought them to Walcott? From where did them come?

In the most northern part of Germany were troubled provinces of Schleswig-Holstein. Though they were under the rule of Danish nobility, these provinces were mostly German in language, race,

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and culture. This area was known as the poor house of Germany. Like other countries of Europe, the noblemen were rich, the masses were very poor. The few among the middle class and well educated people were free-thinkers with revolutionary ideas. The people lived troubled and discouraging existences, where the common folk had no hope of owning property or improving their way of living.

For a period of several years before 1848, a revolution was brewing, sparked by the liberal middle class thinker. Many of them were exiled because of their revolutionary ideas, and came to Amercia. A few settled in Davenport and found that this area was suitable for the life and work of the people at home. They wrote letters telling the advantages of living in America and of the good farmland of Scott County.

Attracted by letters from these early settlers, two hundred and twenty-seven Germans arrived in Davenport between April and December of 1847. More people left Germany after the rather disastrous revolution of 1848 and 1849, which only increased their unhappy conditions. The rush period of immigration to the Davenport area continued until about 1859.

The most important reasons for leaving Germany, were political difficulties, the desire to escape years of military service, the longing for greater freedom with which to gain economic advantages, and, particularly, to own property. The last was by far the most impelling motive.

After establishing their homes on farms, in scattered villages, or in the city of Davenport, these transplanted Germans were of such influence that even in 1900 Davenport was called the most German city in the Middle West. Several different organizations were formed, notably the Turner Societies, which helped to preserve the German language, customs, and entertainments. The newspaper, "Der Demokrat" and many German schools helped to prolong the German culture.

These settlers were actively opposed to slavery. They were also against the Sunday laws and prohibition. Prohibition laws were passed and later amended because the opposing German political influence was too strong. Some people complained about the noisy German amusements on Sundays and tried, unsuccessfully, to close all the beer gardens in Davenport on Sunday. Some of the difficulties were solved by a few minor changes. For instance, the Turner Parades held on Sundays, did not pass Brady Street into the Irish Section of the town.

By 1910, nearly nine-tenths of the farm land in Scott County was owned by German immigrants or their descendents. It was always possible to tell on what farms Germans lived for here were

Ray Wulf Implement Co.

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KEWANEE DISC AND HARROWS

KEWANEE ELEVATORS — BOWSHER MILLS

PAX HOG FEEDERS — CENTURY SPRAYERS

TOOLS AND HARDWARE

The Walcott Store

Walcott, Iowa

KARL WARNECKE, Owner

GENERAL MERCHANDISE

system, care, and general neatness. Weeds and dilapidated farm yards were frowned upon.

After settling here, many of the German farmers who had owned nothing or very little in the old country, became affiliated with a vision of greatness represented by land ownership. They developed a greed for land. They were willing and able to work very hard to provide farms for themselves and their children. Often they succeeded.

Probably the first of the Germans to settle in Walcott was John Denkmann who bought 1000 acres about 2½ miles southeast of town. He settled here in 1846 and started to plough the fertile prairie. Later he had to sell some of this land to finance his operations.

Among the others who came to the Walcott area from 1847 until shortly after the Civil War were:

Henry Goering	Tiemeier	Allers
Michael Buttenob	Beinke	Paustian
John Frauen	Gassling	Roehs
Claus Lamp	Strohbeen	Feuerbach
Hans Arp	Sindt	Dietz
Hans Stoltenberg	Kaidasch	Riessen
Golinghorst	Soenke	Ezeckai al Steinhilber
Henry Schreiber	Ruwe	Hahn
Kardel	Moeller	Bernhard Schwarting
William Mann	Meyer	Puck
Mars Siebke	Otto	Wiese
Jurgen Gulck	Guerink	Mausnest
Schaeffer	Brugmann	Rock
	Brus	

It is easy to see that this community was like a little bit of Germany transplanted across the ocean. Although they continued to speak German, they attempted to learn enough English to do business with their neighbors. They even brought the variations of the German culture which they had known. While most of the settlers were from northern Germany, some came from eastern and southern Germany. There was enough difference in the dialects to cause a minor problem in communication.

There was also a difference in the character of the two groups. Those from Schleswig-Holstein were used to the struggle for existence on their poor, unfertile farmland. They were hard-working, proud and ambitious. Those from southern Germany, where living was easier, were more easy going, more interested in music, art,

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Directors

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H. L. Paustian

Elmer Feuerbach

Orville Stewart

Gilbert Wulf

A. L. Illian

Total Risks in Force — \$16,000,000

Total Assets January 1, 1954 — \$116,684.37

and the enjoyments of life. Those from the eastern areas had characteristics of both groups.

Provinces from which these people came were Schleswig-Holstein, Hanover, Mecklenburg, Oldenburg, Pomerania, Westphalia, and Hesse. Three or four families came from Holland.

INCORPORATION OF WALCOTT

The incorporation of the town of Walcott grew out of a community dispute over the proposed site for a new school building. The school board and many of the residents favored the erection of the new building on the public square which was centrally located, well adapted for the purpose, and would save the additional cost of buying more property. However, others believed that the town should keep its square for a public meeting and rallying ground, and instituted an injunction suit to halt the action of the school board.

With no legal right as a village to proceed against the injunction, and as the deed to the property was not clear, it was decided to incorporate. This would give the town officers the legal right to select the property deemed best for the purpose.

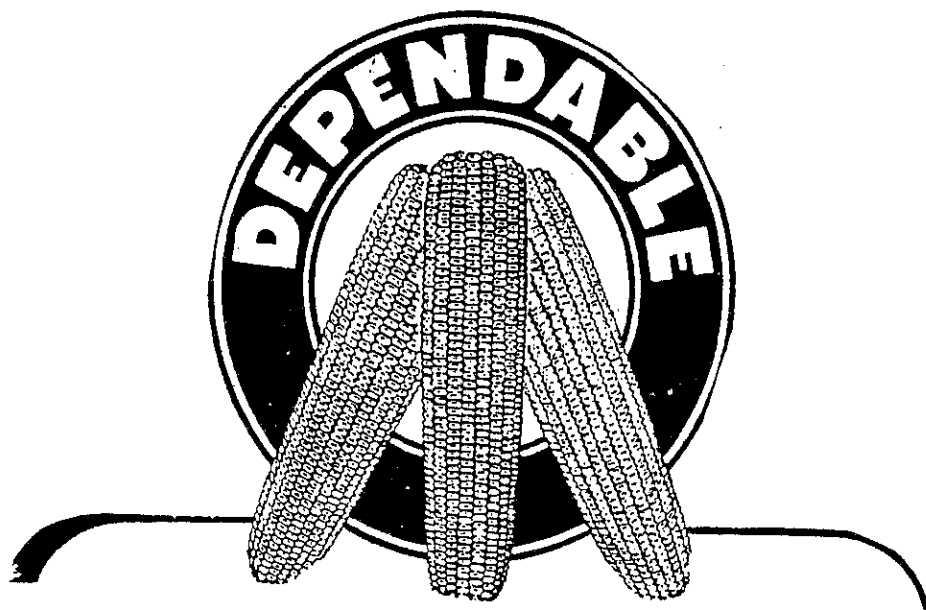
A petition for incorporation was signed by the necessary twenty-five voters and presented to Judge C. M. Waterman of the District Court at Davenport on June 5, 1894. At that time, the total population was 354 people, 204 adults and 150 minors. The petition was approved and a special election ordered.

A committee consisting of Alexander Stockdale, Hans Behrens, Louis Hinz, Claus Ruge, and Albert Werner were sworn in as commissioners of the election.

The election was held on July 7, 1894, and of the eighty-one votes cast, fifty-four were in favor of the incorporation. A parade, led by the brass band, celebrated the victory, and there were speeches by Philip Dietz, Henry Kohl, Henry Goettsch, and other leading citizens. The result of the election was approved and filed by the District Court on July 14, 1894.

Little time was lost in choosing town officials, and on August 3rd, the first election was held. Louis Bennewitz was elected Mayor, and the members of the Council included H. W. Behrens, Thomas Byrnes, Karl Hinrichs, Theodore Koehnke, Claus Ruge, John Stouffer, and C. F. Emler, Recorder.

Having organized the town under the laws of the state, the new town administration now had the authority to tax its people for public improvements and to maintain law and order as it saw fit.



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Walcott, Iowa

REPRESENTING

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WATER AND SEWER SYSTEMS

Long before most small towns thought of supplying their citizens with water, Walcott had plans for an efficient and adequate water system. The installation was completed in 1897, and provided the citizens of Walcott with inexpensive water service, good drinking water, and improved fire protection. Water has never been metered, nor its use restricted in Walcott.

Philip Dietz, of the firm of Stockdale and Dietz, was the mayor at the time the water system was completed. The council members were: Karl Hinrichs, a veterinarian; John Stouffer, a bank cashier; Jurgen Gulck, a shoe repairman and a disabled G.A.R. veteran; William Behrens, a grain elevator manager; City Clerk, Theodore Koehnke, a harness and saddlery shop proprietor.

The water mains, fire hydrants, and piping were installed by Albert Werner and his son, Ernest Werner. The water tower and reservoir were built by the Challenge Pump Company of Galva, Illinois.

Further additions to the health and welfare of Walcott were the completion of a sewage disposal system in 1914, under the administration of Mayor Louis Maack, and an ordinance requiring all buildings to be connected to the sewage system.

ELECTRICITY AND TELEPHONE COME TO WALCOTT

A familiar and fabled sight until the advent of electricity was the lamp lighter on his daily round. Charlie Hill, the first Town Marshall, and later Joachim Hintz, performed the duties necessary to provide illumination for the streets of Walcott. Each morning the lamplighter could be seen, trudging up the street with his steel ladder, can of kerosene, and bundle of rags. At each intersection, he set up his ladder, cleaned the glass globe, trimmed the wick, and filled the kerosene chamber. Each evening about dusk, the familiar figure of the lamplighter was awaited by young and old alike, as he made his rounds to light the lamps, bringing the glow of "all is well, the lamps are lit" into each home.

In 1913 an electrical system was installed and operated by the Muscatine Lighting Company. Current was fed from the I & I Railroad, which railroad line was ultimately discontinued, although use of power lines along the railroad site continued for many years. Today a fine, modern electrical system is provided and maintained by the Iowa Electric Company of Muscatine, and power failures are now so rare as to be relegated to "a thing of the past."

100 Year

CONGRATULATIONS

Anniversary

1854-1954

Town of
Walcott, Iowa

Walcott American Legion Post 548

With Auxiliary and Junior Units

"Liveliest Little Post to Date"

"For Community, State and Nation"

"Your Wish Is Our Command"

Serving Wedding and Anniversary Menus, Banquets, Receptions,
Meetings and Special Occasions
Regular Post and Auxiliary Meeting — Last Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.

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TELEPHONE

The first telephone to appear in Walcott was not only a great curiosity, but also a great convenience as people soon discovered. It was installed in the Harness and Saddlery Shop owned by Theodore Koehnke in 1891, and Mr. Koehnke's shop soon became a clearing house for messages for the whole community. Various boys acted as messengers or runners with these messages. One boy had a route which extended east of Maysville. A long walk to earn the twenty cents he was paid when he delivered the message! Some few years later, a Walcott Mutual Telephone Company was organized with Gus Hamann and Ferd Dietz among its first directors. The Telephone Exchange was located above the bank at the northeast corner of Henry and Bryant streets. Mrs. Caroline Dietz was the operator for a number of years. This exchange was later moved to a residence, where for many years, Mrs. Amanda Strueben answered your ring for "Central," turned in fire alarm, and otherwise served the community.

Meanwhile, the Northwestern Bell Telephone Company extended its lines to Walcott, and in many homes, two telephones could be found. In 1939, the Bell Company offered a modern dial telephone system with a separate and automatic local exchange, and it was gladly accepted by the citizens of Walcott. This efficient system provides us today with telephone service unequalled in most small communities.

PIONEER PROGRESS

When the original settlers came to Walcott, the town was little more than a railroad station in the middle of the open prairie. The land was covered with tall prairie grass and many swampy ponds. It was a rich land, a virgin soil destined to become an agricultural paradise.

The first problem for each family was to build a house and provide the necessities of life. Some of the pioneers built homes of rock, plastered with lime of local origin. Most of the homes were small one or two-room houses built of lumber, which had been shipped down the Ohio River and up the Mississippi River.

The next problem was water. There were no really deep wells for they had to be dug by hand. While the shallow wells were fine most of the time, they were sure to dry up during a severe drought. Then, too, wells were usually so far from the house, that someone was always carrying water. A constant fear of prairie fires haunted the pioneers for the grass which was several feet tall, covered the country side for miles in all directions.

L. E. SIEBKE MOTOR CO.

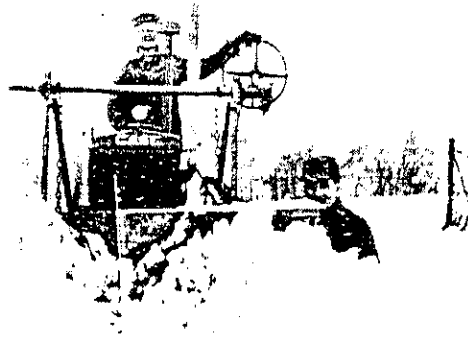
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WALCOTT, IOWA

Though the summers were hot, the settlers knew they had to provide fuel for the hard Iowa winters. As the nearest good timberland was in Buffalo township, many of the local people bought five acre tracts there, or on one of the islands in the Mississippi. It was the responsibility of the older boys to bring the wagon loads of wood home in the fall or early winter. Later they sawed, sorted and split the wood for the different stoves. In the Buffalo hills there was also coal which some of the farmers were able to obtain to increase the fuel supply.



SNOW PLOW

Another major problem for all the early settlers was food. There was practically no money to be spent, so everything had to be found or raised. There were some fruit trees native to the land which helped especially at first, but sometimes a family had to travel many miles to find them. Some of these fruits were blackberries, grapes, plums, gooseberries, elderberries, choke cherries, and crab apples. There were also hazelnuts, walnuts, butternuts, and hickory nuts. Sometimes the settlers were able to find bee trees and get enough honey to last for a long time.

As soon as possible, each family planted a garden to provide them with food. There were vegetables that could be eaten in season, as well as wheat, corn, beans, and potatoes. Canning was not used in the early days, but there were many ways to preserve foods. The wife and daughters were kept busy making sauerkraut, salting beans and pickles, drying beans, fruits, and other foods.

In the fall the root vegetables were covered with dirt in the cellar or in a cave near the house. If kept from freezing, these vegetables were good far into the winter. Often a few green vegetables were planted in boxes inside the house during the winter to provide something fresh.

The wheat for the family was raised on the farm. The closest flour mill for many years was at Wild Cat's Den in Muscatine County. Some farmers even took their wheat to Moscow, Iowa, some to Flower Valley, Dixon, Iowa, and some to Rothstein's Mill at Buena Vista. While the trip always took time, it was probably a relief from the hard work on the farm.

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WALCOTT, IOWA

Men who worked as hard as the early farmers needed meat in their diet. Now and then it was possible to shoot wild fowl and rabbits but the farmers soon raised their own meat animals. Everyone raised hogs, so pork was the main meat. Each year in the coldest part of January the family would butcher several hogs.

Butchering was an exciting event for the young folk even though it meant much hard work. After the hogs were slaughtered, the meat had to be cut up and preserved. While some kept fresh during the cold weather, the greater portion was salted to be smoked later. Many sausages were made, and the lard was carefully rendered. Some of the specialties enjoyed were metwurst, head cheese, oat and barley grits, blutwurst, salted and smoked meats, and swartz-suhr.

Although kerosene lamps were available in the 1850's, few farm families used them. Those who did own one, used it only when there was a large crowd for which a good light was needed.

Generally the homes were lighted with candles, which were, of course, made at home. Using the tallow obtained from butchering, the girls molded the candles, a dozen at a time, in candle frames. When the wick was properly placed in the mold, the tallow was carefully poured. Then the whole frame was placed outside in the snow to harden. While these candles gave light, they were not entirely satisfactory because the tallow was too soft and there was no cash to buy any of the hardening ingredients which would make the candle stand upright.

The women also made their own soap. They made the lye by seeping water through wood ashes and used this lye with lard and grease to make a soft type of soap. Later, as money became a little more plentiful, most families bought soap for personal use. They continued to make their own for the laundry. Often they would use just lye water for cleaning the grease and dirt off the unfinished wooden floors.

Some of the homes had spinning wheels and looms, but since some types of cloth were available, it is doubtful if these pioneers made their own. However, they did spin the yarn to be used in knitting sweaters, gloves, socks, and other warm clothing. All sewing had to be done at home since there were no ready-to-wear clothes even if there had been enough money to buy them.

Pioneer life meant hard work for everyone in the family. The young children, too, had their special duties and various jobs to do. When a farmer wanted to start his first crop, he had the tough job of plowing the prairie sod. Because it was too hard for the ordinary plow, the farmer, if he could possibly afford it, hired men with a large sod-breaking plow drawn by several teams of oxen. Some farmers were so poor that they had to start out by

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Mutual Insurance Association
OF SCOTT COUNTY, IOWA

WALCOTT, IOWA

Organized 1856

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For Fire, Lightning, Cyclone, Tornado, Windstorm

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Adolph R. Riessen, Vice-President

Leonard E. Arp, Secretary

Fred H. Kronenberg, Treasurer

Herbert B. Rock, Elmer T. Wiese, Ernest L. Moeller,

Tony T. Brus, Alphonse H. Puck, Directors

2422 North Howell

Phone 2-1825

DAVENPORT, IOWA

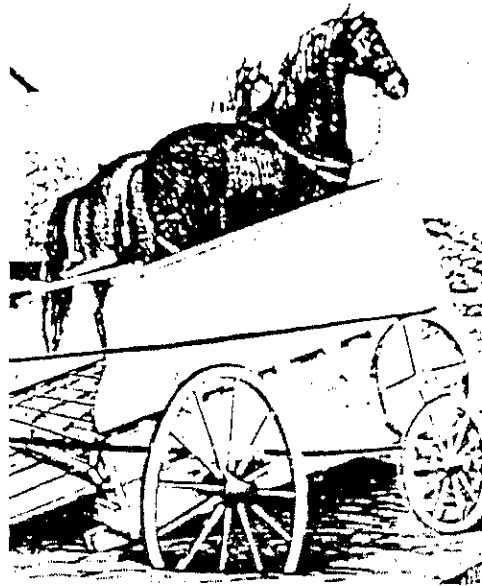
hand-digging small patches of land for their first crop. After the first plowing, the soil, very rough and soddy, would generally produce a substantial crop.

In this area, the first crops were mostly wheat, barley, and oats. Some corn was planted in small patches. Potatoes became a big crop and were important until about 1915, when most farmers turned to other crops. At one time barley was the big money crop. It was shipped down the river to the large breweries in St. Louis.

At first there was very little machinery, just the walking plow, corn cultivator, and other simple tools. You can readily understand why many people were required to work on each farm in pioneer days. At harvest time, crews of men were hired, by those who could afford help, to cut the grain with cradles. They tied the bundles by hand and stacked them to be threshed later.

When the first reapers were used in the county, some of them were destroyed by these itinerant workers who felt they were being replaced. While threshing machines were used as early as 1848, the first ones appeared in this area in the 1870's. Henry Schlapkohl had one of the first horse-powered threshing machines in Scott County.

One of the early means of power was the treadmill. For this it was necessary to use dogs or horses, treading on an endless belt made of wooden slats, thus power was provided to operate the machinery used in grinding, pumping water, shelling corn, churning, and other jobs. At first many of the farmers used oxen, but soon they needed horses. Many of the horses were shipped here as unbroken broncos from the western plains. They were quite small (1000 to 1200 pounds). One of the last dealers to bring horses here to be sold at auction was John Stewart from Wyoming. The native horses in this area were mostly of the Morgan breed. After 1871 other heavy breeds were introduced.



TREAD MILL

In the early days there were no fences on the farms. The cattle had to be herded from morning until night. This was a job for the children. In some cases several farmers, after branding their ani-

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and

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DEWEY LAMP

WALCOTT, IOWA

Painter

Compliments

DR. D. C. CAMBLIN

Dentist

WALCOTT, IOWA

mals, let the cattle run together in suitable areas on the open range. Later, many of the farmers planted hedge fences. These did not prove to be very efficient but they did help. After 1870 barbed wire fences were used on farms here and there in the county. These were a great improvement. Hedge fences, known as Osage orange, have almost disappeared at the present time.

The children had many things to do on these early farms. The girls helped with all the many tasks in and around the house, sewing, cooking, gardening, preserving food, milking, caring for chickens and ducks, making feather beds, quilts, and other necessities. The boys worked around the house when they were small and as soon as they were able, they assisted with the real farm work. They took care of the horses, carried water, labored in the field, cut weeds, and did much of the work that must be done everywhere on the farm.

Since there was so much work and so much help was needed, there was little opportunity for schooling. The younger children went to school in the summer months, and the older ones went for a month or two in the winter. Many of them had time to learn only reading, writing, and a little arithmetic. Most of the earliest country schools were taught in German. In spite of all the work, the children found ways of having fun. While the older folks rested, there was time for wrestling, feats of daring, climbing, playing games and other simple pleasures.

And then there were flies! It was a constant battle to rid the house of flies from June to November, as untold numbers of them swarmed through the open doors and windows into the house. Just before dinner, members of the household would shake towels and paper about in the room to drive them out. They quickly returned, to be chased out again during the dinner hour. Other insects, such as mosquitoes were always a plague. Screen wire was unknown.

One of the most dreaded experiences of early pioneer life was illness, particularly, Ague or "chills and fever." Although this sickness (now known as a type of malaria) was not contagious, it afflicted almost everyone in the fall of the year. It was thought to come from the newness of the plowed prairie or from eating watermelons or from many other causes.

The afflicted person would have a period of chill when it was impossible to get warm, followed by a period of extremely high fever. The chills and fever followed each other with surprising regularity for weeks, and made the patient weak, languid, sore, completely discouraged, and unable to do any except the most necessary work. Often whole families would be ill at the same time with no one able to care for the patients or do the work.

Congratulations to Walcott

On Its 100th Anniversary

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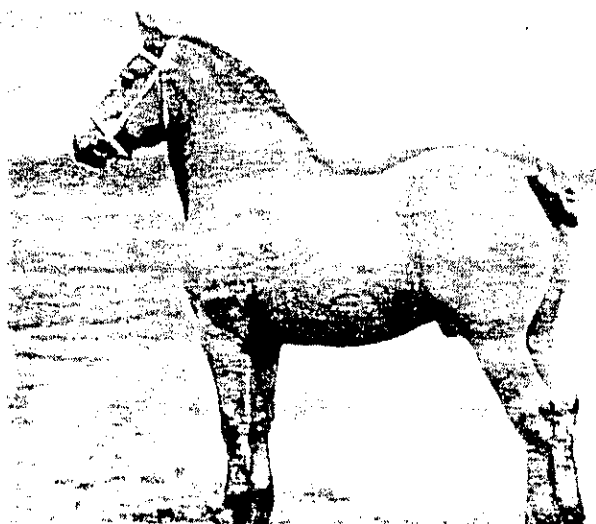
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After years of pioneer hardship and struggle, the farmers of this area began another kind of pioneering. They started to improve soil and their farming practices by securing better seeds and higher grade livestock. Several of our farmers realized very early the advantages of raising pure bred animals and improving their herds. Among these early breeders were the following:



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Pure Bred Horse Breeders

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B. H. Goering	Shorthorns
Louis Otto	Herefords

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SOCIAL, FRATERNAL AND BENEVOLENT ORGANIZATIONS

Many organizations flourished, served their purpose, and dwindled away in the Walcott community. Typical of the German pioneer way of life, one of the first organizations was the Kranken-verein, a mutual society for sick relief which lent a helping hand in time of need.

Another early organization with widespread membership and interest, was the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Regular meetings were held at Henry Sindt's Hall, and this organization continued for many years.

A Turner Society was the prominent organization in 1887 with J. Strueben and Mr. Hueckstedt from the Davenport Turners as gymnastic instructors. Meetings were held in the H. H. Sindt Hall.

Easily the most colorful organization of Walcott's past, was the Horse Protective Association, which sought to protect the community and surrounding farms from horse thieves. This organization offered rewards for the capture of horse thieves, and rumor has it, although it can't be proven, that a horse thief was once "strung up" in Walcott. This group in later years offered rewards in any theft. H. H. Sindt was one of the main organizers of this Association, and its meetings were held in his hall for many years. It was an active organization until some time in the late 1920's.

One of the early organizations of a fraternal nature in Walcott was Camp No. 2479, Modern Woodmen of America, which was chartered September 12, 1894. The Walcott unit is one of the earliest camps to be instituted in this area, having been chartered only eleven years after the founding of the parent society. The following names appear on the charter list:

H. Max Goettsch	William Ihms	Jacob Meier
B. Schwarting, Jr.	Herman Dietz	Henry Feuerbach
Edward Denkmann	William Schwarting	William Dietz
Gus Denkmann	Thomas Byrnes	Henry Hintze
Charles Dietz	Nicholas Lamaack	
Henry Heidt	George Bader	

The Camp was headed by Mr. Schwarting as Consul, and the present Consul is Otto Baustian.

On October 9, 1902, a charter was granted for the formation of Walcott Lodge No. 312, Knights of Pythias, a national order. The charter members were:

J. E. Stockdale	Claus Strueben	H. M. Wulf
C. T. Rathmann	Millard Saville	Herman Koch
Henry Stoltenberg	Ernest Werner	Ferd Mangels
W. J. Ladehoff	Henry Meinert	Leonard Schlapkohl
F. A. Garlock	W. T. Sticher	George Meuman
Henry Bitz	H. Schumacher	

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The first Chancellor Commander was J. E. Stockdale.

The present Chancellor Commander is Robert Wells.

It is interesting to note that the Castle which has for many years dominated the landscape with its turrets and ramparts and which has intrigued the imagination of visitors from far and wide, was originally built by Dr. Schumacher as a meeting place for the Knights of Pythias. This structure was modeled after the famous Balmoral Castle of Scotland.



CASTLE



DR. SCHUMACHER

On March 30, 1905, a charter was granted by the order of Rathbone Sisters, a national women's lodge for wives, sisters, and other feminine relatives of Knights of Pythias members. This organization was chartered as Walcott Temple No. 192 of the Order of Rathbone Sisters with the following being charter members:

Mrs. A. Werner	Hilda Mann	Mrs. Louis Bennewitz
Mrs. E. Werner	Mrs. Carl Iverson	Mrs. Carl Schreiber
Mrs. M. Rathmann	Alma Werner	Mrs. Louise Nagle
Mrs. W. Fromme	Mrs. Robt. Bennewitz	Mrs. John Baash
Mrs. Louise Fromme	Elsie Rathmann	Mrs. Anna Schroeder
Mary Leabo	Helen Fromme	Bertha Schreiber
Frieda Golinghorst	Tillie Strueben	Mrs. Ben Mangels
Lillie Damann	Mrs. B. Hoeppepner	Mrs. Agnes Ruge
Mrs. C. F. Emler	Lizzie Golinghorst	Mrs. L. Schlapkohl
	Martha Schwarting	

A subsequent change of name from Rathbone Sisters to Pythian Sisters brought a new charter on August 9, 1905. The first Most Excellent Chief was Clara Bennewitz, and the present Most Excellent Chief is Mrs. Shirley Arp.

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On March 28, 1907, a charter was issued by the Royal Neighbors of America to Fern Camp No. 3798 with the following charter members:

Olga Behrens	Linda Schwarting	Anna Hintze
Gus Denkmann	Alma Schwarting	Birdie Kegel
Emma Denkmann	Adele Siebke	Mrs. Hertha Moeller
Mrs. Eibe Emler	Anna Werner	Anna Schneckloth
Lizzie Golinghorst	Lena Brix	Amalia Schwarting
Lenore Hinrichs	Sabena Denkmann	Velma Sindt
Teresa Jensen	Edith Emler	Tillie Wulf
Ernest Kegel	Andrea Elholm	Amanda Willroth
Tillie Nielsen	Frieda Golinghorst	

The first Oracle was Mrs. Eibe Emler, and the present Oracle is Mrs. Ruby Fabian.

The American Legion, a patriotic organization, chartered Walcott Post No. 548, District of Iowa on January 18, 1921. The charter members were:

Emil T. Giese	Ferd Feuerbach	Philip Dietz
H. A. C. Ketelsen	Herbert Dietz	Hugo Sierk
Rudolph H. Best	Raymond Parrish	John Meyer
John C. Knickrehm	Edward A. Short	Grover Dietz
Albert Fey	Walter Sierk	Arnold M. Sindt
	Ernest Kroeger	

The first Post Commander was Emil T. Giese. The present Commander is Robert Bowery.

The Auxiliary to the American Legion, Post No. 548, was chartered April 24, 1935. The purpose of the Auxiliary is to help the veterans and their families and to aid the Legion in patriotic and charitable work. The charter members were:

Ethel Fitch	Viola Brandt	Hazel Plett
Anna Stoltenberg	Malinda Moeller	Sophie Thiering
Hertha Hamann	Frieda Herring	Loretta Harrington
Alvina Johannsen	Lorraine Neumiller	Hilda Bernick
Lizie Meyer	Alice Porth	Elsie Ast
Isabelle Wilson	Mollie Schnoor	Effie Kramer
Frances Rochau	Alma Grau	Dora Wegener
Sophie Lamp	Wilma Heuer	Magdalene West
	Meta Bucks	

The first president was Mrs. Ethel Fitch, and the present presiding officer is Mrs. Elaine Riessen.

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WALCOTT, IOWA



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ALBERT H. HAMANN

WALCOTT, IOWA

During the dark days of the depression, when all communities were discouraged, the town of Walcott showed its spirit by organizing the Walcott Community Club. On October 16, 1932, twelve or possibly sixteen men pledged themselves, as a civic organization, to do all within their power to provide greater facilities for the Social and recreational activities in this community. They agreed, "We shall all work together in a cooperative spirit to render any community service, as the need arises, that will make this a better community in which to live."

The first officers of this new organization were Philip Dietz, president, Henry P. Soenke, secretary, and Arnold M. Sindt, treasurer.

The Walcott Community Club may be regarded as a very active and public spirited association which any community would be fortunate to have. Walcott is indeed grateful to this organization for its splendid "Victory Park" and the manner in which it has been equipped. The community also enjoys two of its outstanding events, the annual picnic in August and the Christmas party attended by hundreds of children and their parents and friends, both of which are free and without cost.

The good work of the Club is being continued at the present time with a membership of 300. It is guided by a capable staff of officers, including Karl Arp, president; Dale Paustion, vice president; Harold Puck, secretary; and Robert Winters, treasurer. Assisting these officers is a capable Board of Directors, the members of which are Alvin Riessen, Harry Holst, Elwin Holdorf, Rudy Arp, Jr., and Ray Niebuhr.

The Walcott Business Men's Club was formed January, 1952 by a group of Walcott Business Men for the purpose of promoting the general welfare of Walcott and the community. Erben Dietz was the first president. The Club is presently headed by Robert Winter.

Pastimes

No matter how difficult or how serious life may be, people have always found ways of snatching moments of enjoyment. The people who have lived in and near Walcott have, indeed, enjoyed much variety in entertainment, recreation, and fun.

From the very earliest days until this year, birthdays, anniversaries, and wedding parties have been occasions for celebration. In pioneer days these celebrations were known as "Kitchen Sweeps." The kitchen was cleared out to make room for the festivities. Then accompanied by old German accordions and perhaps an occasional

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WALCOTT, IOWA

fiddle, all the neighbors and friends joined in the dancing. The waltz, two-step, and square dance were popular.

Of course, the crowd was plied with refreshments. Beer in great quantities added to the merriment. As for food, it has been said that in preparation for one party, the ladies baked one hundred twenty loaves of bread, and then they were embarrassed to note that there was not quite enough. Sandwiches, cakes, and all the little extras that were available at the time were served in great quantities. Usually the parties lasted from dusk until dawn. Our Grandmothers will insist there were long periods between parties. The gay spirit of these joyous occasions was not dulled by frequent repetition.

In this same class was the "Shivaree" (charivari), the surprise party for the bride and groom. All the neighbors arrived to serenade the new couple with such melodious noisemakers as cans, pans, tin horns, and cowbells. The party was delightfully attended by young and old alike, and usually lasted through the night with dancing and often card playing. The groom was expected to treat the people with refreshments. Usually the guests brought picnic baskets of delicious food and the host provided wine and other drinks to quench the thirst of the crowd.

As soon as dance halls were built, fancy balls were welcomed as important features of social life. While these dances were not held every week or every month, they were elaborate affairs. Generally they were advertised by special names, such as the Harvest Ball, Spring Frolic, Leap Year Dance, Duck and Goose Ball, all in keeping with the season and spirit of the times. Some of the socially prominent young ladies were listed as sponsors on the elaborate programs. A typical program of this era is the one for the Leap Year dance in 1888.

Program

I.

At H. H. Sindt's Hall, Thursday, November 29, 1888

II.

Leap Year Ball

Yourself and Gents are cordially invited to attend at
H. H. Sindt's Hall, Walcott on Iowa's Thanksgiving Day
November 29, 1888. Music by Resdorff's Orchestra. Tickets 75c

III.

Program

1 Waltz	5 Racquet	9 Quadrille lancers
2 Schottische	6 Quadrille	10 Tyroller Waltz
3 Quadrille Plain	7 Waltz	11 Schottische
4 Polka	8 Newport	12 Gallop. Gents choice

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WALCOTT, IOWA

IV.

Reception Committee

Miss Augusta Lamp

Miss Ella Goering

Miss Amelia Denkmann

Miss Annie Ruge

Miss Ella Eske

Miss T. Horst

Kiddie Capers

Occasionally there would be a children's Masquerade, at which the children were costumed as individuals or in groups. All children received prizes. The costumes were judged and the winners rewarded.

Another important Children's Festival was known as "Bird Shooting." This festival which was imported from Germany with the early settlers, was also celebrated in other areas where Schleswig-Holsteiners settled.

Upon arrival, each child registered and received a number, which was later used in the drawing. The boys using a large crossbow, would shoot at a large wooden bird mounted on a pole and carrying an orange in its beak. The girls, having been blindfolded, tried to break a large crock by hitting it with a broomstick.

Those who were fortunate enough to hit the "bird" received a special prize. Later, a drawing was held to determine the King and Queen of the Bird Shooting, who were crowned with suitable ceremony. Then, with the royal couple leading the festive group, the children were expected to dance. Each child who attended was given a prize.

In the last few years the Community Club has sponsored a "Children's Dance" at Christmas time. After a delicious dinner, the children dance around the large Christmas tree and enjoy a visit from Santa Claus. Later the older people have a chance to dance.

In the early twenties, barn dances became very popular. They were held when all the hay had been cleared out of the barn or when a new barn was just finished. While these were thoroughly enjoyed, the great fire hazard caused barn dances to decline and almost become a memory of the past.



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Walcott, Iowa

ENTERTAINING EDUCATION

In the agricultural area, the people on farms and in Walcott have always been concerned with farming progress. The stores, elevators, implement dealers, and banks have always done their part in promoting better methods of farming. Feeling that it would be helpful to meet together and discuss their mutual interests, as well as display the results of good farming, a committee met in 1913 and organized the Farmer's Institute. Not only were lectures and discussions a part of the program but there were also displays of poultry, grains, produce, handiwork, baked goods, butter and other home achievements.

Country and town cooperated to make this event a success. One evening was always devoted to a home talent play which was well attended and another evening was used for dancing and the sale of prize winning exhibits. In 1953, feeling that the organization had served its purpose and was no longer needed, the Walcott Institute was discontinued.

Another event which served a good purpose and then faded with the changing times, was the Horse and Colt Show. Here, the draft horses were exhibited and judged. People came not only to attend the business part of the show but also to have fun at the carnival and dance. These attractions brought crowds of interested people to Walcott.

Since the organization of the Volunteer Fire Department, there have been various kinds of Firemen's celebrations to help raise money for equipment and for the firemen. At different times, the firemen have sponsored carnivals, dances, Duck and Goose balls, a wrestling match, home talent plays, and other types of entertainment.

Another form of entertainment which has been popular through the years is the card party. One of the games which was frequently played at neighborhood gatherings was called Solo. Skat, a typical German game, has always been popular in Scott County. Incidentally, it is played in very few other areas in the United States. Skat tournaments which are still held here, attract players from Stockton, Plainview, Maysville, Durant, Donahue, Milwaukee, Peoria, Davenport, Madison, Keystone, and Clinton.

Pinochle, 500, and poker were played at many birthday parties.

For years the Fourth of July has been celebrated as a day of great importance. The Walcott Brass Band headed the entertainment which included many features. Among these were the inevitable patriotic speeches, an open air dance, and a merry-go-round. The merry-go-round which was constructed by a local man, Albert Werner, was powered by a threshing machine steam engine. It

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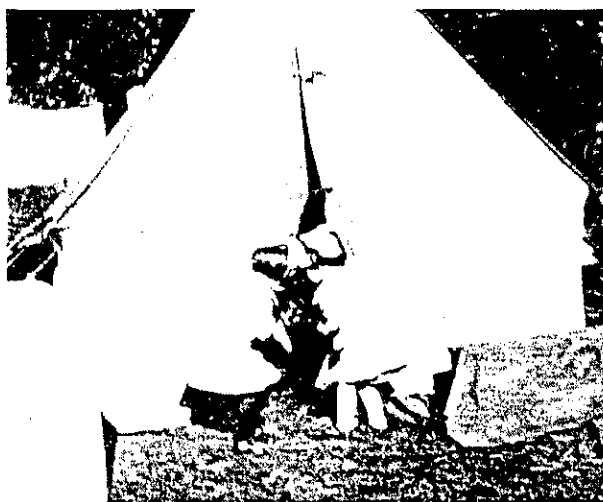
had seats instead of moving animals but one of the exciting features was the lover's seat which revolved in a dizzy fashion. For several years the park was illuminated with gasoline torch lights for the celebration. Then Dr. Schumacher made an electric generator and provided electric lights. Of course the children found many other games to add to the day in the park and everyone enjoyed the refreshments.

Shortly after the turn of the century, Fritz Rehner and his Tyrolean chorus, singing German and Austrian Folk songs in High German, presented concerts at Sindt's Hall.

HOME TOWN THEATRE

After the first World War home talent plays became popular. These were well attended, for a large group of excellent players produced interesting plays.

About this time the Marshall Players, an excellent vaudeville troupe from Sabula, Iowa, began to visit Walcott. The players performed to packed houses for a week each summer until the early thirties. One never-to-be-forgotten theatrical event was the tent show of Uncle Tom's Cabin in about 1913. It was particularly exciting to the younger generation because live bloodhounds chased Eliza across the ice.



MARSHALL PLAYERS

For years an occasional medicine show appeared to break the summer routine. The best remembered of these was Dr. Meek's Medicine Show. It featured magic tricks, vaudeville and musical acts, side show attractions, and glass blowing. The good doctor always managed to dispose of sizeable quantities of his "magic formula which cures whatever ails you."

In 1912-13-14 Dr. Schumacher and his son Henry produced both vaudeville shows and silent movies. It is believed that Tom Mix, Will Rogers, and Fred Stone may have been performers in one of these vaudeville shows. In 1915 and 1916 the movies were shown in Schumacher's new Opera House (Block 7, Lot H-8). This new building boasted a stage that was considered by travelling actors as the best between Chicago and Des Moines. Of the many home

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Walcott, Iowa

Later Walcott had one of the best semi-professional teams. In the line-up were several local boys and a number of hired players.

Lawrence Dietz	Bill Rostenbach	Al Van Camp
Grover Dietz	Charles Wragge	Vic Van Camp
Ben Strueben	Dick Leabo	Louis Huber
	Charles Van Camp	

Mr. Beuse, the present mayor of Davenport, was the score keeper and Henry Ruwe was manager.

For several years Walcott also had football teams which played in the park. They competed with other teams from the surrounding towns.

In recent years the "Victory Park" has been actively used for softball. The field has been provided with lights for the night games, bleachers and other improvements through the efforts of the Community Club. So active is the interest in the various tournaments, that there is at least one game every night throughout the summer season. The school children also use the park for both football and baseball games. This park has recently been greatly improved by the Community Club with the addition of better playground apparatus and a building with equipment for cooking, serving, and refrigerating food. This building has greatly facilitated the serving of large crowds.

Another place which was the source of many happy hours by the children of the community was Peterson's pond. This large pond, located south of town, provided swimming, boating, and other activities in which small boys can indulge during the summer and skating in the winter. While parents may have been relieved when it was drained, the boys were undoubtedly saddened.

Walcott has also been the home of several other sports. In 1900 there was a bowling alley on the Claus Wickman property (Lot 6, Block 8) next to Warneke's store. At least one ball from this alley still exists. From 1919 until about 1934 there was an independent basketball team which played at Dr. Schumacher's Opera House. The team played teams from neighboring towns and other independent groups from Davenport. In the middle twenties trap shooting was very popular. This was conducted from the hardball park in the northwest part of town. In the early thirties there was a roller-skating rink in the old opera house.

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HIGH FINANCE MONEY MATTERS

In the early pioneer days, farmers and merchants suffered from an acute shortage of money. Most of the farmers had invested all their money in land, and the depressions that preceded and followed the Civil War, as well as the economic effects of the war itself, combined to keep money out of circulation.

While the farmers did not have money, they did have the products of their farms to exchange for the things they needed. In this area the local merchants accepted eggs and other produce to pay for purchases. Since this was not enough, the stores extended long term credit. They knew the customers and trusted them. After the farmer had sold his crops, he went from place to place paying all his bills.

Since there was not a bank in town, the Stockdale and Dietz elevator, which had outside financial contacts, acted as a clearing house. The elevator had accounts with several Chicago Commission Houses and with the Davenport Banks. If a local business man wished to pay an out of town bill, he would deposit the money with the elevator which would issue a check on the commission house or bank. Some of the local merchants carried regular savings accounts with Stockdale and Dietz. The elevator had cash shipments of about \$1000 at a time sent out from Davenport so that all the farmers could be paid in cash.

Since the need for banking services became more insistent, the Walcott Savings Bank was organized in 1893. It was located in the building which is now the Colby Studio (Lot 5, Block 19). The bank was organized with a capital stock of \$30,000. The officers were as follows: president, Henry H. Sindt; vice president, Louis Hinz; cashier, Henry Kohl.

The Farmers Savings Bank was organized April 1, 1904 with a capital of \$25,000. It occupied the building now housing the Walcott Trust and Savings Bank (Lot 7, Block 17).

The two banks were consolidated during the depression year of 1931 when there was a general reorganization. Out of this the Walcott Trust and Savings Bank was formed on May 20, 1931, with Philip Dietz as president and Arnold Sindt as cashier.

THE HORSELESS CARRIAGE

With the invention of the automobile, a new kind of transportation came to Walcott. At first many of the residents thought that the noisy new carriage was a menace to life and sanity. In spite of these misgivings, some of the braver souls were willing to try it.

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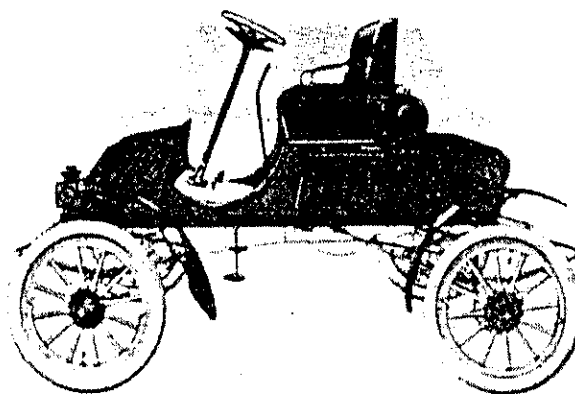
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In 1905 Dr. Schumacher bought the first car in town, a one cylinder 1903 Rambler with a single seat.

In 1906 Mr. R. O. Blue-dorn produced the first successful automobile to be built in Scott County. It was a converted buggy, powered by a one cylinder, air cooled engine. Since it had only one seat, Mr. Blue-dorn added a box-like affair on the front as a seat for



RAMBLER

his two boys. It had wooden spoke wheels, brakes, and could travel 20 miles an hour.

Henry Lendt, a local butcher, had an Orient Buckboard. This was a light, four wheeled car with a one cylinder engine attached to the rear axle.

Gus Blank had a one cylinder 1904 Oldsmobile.

Henry Lendt owned a two cylinder Moline.

John Strohbeen obtained a four cylinder Moline touring car.

Dr. Schumacher had a 1907 Premier with an air cooled engine. Later he bought a 1910 Buick touring car with a planetary open transmission.

Other early cars and their owners were as follows:

Henry Lendt — 1910 Model T Ford.

R. O. Blue-dorn — 1904 Oldsmobile.

R. O. Blue-dorn — 1900 Steam Locomobile.

R. O. Blue-dorn — 1910 Clark.

D. C. Camblin — 1910 Four Cylinder Interstate.

Dr. Kegel — Model S. Ford.

Rudolph Blank — Model R. (Jenny) Ford.

Al Blank — 1910 Overland.

Al Blank — Four Cylinder Maxwell.

Gus Schreiber — 1910 Oakland.

Ernest Werner — 1910 Regal.

Harry Brockmann — Pope Hartford, 1911.

William Telsrow — 1910 Stoddard Dayton.

Herman Unteidt — Four Cylinder Hudson, 1910.

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In 1915 Gus Schreiber built a Cycle car, which had a 10 horsepower 2 cylinder air cooled engine. It had a 36 inch tread, a six foot wheel base, two tandem seats, and a leather belt drive. This car traveled 60 miles per hour. It was sold to Dr. Ballard.

In the early days of motoring, the owners of cars were very proud of the mechanical excellence of the automobiles. They delighted in racing along the dusty roads, and took great pride in being able to outdo all the other drivers. Of course, there were no self-starters in those days, and often the proud owner of a car would be suffering a broken wrist as a result of his difficulties with the crank.

The fact that there were no front doors and no windproof tops made motoring a hazardous experience. However the women soon longed to try driving. The first woman to operate a car in Walcott was Nonie Stouffer, who gayly cavorted about in a Colby. Edith Feuerbach was another early driver.

MUSIC

In pioneer days the music of Walcott was provided by the old German accordions. At the kitchen sweeps the accordionist was perhaps the most important guest.

For a period from 1885 Walcott boasted an excellent brass band. It was conducted by Henry Sell and instructed by H. Restorf. Among its members were the following:

William Schwarting	Johannes Kardel	Ed Denkmann
Henry Gulck	Theodore Kardel	Theodore Koehnke
Gus Denkmann	Claus Wichmann	William Behrens
Ed Stoltenberg	Gus Lamp	(Drum Major)
	Julius Lamp	

This band led all the parades, appeared at the celebrations and added a martial air to the events.

In the late 1880's a string band was formed. The players were Henry Jensen, Fritz Jensen, Sewel Wollenberg and his brother.

At the early dances in Walcott, orchestras from Davenport were hired. Among these were Restorf's, Ernest Otto's, and Strausser's Dance Orchestra.

About 1894 a small local group began to play. They were Louis Dietz, Ed Dietz, Henry Goettsch, William Martens, Charles and Julius Goettsch. This group played for a few wedding celebrations and similar affairs. Later some of these players became part of another musical group.

From 1910 to 1919 Walcott's local dance orchestra became popular at dances. It was a fine group consisting of the following members:

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C. P. Minnaert

Louis Dietz	Norman Leabo	Theodore Kardel
Ed Dietz	Dick Leabo	Nonie Stouffer
Harry Rathjen	Lloyd Fromme	Howard Rathmann
Emil Rathmann	Arthur Wunder	

When the Jazz era arrived the name was changed to Red's Shimmy Jazz Band. Since then the Walcott School has had a band. This organization has been very active in developing musical talent among children as well as providing music for many local programs.

FIRE! — FIRE!

As early as 1897, the people of Walcott banded together to provide an organized way of fighting the terror and destructiveness of fire. In those early days, the department consisted of a small number of volunteer firemen and two hand pulled hose carts. One of these was kept on each side of the tracks. Needless to say, this was not very efficient or fast and it was unable to combat a large fire, such as the one which destroyed the elevator in 1914. However, at one time Mr. Rudolph Bluedorn motorized the department by attaching the hose cart behind his car in order to speed the equipment to the fire.

About 1927 a fire district was formed, and the International Fire Truck was obtained. This made Walcott the second town in Eastern Iowa to provide the farmers and townspeople with fire protection. At that time the farmers were charged \$25 a farm and they bought the truck. The town agreed to pay for the upkeep. The new truck has no pump as it was a chemical apparatus. There were two tanks, each containing 25 gallons of water and acid. Upon arriving at the fire, charges containing soda were dropped into the liquid. The resulting chemical action squirted the mixture on the fire.

In 1931 the town built a fire station and city hall.

In 1934 a Ford truck with a pump and a 350 gallon water tank were bought. This truck was in service until 1954 — twenty years.

As improvements were made in fire-fighting methods and the need for more equipment became evident, a new truck was purchased in 1949 and another in 1953. Both of these trucks were provided with the best equipment to fight farm and small town fires. They were now providing adequate fire protection to the Walcott area. The fire department is still a volunteer organization ably served by a force of twenty well trained men.

CHURCHES AND SUNDAY SCHOOLS

Until very recent times, Walcott was known far and wide, not only as the richest town of its size, but also as the one community without a church. To some, a decided minority, a churchless town



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merited congratulations and to others the absence of a church was deplorable. All of the circumstances pertaining to this singular state of affairs have never been fully and accurately recorded. In this history, the facts as made known to the Historical Committee are now presented so that all may become more fully informed about the past.

During the early pioneer days of Iowa, the Presbyterian Church of Iowa was divided into two schools, the "old" and the "new." In 1851 the Illinois Synod grouped the churches of Iowa so that three Presbyteries were established. These Presbyteries were known as the Iowa, Cedar, and Des Moines. The Walcott Presbyterian Church belonged to the Cedar Presbytery.

The first meeting to determine whether or not a church organization would be formed for Walcott occurred on September 14, 1856, in the old school house. Reverend James Mason, a Presbyterian minister, succeeded in establishing a congregation of twenty-one members.

The Stockdales, Byrnes, McClures, and Connell families were members of the Walcott Presbyterian Church. The rural area to be south and west of Walcott was well represented in early church affairs. The McClures and the Connell families were farmers, interested in the first church. When local services were discontinued, the John Stockdale family attended the Blue Grass Presbyterian Church.

Reverend Mason was an indefatigable worker whose missionary efforts, if such they may be called, were remarkable. Scott County owes much to his untiring endeavors as he was instrumental in forming numerous Presbyterian congregations.

Among the many churches which had their origin in his Christian endeavor were the Blue Grass Presbyterian Church in 1852, and the Eldridge Presbyterian Church in 1874. The Presbyterian churches at Summit, in Lincoln Township, and at Le Claire, Princeton, and Tipton grew from the seed planted and cultivated by Rev. Mason.

The first ruling elder of the Walcott Presbyterian Church was James M. Dalzell. Four years later, in 1860, a church was built in the northeast corner of the Walcott cemetery. It may be noted that this church was not within the incorporated limits of the town, a fact which may have caused arguments among those who debated the question.

How long this first church served the needs of Walcott and the surrounding community is not known. Sometime during the year 1881, the building was sold to John Stockdale, moved to town, remodeled and transformed into a comfortable home.

After a period of almost twenty years, a Sunday School and

Compliments of

Drs. Schroeder and Ahmann

Walcott, Iowa

church services were held in one wing of the school house located in the south part of Walcott. From 1900 to 1904, the Sunday School and services were under the auspices of the Wilton Seminary, also known as the German Congregational Seminary. The Seminary from which came the teachers and ministers to conduct the church services, was discontinued and in 1904 Walcott became churchless again.

Once more Walcott was dormant in church and allied interests until the year 1921. Mr. Stokes, Superintendent of the Walcott School, instituted a Sunday School which held its classes in the Liberty Theatre, originally Ruge's store. Mr. Stokes remained in Walcott two years and when he left, the Sunday School was discontinued.

Reverend Otten, a minister in the Missouri Synod of the Lutheran Church, came to Walcott for a period of two years, from 1927 to 1929. Sunday School and church services were conducted in the house formerly located in Lot 1, Block 23, at the corner of Henry and Durant Streets.

The departure of Rev. Otten left Walcott without any church affiliations until the advent of Reverend Ferguson. A more extensive account of Walcott's splendid new church and its very able pastor Reverend Ferguson is included in this history.

This question was often asked during the years when Walcott lacked a church, "What did the people living in Walcott do in the event of a happy marriage or the sorrowful passing away of a loved one?" Years ago many couples were married by local mayors or justices of the peace. Churches and ministers were always available in Davenport or elsewhere for those who preferred a church wedding and a minister to officiate at the wedding ceremony.

Burial services, either in English or German, more often the latter, were conducted by Mr. Henry Schreiber and Mr. Johannes Kroeger. As a tribute to the first settlers, who made Walcott their home, the Walcott cemetery is known for the meticulous care and sincere devotion with which it has been maintained.

The number of golden and silver anniversaries celebrated by past and present residents of Walcott attest the enduring qualities of marriages then performed. They mirror the character and the finer attributes of human relationship associated only with the better things in life.

It is felt by those who have lived here that careless and superficial observers have failed to portray Walcott as it is. Perhaps the dubious publicity received years ago may have been caused by focusing undue attention to such an unique situation as a town without a church.

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HISTORY OF THE CALVARY EVANGELICAL UNITED CHURCH OF WALCOTT

In the early summer of 1945, a group of teachers and the pastor, C. M. Ferguson, from the Evangelical United Brethren Church of Wilton Junction, conducted a Bible School in the Walcott Public School Building. About seventy boys and girls were enrolled and attended regularly.

Following the requests of many of the parents, and using the money received from a voluntary offering, a Sunday School was organized. Many of the prominent citizens of Walcott were active in this venture.

The desire for Bible study and worship grew until the people began to ask for regular church service. The time of Sunday School was changed from afternoon to morning, and an evening service was begun.

In June, 1947, the first group of people were baptized, and nine people were received as members of the church. These were Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Moorhead, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Paustian, Mrs. D. C. Camblin, Mrs. John Robertson, and Barbara Paustian.

In the year 1947, the organization was incorporated under the laws of the State of Iowa as the Calvary Evangelical United Brethren Church, affiliated with the Iowa Conference of the Evangelical United Brethren Church.

The pastor, C. M. Ferguson, was received as full time pastor in 1947, and soon services were being held each Sunday at regular time.

The school building was made available all of these years until the Caroline Brugmann home was purchased in July, 1951. This home was used as a church until the church building was completed on the lots which had been previously obtained by the church.

Ground was broken for the church building November 19, 1952, and a mild winter permitted work to proceed almost each working day all winter. The church was opened to worship with a wedding August 15, 1953.

November 1, 1953 the church was dedicated in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for the purpose of preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ and servicing the citizens of the community.

The Calvary Church desires to be known as a community church. All are cordially invited to attend, and to be a part of the activities of the church.

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THE WALCOTT CEMETERY COMPANY

The original records of the Walcott Cemetery Company were destroyed by the fire which consumed the Walcott Depot on January 24, 1883. From the treasurer's financial record, it is known that the first payment, made for a set of books, was entered March 30, 1882. It may be then considered that the Walcott Cemetery Company was organized and incorporated prior to this date.

The first officers of this company were: Dr. Thomas Byrnes, President; Philip Dietz, Vice President; H. H. Sindt, Treasurer; George E. Peek, Secretary.

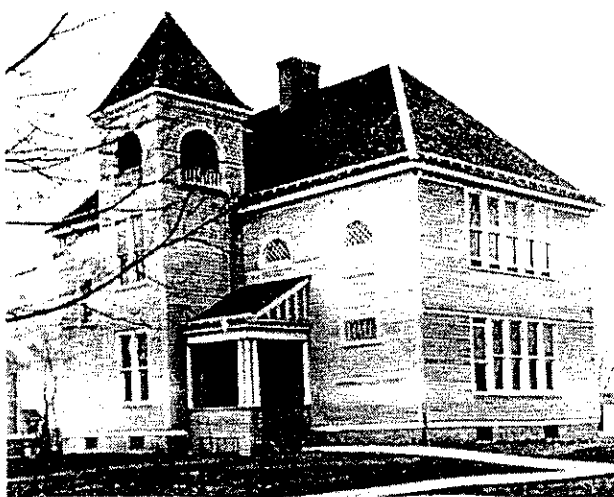
Serving on the Board of Directors were: Bernhard Schwarting, H. W. Behrens, Louis Hintz, John Kroeger, Alex Stockdale.

The first cemetery was a five acre tract of land purchased by the Presbyterian Church of Walcott in 1856 from Cook and Sargent. The Walcott Cemetery Company was organized to acquire and manage the cemetery after the church had closed its activities.

In 1908, the Ladies Cemetery Association was formed to provide assistance in maintaining the cemetery and caring for its needs. The income from the sale of lots was becoming insufficient to meet increasing expenditures. The affairs of the cemetery were reorganized, perpetual care instituted, and additions and improvements realized. The community is deeply grateful to those who have done so much for the Walcott Cemetery. Officers at the present time are: Philip Dietz, President and Louis Maack, Secretary and Treasurer.

THE WALCOTT SCHOOL SYSTEM

Famous in song and story, "The Little Red Schoolhouse" soon became a reality in the new community of Walcott. Early settlers recognized the necessity of providing education facilities for their children, and added impetus was the donation of five hundred dollars by William Walcott to be used for a school provided that the village be named for its benefactor. A red frame school house was erected on the site of the present school in 1855, and Walcott received its name and its first school.

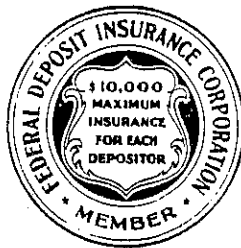


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The original building was a one room structure, and was later enlarged into an "L" shaped building. This building inevitably was outgrown and its two halves moved about town. The smaller section was moved to the south part of the town and used by the Sunday School for a time. Later it was removed to a location west of the depot where it served as an implement building until it was dismantled.

The larger section was moved one block south of its original location. It is now being used by Les Lund in his implement business, where it still stands.

The present school building was erected in 1895, with contractor George Popp and carpenter Hans Goettsch doing the work. Albert Werner and Dr. Karl Hinrichs were among the school board members who were responsible for the undertaking.

Much could be written about the patience, understanding and devotion of the teachers who, through the years, have taught generations of Walcott citizens to read, write, and figure. Joseph Steadley was one of the early teachers in Walcott, and ministered to the educational needs of the community from 1883 to 1890. Miss Ella Eske also taught during the early days of the Walcott school. Miss Josephine Suiter and former County Superintendent, Henry Runge, taught here prior to 1906. Mr. Paarman, Mr. Jensen, Mr. Lutterman, Miss Henehen, Miss Dunn, and Miss Cole were among the early teachers.

In later years the school rooms were graced with the presence of local girls who had received teacher's training courses. Among these were Bertha Schreiber and her sister Elsie, now Mrs. Clarence Rice, who served the community ably and faithfully for many years. Lenore Hinrichs, now Mrs. Lenore Truitt, and Dorothy Behrens, now Mrs. Frank Moorhead, both taught for several years, and are remembered fondly by their former pupils. Dr. D. C. Camblin came to Walcott as a teacher, serving in that capacity for a number of years before embarking upon further education and a career as a dentist.

Walcott also was fortunate to obtain the teaching services of Harry W. Banze for several years. Mr. Banze then became Scott County Superintendent of Schools, an office he administered efficiently and faithfully for twenty-three years.

Our present school system is capably coordinated by Emmett Dohse, Superintendent, and an excellent staff of teachers who are giving the youth of the community every educational advantage.

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A DOCTOR IN WALCOTT

The people of Walcott have had the usual number of ailments over the years, but the town has always been fortunate in having medical services. During World War I, there were four doctors here at the same time and most of the time there have been two doctors. Our first doctor was Thomas Byrnes, a G.A.R. veteran, who practiced here until about 1896. His office was on the southeast corner of Parker and Bryant Streets (Lot 4, Block 17). Here he had his home, office, and apothecary. He was a fine doctor who instilled the love of healing into his family. Three of his sons were doctors, one was a veterinarian, and his two daughters married doctors.



FIRST DRUG STORE

About the same time Dr. Chinn had his office in the building that was later to be the Juergen Guelck place and is now the Cenpe-co location (Lot 5, Block 12).

From 1896 to 1910 we had a very fine physician and surgeon, Dr. Ernest T. Kegel. He was the son-in-law of Dr. Byrnes and



DR. E. T. KEGEL

occupied the same location. He also had a hospital which greatly improved the local medical facilities. The hospital was located south of town on Main Street. At this hospital Dr. Kegel performed some operations, including appendectomies, which were rare at that time.

In 1899 Dr. Henry Schumacher came to Walcott. He had previously practiced in Durant and Maysville, Iowa. He was an extremely

intelligent young man who was interested in many sciences and hobbies as well as medicine. He lived in Walcott until death, which occurred on March 3, 1934. He also owned an apothecary.

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Directors

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H. C. Mohr, Davenport

James Holst, LeClaire

Wm. Holst, Eldridge

Then we had a series of doctors, many of whom remained only two or three years. Those who used the building formerly occupied by Dr. Byrnes (Lot 4, Block 17) were as follows:

Dr. Kegel — 1896 to 1910	Dr. L. E. Schaeffer—1913 to 1917
Dr. Padgham — 1910 to 1913	Dr. Marble — 1917 to 1921

About 1916 Dr. McIntyre set up an office at the corner of (Lot 1, Block 7). Others who occupied this office were:

Dr. Lando — 1918 to 1923	Dr. Peters — 1923 to 1930
Dr. Englehorn — 1930 to 1931	

Among other doctors and their locations were:

Drs. Moyer and Moyer (husband and wife) — 1913 to 1918.

Dr. Hunt — 1926 (Block 12, Lot 6).

Dr. Mechtenburg — 1931 (Block 7, Lot 7).

Dr. Bawden — 1913 to 1914 (Block 18, Lot 1)

Dr. Gillette had an office in Block 19, Lot 4 during the years from 1917 to 1930.

Dr. Schroeder began practicing at this location in 1930. He then moved to Lot 1, Block 18, when in the year of 1948 Dr. Ahmann became associated with him. In 1954 these two doctors erected a new clinic building on the corner of Main and Durant Streets (Lot 4, Block 18).

Walcott now has a new drug store in the home previously occupied by Dr. Schroeder. It is operated by M. John Mohrman, a registered pharmacist.

Even though Walcott was a small town, it has had many fine physicians and dentists, who have rendered excellent services and the Walcott community has appreciated their services. Among the dentists who practiced in Walcott were the following:

Dr. W. C. Haller, who practiced in Walcott and Durant, Iowa.

Dr. E. Peterson, who practiced from 1913 to 1915.

Dr. Ballard who stayed from 1913 to 1917.

Dr. Braun — 1929 to 1930.

Dr. D. C. Camblin opened a dental office in 1917 in the Coliseum Building and is still practicing there.

Walcott was fortunate in having adequate medical services. Although the records may be somewhat incomplete, we have listed above the doctors and dentists who maintained offices in Walcott.

As an agricultural center, Walcott has also attracted many veterinarians. They were:

Dr. Karl Hinrichs	Dr. Grant	Dr. Lekwa
Dr. Kennedy	Dr. W. Fitch	Dr. Jones
Dr. Thornton (practicing at the present time).		

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BUSTLING BUSINESSES

Walcott, for a small town, has supported a large number of businesses through the years. These were established, flourished, and died according to the conditions in the town, the personality of the owner, and the need for the particular service or commodity. Thus in the early days when transportation to Davenport was a major undertaking, there was a need for some businesses which are no longer profitable in a small town.

The very first commercial establishment in the town was the Hotel, which though not fancy, provided board and lodgings for the railroad workers as early as 1854. Another very early business was the Kefferstein store which served as a general store, post office, and station.

There were also two insurance companies which served the local people. The American Mutual Insurance Association was founded in 1849 when thirteen German farmers met and formed the "Deutsche Brund Gilde" or German Fire Insurance Association. The original members were:

Henry Lage	Asmus Maas	Will Hahn
Detlef Kloppenberger	Peter Lage	Julius Sindt
Claus Stoltenberg	Asmus Kuhl	August Lamp
Claus Untiedt	Claus Mundt	Hans Moeller
	August Petersen	

The thirteen mentioned subscribed for a total of \$1900 or an average of \$146.00 each. Only those of German decent were eligible to join at that time. The organization was authorized by the state and chartered in 1869 as the German Mutual Fire Insurance Association. The name was changed in 1918 to the American Mutual Fire and Tornado Insurance Association and again in 1946 to the American Mutual Fire Insurance Association. Up until 1911 all the proceedings were carried in the German Language. Some properties have had continuous insurance coverage with this company since 1849. Two of these are the Harry Hahn and the Hugo Schneckloth properties.

The other early insurance company was the Mutual Fire Insurance Company of German Householders of Scott County, Iowa. This was incorporated May 16, 1856 at the house of August Petersen. There are a few interesting facts concerning the coverage given by this company. The owner who had lost property by fire was paid two thirds of the assessed value plus a certain number of teamloads of building material to be used in replacing the lost buildings. The members were to pay a one dollar admission fee

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and were required to pay assessments from time to time for losses and business expenses. They were also bound to haul teamloads of building material furnished by them to replace lost buildings when ordered to do so by one of the appraisors.

As time went on a great number of businesses were established in Walcott. Many were of major importance; some were only of passing interest. Since space is limited, no attempt will be made to locate or describe these establishments. They will merely be listed with as much accuracy as possible. Since many people have been associated with the various trade, it is possible that some of them have been unwittingly omitted. In some cases the successive managers of a given business are listed:

Hotels

Sindt's Hotel — A hotel tavern and dance hall.

Henry H. Sindt	Henry Krone	Charles Gimm
Ed Dose	John Mass	Chris Boller
	William J. Fromme	

The Walcott House — Established in May of 1854 by J. Meyers to provide board and lodging for railroad workers.

Asmus Mueller's Hotel (Located in what is now the Lovewell Building).

Henry Schneckloth	Skaggs	Morton
-------------------	--------	--------

Those listed below were located or managed the Hotel which is now known as the Northside Tavern:

McBride	Stoeckel	Hansen
Adolph Dietz		

Restaurants

Henry Schneckloth	Herman Timm	Mort's Cafe
-------------------	-------------	-------------

Railroad Workers

The various forms of communication and transportation have been very important to the people of Walcott. The railroad, which must be credited with establishing the town, has been a vital factor in its life.

Among the railroad workers that have been stationed in Walcott are the following:

Station Agents

F. W. Kefferstein	R. R. Birdsell	Jack Gilby
George Peek	Charles Harkins	Hugo Christiansen
Charles Emler	Bert Sumner	Albert Leabo

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Railroad Section Foremen

George Coburn	Charles Ferguson	Leo Neubauer
Jim Ford	Charles Gatten	Bob Kenedy
Joachim Hintz	Fred Stoeckel	Rene Neubauer

Postoffice

The postoffice is also vital to the life of the town. The postal employees who have served Walcott are as follows:

Postmasters

F. W. Kefferstein	Norman Leabo	Richard Tank
Henry Sutton	Mrs. D. C. Camblin	Lillian Gasseling
Bernhard Schwarting	Clarence Knaack	

Rural Mail Carriers

William J. Fromme	Henry Lendt	Alfred Buchmeyer
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Route No. 1

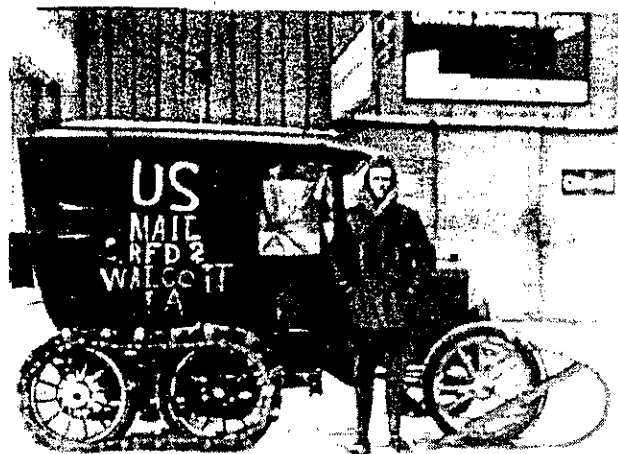
Rudolph Blank
Henry Garlock
Phillip Petersen

Route No. 2

Howard Rathmann
Mr. Brown
Wayne Tomlinson
Ben Martin
Rudolph F. Bluedorn

Route No. 3

Gustav Fick



U. S. MAIL — RUDY BLUEDORN — R.F.D. No. 2

After 1941 Reorganization

Route No. 1

Philip Peterson Richard Tank

Route No. 2

Rudolph F. Bluedorn

Telephone Operators

The Walcott telephone operators were Mrs. Caroline Dietz and Mrs. Amanda Strueben.

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Mr. Buenning	Hans Rieper
August Brix	Al Sebastian
Phillip and Henry Heidt	Rudolph O. Bluedorn
Albert Werner	

Livery Stables

Ross Byrnes	Henry Strohbeen
Ben Buchmeyer	John Eckstein

Harness and Saddle Shop

Rock and Sears	Hans Kruse	H. B. David
Theodore Koehnke		George Saville

Dray Business

Express and Transfer	Chris Bestman	Gustav V. Puck
Herman Meinert	Frank Garlock	

Shoe Repair

Jurgen Gulck	Claus Ruge	H. B. David
Mr. Kroeger	Hans Kruse	George Saville

Hardware and Tin Shop — Furnaces

William J. Fromme	Charles Wunder
-------------------	----------------

Plumbing and Heating

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Henry Hintz	Koch & Ruwe	Ruwe Brothers
C. C. Lovewell		

Flour Mill

Bernhard Schwarting — Made Betsy Ross Flour

Creameries

Farmer's Creamery	Henry Bock
(Owned by the farmers)	

Drug Stores

Dr. Thomas Byrnes	Dr. H. Schumacher
Dr. E. T. Kegel	John Mohrman

Newspapers

The Walcott News — 1897, Herman Kuehl
The Scott County Tribune — 1935-1944, Victor E. Bluedorn

Florist Shop and Greenhouse

Clarence and Elsie Rice

Electrical Shop

Riley Dietz

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Meadow Gold Ice Cream

Service Stations

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Warren Riessen

Shenpolk's Station
Mike's Service

Don Mordhorst

Carpenter Contractors

Henry Brugmann
George Popp
Hans Goettsch
Carl Schreiber

Adolph Kramer
Louis Nagel
Schreiber & Werner
Arthur Houghton

Harry and Fred
Rosenberg
William Wegener

Painting Contractors

Charles Rathmann
Hannes Strueben
Dewey Lamp

Edgar Nagel
Edward Rathmann
Grover Dietz

William Hopphan

Cement Block Factory

John Stroheen Rudolph Blank & Howard Rathmann
Dr. Henry Schumacher

Machine Shop

Rudolph Blank & Son — Steam Engines & Threshers

Tailor Shop

Mr. Jensen

Weaver

Claus Ihms

Mustard Factory

Henry Ruwe

Beauty Shops

Evelyn Heuer

Mae Nielsen

Leona's Beauty Shop

Casket Maker

Hans Bartscher

Fish Market

John Doolin

Jewelry Store

Emil T. Giese

Undertaker

Charles Wunder

Hatchery

George Saville

Well Drilling

John Strueben

Mason

Martin Stoecker

John Baasch

Richard Goettsch

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Chris Ruhmohr & Henry Wunder (Blue Buck Cigars)

Walcott Automatic Trap Nest Factory

Mr. Roenquist (Inventor and Manager)

Taverns

Some of the taverns listed below were also dance halls, many of them also being restaurants. It seems that at many times in the history of Walcott there were as many as six prosperous taverns operating at the same time.

Sindt's Hall	Henry Krone	Charlie Gimm
Louis Hinz, 1870	John Mass	Chris Boller
Ed Dose	William Fromme	

Prohibition Then Came

Fred Thiering	Julius Burmeister
William Reese	Peter Arp

Dr. Schumacher — The building was rebuilt and named "The Opera House"

Ferdinand Dietz (after prohibition)

The Coliseum

Fred H. Thiering	Koch and Petersen	Ray Rochau
Henry Beckmann	Jack Neary	Al. Schneckloth

The Klondike

Reimmer Soehren	Peter Leese
Henry Peters	Charles Beinke

Detlef Heyden's Tavern

Detlef Heyden

Congratulations to

WALCOTT CENTENNIAL

From

NORTHWEST BANK

DAVENPORT, IOWA

Taverns at the Present Site of the Walcott Bank

Henry Gruemmer

William Gruemmer

John Schlapkohl

Henry Fredericks (Now present site of Hagen's Barber Shop)

North Side Tavern

Theodore Moellenbeck

Claus Wickmann

Otto Schneckloth & Henry Lendt

Present site of Lovewell Building built by Peter Leese

Peter Leese

Marcus Puck

Paul Keller

Knaack's Castle — Clarence Knaack

Formerly Bakery Shop

Fred & Al Bopp

Julius Werthmann

North Side Tavern

Mrs. Mamie Hansen

Ray Rochau

Fred Esbaum

Koch & Petersen

Oscar Bruensing

Eddie Lamp

Rudy Porth

B & J Tavern — Cohn, Proprietor

Long Bar Tavern (After Prohibition)

William J. Fromme

Fred Esbaum

Clarence Knaack

Al and Fred Bopp

With the passage of the Mulcht law in Iowa, the number of taverns was limited according to the population of the town. Walcott was allowed only one, so the various tavern owners merged and formed what was known as the Long Bar. This establishment, located at the present site of the Central Petroleum Company, had the longest bar in Scott County (80 feet). The partners were Otto Schneckloth, William Fromme, Charles Beinke, Ferdinand Dietz. The long bar paid \$8200 license fee later by Hans Hoelmer and William Fromme.

General Merchandise Stores

No. 1

Frederick W. Kefferstein

Ben Behrens

Henry Sutton

Andresen and Meyer

Bernard Schwarting

Otto Andresen

Louis Bennewitz

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COMMUNITY ON YOUR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

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No. 2

Louis Hinz
Chris Kettlesen

Walcott Cooperative Store
Karl Warnecke

No. 3

William Ruge and Schroeder Henry Ruwe

No. 4

Charles Beinke

Barber Shops**No. 1**

Norman Leabo
Charles Nielsen

Herbert Moeller
Clarence Hagen

No. 2

Alfred Wunder David Moeller Lawrence Dietz

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H. O. Seiffert Lumber Company H. H. Schneckloth Lumber Co.
Farmers Lumber Company

Wagon Makers

William Mann
Claus Petersen
August Brix

Hans Barscher, also casket maker
Rudolph O. Bluedorn

Marshals in the City of Walcott

Charles Hill	John Eckstein	Henry Fischer
Philip Dietz	Henry Fromme	Herbert Roehs
Joachim Hintze	Herman Hintze	Leslie Moeller
Joachim Wegener	Ben Buchmeyer	

Mayors in the City of Walcott

Louis Bennewitz	Louis Maack	Ernest Werner
William Schwarting	John Strohbeen	Albert Leabo
Dr. H. Schumacher	Charles Beinke	Ferdinand Dietz
Philip Dietz	John Strohbeen	Adolph Moeller
Dr. Karl Hinrichs		Arthur Houghton

Walcott Produce Company

Walter Nieman

Walcott Mutual Insurance Company

Albert Illian, Secretary

Best Wishes to Walcott

On It's Centennial

Compliments of

Uchtorff Brewing Company

"The Beer with the Friendly Smile"

LOG CABIN PROJECT

A log cabin naturally fits in with any Centennial Celebration. Late in October, 1953, it was learned that Herman Staub, a farmer living about four miles northeast of Walcott, had pushed over all the trees in his catalpa grove with the intentions of clearing that tract of land. These logs were available without cost. On November 4th a crew of fifteen men with the necessary power equipment went out to the "Black Forest" and salvaged a sufficient number of twelve foot logs to build the cabin. The job was not a pleasant one due to a rank growth of weeds and a few colonies of bees, but everyone had a good time during a short six hour work day. The logs were trucked to town and temporarily placed in the west park.

Construction of the cabin was started on November 18th and completed on November 23rd. The original plans called for split rafters over which was to be placed wire netting to support a canvass or thatched roof. At this stage of construction, many local people suggested that a permanent roof be built and that the cabin stand in its present location indefinitely. As a result, a cheap grade of sheeting was applied over the irregular rafters. The Schneckloth Lumber Company donated genuine split shingles to finish the roof. The total cost was approximately \$35.00.



LOG CABIN

The log cutting crew consisted of the following:

Herman Brandt	Roy Berodt	Orville Barber
Horace Muhs	George Hansen	Hugo Holtz
D. C. Camblin	Herman Arp	Herman Staub
Herbert Bolte	Albert Hamann	Adolph Riessen
George Riesen	Henry Brandt	

Trucks were supplied by Herman Brandt, Herbert Bolte and George Hansen. Chain saws were furnished by Orville Barber and Henry Brandt. Dale Paustian's loader was operated by Roy Berodt, while Hugo Holst and Herman Staub operated their own tractor. Credit is also due to the above list of laborers in performing the rough work of the cabin, while Bill Wegener and Rudy Wegener took charge of the interior finishing and door construction. The

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DAVENPORT, IOWA

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surplus logs were removed, the front and back yards cleaned up by George Riessen and Albert Hamann. Cool refreshments were served by the B & J Tavern.

THE STOCK-ADE PROJECT

The Walcott Business Men's Club purchased the log cabin at Blue Grass and trucked all materials to Walcott for use in constructing sections of rail fence and two stockades. These stockades will be used as places of confinement for troublesome salesmen and those who violate the true spirit of the Centennial Celebration.

Total cost thirty-five dollars.

A list of those who contributed their time and equipment follows:

Leonard Minneart — truck	Donald Dietz
Lemoine Ruwe — truck	Dr. D. C. Camblin
Bob Winters	Glen Smiley
Dee Brown	Earl Schroeder
John Dietz	

Bill and Rudy Wegener — Architects

Copy went to press before the stock-ade project was completed.

NEW MAJOR INDUSTRY

The original Central Petroleum Company was founded in 1865 at a town called Petroleum Centre, midway between Titusville and Oil City, Pennsylvania right at the birthplace of the oil industry. The present Company, however, as now organized was not started until June 30, 1911. While the original company was engaged in the production of oil in the Pennsylvania field, the present company had been engaged in the blending and marketing of petroleum products for farm and industrial use.

Until the last few years the Company's activities were largely centered in the East. The tremendous growth of mechanized farming caused a natural expansion into this great farm area so that the need of an office and blending plant in this area became very necessary.

Since Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota have many thousands of users of Cen-Pe-Co Products, it was obvious that we should settle somewhere in an area where these four states could be efficiently served. From a study of the map it became apparent that the area along the Mississippi River somewhere between Clinton and Muscatine, Iowa, would make the ideal location.

Our President, P. T. Webster, spent many months inspecting buildings throughout this area and finally through the Real Estate Department of the Rock Island Railroad, heard that there was an excellent building available at Walcott, Iowa.



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This building was purchased in December, 1952 and, after considerable remodeling, was fully equipped with the latest blending and manufacturing equipment so that it was not until July 14, 1953 that the first products were made. From that time on there has been progress made in increasing production until this plant now is handling all orders for Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota through a fleet of trucks fanning out from Walcott delivering to points in these states.

The Central Petroleum Company ship direct to the farmers, industrial plants and all public divisions the finest lubricants of all types. Through its subsidiary the Columbia Paint and Varnish Company supplies the high grade paints as well as "the world's greatest roof saver," Columbia Fibre Roof Coating.

We wish to extend our congratulations to the citizens of Walcott on celebrating their first one hundred years and we hope to be able to share the next one hundred years with you.

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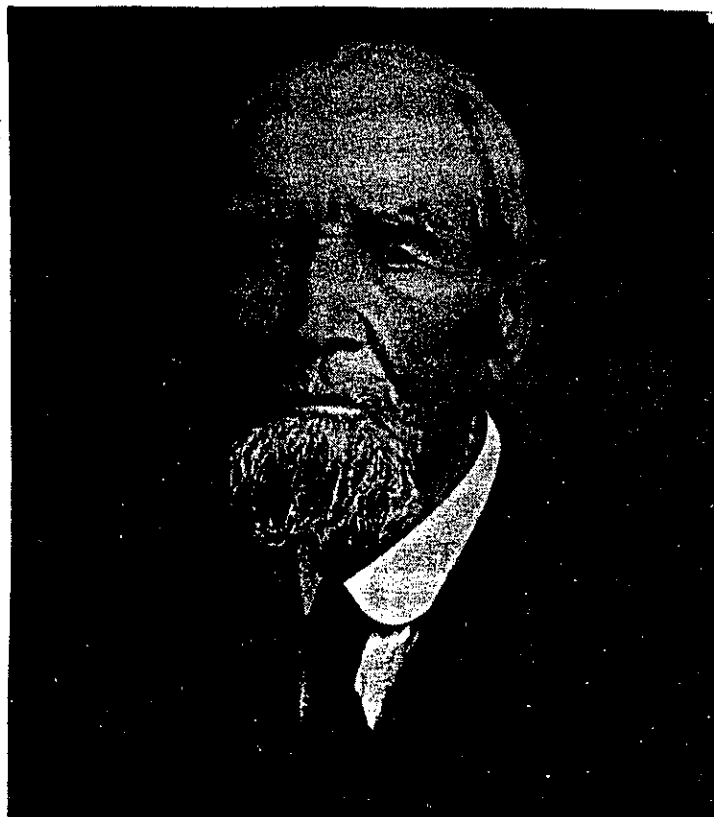
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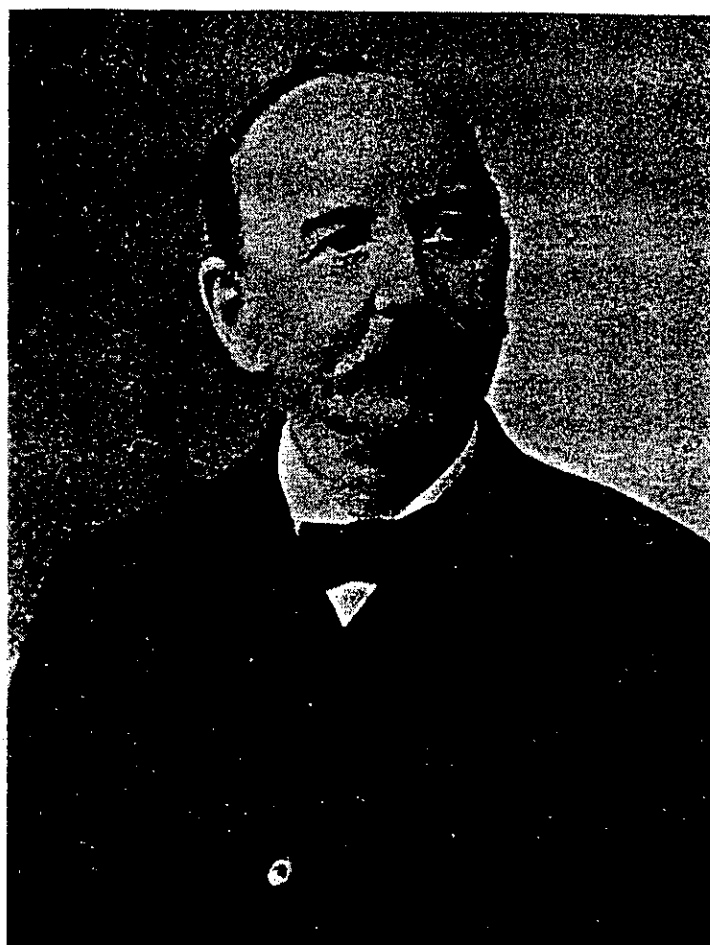
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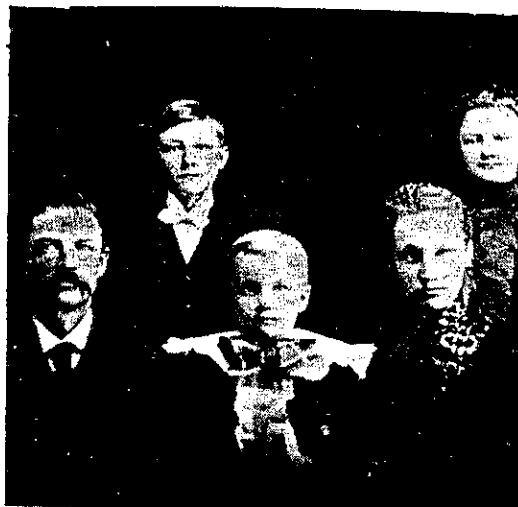
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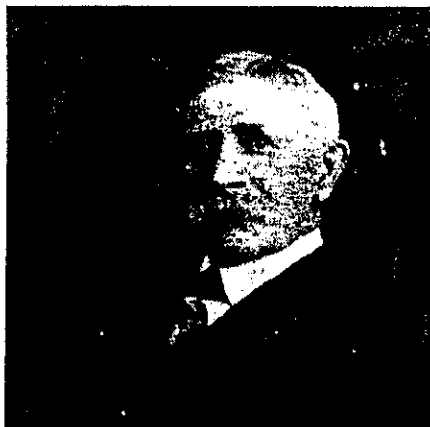
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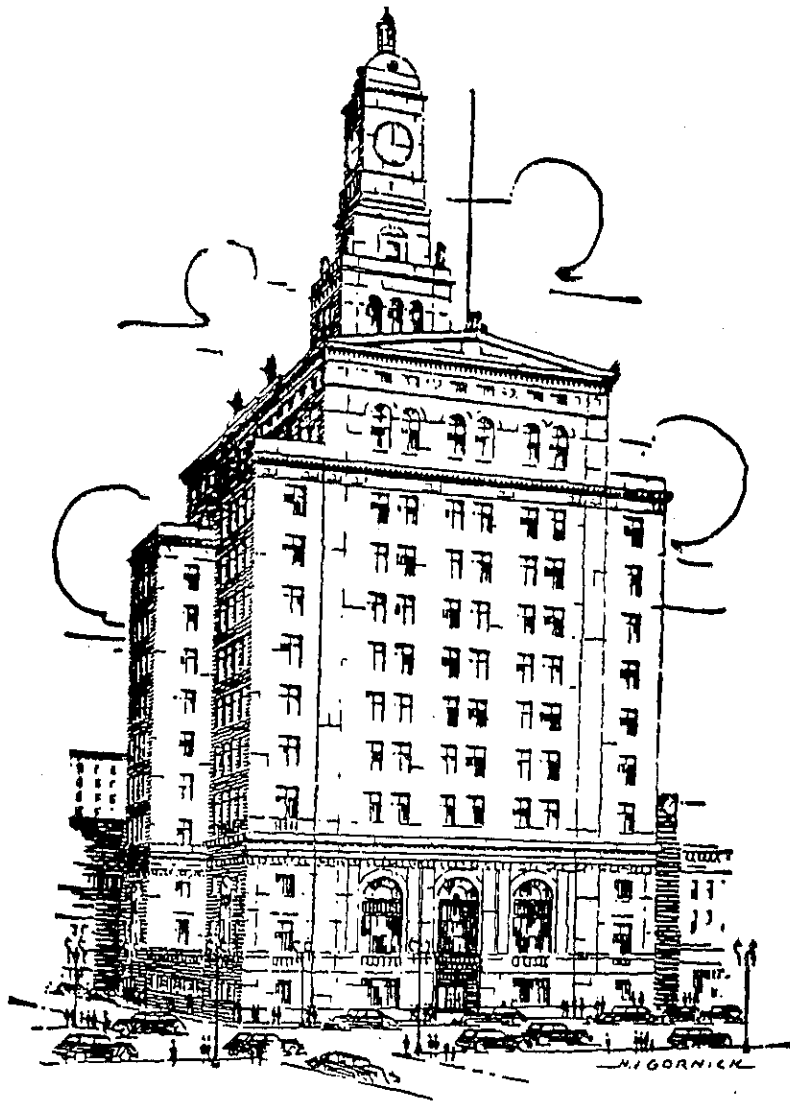
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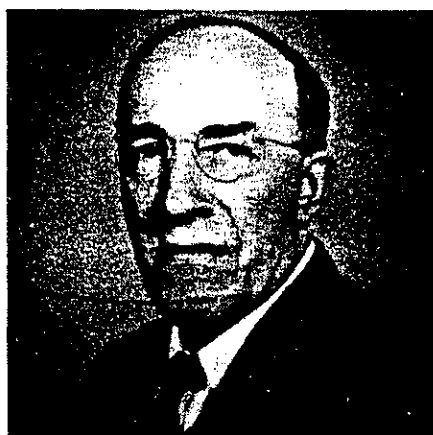
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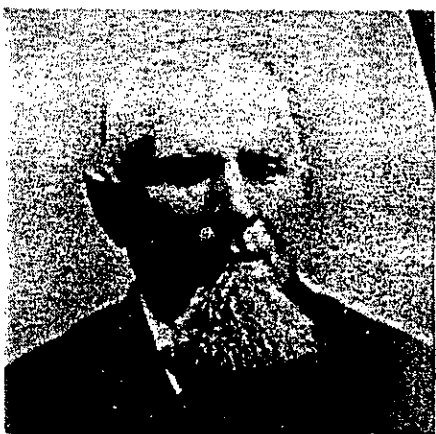
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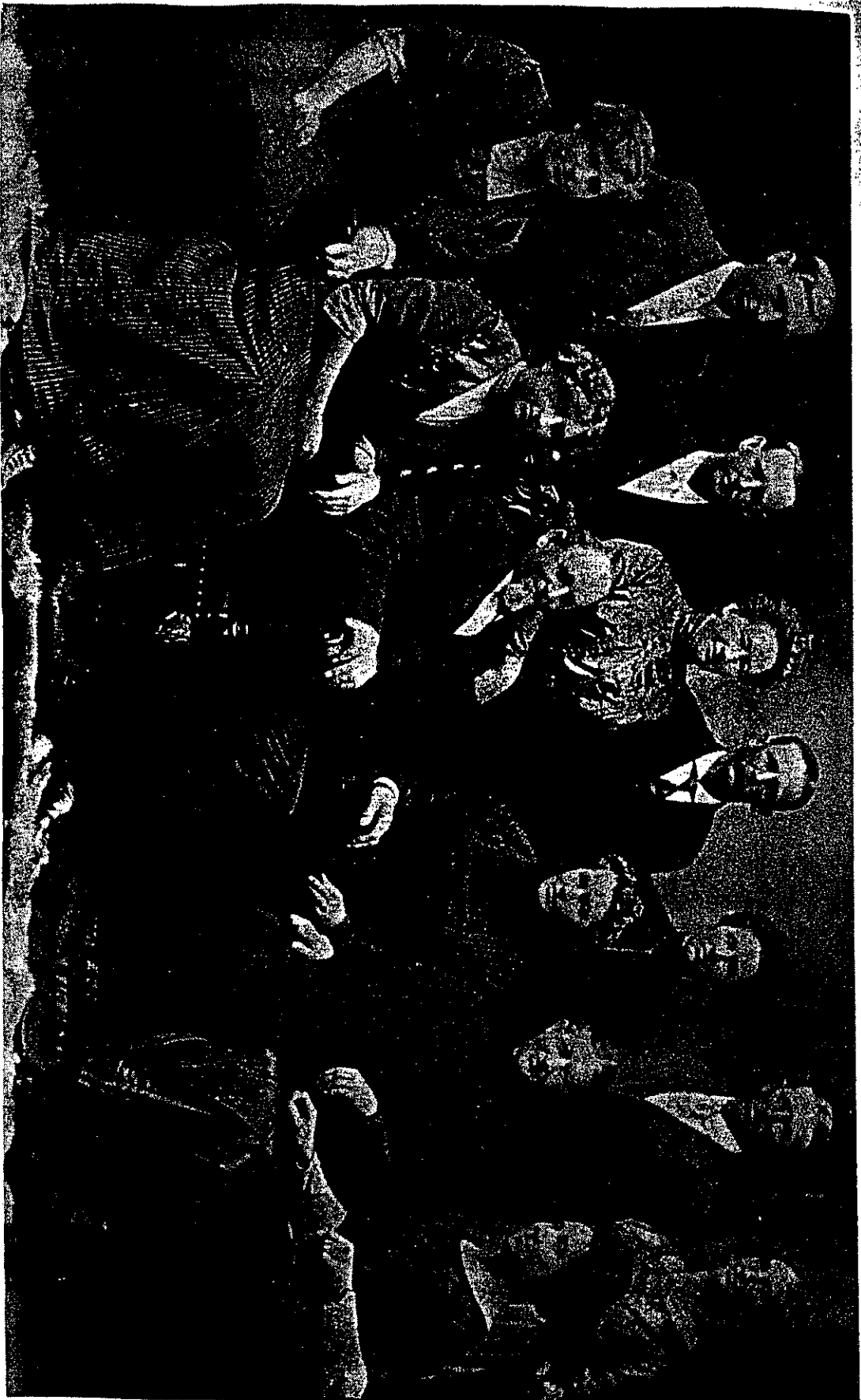
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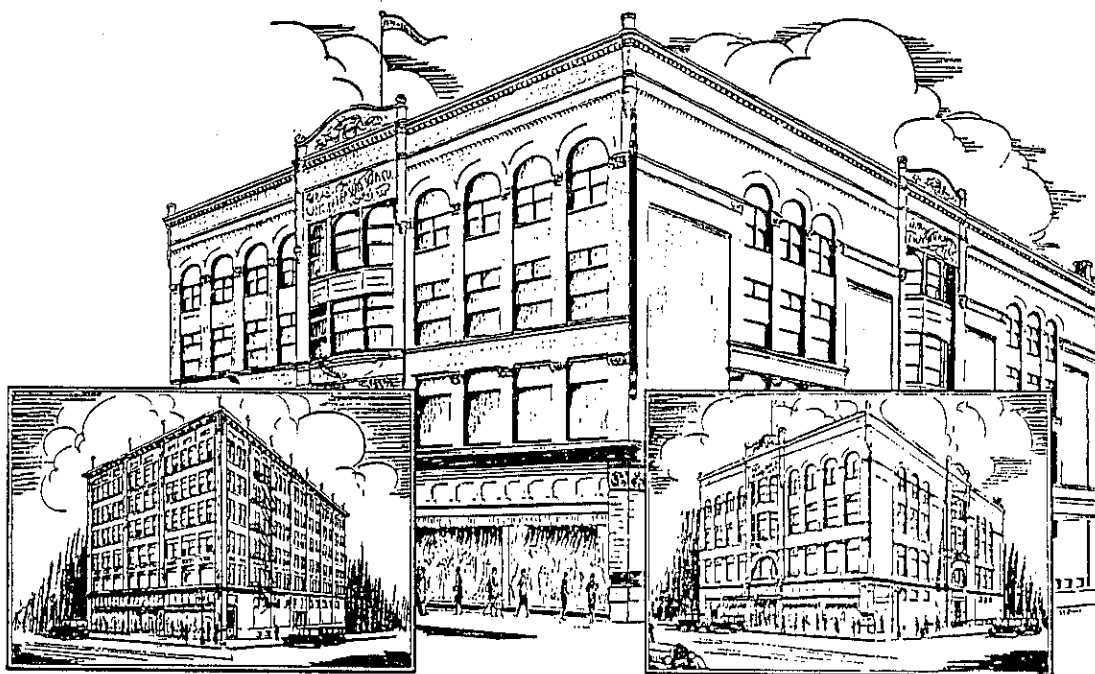
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1954 Celebrates Petersen's 82nd Anniversary



THEN 1872 NOW 1954

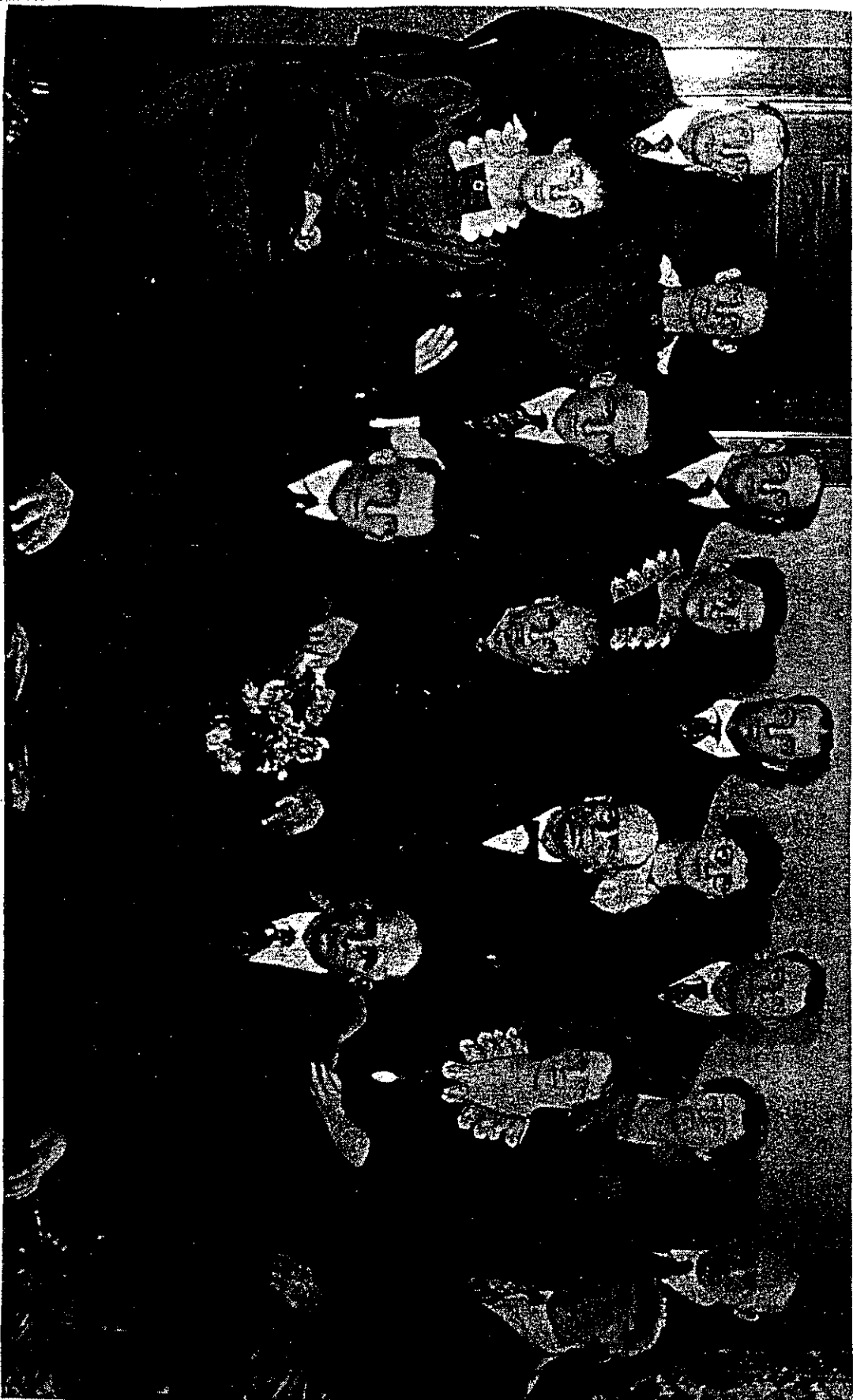
Every lasting institution is built on a firm foundation. In its 82 years Petersen-Harned-Von Maur has adhered to the ideals of its founders for truth, friendliness, fair play, good values . . . and, through the years has served more than four generations of Quad-Citians. And, so we pause to pay tribute to the vision of our founders who 'way back then lay the foundation for this greater-than-ever Petersen's of Today!

Petersen - Harned - Von Maur

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Davenport, Iowa

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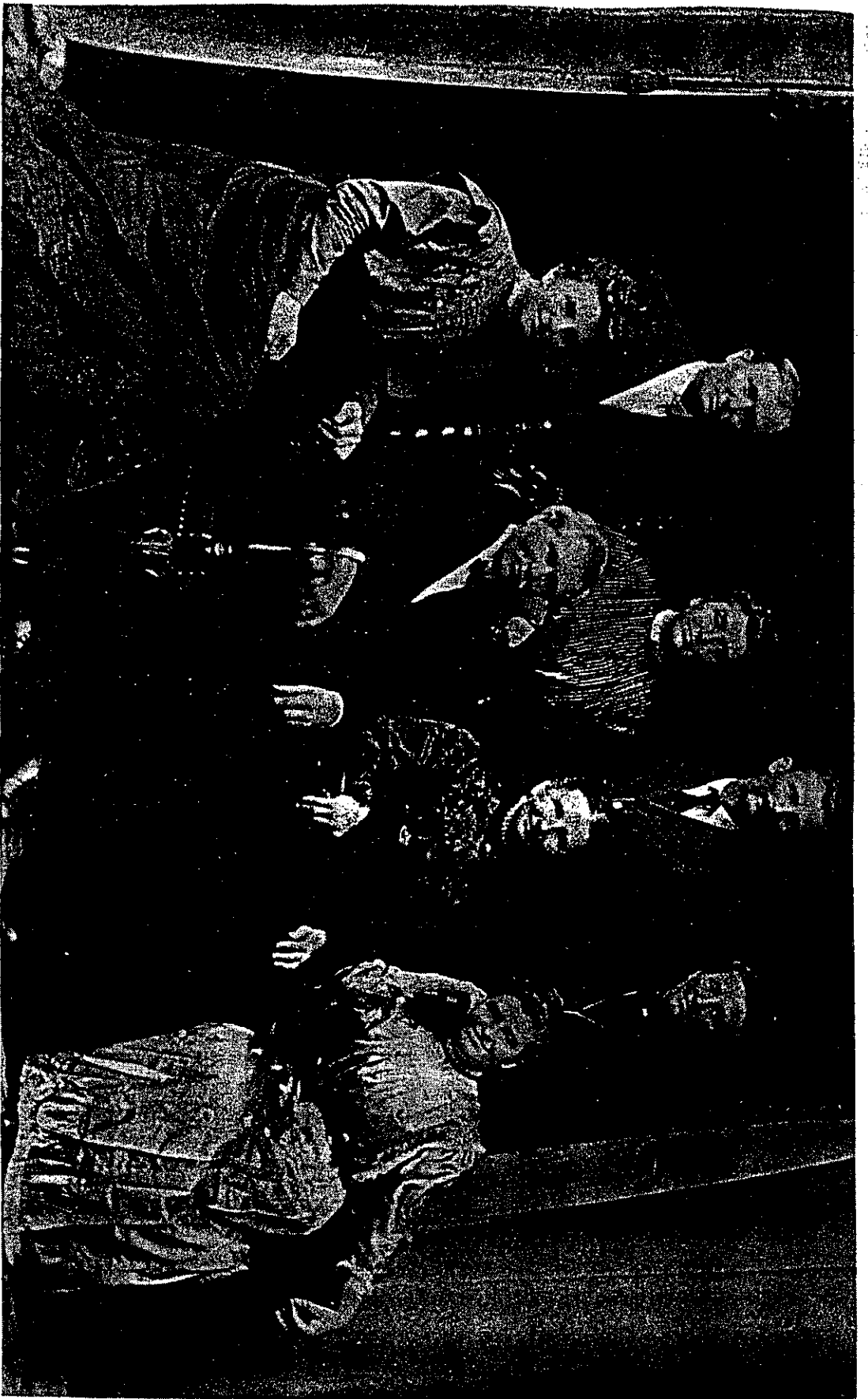


CONRAD DIETZ FAMILY
First Row: Left to Right: Emil, Phillip. Second Row: Dora, Arthur, Mrs. Dietz, Conrad Dietz, Martha, Albert. Third Row: William, Meta, Herman, Tillie, Adolph, Emma, Ben, Eda, Gus.

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JURGEN GULICK FAMILY

Seated: left to right: Mrs. Albert Hamann, Jurgens Gulick, Mrs. Jurgens Gulick, Mrs. Henry Ruwe. Standing: Henry Gulick, Mrs. Adolph Dietz, Frank Gulick, Mrs. Henry Soenke.

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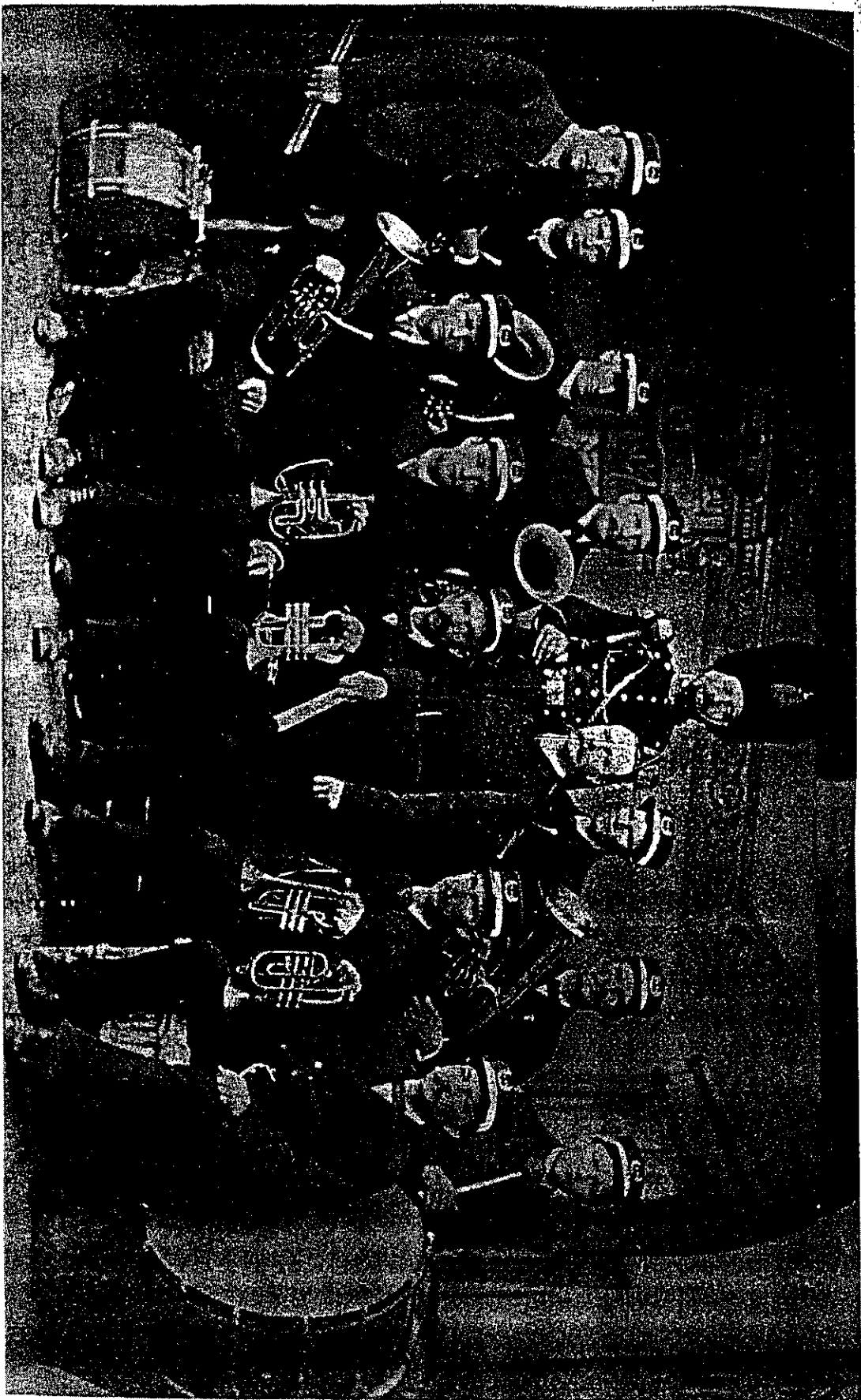
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WALCOTT BRASS BAND — 1885

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Congratulations to Walcott

WE, TOO, ARE CELEBRATING OUR CENTENNIAL

Founded 1854

Fidlar & Chambers Co.

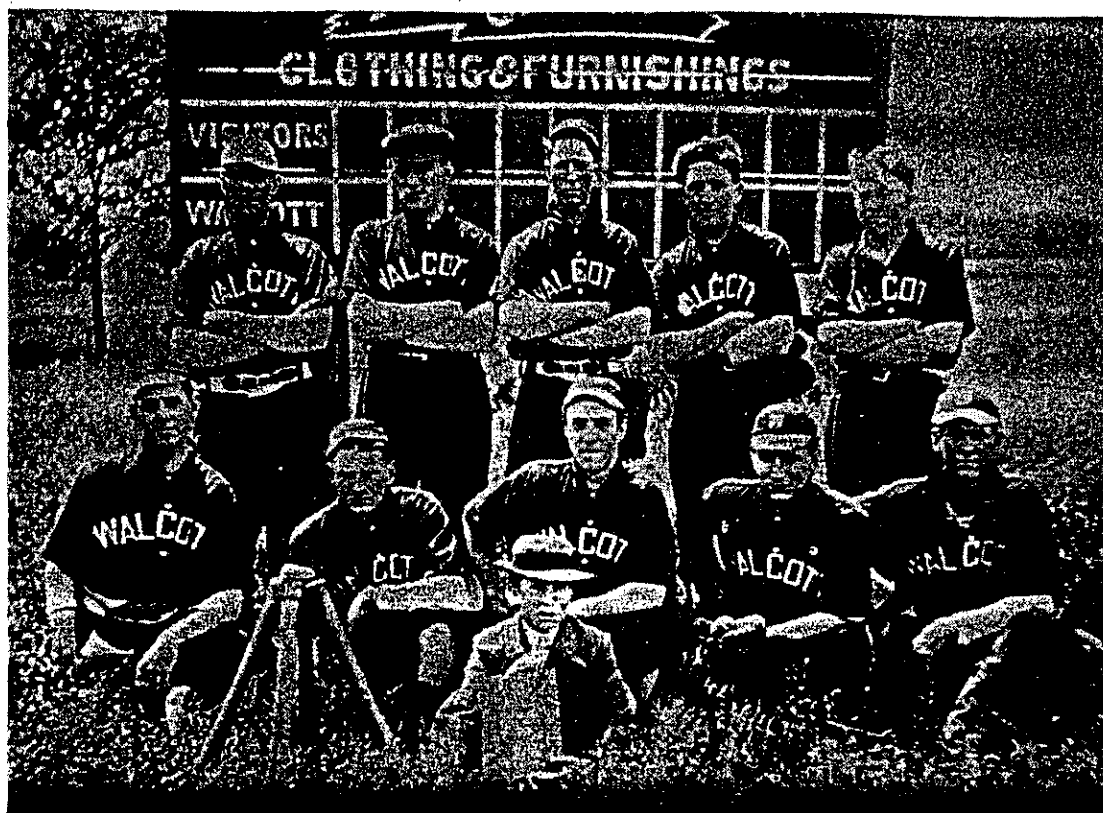
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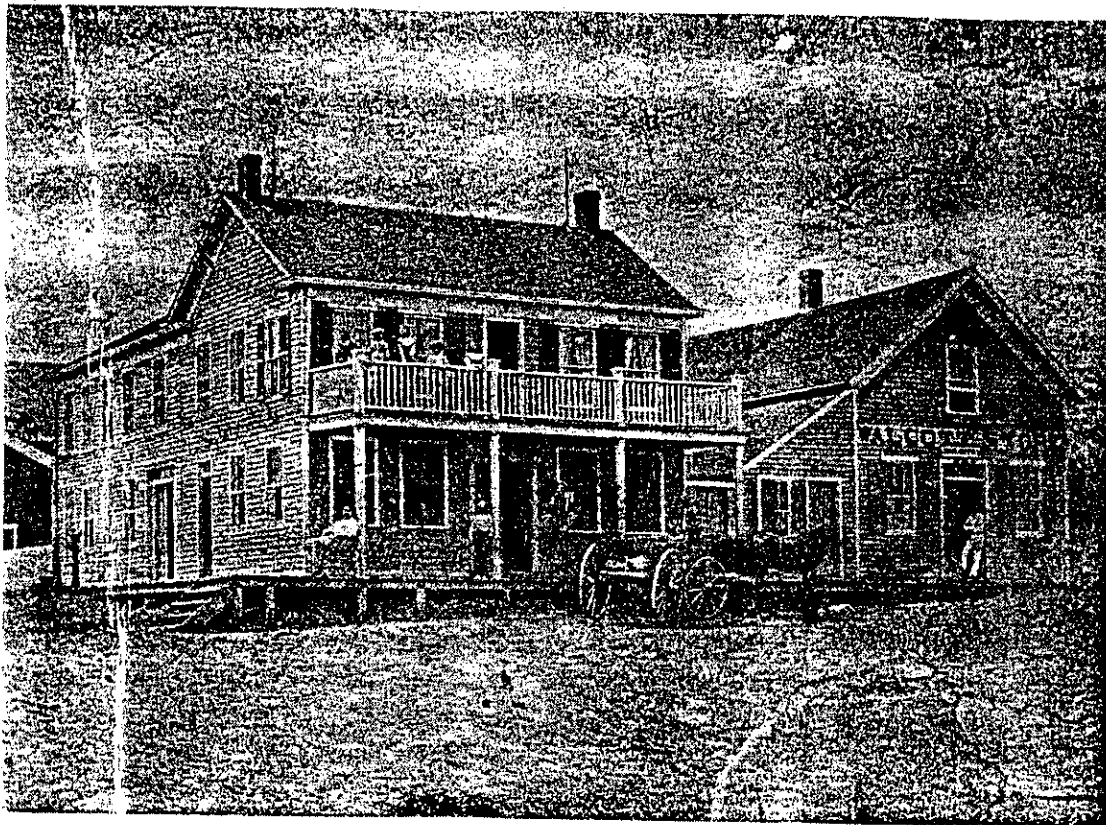
WALCOTT BASEBALL CLUB 1910 — ALL LOCAL PLAYERS



Standing Left to Right: Dave Hintz, Pitcher; Herman Steffen, 1st Base; John Griebel, C. Field; Otto Buchmeir, L. Field and Catcher; Sewell Emler, 2nd Base; Howard Rathmann, R. Field and Short Stop; Otto Kurtz, Short Stop; Emile Giese, R. Field; D. C. Camblin, 3rd Base; William Geertz, Catcher; Dick Leabo, Mascot.



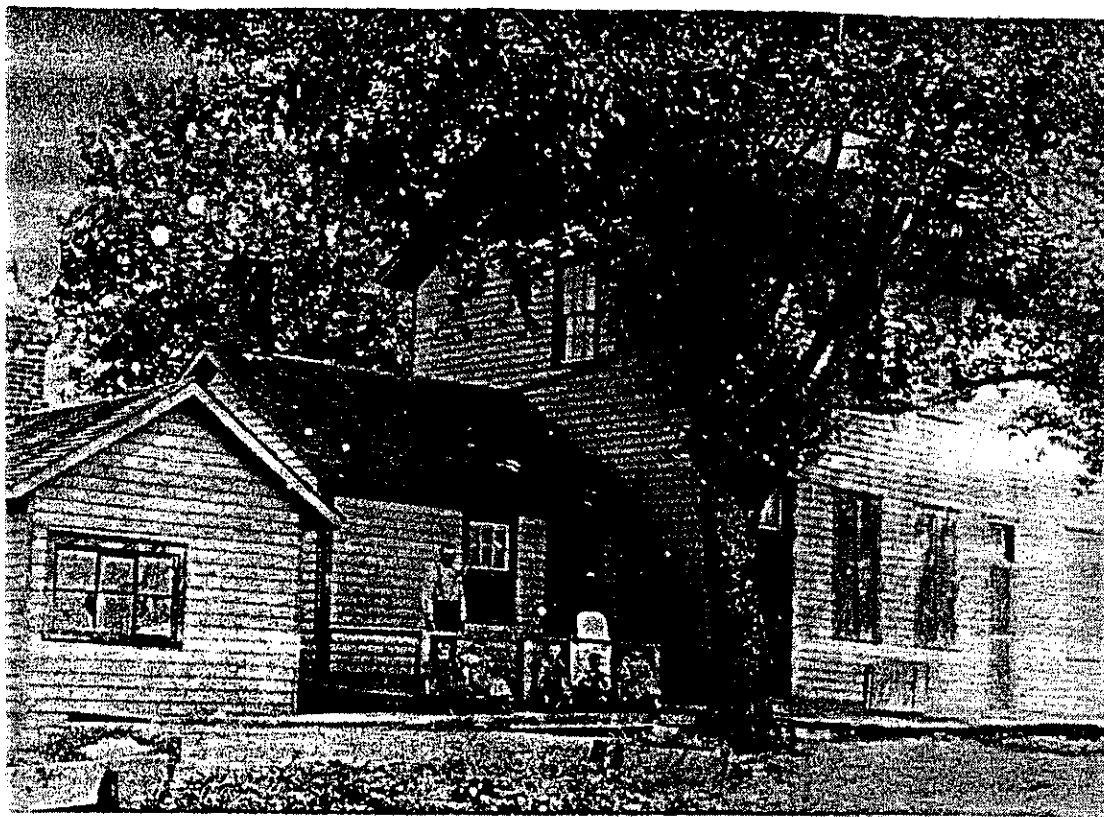
First Row, Left to Right: Howard Rathmann, Herbert Dietz. Second Row: Albert Leabo, Otto Kurtz, Sewell Emler, John Hunt, Grover Dietz, William Buemann, Walter Dietz, Chas. Beinke, Mgr.; Ed. Rathmann, Secy.; Chas. Buemann



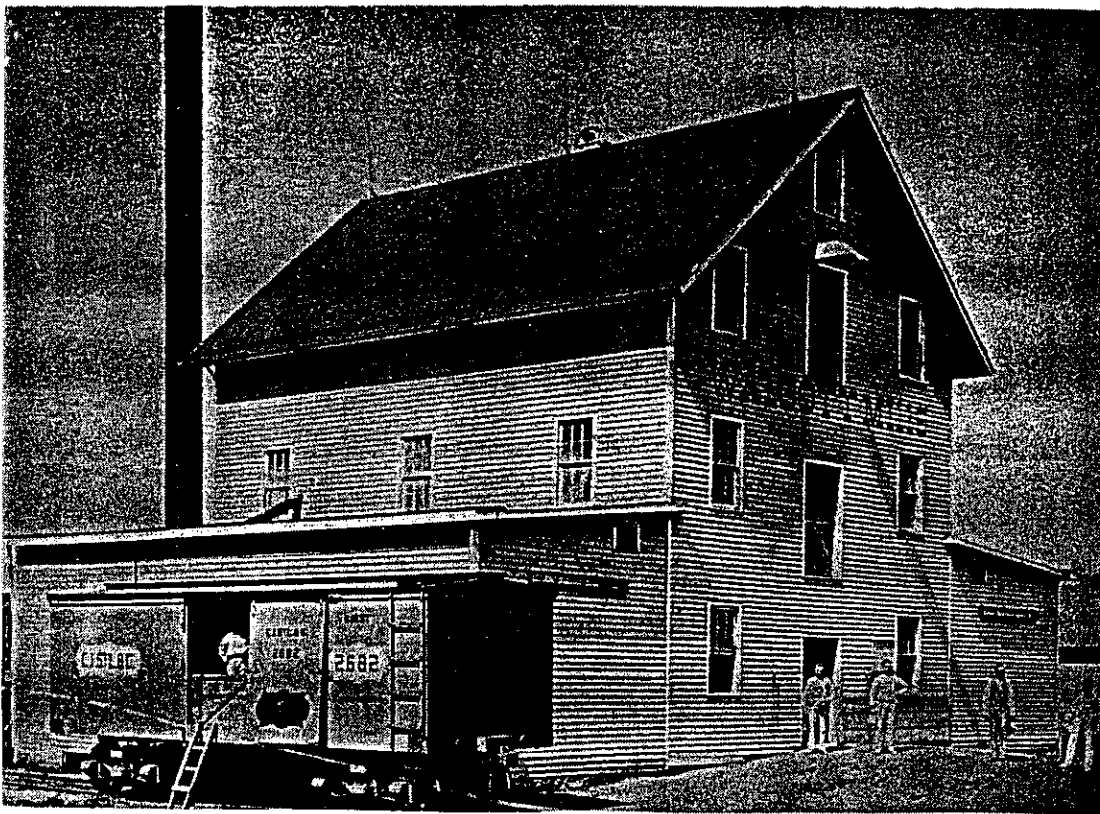
BERNHARD SCHWARTING HOTEL AND STORE — PRESENT SITE OF BANK CORNER



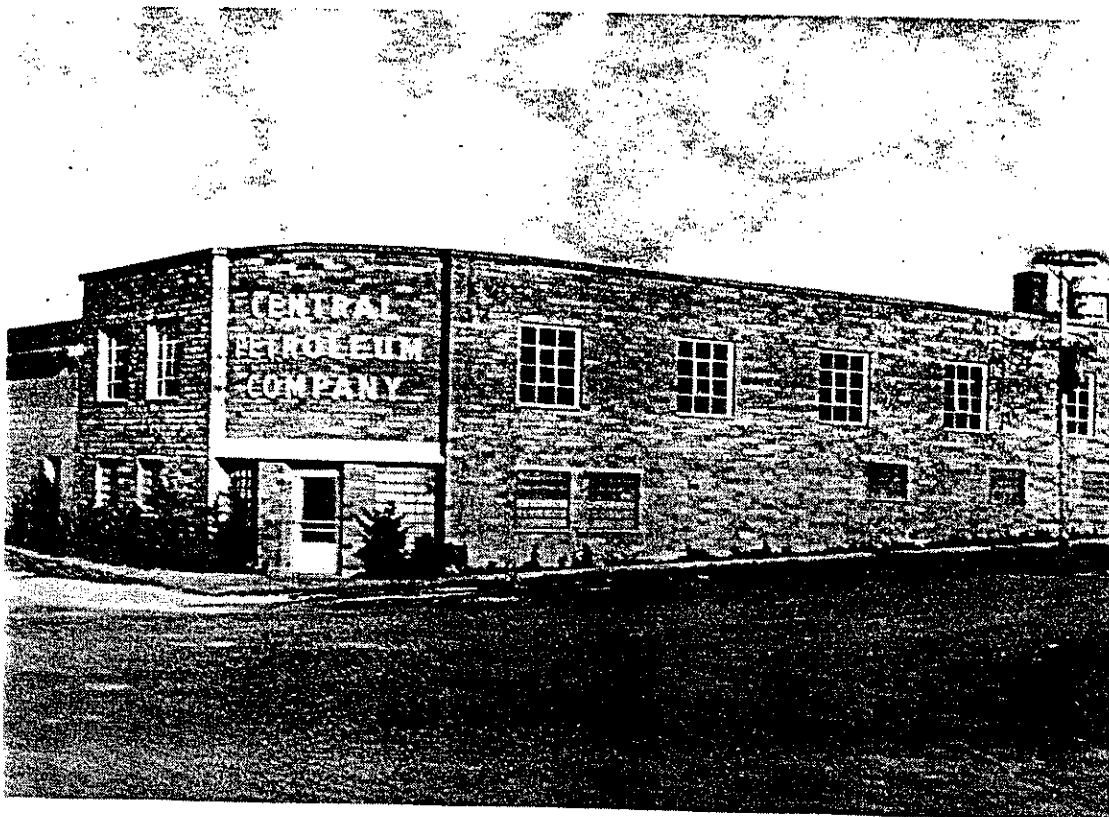
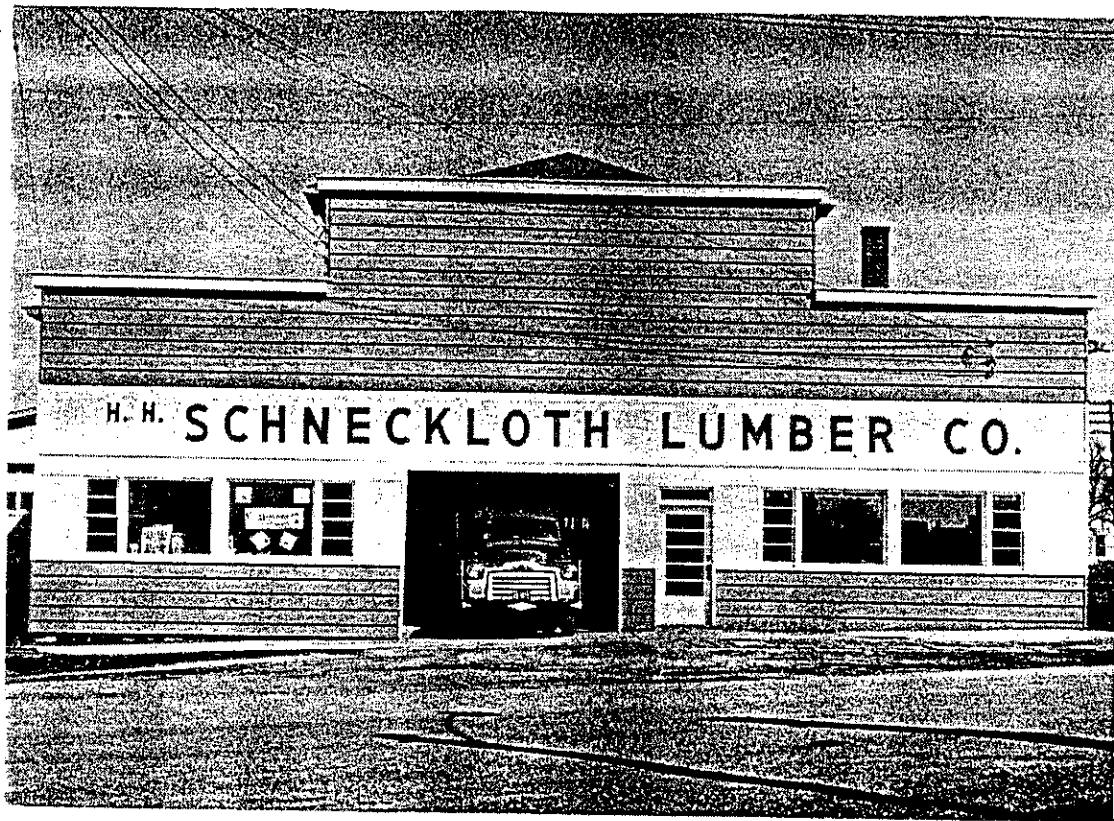
H. H. SINDT HALL — PRESENT SITE OF MORDHORST GAS STATION

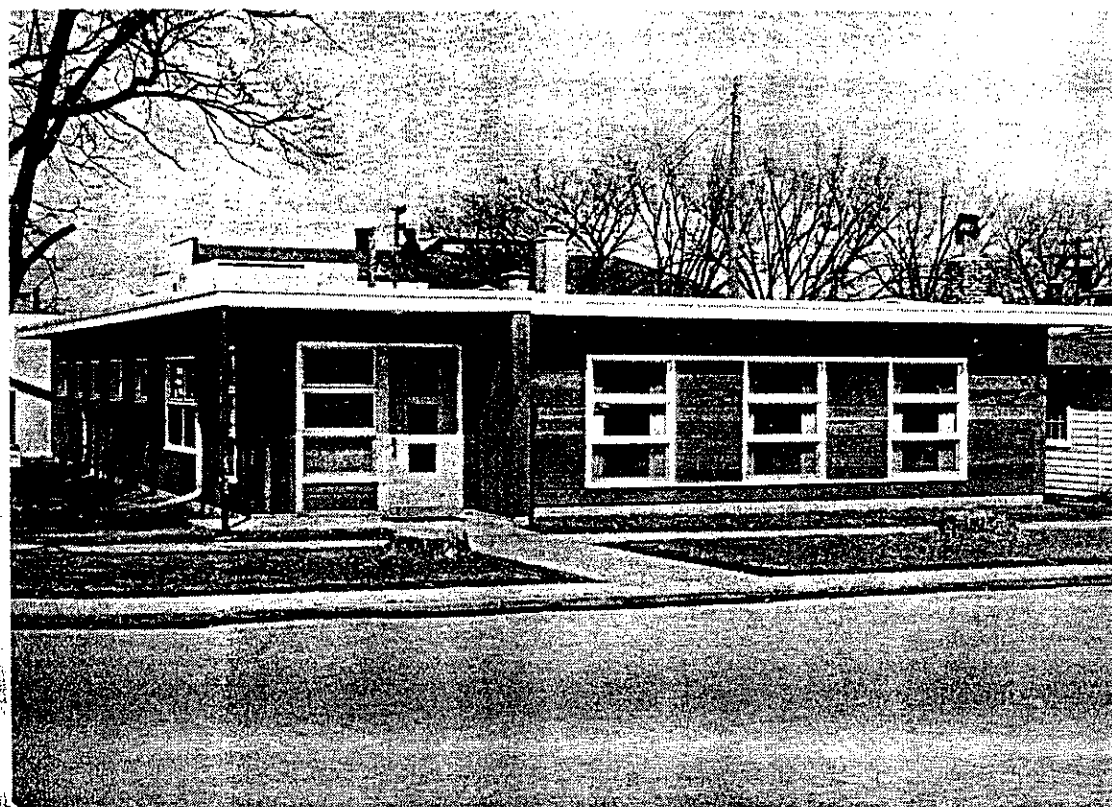
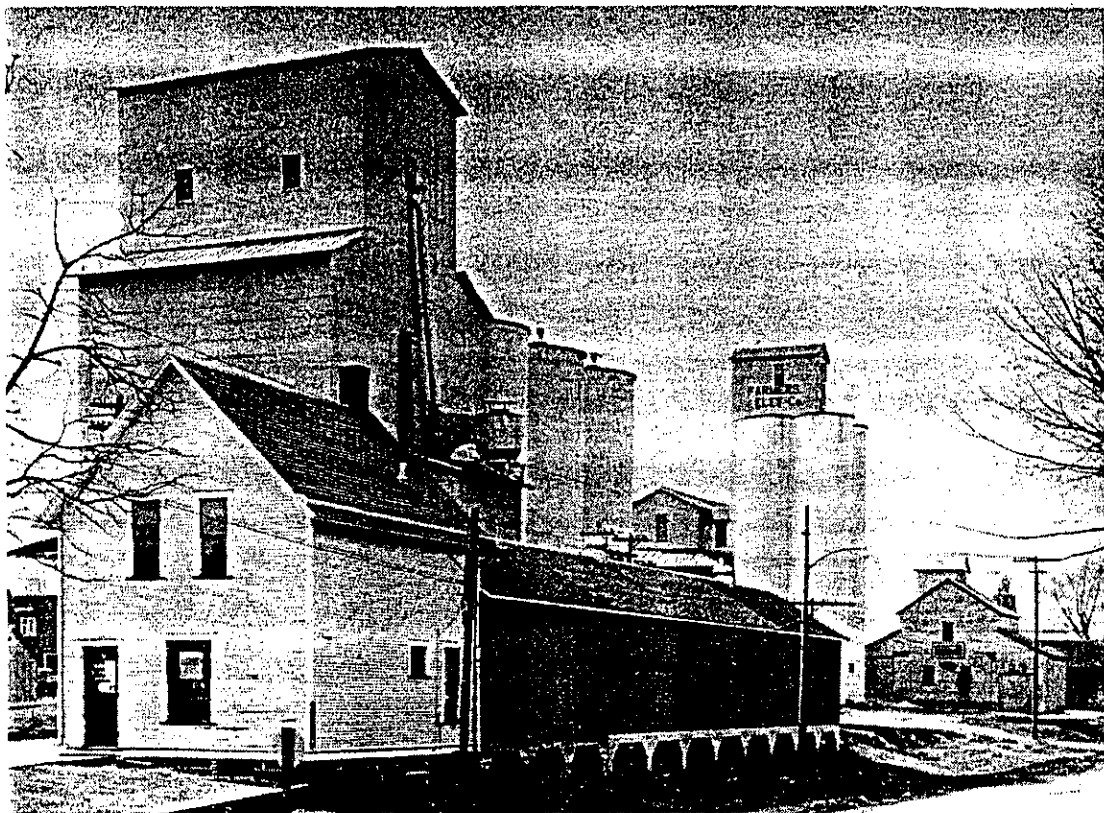


JURGEN GULCK HOME AND WEIGHING STATION — PRESENT SITE OF
CEN-PE-CO PETROLEUM CO.



BERNHARD SCHWARTING FLOUR MILL





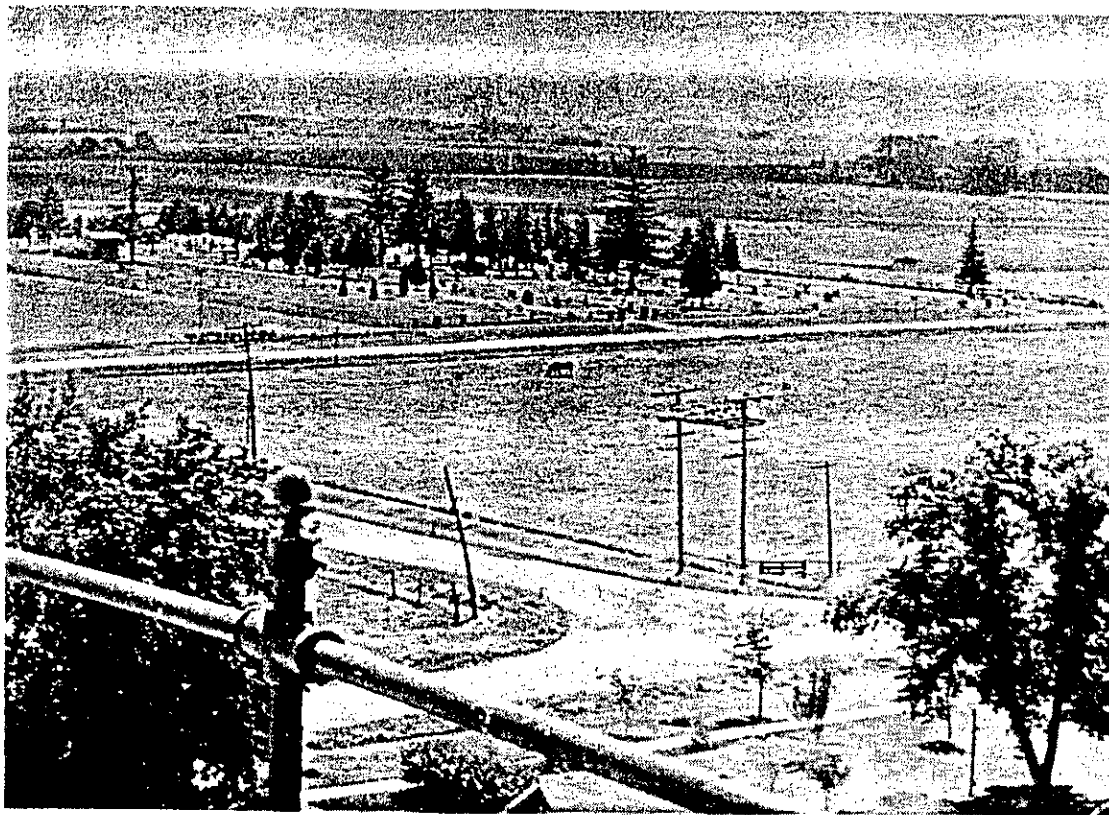
OFFICE OF DRS. SCHROEDER AND AHMANN



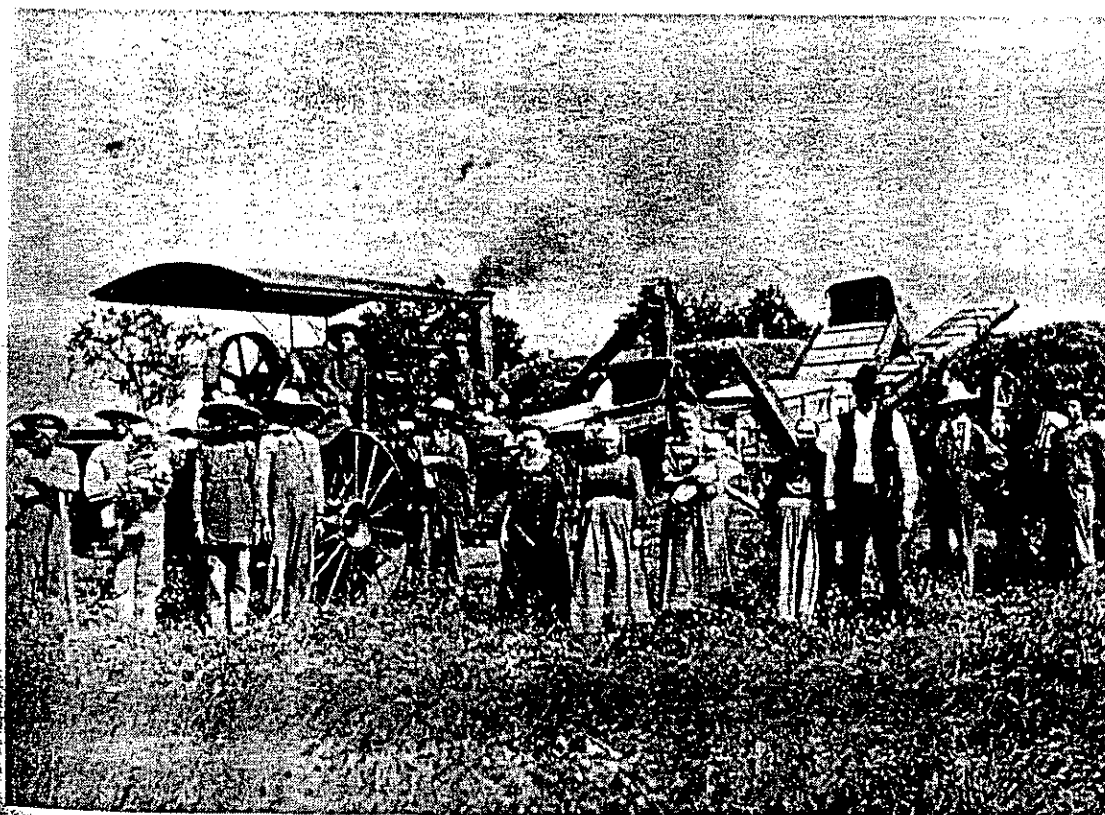
CITY HALL AND FIRE TRUCK STATION



WALCOTT SCHOOL GROUP — 1894 — YOU IDENTIFY THEM



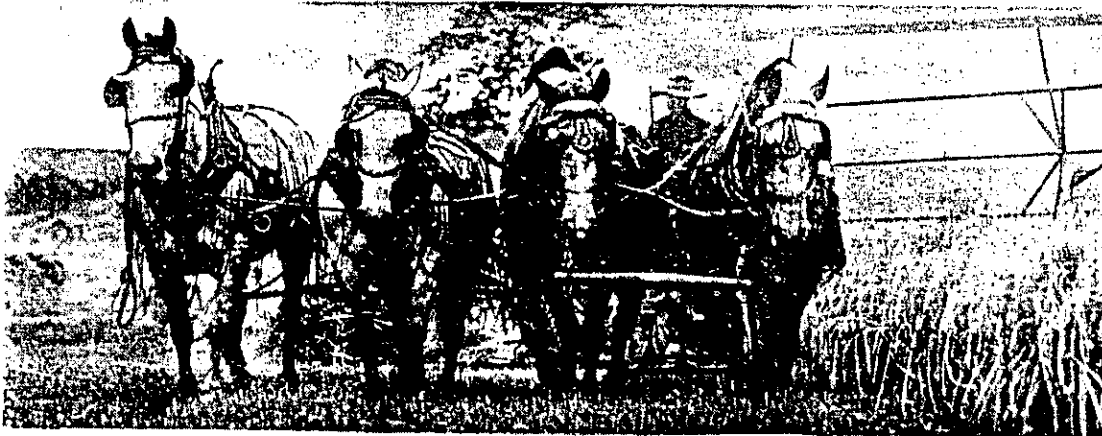
WALCOTT CEMETERY — LOOKING SOUTHWEST



THRESHING SCENE — WORK! WORK!! WORK!!!



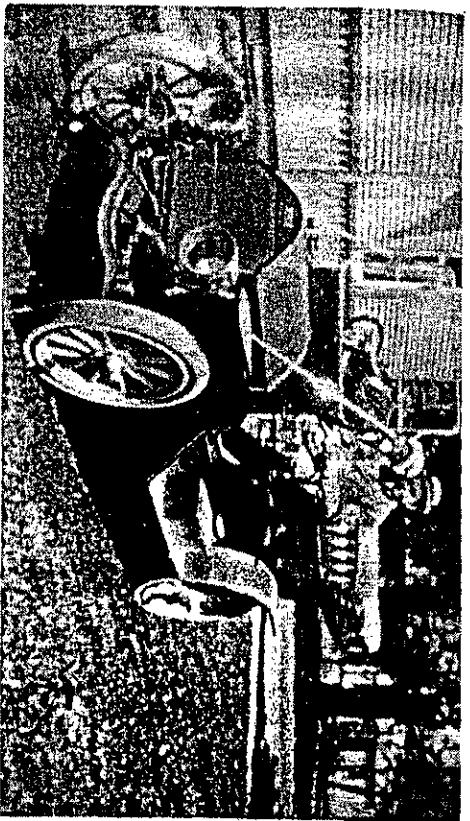
PLOWING WITH HORSE POWER



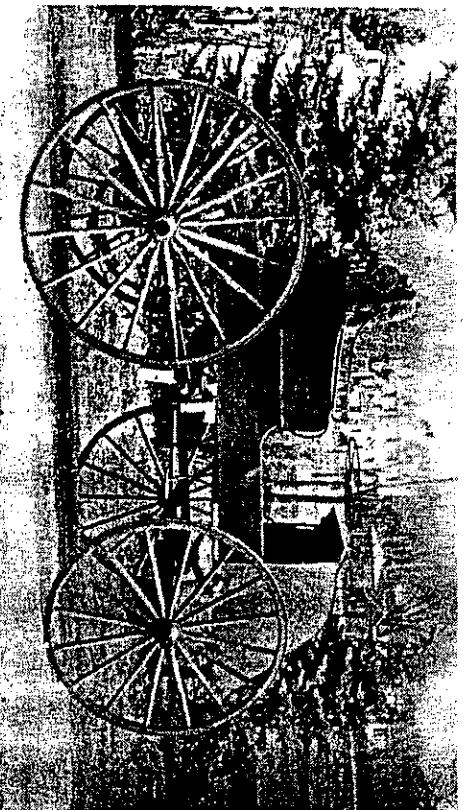
GRAINBINDER — NICE HORSES, EH?



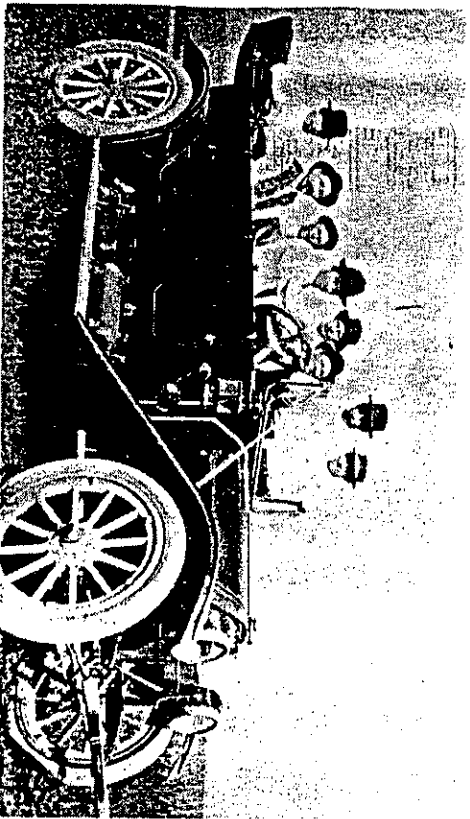
HORSE AND BUGGY DAYS



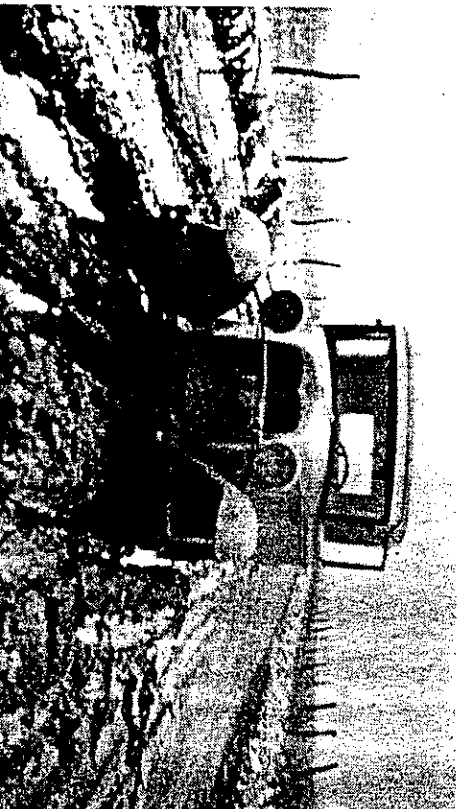
DR. CAMBLIN — 1910 INTERSTATE



DO-DO BUILT BY R. BLUEDORN — 1905



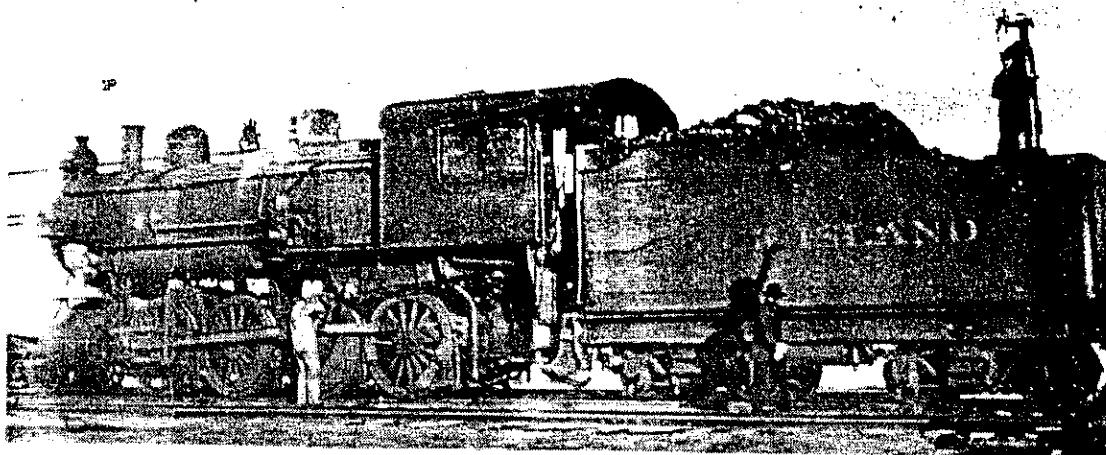
FOUR DOOR CLARK, OH BOY!



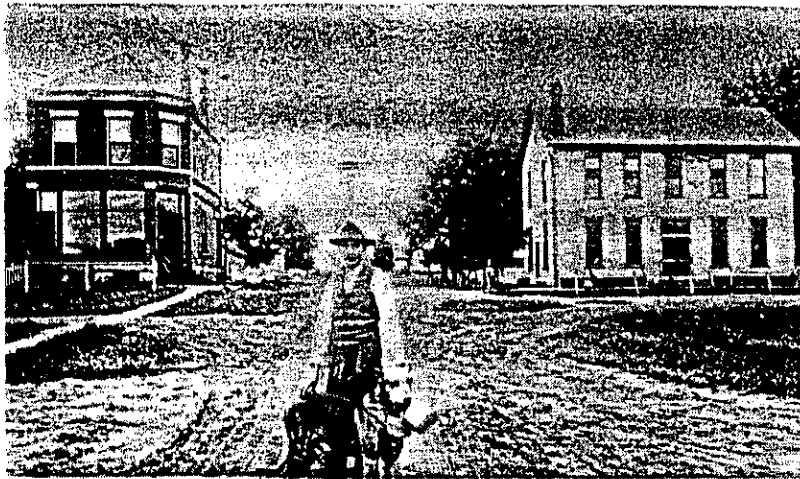
BLUEDORN — MAIL CARRIER, HELP!



COURTESY LEONARD ARP, CATTLE PRODUCER



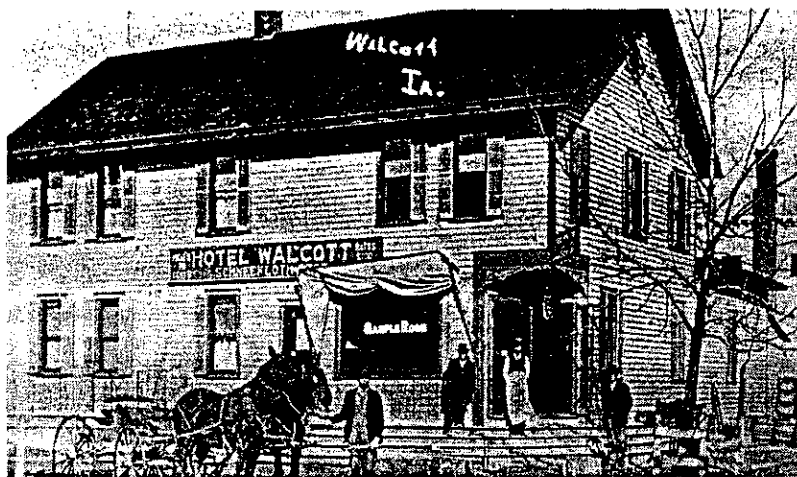
LOCOMOTIVE TAKING ON WATER



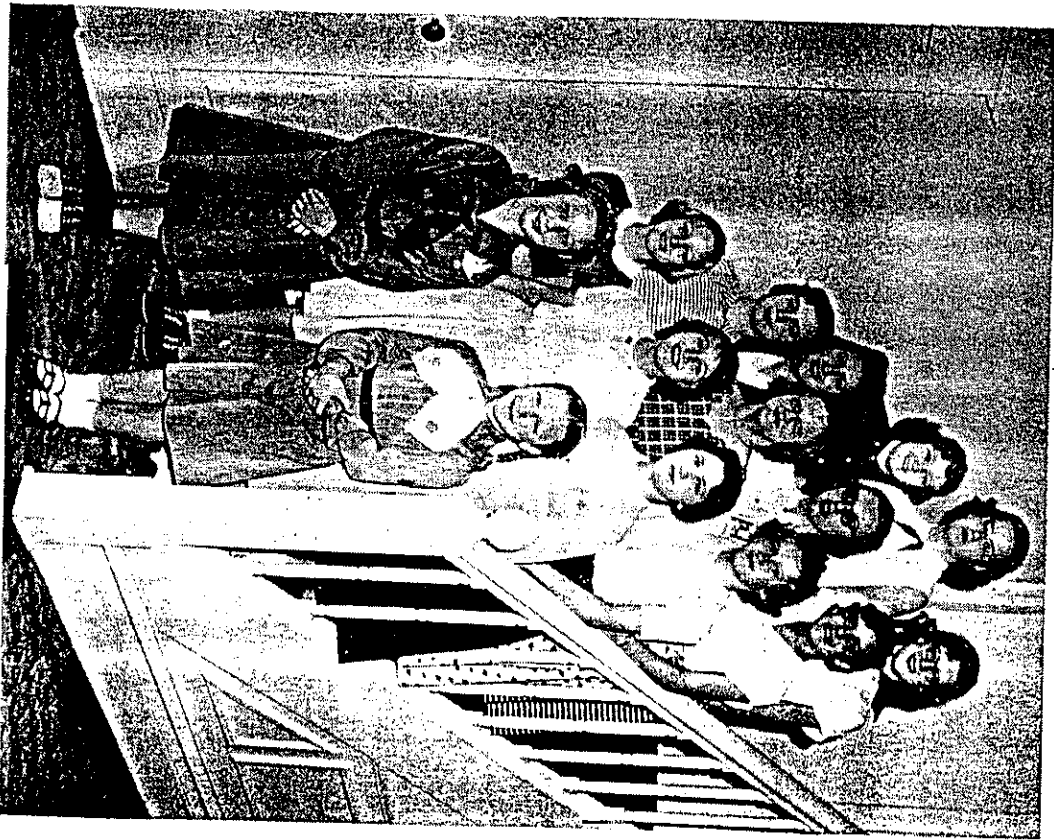
WALCOTT'S FIRST BANK AND FIRST K.P. HALL



MEALS 25c



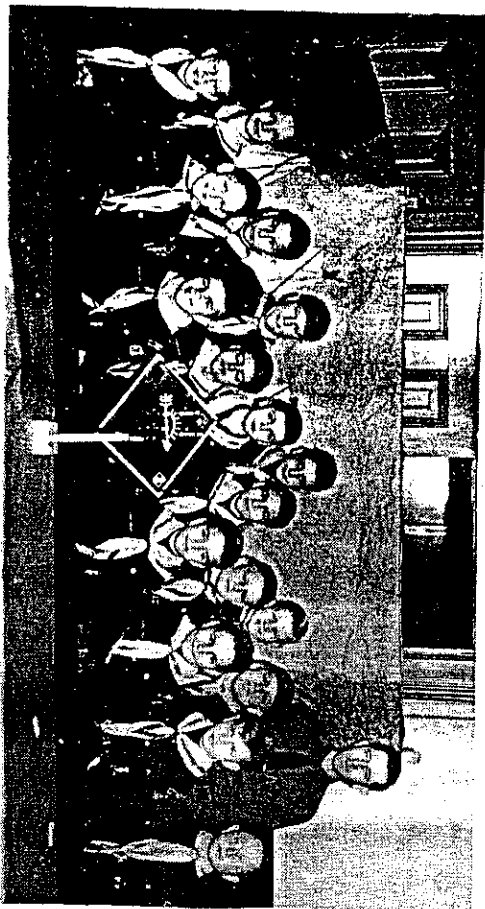
TAVERN AT PRESENT SITE OF WALCOTT BANK



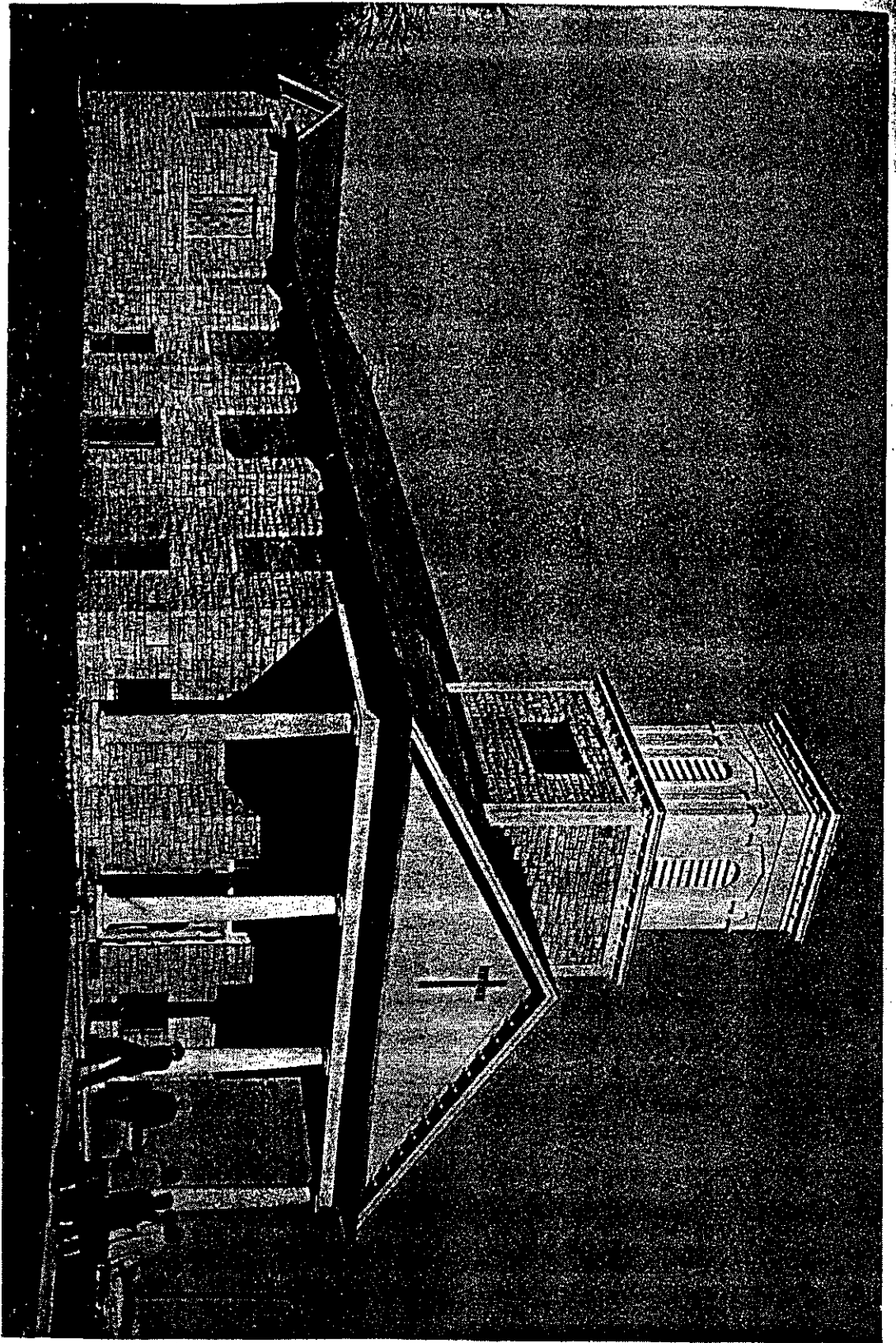
GIRL SCOUTS



BOY SCOUTS



CUB SCOUTS



CALVARY EVANGELICAL UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH — ERECTED 1953

WHISKER CLUB

The Whisker Club was self-supporting. Whisker Permits were sold to those who wished to become members. Shaving Permits to those who did not join the club. Prizes to be awarded for four style groups and four color groups.

Styles

1. Van Dyke
2. Abe Lincoln
3. Mutton Chops
4. Goatee

Color

1. Blackest
2. Whitest
3. Reddest
4. Most Mixed Colors



AL. SCHNECKLOTH



GUS HAMANN



HENRY FRISCH



LESTER MOELLER

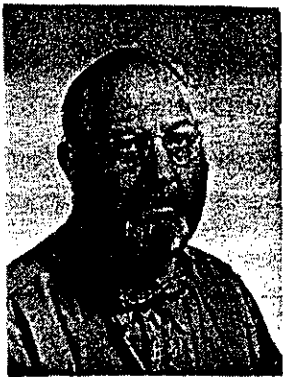


AUGIE SCHROEDER

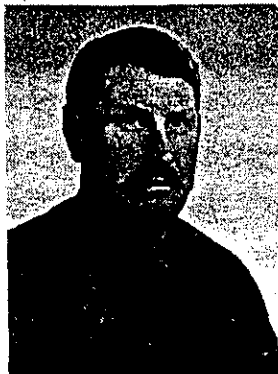


ALBERT ROEHS

WHISKER CLUB (Continued)



ALBERT HAMANN



HENRY BUESING



GLEN MOELLER



LEONARD MINNAERT



HUGO HAMANN



ALBERT RIESSEN



MELVIN ILLIAN



NYLE WEGENER



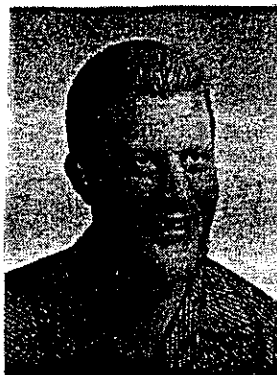
RUDOLPH WEGENER



FRED BOPP



DAROLD DIETZ



DON DENKLAU

WHISKER CLUB (Continued)



DON MORDHORST



EMMETT DIETZ



DR. CAMBLIN



LOUIS HARKSEN



WARREN DENGLER



CARL MUHS



LEO FABIAN



WILLIAM WEGENER



GENE GRADIN



STANLEY STENDER



MAX GANZER



ALLEN UNTEIDT

WHISKER CLUB (Continued)



AL WERNECKE



CLARENCE HAGEN



EARL SCHROEDER



DEE BROWN



LLOYD RIESSEN



RAY GUERINK



HORACE MUHS



HERB PETERSEN



MELVIN BRUS



MELVIN RIESSEN



BILL HOPPHAN



JIM LOVEWELL

WHISKER CLUB (Continued)



RAY MOLENSCHARDT



KEN DIETZ



KEN GILBERT



PORTER DIETZ



CLARENCE LOVEWELL



BOB SHANER



KEN TOSTENRUD

LADIES AND CHILDREN'S COSTUME SECTION

The Ladies of the Walcott Community always cooperate to the fullest extent in all Civic projects. It was largely due to their concerted efforts that the Box Supper and Dance on Foundation Day, April 8, 1954, was such a phenomenal success. Generous amounts of delicious food was packed in boxes of unique design and beautifully decorated. Bidding at the auction was fast and furious. Numerous boxes sold for sixteen dollars each.

You will see a great variety of Pioneer Costumes — Some Old — Some New. It has been said that the "Mother Hubbard" is the most practical and comfortable because it covers everything and touches nothing, except on a windy day.



Front Row, Left to Right: Mary Jo Meyer, Donna Mordhorst, Barbara Nissen, Johnny Meyer.
Back Row: Clara Mordhorst, Ruby Fabian, Pearl Blank, Jackie Schneckloth, Alma Camblin.



Carma Paustian, Lillian Dietz, Evelyn Moeller, Ella Dietz, Verna Warnecke



Mrs. LeRoy Ralfs, Mrs. Art Arp, Mrs. Karl Arp, Mrs. Edwin Ruesmann, Mrs. Henry Buesing



Mrs. Adolph Riessen, Mrs. George Riessen, Mrs. Clarence Knaack, Mrs. Herman Brandt,
Mrs. Clarence Rice



Mrs. Kelmeith Schaeffer, Mrs. Elmer Puck, Mrs. Ken Dietz, Mrs. Emmett Dietz,
Mrs. Herb Petersen



Mrs. Clarence Hagen, Mrs. Harvey Bluedorn, Mrs. Hugo Stender, Mrs. Stan Stender,
Mrs. Rudolph Wegener



Mrs. Warren Dengler, Mrs. Eugene Bernick, Mrs. Henry Delf, Mrs. Melvin Illian,
Mrs. Charles Evens



Children — Unidentified

