

1909 News

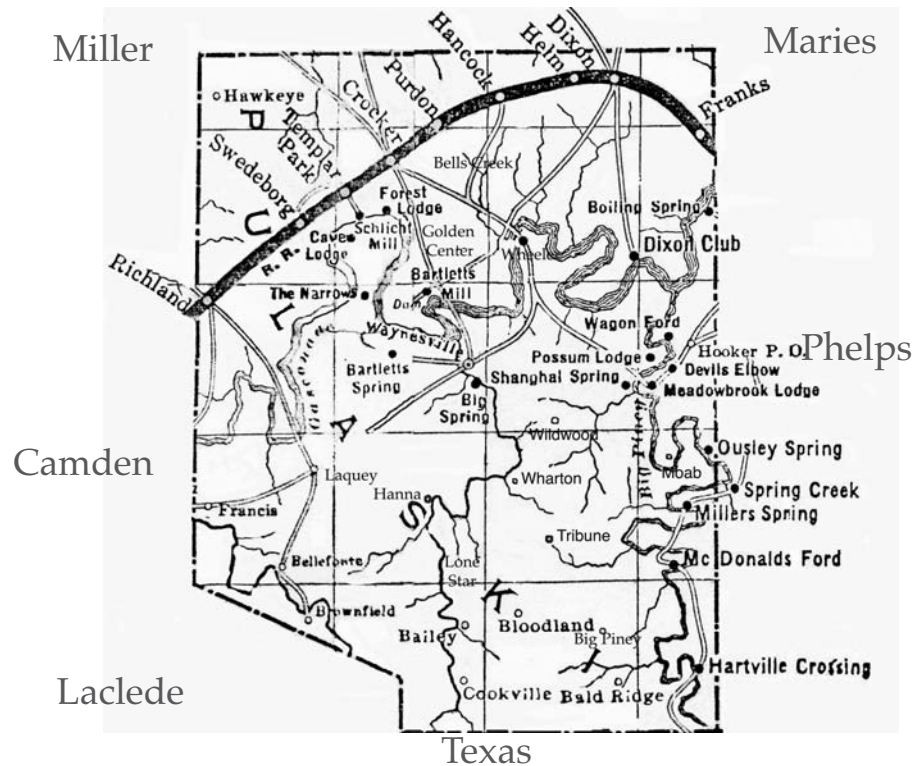
IN OLD PULASKI

The Pulaski County news of one hundred years ago had a few firsts. The first account of an automobile in Waynesville was published August 27. That same week, a hot air balloon landed in John Riddle's corn field near present day Riddle Bridge over the Gasconade south of Dixon. In September, the correspondent from Schlicht reported that an airship passed over the resort area at 8 p.m. in the evening. This would have been around dusk and many attest to seeing its light.

The very contentious topic of adopting a stock law prohibiting the roaming of cattle, horses, and pigs, which had raged in the newspapers for the past several years, all but disappeared in 1909. Instead, prohibition was gaining traction as a social controversy.

We have included as much Bloodland news of interest to supplement the article on that community that begins on page .

The year locally was marked by general financial stability and a feeling of progress. Business expanded and several constructed new buildings of brick, block, and concrete. Construction of city and residential sidewalks of concrete, often called granitoid, were noted. The City of Waynesville purchased the Roubidoux or Big Spring in 1909.



The newspapers had a network of community correspondents. Each correspondent reported who was sick, who visited whom, who sold what, and what was being built. This type of news accounted for about 90 per cent of the local news ink. We have generally omitted the sick call and the visitation reports. The larger railroad towns (Dixon, Crocker, and Richland) usually reported each week. News from the smaller communities (e.g. Big Piney, Decker, Bailey, and Hooker) was reported sporadically. Some of these communities in Pulaski County have lost their identity today for the general public (see map at left). The items below are from the 1909 *Pulaski County Democrat*, unless noted otherwise.

January 1, 1909

BIG PINEY—F. M. Braiser was married on the 20th to a Miss Ellen Bray and the boys gave him the usual visit. [*This refers to the charivari (shivaree) where neighbors greet newlyweds by banging pots and pans on their first night.*]

Our mill man, Mr. Marlow, is manufacturing meal, flour and lumber. He has put in a new 55 inch saw.

Rev. Watts filled the stand here Saturday and Sunday with a good attendance and good attention.

BLOODLAND—Bloodland celebrated Xmas with a rough house and the prosecuting attorney will have to help settle the trouble. Glad to report that the disturbance was not caused by our town boys.

Dick and Frank Brown have ornamented and greatly improved their part of town by putting in a new sidewalk.

GASCONADE—J. H. Baker is working on the new bridge at the mouth of Bear Creek. [*Pulaski County started construction on two new bridges in 1908, with the approaches being completed in 1909. See the pictorial, "Bridges of Pulaski County," in the 2008 Gazette. It is available online at www.oldstagecoachstop.org.*]

GOSPEL RIDGE—The Christmas tree and the box supper at Rigsby school house Thursday night was quite a success. There were about twenty boxes and they were sold to the highest bidder. A nice sum was realized.

SCHLICHT—The article in the Crocker news in regard to the farmers' friends,

the quail, is well worth reading, but just as bad as the Pot or City hunter are our eagles, hawks, and foxes. The county court ought to pay a bounty for the destruction of them.

January 8

BLOODLAND—A few have went in and paid their fines to the J. P. for their Xmas row.

Will and Sam Cunningham have lumber on the ground for the erection of a hardware store.

LOCAL—J. M. Long is having the old ice house remodeled preparatory to harvesting the ice crop and if this zero weather continues he will certainly have the chance to do so. [*In the days before electric- powered refrigeration, ice was cut from ponds and sloughs in the winter and hauled to ice houses. These ice houses were usually partly underground or dug into a hillside. The ice blocks were covered with straw and/or sawdust, which provided insulation. The ice would remain frozen through the summer months.*]

January 15

HANCOCK—The Woodmen Lodge will give an oyster supper at this place the 3d. Saturday night in this month. Everybody invited. [*The Modern Woodmen of America was one of the many fraternal and social organizations in Pulaski and surrounding counties. Some of the smallest communities had Woodmen lodges. See pages 4-5.*]

LOCAL—Tuesday morning the thermometer registered 20 degrees below

zero and an 18 inch snow on the ground. Traffic has been somewhat delayed on account of the depth of the snow.

The I. O. O. F. Encampment lodge at this place expect to have a big time on their regular meeting night, the 4th Saturday in January, when they will initiate 12 of the Crocker brethren into the mysteries of the degree and a feast will be spread afterwards. A full attendance is expected. [*The Oddfellows was another widespread fraternal organization.*]

SCHLICHT—At this cold snowy weather is the time when some of our so-called hunters slaughter the quail while they huddle together, one of those hoboos will fire into them with a gun loaded to the muzzle with shot. Our Legislature ought to pass a law against all such. Protect the birds, the farmers friends.

If you require food for thought, go to the public library and get a free lunch.

January 22

WHARTON—Well, this looks more like Christmas than Christmas itself. Our pleasant and agreeable mail carrier, Frank Gan, has been considerably delayed in making time the past week on account of the deep snow. Although he has been on the road every day.

BIG PINEY—Sherman Page, who is teaching the Rigsby school, visited home folks at New Town Saturday night. [*New Town was a local name for the village of Big Piney.*]

TRIBUNE—The Union school literary

met last Friday evening; the subject for the debate was, resolved, That the negro has more cause to complain at the treatment he received at the hand of the white man than the Indian. Decision for negative.

LOCAL—When a home talent entertainment is announced in Waynesville everybody and the dog turns out, because there is no doubt but that something will be doing well worth while. The opening performance of the Dramatic Club Friday evening was no exception to the rule. "In the Spider's Web" was presented to a large and appreciative audience. Everything went thru like clockwork and each member of the cast represented the character in a most creditable manner. Of course, we are all looking forward to No. 2. [*To help pass long winter months, the citizens not only participated in the activities of many fraternal/social organizations, they also participated in literary and debating societies which met in even the small communities. The larger communities also supported dramatic clubs. The January production of "In a Spider's Web" by the Dramatic Club of Waynesville was performed in the new Long Hall, on the second floor of Long's new concrete block hardware. It was located on the south side of the square, across from the courthouse, and was being renovated until worked stopped last year. It is just a few doors down from the present Pulaski Fine Arts Association theater. Whether it planned to or not, the PFSA is carrying on a 19th century tradition of*]

amateur theatrics in the town. Admission to the 1909 production was 10c, 20c, and 25c for the best seats. Despite the eighteen inches of snow, a sizable audience turned out for the play.]

BAILEY—The question of Discussion at our literary Friday night is “That Foreign Immigration should be prohibited.”

Our friend, the Schlicht correspondent, is awake to the necessity of protecting the quail and why not include our other little feathered songsters which are also insectivorous birds. Where are the robins, the red bird, the blue bird and many other kind that used to protect our crops, orchards and gardens? The plumage of millions of them have been used to decorate the ladies hats and many who have not been satisfied to wear a part of the plumage. The writer has seen them wearing the whole bird. Many states are legislating against the slaughter of the birds and we feel sure that our Representative, Mr. Johnson, will stand by us in our plea to spare them.

January 29

TRIBUNE—The protracted meeting is to begin at Rolling Heath Monday night. Chas. Manes has been circulating a petition for a rural route out of Swedeborg and has over 100 names on the petition so far, with many more yet to sign. This will mean a great advantage to the farmers generally.

LOCAL—Perry E. Davis of Dixon, MO purchased the S. B. Bryant farm of 600 acres on the west side of the Gasconade river in Phelps county last week. The consideration was \$15,000. Mr. Davis also bought \$1500 worth of live stock. This is one of the biggest real estate sales made for some time in this county (from the Rolla New Era.) *[This computes to \$25 per acre overall. Jaretta Laughlin told us in 1991 that the way you sold land in the old days was to agree on a price per acre for the good bottomland of a farm and the hillside timber land was just thrown in.]*

February 6

BLUE SPRINGS *[Shanghai Springs today]*—Johnnie Helm got cut on the head by a log rolling on him last Thursday while out with his father making ties. Dr. Sell attended and took seven stitches on his head.

SWEDEBORG—Seth Manes and family returned to Grandin, Mo. Saturday after a months visit with parents. *[We print this item to point out that quite a few local men were working at the huge lumber mill in Grandin, Carter County. The 1908 Democrat ran ads calling for men to work at the mill and, apparently, Seth Manes and family answered.]*

DIXON—Eggs sold in Dixon Monday at 36c a dozen.

LOCAL—The recent financial depression, with its resultant scarcity of work

in cities and manufacturing centers is having the effect of bringing workers back to the farm, and this is a good thing. The lack of farm helpers has been a serious problem all over the country, and a changed order of things will be very welcome. *[This is a reference to the Panic of 1907. The stock market sagged 50%, there were runs on banks, and a recession followed. The financial downturn cooled the economy through much of 1908.]*

J. W. Cowan was over from the Wheeler neighborhood in the interest of the new church that is to be built at Antioch cemetery. We are authorized to announce that there will be a meeting at Racket school house Saturday night Feb. 6, for the purpose of appointing trustees to make the deed of the lot to. Let every citizen who is interested be on hand on this date that will help to push the enterprise along. The proposed church is to be Union. If there is a locality on God's green earth that needs a church it is the neighborhood of Antioch and if there is no “kick comin” the church will be built. Let every one help along.

GOLDEN CENTER—There has been a new Telephone Co. organized in these parts, known as the Golden Center Telephone Co. The officers elected were as follows: L. F. Walters, pres.; W. W. Lee, Secretary and manager; Mose Ray, Treasurer.

February 12

CROCKER—The play “Under the Laurels” was performed Saturday night. The young people of Crocker deserve praise for their good work and manner in which this play was rendered.

A company is being organized in Dixon for the purpose of developing some lead mines near Newburg. They have leased some land and will begin work at once. P. W. Peterson is to be manager. *[See sidebar next page.]*

LOCAL—Don't forget that the Crocker Reaper will present their drama, Under the Laurels, at the Long Hall next Thursday evening. From all reports it will be a rare treat. *[We haven't often read of a local thespian group taking their show on the road in the county.]*

WHARTON—They are having a splendid “old time” revival at Rolling Heath now.

February 19

LOCAL—The play given at the Opera House *[seems a fancier name has been given to Long Hall on the corner of Benton and Commercial (now Historic Route 66)]* last evening by the Crocker Reaper Society was pronounced a success in every particular by those who had the pleasures of attending. The performers played their parts well and showed ability and careful training. The scenery was fine, as good as you will see in City play houses. They were

Bank of Crocker

St. John's

given a good house the receipts amounting to \$34.

One ordinance made by our City Council that had been badly neglected was put into operation this week by Marshal Frank Rayl—the ordinance forbidding the obstruction of sidewalks. This will be a great convenience to pedestrians besides it adds greatly to the appearance of commercial row and our business men take too much pride in our little village to complain at anything that would be to the improvement of the town. The only harm done is to the street loafer.

February 26

Miss Addie Christeson gave to her girl friends a "dove party" on last Monday night. Owing to the evening being quite stormy, not many of the lasses were out. However, a few of the old maids who claim to be about "sweet sixteen" congregated at Miss Addie's home and bemoaned their fate—that they had let leap year go by and no husband spoke for. At last it was decided they would cut a fine cake which had been prepared for the occasion and a gold ring concealed therein, the one who drew the ring was said to get married first. Miss Anna Anderson, it was discovered, held the lucky piece of cake, and we expect soon to hear of her engagement. Taking it all in all it was one of the most pleasant evenings of a life time.

Onewhowasthere.

March 4

Beaver Chuch Being Built.

A. A. Lewis was in Rolla last Saturday. Mr. Lewis has been taking an active part in raising funds and taking contributions of various kinds for building a church at Beaver cemetery. In speaking of the work, Mr. Lewis said the house was up and about enclosed and that they hoped to have same in readiness for holding services in the near future. Mr. Lewis said that all the neighbors had been very liberal in their contributions and all were giving a helping hand in doing the work. [They had sufficient funds by subscription, between \$75-\$100, to get them started.]

March 5

Editor Democrat:

The house bill providing for County school supervision came up last week for engrossment which caused quite a spirited contest between the friends and the opponents of the bill. About fifteen different amendments were offered and voted down, except two. One of the amendments adopted requires the state to pay \$400 of the Superintendent's salary; his salary in Pulaski County would be \$800.

The qualifications of the Superintendent as required in the original bill was that he should hold a diploma from one of the state normals or teacher colleges or the state university

of a life certificate from the state superintendent of schools. This provision of the bill was amended by inserting "or a first grade certificate from the county superintendent." This amendment does not suit the University people for they wanted to disqualify our country boys and teachers unless they were graduates of one of the state schools. I am against all such measures.

Another bill came up for engrossment that caused considerable discussion: it is the Crow bill, not Jim Crow, which authorizes the county court of each county to pay any person ten cents for each crow scalp, when as many as five scalps are produced at one time. From hearing a good many discuss the matter, I am led to believe that the appropriations for several of the state institutions will be considerably reduced from what they have been heretofore, especially state schools. The State University is very modest this time and is asking for only \$1,600,000. This amount divided among the 114 counties in the state would give to each \$11,666 enough to establish a high school in each county.

The 45th General Assembly decided last week that it has no members with sense enough to revise the statutes and have employed the West Publishing Co. of St. Paul to do the work; the state is to pay this Company \$25,500 to compile and reclassify the statutes, and also the state is to pay six Missouri lawyers \$10 per day to help do their work. About 30 of us democrats in the house were foolish enough to believe that we could do this work and that we were sent here for that purpose and hence voted against the proposition to give a party outside the state \$25,500 to do what we are paid to do.

I can think of nothing more to write at this time. Regards to all. Respectfully,

J. L. Johnson.



J. L. Johnson, an orphan raised by Solomon Bartlett, was State Representative in 1905-06 and again in 1909-1910. He also served five terms as Pulaski County's Prosecuting Attorney. He owned the Old Stagecoach Stop from 1890 until 1894 and renamed it the Johnson House. It was originally called the Waynesville House.

LOCAL—Ex-Sheriff A. D. Sutton informs us that he will move to his farm next week and settle down to private life. He left \$3 to have his subscription and his address will be Hanna in the future. [Dotson Sutton did not run for reelection as Sheriff but his deputy, Lee Baker, did and won the election. Baker, who was in the livery and hotel business, was trying to sell his livery and stable operation, probably assuming he would be too busy to operate the horse enterprises.]

The play entitled "Out in the Streets" that was given under the auspices of the B.Y.P.U. and the supper given Saturday evening by the Ladies Aid Society of the Baptist church, were well patronized and highly enjoyed by every one who was in attendance. A neat sum of \$39 was realized for the church. [Yet another winter dramatic production showcased at Long Hall, aka Opera House. "Out in the Streets" is a temperance play and, in fact, we have a copy of the script.]

The Literary society [of Waynesville] elected its officers at a called meeting.

March 11

Pythian Castle Dedicated.

On Saturday, March 6th, 1909 the foundation and bricks laid by members of the Pythian lodge and by their own hands excavated and laid the foundation, laid the brick and did all the work that had to be done in the building of

the Castle that it is the only fraternal organization that was ever chartered by the Congress of the United States, and that wherever there existed a Pythian lodge the stars and stripes waved.—Rolla Herald-Democrat [See page 5 for a picture of the building.]

March 12

Developing Newburg Mines.

Operations in the Newburg mining district are steadily increasing. One tract has been surveyed into lots during the past week. This became a necessity due to the call for leases by miners from Joplin and other points. When the surveyor began his work last Saturday there were already six leasing companies operating on the track while five more were waiting to take up lots as soon as the survey was completed.

The leaders all seem well satisfied with their developments. All have worked in other Missouri districts, and their confidence in this district is evident from the fact that nearly every one has inquired about leases for friends.—Rolla New Era

DIXON—Some fifteen or more of the K. P's from here went to Rolla Saturday to help dedicate the New Pythian Hall. They report a jolly good time.

New Lodge Organized.

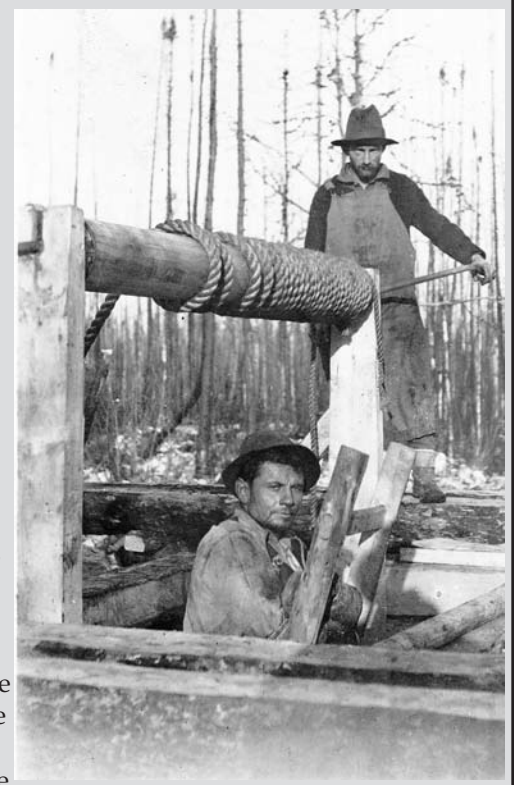
A Modern Woodman camp was organized at this place Monday night by a Mr. White of Springfield, who had

Dreams of Wealth

There are two stories, in one form or another, that always seem to be in the news. Somewhere in Old Pulaski, there was usually a dream to build a railroad from the Frisco main line to towns not connected, thereby bringing access and growth. In 1907, there seemed to be a very serious effort for a railroad between Waynesville and Crocker. Local money was raised and some surveying and a little grading done. In early 1908, the project fell apart and, fortunately, no local investor lost money. This year, 1909, the Democrat begins again to make a case for an electric railroad from Waynesville to Crocker. For more than three decades, Waynesville had looked with envy at the growth of the arc of railroad towns in the northern section of the county. There were plans afoot in Phelps County to build a line from Rolla to Houston and beyond. The Ozark Short Line was a more ambitious project but was equally ill-fated. Efforts on this north-south electric road persisted into 1914, bringing financial ruin to at least one backer, Dr. P. A. Herrington of Houston.

The second dream was of mineral wealth to equal that of the mining district around Joplin. The big news in 1908 was the extraction of gold on Henry McKinnon's farm near Crocker. No mention was made of this in 1909.

However, the prospect of rich lead and zinc deposits near Newburg had no fewer than five mining operations working by the end of January, 1909. This dream persisted into 1912 when the dawning of economic reality caused it to vanish. The deposits were small and could not support the large expenditures needed for extraction. There would be more dreams to come for the citizens of Old Pulaski.



Miners, windlass, and a shaft in a typical mining scene. Courtesy of John Bradury.

been here for some time talking it up. It will be known as Waynesville Camp No. 13809 and starts out with a lively aggregation of 30 members.

New Building.

Waynesville means to keep pace with the improvements of our sister cities and why not? She has the country around her to make the town and the live business men to push it along. The material is being placed on the ground for a large concrete building 27x60 ft. on P. A. Christeson's lot adjoining the J. W. Wheeler store building.

This building is to be a one story structure and will be used for offices. Mr. Christeson went down to the "City" yesterday to purchase the front and other material to be used in construction. Work will begin as soon as the weather will permit and the building will be rapidly rushed to completion. We hope others will follow suit until the entire business row will be brick or stone thus making it fire proof. *[The wooden business row burned to the ground in 1887.]*

March 19

BLOODLAND—Mitch Hammock one of our blacksmiths at this place moved to Decker last week, where he intends to farm.

There are some reasonable good young fellows that seem to delight in running their horses on the public

highways and even where little children are on the street, and by such conduct they are endangered. Some young men and boys don't think how it looks and don't know that it is against the law and laying themselves liable to a heavy fine.

At a salary of \$50,000 per year, it costs us about \$530,000 per year to support our presidents. The items are as follows: President's salary, \$50,000; clerk hire, \$69,920; contingent fund \$25,000; maintenance White House grounds, \$4,000; fuel, \$6,000; care of greenhouse, \$9,000; repair of greenhouse, \$3,000; printing, \$2,000; lighting White House grounds, \$510; total, \$529, 430. The new law increases the salary to \$75,000 per year. *[The current Presidential salary is \$400,000 plus a \$50,000 expense account, \$100,000 nontaxable travel account, and \$19,000 for entertainment.]*

DIXON—The medicine show at the Opera House is drawing big crowds. *[Dixon has an Opera House, too.]*

SCHLICHT—Fox chasing every night is now all the go. They want to exercise them up good for young spring chicken time.

LOCAL—We observe that at some of the church meetings it is necessary for the young ladies to be present at

the opening for the young men to be present at the close.

The change of the business of J. J. Clark to Christeson & Mitchell causes Charley Dodd, the faithful clerk at Mr. Clark's to move up the row to L. N. Hufft's, where he will fill the vacancy of A. F. Mitchell. Charley will be found behind the counter weighing groceries and measuring calico in the L. N. Hufft dry goods store in the future.

March 26

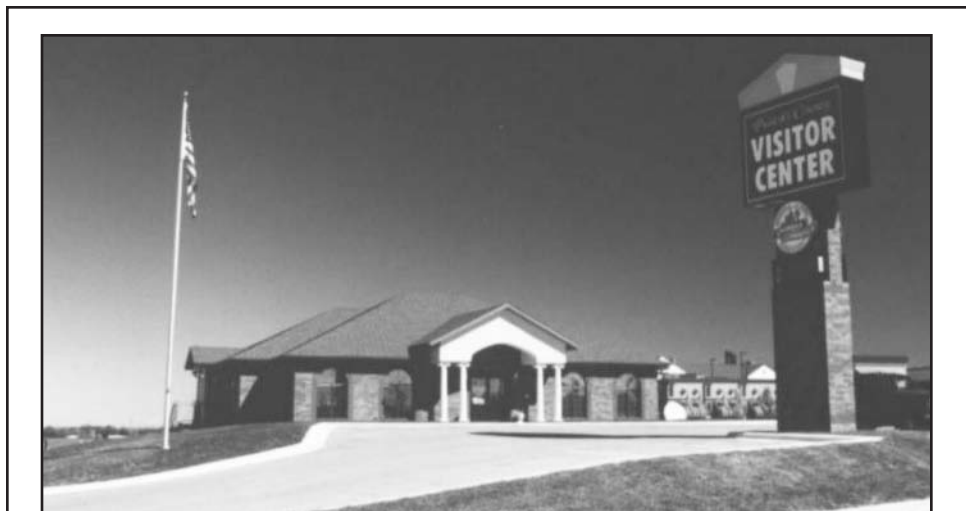
LOCAL—E. C. Bailey, the Tribune merchant, was transacting business in our City Monday.

J.M. Long spent several days in St. Louis this week on business. While there he bought several dozen good folding chairs to be used in seating his "playhouse."

We printed bills and post cards for the Bloodland Horse Company, advertising "Bourges" who will make the



Mitchell and Christeson's storefront. They sold dry goods, produce, and bought railroad ties and furs. They advertised Star Brand Shoes and this picture must have been a promotion. The crates the boys are standing and sitting on are Star Brand shoes. On the left is J. D. Baker's Bakery. Courtesy of Bob and Geneva Goodrich.



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I Bank

season at Bloodland and Big Piney. Farmers wishing description and pedigree of this fine animal will address J. E. Haley, Bloodland, Mo.

A crew of hands began the work of tearing down the Paris Christeson store building Saturday, clearing the site for the new concrete building.

L.N.Hufft went down to the City Sunday and will spend most all week buying his stock of spring merchandise for his stores at Bloodland and this place.

We turned out bills this week for the fine horse, "Moonbeam" and jack "Frank Duncan" owned by W. H. Mackney. They will make the season at Bloodland this year instead of Musgrove Hollow.

April 2

The Telephone Girl.

The telephone girl sits still in her chair and listens to voices from everywhere. She hears all the gossip, she hears all the news, she knows who is happy and who has the blues; she knows all our joys, she knows every girl who is chasing the boys; she knows of our troubles, she knows of our strife, she knows every man that is mean to his wife. She knows every time we are out with the boys, she hears the excuses each fellow

employs; she knows every woman who has a dark past, she knows every man who's inclined to be 'fast'; in fact, there's a secret 'neath each saucy curl of that quite, demure looking telephone girl. If the telephone girl would tell all that she knows it would turn half our friends into bitterest foes; she would sow a small wind that would

soon be a gale, engulf us in trouble and land us in jail; she could let

go a story, which gaining in force, would cause half our

wives to sue for divorce; she could get all the

churches mixed up in a fight and turn all our

days into sorrowing nights; in fact, she could

keep the whole town in a stew if she'd tell a tenth

part of the things that she knew. Now doesn't it make

your head whirl when you think what you owe to the tele-

phone girl?—*Downs News*

Governor Hadley [*the new Governor and the first Republican in 40 years*] has named April 9 as Arbor Day in Missouri this year and recommends that on the occasion every class in every school in the State plant on the school grounds, or other public places, at least one tree, shrub or flower. [*Do we still have an Arbor Day?*]

The Krepp Manufacturing Co., of

Crocker, Mo., is one of the many thriving factories of our County. There are several hands employed in the factory already and their output seems to be in demand—that of gloves and mittens. These articles are in demand at our very door step besides they are taking orders from all over the country. Such an industry should be encouraged by our citizens.

To the Public—I have just put in corn buhr and will grind on Wednesday and Saturday of each week. Bring on your corn. Henry Funk. Waynesville, Mo [*It appears that this mill was short-lived, as the Editor continues to lament not having a mill in Waynesville.*]

April 9

Ed. Democrat:

Yesterday, Saturday, was a day of great excitement in the House and for a while it looked as though somebody would surely get badly hurt, but after the riot had subsided and the members returned to their sense. It was found that the only damage done was several bruised shins and the hands of several of the members were minus several patches of skin. Of course the republicans were to blame for it all—democrats are never guilty of doing wrong. You see it all happened this way. Some six or eight weeks ago a resolution was introduced to submit a prohibition amendment to the constitution to be

voted on at the next general election. This resolution was referred to the committee on constitutional amendments of which committee I have the honor of being a member. This committee is composed of six republicans and four democrats. On Friday night the republican members at a meeting of the committee agreed to report the resolution without recommendation and the democratic members of the committee, in order to expose the position of the republican members of the committee, signed a minority report with recommendation that it do pass. So on Saturday morning as soon as the House convened the chairman of the committee sent up the majority report. Mr. Lloyd, the republican floor leader, moved that this report be made a special order for next Thursday at 2 o'clock p.m. A vote was taken on this motion and it carried. Immediately after the vote was announced Mr. Lloyd moved that the vote be reconsidered and that the motion be laid on the table, and this motion he moved the previous question. This brought forth a vigorous protest from every democrat on the floor of the House and you could hear shouts of "steam roller" "gag rule," etc. from all over the House. While all this was going on, Mr. Rosenberger of Montgomery county was doing his best to obtain recognition in order to send up the minority



5 Magnet Oak Cabinet Telephone - Sears, Roebuck, 1908 \$9.95

report, but failed at every effort. The democrats got mad when Mr. Lloyd moved the previous question. Under the rules this shuts off all debate and no one is permitted to speak on the question. The democrats realizing that the steam roller was in full and active operation concluded that the best thing to do was to march out of the hall and thus break a quorum. As soon as the republicans discovered what the democrats were up to the sergeant-at-arms was ordered to guard the door and not let us out. About fifty democrats made a mad rush for the door, the sergeant-at-arms and his assistants, who were trying to block their exit, were being overpowered when the republican members came to their assistance. Immediately there was a general mix-up, in which they began to push, pull, kick and strike each other. This struggle was kept up until the democrats succeeded in opening the door when peace was again restored.

I want to say that for awhile matters looked serious and the wonder is that some one did not get seriously hurt.

Four years ago when I was here, I had to keep jumping and dodging about half the time to keep from getting run over, knocked down or something worse. So here I am having to do the same thing again and the republicans are the cause of it all, for you know we have no such carryings on when the democrats are in control.

Look out for next Thursday when the prohibition question comes up again. There is not likely to be any more personal encounters, but there will be a lot of hot air wasted.

Well, I have given you the most important and interesting proceedings of the House last week so I will close for the present.

Respectfully,

J. L. Johnson.

[Johnson previously served as State Representative 1905-1906 but was defeated for reelection by popular educator William Lumpkin in 1907. Johnson returned to the House in 1909. He was a lawyer, having previously served four terms as prosecuting attorney for Pulaski County. Johnson was extremely conservative. He opposed almost any revenue proposal, game law, and detested the state normal schools and state university, typically fomenting about the tax money spent to support these institutions. He was against a state bar exam for lawyers and opposed more rigorous certification standards for teachers. He was for better roads, a high school in each county in the state, and was personally disposed to prohibition or "any measure that would further the cause of temperance."]

LOCAL—These warm spring days call to mind the fact that it is time for our band boys to organize and get in shape for service. Two concerts a week in the court yard would help out wonderfully in the matter of whiling away long summer evenings and we hope the

boys will bet busy and come across.

[Seems we remember the band disbanded last summer.]

G. G. Youngblood, manager of the Pioneer Telephone Co., spent several days here this week looking after the business. Since Mr. Youngblood has been connected with the business the system has been greatly improved. New phones are being put in and the line is now in good repair. The business has spread out until the entire country is connected by telephone. DIXON—The election in Dixon was unusually quiet, no rivalry seemingly for any of the offices. The following town ticket was elected: Mayor, F. M. Sweet; Marshal, S. R. Hale; Police Judge, Geo Mosby; Aldermen, first ward, W. W. Howard; second ward, E. S. Bond; third ward, George Shelton and Frank Christeson.

GOLDEN CENTER—The farmers have organized a local union at the Miller school house with twenty members and will take in ten more at the next meeting.

Local—The Farmers Union meeting brought quite a number of the farmers from different parts of the county to town Saturday. *[The farmers of the area had organized before in response to falling prices and rising freight rates. Previous organizations were the National Grange, founded in 1867, and the Agricultural Wheel, which was a large Pulaski County farmer's organization with cooperative stores in the 1880's. The Grange faded and the Wheel merged with the Farmer's Alliance which failed. The Farmers Union was nationally organized in 1902. It, too, created marketing cooperatives, urged the establishment of a parcel post system, and supported suffrage. The National Farmers Union is still advising and lobbying for farmers and ranchers today.]*

We turned out bills advertising the fine black jack, "Hornsinger", owned by the Percheron Horse Company of Bloodland. Since the Company bought this fine jack they have decided to cut the price on the fine horse "Bourges" to \$15. See their fine stock.

Gum chewing is said to be coming in again. Those of us who stuck our quids under the side bar of the bed a year or so ago, are thus reminded to dust 'em off and get busy!

Any one using hard water for washing knows how hard it is to blue the clothes without the bluing streaking them. A cupful of milk added to the tub of bluing water will do away with this trouble.

ANTIOCH—Peach and plum trees are in full bloom and if nothing happens to kill the fruit, we will have a good crop in these parts.

April 22

Courageous Travelers.

J. C. Peterson, representing Beck and Corbitt Iron Co., and F. W. Heinzelman, representing the St. Louis Coffee and Spice Mills, were traveling in

Pulaski county last week. Arriving at Ross Ford on Big Piney, they found the river past fording. A steel bridge *[to be named Ross Bridge]* was being built



The construction of Ross Bridge was started in 1908 with the approaches and payment completed in 1909. The approaches were difficult, high off the ground on the west side and against Ross Bluff on the east side. Ross Bridge connected the communities of Big Piney (aka Newtown) in Pulaski with Duke (aka Rubbertown), just over the line in Phelps County. Ross Bridge was the second bridge completed in 1909, the other being at the mouth of Bell Creek on the Gasconade River, near present day Route 133. For more information, see 2008 Gazette "Bridges of Pulaski County," online at www.oldstagecoachstop.org.

across the river at this place and was all complete except the approaches. Peterson and Heinzelman, not to be daunted, secured from the workmen at the bridge, two 2x19x18 boards, made their own approach to the bridge, over which they first led the horses and then spread the boards and pulled their buggy upon the bridge. They used the same method in getting off the bridge, and as Peterson expressed it, landed in the Kingdom of Phelps. It showed undaunted spirit on the part of the two traveling men and their courage and zeal should commend them to their houses. Messrs. Peterson and Heinzelman both make their home at St. James.—Rolla Herald-Democrat

April 23

Twenty Years Ago from Democrat Files

David R. Francis was Governor of Missouri. *[Francis was also the President of the Louisiana Purchase Exhibition (St. Louis World's Fair) in 1904.]*

W. T. Wright was editor of the Democrat.

The county jail had been unoccupied for more than a month.

R. L. Christeson, proprietor of the Plato Wheel store, was in town.

J. J. Clark had some substantial

improvement made on his premises

County Lecturer Thomas Christeson made an interesting address to the members of Center wheel.

John B. Christeson had recently closed a contract with the Agricultural Wheel to supply them with general merchandise.

One day a few weeks earlier Master Bland Pippin bought a large bunch of rabbits to town, which he readily disposed of to the merchants.

An interesting chicken fight occurred between Judge Hill's game chicken and J. B. Christeson's Plymouth Rock. The game bird was victorious.

S. Bartlett is proprietor of the Bartlett Custom Mills and having a good run. The water power of the mill was estimated to be something like a hundred horse.

The Wheel was recovering from a serious set-back suffered the preceding November and Richard Miller was admonishing the members to brace up and push forward.

The Waynesville normal school was announced to open April 19th under the management of G. M. Reed. At that time, Mr. Reed stood at the head of the foremost educators of this part of the country and Waynesville offered superior advantages in the way of healthful location, moral, social and religious surroundings.

BIG PINEY—Hurrah for the Big Piney Bridge. Don't worry about high water any more.

Bennie McDonald who is attending the Springfield Business College is doing fine. *[Benjamin Franklin "Bennie" McDonald, after starting as a clerk at Springfield Grocer, went on to become president of that large wholesale grocery business. He was the youngest son of William Walton McDonald, builder of the Old Stagecoach Stop. William McDonald Tynes, W. W. McDonald's great grandson is President of the company today.]*

LOCAL—The new town board is moving out right by ordering several new concrete street crossings put in. Work will begin at once and soon the entire town will be connected by granitoid walks.

Charles Williams has purchased the Lee Baker blacksmith shop and will hereafter be found in his place of business ready to attend your wants in his line. He comes well recommended as a smith from Crocker, where he has been working for several years.

April 30

To the Public.

It has been rumored that I have made the graduating class of the Waynesville Public school promise not to attend the Waynesville Normal school and in defense of myself the following statement, made by the graduating class, is published.

Paris A. Christeson.

We, the graduating class of the Waynesville Public school, wish to make the statement that Paris A. Christeson, who has been our teacher, has never at any time advised us not to attend Waynesville Normal, but instead advised us to attend school every time we had an opportunity.

He has never at any time said anything against the Waynesville Normal to us.

George Reed Walter Kerr
Edgar Christeson Tracy Berry
Eva Christeson Estella Bailey
Dora Hobbs Ada Locker

[This is the eighth grade graduating class, all of it. The graduation ceremony took place at the Methodist Church.]

DIXON—Our public school closes this week and the Commencement exercises will be held Friday night at the opera house where twenty-five graduates will receive their Diplomas. Thus another successful year of our school has passed into history and all of our teachers are to be commended for their faithful work. *[Dixon's 25 graduates was triple the number of Waynesville's eight.]*

BAILEY—Quite a number from this place attended the Wild West show at Bloodland last Saturday.

RICHLAND—Prosecuting Attorney Johnson was here this week prosecuting a fellow by the name of Manuel who is accused of bootlegging whiskey in our dry town.

Our Daughters

It is a noteworthy fact that while some of the larger towns are crying hard times the small towns are enjoying an unusual degree of prosperity. These are busy times for country people and country towns. Anyone who desires to turn an honest penny can do so and there is no excuse for idleness.

Are we training them to be honest and self-supporting citizens?

Hundreds of employers, harassed and irritated with incompetent, inaccurate, unthinking girl employees, will answer "No!"

Are we training them to be good housewives?

Hundreds of young husbands wondering why they cannot make both ends of their income meet, will answer as emphatically "NO!"

These questions are asked and answered in a series of articles, by well-known writers, the first of which appears in *Woman's Home Companion* for May. *[The "Woman's Home Companion" was a magazine published from 1873 until 1957. It was very successful, having a monthly circulation of 4,000 at its peak in the 1930s and 1940s.]*

LOCAL—Prof. W. A. Lumpkin spent Saturday and Sunday in Waynesville perfecting arrangements for the normal... Lumpkin informs us that the enrollment of the normal school has

reached 68 and about 25 more are expected to enroll by Monday morning. This is beyond his expectation, and ere another issue of the paper is published the population of our city will have increased one fourth. *[Beginning in May, both Dixon and Waynesville would operate normal schools, whose main purpose was to prepare teachers to take the teacher examination. For more history of normal schools and the certification of teachers, 2006 Gazette "Teaching the Teachers", available online.]*

The Gasconade and Roubidoux have been on a rampage the past week and the mail had to be carried around the ridge, consequently the morning hack was several hours late for several days.

Messrs Albert and Frank Christeson, accompanied by their better halves, drove out to the poor farm Sunday afternoon and took supper and spent the evening with Mr. and Mrs. Barton Sparks. They were delighted with their trip and informed a Democrat reporter that if they should have to be put on the "poor farm" they were anxious that Barton and his good wife would remain in charge—they feed well.

[The "Poor Farm" was maintained by Pulaski County for indigent and mentally/physically disabled citizens. Expenditures in 1909 were \$1291.87, providing care for 8 or so residents. The caretakers, the Sparks at this time, farmed some of the 100 acres and maintained a large garden.

There was a large resident's home, caretaker house, and barn. The farm was located about a mile south of Waynesville on the Roubidoux. We do not know when the farm was discontinued but the land was sold in 1947.]

It is alleged that the guaranteed blue grass seed sent out by Montgomery Ward & Co. was recently inspected by the government and found to contain only twenty-eight per cent of the real article, the remaining seventy-two per cent being made up of other cheap grass seeds. But the people will buy it and pay about as much for the bogus article as for the genuine. It was Bar-num who said the American people liked to be humbugged. *[The editor's message here is mail order goods are not as good as goods purchased locally.]*

SCHLICHT—The U. S. Fish Commission placed 5000 rainbow trouts in Schlicht milling company's springs.

BLOODLAND—The Farmers Union at this place is on a boom with about 40 members, and more to follow.

May 7

[The Democrat published the Pulaski County Financial Statement April 30, 1908 - April 30, 1909 in its entirety. The year started with a balance of \$15,482.95 with revenues of \$13,692.69 and expenditures of \$19,589.80, leaving a balance forward in the Treasury of \$9,585.84. It was a year where expenditures exceeded rev-

venues, unusual for the frugal County Court. The bill for the bridge across the Big Piney in the southeastern part of the county had not yet been paid. The revenues also included \$47.00 from a tax on pool tables.]

DIXON—The Dixon Normal opened Monday with Profs. Gove and Cole and Miss Papineau as instructors and an enrollment of about 35. Others will enter soon.

The City Council held their regular monthly meeting Monday evening. J. W. Cox was appointed as City Assessor, Jas. Moss as Collector and G. L. Cole as City Clerk. They also passed a resolution to have our City Park cleaned up, one of the most important acts ever passed by our town board. [Can't tell if the correspondent is sincere or being sarcastic.]

LOCAL—The County's boarding house [County Poor Farm] has been given a general renovation and house cleaning, preparatory to receiving some unexpected guests.

Master Harry Christeson is the champion boy fisherman now, he having landed a four-pound bass yesterday. It was an exciting experience for Harry and one that he will never forget.

May 14

CROCKER—The trial of A. I. Manuel for selling alcohol at Swedeborg Thursday resulted in a verdict of not guilty.

We have some good marble players and they play, too.

LOCAL—J. J. Bailey was circulating a petition to the Circuit Court Wednesday asking for a bridge across Roubidoux at the ford west of town. The people for miles west and southwest who come here to do their trading and the traveling public generally have always been more or less inconvenienced at times by this crossing and the recent high water put it in worse shape than ever. Something will have to be done for it and we hope the County Court can see the way clear to meet the contingency with a handsome iron structure similar to the ones at other important crossings of the county.

Adam had one thing to be thankful for. He never had to weed his pa's onion beds when the other boys were going fishing.

GOLDEN CENTER—The Golden Center Union is progressing nicely; it was organized with 15 members six weeks ago and now has 53 members.

SCHLICHT—Steel boats and a gasoline racing boat has been put in at Forest Lodge for the accommodation of the guests. [First mention of a motorized boat in these parts that we have read.]

May 21

The Senate and the House failed to get together on the State-wide Prohibition Amendment to the Constitution. DIXON—A new Postoffice building is to be started next week on the lot adjoin-



Dixon High School in 1909 and the site of the Dixon Normal School. Courtesy of the Jessie McCullie Library, Dixon.

ing the Bank of Dixon.

RICHLAND—Mrs. W. T. Wright chaperoned a crowd of young folks to Waynesville Sunday. They ate dinner at the big spring and supper at the bridge and had a good time in general.

BAILEY—Rev. J. J. Watts was called to assist in the Dedicatory services of a new church of his denomination near Richland and therefore could not fill his regular appointment at this place. LOCAL—Sheriff Lee Baker made a trip to Big Bend, Kansas, the last of the week and brought back with him Sam McLaughlin, a young fellow indicted for disturbing religious worship at a school house in the Baldrige neighborhood. After they had arrived here McLaughlin gave a bond to appear at the September term of Circuit Court and secured his liberty.

Just about now the mail order houses of our large cities with an eye for the spring trade of the smaller cities or towns and of the farmer, are sending out bulky and illusive catalogues by the thousand. Experience proves that taking all things into account, to buy of such houses costs more and brings less satisfaction than to buy of the home merchants. Money sent out of town to these houses for what can be bought equally as well at home is just so much check to the growth and prosperity of the home town, and of the farmers and others who find in the town a ready market for their eggs, butter and other products. [Not to mention the advertising revenue for the paper of the home town merchants. Montgomery Ward and Sears and Roebuck have made inroads now that many of the country folks have RFD routes.]

May 28

New Fish and Game Law

[There has been a continuing controversy over regulation of hunting and fishing. The following summary and opinion of new fish and game legislation seems to please the Democrat.]

No method of fishing allowed except hook and line and spearing. No fishing

within 200 feet of a dam. A five month season on squirrels and a one month season on quail and turkey. Absolutely no game to be sold in the state. Every person who hunts to pay a license, except his hunting be confined to his own lands or land he has leased County license \$1 a year. This gives the hunter the right to hunt in his own and adjoining counties. State resident license \$5 a year. Non-resident license \$25 a year. Note the fact that for a person to get a county license he must be a resident of the county. This means that practically all residents of our large cities who wish to hunt will be compelled to pay a state license. This clause is a just concession to the rural districts. Under this clause the city of St. Louis will pay into the fish and game protection fund between forty and fifty thousand dollars a year. This statement is based on the number of licenses issued annually to hunters of that city, as shown by the report of the fish and game warden under the old Walmsley law.

Note the further fact that hunters will be severely punished for trespassing on men's farms.

Now fish and game protection and propagation are possible. Under the law just repealed it would be but a short time until there would be no game or fish. The present law is against the town bum and country vagrant who slaughter game and destroy fish illegally.

A New Capitol.

At first glance it would seem to be unbusiness-like for the State to incur indebtedness of five million dollars for the erection of a new State capitol. It cannot be denied that Missouri is sadly in need of a new executive building. Built sixty years ago [1840] at a cost of only \$350,000, and designed and constructed to meet the requirements of that day and generation, the present capitol is sadly inadequate to the requirements. The state has outgrown the swaddling clothes of that time and

a new general outfit must be provided. An issue of five million dollars in bonds bearing 3 per cent interest is of really small consideration as an obligation compared with the benefits to be secured. Missouri is in the very center of the grandest and richest domain in the world—the valley of the Mississippi. The state is rich, and her credit is good. It would not be at all difficult to place capitol bonds at 3 per cent interest.—*St. Louis Star* [Among the nine Constitutional amendments being offered to the voters of Missouri by the Legislature is one authorizing the construction of a new capitol building. Momentum was building and the question was decided meteorologically when a lightning bolt hit the second capitol dome in 1911. The present capitol was built 1913-1917.]

CROCKER—A new telephone line has just been completed to old Humboldt with four phones on the line—Rev. Bell, Fred Burgess, Charles Gray and George Stokes. [Humboldt was a trading post about a mile northwest of present Crocker. Established about 1854, there were a few log cabins, an inn, and a store. It had a post office but the settlement faded when the railroad came and the Crocker depot quickly became a boom town beginning in 1869.]

RICHLAND—Our band boys are progressing nicely and will soon be able to give us some good music.

Richland is putting on city airs; more new granitoid [concrete] crossings are being laid.

SWEDEBORG—Warren Wyrich, of Waynesville, was in town Sunday. There seems to be some attraction at Swedeborg for him. [Having one's courting movements covered in the paper left little privacy. Such items were often in the news.]

LOCAL—Warren Wyrich made a business (?) trip to Swedeborg Sunday. [...and it gets covered from both ends.]

Grading Contract to Let Big Piney, MO

We the committee to contract for grading a road on the east side of the Big Piney bridge, will receive bids up to Monday, June 7th. The committee reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Bids will be received by any one of the committee.

Steve Devers
W. E. Ichord Committee
Richard Miller

June 4

At the courthouse—The proposition to build a bridge across Roubidoux was carried over and will be taken up at the August term. Meanwhile the Court will have the cost of building estimated and consider the best place for location. We have been reliably informed that there is plenty of money in the funds for road and bridge purposed to build the bridge and to spare.



One might argue that to see one bridge is to see them all. However, McCain Bridge was the first steel bridge built in Pulaski County in 1894. It was on the Richland Road from the California House to Richland. When we published our history of early bridges in the Gazette last year, we did not have this image. Courtesy of John Bradbury.

Pulaski has ground to boast of her splendid financial condition. That the affairs and finances of the county have been well managed without the shadow of a doubt. Within the past few years she has built a modern brick Court House [1903], which is a credit to any county, and also boasts five steel bridges across her streams—two of which have been built within the last year—yet there is money for anything she needs. We believe that every taxpayer in the county will approve action of the court giving them a bridge across Roubidoux at Waynesville, considering the fact that this ford is very dangerous when swollen and that it is necessary to be crossed to get to the County Seat from Crocker, Richland or most any other part of the county.

CROCKER—Sterling Chambers has purchased a very fine suit of clothes and the boys are collecting their old bells horns and tin pans. Look out Stirley, if you fool anybody you will have to do it yet. [More courting news. This is a reference to a charivari (shivaree) where newlyweds were serenaded with clanging pots and pans. For an explanation of this tradition and first hand accounts, see "News", page 17, in the 2005 Gazette online.]

Wm. Hamilton, a farmer and stock-raiser living on Bell's Creek, was in town Monday transacting business. He is one of the oldest readers of the Democrat. He has been a subscriber for about thirty years. [Elsewhere on the page, the Democrat discloses that it is beginning its 29th year of publication with this issue.]

DIXON—The salary of the Post Master at Dixon has been advanced to \$1200 per year, putting Dixon on a par with any town in the County, from a business standpoint. Work has begun on the new post office building and the

contractors promise to have it completed by September first.

LOCAL—Dr. C. A. Talbot arrived Tuesday from Joplin and has permanently located in our city for the practice of his profession. He is stopping at the Burchard Hotel until his family arrives, then they will go to housekeeping. A cordial welcome extended them.

COOKVILLE—As Cookville has not had any news in the good paper for some time I will again write a few items.

The farmers are farming, not much else doing.

There was quite a crowd at Macedonia decoration day and everyone reports a good time.

Murphy Cook lost a valuable watch while home, but he happened to be the lucky finder.

June 11

What this county [Phelps] needs is a new court house and a new jail all built in one. \$15,000 ward school houses, granitoid side walk and paved streets don't look well along side of an old ramshackle court house and a pig pen jail. An honest man would not be found dead in that old jail.

The Meeting at Rolla.

The Licking News says: As announced last week the citizens of Rolla called a meeting of the business men and other interested citizens last Monday night to discuss the building of the new electric railway from Rolla to Licking. We are informed that the meeting was very enthusiastic and that the best men in town have promised their support to the project till the last spike is driven. In a letter from Mr. Young he gives us a list of names of the men who will probably be selected as a committee to take subscriptions, and if these men are selected there is no doubt about what Rolla will do, as they are men of influence and men who will act. Mr. Young informs us

that he could not ask things better than they are in Rolla and is very jubilant.

There is a lot of dirty work being done by some parties to check the building of this road, but our people fully understand the object and will pay no attention to it. The people have determined to build this road and it now looks like it would be hard to check them. Come to Licking on the 3rd of July and see the last stake driven before the dirt begins to fly. Hurrah for the Missouri, Inland & Southern Electric Railway.—*The Missouri Sharpshooter* (Rolla)

June 25

Big Piney—The donation list is about filled and the contract let for making the road on the east side of the river up to the bridge. James H. Moore secured the contract and we wish him success in his undertaking. [We confess a personal interest in this project. We live on Ross Bluff, above the old bridge site.]

LOCAL—Harrison McKennon and Frank Kelley both plead guilty to disturbing religious worship in Judge Vaught's court Tuesday and a fine of \$10 and trimmings was assessed against each of them. The offense was committed at Needmore church house.

Services will be held at Fairview church on the Fourth of July and the church will be dedicated on that date. Rev. J. A. Francis who has had services there for the past four years on the Fourth, will conduct the services, assisted by Revs. Manes and Watts. An all-day meeting will be had and dinner will be spread on the ground. Everybody cordially to attend.

July 2

Senator Vest's Famous Eulogy on a Dog.

About forty years ago the late Senator George G. Vest was retained by a farmer who had sued a neighbor for killing his dog. After listening to the following speech, the jury awarded the plaintiff \$100 damages. It is said that some of the jurors wanted to hang the defendant.

"Gentlemen of the Jury: The best friend a man has in this world may turn against him and become his enemy. His son or daughter that he has reared with tender care may prove ungrateful. Those who are nearest and dearest to us, those whom we trust with our happiness and our good name, may become traitors to their faith. The money that a man has he may lose. It flees away from him, perhaps when he needs it most. A man's reputation may be sacrificed in a moment of ill considered action. The people who are prone to fall on their knees to do us honor when success is with us may be the first to throw the stone of malice when failure settles its cloud upon our heads. The one absolutely unselfish friend that a man can have in this selfish world, the one that never deserts him, the one that

never proves ungrateful or treacherous, is his dog.

Gentlemen of the Jury, a man's dog stands by him in prosperity and in poverty, in health and in sickness. He will sleep on the cold ground, where the wintery winds blow and the snow drives fiercely, if only he may be near his master's side. He will kiss the hand that has no food to offer, he will lick the wounds and sores that come in encounter with the roughness of the world. He guards the sleep of his pauper master as if he were a prince. Where riches take wings and reputation falls to pieces he is as consistent in his love as the sun in the journey through the heavens. If fortune drives the master forth an outcast in the world, friendless and homeless, the faithful dog asks no higher privilege than that of accompanying him to guard against danger, to fight against his enemies; and when the last scene of all comes, and death takes the master in its embrace and his body laid away in the cold ground, no matter if all other friends pursue their way, there by his grave side will the noble dog be found, his head between his paws, his eyes sad but open in alert watchfulness, faithful and true even to death."

LOCAL—Mrs. C. A. Talbot arrived here Sunday from Joplin and joined her husband, Dr. Talbot, who located here some time ago. They will go to housekeeping in the Chas. Colley property as soon as it is put in repair.

BIG PINEY—Railroad tie rafting is on the boom this spring.

While repairing a house for S. C. Crum at Edansville F. M. Williams removed some old ceiling and found considerable State money counter-signed by Governor Jackson and some Virginia money with some C. S. of A. money supposed to have belonged to a man killed during the civil war.

L. C. Munz of Crocker organized a Farmers Union here on the 25th for the benefit of farmers. We hope it will result in good to all, for what benefits one class is not apt to harm another class.

W. J. Scales is talking of trading his town property [which included the new hotel in Big Piney] for a farm near Nebo in Wright County.

July 9

CROCKER—J. L. Hoops has bought the livery barn property of Wm. Mace near the stock yards and is rapidly converting it into a mill and elevator. A large force of men are at work and Jim will soon be ready to take care of the wheat and corn crop as usual. It would have been a great loss to Crocker if Mr. Hoops had not had the enterprise and courage to begin the erection of a new mill and elevator before the ashes of his old mill had hardly gotten cold. A good mill and elevator is a great drawing card for any town; every day we have seen men coming here to the

mill to have their grinding done whom we did not know, having come from such a long distance. Of course the new mill will be in charge of his old reliable miller, W. D. Anderson, and he will also have charge of the stock yards scales and will do all the weighing which will be good news to the hundreds of patrons of the stock yards.—
Crocker News

LOCAL—The court house lawn seems to be the center of attraction these hot days and many weary travelers rest under the shade of the trees. The thermometer registered 100 in the shade Tuesday, the hottest weather yet this season and a little unusual for this part of thy mortal heritage.

HANNA—The Hanna folks spent the 3rd at Bloodland and report a good time. [*The Fourth of July was on a Sunday in 1909. Picnics were held in Waynesville, Richland, Dixon, and the Modern Woodmen of America put on a picnic in Crocker on Saturday, July 3rd.*]

Dr. Sell, wife and baby came out to the baptizing at Hanna ford Sunday afternoon. [*Better temperature on the Roubidoux than for the Idumea baptizing on November 5*]

July 16

Interesting Missouri History.

The largest corn farm in the world is in Missouri.

Over 500 species of fungi are found

in Missouri.

St. Louis sugar refineries are the largest in the world.

The largest cracker factory in the world is in St. Louis.

The first court held in Columbia was under an oak tree.

The largest white lead factory in the world is in St. Louis. [*White lead was used in paint.*]

During the civil war 387 battles were fought in Missouri.

Missouri has the largest number of family gardens of any state in the

Union.

Missouri furnished 80 per cent of the zinc ore in the world.

The greatest cement factories in the world are in Missouri

The largest mines of tripoli in the world are in Newton county [*Tripoli is a silica mineral.*]

Blind cave salamanders have been found in a cave in Pettis county. [*Of course, they are found in several caves in Pulaski County, too.*]

One thousand pieces of pottery have been taken from a single mound in

Missouri.

St. Louis has the largest drug market in the world and the largest street car and tobacco factories.

The bones of the largest mastodon in the world, now in the British Museum, were found in Missouri.

HANCOCK—The picnic Saturday was one of the grandest things that ever took place in Hancock.

BIG PINEY—Ben McDonald, a student of Springfield Business College, spent a few days with relatives here last week.

J. H. Clark reports he killed a rattlesnake so large that it could not get through the wire fence. We do not know how old it was, but Joe says it was a buster.

The U.S.A. mail has been getting in late lately, greatly inconveniencing the girls who watch out for mail late and early.

July 23

SWEDEBORG—The Milton show with tents are in town this week showing and selling the Clifton Remedy Co. medicines. [*Sounds like a traveling medicine show. It hit some towns in the county earlier in the year. For a humorous and enlightening look at a medicine show staged at the Black Hotel (aka the Old Stagecoach Stop), read Dru Pippin's account in the article "Uncle Buck's*



In this 1909 image, five people pose with the new Frisco locomotive works in the background. They may have been attending a ceremony for the opening on July 5. Construction on the works began in 1907. For a large, page-wide panorama of the works, see the 2007 Gazette "News", page 13. Photo courtesy of John Bradbury.

St. Robert Glass

US Missouri Canoe
Rental rt 66 canoe

Paradise Deli

Bench Motor Co.

The Kentucky House

Neighborhood Beer Garden
Full Selection of Beer

Judy's Place

21754 Teardrop Road
Devil's Elbow
On Original Route 66

Smokers welcome Tourists, too

Elixir" in the 2004 edition of the *Old Settlers Gazette*, available online at www.oldstagecoachstop.org.]

BIG PINEY—J. H. Moore, who contracted to build the road under the fluff to the approach of the Big Piney bridge, is doing a good job of it. The traveling men who have contributed to the fund are: John Peterson, Sidney Gray, R. Todd, Mr. Hetzell and Gibbens.

There is some talk of resurrecting the days of old by the ladies returning to the spinning wheel and looms and reducing the price of goods. Who can spin, warp and weave? None but our mothers. [*Seems the pioneer skills were lost to the young by 1909.*]

July 30

DIXON—Dixon has been blessed, or some claim cursed, with shows recently. A recital, moving picture show and a minstrel show all in the past week.

Graveyard Working.

There will be graveyard workings and decorations at the following name places and date: Mayfield cemetery, August 4th, C. Ousley cemetery, August 5th, Dry Creek cemetery, August 11th, Hamilton cemetery, August 12th, Watts cemetery, Aug. 25th, for work and August 29th for a basket dinner and meeting. J. Bradford cemetery, Sept. 8th, S. R. Hale cemetery, Sep. 15th, Logan cemetery, September 9th. Preaching at each place at 2 p.m.

Yours truly, J. J. Watts

[*J. J. Watts was a circuit riding Baptist preacher. The custom of cleaning graveyards and decorating the graves seems to have its local origins around 1902. It continues today at several rural cemeteries and has become an annual reunion occasion, too.*]

SPRINGFIELD—The Frisco's new \$2,000,000 car and locomotive works here were opened July 6 and now the first rebuilt engine and train of nine coaches are finished. The company has 800 men at work in the shops and expects to rebuild thirty-five locomotives every month. [*See picture on the preceding page.*]

LOCAL—Frank Wright was over from Richland Tuesday advertising the Richland Fair. Richlanders spare no pains in getting up a week's Fair and will furnish entertainment for all. Why can't Waynesville have something of this kind.

August 6

Richland—Dr. E. A. Oliver's "Auto" has arrived and is attracting the attention of the young generation. [*This is the first notice of a Pulaski Countian buying an auto.*]

WHEELER—The Picnic Saturday was a grand success. A good crowd out and every one seemed to enjoy themselves.

Gray's saw mill is again in operation and he has added a new shingle saw

At the Reunion of the Blue and the Grey which meets at Bloodland Saturday, August 28, 1909, the audience will be called to order by A. R. Bailey at 10 o'clock a. m., when the following program will be taken up:

Prayer,		Rev. J. J. Watts.
Address of Welcome,		W. R. Wingo.
Response,		W. I. Cumrine.
Song,	"America"	
Recitation,	"The Blue and the Grey"	Mrs. Jennie Davis.
Address,		Rev. J. J. Watts.
	Music by Plato Brass Band, consisting of twenty pieces.	
Recitation,	"The Blue and the Grey"	Miss Clare Hough.
Address,		Rev. T. J. Zumwalt.
	Dinner.	
	Afternoon Session.	

At 1 p. m. the Bugle will sound for roll call, when the veterans and sons of veterans will be ordered into line by their respective orderlies, each forming lines of their own.

Dress Parade.

General orders one and two read by adjutant outlining the route over which the Battalion is to pass. At 1:15 Bugle call for march, when the band will start east followed by the veterans who will be under charge of mounted field officers.

Next in the same line will follow the color bearers and sons of veterans. At the corner of Mill and Brown streets the command will file left, traveling north as far as the Methodist church, from thence back to the Public Square, when the program will again be taken up.

Address,		Judge Joe McGregor.
	Music by brass band.	
Recitation,	"One fought in Blue and one in Grey"	Etta Jasper.
Address,		Rev. John C. Hicks.
Recitation,	"My Mother's Song"	Jennie Bradford.
Song,	"Sweet Home"	Dundas, Plato and Bloodland choirs.
Benediction,		Rev. John C. Hicks.
	W. S. McCully.	
	Isaac Helton.	Committee on Program.
	A. R. Bailey.	

Officers who will have charge of the respective commands for the "Blue and the Grey" are as follows—

Commander-in-chief, W. I. Cumrine; Lt. Col., Hon. W. L. Bradford; Major, Rev. T. J. Zumwalt; Capt., Rev. J. J. Watts; First Lieut., J. M. Rollins; Second Lieut., D. D. Boyt; Adjutant, W. C. Kerr; Quarter Master, E. G. Williams; Provost Marshall, W. S. McCully; Orderly Sergeant, Rev. J. C. Hicks; Second Orderly Sergeant, W. J. Cook; Third Orderly Sergeant, W. W. York; Fourth Orderly Sergeant, R. L. Woody; Fifth Orderly Sergeant, Sam'l Crossland; Ensign, Isaac Helton; Corporals, J. L. Monroe, Andy Riddle, J. K. Wood, T. M. Laughlin, and Abraham Stockdale.

Officers who will have command of the sons of veterans in parade are—G. W. Gan, Capt.; First Lieut., A. D. Sutton; Second Lieut., John Kerr; Orderly Sergeant, L. M. Bailey; Second O. S., Marion Woody; Third O. S., Francis Page; Fourth O. S., Dr. R. E. Howlett; Fifth O. S., Henry Ross; Corporal, W. O. Cunningham; 2nd Corpl, P. T. Bailey; 3rd Cor., W. H. Cook; 4th Cor., I. G. Skidmore; 5th Cor., Marion Gan; 6th Cor., S. M. York; 7th Cor., Sam'l Wheeler; 8th Cor., Jet Coogan.

Just after dinner the veterans and their wives will sit for a picture.

[*We thought it worth the space to share this special event in Bloodland and, especially, the people present. We recognize many of the names but not all. We know even less about the military careers of the veterans. These we do know:*

J. J. Watts—Union, 2nd Lieutenant, 24th Regiment, Maine Infantry. The 24th Maine participated in the siege of Port Hudson on the Mississippi and was mustered out August 25, 1863 after nine months of service.

W. L. Bradford—Confederate, Missouri State Guard and Sergeant, First Missouri Cavalry. He was at the battles of Pea Ridge, Iuka, Corinth, Vicksburg, Kenesaw Mountain where he received a leg wound, Atlanta, Franklin and Fort Blakely, among others.

E. G. Williams—Confederate, Sergeant, with the Eleventh Virginia Infantry. He saw action at the battles of Bull Run, Antietam, Seven Days, Dranesville, Williamsburg, Seven Pines, Fredericksburg, Second Manassas, Gettysburg, and received a severe leg wound at Drury's Bluff. His left leg was amputated.

James M. Rollins—Union, Third Iowa Cavalry. Enlisted in 1862, was at the battle of Little Rock and Saline. He was captured in Arkansas, imprisoned for seven months and ten days, paroled, and served until the end of the war.

Thomas J. Zumwalt—Confederate, Private, 8th Missouri Infantry.

John C. Hicks—Confederate, Private, Freeman's Missouri Volunteer Cavalry

We have not seen the proposed group picture nor know the service records of most of the veterans. Maybe some readers have information or pictures to share.]

which will be a great help to the community. [*If you haven't driven out into the country by the old site of Wheeler's Mill and Lipscomb Cemetery, you've got some good country to see yet.*]

LOCAL—A petition for a bridge at the Riddle ford on the Gasconade river was submitted to the County Court for consideration Wednesday. Quite a number of interested citizens were here boosting for it and they went home with the Court's assurance of fair and impartial consideration later on.

DIXON—Dixon's ice supply gave out Monday and for the past three days our people have been taking their drinks straight, at least without ice. This "tapering off" so sudden caused considerable complaint, but our ice man received a car Thursday and all are happy again.

August 13

New Building Completed.

This week the new business house of Paris Christeson's that has been under construction for some time, is receiving the finishing touches and is now about ready for occupancy. [*It was located on the south side of the square in Waynesville where the Pulaski Fine Arts Association is now located, as well as the adjacent small spaces on each side.*] The postoffice, Abstract office and barber shop will occupy the new building causing quite a change in business locations.

The rear room and lobby will be occupied by the postoffice and is a much more spacious and desirable location than the present one. The two rooms on the west will be occupied by the Reed Abstract and law office. Mr. Reed has purchased a new and complete outfit of furnishings for the postoffice, including a new cabinet, etc., and we doubt if one will hardly recognize Uncle Sam's place of business. He also has on hand a new lighting system to install in the offices.

Warren Wyrick is in St. Louis purchasing an entire new outfit for his tonsorial parlor [*barber shop*] and bath room, to be located in the two east front rooms of the new building. Before leaving he constructed a concrete tank that will hold over 50 bbl. of water to be piped into the rooms. With all the new furnishings and incidentals required to make a bath and shop complete this will be one of the nicest shops between Springfield and St. Louis.

The building is one of the nicest in the city and we feel confident that Paris is justly proud of this spacious new building.

The postoffice building will be fitted up and occupied by Dr. Talbot.

We hope to see many more such substantial buildings take the place of the frail pine ones along the row within the next year.

Notice to Contractors.

A Concrete block two story I.O.O.F.

hall is to be built at Plato, Mo. Contract to be let on August 21, 1909. Plans and specifications may be obtained at Bank of Plato, Plato, Mo. Committee reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Information can be had by addressing Bank of Plato, Plato, Mo.

Robert R. Green
James L. Jones Committee.
J. E. Reaves

RICHLAND—Frank Wright is confined to his bed threatened with typhoid fever. *[There were several cases of typhoid reported in the county during the summer.]*

Quite a delegation of Richlanders attended the circus at Lebanon Monday.

J. R. Dodson is improving his property with new concrete stairs and walks. John Harris is doing the work.

DIXON DOINGS—A large delegation from the Dixon settlement went to Rolla Saturday to see the Robinson circus.

Dixon has been boasting of her West-on Clubs, Reading Clubs, Riding and Driving Clubs, but the Fishing and Swimming Club now outnumbered them all. At the last meeting of this club held at the Dave ford on the Gasconade, Tuesday the 10th, over 120 members and visitors were present. Dr. Von Grempe took the prize for wading in the deepest water; Henry Henson for being the best swimmer; Miss Foss Miller for best diving; and G. W. Peck

for eating the most. Among the visitors were J. F. Lipscomb and family, Tom Hamilton, John W. Riddle, Tude Matthews, and some of the Underwood boys: all presented their names for membership. All claim to be anxious for another meeting.

August 20

I.O.O.F Celebration at Crocker, Missouri.

Another step forward was made in the progress of the order in Pulaski county by Crocker Lodge No. 108, when they celebrated their first birthday on August 14, 1909, at Howard's park near Crocker. The lodge at Crocker is only one year old and has a membership of over 80 of the best men in and around Crocker. They have a spirit of work as is manifested by their growth and the erection of one of the finest pressed brick homes in this part of the state. Just keep your eye on Crocker Lodge No. 108 and watch her grow and as she grows, practice Friendship, Love and Truth, the motto of the order. By a unanimous vote the lodge decided to hold an annual celebration on the 14th day of August each year and preparations were made for the first one on Saturday last.

One of the most beautiful parks in Pulaski county was fitted up one half mile from town on land owned by Charles H. Howard. Elegant shade and plenty of spring water helped to make the park delightful and reflect the mag-

nanimity of the owner who gave the grounds free for the celebration.

At an early hour the stream of humanity began to pour into the park from every point of the compass. Every road and by-path added her part to the throng of happy pleasure seekers, all anxious to lend their aid in making this one of the memorable days in the history of the order in Pulaski county, until one of the largest crowds that ever assembled at a picnic in this county had met beneath the cooling shades of the sturdy oaks for a day of enjoyment and pleasure... *[The lengthy one-and-a-half column gives an account of former Lt. Gov. Thomas L. Rubey's address and the prize winners in a variety of contests.]*

BIG PINEY—I. W. Lane in digging for water has struck iron ore. We need a railroad to haul it off.

We often see merry crowds going to the river and when they return they are using fish bones for tooth picks.

August 26

Balloon Lands Near Dixon, Missouri.

Although the Air Craft Club of Peoria has not yet issued official figures, the three-balloon race which started from Peoria, Ill., Thursday afternoon, has undoubtedly been won by H. Eugene Honeywell of St. Louis, pilot, and George E. Smith, aid, in the 35,000 cubic foot balloon Peoria. The \$500 trophy was offered for distance, but the

Peoria wins the endurance contest as well.

The Peoria landed five miles south of Dixon, Mo., at 11:15 a.m. Friday, 230 miles by air line from Peoria, after remaining seventeen hours and five minutes aloft.

Dixon is 135 miles from St. Louis, on the Frisco.

The Peoria crossed a crest of the Ozark range at an altitude of 6000 feet and landed five miles beyond, in a field on the farm of John Riddle. The balloon was deflated near the banks of the Gasconade River. So sequestered was the spot that it was twenty minutes before the farmers, who had been following the balloon as best they could through the hills, reached it.

After much delay a farm wagon was procured and the deflated envelope, basket and aeronauts went up the hill to Dixon. They did not arrive there until 6 o'clock Friday night.—*Rolla Herald-Democrat*

August 27

Will Close Saturday.

We, the undersigned merchants, doing business in the town of Waynesville, hereby agree among ourselves, and with you, that we will close the doors of our respective business houses and will not sell any goods from the hours of ten in the morning until three o'clock in the afternoon, on Saturday, the 28th day of August, 1909,

Rotary Club

the same being the second day of the Farmers Union picnic and carnival.

Bank of Waynesville.
W. E. Burchard.
J. R. Burchard.
L. Tice, Druggist.
Christeson Bros.

[The picnic and carnival had the Waynesville cornet band, contests, parade, representatives from the Bear Ridge and Needmore locals, and H. W. Cannon's Merry-Go-Round, a fine new steam swing, with a "dizzy whirl."]

DIXON DOINGS—Our canning factories are running on about half time. The dry weather has greatly reduced the tomato crop.

Dixon's attractions last week were a little above the usual features of our daily amusements, at least the balloon that passed over us Friday was considerably above. John Riddle's field, on the Gasconade river, was the selected site for the descent of this famous aircraft, steered by E. H. Honeywell, after a flight of 17 hours and a distance of 250 miles. The balloon with the men who were in it were hauled to Dixon by a Mr. Jones, and many of our people gathered around them on their arrival to see this wonderful machine and to hear the navigators tell of their famous flight. While the excitement over this attraction was ebbing away on the following day, two automobiles, one a touring car, from the east and headed for Kansas, gave a short exhibition on our streets. Wonderful sights for the the small boy who got his first sight of the "horseless carriage".

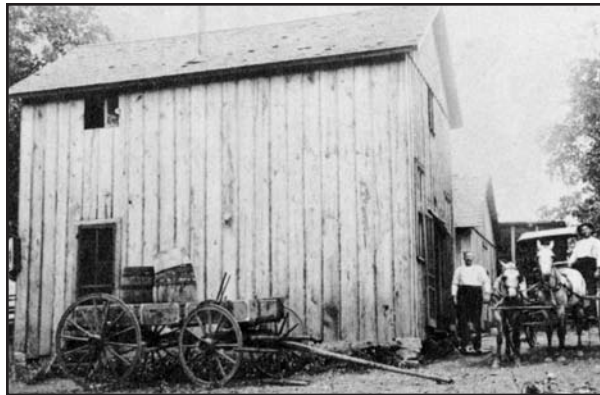
SWEDEBORG—A. A. Beasley, J. B. Strain, R. H. Hawkins and S. C. Black are putting in concrete sidewalks in front of their business property, which will be quite an improvement when completed.

LOCAL—A circus is billed for this place next week. Waynesville is having everything thrust upon it at once.

Christeson Bros. have the best and newest thing in men's overalls—belt and belt loop. Call for them.

Ben and Miss Martha Pillman passed through town Monday morning enroute to their home at Spring Creek. They had been seeing the sights at Niagara Falls. [Longest trip by a citizen reported in the paper this year.]

Talk about Arkansas and Southeast Missouri being the great fruit belt, what's the matter with old Pulaski county? H. E. Lolly brought to this office three apples, one of which weighed 14 1-2 ounces and measured 13 inches in circumference. They were raised on the Yarbrough farm and are only a sample of Pulaski county's apple crop this year.



Frazierville was just over the Pulaski County line, north of Dixon, in Maries County. "Boozburg" was more than a watering hole for these horses. Courtesy of Jesse McCulley Library, Dixon.

from which he has been ill; overwork and the intense heat has been telling on his once fine health and he selected our quiet little city for a good rest. There was no delegation of curious lookers-on out to meet them and to view the big iron horse, but the small boy was in evidence. The visitors proved themselves very genial to our people and they were shown every courtesy possible. We hope the week spent here may prove beneficial to the Chief's health and that they may have a hankering to make another visit to Waynesville in the near future. [This is the first mention of an automobile appearing in Waynesville and we have a first hand witness, young Dru Pippin. See sidebar on next page.]

BLOODLAND—The blacksmith shop has again changed hands, Joe Humes and Geo. Hammock have taken charge.

News items are controlled by the close hot weather.

SCHLICHT—Tomato gathering in full blast for the canning factory.

It takes a bbl. of gasoline daily to supply our local gigging fishermen. Isn't it a good law to allow gigging and crippling fish? John Rockefeller is benefitted by it.

We are having a manufacturer of Cement fence posts in the Valley where he can be supplied with gravel and water.

BIG PINEY—Ye scribe desires a trip up the river and float down and enjoy the scenery, the lofty bluffs and trees and hear the croak of the frogs and the song of the birds.

The road east of the bridge is nearing completion much to the accommodation of the traveling public.

September 3

DIXON DOINGS—The saloon across the line in Maries County (sometimes called Frazierville and sometime Boozburg) closed up Tuesday on account of the County Court refusing to grant a license. [Remember, Pulaski is dry.] Some technical omission rendered the application fatal in the opinion of the Court. A special term has been called for the 7th for the purpose of passing on a new application.

The new cigarette law going into effect has noticeably lessened the use

of the coffin tacks among the small boys in Dixon. In fact the grown-ups seem to have reformed.

BIG PINEY—The road at the new bridge is now completed for public travel.

Thomas Zumwalt an old time Piney pastor filled the pulpit at this place Sunday night.

The old soldiers reunion went off nicely at Bloodland Saturday.

There were services and dinner on the ground at the Watts cemetery Sunday.

SCHLICHT—Joel Lane, our boss guide and fisherman, caught a fifty pound catfish on a No. 4 hook. He sold it to the blacksmith at Crocker, who had to skin it with hammer and tongs.

Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock an airship passed over the Valley. It was seen by many, who will vouch for the truth of this statement as the electric lights were plainly visible.

September 10
New Laws.

A multitude of new laws which took effect Monday, August 16, 1909—don't forget the date.

There are about 400 of them altogether, and the best thing to do right now is to hire a lawyer and see if you have any right to be out of jail at the present time or not.

You will violate the law—

If you wear a game bird on your new hat.

If you carry concealed a revolver, razor, bowie knife or other deadly weapon, or display one in a threatening manner in any public place.

If you place in street show windows a revolver, bowie knife or other deadly weapon.

If you convert an electric current for fighting other purposes.

If you shoot into a passenger coach or engine cab.

If you enter a railroad passenger coach in an intoxicated condition.

If you drink intoxicants on a train other than in the dining car.

If you employ a female in a dram shop.

If you desecrate a burial lot or cemetery.

If you destroy your neighbor's shade or fruit trees.

If you maliciously maim, wound or kill a dumb animal.

If you circulate obscene literature.

If you bet on the result of any pool or billiard game, or engage in any such game for money prizes.

If you give or sell to a minor, boy or girl under 18 years of age a cigarette, or the material to make a cigarette.

If you are under 18 and smoke cigarettes.

If you unjustly desert your wife or fail to provide for her.

If you steal your neighbors hog.

[We have recently acquired a series of oral histories on audio cassette tapes recorded by lifelong residents of Pulaski County. We will be using transcripts of these interviews in this and succeeding issues. Following are comments by Dru Pippin, recorded in 1975, about his first encounters with the automobile.]

"The first automobile that I remember having ever seen in this area was an old chain drive Metz, a very high wheeled affair with open cockpit so to speak and the wheels were almost as big as a buggy wheel. In such a contraption, the then chief of police of St. Louis by the name of Creecy made a trip from St. Louis to Waynesville in one of these driving automobiles. It took him three days to make the trip. When he finally landed at Waynesville. Just before he got there, he hit a stump in the middle of the road and bent an axle and had to stop at the blacksmith shop and have the wheels taken off and the axle taken out and straightened before he could continue his trip.

1909 Metz



The first time that I ever went to St. Louis in an automobile was way back when the old Model T still had a brass radiator and 25 miles an hour downhill was maximum speed, I would say. And the man that I went with was a traveling salesman using it for the first time to make his trip as a drummer, as he was called in those days. We got to the city of Manchester where there was a brick pavement that went downhill by the Anheuser-Busch brewing people to keep their wagons from miring down in the mud as their big teams hauled their loads up and down this hill. So coasting down this hill with what little power this Model T had, we got 25 miles an hour and maybe a little bit above, I expect somebody's horses were scared. Anyway, we were picked up by the local marshall and taken back to Manchester, Missouri and we had to wait there from about noon that day until almost four o'clock until the Justice of the Peace could come in from a fishing trip to assess a fine against the driver of this car for speeding."

— Dru Pippin, audio cassette, 1975. Transcription by Terry Primas. Tape courtesy of Fort Leonard Wood Museum.

If you sell a drunken man intoxicants.

If you hunt without a county or state license.

If you attempt to destroy any building with dynamite.

If you are an engineer, pilot or motorman and attempt to run a train, boat or street car while intoxicated.

If you fail to register a birth or a death.

If you are a hotel keeper and neglect to provide sheets ninety-nine inches long for your guests.

If you are a Caucasian and marry a Mongolian or vice versa.

—*Cole County Democrat*

reprinted in the *Pulaski County Democrat*

BLOODLAND—We learn that the gambling show gobbled up some of the hard earned cash of some of our unwary citizens. [referring to the circus.]

Mr. Ludington has just deeded three acres of land to the Farmer's Union for the purpose of building a store house and other necessary business structures. The land is now partially cleared and a start for the building lumber on hand.

John D. Rockefeller says he loves his country. I think I would, too, if I owned one.

LOCAL—The excavating is being done preparatory to remodeling the Burchard brick store building. Mr. Burchard proposes to keep pace with the

times and will put in a modern glass front and lower the floor to a level with the floor of the hardware department. He will also double-deck and make several other needed improvements which will add greatly to the convenience and appearance of his place of business. Mr. Burchard carries a large and up-to-date stock of merchandise and this change when completed will enable him to show it up properly.

September 17

Bloodland School Report.

Report of the Bloodland school for the month beginning August 16th, 1909, and ending September 10th:

Enrollment 60; No. of days attended by all pupils 957; average 47 17/20; No. attending every day 15; No. of cases of tardiness 16; No. for corporal punishment 3; No. of volumes in library 180.

S. W. Page, Teacher

DIXON—Our public school has an enrollment of 250 with over 26 non-resident pupils. Teachers in charge are: G. L. Cole, Miss Turiah Papineau, Paris Christeson, Miss Cora Stricklan, Miss Cremer, and Mrs. Jos. J. Dake.

One of Waynesville's worst needs is a flour mill. It is admitted by every citizen of the town that nothing would be of more value to the town. There is a radius of about 20 miles in the very

heart of Pulaski's best grain country without a mill and our farmers are obliged to haul their grain to the railroad and exchange it for flour. Capitalists, get busy and organize and do something for Waynesville's worst needs.

Wood! Wood!! Would those who wish to pay their subscription in wood bring it in soon. Now is an opportune time, before the roads and the weather gets bad. [The subscription rate for the Democrat and other area newspapers was \$1.00 per year. The papers would also take a cord of wood for trade or other barter goods.]

Oct 14

Cole Younger, the last of the famous Younger brothers who spent twenty-five years in the Minnesota penitentiary, lectured in Rolla Saturday night on "What Life Has Taught Me." He reviewed in a modest way some of the stirring experiences of his life, but with it all he urged every young man to lead an honest upright life as the road that leads to the highest and best citizenship. A great many people shook hands with Capt. Younger while here, among the number, "Uncle" Phil Hancock who had shaved him in his younger days.—*Rolla Herald-Democrat*

October 15

DIXON—Vasca Houck is working for T. A. Murphy & Co. barreling apples.

They are paying 50 cents a bushel for winter apples.

A law suit was tried in Squire Mosby's Court [Justice of the Peace] last Friday between P. A. Courtwright and Frank Walker in which both parties claimed the same hog and at the time of the suit the hog had died. The jury gave Courtwright right of the hog and Walker appealed the case to the Circuit Court.

LOCAL—Roose & Murphy were over from Dixon Monday in the interest of the new mill that is being put in here.

The excavating is being done this week for the foundation of the new addition to the Baker hotel. Several rooms will be added and considerable improvements made on the building.

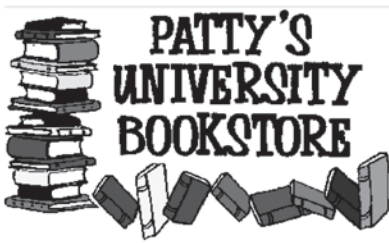
State Game and Fish Commissioner James A. Tollerton is out with a statement that he will pay four rewards of \$25 cash out of his salary for the first four convictions of persons guilty of dynamiting fish. He is flooded with complaints from many parts of the state about the destruction of fish by explosives. Some streams, these reports say, are now practically depleted.

October 22

LOCAL—Some of our sister cities on the railroad are infested with diphtheria and the public schools at both Richland and Stoutland have closed on account of the spread of the disease and several cases have been reported

Rachelle Beasley

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in Dixon and vicinity. *[There also have been small outbreak of typhoid fever in several locations in the county.]*

October 29

LOCAL—Wanted, 20 good tie makers to work two miles south of Bloodland. Will pay twelve cts. Timber good. Frank Wilson Bloodland, Mo.

Drs. Pippin, White, Trigg and Fred L. Scott have purchased the Luke C. Munz ginseng farm down on the Gasconade and will erect a club house on the place. "Babe" informs us that they are going to fix it up in "ship shop" shape and expect to take their families down there in the summer and spend many pleasant days on the Gasconade.

Elsewhere in the column of the Democrat will be found an order of sale of Waynesville's Big spring, which is to be sold at the next regular term of Probate Court. This is a valuable piece of property and the citizens realizing the fact that it should belong to the town, have raised a fund to buy the tract of land on which it is situated. It may some day prove to be of great value to the city.

BLOODLAND—The Farmers Union are having logs sawed preparatory to building a store building in north Bloodland.

November 5

DIXON—City Marshal Hale and Night-watchman Leisman raided some gamblers last Saturday night. We trust our officers will be able to suppress these illegal vices of our town and if the professed law abiding citizens will give them the support and encouragement they should, they will.

LAQUEY—The converts of the Ideuma church will be baptized at the bridge Sunday at 12:30 p.m. *[Brrr.]*

SWEDEN—The pie supper at Flea Hollow was well attended. Miss Minnie Crumley won the cake for the most beautiful young lady, and Dave Caldwell and John Thornsberry got a cake for being the most homely boys. The cakes brought \$2 and \$14.10.

LOCAL—Our city still improves. The new Exchange Mill that is being erected is nearing completion and will soon be ready for the machinery and the work on the Baker Hotel is also progressing nicely—is nearly done and will soon be ready for the plasterers. The boiler for the new exchange mill was brought over from the railroad the last of the week.

November 12

The Milliard Ginseng Co. near Houston Texas county, has sent 1,400 pounds of ginseng to New York City, where it will sell for \$9.00 a pound. They will make annual shipments hereafter.

DIXON—Quite a crowd from here spent Sunday at the new club-house at Table Rock Ford. This new club house is an up-to-date "Bungalow," equipped with

every convenience.

Bids Wanted.

The undersigned will receive bids on Saturday, November 27, 1909, for the erection of a concrete wall around the "Big Spring".

Said wall to be about 100 feet long, 4 feet thick at base, and of sufficient height to raise the water at least six (6) feet above the present level, the successful bidder to furnish bond for faithful performance of contract.

Bids will be opened at one o'clock of that day.

Waynesville Development Co.

By Fred L. Scott, Secretary

LOCAL—The recent agitation in favor of prohibition is greatly affecting the brewers. It is said that even the barrels in the cellars are in tiers.

Tom Wilson and Robert Christeson passed through town Sunday with a drove of fat hogs enroute to Crocker. They shipped them to St. Louis that night. *[This reminds us of the numerous items during the year of farmers and stockmen driving herds of cattle through town on the way to the railroad at Crocker and, apparently, hogs, too. It was a common sight on the square but, alas, we have no picture.]*

The tract of land on which the Big Spring is situated was sold to the highest bidder in the court yard Tuesday and the same was knocked off to a representative of the citizens of Waynesville for two hundred dollars. A fund of about \$500 had been subscribed and at a meeting Wednesday evening the shareholders decided to advertise for bids on the erection of a concrete wall around the spring six feet above the water level as an experiment in an effort to raise the water. Should the experiment prove successful the development will be continued. The business will be transacted under the cognomen of the Waynesville Development Company and the formal notice for bids appears elsewhere in this issue.

M. D. Brown was in town last Thursday taking subscriptions for the purpose of building a church and school house near Wharton postoffice. The people of Waynesville subscribed liberally, as they always do to such things.

SCHLICHT—A new doctor and a drug store are the latest additions to Schlicht.

HANCOCK—The Frisco is building a switch at Purden. *[Not much was heard from the correspondent at Hancock during the year.]*

November 19

Missouri is the great mule state and the Missouri mule is not only famous for his voice, but for his industry, courage and common sense. He fought, bled and died in the Civil war, he won the Boer war for Great Britain, he fought again in Cuba and is now building the Panama canal. He is one

of Uncle Sam's best servants and is dead in earnest about whatever he does.

LOCAL—The new grist and exchange mill is in operation and is grinding every day.

10,000 mink, raccoon, opossum, skunk and muskrat fur skins wanted before December 25th, will pay higher prices than ever known before.

J. B. Christeson

[We can guess that the fur market is pretty robust in 1909.]

The Frisco railroad company has set aside \$20,000 to be expended in exploiting and advertising the Ozark region through which the road runs.

Probably but few nimrods are aware of it, but all hunters must keep a record of the game they slaughter on the back of their license and report the same to the State Game Warden the last of the year.—*Buffalo Record*

The flush in the Roubidoux and Gasconade has enabled John Pillman and J. R. Burchard to float a large consignment of railroad ties they had on hand at the mouth of the creek. Several rafts went out the first of the week.

Mt. Gibson School has organized a Literary Society and Debating Club and have a program every Friday. The following are the officers: Charlie Christeson, President, Arthur Wilson, Vice President, Estella Bailey, Secretary.

You miss the pleasure of a life-time if you fail to attend the Vaudeville at the Long Hall Friday and Saturday night.

LAQUEY—The 200 line telephone system has been greatly out of repair lately.

SCHLICHT—O'possum hunting going on as usual but the Sabbath day cavorting should be prohibited. If you only could hear the disturbance from morning until night. Where is our game warden and the law?

November 26

To The Public.

We desire to announce to the people of Waynesville and tributary territory that our mill is in operation and we are now ready for your milling business.

We propose to keep on hand at all times all grades of the best flour for your grain on a square deal basis and are equipped to grind your meal, chops and feedstuffs while you wait. We will also keep everything in sufficient quantity to supply the retail trade.

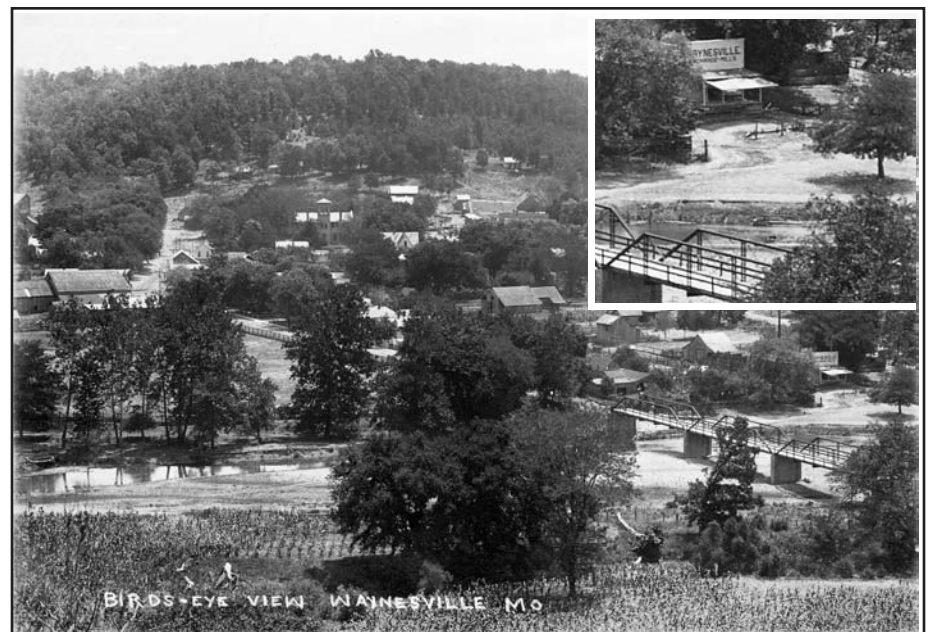
We are here to stay and want to do your milling business and know of no stronger appeal for your patronage than meritorious goods dealt out with fair and courteous treatment. When in town come in and get acquainted whether you have any business or not. You will always find us ready to extend the glad hand.

Waynesville Exchange Mills,
P. W. Peterson, Prop.

Two mass meetings of the citizens of Iberia and surrounding country have been held during the past few days to discuss the proposed electric line from Crocker to Iberia. Both meetings were well attended but they were not as enthusiastic as they should have been.—*Iberia Sentinel*

DIXON—Rev. W. J. Couch closed the revival meeting at the Baptist church Sunday night. There were five immersed Sunday afternoon at the railroad pond. *[Double brrrr.]*

A painting crew re-painting the "Bull Durham" signs along the railroad was in Dixon over Sunday. *[Bull Durham was a brand of a popular smoking tobacco produced by W. T. Blackwell & Co. tobacco factory in Durham, North Carolina. Signs along the railroad and on buildings featured its iconic bull and extolled the fine and consistent taste of the smoke.]*



For decades, the *Democrat* looked with envy upon the mills elsewhere in the county. The railroad towns had mills, even Big Piney had a mill. Finally, in 1909, P. W. Peterson opened the Waynesville Exchange Mills. The mill is barely visible in this 1915 postcard in the trees on the east bank of Roubidoux Creek, center right, just upstream (right) from the 1911 steel bridge. This location was between the current North Street and Old Route 66. The large barn at center left was Sheriff Lee Baker's livery stable. Courtesy of John Bradbury.

LOCAL—By a recent opinion of the Attorney General anyone can hunt the festive fox, coon, o’possum, wolves and rabbits without a license. This will be good news to some of our expert hunters who love to chase the varmints.

December 3

ROLLA—The School of Mines football team defeated the Drury college team on Thanksgiving day by a score of 43 to 0.—*The Missouri Sharp Shooter (Rolla)*

LOCAL—Tie makers wanted, apply to T. C. Degraffenreid, Waynesville, Mo.

HANCOCK—M. O. Mitchell has his shingle saw mill in operation now and is making shingles in a hurry.

December 10

ROLLA—The South Central Teachers Association met for its 17th annual meeting in Rolla. Several resolutions were adopted, including:

Resolved: that we, as an Association, recommend that the Compulsory Attendance Law be amended so as to require children to attend all the term instead of three fourths.

Resolved: That we are not in sympathy with the move for granting pensions to teachers, but would rather favor an increase of salary, so that old age pensions would not be required.

Resolved: That we favor a closer articulation of the rural and high schools and, that this be made possible, we recommend that a high school be established in every township.

Resolved: that we favor the enactment of a minimum salary law of not less than \$40.00 per month.—*The Missouri Sharp Shooter (Rolla)*

P. W. Peterson had the misfortune to get his right hand caught in the machinery at the mill and badly crushed last Thursday. While his injuries are not serious they are quite painful and will hinder him from work a while.

Some of the boys who live near here were out hunting the other night and shot what they supposed to be a turkey, but upon investigation it

proved to be a large eagle with a brass chain around its neck. Where did it come from?—HOUSTON HERALD

December 17

ROLLA—A prisoner broke jail here Sunday night and made good his escape. No trouble to break this old shack of a jail. No prisoner will stay in the Phelps county jail except those who want to board off the county for a short time.—*The Missouri Sharp Shooter (Rolla)*

BLOODLAND—Jaspar Bros. now have a trading point at Wharton and L. N. Hufft has a store at Dick Browns near Wharton. Now we need a huxter wagon so we can be supplied at home.

Waynesville is lucky to have no cases of “hook worm” and Bloodland can boast of no cases inside the city limits, but near town the malady seems to be prevalent and should be quarantined against.

DIXON—Freight wrecks on the Dixon hill were daily occurrences last week.

Our merchants now have their stores beautifully decorated for the holiday trade and the children are daily inspecting Santa’s toys.

Jones Bros. began putting up ice Tuesday from the rail road pond. The ice is from 4 to 5 inches thick. *[Five people were baptized in this pond just three weeks ago. For an explanation of how ice was “put up” from a pond, see “Dru Pip-pin: Memoirs and Hillosofhy” in this issue of the Gazette.]*

December 31

BIG PINEY—Trade was never better in Big Piney than last week and money was plentiful.

The report of a little trouble comes from Rubbertown, a village just over in Phelps county. A woman suffered a slight bullet wound intended for her husband. *[Rubbertown was a nickname for the small community of Duke, located about five miles east of Big Piney in Phelps County. The nickname originated when the local general store got a wagon load of rubber boots and sold them cheap, drawing farmers from miles around.]*

Local—Our merchants report the best holiday trade they have enjoyed for many years.

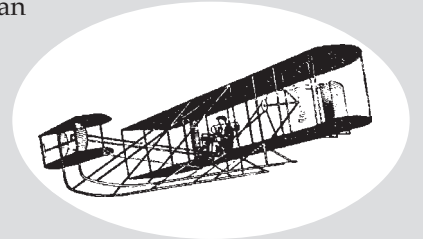
In 1909...

...U. S. Navy engineer Robert E. Peary claimed to have reached the North Pole.

...the Indian-head penny, which had been in circulation since 1864, was replaced by the Lincoln-head penny, which was not redesigned until 1959.

...the Sixteenth Amendment was passed and, subject to ratification by the states (not until 1913), provided for a graduated income tax on Americans earning more than \$3,000 a year. The vast majority of wage earners did not make that much money, averaging less than \$2.00 a day.

...the Wright Brothers landed a government contract for airplanes that could carry two men, fly for 60 minutes, and reach a top speed of 40 miles per hour.



...Frenchman Louis Bleriot was the first to fly across the English Channel.

...the first transcontinental automobile race featured five cars leaving New York for Seattle. A Model T Ford won the race, taking 21 days to complete the trek.

...Western Auto Supply Co. was founded in Kansas City by George Pepperdine.

...the Public Cup Vendor Co. began distributing free dispensers to customers who contracted to buy their Dixie Cups.

...the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the Detroit Tigers in the World Series, four games to three.

...Rose O’Neill, author-illustrator, patented her Kewpie figure but the doll didn’t debut until 1913.

...the U. S. Army built Alcatraz prison in San Francisco Bay.

...U. S. lumber production reached its peak.

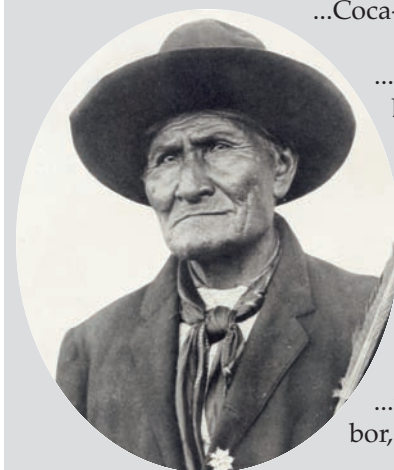
...Coca-Cola was exported for the first time to Britain.

...G. Washington introduced instant coffee in Brooklyn.

...Ole Evinrude of Wisconsin invented the out-board motor.

...the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was founded.

...the U. S. Navy established a base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.



Geronimo at the 1904 World’s Fair in St. Louis

...Geronimo died at age 86 of pneumonia near Fort Sill, Oklahoma.



Interior of the Modern Mercantile Co., ca. 1923. Paris A. Christeson (at far left in picture), after teaching school in Dixon in 1909-10, became manager of the store in 1912. He later bought the mercantile and operated it until 1942. He was in the grocery business during World War II and after the war ended he opened a dry goods store which he ran until his death in 1956. Paris Christeson was active in most of the lodge activities in Dixon, was a charter member of the Lions Club, served on the school board, and was president of State Bank. Photo courtesy of the Jessie McCulley Library, Dixon.