

One hundred years ago the major news stories were about community improvement and roads.

Crocker continued to have problems with its electric light plant, remaining in the dark all year. Richland's electric service was more dependable. Bennett Skaggs from Iberia upgraded his already dependable electric service in Dixon. Waynesville, the county seat, still did not have a municipal light plant.

There was intense interest as to the route of the primary road across the Ozarks. The Centennial Road Law passed in 1921 and the subsequent 60 million dollar bond issue approved by the voters was aimed at getting (most) of Missouri "out of the mud." A considerable amount of work was done on Highway 14 (St. Louis to Springfield Road) in 1924, with the completion of the bridges at Devils Elbow and Hazelgreen.

Economic conditions and population growth were "steady."

1924

January 3
Dixon Pilot

Bank of Waynesville Closed.

We understand the Bank of Waynesville, at Waynesville, was closed at about 3:00 p. m. yesterday on account of its obligations being entirely too heavy to meet.

The bank was once considered unusually strong for this section, showing a financial statement of nearly half a million dollars, seems to have hovered more or less in the throes of death ever since the speculations of Cashier L. B. Bell, who suddenly terminated his career and his part of the troubles by shooting himself while alone at his home at Waynesville.

The defaulting of the Bank of Waynesville is a heavy blow to many good citizens of Pulaski County, including some in and near Dixon, and will be felt by many business

men and others who were not interested in the bank.

January 10
Richland Mirror
Big Fur Sale

The L. Kreitzer Fur Company of Richland last week sold to an Eastern firm 25,000 choice fur pelts consisting mostly of o'possum and mink. The goods were shipped by express.

The draft received for this lot of furs was the largest ever handled by any of our local banks.

February 7
Richland Mirror
BANKS CONSOLIDATED
Bank of Richland and Pulaski
County Bank Consolidate.
Capital and Surplus \$75,000.00
Resources More Than
a Half Million Dollars

On Monday, February 4, the Bank of Richland and Pulaski County Bank was consolidated. This is a

combination of two of the oldest and strongest banks in the country. The Pulaski County Bank was organized in 1889, and the Bank of Richland in 1895.

The history of these banks is well known to all. They have weathered the gales of droughts, panics, and deflated times, and at all times have been considered institutions to be proud of.

For some time it has been the opinion of business men that safer and better banking for the community could be had with fewer banks and that better and broader service could be given by combining the strength of these two old banks, and it was along these lines the consolidation was worked out.

As the Pulaski County bank is the older of the two banks, being the first bank organized in this part of the country, the name will be retained. The Stockholders of both banks will retain their interests and members of both the old Boards

Pulaski News

compiled and edited by Terry Primas



News and Views of 100 Years Ago 75 Years Ago

The newspapers of Pulaski County had one change of ownership in 1923. W. H. Woodhouse became Owner and Editor of the *Richland Mirror* in 1922, taking over from R. T. Lemons, who bought the paper in 1917. Woodhouse then sold the paper to H. S. Rittenhouse in October of 1923 and he continued as editor in 1924. Charles Iden was Editor and Publisher and Josie M. Iden the Local Editor of the *Crocker News*. The *Dixon Pilot* continued in the capable hands of Arundel Goforth, who billed the *Pilot* as the "Only Republican paper in Pulaski County". V. V. Long, who took over the *Pulaski County Democrat* in 1914, continued at the helm of the county seat publication. However, a 1940 fire incinerated the newspaper issues from 1918 to late 1940, so none survive on microfilm.

of Directors will be represented on the board of the new consolidated organization.

The public is advised that there will be no change in the policy of the bank and that all customers will be treated with the same courtesy and that the business will be carried on as usual in the most business-like manner in conformity with good banking.

February 14
Crocker News
Stockholders of Bank of Waynesville
Subscribe \$80,000
to Cover Losses

At the meeting here Saturday afternoon of the bondsmen and stockholders of the Bank of Waynesville, called by Leon Clippard, State Bank Examiner in charge, \$80,000 was subscribed by the bondsmen and stockholders, which in addition to the capital stock amounting to \$56,000 and time certificates amounting to \$82,000 held by stockholders that are to be surrendered, is

presumed sufficient to pay creditors of the Bank.

The \$80,000 subscribed is to be paid to Frank C. Milspaugh, Commissioner of Finance, not later than February 14th, 1924, and promptly upon receipt of all payments the \$200,000 bond held by the State Department of Finance will be returned to the bondsman.

When the money subscribed is all paid to Commissioner of Finance, Frank C. Milspaugh will probably appoint G. W. Lane Special Deputy Commissioner of Finance to liquidate the bank.—*Pulaski County Democrat.*

Richland Mirror

School Bonds Sold

On last Monday night the Board of Education met and received bids for the sale of the schoolhouse bonds and the Liberty Central Trust company of St. Louis was successful in obtaining them. The next step will

be to start excavating for the erection of the new building. Let's go. It will all work out alright.

February 21

Richland Mirror

Material for School Building Purchased

The School Board met last Friday night, and among other business transacted, they purchased the brick, finishing lumber and mill material for the proposed new school building. There were four bids, the Richland Lumber Co. received the order, their bid being the lowest.

The new building will be a brick structure 78x118 feet, two stories and basement, with twenty rooms. It will be as nearly modern as possible. We understand the exact location will be decided at the annual school election.

February 28

Crocker News

Rev. Paul Bennett, evangelist, of

Springfield, will hold a series of meetings in the Wake mill building beginning Monday night of next week. [*We will see the Reverend again in the 1949 News when he is preaching and selling catfish in Doolittle.*]

Richland Mirror

Work on the big bridges over the Gasconade and Big Piney rivers [*at Hazelgreen and Devils Elbow*] on the Springfield-St. Louis highway is progressing satisfactorily according to A. P. Mobberly, division engineer, who spent several days in Pulaski County inspecting roads and bridges.

March 6

Richland Mirror

Richland School Notes

Supt. Chas. A. Lee makes the following announcement concerning qualification for teachers. All teachers in first class high schools in Missouri must have a College degree for the school term beginning Sept 1, 1924.

This is the first time a definite "College hour" requirement has been made for teachers in all high schools and grades of the state.

The former standards only stated the number of College hours teachers must have in the subjects they taught, except in Teachers Training schools, where a definite number of College hours for high school and grade teacher had been required ever since this work began about ten years ago.

The above requirement is placed

upon all new teachers in first class high schools, but those already teaching will not be disqualified providing they make at least five hours each year either in residence or by correspondence or extension.

Elementary teachers in first class high school must have completed 50 hours of College work by Sept 1, 1924, and 60 hours by Sept. 1, 1925. All College hour requirements are in addition to four years of high school work...

March 27

Crocker News and Richland Mirror

Rainbow Trout for Roubidoux

Geo. T. Hoops, one of our successful and enthusiastic anglers, received a shipment of 10,000 rainbow trout from the Springfield hatchery Monday which were released in the Big Spring [*Roubidoux*] at Waynesville which empties into the Roubidoux. V. V. Long of Waynesville and C. A. Burchard, of Springfield, also assisted in securing the shipment, they also being lovers of game fishing.

Fishermen are asked to use care in taking minnows from the Roubidoux for bait this season and if any young trout are caught in trap or seins to see that they are returned to the water uninjured. These trout which are a very gamey fish, will probably reach one pound in weight this summer and sportsmen are urged to throw back any that may be caught this season, leaving them until next year when they will have grown to about 1½ pounds. In taking them from the hook always wet



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Main Street in Crocker, ca 1924

the hand before touching the fish as the dry hand will lift the protective slime from the body of the fish, causing a fungus growth to develop which will kill them. A commendable effort is being made to stock our waters with good fish and the cooperation of all in properly protecting them is urged.

About fifteen applications have been made for bass and crappie for the Gasconade and another shipment of trout is expected. *[These fish came from the state's Sequiota Hatchery in Springfield. It was the second fish hatchery established by the state, the first being in Forest Park in St. Louis.]*

April 3
Richland Mirror
School Election

The school election was quite spirited Tuesday, the vote for directors practically being to decide whether the new fine building should be erected on the old site where the buildings are now located, or on larger grounds about two blocks from present location. The directors voted on were: G. R. Chalfant and A. C. Traw, favoring the old site, and V. G. Sisk and O. H. Belshe, favoring the new location.

May 8
Crocker News

Fourteen to Graduate

The Senior Class of the Crocker High School consists of 14 members who will graduate May 16th as follows: Mabel Carmack, Carrie Claiborn, Laura Faust, Ruby Hendricks, Irene Kehler, Ethel Peterson, Emma Williams, Luther Hamilton, Paul Poulson, Ralph Hamilton, Dru-ra Salveter, Gaines Pugh, Herbert Crews and Arthur Teeple. Luther Hamilton is valedictorian.

May 22
Dixon Pilot

Wielandy Fish Commissioner

All true sportsmen will be pleased with the appointment by Governor Hyde of Hon. Frank H. Wielandy, a prominent business man of St. Louis, as State Game and Fish

Commissioner. He is not a political machine man, but a man that has devoted much time during the last twenty-five years to protecting game and fish and the general furthering of the sportsmen's interests and no man is better fitted for or will take more interest in the work of that office than Mr. Wielandy.

He is State Honorary President of the Izaak Walton League—the man the Dixon Chapter has been communicating with relative to addressing the local Chapter at an early date when the Chapter expects to have some fishing scenes shown at the movie show.

Mr. Wielandy is financially and otherwise interested in Pulaski county, as he owns several acres of land on the river. *[Wielandy's property was near Frank's Switch and known as Blue Jay Farm. It still operates today as a resort.]*

May 29

Talk Well Received.

The talk on the Izaak Walton League by Hon. Frank H. Wielandy of St. Louis, who is our present State Game and Fish Commissioner, was attended at the Legion Hall Monday night by a larger audience than had been expected on account of so much rain. Those who failed to attend missed something worth while. Those who were there were well paid and very appreciative. *[Dixon established an Izaak Walton League chapter in April. The conservation organization was organized in 1922 in Chicago and by 1924 had 100,000 members nationwide. A strong conservation ethic was forming in the country and Missouri.]*

April 10
Richland Mirror

Workmen have commenced excavating for the basement to our new \$35,000 school building.

June 5
Crocker News

Big Circus Coming

A. B. Campbell and Lucky Bill's

Big Consolidated Shows will spread their thousands of yards of canvas and give two full and complete performances at Crocker, Saturday, June 7.

These big shows are transported on their own special train, consisting of 25 high power circus equipped motor trucks, carrying 100 real people, 100 performing horses, mules and ponies. A \$75,000 collection of wild beasts and birds from all parts of the world.

In the big show you will see 20 big feature circus acts such as The Famous Alton Family of Acrobats, Lillian Wilson and Helen Riddle, renowned aerialists, featuring their own original iron jaw death whirl act; The Larkins, world renowned club and novelty jugglers; Prof. Wilson with his educated dogs and performing ponies; LaBlanche DeFrance will appear in person mounted on Prince Knight, the \$5,000 Arabian High School horse;

The three Kays, Dick, May and Tom, equilibriasts, said to be the best hand and head balancing act on the road. Cupid, the pony with a human brain; Eddie Alton and his better half, the original clown Rubes with ten other funny fellows that will keep you laughing from the opening until the coming of the big show. Prof. Cunningham, an animal trainer of the Hagenbach Show, will appear at each performance with his performing elephants. In the Wild West arena there will be a reproduction of the Golden West, staged by professional cow boys and cow girls, mounting and riding the best bunch of wild outlaw horses carried by any show.

The best of music featuring a ladies' band.

There will be a parade of over a half a mile in length at 12:30 p.m. sharp rain or shine. You have seen the minnows now come and see the whale. Two performances daily 2:00

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Richland Mirror

Work on our new school building has been delayed somewhat by the wet weather the past few days. We are expecting the bright days of June to be more favorable.

Izaak Walton Rod and Gun Club

An Izaak Walton Rod and Gun Club was organized here July 26, 1924. The following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing year:

- W. S. Warren, President
- Chas. J. Seeburger, V Pres.
- O. H. Belshe, Secretary
- H. R. Cowan, Treasurer

The Club has 26 charter members. Various members have been appointed on committees and are drafting by-laws



and rules for the organization.

June 12

Crocker News

Under New Management

Ben Adams, owner of the Ozark Telephone System, has been here this week and informs us that he has employed C. F. Bryant of Dixon to take full charge of the Crocker and Waynesville exchanges and lines. Mr. Bryant, who was formerly Frisco agent here, will move to Crocker soon.

June 19

Dixon Pilot

The Gasconade Dam

The primary step in the development of the water power project on the Gasconade River was completed on June 4th when the Federal Water Power Commission authorized the preliminary permit for this project. This means that the development company, The Central Missouri Power and Water Company, will

proceed with plans for the immense dams and power houses that will in a few years convert what now is practically an undeveloped into an industrial district to central Missouri. An abundance of power will be available for lighting all the towns and houses and farms within a radius of 100 miles and furnish power for operating all the many labor saving electrical devices for the farms and homes.

Present plans call for the construction of a dam 95 feet high which will impound the waters of the river so that there will be formed a beautiful lake from one-half to a mile wide and over fifty miles long. What an ideal site the shores of this lake would make for the long talked of State Park in Missouri. [Missouri had no state parks at this point but on October 17, 1924, Big Springs became the first state park. The state park fund was created in 1917 using

revenue from the fish and game department and that department became responsible for the new parks. Frank Wielandy, State Game and Fish Commissioner, traveled the state looking for good sites to recommend for park acquisition. By the end of 1925, there were eight state parks.]

The main power house will have six or seven huge water turbines, each designed to deliver 7,000 horsepower, and each turbine operating an electrical generator having a capacity of 5,000 kilowatts of electrical energy. The complete development is estimated to cost ten million dollars and furnish 80,000 horsepower of energy continuously as long as the Gasconade River flows. with a load factor of 40 per cent, which is common, industries and manufactures using 75,000 horsepower can be taken care of, and with abundant power and the advantages of securing a better rate

Pulaski County Missouri USA

Located at 137 St. Robert Blvd. in St. Robert, the Pulaski County Visitors Center has everything you need to fully experience your trip to our county. Stop by for valuable visitor information including directions, suggestions and recommendations from trained and friendly staff.

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of labor than the cities afford, manufacturers will be attracted to this new industrial district in Missouri. Farm values will increase and a better market will be opened for farm products. The largest lake in the Central West will attract large numbers of tourists and the banks of the lake will be dotted with attractive summer cottages and resorts. The picture is an alluring one, and brings south Missouri and the Ozarks to their own.

Of course there is a tremendous amount of money to be raised, which must be raised among those whose foresight can carry them through the two or three years of construction period, and the year or two more required to develop the territory, bring industries into the district and work the plant up to the point where returns are satisfactory. A large investment in pole lines to distribute the current will call for the assistance of the towns which will be benefited, but it is hoped

that a large share of the stock in the plants can be owned by the people who live in the towns and counties along the Gasconade River, so that they can point with pride to the lake and power plants and say, "We built these—see the splendid results of our work."

The preliminary investigations for the project and designs and plans have been made by E. L. Williams of the Clark E. Jacoby Engineering Company, Interstate Building, Kansas City, Missouri, who make a specialty of water power development.

July 3

Crocker News

Captured and Escaped

John L McDowell was arrested Saturday morning at his home near Hawkeye, west of Crocker, and brought here on a moonshine charge, but made his escape from the office of Justice of the Peace A. J. Woodin while the officers were making the returns on the search

warrant used in making the raid. The room filled up with a curious crowd and the prisoner quietly slipped out and made his get-away to the hills west of town and is still at liberty.

J. A. Williams and Al Moore accompanied by J. F. Burgess found about 25 gallons of mash in a thicket near the home of the accused Friday. Constable Williams and his deputy, Mr. Moore, lay in wait all night. On Saturday morning they went to the McDowell home and found a quantity of liquor, after which McDowell, who was plowing in the field nearby was arrested and brought to Crocker. The capture was cleverly made but—the prisoner is gone. Walked out in the presence of the men who captured him, the prosecuting attorney, justice of the peace and a number of citizens.

July 10

Alleged Moonshiner Released

John L. McDowell, of near Hawkeye, who was arrested more than a week ago on a liquor charge and made his getaway from the office of Prosecuting Attorney Johnson, appeared before Justice Woodin Tuesday morning and pled guilty to a charge of possessing liquor and was given 6 months in jail and fined \$200 and costs and judgment was suspended during good behavior on payment of the costs, \$20.90.

July 17

To The Public

No doubt, every reader of the News read the item in last week's issue headed "Alleged Bootlegger Released," purporting to give details of a charge and plea of guilty made by J. L. McDowell, of Hawkeye, Missouri, for bootlegging. I wish to announce to the public that the settlement of that case in the manner reported was without my consent, and against my opposition, as I insisted upon a rigorous prosecution.

John Williams
Deputy Constable, Tavern Twp
Pulaski County, Missouri.

July 31

Dixon Pilot

State Roads in the County.

The estimated cost of state roads in Pulaski County is \$1,138,000 or approximately \$15,800 per mile.

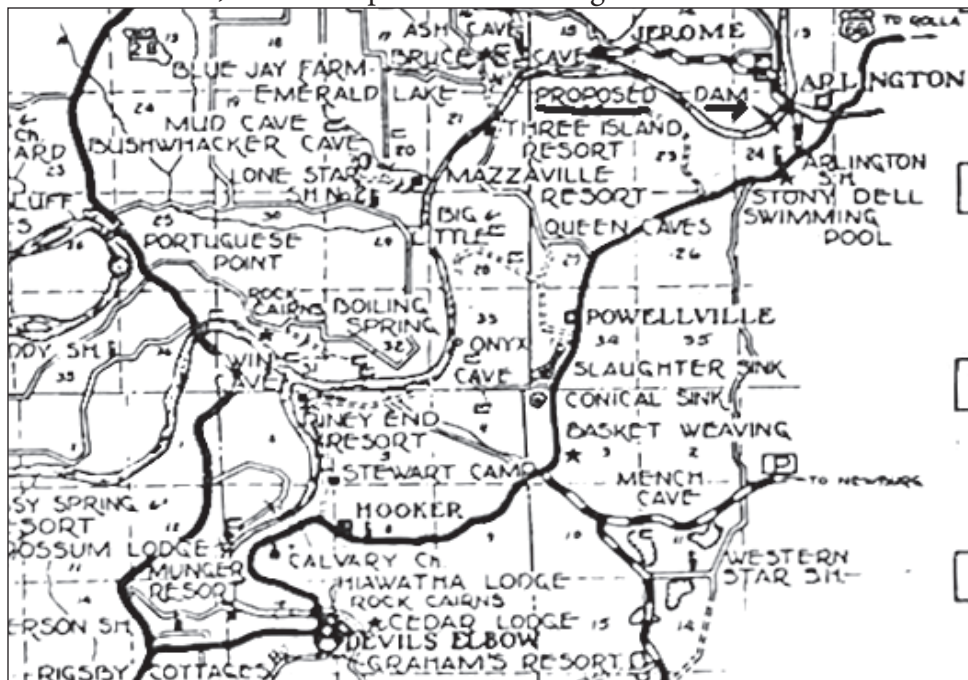
Contracts for state roads and bridges in the county have been let to the value of \$455,900. On June 1, 1924, there had been paid out on construction contracts in the county \$321,700.

In 1923, the Department paid out for maintenance of the state roads, improved and unimproved, in the county \$8,910 or an average of \$113 per mile. With greater available revenue, the annual expenditures for maintenance in the county will increase. State maintenance of all state roads releases local money for the care of other roads in the county,

The 737 motor vehicles registered in the county in 1923 paid approximately \$6,200 to the state road fund.

Under Proposal No. 5, the Highway Commission's plan for speeding up and finishing the state roads and providing perpetual maintenance, the same number of automobiles would pay, under the increased registration fees, approximately \$9,110, the proposed increase being \$3.50 a year on the Ford type of car and \$5.50 on the Dodge type.

Proposal 5 also provides a tax of 2 cents a gallon on gasoline used in propelling motor vehicles on the roads. [The large sum expended for roads in Pulaski was primarily for the improvement of the state primary road Highway 14, which included two bridges: the concrete Roubidoux Creek bridge was completed at the end of 1923 and the steel bridge at Devils Elbow was completed at the beginning of 1924. Proposition No. 5, passed in 1923, marked the beginning of a sales tax on gasoline but only applied to gasoline used in vehicles (autos and trucks) that traveled state roads. The price of gasoline in 1924 was 20-21 cents. It is interesting to note that there were less than 750 autos in Pulaski in 1924.]



The location of the proposed dam on the Gasconade near Arlington is noted on this 1935 F.E.R.A. map. An arrow is pointing to it in the upper right hand corner. The Powersite Dam near Forsyth formed Lake Taneycomo and was completed in 1913. It was the first hydroelectric dam in Missouri. Bagnell Dam construction started in 1929 and was completed in 1931. It formed the Lake of the Ozarks. When Bagnell was finished and began generating electricity, the urgency for a hydroelectric dam on the Gasconade decreased. However, succeeding Congressmen kept the proposal on the drawing board, well into the twentieth century. In January of 1965, Representative Dick Ichord of Houston got \$35,000 to do yet another study of dams on the Gasconade at Arlington and Richland but interest faded after that.

July 31

*Crocker News***Eastern Man Buys Light Plant**

Bennett Skaggs, proprietor of the Iberia and Dixon electric light plants returned Tuesday from New York City and Hoboken, New Jersey, where he consummated a deal that is assured will result in the transfer of the ownership of both the Iberia and Dixon plants. The purchaser is J. Sullivan of Hoboken and the purchase price \$15,000. Mr. Sullivan expects to take charge of the system in about two months or just as soon as he can get franchises and a permit for transfer of ownership from the Missouri Public Service Commission.

The object of the new promoter is eventually, probably within the next twelve months, to provide Iberia, Dixon, and Crocker with all day light and power service from a central plant to be located at Dixon, by running high tension transmitting wires to Iberia and Crocker. Mr. Sullivan is financially able to make the system a strong one and his aim is to give all day service at a rate commensurate with the service.

August 21

*Crocker News***Power on Gasconade**

The federal water power commission has issued a preliminary permit to the Central Missouri Power and Water company, represented by E. L. Williams of the Clark E. Jacoby Engineering company, Interstate building, Kansas City, to develop water power near Arlington on the Gasconade river.

Plans call for a dam 95 feet high, a lake one-half to one mile wide, 50 miles long, seven turbines, each of 5,000 k.w.h. capacity.—*Springfield Leader*.

We hope this project materializes as it will put Crocker near the head of a lake equal in size to the famous Taneycomo at Hollister, and give this section the rich advantages of electric power in tremendous quantity.

September 4

*Richland Mirror***School Notes**

Our regular school year began Monday with record enrollment. There were 123 pupils enrolled in the high school the first day. What a pity that we couldn't begin work in our new building. Work, however, is progressing nicely on our new building and we hope to be in it in a few weeks. Tuition [for non-residents] in the High School is very low, only \$2.50 per month. This is much lower than in many places.

September 11

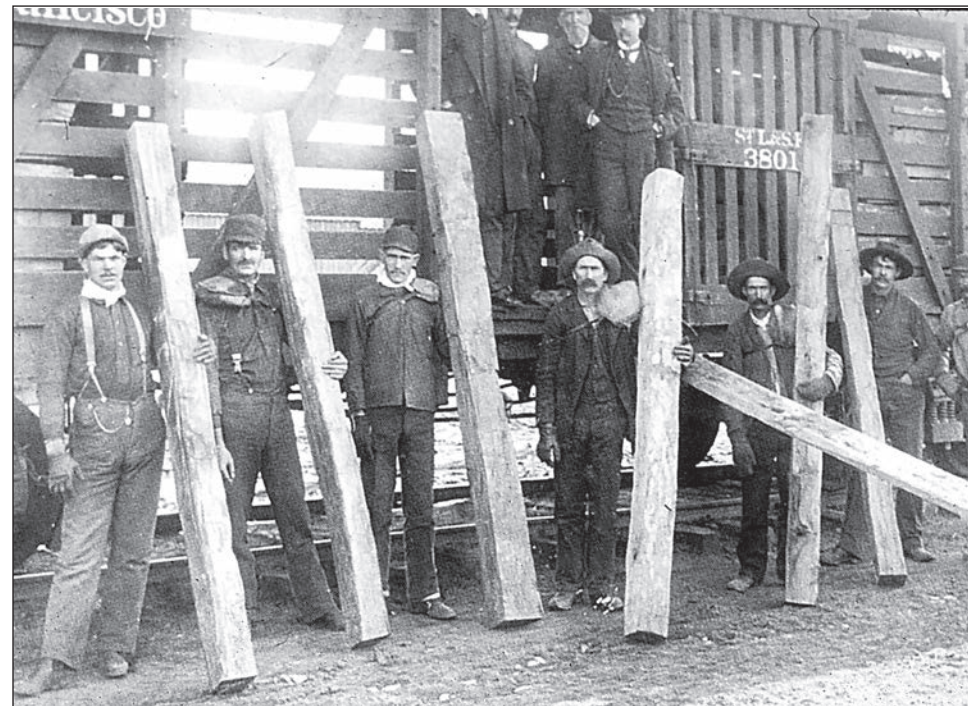
Crocker News

C. F. Bryant, local manager of the Ozark Telephone System, informs us that the system has been sold to R. E. Strange, of Granite City, Ill.

The Hobart Lee Tie Co. loaded out three cars of ties here this week. J. B. Sullins, local buyer, informs us that he had more than 10,000 ties on the yard the first of the week.

September 25

George M. Reed, county highway engineer, is staking out highway routes for Hwy 17. State highway



Men load hand hewn ties into a Frisco boxcar. Most protected their carrying shoulder with a leather pad and protected their neck from the rough ties with a thick bandana. Hundreds of thousands of ties were shipped from the depots at Dixon, Crocker, and Richland in 1924. Courtesy of John Bradbury.

construction starts soon.

October 2

William H. Lynch Dead

Prof. William H. Lynch, 85 years old, field representative of Southwest Missouri State Teachers college, died this Monday morning at 2 o'clock at the Springfield Baptist hospital following an operation. Prof. Lynch was said to have been the oldest educator in this section of the state. He had been connected with school work for the past 62 years and was well known throughout the state. He was born September 6, 1839, at Houston, Texas county, Mo. and was a resident of Southwest Missouri all his life. He is survived by one daughter Miss Florence Lynch, of Springfield, and one brother, Dr. R. B. Lynch of Plato.

Richland Mirror

UNDER WAY

Mays Ford Low Water Bridge Under Construction

Work is being rushed on the new low water bridge at Mays Ford and it is confidently expected that this much needed bridge will be completed before January 1st, 1925. Two loads of cement have been received and a building has been erected in

which to store it. About twenty-five men are now busy with the excavations on the east side of the river and forms are being constructed for the arches, which will be built first and the flow of water turned through them so that the concrete construction over the main river bed can be accomplished.

This is an enterprise which should receive the support of everyone interested in the prosperity of this section of Pulaski County.

October 9

WORTHY PROJECT

Movement on Foot to Bridge the Gasconade River at Mays Ford Give This Project our Serious Consideration

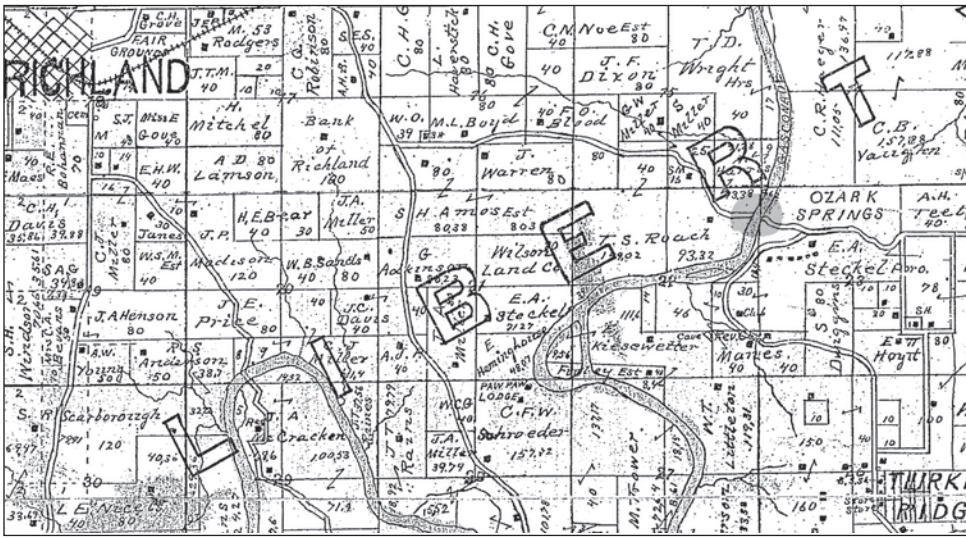
There is a most worthy project on foot at this time to build a low water concrete bridge across the Gasconade River at Mays Ford, about 3½ miles east of Richland.

As shown by the blue prints the bridge is to be 285 feet long and 14 feet wide, with two 8x4½ ft. arches and one 10x4½ ft. arch on the east side, with an extreme height of seven feet above the lowest point in the river.

Permission has already been obtained from the state and Federal Government for the construction of such a bridge across the river at this point.

The estimated cost of the complete structure is \$2,242.60. The estimated cost of material required is \$1,242.60, one-half \$621.30 to be raised by popular subscription, and the other half \$621.30 to be paid by the county. The \$1,000 for labor, estimated at 400 days work, has already been subscribed by the citizens of the Turkey Ridge neighborhood. Messrs. E. A. Steckel and S. S. McMillan are bondsmen for the completion of the work in an acceptable manner.

A bridge across the Gasconade at Mays Ford would add to the Richland trade territory an area of 27 square miles with 119 families according to the last Pulaski County



Mays Ford's location (on today's Rochester Road) is indicated by the gray circle below the block capital "R" on this 1924 plat map. There were numerous small farms on the east side of the ford and the five to ten acre ranchettes at Turkey Ridge (on present Highway W), which had a new schoolhouse and grocery store.

map. It would make the Richland courthouse more accessible to them as a trading point by shortening the distance some twenty miles for the round trip. To come to Richland now they have to come around and cross the river on the Richland-Waynesville bridge, a distance of about fourteen miles. The new bridge would enable them to reach here by traveling about four miles. Not only will this project, when completed, add this large number of families to Richland's trade territory, but add another rural mail route from this place giving employment at good pay to another carrier.

The building of this bridge would be under the supervision of the County Highway Engineer and not one cent of the amount subscribed is to be paid until the completed bridge has been approved by the County Highway Engineer.

The Mirror heartily endorses this project, believing that it will result in attracting more families to this place, not to speak of many other benefits and believes that everyone interested in Richland's prosperity should do their part toward the building of this needed bridge.

November 20

Richland Mirror

SCHOOL NOTES

The children of Richland will

spend the rest of their school life, with all its vigor, cheerfulness and satisfaction in a new, modern building.

Friday and Saturday of last week were set apart for moving days, and with the exception of one or two small mechanical jobs, in the way of adjustments, the task was completed in due time.

Monday morning at 8:30 o'clock found the students snugly fixed in their new home. They show every attitude of appreciation of their comforts.

Candidly, it doesn't seem possible when one looks upon the long lines of children, filing into the great hall and corridors of the new building, that they could have been seated in the old home.

There is no question but that more work with greater ease and efficiency can be done in less time. It is a great incentive to both students and teachers to know they are as well situated as other people in other communities and towns.

The student body and teachers unite in their thanks and gratitude to all who have had to do with the new building.

November 27

Dixon Pilot

Modern Light Plant for Dixon

The new light plant that Bennett



Mays Ford was unfordable when the Gasconade rose just a few feet. E. A. Steckel, owner of Ozark Springs Resort and developer of nearby Turkey Ridge, had been lobbying Pulaski County for a bridge at the ford since 1914. The county authorized a concrete low water bridge after the local residents agreed to pay half the cost. The bridge was not completed until 1925, which will be covered in next year's Gazette. If you cannot wait, see the 2011 Gazette article titled "E. A. Steckel: The Man Who Put Richland and Turkey Ridge and the Ozark Springs Resort On the Map" by John Bradbury and available on our web site noted above. Image courtesy of John Bradbury.

Skaggs is installing in the new building he had erected for the purpose on the old Ozark Livery Stable site is one of the most modern and undoubtedly will be one of the most efficient light and power plants in this section of Missouri.

A new 75-horse twin cylinder Fairbanks-Morse oil engine and a new generator, starter and other equipment have just been put in place and Mr. Skaggs expects to be able to give the new plant a tryout within the next week. The service though will be continued from the old plant for a while, till the new plant can be properly wired in.

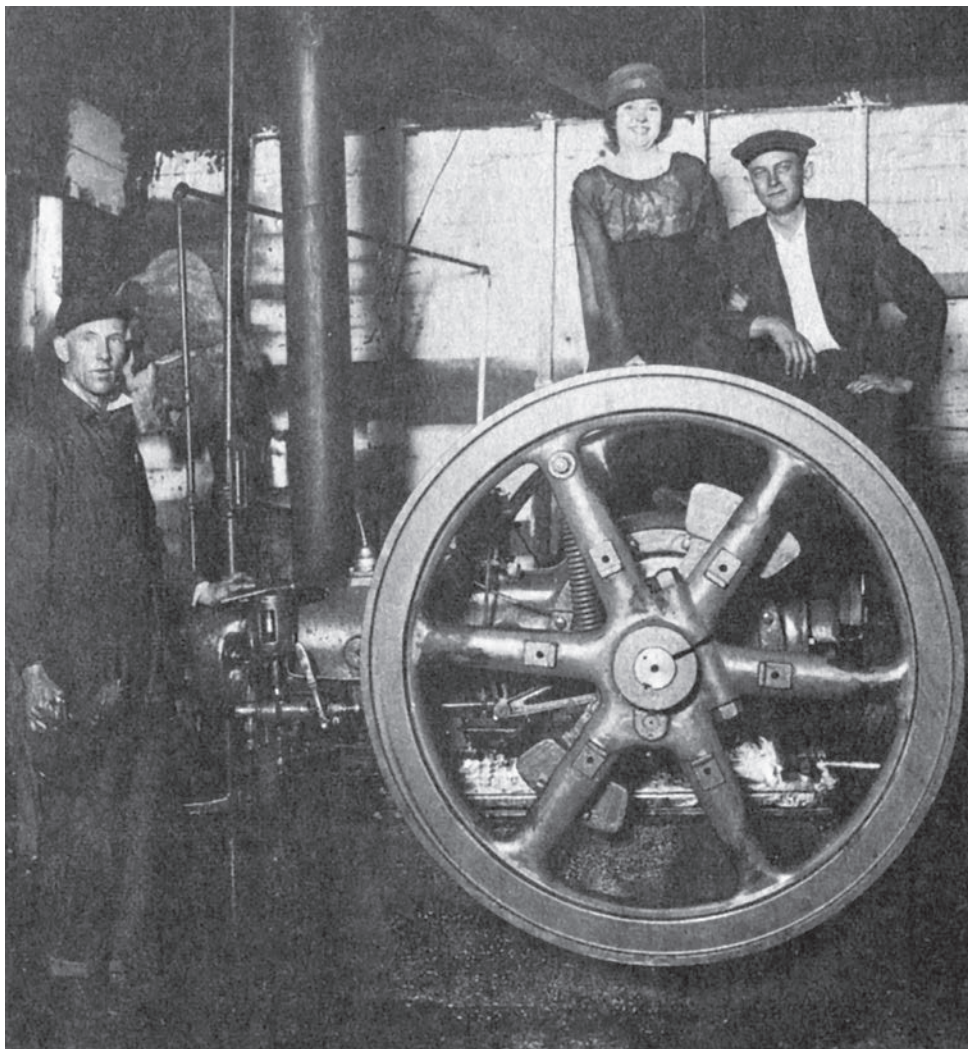
It is Mr. Skaggs intention during the winter to inaugurate a practically continuous service, running from four o'clock in the morning till eleven thirty at night.

The new plant has necessitated the expenditure of a great deal of money, but Mr. Skaggs is neither sparing money nor effort to make the plant second to none within many miles of Dixon, and if our people will go look at this up-to-date plant will see the biggest engine ever installed here. The commodious building

erected for the purpose, well lighted by plenty of large windows, look at the solid concrete bases under the different machines, note that practically all piping is being placed under surface of the concrete floor, and you can't help but better appreciate what Mr. Skaggs is trying to do for Dixon, and to do his best he needs co-operation on the part of the public—and deserves it.

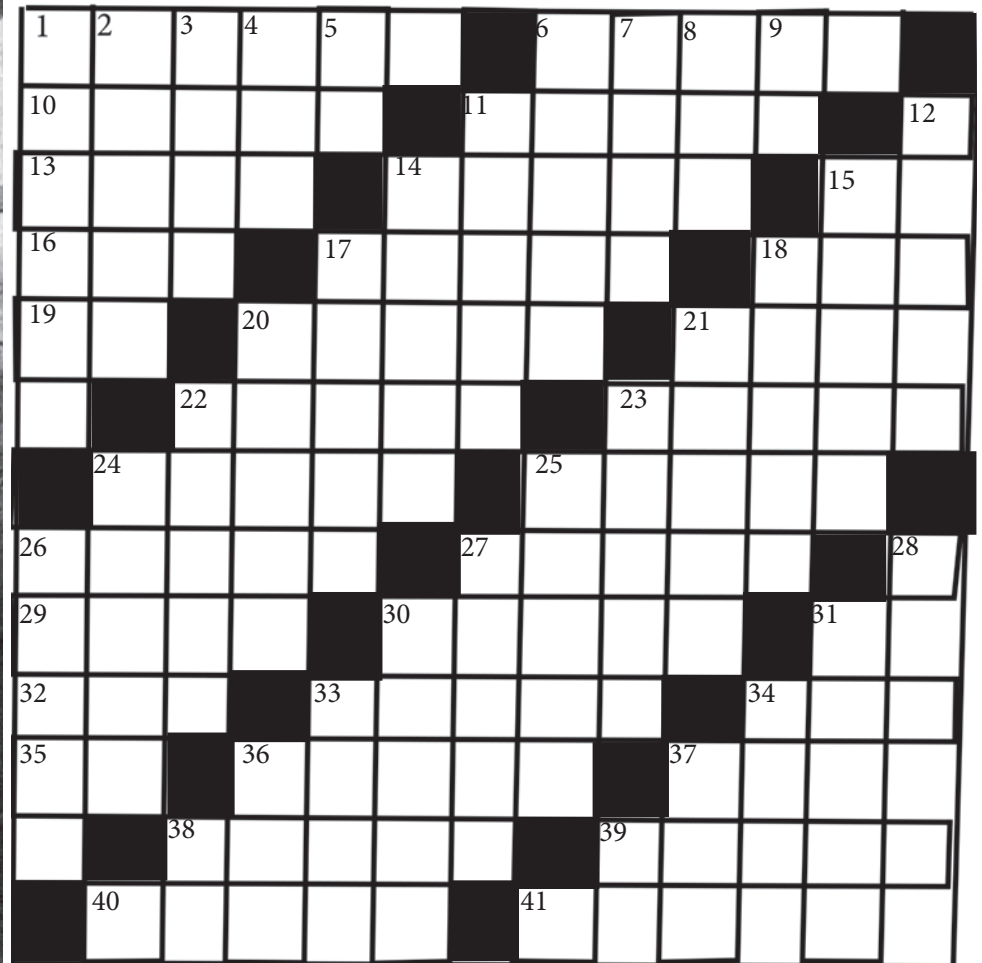
A big well is being dug to supply water for cooling the huge engine, and enough water is now running into it to require the service of a call engine to pump the water out of the way so the work of digging can progress, but not enough water is running in to supply the big engine. Fuel oil for the engines is piped from the Frisco tracks to the storage tanks at the rear of the plant.

Mr. Skaggs has been personally supervising the work and intends to remain on the job till everything is in apple-pie running order at the new plant. He is justly proud of the fine new plant and takes pleasure in showing visitors through and explaining the working of the same.



Bennett Skaggs, right, poses with his wife Myrtle on the new 75 horsepower Fairbanks-Morse engine that powered the Dixon Light Plant. At left is Lester Loveall, who helped install the engine in 1924. It seems a deal to sell the light plant, as well as the plant at Iberia which Skaggs also owned, fell through so Skaggs upgraded the Dixon plant. Two years later, Skaggs also built an ice plant in Dixon. Centennial Souvenir booklet *Dixon, Missouri 1869-1969*.

“THE HEAVENLY STAIRWAY”



Horizontal.

- 1—Relating to a hundred
- 6—The contrabass
- 10—Watchful
- 11—Musical instrument
- 13—Inter
- 14—Food containing gelatin
- 15—Thus
- 16—Stir
- 17—Completely
- 18—Shelter
- 19—Definite article (French)
- 20—Poorly
- 21—Bodies of water
- 22—Substance used medicinally
- 23—Distributed
- 24—Seed of a fabaceous vine
- 25—Looks for
- 26—Slope
- 27—Vehicle on runners
- 29—Earth
- 30—Dams up
- 31—Forward
- 32—Belonging to it
- 33—Female horses
- 34—The sun
- 35—Not you
- 36—Spring flower
- 37—Noisy
- 38—A muscle
- 39—Deceitful
- 40—Smells strongly
- 41—Crude form of steps

Vertical.

- 1—Mystic art
- 2—Evade
- 3—Roman emperor
- 4—Assay
- 5—By
- 6—Bulging part
- 7—To unite
- 8—Crafty
- 9—In order that
- 11—Small rooms
- 12—Cook in oven
- 14—Magistrate
- 15—Closes
- 17—Hero of a drama by Goethe
- 18—Permits to escape
- 20—Burn with iron
- 21—Plants
- 22—College supervisors
- 23—Considers
- 24—Flat dish
- 25—Slumber
- 26—Viscous mud
- 27—To deprive
- 28—Anything that unites or cements
- 30—Auctions
- 31—To touse
- 33—Filth
- 34—Bartered
- 36—Bind together
- 37—Boy
- 38—Exist
- 39—Musical note

The Crossword Craze

The Roarin’ Twenties is famous for a number of things, not the least of which are flappers, speakeasies, and gangsters. It was also a decade of fads and crazes, which included kissing contests, marathon dancing, goldfish swallowing, and flagpole sitting.

In 1913, Arthur Wynne, an editor at the *New York World* newspaper, wanted a novel challenge for readers of the “Fun” section of jokes and puzzles that he managed. He developed a diamond-shaped word puzzle that he called “Word-Cross,” which had 31 clues. When it went to press, an illustrator changed the name to “Cross-word.”

The puzzles were published sporadically for the next decade in the New York paper. In 1924, a new publishing house called Simon and Schuster published a crossword puzzle book (with a pencil included) that sold 100,000 copies and the craze was on.

A crossword puzzle first appeared in our area newspapers on December 4, 1924, in the *Dixon Pilot* and the *Richland Mirror*. It may have appeared in the *Pulaski County Democrat*, too, but we don’t have a copy to view. We have reproduced that puzzle at right.

There are a couple of archaic words but most clues and answers are familiar to us today. So, pick up your pencil and give it a try. Answers on page 27.