

Landmark Tavern Bows

Blum Bros. Closes to Make Way for West Belt

By FREDERICK W. SLATER
(News-Press Staff Writer)

More than four score years of family operation of a riverfront tavern came to a close this month as Roy Blum Jr. locked the front door of Blum Brothers Tavern, 102 North 2d street.

Changing times—more particularly the acquisition of the property by the state highway department as part of a ramp for the new West Belt highway—forced the closing of Blum's.

Back at the turn of the century the saloon at the northwest corner of 2d and Felix street was in the center of activity. The city hall was just catty-corner, the Board of Trade Building was two blocks away at 3d and Edmond, busy commercial establishments were in the area — and for those who wanted spicier entertainment, there was Lucille Oakland's right in the neighborhood, plus some similar establishments.

A Hotel Declines

Today, with a number of other buildings in the area slated for razing for the highway project, the area has gone to pot. Even the former city market building, built in 1938, looks worse than the old city hall did at its worst. The Colonial Hotel, in which Blum's is housed, has only four occupants in its 38 lofty-ceilinged rooms where Frieda Blum, Roy's aunt, once presided, proud of the neatness of the hostelry.

Last week Roy, standing behind the 30-foot-long bar recalled he had had but little trouble with his customers since he began tending bar for his grandfather, the late Henry Blum.

"That was back in 1934 and I was still in high school so I grew up with the business. I have been here ever since, except for three years when I was in the army in Europe during World War II," he said.

Drink Supply Low

As he spoke he looked at eight bottles of beer, the only liquid refreshment left in the place.

"You know I never did drink or smoke. No one ever did either."

grandfather told me it was killed in Burr Oak Bottoms in Kansas more than 100 years old. There were three of them and the other two got away.

"This bar has already been sold and so has the back bar. A fellow named Thomas P. Henley is taking them to Rapid City, S.D., where he has restored an old-fashioned saloon.

A Fancy Name

"He's going to call it the 'Red Garter Saloon.' That's pretty fancy, isn't it? They're going to cut the bar and back bar into two sections so they can be moved by truck."

Roy said his grandfather, Henry Blum and a brother, Wilhelm, opened a bar in the Colorado House, just up 2d street, 83 years ago. The Getchell Laundry & Dry Cleaning Co. occupies the Colorado House site and adjacent property just north of Blum's.

"They moved down to the corner here in 1901 when the family purchased the Colonial Hotel. My Aunt Frieda ran the



Back in 1900 the Colonial Hotel, 2d and Felix street, which houses Blum Brothers Tavern, was in the heart of the city's business center. Now the building will be razed to make way for one of the new West Belt highway ramps.

Many manhole covers and sewer inlets in St. Joseph today bear the notation they were cast by that foundry.

Leased Out Saloon

When prohibition came along, the Blums got out of the tavern business temporarily.

"Grandfather leased out the saloon. But when beer came back in the early 1930s, he was back in business again," Roy stated. Roy took over the business completely after his father died in 1956. His aunt died in 1939.

"Ever been in the backroom?" he asked.

Leading the way to the rear of the building, he opened a door into a large, dusty room. Above the wainscoting were rectangular mirrors.

"This used to be nice looking but it's shot now. This was a wine room. In the old days women weren't allowed in saloons so they had wine rooms, where they served wine and food. This is where they came.

I still have my licenses you see.

Nursing Home Looms

"I don't know what's going to happen to the few people left in the hotel. They'll probably have to go to a nursing home, I don't know how they can scrape up the money as they are only on old age pensions. I hate to close the place but eventually the state will want possession and I'll have no choice," he said.

Even in its final days of operation, Blum's still kept a little touch of its days of glory. Roy, as he served beer in front of the backbar with its stained glass inserts, still wore a white shirt, a white jacket and a black tie. There was never any doubt that he was in charge. It reminded some of his customers of his grandfather, Henry, who died about the best loved man on 2d street.

In a few years time, the West Belt will be completed and cars and trucks will roll along a ramp over the old saloon site.

to Progress



Roy Blum Jr., operator of Blum Brothers Tavern, stands behind the 30-foot-long bar in the place. The bar has been sold and will be used in a restored "old time" saloon in Rapid City, S. D. At the upper right is the head of an elk killed in Burr Oak Bottoms 100 years ago.



Roy Blum Jr. prepares to knock some of the dust from the "seniors" elk in St. Joseph. The elk, according to tradition, was the last killed in this area, 100 years ago. It has hung for more than 66 years on the wall of Blum Brothers Tavern.



How



ered head on the wall, was the
last elk killed in his area. My

operated the Phoenix Foundry. Roy Sr. for many years had business and came to help Henry. Roy Blum Sr., left the foundry, at service in 1943, his father, when Roy went to World War II service in 1941.

the age of 85 in 1947.

until shortly before his death at Ulm Park on St. Joseph avenue, he was 12, working first at New way, tended bar from the time they II never come back," he told his friends. Henry, by the forget it. Give them more and "Give them less and they II to anyone.

was never to loan more than \$6 touches in the area. His policy out was one of the easiest eyeshade. He ran a strict saloon colorful characters of 2d street. Henry Blum was one of the he operated the place.

er had much trouble in the years parent that is one reason he nev- judging by Roy's size, it is ap- anding with his, Roy said.

Looking over the main bar-room, almost bare except for the bar, and one or two beer advertisements, Roy said, "It's about time we closed. We have agreed to the appraisal price set by the highway department. It is up to probate court now to approve the sale as the property is still part of the Blum estate. I'm glad to get out of the business, for a while at least. I'm building a house at Table Rock. I'm going to rest and then I'll decide if I will open another

- Bray

ns, Mo.—Maureen Andrews,
—will have three numbers in
I rating at both the district
name of the trio was taken
irls' first names.



City's 'oldest' tavern serves up new management



—Staff photos by IVAL LAWHON JR.

The First Ward House at St. Joseph and Grand avenues, as it appears now

By FREDERICK W. SLATER
Staff Writer

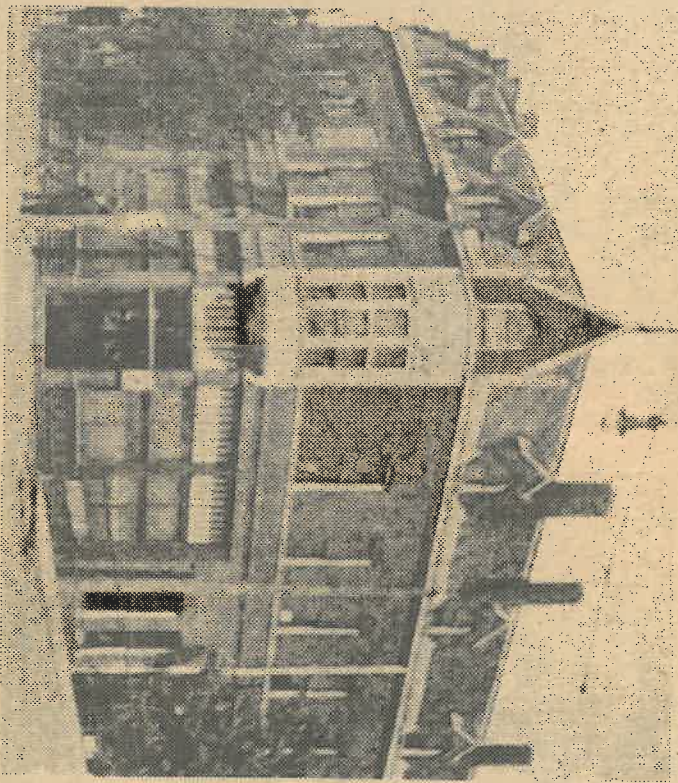
What is apparently the city's oldest "watering hole" in continuous operation, the First Ward House, is reopening this week under new management.

Old city directories, the property abstract and library files indicate the bar, originally part of a hotel operation at the northeast corner of St. Joseph and Grand avenues, dates back to 1878.

It was then that Mary Friede, who had operated a boarding house on St. Joseph Avenue, opened the three-story hotel, restaurant and bar. For years, the place housed North Side visitors, farmers and railroaders from the nearby Chicago Great Western operation.

The new owner and operator, Kenneth W. Reeder, 27, who has been in the real estate business, has been busy with clean-up operations. He opened the doors of the old tavern, complete with an ornate solid oak back bar, on Monday.

One of the restoration projects was



The tavern as it appeared 60 years ago



Ken Reeder stands by an old stained-glass divider

Joseph Avenue and from the northeast by way of the Grand River Road, which terminated at St. Joseph Avenue. Grand Avenue derives its name from the old road. In Mrs. Friede's

bar, and will restore a brass rail front of the bar. He is removing numerous coats of varnish from the bar and restoring a leaded stained glass divider found in the structure.

First Ward House gets another

New owner remodels
vexed historic tavern

By **TERRY RAFFENSPERGER**

Business Editor

St. Joseph's most enduring watering hole, the First Ward House, 2102 St. Joseph Ave., is back from edge of destruction with a new owner, a new look and a new lease on life.

The First Ward House, which is said to be oldest continuously operating saloon west of the Mississippi River, was heavily damaged a year ago by a fire. Some believed the small tavern had made its final last call.

Then-owner Mike Loyd, burned out with his experience at another night spot — Mojo's downtown nightclub — decided to get out of the bar business.

Enter Stuart Wyeth, who returned from Florida to his hometown of St. Joseph last November. He was tired of life in the fast lane as a tour director for an English travel company and was looking for a business opportunity in St. Joseph.

Mr. Wyeth is from the fourth generation of the family that owned the Wyeth Hardware Co., which outfitted the pioneers for their westward journey a century ago. The company went bankrupt and was dissolved in the late 1980s.

"I love this town, but I couldn't find work," he said. "When the opportunity became available to buy the First Ward House, I jumped in. I would hate to see the thing fall down. I used to hang out there when I was in town. It should be preserved. We've knocked enough buildings down



Customers celebrate the re-opening of the First Ward House. The tavern was heavily damaged a year ago by a fire. in this town."

The First Ward House was originally built as a three-story, 35-room hotel in 1878 — only two decades after the Pony Express.

The structure was used as a hotel until the late 1930s, and since then, it has survived primarily as a bar. Most of the landmark building was demolished in 1950,

and the loose bricks were used in the reconstruction of the Pony Express stables — now the Pony Express National Memorial.

Last year's fire virtually gutted

the interior of the Wyeth and his partner, Alsbury, started over.

"This was a major

Staff Photo

her shot

I threw out enough stuff to fill nine Dumpsters. It's a completely different building," he said.

The saloon has new walls and bathrooms and a new floor. He moved the bar to the other side of the building, exposed the bricks on the interior, installed track lighting and ceiling fans, put in four big bay windows with eastern exposure, and added a wood deck with tables out back. Two giant buffalo heads decorate one wall, adding to the saloon's Western decor.

Ted Hatfield, who recently restored a historic building on Fourth Street and converted it into a gun manufacturing facility and loft apartments, said he was impressed by what Mr. Wyeth had accomplished with the First Ward House.

"As saloons go, this is pretty nice," Mr. Hatfield said. "He's really done a nice kind of upscale interior on it. It's a nice change from a lot of the bars you see in town with its big open area, the ceiling fans and the windows, which lighten up the atmosphere. It's well done, and it should be a popular place."

Mr. Wyeth intends to continue the tradition of live music at the First Ward House on most weekends, featuring bands from St. Joseph, Kansas City and the region. On Wednesday nights, the saloon will have open-mike night for local musicians to jam together.

"I want to get away from the rough image it's had in the past. I want to change the atmosphere to a place where you can take a date and have a nice time and not get knocked over."

BUSI

Agriculture ■ 2/ Careers ■ INSIDE

In dividend income, a total of \$6,499.

But, as of June 30, the account would have been worth only \$15,377. That, of course, is \$5,377 more than the original investment but less than the total of dividends and capital gains received.

The difference, Negri said, is the effect of the 4.75 percent initial sales charge and a \$647 decline in the net asset value of the fund—a reminder of the surge in interest rates last year, which hurt bond values. While bond prices have since turned around, the effects of the losses linger, he said, and the fund, which invests in emerging markets, also was hurt by the Mexican peso devaluation.

How did Oppenheimer's competitors do? With the help of Morningstar Inc., the mutual fund research service, we took a look at

Colonial Strategic Income Fund (A). Five-year annual return: 9.97 percent. Performance: average minus. Risk: Average minus. Yield: 8.4 percent.

Putnam Diversified Income Fund (A). Five-year annual return: 11.5 percent. Performance: average. Risk: low. Yield: 8.3 percent.

Janus Flexible Income Fund. Five-year annual return: 12 percent. Performance: average plus. Risk: low. Yield: 7.8 percent.

Smith Barney Diversified Strategic Income Fund (B). Five-year annual return: 8.8 percent. Performance: average. Risk: low. Yield: 6.8 percent.

Dreyfus Strategic Income Fund. Five-year annual return: 10.6 percent. Performance: average. Risk: low. Yield: 6.7 percent.

Flood recovery costs averaged \$56,019 per landowner, with 84 percent of respondents saying they paid for a majority of land reclamation expenses with their own money. The major source of outside flood-recovery assistance came from USDA agencies, the survey said.

disaster programs used.

Results of the survey by the Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute at the University of Missouri were released Friday.

The survey was a follow-up to the 1993 Flood. It was sponsored by the institute and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural

house owner, First Ward House

"I want to get away from the rough image it's had in the past. I want to change the atmosphere where you can take a date and have a nice time and not get knocked over."

STUART WYETH

In an affidavit subpoenaed in New York, FBI agent Steven Garfinkel said the hackers made about 40 transfers totaling more than \$10 million between June 1994 and October.

At least one of the hackers, who was arrested about a year ago while in San Francisco opening accounts to receive the stolen money, is helping investigators, the affidavit said.

Service to repair

glass available

The D & J Glass and Art Clinic will be available Thursday through Sunday at the East Hills Shopping Center. The Sioux Falls, S.D.,-based business will repair chipped, broken or discolored glassware, fine crystal, china, ceramics, figurines and lamps.

"Many people are throwing away valuable family heirlooms and collectibles because they don't know they can be repaired, an still have considerable value," said David Jasper, owner of the business.

Jasper represents four generations of experience in glassware restoration which traces back to his family's German origin. The clinic also cleans and repairs oil paintings, frames and antique

CORNERS TONES of St. Joe's bar scene

*The First Ward
serving up*



JOSH BIGGS / St. Joseph News-Press

Bear's many bears growls behind glass
neon at the tavern in St. Joseph.



submitted photo

use before 1900.



The Brown Bear Tavern have been open for more than 100 years

By JONATHAN HOUGHTON
jonh@npgco.com
St. Joseph News-Press

It's technically his day off, but Dave Winn is hard at work.

His son, B.J., is tending to the handful of regular customers who come into the Brown Bear Tavern during the day. But bills still need to be paid, and orders still need to be placed. If and when those get done, there's always a new project for the 52-year-old owner to tackle.

Since B.J. started working full-time at the Brown Bear a year ago, Winn has cut down his weekly work hours from 80 to a much more reasonable 50. It's not a typical lifestyle, but it's one Winn has happily led since he bought the Brown Bear back in 1991.

It's not unlike that of Bill Beasley, who has co-owned and operated the First Ward House, located across the street from the Brown Bear, since 1998. Under his management, the bar has continued to build a reputation as one of the area's leading blues venues.

Not only is it noteworthy that the two bars can co-exist successfully, but that they've done it for so long. The First Ward House, opened in 1878, is touted as the oldest bar west of the Mississippi River. And the Brown Bear is certainly no cub, having celebrated its 100th year of continuous operation last year.

In part, the bars' long lives have been due to the enthusiasm of their owners over the years. But customers are the

lifeblood of any business, and every good businessperson knows to give those customers what they want.

While the First Ward House has gone through a variety of incarnations over the years, the Brown Bear has always tried to maintain its homey, where-everybody-knows-your-name atmosphere, Winn says.

"We're a dying type of place," he says. "There's not that many straight-ahead neighborhood bars any more."

Joe Lewis, a bartender at the Brown Bear from 1951 to 1961 and a retired postal worker, still comes down to the bar every day to play cards with a few friends. He says the spirit of the Brown Bear has changed little from his days there — everything else, that's a different story. He remembers the barber-shop and restaurant the bar used to share its space with. He remembers the old drink prices: 10 cents for a glass of beer, 20 cents for a stein. And he remembers one additional service the Brown Bear used to provide for its customers.

"It was the bank of the North end," he says. "On Fridays, everybody'd come here to cash their checks."

Both in looks and function, the First Ward House is quite a bit different today from its original incarnation, when it was a three-story hotel catering to railroad workers traveling north from Kansas City. Beasley says the old First Ward House offered more than a place to stay — it doubled as



JOSH BIGGS / St. Joseph News-Press

Shannon Winn tends bar at the Brown Bear. Ms. Winn is part of the family that owns and runs the tavern.

a brothel for several decades.

In the 1950s, bricks from the top two floors were used to reconstruct the Pony Express Stables, now the Pony Express Museum. The bar went through a succession of owners until 1994, when a fire threatened to shut it down for good.

Stuart Wyeth, who sold the First Ward House to Beasley, says when he took over the bar in 1995, it was in danger of being torn down. He says some even went so far as to question why he was bothering with the dilapidated building.

"It's an old room with great history, great ambience," he says. "We modified it and created a wonderful spot."

Over the past few years, the First Ward House has made a name for itself by bringing in regional and national blues acts including Fast Johnny Ricker, Kelley Hunt and Lightnin' Boy Malcolm. Beasley, a guitarist himself, even jumps in with bands for the occasional song.

"They all have their neighborhood taverns, but they come here for the music," he says of his customers.

Winn agrees. Karaoke and live music aren't what the

he bought it, Winn readily admits. He's indulged in his woodworking hobby, putting in new wood floors and wall panels throughout the bar.

But the Brown Bear's most conspicuous additions have been the three stuffed Alaskan brown bears now lurking in the corners and snarling from the walls.

"This has turned into Brown Bear Tavern and museum," he jokes.

And bank, some might say after seeing the bar's dollar-bill-covered ceiling. Winn says he and a friend got the idea after visiting a small bar in Iowa during a fishing trip.

"We had to ask the question, 'How do you get those up there?'" he says. The response: "It'll cost you a dollar to find out."

Plenty of customers ask Winn the same question. Suffice it to say that a few months ago, money from the ceiling bought a new color TV and Playstation for the North Town Community Center.

Winn says he considers his tenure as a "Bearkeeper" his greatest accomplishment. But whether it's retirees stopping in during the day or the young crowd at night,





Magoon day

Ben Magoon, right, points to a picture of the delicatessen he ran on Eighth and Locust for 54 years, while his wife, Lilly, and David Oliver watch. The picture is one of 42 from his collection of old St.

Joseph that are being presented to Heartland Centre by Magoon's family. For nine years, Magoon has been a volunteer at Heartland Centre, where he visits with the residents twice a week.

Staff photo by ERIC WELCH

N-P 12-16-89

Victory visit from a champ

The Victory Restaurant was the brainchild of wrestling promoter Gust Karris and Benny Pecora.

It was located across the street from the Missouri Theater, in the lobby of the Electric Theater. Later Gus Marolis joined in the operation.

In 1945, Chris and Gus Marolis were the sole operators. During their ownership, they were very interested in promoting local sports. The Cardinal's farm team was here. Many sports figures visited the city and the Victory Restaurant — among them was Jack Dempsey, (the great boxer).

N.P. 1st

Mary Marolis
St. Joseph

wrestle two or three times a day against all comers, and finally went on the professional circuit. It was in Chillicothe, Mo., while with the cir-



Photo courtesy of Mary Marolis
At the Victory Restaurant on Edmond Street are owners Chris and Gus Marolis, standing, while seated in the center are Jack Dempsey and Gust Karris. The man on the far left is unknown.

4-19-96

cus, that he met his wife, Goldie.

A leg injury cut short his active career and Mr. Karras turned full time to promoting wrestling shows in 1932. Over the years, he brought most of pro wrestling's big names to St. Joseph, and helped launch several local men on professional careers.

The following information was taken from various newspaper articles that appeared at the time of his death:

In addition to wrestling, other events promoted by Mr. Karras included the Grand Ole Opry, water shows, the Ice Follies and other types of entertainment. He was the Golden Anniversary tournament in St. Joseph for 23 years. His

When I was a young lad of about 8 to 10 years old, my parents lived on a farm at the south side of Berlin, Mo. That was then

Gypsies weren't tramps

This mud wrestling event, apparently held mid-century at the City Auditorium at Fourth and Jules streets, was the kind of rock-'em-sock-'em show that Gust Karras loved to bring to St. Joseph. The photo is by Lew Shady, a long-time photographer for the *St. Joseph News-Press*.

Photo courtesy of Mrs. Lew Shady



biggest musical crowds were to see Spike Jones and his band, the Ink Spots and Johnny Cash.

Shortly before his death, when the Kansas City Kings' NBA team and the Kansas City Scouts' NHL club were unable to fill Kemper Arena, Gust brought in the Harlem Globe Trotter basketball team and had to turn away a couple of thousands of persons.

However, I believe we could say that wrestling was his number one promotional interest. He would have Friday night wrestling in St. Joseph. Saturday, the local TV wrestling program, Sunday, into Iowa. Monday featured action in Wichita. Tuesday was Sedalia night. Wednesday was Topeka's night. Thursday belonged to Kansas City, Kan. Friday it was back

I did love to ice skate, but, of course, that was only individual. There were no teams. Wild Cat Creek was very close to Stanberry and was ideal for skating. I spent most of my Christmas vacations there. I had a setback one of those

to St. Joseph and the start of another week. In 1972, he was inducted into the Wrestling Hall of Fame by the people of the Wrestling Writers Association of America, known for being a soft touch for the down-

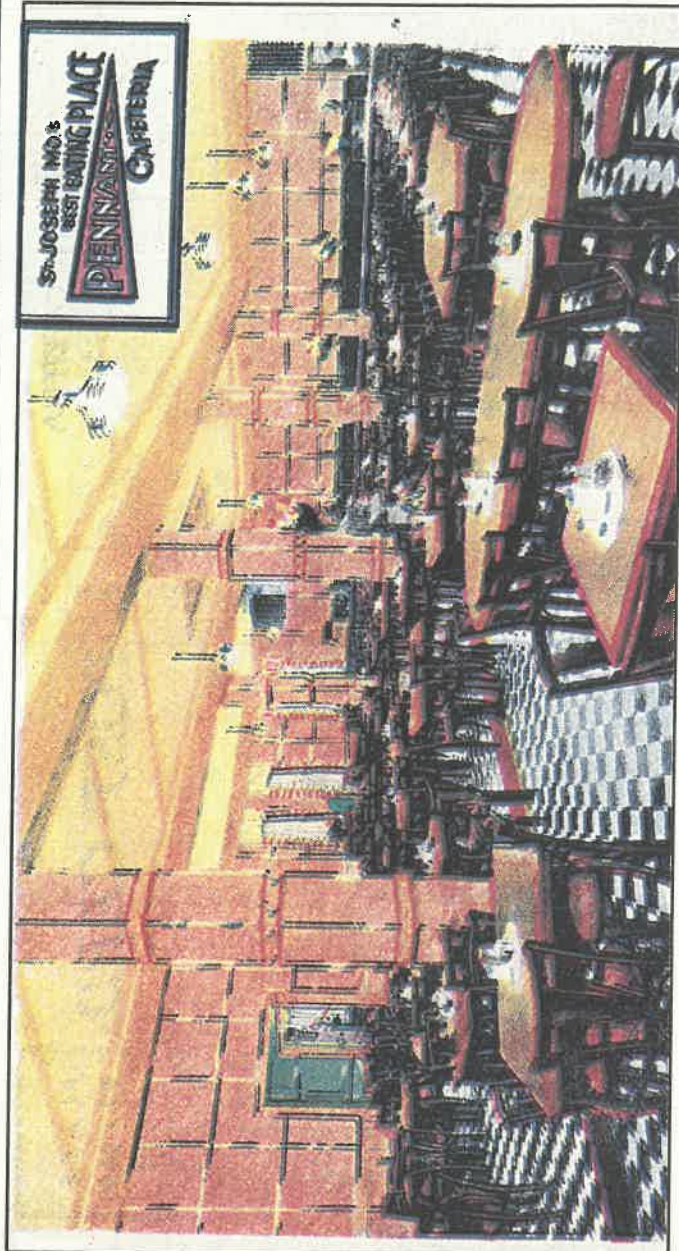
Tom Lethcho
St. Joseph

There was one game known as "setback," which consisted of five pins lined up straight across the alley at the end, numbered from one to five. The trick was that if

In Stanberry, there was a bowling alley and I used to spend some time there in the evenings. After supper, I would go there and "set up pins" until I earned enough to buy a ticket to the theatre a half a block away. Not a bad way to spend an evening, because I could go there and still make it home by bedtime.

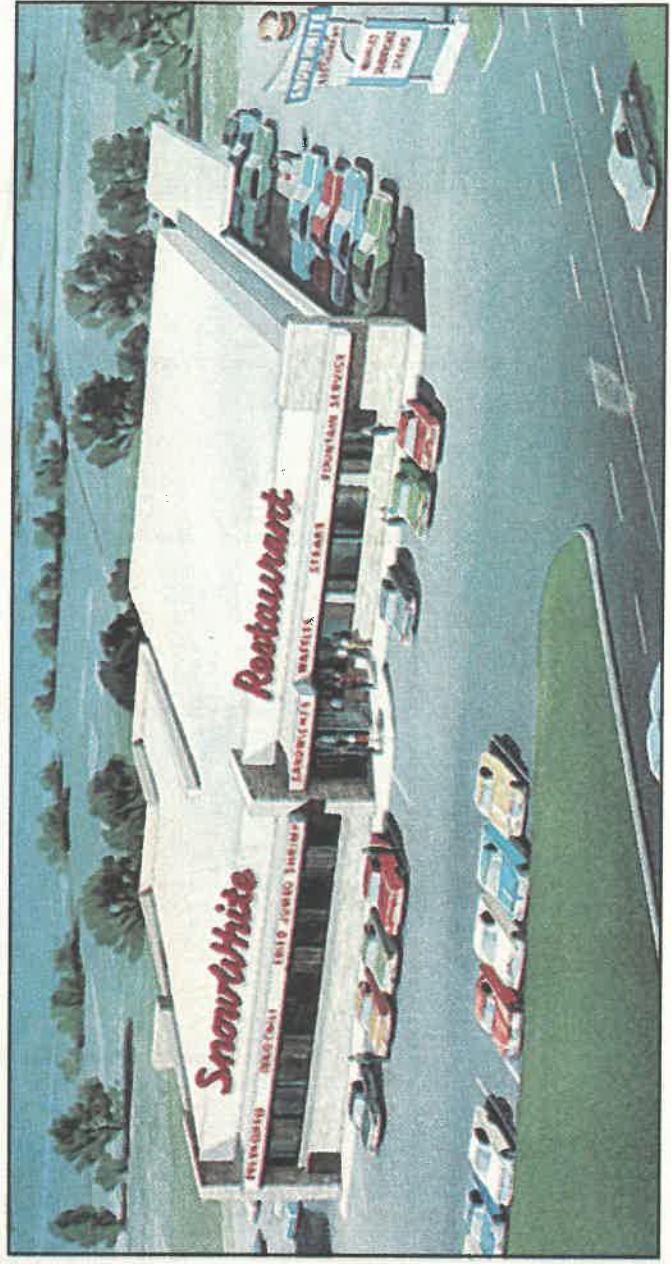
I was too short-winded to even try basketball, but did make the football team in my junior year. And I can assure THAT was a good son to be re every game t nothing to no not ALL bad. those words i

His life in the alleys was OK



The Pennant Cafeteria

Located downtown, the Pennant Cafeteria touted itself as "One of the most modern cafeterias in the Middle West - We have a seating capacity of 360 - Plenty of Room, Make this your Cafeteria when in St. Joseph, Missouri."



Snow White Restaurant

For years, the Snow White Restaurant, at the corner of Belt and Frederick, was a popular gathering spot in St. Joseph. Just about anyone who remembers the restaurant had a favorite meal there, whether it was breakfasts or tenderloins. The restaurant was replaced by a Winsteads, which has also since been razed.

N-1-P. N. A. H. 12-29-95 What reason?

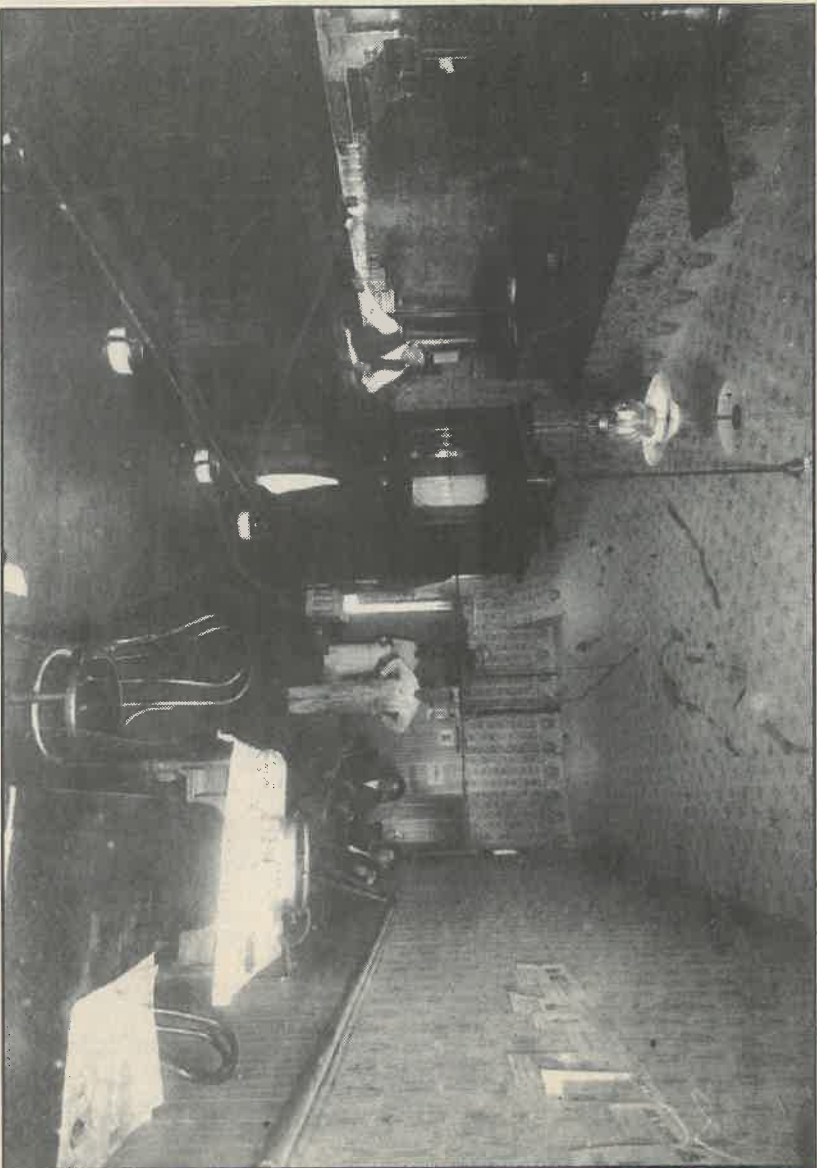


Photo courtesy of LeRoy Vey

This photo depicts a typical honky-tonk men patronizing the establishments bar. There were few seats, as most back in those days stood at the bar.

3-21-93

Johnny Fry's offers a fresh approach

Johnny Fry's Food and Drink features Rick Palma's Mexican food which he brought to the restaurant in 1984 when he became co-owner with John Burns. Palma began cooking at several other bars in St. Joseph and soon got a following. Palma said he never scrimps on his recipes. For example, he said the restaurant grinds fresh chilies for the recipes.

Johnny Fry's is named after the first Pony Express rider to leave St. Joseph on the first leg of the express on April 3, 1860. According to Palma, young and handsome Johnny Fry was well known among the Pony Express riders, glorified by children, envied by men and popular among the ladies. Fry later died as a Union soldier in a confrontation with the Arkansas Rangers on the Canadian River, Palma added.

Johnny Fry's tries to commemorate the pioneering spirit and enduring courage of the settlers of St. Joseph, according to Palma. The restaurant has a two-ton bar from Chadron, Neb. The bar itself is a pioneer, Palma said. The bar was made in Philadelphia and moved by wagon to Nebraska in 1871. The cherrywood bar still has its original stained glass canopy and a number of bullet holes attribute to its past, Palma said.

Palma said the res-

taurant plans to expand the appetizer and dessert menu in the next year. The restaurant is also planning a celebration in coordination with the ribbon-cutting ceremony of the new Pony Express stable expansion. Palma said some of the plans include dance hall girls and a card table gun fight re-enactment.

Hatfield's to reopen Wade's

8-18-00

By ROBYN L. DAVIS
robynd@npgco.com
St. Joseph News-Press

When Tim Hatfield decided to retire from his third-generation family business this year, he gave his wife's daughter and daughter-in-law a present: the chance to reopen Wade's Hamburgers.

To older St. Joseph residents, the long time St. Joseph institution evokes fond memories of chili, scrappy beef, brain sandwiches and hamburgers served in a small stone building on Frederick Avenue, on the current Hatfield Sporting Goods store property. Younger St. Joseph residents remember the grill's later incarnation on Mitchell Avenue,

when it was called Wade's Indian Grill. The new Wade's will be tucked into what is now a storage room at the Hatfield Sporting Goods store. The owners hope to have the store open by Jan. 1.

● **The Hatfield auction** is set for Saturday, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Inspection begins at 8 a.m. There are no reserves on boats, boat parts, motors or accessories. Those who wish to inspect boats that are already outside on the lot may do so anytime before the auction.

They'll have the original Wade's recipes to assist them. Wade's original owner, Wade Goff, died in 1991, handing over the recipes to Harold Hatfield, Tim Hatfield's father. Tim Hatfield, 55, is the third generation to run a business in that location since his grandfather opened a coal business there in 1923. Harold Hatfield worked as a carhop at the old Wade's



TODD WEDDLE/St. Joseph News-Press

Tim Hatfield sorts through a selection of propellers Thursday afternoon in preparation for a store auction to be held Saturday at Hatfield's Sporting Goods, 2028 Frederick Ave. Mr. Hatfield is retiring from the third generation business and is selling it to longtime employee Tom Smith. The auction will consist of boats and marine-related products.

in his youth.

"(Wade Goff) made my dad promise never to give them to anybody," Tim Hatfield recalled. "My dad, before he died, gave them to Lucy (Hatfield) and told her never to

give them to anybody."

But naturally, Lucy Hatfield is passing along the recipes to her daughter, Michelle Hendrix, and

Please see Hatfield's/Page B3

#

Wade's offered unusual decor, good service

Interesting sign also helped restaurant stand out at Frederick Avenue site

By ALONZO WESTON 3-18-99
alonzow@npgco.com
St. Joseph News-Press

Drive up and down the Belt Highway today and all the fast-food joints seem to blur into one big glass-and-concrete advertisement board.

One might sell hamburgers, another might sell pizza and still another might sell chicken, but the buildings all look the same.

Not so with Wade's Indian Grill, an early precursor to St. Joseph's fast-food industry. Wades, in both its incarnations as Wade's Hamburgers and Wade's Indian Grill, like many early century eating places, used imaginative decor and a good menu to pull in customers.

Wade's Hamburgers, started in the late 1920s by Wade Goff, was located at 2030 Frederick Ave. After 1941, it was sold to C.D. Liggett, who moved it to 17th Street and Mitchell Avenue, where it became Wade's Indian Grill.

Jane Joseph remembers both establishments.

"The only thing I remember about the one on Frederick when I was a child coming from Oregon, Mo., to St. Joseph was the sign that used to really fascinate me. It was a neon sign of a cow jumping into a meat grinder and coming out as hamburgers," she said. "The place on Mitchell was a clean, well-run establishment that was known for its chili."

Fred Slater remembers the one on Mitchell Avenue as having an American Indian decor complete with totem poles out front.

"C.D. Liggett was an Indian trader who bought all kinds of Indian rugs and pottery," Mr. Slater said.



Photo courtesy of Harold Hatfield

Wade's Hamburgers, a forerunner of modern fast-food restaurants, was opened in St. Joseph in the late 1920s by Wade Goff. It was located at 2030 Frederick Ave., then was sold and became Wade's Indian Grill at another site.

"(Wade's Indian Grill) looked like an adobe house with two totem poles."

Wade's thrived during a time when eating establishment decor wasn't as homogenized as it is today. Many included imaginative environments, such as old street cars, huge cups and saucers, and used neon lighting in weird and innovative ways.

Many were owned and operated by future-thinking and risk-taking entrepreneurs such as Mr. Goff and Mr. Liggett.

When he worked for him as a teenager in the early 1930s, Kenneth Everett remembers Mr. Goff as a kind, warm gentleman.

"Mr. Goff was a gentleman," he said. "He didn't do much himself in the shop, but he hired people to do the work for him. He was my idol. I thought the sun rose and set on him, and I thought I'd like to be a guy just like him."

Mr. Liggett was remembered as a man who was always thinking ahead.

Please see Wade's/Page B3

great-grandchildren.
Service: 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Bram Funeral Home, Gallatin. Entombment: Oak Hill Cemetery, Chicago. Visitation: friends may call after 9 a.m. today, Friday and Saturday at the funeral home. The family suggests memorials to the United Methodist Church, 111 S. Market St., Gallatin, MO 64640.

Donald L. Shippers
1931-1999
 PATTONSBURG, Mo. — Donald L. "Pop" Shippers, 67, Pattonsburg, died Tuesday, March 16,

William Steiner Sr. The couple moved to Sabetha after their marriage where they farmed south of Sabetha. In 1974, they retired from farming and moved into Sabetha. He died in 1994.
 Mrs. Steiner also was preceded in death by her parents, Adam and Martha Thomas; a stepson, Loren Steiner; three brothers, Alfred, Joseph and Harold Thomas; a sister, Mary Hohulin; and a stepgrandchild.
Surviving: five stepsons, Joe Steiner Sr., Nebraska City, Neb., Dr. Lyle Steiner, San Marino,

● Additional obituaries appear on Page B5.

Home, Mound City.
Ella Wheeler (Stubblefield)
 Palmer, 79, Hamilton, Mo., 10 a.m. today. Federated Church, Kingston, Mo. Burial: Kingston Cemetery. Arrangements: Bram Funeral Home, Hamilton.
Charles W. Parsons, 71, Forest City, Mo., formerly of St. Joseph, 10:30 a.m. today. United Methodist Church, Forest City. Burial: Forest City Cemetery. Arrangements: Chamberlain Funeral Home, Forest City.
Merle, 50, 10:30 a.m. today. United Methodist Church, Forest City. Burial: Forest City Cemetery. Arrangements: Chamberlain Funeral Home, Forest City.

is no scheduled family visitation.
Vern G. Sailors, 84, Falls City, Neb., memorial service: 2 p.m. today, United Methodist Church, Barada, Neb. The body has been cremated. Inurnment: at a later date in the Rulo, Neb., Cemetery. Arrangements: Dorr Funeral Home, Falls City.
Virginia (Whitchurch) Southwood, 90, Columbia, Mo., formerly of St. Joseph and Savannah, Mo., memorial service: 2 p.m. today. Missouri United Methodist Church, Columbia. Burial was in the Savannah Cemetery. Arrangements: Breit & Herkins Funeral Home, Savannah.

vacuum, you can deep clean!

Wade's offered unusual decor

talker and a nice guy," Mr. Everett said. "Of course, when you're a kid you think when anybody treat you good they're a nice guy."

Wade's was a popular spot for several years. Patronized by family and teens alike, it was known for its chili and hamburgers.

"It was a family place where you could go in and be served quickly," Mrs. Joseph said. "Back in those days, they called it short order. We hadn't heard the word fast food then."

"It was a small shop that had 12 to 15 stools and no tables," Mr. Everett said. "They had 5-cent hamburgers, 6 for a quarter, 15-cent

bowl of chili and nickel coffee." Wade's Indian Grill lasted until the early 1960s. Before it was torn down, Mr. Liggett offered to give it to the St. Joseph Museum, but for legal reasons the museum couldn't accept it. "The totem poles were given to Camp Geiger," Mr. Slater said, "and I believe that they're still out there."

Tales of the Midland Empire is published weekly. If you know an unusual person in the area, call Alonzo Weston at 271-8574, (800) 779-6397 or e-mail him at alonzow@npgco.com.

9-7-97 OLD-TIME RESTAURANT

LOCAL FAMILY MADE MEMORIES FOR CITY AT HEINIES

•BY MARSHALL WHITE•
marshall@npgco.com
ST. JOSEPH NEWS-PRESS

If you've wondered about how the Belt Highway came into existence or what life was like living on the Belt in years past, Audrey Ann Hoelsing can tell you all about it.

She remembers a lot of St. Joseph history, especially the history of the Belt Highway, because she grew up on the corner of 36th and Messanie streets before there was a Belt Highway. She was born in 1921.

Mrs. Hoelsing and her husband, Leroy, operated the first restaurant on the Belt Highway — Heinies. The restaurant's name honors her father, Harold Reichardt, who was known as "Heinie" because of his German origins. Mr. Reichardt built the first business on the Belt, a Standard Oil Co. gas station.

"Almost as an afterthought, father added a hamburger stand next to the station," Mrs. Hoelsing said. "My mother,

Marie, was the head cook, and she was good. I worked in the kitchen with her most of the time. We were the first business in town to serve hamburgers on a six-inch bun with all the fixin's. Everybody ordered our hamburgers."

Her friend, Charles Cutler, who quickly became a regular, said he can remember when the hamburger stand first opened and you could get a soda and burger for 10 cents. "Those hamburgers were the best in town, and whenever I came out to order one, I'd yell, 'Hey Marie, why don't you marry me,'" he said. "She'd scold me or give me a look, but I always got my hamburger."

It was at the hamburger stand that love bloomed for Mrs. Hoelsing, too. It's where she met her husband, Leroy, whom she refers to as Roy.

"Roy was hitchhiking from Crofton, Neb., in 1935," she said. "He rode into town on a steel truck and thought St. Joseph was a real going place. Dad was constantly looking for good help and he offered Roy a job. Roy decided he'd stay for a

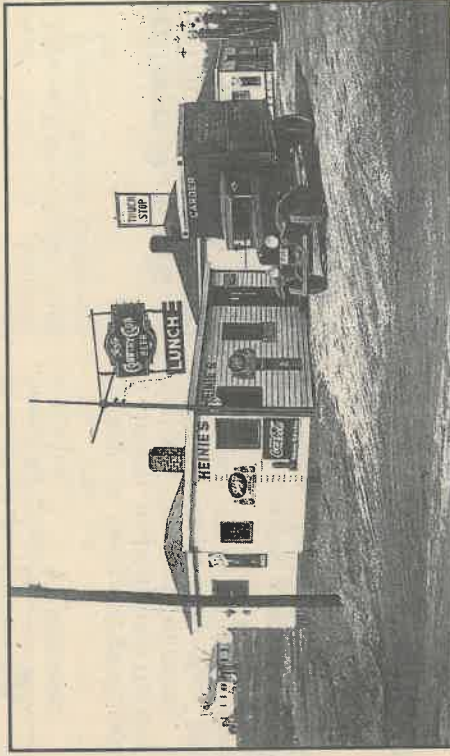


PHOTO SUBMITTED

Heinies, which was the first restaurant on the Belt Highway in St. Joseph, evolved from a tiny hamburger stand in the 1930s to a dance hall in its heyday.

while. Of course, he never left."

From the small start at the gas station, additional rooms were built until Heinies had a bar room, two dining rooms, a dance floor and a basement room.

"Building the dance floor was a big deal for us back in those days," she said. "I had

been born in my grandmother's house at 36th and Messanie. We tore the old home down and used the lumber to build the ballroom because building supplies were scarce and expensive."

By the end of the 1930s, Heinie's was a place to be seen.

Local family made memories for city at Heinies

Continued from Page B1

front door and dance the Bunny Hop clear around the outside of the building and back in the front door," she said. "If everybody was having a good time and behaving, we'd be open until 3 or 4 in the morning. Parents were always calling to find out if their kids were here or where they were going, and we usually had the answer."

Mrs. Hoelsing remembers some of the famous musicians who ate dinner at Heinies. She still has photos of Count Basie, Harry James, Eddy Howard, Jilla Webb, Jack Morgen, Stan Kenton, Johnnie Ray, Gene Kruppa and Lee Castle.

When World War II erupted, Heinies had to close for two years and the owners went to work in Kansas City.

"We didn't have anything to sell; everything was being sent overseas with the troops" Mrs. Hoelsing said. "If you didn't have a government ration stamp you couldn't even buy chewing gum."

War-time restrictions were beginning to ease by 1944, and the family was able to reopen the restaurant. But the last two years of the war still presented unusual problems. The entire United States had to be

blackened out every night.

“The airport was a military base, and the boys would come to town to have a good time on furlough or a weekend liberty pass,” Mrs. Hoelsing said. “At 10 (p.m.), we would turn the lights off, and the soldiers would go outside to their parked cars. Instead of leaving, they would point the cars toward the Belt and turn on the car lights. Then everyone would start dancing to the music from someone’s car radio until the Military Police would shut that down, too.”

Since many of the boys were off fighting the war, Mr. Hoensing thought it would be nice to have Thursday nights be ladies night. The girls brought their letters from their soldiers to share them with girlfriends and talked about their plans for after the war:

When the war ended and the soldiers came home, housing was at a premium and everyone was living in cramped quarters. So Heinie's continued to be the place to meet everyone.

As the era of traveling big bands came to an end, dancing at Heinies became a tradition that made for good business. Mrs. Hoelsing said

her husband knew the names of all the regular customers and always made everyone feel welcome.

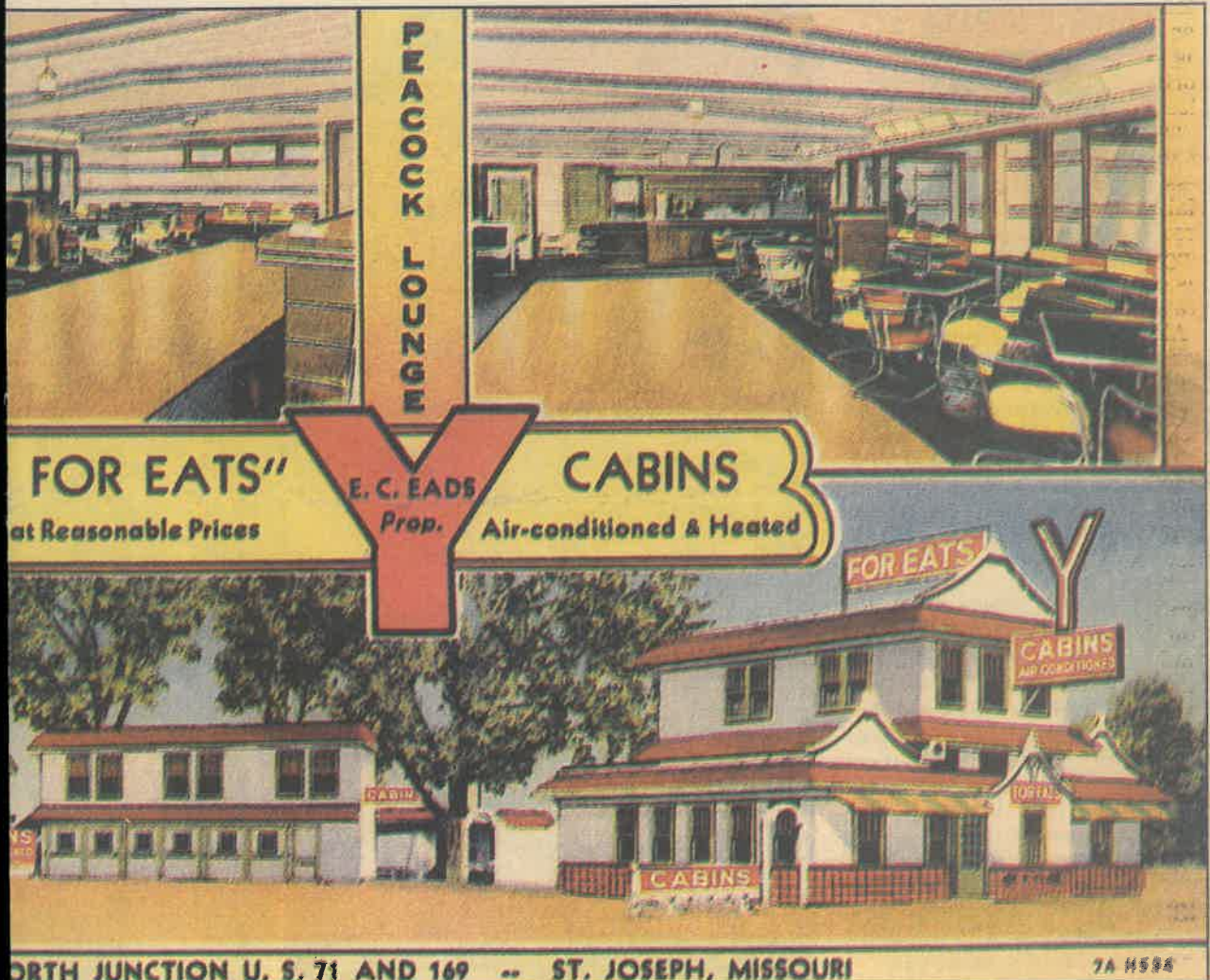
"That's when we started adding to the menu, becoming a real restaurant," Mrs. Hoelsing said. "The Belt was starting to boom in those days, and Roy got to be known as the mayor of the Belt."

Young men still brought their dates for dinner in the 1960s, but they didn't dance. The dance floor became a dining room as the restaurant concentrated on fine food.

"We weren't the hangout anymore," Mrs. Hoising said. "We ended up becoming the fancy place. We became known for our steaks and sour cream raisin pie. I still have folks who call and want that pie recipe."

The Hoessings closed Hienes in 1979. The building housed a variety of businesses until this winter, when it was demolished to make way for an auto parts store.

"I still remember those first restaurants, places like the Y Barbecue, the Beacon, Snow White, Green Gables and Clarkies," she said. "They're (the owners) all gone now, and I guess I'm the only one left. But being on the Belt has been exciting."



NORTH JUNCTION U. S. 71 AND 169 -- ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI

7A H586

Joseph is featured in "Where Have You Gone, Starlight Cafe?" The diner is now a vacuum shop.

tim to construction of the Interstate highway system and the public's growing preference for fast-food dining, with its emphasis on predictability.

"When the Interstates came along, in many cases they bypassed these kinds of places," he says. "McDonald's really took off in the '60s, and that's when these places declined."

Anderson also has scant enthusiasm for "retro" eateries that try to capture a feeling for the past. "Most of them are chains, and I like to have the owner in the back," he says.

On their trip, Anderson and Buotte, a teacher in Bath, gener-

Order up: Anderson lists some restaurant sites he visited for book

Here is what author Will Anderson found when he visited the sites:

Baker's Cafe, Afton, Okla., day care center.

Casa Linda Cafe, Kingman, Ariz., surveying firm.

Dixie Restaurant, Johnson City, Tenn., parking lot.

Dutch Mill Village, Glasgow, Ky., open field.

Earl's Sandwich Shop, Waterloo, Ill., bank branch.

Fort Raleigh City, Elizabeth

Pete's Cafe, Boonville, Mo., vacant.

Pilot Cafe, Salt Lake City, private dance club.

Purity Cafe, Arkansas City, Kan., antiques shop.

Sugar Loaf Cafe, St. George, Utah, auto parts store.

Western Cafe, Rock Springs, Wyo., pool hall.

White Rose Diner, Hannibal, Mo., truck stop.

Y Barbeque, St. Joseph, Mo., vacuum cleaning shop.

If you desire a little Southern comfort, then plan to visit **Charleston, S.C.**, on your next vacation. For more information, call the Charleston Area Convention and Visitors Bureau at **(800) 868-8118**.

TRA

ST. JOSEPH

Blue plate special

*Tribute book
includes former
St. Joseph diner
on the menu*

By **JERRY HARKAVY**
Associated Press

PORTLAND, Maine — Will Anderson's attempt to revive satisfying memories of blue-plate specials and slices of pie from the cafes and diners of his childhood took him on a 14,183-mile road trip.

What Anderson found was no surprise. Most of the eating places that flourished during the nation's golden era of roadside dining no longer exist. But he chanced upon other restaurants that evoke the special flavor of that period.

Anderson came armed with his "Top 40" list of restaurants — there were actually 42 — which he culled from his collection of hundreds of picture postcards of diners and cafes which had their heyday between 1930 and 1960.

Photographs of the postcard

research into their fate are the basis of his new self-published book, "Where Have You Gone, Starlight Cafe?"

The Starlight Cafe is mythical, but Anderson visited each of the 42 restaurant sites to get a sense of their history and to look at what made each one unique.

The journey through 39 states was a labor of love for Anderson, 57, of Portland, who recalled the Sunday rides of his childhood in the family Packard and its successors. The outings invariably included stops at eating places along the road.

Inviting states

Before setting out with his wife, Catherine Buotte, on their summer trip last year, Anderson narrowed his list to include a geographic mix from California to Kentucky to Massachusetts.

"I found them inviting. There was something warm, homey and attractive to me in the ones I chose. They made me want to go back in time and walk into the establishments," he says.

But what he found on his visits was far from the pictures on the postcards.

The Frisco Cafe in Odessa, Texas, is now a law office. And Warren's Dining Room and Restaurant in Bel Air, Md., has



The former Y Barbeque in St.

age office. After various incarnations, the Western Cafe in Rock Spring, Wyo., became a pool hall.

Like several other eateries on the list, Duke Restaurant in Kokomo, Ind., was torn down and the land paved over for a parking lot. The same fate befell the Dixie Restaurant in Johnson City, Tenn., where the parking is for McDonald's customers.

In all, about half the buildings remain, in one form or another. And perhaps 10 are still restaurants.

"But in many cases, they're unrecognizable," Anderson says. "In general, modernizing equals uglifying, along with a certain

Barbosa's has authentic recipe for Mexican food

N P 3-23-03

"Barbosa's is an authentic Mexican restaurant," according to Manager Angie Ransom. "We have the reputation for being the best, and continue to live up to it year after year."

"Barbosa's is probably known best for its homemade tacos and red chili. The tacos are made of a flour tortilla shell and deep-fried until golden brown. The red chili is a chili with chunks of tender pork in a red sauce, served with soft flour tortillas. This is also great over our enchiladas."

The tastes of these popular dishes are hard to find anywhere else in St. Joseph, she said.

"Our recipes are from south of the border from Guadalajara, Mexico, and all the food we serve is homemade, from start to finish, here in our kitchen."

Barbosa's originally began in the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Barbosa on 10th Street. E.C. was first-born son to Mr. and Mrs. Mauricio Barbosa, who came to St. Joseph in 1916.

In early 1974, the Moss House at 906 Sylvania was purchased by the Barbosas, and after extensive remodeling and redecorating, the house was opened as Barbosa's Castillo in

May of 1974.

"We are still family owned and operated after all these years," she added.

The restaurant opened another location - Barbosa's East - approximately 22 years ago at 4804 Frederick Avenue.

"We have done some remodeling to both locations, and we will continue to better our restaurants," she said. "However, we do not plan to do anything drastic to the Moss House - just the continual upkeep that is needed."

Because it is located in the historic home, Barbosa's Castillo offers a very unique atmosphere, Ms. Ransom said.

"This historic building has the look of a fabled castle of fantastic medievalism. When the Moss family lived in this house they had a garden on the second floor, which was a vine-

covered area of beautiful charm. Now, after a bit of renovation, this area is available to the public as an additional dining area on Friday and Saturday evenings.

"This cozy area overlooks downtown and many say the sunsets from the garden are as unique as the house."

Customers continually choose Barbosa's because "we believe they like our atmosphere, friendly service and, most importantly, our homemade food," Mr. Ransom said.

"We know many of our customers and many say when they step through our doors, they feel a sense of family - a belonging. That is what we try to express to each and every customer. We like to welcome them each time they dine with us, if it is their first time or a weekly visit."

U.S. 2-10-78 11-15-78

City immortalized in drink?

The Pony Express may lose its place as St. Joseph's No. 1 claim to fame as a new drink has been invented in San Jose, Calif., called "The St. Joe."

Judy Staton Thielke, a former local resident now living near San Jose, brought The Gazette a clipping from last week's San Francisco Chronicle.

Herb Caen, a Chronicle columnist, writes:

"What's new in San Jose, except for all those freeway exits? Not much. Things are so quiet, in fact, that the Chamber of Commerce and the 20-30 Club staged a contest for an official city drink . . . on the theory that drinks like Manhattans and Singapore Slings made those cities famous.

"The winner, called 'The St. Joe,' which could make St. Joseph, Missouri, famous, goes as follows: 3 oz. cream cocktail sherry, ½ teaspoon maraschino cherry juice, dash of bitters, pour over ice and garnish with a cherry . . .

"The St. Joe' was invented by Brother Norbert Korte, a Jesuit with an excellent Jesuitical sense of humor. Informed that he had won first prize — two nights for two at the MGM Grand in Reno — Brother Norbert twinkled, 'Could you make that four nights for one?'"

Historic grape back in Missouri

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — The 94-year-old Stark Star grape has survived Prohibition and the decline of the American wine industry to emerge Friday in Louisiana, Mo., at an introductory wine tasting.

Lucian Dressel, the owner of the Mt. Pleasant Winery in Augusta, has produced 180 cases of port wine from the rare Stark Star grape. He discovered the nearly extinct grape on a one-half acre plot in the Missouri Ozarks eight years ago.

A catalogue published by the Stark Bros. Nursery in 1910 described the Stark Star grape as being "the handsomest of all grapes ... properly grown and ripened, it is an excellent table grape and unexcelled for wine."

According to wine aficionados, the Stark Star port possesses the qualities of an "aged Portuguese port."



Associated Press

Winery owner Dressel with first bottle of new port

Even ice was dangerous in good old days

'TWAS THE NIGHT before Christmas of 1887, and last minute shoppers were busy. DeNeil & Co., Eighth and Frederick Avenue, offered fur trimmed ladies Newmarkets for \$2. A Newmarket, the dictionary says, was a long close fitting coat originally designed for horseback riding. Louis Hax Furniture was selling new-fangled reclining chairs. Saurman's Studio was selling a dozen cabinet photos for \$2.50.

Dr. W. M. Steiner, who often rode a horse to his office, even after the automobile appeared in large numbers, announced he was an expert in fitting false teeth. Nowland's brick yard was located at 8th and Edmond Streets. "Mixed Pickles," a satirical play, was on the stage at the Tootle Opera House.

Alex Ferrel was fined \$40 for gambling and Jesse Blakely was fined \$1 for selling liquor on Sunday. The Gazette reported Jack Horn had partaken too freely of intoxicants and had fired his revolver into the air, as he observed the coming holiday. He was to spend Christmas Day in the county calaboose.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS had closed for the Christmas holidays on Dec. 23 and would

Even ice was dangerous in good old days

was guaranteed to cure chills and fever, malaria, consumption, blood poisoning and insomnia.

A. J. AUGUST was given a saddle, a blanket and a bridle by his employees. An obituary noted the death of "an old lady who had reached the 67th year of her life." Large crowds were reported departing from and boarding trains at the depot. The Gazette warned that "any girl who is not hugged tightly on a toboggan slide is in great danger of a fatal accident."

"An old lady in Shelbyville" had been killed and partly eaten by hogs and a man in Southern Missouri had died after being bitten by a dog which had contracted rabies by biting the tongue of a rabid pig. The St. Louis & St. Joseph Railroad announced it had reduced the time on its run from St. Joseph to St. Louis to 11½ hours.

ST. JOSEPH RESIDENTS were warned that ice contained germs which were dangerous to humans. Presumably, the germs could be killed by pouring some of that "Belle of Bourbon" booze over the germie ice.

Timely observations

**Frederick
W. Slater
Editorial
Page Editor**



"probably" reopen on the Tuesday after New Year's Day. The Ladies Auxiliary of the Y.M.C.A. was serving a "fine dinner" for 25 cents. Will Knox had won \$100 in the Louisiana State Lottery. A Badger Cab overturned on South Sixth Street and the horse was shot to death — "the usual fate accorded broken-legged horses."

Emery Department Store and some other downtown stores were offering free bus service from the North, East and South sections of the city to potential customers. "Belle of Bourbon," a sour mash whiskey was offered for sale as "a great appetizer for medical and family use." The absolutely pure whiskey

Yes, there was a Christmas 100 years ago

DROP A TEAR for William Padula, who

on Christmas Day, 100 years ago advertised in these newspapers that he still had 100 Christmas trees for sale. . . . The national origin of many St. Joseph residents in those days was reflected in Samuel Westheimer's advertisement — his store was at 117 South Third Street — offering Ramsey's Scotch Whiskey, Jameson's Irish Whiskey, Dekuyper Gin in bulk and bottles; London Dock Jamaica Rum; Hungarian Tokay Wine, Thee-Star Hennessy Brandy and a wide selection of Rhine wines.

AN EDITORIAL advised: Do not try to drink enough to last all the year because Christmas comes only once a year. . . . "Peck's Bad Boy" had been presented at Bethany and the reviewer noted it was the "thinnest" thing that had ever struck Bethany. . . . "Yatsi" was the big name in corsets. An advertisement said the elastic corset yielded to every movement of the body as well as shap- ing the body along classic lines. The ad depicted the curvy corset — but not the anticipated contents. Who says sex didn't invade advertising until the 1980s?

A ST. JOSEPH VISITOR, who had made a pilgrimage to the Little Big Horn battle site, said he saw "Sitting Bull and his tribe" dancing with glee around the General George Custer Monument which marked the site where Indians had killed 300 soldiers in 1876. . . . The Saxton National Bank, which had two stone lions guarding its entrance, informed the public its deposits now averaged \$1,000,000 a day and said it was capitalized for \$200,000. . . . Dr. A.S. Long offered to cure piles at his office on Felix Street.

FRANK ENDEBROCK, at the northwest corner of Third and Felix streets, was manufacturing and selling trunks, valises and all kinds of traveling equipment. . . . H. M. Garlich advertised that "No housekeeper should

TIMELY OBSERVATIONS

Frederick W. Slater

Editorial Page Editor



be without rubber gloves. . . . The Union Station Hotel was offering a dinner which featured beef, ham, turkey, lamb, lobster, cranberries and buffalo tongue. . . . It was a time to give gifts to the boss: Employees of R.T. Davis Flour Mill gave their boss a gold cane and he gave each employee "a fine, fat turkey." S. G. Burnes, a flour dealer, was given an "elegant" upholstered easy chair by his workers; members of the Police Department presented Chief of Police Broder with a solid gold badge, and H.C. Fischer's employees gave him a silver porcelain-lined water cooler.

IF YOU WANTED to buy a cane, Good live's was offering a fine selection of such walking sticks with gold, silver and ivory handles. . . . Toole's Opera House was featuring the McCaull Opera Comique Co. which was presenting the "Black Hussar" a military opera with live horses. . . . Eddie Alben, while hunting near Maryville, was accidentally shot in the knee by his brother and had to have a leg amputated. . . . Eggs were selling for 15 to 20 cents per dozen and dairy butter from 12 to 15 cents per pound.

A CLASSIFIED AD offered an office boy job for a 14 or 15-year-old boy and noted "German preferred." . . . A young man advertised for someone to teach him German. . . . The ice at Lake Contrary was reported as

being five inches thick and safe for skating. . . . A news story said, "On Christmas eve, the thoroughfares of St. Joseph were thronged with people. Rich and poor alike filled the stores and purchased presents for their friends and kindred. . . . Merchants on South Eighth Street between Messanie and Locust Streets joined together to install a new-fangled electric light and it was predicted St. Joseph would soon become the best lighted city in the West.

LON HARDMAN, the printer, had a special on calling cards for gentlemen to use on New Year's Day. . . . There was no news from Savannah because the telegraph wires were still down between St. Joseph and that community. . . . Residents on North Second Street complained their sidewalks were in bad shape. . . . Other citizens said garbage was allowed to pile up in downtown alleys. . . . The first annual Switchmen's Ball was held at the City Hall.

THE LEGISLATURE WAS SLATED to receive a bill establishing a Normal School at Maryville. . . . Christ Episcopal Church and St. Joseph's Cathedral had special Christmas services but many churches waited until Sunday, the day after the holiday, to conduct combined Christmas-Sunday services. . . . A reporter said a beggar stood at Seventh and Felix Streets and of 54 persons who passed the corner in a short time, half gave him money. Four hours later, the reporter added, the man was seen, very drunk, on Edmond Street. . . . The same reporter wrote a "A little girl on Felix Street whined 'My ma is sick. Will you give me a penny?' She got dimes. At 10 p.m., I saw her give the money to a great drunken beast in the shape of a man."

AN ENGLISH VISITOR was so entranced by St. Joseph that he said he would bring his family here from Oxford.

'Mochila' is Bicento

By BARRY CLAYWELL

Bill's Saddlery, 621 Messanie, received a Bicentennial assignment from the United States Information Agency in Washington, D.C., recently.

The assignment: To make a full-scale reproduction of a "mochila," or Pony Express saddle bag. Now finished, it is complete with pouches, padlocks and latches just like the originals.

Bill Mooney and his son, Russ, operate the saddlery. There they make saddles, chaps and other special leather equipment. Russ talked about the agency's request.

"The information agency in Washington contacted us," he said, "and asked if we could reproduce the mochila which is on display at the Pony Express Stables Museum."

He said they got the assignment through the St. Joseph Museum. The father and son have repaired the original mochila in the past.

According to the agency order sheet, the finished mochila will be part of a traveling Bicentennial display, "Ways of Life on America's Frontier." Russ said the show will tour Australia, New Zealand, Guam and the Philippines.

The history of the mochila lies in the early days of the United States Southwest and old Mexico. It was used by American and Mexican riders as a protective part of the saddle. A large piece of leather, it slips over the saddle. Once adopted by the Pony Express, mail pouches were added.

Before they started the job, Russ said they ordered a saddle tree from a Vernal, Utah, firm. A saddle tree forms the basic saddle. It is made of wood and covered with rawhide.

Like original Pony Express saddles, the one the Mooneys built is cut-down.

"Their saddles had only the basic parts," Russ said. "They stripped everything off to make it as light as possible. I guess they were like horseracing saddles today. They made them light so riders could go faster."

To the saddle tree they added a seat, ground-work, leather housings and skirts.

After the saddle was finished they went to the stables.

"The museum people graciously allowed us to copy all the patterns and parts of their mochila so we could reproduce ours as accurately as possible," Russ said.



The "mochila" at left and a saddle are like those used by the riders. Russ Mooney is shown with the made-to-order pieces.

The actual mochila was the last thing they made. When combined with the saddle, a relatively lightweight piece of riding equipment exists.

"The average saddle we make

today," Russ said, "35 and 40 pounds. The Pony Express version, with pouches, weighs between 15 and 20 pounds."

The Pony Express

ennial assignment



News-Press photographs by DON BRADLEY

Pony Express

weights between
e cut-down Pony
mochila added,
d 20 pounds."
and its hybrid

The "mochila" fits over the saddle when used to carry the mail. The pouches all have latches and padlocks.

form of saddle and saddle bag is a thing of the past. The art of creating the saddle and mochila has not disappeared, however.

At Bill's Saddlery Bill and Russ

Mooney can still help people see what used to be. The people in Australia, New Zealand and other parts of the South Pacific will soon be seeing the proof.

Ad firm saddles up with local leather artist

By PRESTON FILBERT

Staff Writer

GAZ 4-24-87

Several years ago, the craftsmen at Bill's Saddlery at Seventh and Messanie streets got an unusual request from a local advertising man: translate into leather the logo for a cattle medicine.

"It wasn't right," said Russ Mooney of the design, and his father, Bill, totally recast the logo before filling the order.

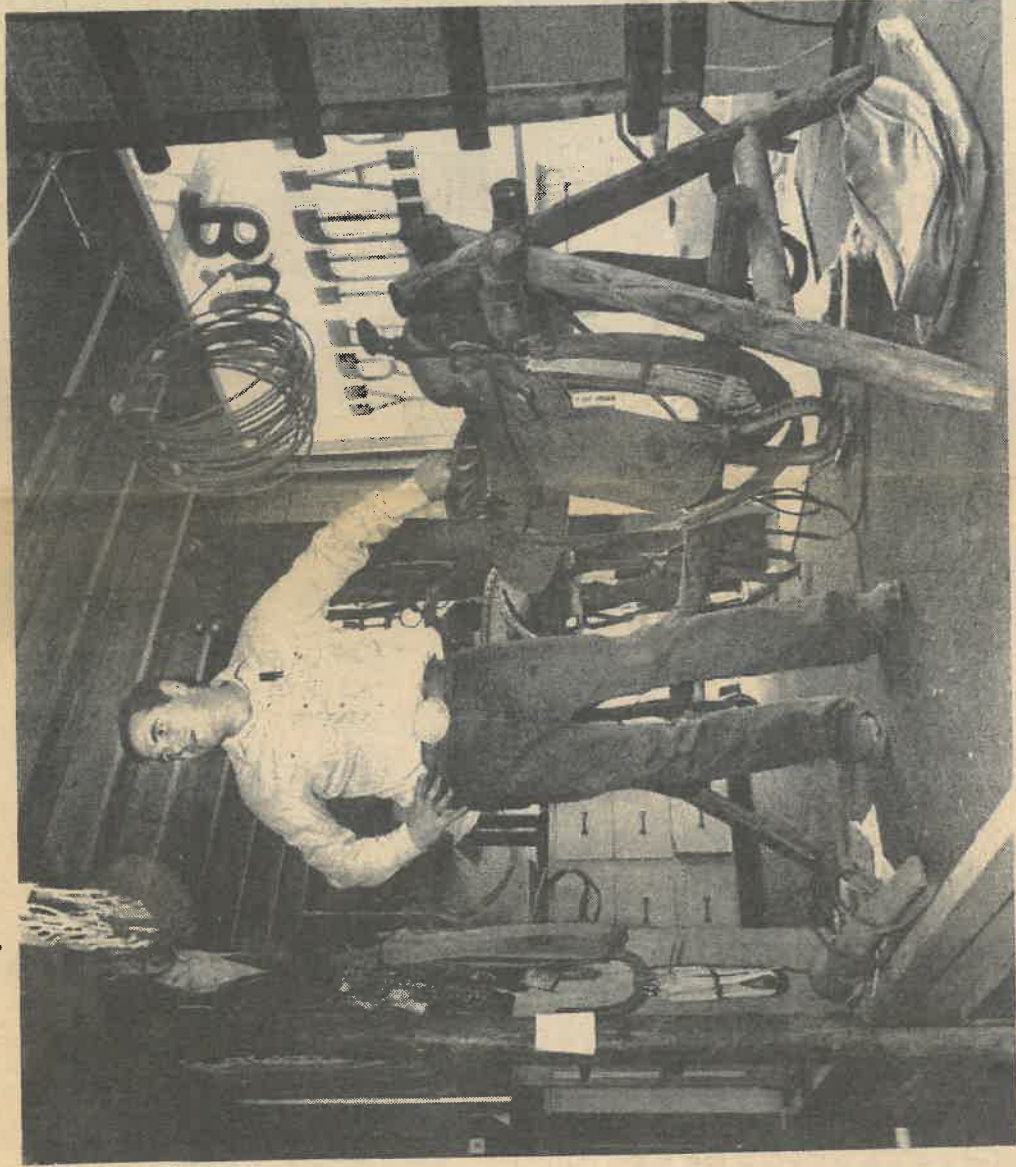
Ken Shearin, owner of Marketing Support Services, confronted Bill on the design changes, but came away convinced that the leather worker, with 30 years experience turning tanned hides into useful and highly decorative pieces of art, knew what he was talking about.

"He told me I was wrong and I liked that," Shearin said. "You don't meet enough people like that any more."

Over the next few years, Shearin had enough faith in the Mooneys' judgment and skills to have them design other leather items for his clients. Russ created the prototype for a simple holster for one animal health firm's implanting gun. He also designed the contours of a "hog belt" that appeared in an ad for a swine feed additive; the belt was so popular with hog producers that it later was mass-produced by another leather goods company and 6,000 of them given away as a sales promotion.

Now Shearin has returned to the Mooneys with his tallest order: Custom design four saddles as part of the grand prize in an essay contest sponsored by Purina Mills Inc. for its "Athlete" horse feed.

Shearin said the idea for the saddle prizes was his, and he sold it to Purina by bringing a company product manager into



Staff photo by LAURA EMBRY

Russ Mooney thinks his work for Purina could attract saddle customers across U.S.

the saddlery shop to smell the leather of an Old West business.

"I sold him on giving something personnel that is more likely to be appreciated than money," Shearin said. "A saddle is tied to horses and related to their (Purina's) product."

Russ said the order for the saddles, which will be built to the style and measurement

specifications of the winners, came at an opportune time.

Because most of his customers are farmers, the current economic slump has reined in the saddle business to a slow walk.

He also said the name of his company in the ads for the contest will probably bring him some inquiries from horsemen around the United States.

He said a customized saddle

generally sells for between \$1,000 and \$13,000.

Because Bill's Saddlery is not equipped to handle mass production, Russ said, individual orders such as the four prizes are best suited for his company.

A year ago, the Mooneys built a replica of a Pony Express saddle for display at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS / AGRICULTURE

Bill's Saddlery adds to Pony Express theme

We also had to adjust to new styles in saddles. There are big differences in saddles," Russ Mooney said.

Russ said he likes the old type of saddles. "Our saddles go all over the region and the United States."

The business also repairs saddles of all kinds. Many of the most often worn-out or broken parts of a saddle are also the easiest to fix. Many people fix some of those parts themselves, Russ said.

"We fix and make saddles like it was done at the Turn of the Century," he said. "It is in the way we build them. We do what the people say they want in a saddle."

A saddle starts with a bare saddle tree. A visit to Bill's Saddlery reveals a full complement of equipment for making saddles. "Not many area people know how to repair saddles," Russ said.

"The expansion will bring in tourists... More numbers mean more customers."—Russ Mooney

Bill's Saddlery started and remained for many years at Seventh and Messanie. It moved to its present location in July 1991.

If it has anything to do with horses, Bill's Saddlery has it. Among the horse and Western items available are Western cups, mugs and cards, saddle soap, belts, all kinds of saddles, bowler ties, buckles, post-ornaments, show items.

Bill's Saddlery started and remained for many years at Seventh and Messanie. It moved to its present location in July 1991.

Bill's Saddlery started and remained for many years at Seventh and Messanie. It moved to its present location in July 1991.

Bill's Saddlery started and remained for many years at Seventh and Messanie. It moved to its present location in July 1991.

Bill's Saddlery started and remained for many years at Seventh and Messanie. It moved to its present location in July 1991.

Bill's Saddlery started and remained for many years at Seventh and Messanie. It moved to its present location in July 1991.

When you think of the Pony Express Stables, you think of horses. So what better business to have next door to the Stables than one that deals with horse supplies. Bill's Saddlery is located just to the west of the Stables and the new Pony Express National museum last year. "It helps our business," Russ said. "The expansion will bring in more people come in since we moved here. The move has been good for us."

"We're pleased they are doing this," Russ continued. "More numbers mean more customers."

His father, Bill, who started the business in 1957, still spends time every day working in the shop. He stopped working full-time 10 years ago.

"You have to have a reason to get up," Bill, 72, explained.

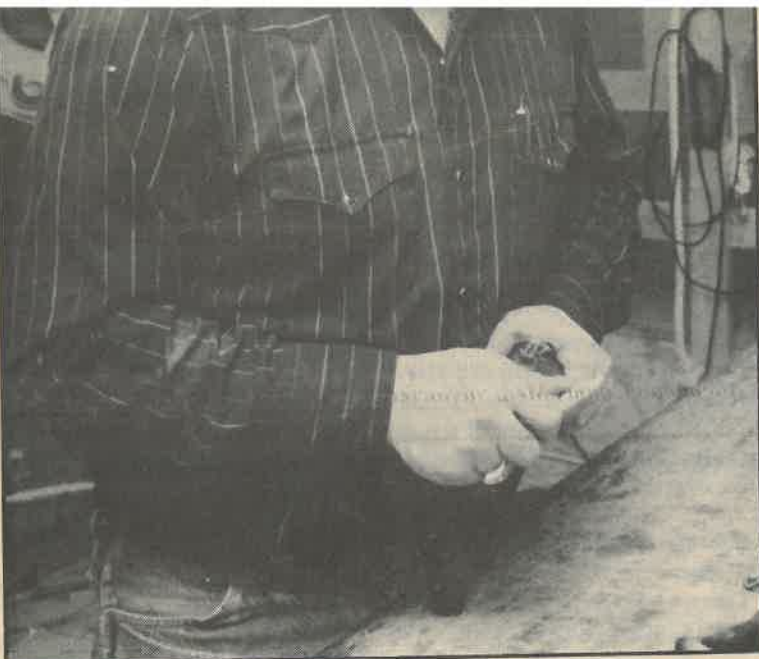
Bill's Saddlery started and remained for many years at Seventh and Messanie. It moved to its present location in July 1991.

Bill's Saddlery started and remained for many years at Seventh and Messanie. It moved to its present location in July 1991.

Bill's Saddlery started and remained for many years at Seventh and Messanie. It moved to its present location in July 1991.

Bill's Saddlery started and remained for many years at Seventh and Messanie. It moved to its present location in July 1991.

Bill's Saddlery started and remained for many years at Seventh and Messanie. It moved to its present location in July 1991.



Russ Mooney, proprietor at Bill's Saddlery, is expert at fixing and making all kinds of saddles and various other horse supplies.

Memorial now under construction.

The expansion of the Stables will add to the collection of Pony Express history at the Museum. The expansion will add back the back half of the Stables which collapsed before it could be saved. It will double the exhibit program space. It also aims to create a new wing to house living history exhibits, visitor facilities, offices and the growing collection of Pony Express artifacts.

Bill's Saddlery occupies the west half of the Pony Express Bowling Lanes. The east half has been destroyed for the museum expansion. But the lanes were built at two different times, and the common wall between the two parts of the bowling alley remains, so it did not affect Bill's Saddlery. The block surface in front of the building was cut for the demolition.

The Bill's Saddlery building is owned by the Pony Express Museum. "Neither half of this building was considered well built enough to be a museum," said Russ Mooney who operates Bill's

saddle blankets, hat savers, gloves, shoe polish, cologne, after shave, leather dye, all purpose cement, mink oil, hoof care kits, leather finish, saddle butter, horns and leathercraft items, zippers, boots, brushes, hair polish, saddle pads, horse magazines, horse shoes, horse show racks and black powder items.

A visitor to the shop may be drawn to the life-size display figure of a horse pulling a real old-time cart, another life-size display figure of a horse and a life-size display figure of a cowboy.

The main business is saddles. Bill Mooney began building custom saddles in 1957, and the business has developed a good reputation in the area. "We now make saddles for the sons and daughters of our customers from that time.

used horses when I was growing up. I often rode to town in the back of an old wagon. I used to help gather cattle, cut bulls and brand cattle."

The first saddles Bill sold were on the back of a horse, he said.

Russ likes horses. "He has three he rides," Bill said. "Russ is a good cowboy. He likes to arena rope."

Russ said there are fewer horses in the area but better quality animals. "There are more activities for horses. I like horses. I like to work with horses and make good saddles for horses."

**story by
Duane Thies
photos by
Jim Fly**



Bill Mooney, Russ' father, is pictured with the items he and Russ repair at Bill's Saddlery. Bill started the shop in 1957 and is proud that Bill's Saddlery fixes and makes saddles and horse equipment the old way. The business draws many horse enthusiasts who come to see the Pony Express Museum.

Metro/

Friday, June 21, 1991 St. Joseph, (

The travelin' man

Allen Seifert
Staff writer



Saddle man to set up shop at museum

After six decades at Seventh and Messanie streets, Bill's Saddlery is moving.

Russ Mooney, long a key figure in historic reenactments related to the Pony Express, will take his saddle making and tack business to the Pony Express Museum annex, Ninth and Penn streets.

He will become a "living exhibit" for the museum, continuing his leather work under the scrutiny of those who visit the museum.

"Every time a business is moved, it changes a little, so I'm sure we'll have to make a few changes even after we get down there," Mooney says. "But it's a very good opportunity for me, and I'm looking forward to it."

Rich Nolf, curator of the St. Joseph and Pony Express museums, says he's elated by Mooney's move and believes the business will be another attraction for a museum that has seen nothing but steady growth.

"We believe the move will be beneficial for both of us," Nolf says. "He will be an attraction for the tourists who visit, many of whom have their own horses."

ress bowling alley. Mooney will move in July.

The door to the business will open onto Ninth Street. The museum will open to Penn Street.

"I don't know of a museum anywhere which has a saddle maker as a part of its regular displays. It will give the Pony Express Museum something that others just do not have," Nolf says.

Mooney says his involvement with Pony Express Museum dates "way back" and claims a link to the craftsman who designed the mochila for the Pony Express. The craftsman taught Bill Mooney, father of Russ, and Russ learned the craft from his father.

"So, I've always been very interested in the Pony Express and all of the history that goes with it," Mooney says.

"But I'm going to continue making saddles, just as I always have done. Our business won't change that much."

Mooney expects his customers to follow him to the museum.

"Our customers are horse people, and most of our advertising is by word of mouth. I believe (the move) will change our business somewhat, but I won't really know about that until I get down there."

His saddles, he notes, have covered a great deal of territory.

"We've always let our product speak for itself . . . We have saddles along both coasts and in most of the states of the Union," he says.

The saddle maker does a lot of repair work, and plans to continue that work after the move.

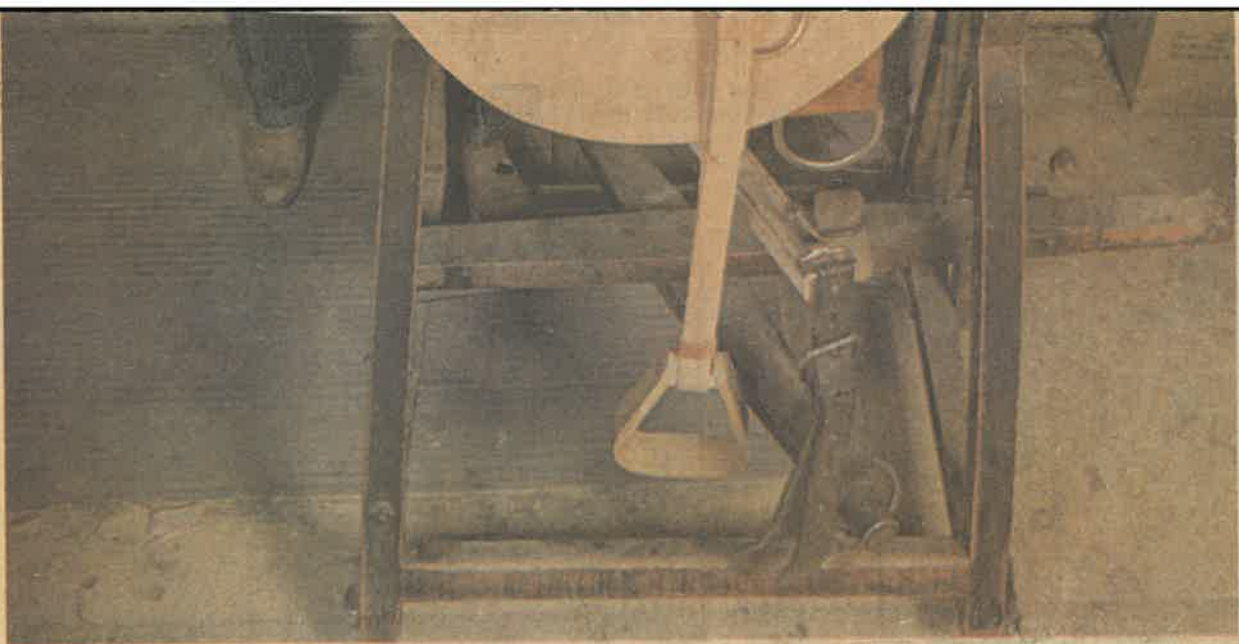
"I think it will take some experimenting to see what works and how it will work," Mooney says.

"I've never been in a tourist area before." However, he says, "Many of the people who come in here are interested in the Old West and western history."

JOSEPH NEWS-

ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI, WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 28, 1986





—Staff photo by IVAL LAWHON JR.

Bill, left, and Russ Mooney with the saddle and mochila they made for the Smithsonian.

Local saddle bound for Smithsonian

By ALLEN SEIFERT
Staff Writer

The saddle-making expertise of Bill and Russ Mooney will soon be on display at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C.

Part of an exhibit there will be a hand-made replica of what is thought to be an original Pony Express saddle now the property of the St. Joseph museum.

"We think this is unusual because most of the displays at the Smithsonian are the original item of historical significance," said Russ Mooney. "The saddle we're sending is a duplicate of the saddle owned by the Wyeth family and the museum."

The saddle saga began last Fall when the Smithsonian Institute first contacted Museum Curator Rich Nolf about obtaining an original Pony Express saddle.

Nolf directed the inquiries to the Mooneys, suggesting that they might recreate a Pony Express saddle, complete with mochila, especially for the Washington museum.

"We couldn't have done this without the cooperation of the Museum," said Bill Mooney.

Borrowing the Museum saddle, the Mooneys stripped it down to the tree, then sent those dimensions to a saddle tree maker in New Mexico.

The tree maker responded by creating a duplicate of the original in rawhide.

"While we were doing it, we made not one but three — one for the Wells Fargo Museum in Sacramento, Calif., one for the Post Office Department for a historic display, and this one for the Smithsonian," Russ Mooney said.

The Pony Express saddle was, as saddles go, an inexpensive model, stripped of all frills which might make it an ounce or two heavier.

"An ordinary saddle might weigh 45 pounds or so. This saddle will weigh around 20. And it is completely hand-made. All of the nails are either solid copper or solid brass. I would estimate that it took probably 60 man hours to build," said Bill Mooney.

The Mooneys are not certain when the saddle will become a part of a permanent Smithsonian Institute but it will be hand-delivered to the Museum by North American Van Lines.

"We had total cooperation from everyone. North American officials here had to get approval for their national office to make the delivery, but they did it. We built the saddle, but we had help from a lot of people," Bill Mooney said.

Saddles really seat-of-pants business

Russ Mooney's work described as an art

1-5-99

By FRED KOENIG
fredk@npgco.com
St. Joseph News-Press

Russ Mooney's interest in saddles is nearly genetic.

"My father tried to make cowboys out of all of us, but I'm the only one who stuck," said Mr. Mooney, owner of Bill's Saddlery.

Mr. Mooney's father, Bill, started the saddle business in 1957 at Seventh and Messanie streets. It operated there until 1990, when it moved to its present location at 1205 S. Ninth St.

Mr. Mooney started working with his father in the business when he was a freshman at Central High School. He earned a degree from Northwest Missouri State University and taught business education in Oregon, Mo. But even while he was teaching, he could be found back in the saddle shop on weekends and during summer break.

"I never could get away from the business," he said.

After five years of teaching, Mr. Mooney decided to go into the family saddle business full time. But he has no regrets about his college education.

"College teaches you how to learn," Mr. Mooney said.

But Mr. Mooney's knowledge about saddles didn't come from a book or a class, it came from the seat of his pants.

Mr. Mooney has shown horses, gone on pack trips on horses and even rode bucking broncos in the rodeo when he was younger. When he's not riding, he's building custom saddles for others who enjoy



Business facts

Business Name: Bill's Saddlery

Owner's Name: Russ Mooney

Age: 51

Current location: 1205 S. Ninth St.

Future location: 20496 County Road

Education: Bachelors degree in education from Northwest Missouri State University

Hobbies: Roping, riding, hunting, officiating high school football

Family: Married with one grown son

riding sports, ranging from fancy show saddles to saddles that are used by mule-riding raccoon hunters.

The saddles Mr. Mooney makes usually start at \$1,200 and go up from there. It takes from 80 to 100 hours of labor for him to make most saddles, because he makes and fits all of the pieces himself. The lifetime of the saddles depend on the riders.

"Saddles are like a pair of shoes — how long they last depends a lot on how you use them," Mr. Mooney said.

A good example of someone who really puts a saddle to use would be Greg Clement, auctioneer at the



Russ Mooney, owner of Bill's Saddlery, works at his present location on South Ninth Street.

St. Joseph stockyards. The Mr. Clement's father bought a saddle from the Mooney's in 1959, and his family has purchased 23 more since then.

"We use Mooney saddles everyday," Mr. Clement said.

When the saddles leave the ranch for hunting trips they serve the Mooneys' well as advertisements. "I'd be out riding somewhere, and someone will say 'My gosh, where did you get that saddle?'" Mr. Clement said.

Mr. Clement describes Bill Mooney as having a mountain knowledge, and Russ' skills mir-

ror his father's.

"They are both artists, part of a dying breed," Mr. Clement said.

In addition to building saddles, Mr. Mooney also works on other types of leather repair except shoes. His shop also sells some cards and jewelry, but that will soon change.

Soon Mr. Mooney will move to a new location, where he will focus his business back to saddles. He is constructing a building near his home for the business. The new address will be 20496 County Road 306, and he plans to move about the first of February.

IVAL LAWHON JR./St. Joseph News-Press
He will be moving and working out of a shop near his home later this year.

Mr. Mooney isn't too worried about losing business during the move. He is about a year behind on building saddles. His father, a World War II veteran, still builds saddles too, but he doesn't take orders.

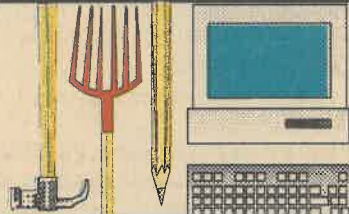
"He just builds them the way he wants to, and he leaves it up to me to sell them," Mr. Mooney said.

If you have an idea for a business profile, contact business editor Robyn L. Davis by phone at 271-8573, by fax at 271-8692, by e-mail at robynd@npgco.com or by mail in care of this newspaper.



Staff photo by LEIGH ANN BRYSON

S T J O S E P H



A T W O R K

LEATHER CRAFTSMAN *N-P 6-21-92*

Russ Mooney, owner of Bill's Saddlery, 621 Messanie St., measures a piece of leather for a personalized pouch. In addition to saddles, Mooney makes and repairs leather goods such as saddle bags and other items related to horses. Mooney spends 80 to 100 hours on a custom saddle, made to the customer's specifications. Mooney and his father, Bill Mooney, do all of the leather work at the shop.

THE PEOPLE'S FORUM

No. to Convent Property

Memo Read 11-14-63

Editor, News-Press: I am surprised someone hasn't suggested we use the old Patee House for our college in St. Joseph. Just think what a new roof and a sprinkler system would do for it.

There would probably be a few rooms or maybe a section or wing in it too we wouldn't need or know what to do with—but that would be all right too—we can spend a fortune heating

it until such time as the excess space is needed.

It is sickening—the idea of spending \$150,000 on a flea-bitten, termite ridden building that has already been abandoned as a school! It was bad enough to even consider it as a possible home for our museum, but believe me it would make a far better museum than it will a college.

It is indeed already a mu-

seum, and obviously one that is in an advanced stage of dilapidation.

I would like to know too, if the estimated cost of "refurbishing" the convent for museum purposes is \$250,000 to \$300,000, just how far will \$150,000 go toward putting it in shape for college use?

It is doubtful if it will cover the cost of a new roof and a sprinkler system. It's for sure the amount will cover little else.

Sincerely,
—Interested Subscriber

City Benefactor George Bode Died Ten Years Ago May 11

N.P. - 5-2-45

Spending of Legacy to Citizens Only Now Starting

By EDWIN R. McDONALD
(News-Press Staff Writer)

Ledgers from the old Buffalo saloon have turned up at a timely moment in an attic at 715 South 9th street. George Bode, one of the proprietors, lived at that address and his son, George Bode Jr., is the man who left a fortune to the people of St. Joseph. May 11 will mark the 10th anniversary of the death of George Bode Jr. in St. Louis at the age of 86.

As that anniversary approaches, the first large scale Bode fund project is under way in the reconstruction and asphaltting of Noyes Field tennis courts.

In the years since the benefactor's death, his \$2,500,000 estate has grown to about \$4,000,000. An attempt by Bode heirs to break the will failed. Another court action was that of the trustees, who sought liberalization and interpretation of the will and did win more latitude for spending the money.

Finds Buffalo Records

The Buffalo saloon was opened in 1854 at 412 Edmond street by Frederick Stephan and George Bode and it ran until the closing month of 1959.

The old Bode home now is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Guy Young, who live next door north at 709 South 9th street. Mrs. Young found the Buffalo records.

With them were school books that had belonged to Bode children, Agnes and Arthur; city directories going back to 1871, a Bible printed in 1844, some books in German and a huge framed certificate issued to George Bode June 1, 1886, from the Order of the Sons of Herman.

Herwegh Lodge No. 34 of the sons of Herman met every Monday in the Buffalo building, according to the directories, and the 1892 book listed George Bode as treasurer.

A Street Disappears

The 1871 directory located the Bode residence at "9th street, between Locust and Peabody." Peabody isn't there anymore. It's Mary street now.

again for October, 1870 and for January, 1871, but the situation was much improved in September, 1885, with receipts of \$903.80 and expenditures of \$406.05.

Profitable Then

Seen from the present day, Buffalo figures were small. For example the receipts for the first eight days of August, 1870 were, respectively, \$35, \$31, \$23, \$25, \$30, \$39, \$27 and \$40.75. For the whole month, the receipts were \$836 and the expenditures \$529.65, leaving a balance of \$306.35.

If the proprietors could split most of the balance as profit, and they probably could, they took home around \$150 apiece. That was a lot of money in 1870.

Food for the tables at the Buffalo was cheap—it had to be,

for those were the days of free lunches for the customers who bought drinks.

Buffalo proprietors spent \$7.35 on Oct. 7, 1865. Their entry was "marketing, beer and coal oil."

More was needed on the 24th; "Marketing, oysters, whisky, cheese, etc., \$46.35."

Their biggest day that month was the 31st: "marketing, beer, whisky, rent, Herald, etc. \$70.65." (The Herald was the morning Herald and Tribune.)

All they needed Dec. 26, 1865, was eggs, for which they paid \$2. Milk, sausage, matches and towels on the 27th cost \$3.50.

In one of the books was a letter from Arthur Bode to his mother, written from a hotel in St. Louis April 15, 1895. The trip had been rough, he said, and the hotel room was "out of sight." It was \$1.50.

Bode Memorial

Day: 7-18-62
The Bode fortune gets bigger and bigger. It may be remembered that the first report of the size of this gift to St. Joseph put the figure at \$1,000,000. And that was considered quite an inheritance.

But after the appraisal of the estate it was revealed that it really was worth \$2,500,000. It wasn't long until the trustees reported that this fortune had increased to \$3,000,000. And the last report showed that the wonderful (if one is on the right end) mathematical calculation called interest had boosted Mr. Bode's gift to the citizens of St. Joseph to the lofty figure of \$3,662,000. Before any sizable part of this trust is spent the principal will be crowding \$4,000,000.

Much energy has been expended and a tremendous amount of thought given toward the disposition of the Bode fortune. There are plenty of projects that certain groups want to see materialize on the back of Bode money.

But we have yet to hear of anyone pushing for some kind of individual memorial to George Bode Jr. as municipal appreciation of what he tried to do for St. Joseph. It would seem to us that a little bit of the Bode money might be devoted to perpetuating the memory of this man who went away from St. Joseph but never forgot that this was the old home town.

It would be easy enough to tie the Bode name to some big project financed by his money but that would seem to be penny pinching. And it would be easier still in the years to come to drop the name. A memorial to this man should be distinctive and permanent.

the university's lone Negro student, James H. Meredith.

Judge Sidney Mize's order brushed aside a state college board decision that McDowell could not be accepted because of campus "unrest."

The suit for McDowell's immediate admission was filed in open court by Mrs. Constance Baker Motley during her arguments for Meredith.

Meredith, still protected by federal marshals while on campus, had asked the court to make Ole Miss grant him married student quarters for the summer term. He has a wife and son.

Judge Mize said he was making his McDowell order completely separate from the Meredith case. He set June 3 as the date for a hearing on the Meredith petition.

Problems Faced in Trying to Use Bode Cash Told to Court

By GARY CHILCOTE

(Gazette Courthouse Reporter)

Problems in meeting the terms of the will of the late George Bode Jr. were traced Tuesday by Bode trustees in court testimony before Judge William Kimberlin.

Mr. Bode, who died in May, 1955, left his estate to the people of St. Joseph to be used to purchase land for recreational purposes. As of this month, the estate is valued at about \$3,800,000.

Trustees of the benevolent trust are attempting to have the court liberalize terms of the will so funds may be used for recreational purposes other than the simple purchase of land.

On the witness stand most of the day was William M. Morton, an attorney and chairman of the Bode trustees.

Two Land Purchases

Mr. Morton, through questioning by Robert E. Douglas, attorney for the trustees, told the court of efforts to live up to the strict terms of the will.

He explained that in six years of negotiations the trustees had been able to purchase but two plots of land for recreational purposes. One of these adjoins the Pershing School on Blackwell road, and the other adjoins school land on Beck road.

"Originally the trustees were considering land which would not require many improvements,"

Mr. Morton said. "As time went on and as a result of our conferences and meetings we began to hear and consider projects which contemplated that we might be able to use some of our funds

to help the city's recreational needs."

Museum Request Considered

Mr. Morton said it was in June, 1960, that the trustees were first approached to give consideration to the Convent of the Sacred Heart as a future home for the St. Joseph Museum.

"The matter has been considered off and on since that time," Mr. Morton said. "They (the museum boards) are requesting the Bode trustees to ask this court to permit the use of income or principal belonging to the Bode trust to install a sprinkler system and remodel the convent so the museum may move in."

The Bode trustee chairman said he had met with the museum board and discussed the proposal. He pointed out that since the discussions began the convent building was given to the museum and that only funds for refurbishing it are now being requested.

"The trustees have neither approved nor disapproved the con-

But Besieged Group Remains at Counter

Battering fists and mustard baths failed to break up the lunch

art clung stubbornly to their stools.

TEMPERATURES SINCE 7 A. M.
YESTERDAY
(Readings at The Gazette Building)
7 A. M. 56

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President and Mrs. Kennedy attended a house warming Tuesday night at the Georgetown home of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh D. Auchincloss. Mrs. Auchincloss is Mrs. Kennedy's mother.

Detective Chief M. B. Pierce said the man arrested with Norman, Bennie Oliver, 27, of Anguilla, Miss., was charged with assault.

UPSETS RULING AT 'OLE MISS'

The unexpected action on behalf of Cleve McDowell, 21, came in the midst of a hearing involving

Trustees of Bode Estate to Discuss Course of Action

Day - 2-28-63

By HUGH A. SPRAGUE

(Gazette Courthouse Reporter)

Trustees of the George Bode Jr. trust will meet this afternoon at 3 to discuss legal alternatives in their circuit court suit to construe portions of the Bode will.

Attorneys for the trustees will attend the meeting, to be held in the conference room of the Corby building.

A motion by Mrs. Mildred L. Peters, a niece of the late Mr. Bode, to intervene in the litigation will be heard March 18 by Judge William H. Kimberlin. Filing of the motion Monday forced postponement of the will hearing, which was to have begun Tuesday morning.

Trustees are seeking instruction by the court of certain portions of the will which they deem ambiguous. They also ask that certain administrative duties of trus-

tees be varied to make the will more practical.

Mrs. Peters, according to her motion, contends that one-half the assets of the \$3,825,000 trust will go to her and one-half to another Bode niece, Eleanor Tiehoff, Los Angeles, Cal., if the trust is decreed to be impractical and unenforceable in its present form.

The trust was established in a

Concluded on Page 2—Column 3

A Deserving Judge

Dec 21-71-64
The bar and public generally hold our circuit courts in esteem. Therefore it is pleasing, far and wide, that the Hon. William H. Kimberlin has been upheld by the Missouri Supreme Court in the long-drawn-out and very important Bode case.

Jefferson City has affirmed the court of Judge Kimberlin as to procedure that the attorney for the Bode trustees thinks right and proper. Judge Kimberlin agreed with counsel, the high court agrees with Judge Kimberlin.

Congratulations, Judge Kimberlin.

Trustees Decide to Include Bode Nieces in Suit

Amended Petition to Be Filed in Will Interpretation Action

Trustees of the George Bode Jr. Benevolent Trust have decided to include both of the late Mrs. Bode's nieces in the court suit to liberalize the will.

Judge W. H. Kimberlin has received word from the Bode fund trustees that they would file an amended petition before next Tuesday with both of the nieces named as defendants in the litigation. The nieces are Mrs. Mildred L. Peters of St. Joseph and Mrs. Eleanor Tiehoff, Los Angeles.

The Bode estate was left to residents of St. Joseph to purchase land for recreational purposes. Trustees are seeking to liberalize the will to permit the money to be spent for other purposes. The estate is worth more than \$3,800,000 at the present time.

After the trustees filed the court suit Mrs. Peters filed a motion to intervene. Judge Kimberlin had set next Monday as the date to hear Mrs. Peters' motion. However, the trustees' plan to file the amended petition will cancel that hearing.

This new action planned by the

trustees will cause a further delay in the hearing on their petition to liberalize the will, Judge Kimberlin said. He pointed out that Mrs. Tiehoff has given no indication she desires to intervene in the suit and therefore it is assumed she has no attorney to represent her in the matter.

"It is likely that both mail and publication methods of serving the two relatives will be used," said Judge Kimberlin. "In that case it would be at least 45 days before a hearing on the petition could be held."

Judge Kimberlin also pointed out the possibility that both nieces may not desire service by mail or publication, but desire immediate court action. In that case the hearing on the petition could be held earlier.

Trustees are Mrs. Sally J. Reed, Beverly Pitts, Orestes Mitchell Jr., W. F. Enright and William M. Morton. Defendants in the amended petition which will be filed will be Thomas F. Eagleton, attorney general of Missouri, the city of St. Joseph, Mrs. Mildred L. Peters and Mrs. Eleanor Tiehoff.

Bode Will Case Reset for Feb. 26

NP 2-8-63
The case involving the request of the trustees of the George Bode Jr. Trust for an interpretation of the will has been reset for Feb. 26. Originally the trial was to be Feb. 18.

It will be heard in Judge W. H. Kimberlin's court. The will left the Bode money to residents of St. Joseph to purchase land for recreational purposes. Trustees are seeking to liberalize the terms of the will.

The reason for the change in the date for the hearing was that all parties involved could not get together on Feb. 18.

1945 will of Mr. Bode, who died in May, 1955. The bulk of his estate was left to citizens of St. Joseph for park and recreation purposes.

Filing of the motion by Mrs. Peters, wife of Charles A. Peters, 1018 Ashland court, may broaden the scope of the will interpretation suit filed last August by trustees. Alternative courses of legal action opened to trustees by filing of the motion are several.

May Contest Intervention

Trustees may vigorously contest intervention by Mrs. Peters or other heirs as parties to the suit. Basis for this course is a \$50,000 settlement by trustees to Mrs. Peters and other Bode heirs in August, 1958. The heirs unsuccessfully sought to admit to probate in St. Louis county a purported 1948 will of Mr. Bode which allegedly left his estate to kin.

In dismissing their action concerning the alleged later will, Mrs. Peters and other heirs agreed, the estate attorneys say, to abandon all claims to any portion of the Bode estate and forfeited all claims involving validity of the 1945 will.

In view of the apparent release by Mrs. Peters to any claim in the trust, her action to intervene and her allegation that the trust would revert to heirs if the trust is changed was not anticipated by trustees.

Another Alternative

Another course of action expected to be considered by trustees is whether to allow Mrs. Peters to intervene without contest, and also to name Eleanor Tiehoff, the other Bode niece, as a party to the action.

Such action, it is believed, finally would settle any remaining question as to possible claims to the trust by heirs.

The St. Louis litigation upon which heirs apparently relinquished all claims to the estate involved the question of which will was valid, the 1945 or 1948 instruments. A question now raised by Mrs. Peters, that the trust is "narrow and specific" and is not a general charitable trust, as argued by trustees, reportedly was not at issue in the St. Louis proceedings.

Submit Briefs Soon

Bringing the two nieces into the present suit and asking the court to rule that the trust is charitable, and, conversely, that it would not revert to heirs if changed, would enable trustees to proceed with administration of the trust without future interference by heirs.

Attorneys for trustees and for

Slow Use of Bode Money Hit

**Fantus Critical
of "Cumbersome"**

Method Used

7-2-4-67

By **PAUL STEWART**
(Gazette Staff Writer)

Lack of forceful action in applying Bode fund money toward improvement of St. Joseph's recreational facilities has been criticized in the Fantus report.

The analysis of the city's industrial expansion potential, made recently for the city and the area Chamber of Commerce, lists this as one of the shortcomings which should be remedied in improving the city's status as a site for new industrial plants.

"In spite of the presence of the Bode fund, the park board has been slow in using the funds and the method of screening projects is cumbersome," Fantus states.

Therefore, according to Fantus, among the efforts to aid the recreational program, the park board should draw up long-range development plans for recreation. This would greatly assist those efforts to make proper use of the Bode funds, it stated.

Importance Cited

Fantus also points out that the Bode fund trustees should make an effort to speed up distribution of the fund.

The Fantus report stated that recreation facilities are impor-

Concluded on Page 2A, Column 4

Prepare for Bode Will Trial

N-17 11-6-62

Trustees of the George Bode Jr. Benevolent Trust plan to be able by the first of the year to present to the court their case asking interpretation of the Bode will.

Attorney General Thomas F. Eagleton's answer to their action filed in Circuit Judge W. H. Kimbberlin's court confirms what the trustees said before entering the suit: Namely that getting such an interpretation made will not be a simple matter.

Allegations Denied

The attorney general admits that the trust has been set up properly and that it now contains approximately \$3,725,000 to be spent for recreational purposes

for the people of St. Joseph. He denies all the other allegations contained in the plaintiffs' petition supporting their claims for the release sought.

To amass a "preponderance of competent evidence," the trustees and their counsel now are gathering testimony for city officials, recreation experts, real estate men, appraisers and others.

Their purpose is to show why it is impractical and impossible to carry out the terms of the Bode will.

Questions Raised

Their petition raises several questions: (1) Does buying land mean that the land can contain

improvements? (2) Can the city condemn land which the Bode trust would buy and is it possible to procure the land best suitable without such condemnation? (3)

What public agencies are authorized to accept to title to acquisitions under the new city charter?

(4) Can money from the trust be used for improvements and maintenance when it is shown that the city does not have funds to maintain and administer a facility acquired by the trust?

It is the position of the trustees that a record be made in the trial court that would stand up and be sustained if the case should get into the appellate courts.

Bode Niece Files New Trial Motion

Mrs. Mildred L. Peters today filed a motion for a new trial in the George Bode Jr. will suit.

Judge William H. Kimberlin last month signed a judgment liberalizing terms of the Bode will that would permit the city of St. Joseph to use the \$3,800,000 trust for maintenance as well as acquisition of land, with certain limitations.

In the original will, the late Mr. Bode had specified the money was to be used for the purchase of land only. Judge Kimberlin's ruling was the result of a suit filed by trustees of the estate, seeking wider authorization for the use of funds.

Errors Charged

Mrs. Peters, a niece of Mr. Bode, contends the trust money should revert to the heirs, if it cannot be used for the original purposes listed in the will. A similar position was taken by her

16-23-63
sister, Mrs. Mildred Thiehoff, living in California.

Mrs. Peters' five-point motion cites what she alleged were a number of trial errors on the part of Judge Kimberlin, both in his findings of fact and judgment. The findings and judgment, she states, are without support in the evidence.

Under the 15-day limitation, today is the final date for filing appeals to Judge Kimberlin's ruling. No appeal has been received from Mrs. Thiehoff.

No Hearing Date

Last Friday, the Missouri attorney general's office filed a motion for a new trial. It listed nine points in which it was claimed the court erred.

Judge Kimberlin has not set any date for ruling on the motions. Should they be overruled, the next step by the appellants normally would be an appeal to the Missouri supreme court.

State Seeks New Trial in Bode Case

Interpretations of Will Are Challenged

Day - FD-20-63
Attorney General Thomas F. Eagleton will contest Circuit Judge W. H. Kimberlin's ruling in the Bode will liberalization case.

An award of \$20,000 in fees to attorneys representing nieces of George Bode Jr., who were defendants in the action, also will be contested.

A motion for a new trial will be filed today, John Denman, assistant attorney general, told

The Gazette Thursday night.

Mr. Bode died in 1955 at St. Louis, leaving a substantial sum of money now amounting to about \$3,800,000, to the citizens of St. Joseph for the purchase of land for recreational purposes. A two-day hearing was held May 28 and 29 by Judge Kimberlin on the trustees' request for a liberalization of the terms of the will to permit them to spend the money for purposes other than land.

Doubts Charges Justified

Judge Kimberlin filed his final order in the case this month giving trustees broader powers in administering the trust fund. Attorney General Eagleton was a defendant in the action and was represented at the hearing by Mr. Denman and Gordon Siddens, first assistant attorney general.

Mr. Denman said that Judge Kimberlin's order was being contested primarily on one point.

"We don't believe that the evidence shown justifies changing the trust to allow the funds to be

used for improving and equipping properties purchased and to pay for maintaining the equipment afterward," Mr. Denman said.

"It is our opinion that this authority is not within the terms of the trust instrument and we don't think the evidence presented justifies altering the trust," he commented. Mr. Denman said it is the position of the attorney general's office "that requests of the testator (Mr. Bode) should be carried out if at all possible to do so."

Appeal Is Indicated

He also indicated that if the motion for a new trial is denied by Judge Kimberlin that an appeal would be made. Since Attorney General Eagleton is a state officer, such an appeal would go directly to the state supreme court.

Mr. Denman said that the attorney general also is challenging fees awarded to attorneys repre-

Concluded on Page 2—Column 5

Continued From Page One

senting Mrs. Mildred Peters and Mrs. Eleanor Thiehoff, nieces of Mr. Bode. "In the first place we don't think they should have been allowed and secondly, we think they are entirely too high," he said.

He referred to Judge Kimberlin's award of \$8,000 to Maurice Pope, St. Joseph attorney representing Mrs. Thiehoff, and the \$12,000 award to Charlotte P. Thayer and Carl D. Gum Jr., Kansas City, attorneys representing Mrs. Peters.

Mr. Denman said his office was not contesting \$9,000 in attorney fees awarded to Floyd M. Sprague, Robert E. Douglas and Charles S. Wilcox, attorneys for the trustees. All fees were to be paid from the Bode fund.

Interpretations by Judge

Provisions in the ruling issued by judge Kimberlin are as follows.

1. That the trust is a valid one.
2. The legal title to all of the assets is vested in the trustees.
3. The trustees may purchase land, improved or unimproved.
4. Trustees may pay the city for purchase price of property acquired by condemnation.
5. Trustees may reject or accept any charitable offer of money, land or assistance.
6. Trustees may disburse principal or income of trust to pay for improvements and equipment.
7. Trustees shall hold in reserve a portion of the principal to invest and reinvest.
8. Trustees may make disbursements to the department of parks of the city for improvements and equipment.
9. Trustees shall mail a copy of the annual audit and report of activities to the attorney general of Missouri.

Judge Kimberlin also specified a number of things which trustees could not do. Included were use of the funds for museum purposes, defraying expenses of a theater building and acquiring a facility to be used exclusively for water sports.

How Mr. Bode Felt

N.P. 8-29-62
If there has been any doubt about how George Bode felt about the St. Joseph Museum, an item in the 15-Year-Ago column of The Gazette on Tuesday should end it.

Mr. Bode in 1947 made the first pledge of \$1,000 to the museum's campaign for funds. That was eight years before he was to die and bequeath an estate, now valued at close to \$3,800,000, to the people of St. Joseph for recreational purposes.

There is now in the courts a suit by the trustees of the Bode Trust to construe the will in order to permit the use of funds in a number of ways, one of them for the museum.

The gift Mr. Bode made to the St. Joseph Museum 15 years ago seems a guide to his intentions.

stant among community factors which are considered by companies when deciding on a location for a new plant.

These facilities also contribute to the attraction of tourists to the area, the report added.

The recreational appraisal by the Chicago firm pointed out the following assets for St. Joseph:

(1)—The presence of the Bode fund for parks and recreation has served to create the foundation for one of the finest recreational programs for a city of under 100,000 persons in the country.

Because of these funds, an aggressive recreation program is possible. Fantus reports a top-notch director is running the program, and a high-quality advisory park board manages the effort.

(2)—St. Joseph is a famous historical center and offers such things as a Patee House and a Pony Express Barn, as well as, a wide variety of historical exhibits to show the role which this community played in the winning of the West.

This can serve as an important recreation, not only for visitors but the natives as well, Fantus says. Outstanding historical features are the Burlington Railroad City Engine No. 35 and a copy of an early mail car.

Praise for Park Bowl

(3)—The Krug Park Bowl offers a setting for fine musical presentations, and throughout

the administrative fund.

(2)—Within the recreational fund trustees speed up the funds.

(3)—In addition, citizens contribute funds to recreation on. Other bequests are made, either for or for the development of four-year colleges.

(4)—The citizens agree to allocate funds for park development.

(5)—While the city has acres of parks throughout the community and the

the summer band concerts are offered. Light musical comedies are offered. There are 1,315 in the community.

(4)—Five organizations make a superior contribution to the recreational program of the city itself should be encouraged.

These are listed as the St. Joseph Museum, St. Joseph Community Theater, St. Joseph Symphony, St. Joseph Civic Band and the Albrecht Art Gallery.

In addition to the Bode fund should be asked to contribute to the Bode fund.

of the other major problem of the distribution of the report also pointed out some areas.

This portion of the report showed the community is in need of a fieldhouse to serve the guidelines of the Bode plan, the Bode should be asked to

an indoor recreation center. In need of a fieldhouse to serve the guidelines of the Bode plan, the Bode should be asked to

door winter recreation is needed, such as indoor ice skating. Fautus explains the schoolhouse cannot be used for winter recreation, except for basketball.

Fautus adds, the Auditorium is operated by the park department, and operates at a deficit each year.

Inadequate Park Staff

As usual, for a community that wants to have high quality park services, there is an inadequate staff. The supervisor of recreation is particularly busy and needs more staff, Fautus states.

In pointing out some of the things that should be done to aid the recreation program here, Fautus states:

(1)—A long-range recreation plan should be adopted by the park board which will serve as a guideline for contributions for

George Bode Will Before Court Today for Interpretation

Boyle 3-28-63

St. Joseph's efforts to liberalize the will of the late George Bode Jr. will get under way at 9:30 this morning after a day of pre-trial conferences.

Circuit Judge William H. Kimberlin said he hopes to complete the trial this week of possible.

Trustees of the \$3,800,000 will are asking that its terms be liberalized so the people of St. Joseph may use the money for public purposes other than the purchase of additional land for recreational needs as specified in the will.

Stipulations Are Made

Intervening in the suit is a motion by Mrs. Mildred L. Peters, a niece of the city's benefactor, who claims that if the money cannot be used for its specified purpose it should revert to the heirs.

Monday attorneys met with Judge Kimberlin to work out a number of pertinent facts about the case. These admissions may now be accepted in the trial proceedings without further proof, thereby speeding up the trial so it may be completed this week.

Included in the admissions Monday was the new St. Joseph city charter; admission that the Bode trustees were duly appointed according to provisions of the will, and acceptance of the annual accountings of the Bode funds as given by the Bode trustees.

Settlement Admitted

The attorneys also admitted for trial evidence that Mrs. Mildred L. Peters and another niece, Eleanor L. Thiehoff, are surviving heirs in the case.

Also admitted was a release showing the heirs accepted a \$50,000 settlement for dismissal of claims to the Bode funds, and a St. Louis circuit court's ruling approving that settlement.

Today's trial will get under way at 9:30 and is scheduled to continue until 5 p. m. Spectators are expected to be on hand to hear testimony throughout the day.

Judge Kimberlin said the court would not hold sessions Thursday, Memorial day, but that Friday and Saturday will be used if necessary to get the case completed as soon as possible.

Bode Trustees Hear 3 Museum Proposals for Financial Help

NP-1-27-62
Three proposals designed to provide more space for the St. Joseph Museum were presented to trustees of the Bode estate yesterday afternoon.

They included the purchase and conversion of the former Convent of the Sacred Heart, 12th and Angelique streets; the purchase and restoration of the old Patee House, 12th and Penn streets, and building an addition to the present museum building at 11th and Charles streets.

More Space Needed

The gist of the presentation was that the museum needs more room which could be provided by any one of the three proposals. However, one of the proposals would also make it possible to preserve a historical landmark. It was hoped that one of the three propositions would be favored by trustees and that money would be provided from the Bode estate.

William M. Morton, chairman of the trustee board, said the meeting was an informal discussion on these possibilities and that no action was taken. At present, no money is available for projects of this nature from the \$2½ million estate. Mr. Bode's will requires that the money be used to purchase land for recreation purposes. However, trustees have announced plans to seek release of the funds for specific recreational projects through the courts.

Making the presentation yesterday were Simon Rositzky, R. A. Brown Sr., Hamilton J. McCord, museum board members, and Roy Coy, museum director.

Convent Conversion Cost

Trustees were informed that between \$350,000 and \$400,000 would be needed to purchase the former convent building and make the repairs and alterations necessary to convert the building for museum use. Benjamin R. Vineyard recently purchased the convent property and announced plans to raze the building and build garden-type apartments on the grounds. However, trustees were told yesterday that Mr. Vineyard would be willing to sell the property to the museum so that it could be used for that purpose.

No figures were presented on the cost of restoring the Patee House. A group was formed recently to try to raise sufficient

funds to preserve the historical structure. The city has designated the building an extreme fire hazard and ordered it either repaired or razed.

No cost estimate or plans were available either on constructing an addition to the present museum building.

Farm co-op takes over

N-P 12-14-03

By JENNIFER MANN
Knight Ridder

OLATHE, Kan. — Shoppers are used to seeing the "100 percent farmer-owned" label on products in the grocery store, but it's a strange sight to see on a beer truck.

That phrase is prominent on delivery trucks for Pony Express Brewing Co., the Olathe microbrewery resurrected earlier this year by TransCon AG, an agricultural cooperative with 150 members.

Mike Cook, a member of the Belton-based co-op and brewery operations officer for TransCon, said the organization, formed in May, was looking for products to add value to the crops grown by its members.

"And one of those added-value

products was beer," Cook said.

Year in and year out, Cook said, farmers get about \$3 for a bushel of wheat. Holding a bottle of Pony Express Rattlesnake Pale Ale, Cook said, "That same bushel of wheat in this beer is worth roughly \$35."

The Pony Express microbrewery was started in 1995 but closed in mid-2002. Another member of TransCon had been one of the original investors in Pony Express, which is how the co-op was aware of the opportunity.

Cook said he didn't know of any other U.S. microbrewery that was 100 percent owned by a farm co-op. One of the benefits, he said, is the quality control that comes with using grain provided directly by the growers.

Pony Express has the capacity to brew about 15,000 barrels

annually. At 13.5 cases per barrel, that's 202,500 cases of beer, or almost 4.9 million 12-ounce bottles. The area's big regional brewer, Boulevard Brewing, produced 63,000 barrels last year.

As a microbrewery, Pony Express is part of the craft-beer industry, which also includes brewpubs, regional specialty breweries and contract brewing companies.

In 2002, the craft beer industry brewed up 6.3 million barrels of beer, up 3.4 percent from the previous year. Despite the increase, craft brewers are a drop in the barrel at just over 3 percent of the almost \$205 billion in beer sold last year in the United States.

The industry was led by domestic producers such as Anheuser-Busch and Miller

Pony Express brewing

Brewing with 85.7 percent of the market, and imports at 11.3 percent.

Pony Express products include Pony Gold and a holiday beer, Blizzard Ale. It is distributed in Missouri and Kansas and sold at Arrowhead and Kauffman stadiums.

With the microbrewery industry in the United States starting to level out, Cook said the big opportunities for Pony Express beckon from China, "and as the first to

market in China, we're able to define what microbrewed beer is."

As a member of the marketing team for another agricultural concern, NeCo Seeds, Cook has built relationships in Asia over many years, visiting China and other parts of Asia three or four times a year.

In China, Cook said, "you don't go in green and try to start doing business — you build relationships and then you do business."

One of the big attractions for

China is that Pony Express uses soybeans.

"The U.S. consumer doesn't really care if soy is in the beer, but it's a big part of the Chinese diet," Cook said. "It doesn't affect the flavor, but it does provide all the attributes soy is known for."

Because the cost of transporting the beer to China adds so much to the end price, Pony Express is going for a small sliver of China's upscale market through restaurants and hotels.

es in February, taking 100 jobs with it. Plans for the Atlanta store were not announced.

Kmart does not plan to replace the stores in those markets, Pagnani said. "We'll look to open new stores again in 2005," he said. "We don't have any locations currently planned."

ERICA, MASS., WHERE ITS LEASE for the 630,000-square-foot building expires in February. The closing will put 250 hourly employees and 40 managers out of work.

Also last week, Kmart laid off 120 employees at a distribution center in Wayne County's Canton Township.

ny stopped selling its racy Christmas catalog, saying its stores needed the shelf space for a new fragrance line.

In a release late Tuesday, the company said it would replace the A&F Quarterly catalog with a new promotion.

tralia, with a few exceptions,

1-29-76



Final brewery output

Howard Nagle, plant manager, shows some of the 10 million beer cans that will be filled before the brewery closes completely in March.

Weather Forecast

Nice again
Friday.

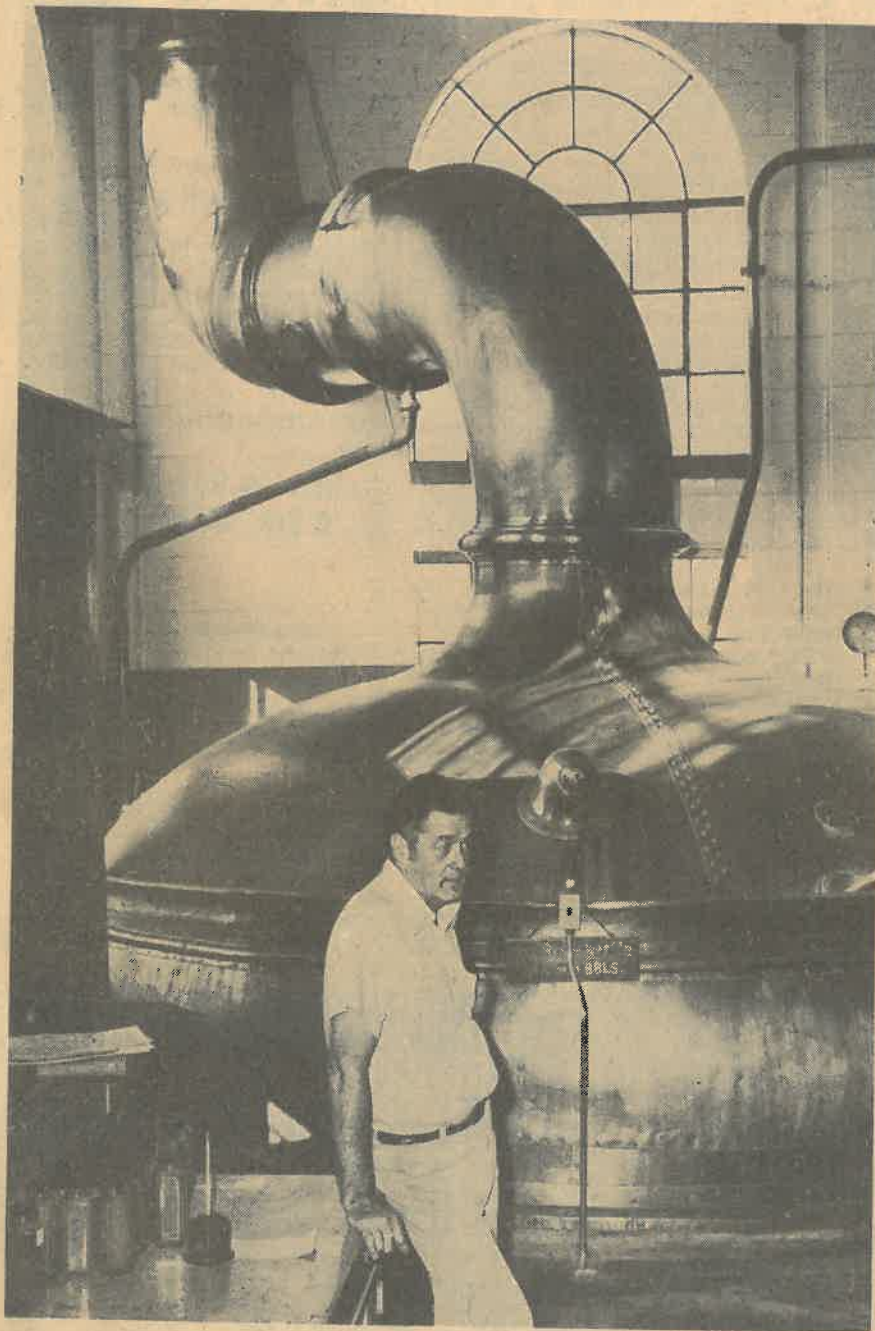
(Complete Forecast on Page 2A)

ST. JOSEPH NEWS

VOL. 104, NO. 118

(2d Cl. Post Pd. at St. Joseph, Mo.)

ST. JOSEPH, MO., THURSDAY EVENING



William C. Miller, Pearl Brewery worker, awaits one of the final brews being cooked in the plant's 500-barrel copper kettle.

Brewing era

By DAVID R. BRADLEY JR.

William C. Miller will brew his last batch of beer Friday.

And the aroma of malt being cooked with hops will sift over the city for the final time.

For the first time in more than 126 years, St. Joseph won't have a beer-brewing facility.

Pearl Brewing Co. of San Antonio, Tex., tomorrow will initiate the first phase in shutting down the brewery at 6th and Al-bemarle. Within two months, all major operations at the plant are expected to grind to a halt, Howard Nagle, manager, said.

Miller and 175 fellow workers will be out of a job. In addition, the can-produc-ing plant next door will close its gates to about 35 employees.

"A lot of them feel like it's pretty rough," Miller, 59, said. "For the biggest majority, that's all they've done all their lives."

Miller said he will reap unemployment benefits, or "sit-down pay," for the time being.

"I've worked a steady 39 years," he

added, "while."

The f

unknown

Severa

buying v

"We wa

Much

shipped

be scrap

The bu

storage

manufac

shook h

brewery

Modern

four time

Nagle s

operated

producing

"There

feels wor

than I do

father Cla

combined

lives at th

"No on

do with

NEWS-PRESS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1976

38 PAGES

FOUR SECTIONS

FIFTEEN CENTS

CITY EDITION



ix

here ending after 126 years

proudly. "I can sit down for a state of the brewery complex is being sold, Nagle said. Many people have shown interest in various buildings, he said, adding, "I want to sell it as a package." The brewing equipment will be sold to San Antonio, and the rest will be sold, he said. The buildings will probably be sold for other facilities or perhaps a small brewing plant, Nagle said. But he is head to the idea of another brewery being located there. "Efficient breweries should be the size of the operation here," he said. Last year, the brewery was at less than half its capacity, about 500,000 barrels. "There's no one in the brewery that knows about the brewery closing," Nagle said. He noted that his nephew, brother Raymond and he have put in 137 years of their life in the brewery. "I wish in St. Joseph had anything to do with the decision to close the

brewery," Nagle said. The decision was made by corporate officials in Texas, he said.

Only six persons from the St. Joseph plant will be transferred to the San Antonio office, Nagle said.

About 40 employees have reached 55 and are eligible for early retirement benefits, he said. Pearl has hired a consultant to help place the rest of the workers.

"About 10 per cent of them have been placed or found other jobs on their own," Nagle said.

"Cooperation from local people has been great," he added. "Very few have gone out of town."

Cary L. Stevenson, a 42-year veteran in the plant's brewhouse, said most employees feel "terrible" about the closing. "Everybody is going to miss it," he said.

Although jobs are "scarce" here, most employees and their families will stay, Stevenson said.

"Most of the people like St. Joe," Stevenson said. "They'll leave only if they're forced to."

Pearl Brewing purchased in 1961 the M.K. Goetz Brewing Co., a firm with a

distinguished career that dated back to 1859.

St. Joseph once boasted 10 breweries. Joseph Kuechle, a German, built the first one in 1849 on Charles, between 7th and 8th.

The Goetz family left their mark on brewing history with the introduction of one of the first and most successful near beers in the 1920s. The beer conformed to Prohibition standards with less than .5 per cent alcohol content.

The plant is still brewing about 15,000 barrels of near beer yearly — one of its most profitable items, Nagle said.

The Goetz firm passed another milestone in the 1940s with the introduction of Country Club malt liquor. The product is distributed in 44 states and was a long-time leader in the malt liquor field.

Country Club has since dropped to No. 3 in malt liquor sales.

Despite the closing, Nagle said he thought the general morale of the employees was good.

"As late as last week, we were still setting production records," he boasted. "That says a lot for the employees."

per units and company has not in Argentina for

leep

eral expenditures aled \$4.89 billion; \$2.47 billion; for \$1.94 billion; for on; for rail trans- and for pipelines,

MAN SMITH EN CHAPEL

ibeth Gilmore

er of Mrs. Vincent r of Mrs. Anna Wise. Mary Kathryn Punzo unzo. Funeral arran- eaton-Bowman Smith

lerick Blvd.

3355

Need a MANPOWER TEMPORARY SERVICES 364-1105

LAST 2 DAYS



EVERYTHING MUST GO!

RIDICULOUS PRICES!

ALBUMS \$1.50 or 3 for \$3

Values to \$6.98

ALL "BUDGET" ALBUMS ONLY 50c EACH

45 rpm SINGLES — 75c EACH

Pop/Rock . . . Soul . . . Country/Western

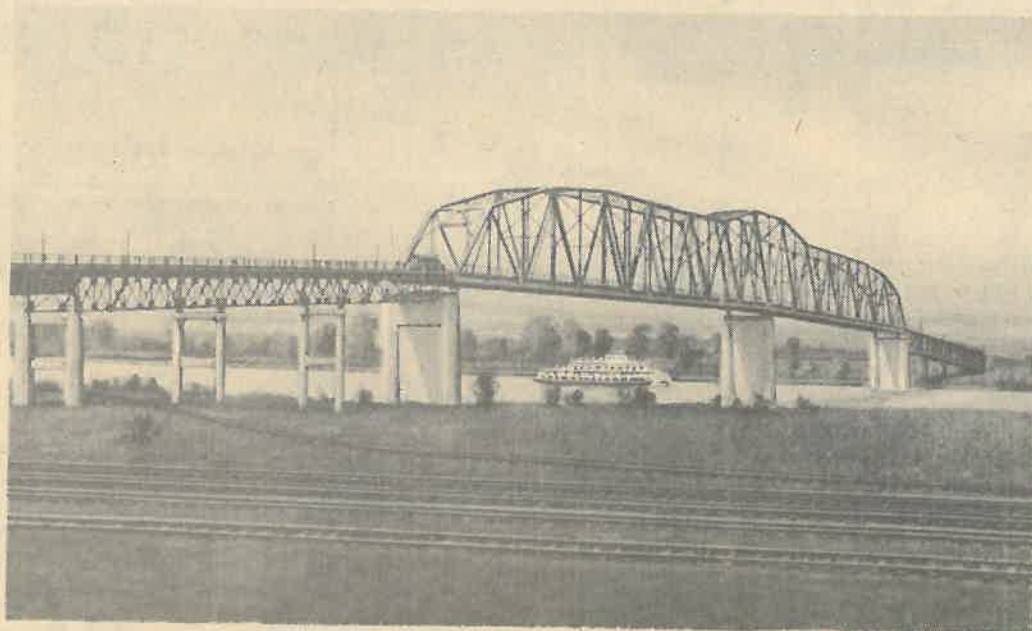
or 5 for \$2.50

One group including Christmas

oral candidate eyes county race

Looking back

4-22-90



Free bridge

St. Joseph's "Free Bridge," built in the mid-1920s, provided highway access between Missouri and Kansas. Before the span was built

pedestrians and vehicles were charged toll to cross the Missouri River on the nearby Grand Island Railroad Bridge.

Yesterday's lottery numbers
Pick 3 game: 6-7-9

Records.....2
Deaths 3
Business 6

B



This photo was taken when the old covered bridge near Garrettsburg was to be removed.

Garrettsburg bridges remembered

By ALLEN SEIFERT

News-Press/Gazette Staff Writer

GARRETSBURG, Mo. — Only the old-timers remember the covered bridge which once spanned the Platte River at this location.

That narrow little barn-like structure is a far cry from the steel and concrete two-lane monster which was officially opened here early this week with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The new bridge has two 12-foot driving lanes, with 10-foot shoulders and is nine-tenths of a mile long. It's built for the 55 mile-per-hour speed limit and cost \$1,740,291.56.

"It's sure a lot different that the old one," said Charles Modrell, who lives in what was once the Garrettsburg General Store built by his father.

"I don't remember the covered bridge at all," said Modrell, who was born in 1919. "But I remember when they were building the bridge which replaced it — and the current bridge, which is now being replaced."

Modrell then took those interested down below the narrow old steel-railed span to show the superstructure of solid stone — the

foundation upon which old bridges rested.

"Back when those early bridges were built, there was an ice house down there by the river," he said, pointing to the area north of the brand new span. The town of Garrettsburg, now extinct, sat to the east of the ice house and the Modrell General Store.

Modrell also displayed a 1965 News-Press photo showing a rampaging Platte River out of its banks and over the road at Garrettsburg — a flood engineers said couldn't happen when that steel bridge — soon to be destroyed — was built.

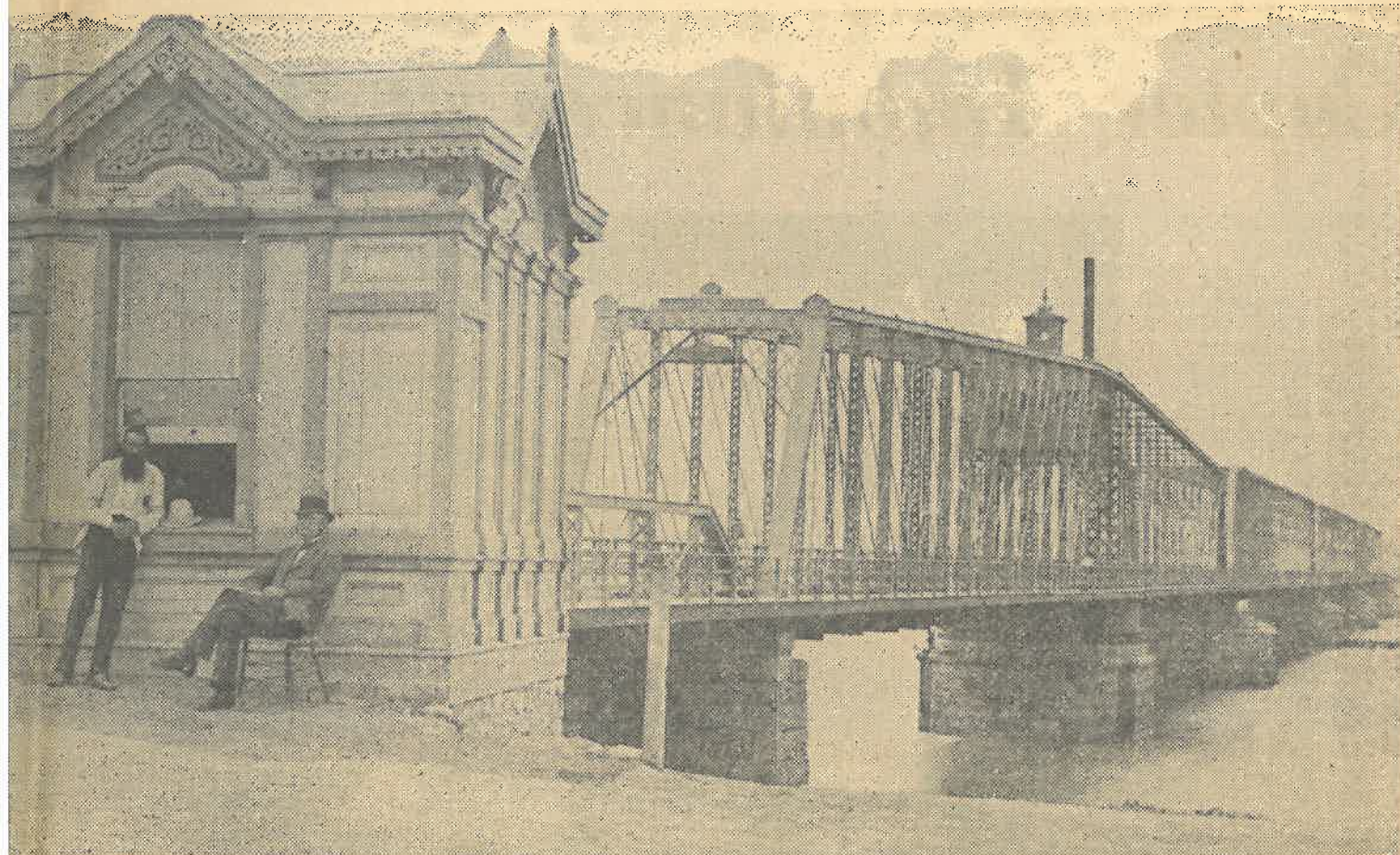
"I wonder if I'll ever see the river that high again," Modrell mused, looking up at the new bridge, several feet above the floor level of the old.

A host of area officials, including Mitch Elliott, the Clinton County Prosecuting Attorney, and Donna Martin, the mayor of Gower, along with Gerald Miner, district engineer for the Missouri Highway and Transportation Department, attended the ribbon-cutting which officially opened the new span.



Staff photo by IVAL LAWHON JR.

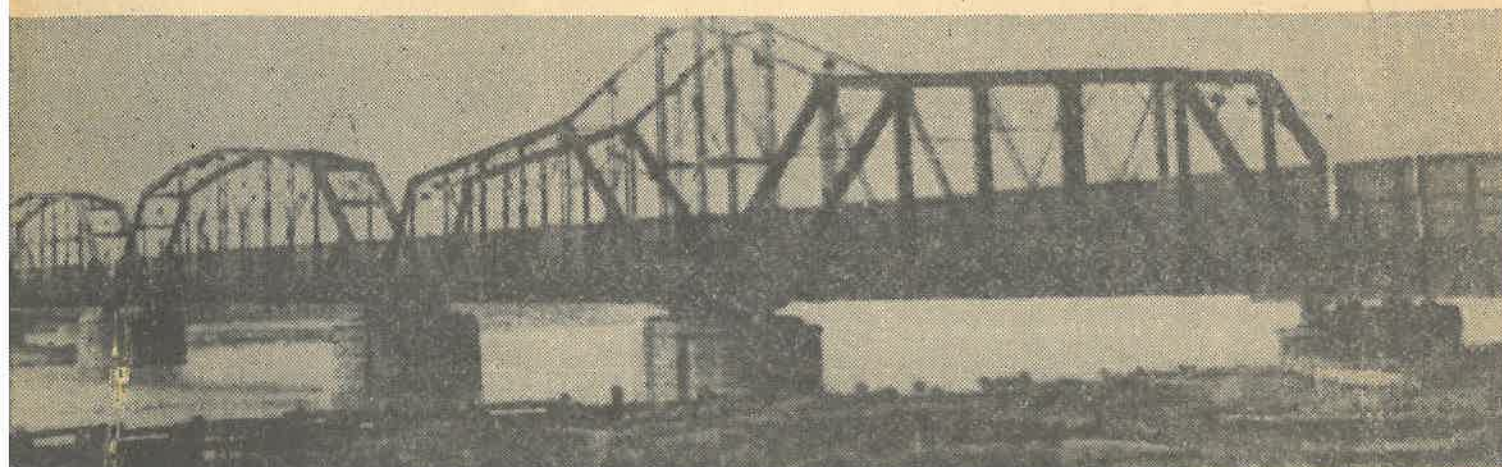
Charles Modrell stands by a rock support for the first bridge near Garrettsburg.



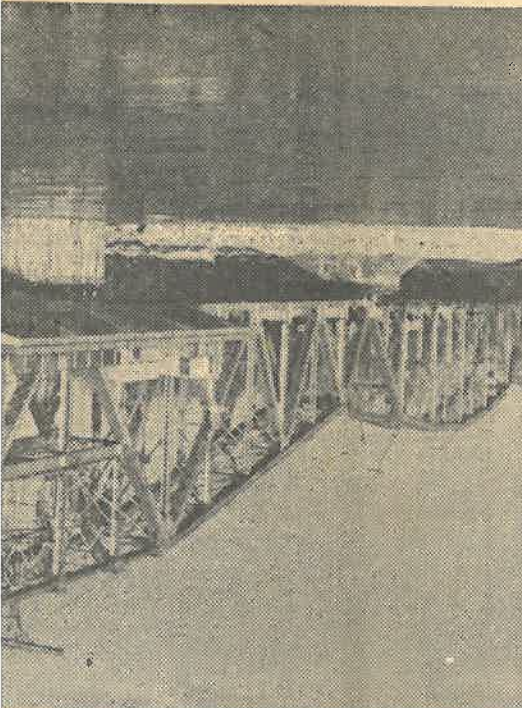
The Great Iron Bridge across the Missouri River here was just two years old when D. S. Mitchell, an early-day photographer here, took this picture of the bridge in 1875. As can be seen, the sections of the bridge west of the pivot pier were of the quadrangular type. They have since been converted to the cantilever variety. The control house was in the center of the pivot span, above the tracks. There was a pedestrian walk but wagons used the same floor area as trains and drivers had to wait until trains cleared the bridge

before they could cross the span.

This photograph shows the original stone piers. At the left is the Missouri toll-house. Outside the ornate house, two men relax. One has a beard and the other, with muttonchop whiskers, wears a high-crowned hat. The smoke stack at the center of the bridge served the boiler used to provide power to turn the draw span. The photograph was copied from one in the files of the St. Joseph Public Library. The view is to the west.



piers had not yet been screened a wagon road



This is how the rail piers today. The 365-foot level of the sp

Trial Date Set for Youth in Shooting Death

GARNETT, Kan. (AP) — March 16 has been set as the trial date for Richard Jones, 16, accused of the 1971 shooting death of Pamela Vulich of Kansas City, Kan.

Judge Robert Stadler of Anderson County District Court set the trial date Friday and scheduled a pre-trial conference for March 6 for the youth who is confined at the Osawatomie State Hospital.

Miss Vulich, 19, was shot Aug. 29, 1971 at the farmhouse of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Jones, parents of the boy. She had stopped at the house to use the telephone.

A coroner's jury has found that Jones, then 14, fired the bullet with felonious intent that killed the girl. Last Saturday Judge Stadler ruled that Jones was capable of standing trial.

—Park Board employees were politically active contrary to the board's policy manual.

—The Clean Water Commission, for the two years ending June 30, 1971, spent \$46,395 of state funds where federal funds could have been used.

—A county welfare director and her husband owned and rented to the welfare division a building in which the county welfare office was located, in violation of state law.

—Most of the personal home furnishings for the superintendent and adjutant of the Federal Soldiers' Home at St. James were paid by the state.

—Salaries should be increased in the Mental Health Division to reduce turnover of personnel, which was 32 per cent in 1969-70 and 28 per cent in 1970-71.

—St. Louis offices of the Department of Revenue issued motor vehicle registrations without the required proof that personal property taxes had been paid and the car had been inspected.

Audits of 32 counties showed: —During peak work periods county clerk assistants are hired "without regard for the salary maximum which results in an overcharge at the end of the year."

—Many sheriffs are confused as to what fees can and can't be turned over to the state treasurer.

Second Child Born to Sophia

GENEVA (AP) — Actress Sophia Loren, who suffered four miscarriages before bearing her first child four years ago, gave birth today to her second child — a healthy 8-pound boy.

Doctors said the 38-year-old actress and the baby were in excellent health.

"We are delighted," the actress' husband, movie producer Carlo Ponti, said in a telephone interview. "He is a beautiful boy," Ponti said, adding that the couple will have to talk it over before naming him.

Miss Loren's first child, Carlo Jr., or "Cipi," was born in December, 1968. Ponti said his wife would resume her acting career "in three or four months."

—Park Board employees were politically active contrary to the board's policy manual.

—The Clean Water Commission, for the two years ending June 30, 1971, spent \$46,395 of state funds where federal funds could have been used.

—A county welfare director and her husband owned and rented to the welfare division a building in which the county welfare office was located, in violation of state law.

—Most of the personal home furnishings for the superintendent and adjutant of the Federal Soldiers' Home at St. James were paid by the state.

—Salaries should be increased in the Mental Health Division to reduce turnover of personnel, which was 32 per cent in 1969-70 and 28 per cent in 1970-71.

—St. Louis offices of the Department of Revenue issued motor vehicle registrations without the required proof that personal property taxes had been paid and the car had been inspected.

Audits of 32 counties showed: —During peak work periods county clerk assistants are hired "without regard for the salary maximum which results in an overcharge at the end of the year."

—Many sheriffs are confused as to what fees can and can't be turned over to the state treasurer.

Doctors said the 38-year-old actress and the baby were in excellent health.

"We are delighted," the actress' husband, movie producer Carlo Ponti, said in a telephone interview. "He is a beautiful boy," Ponti said, adding that the couple will have to talk it over before naming him.

Miss Loren's first child, Carlo Jr., or "Cipi," was born in December, 1968. Ponti said his wife would resume her acting career "in three or four months."

The state park board paid real estate taxes despite being exempt from taxation.

—The park board bought a report: Other major findings in the executive director. son with the official title of required by law for the per- not the minimum of \$10,000 so he can be paid \$17,000 and used for the 10-year Director of the Water Resources Board executive director" has been May, saying the term "acting to an audit made public in The report calls attention required by law. has not been established as Board for Prison Industries that an Industrial Advisory of prison shops and noted more salesmen for products Bond recommended hiring ates the merit system. of Personnel, which oper- larger staff for the Division Bond also recommended a Enforcement Advisory Council. would be changed to Law En- the agency but its name State Senate would authorize A reorganization bill in the be authorized by legislation. Council) and suggested that it Enforcement Assistant the salary maximum which are hired "without regard for ods county clerk assistants During peak work peri- showed: —During peak work periods county clerk assistants are hired "without regard for the salary maximum which results in an overcharge at the end of the year."

—Many sheriffs are confused as to what fees can and can't be turned over to the state treasurer.

Doctors said the 38-year-old actress and the baby were in excellent health.

"We are delighted," the actress' husband, movie producer Carlo Ponti, said in a telephone interview. "He is a beautiful boy," Ponti said, adding that the couple will have to talk it over before naming him.

Miss Loren's first child, Carlo Jr., or "Cipi," was born in December, 1968. Ponti said his wife would resume her acting career "in three or four months."

The report recommended expense records of the Missouri House and Senate do not contain sufficient detail, and said the legislature should provide a dollar for each 10 miles — is automatically paid to a member if he is in attendance "regardless of whether the mileage was actually traveled."

No control exists to determine if mileage actually was traveled, the report said. Lawmakers receive \$8,400 a year and expenses of \$10 a day. The report recommended legislation authorizing expenses for air travel, since day.

Jefferson City, Mo. (AP) — Gov.-elect Christopher S. Bond's last audit practice, is unauthorized. The report also noted that legislative clerks are paid \$14 a day for every day in the month rather than \$14 for every day worked, and said the law needed clarification. The report recommended an increase to make the pay commensurate with similar clerical jobs in private business.

The report repeats previous conventions that money could have been saved in the state treasurer's office. Weekly transfers of funds from collection bank accounts rather than leaving funds there up to 30 days could have provided \$241,000 during a 15-month audit period, the report said.

Investment of money held in inactive demand accounts would have increased interest income by \$376,000 during the 15 months, according to the report.

Operation of the state fair lost \$549,000 in 1969, \$413,900 in 1970 and \$412,400 in 1971, the report said.

The report repeated Bond's charge that indemnity payments to ranchers whose cattle were destroyed in the prairie fires eradication program were twice the amount authorized by state law.

Bond questioned the executive order setting up the Law Enforcement Assistant positions, economy and efficiency of government operations by identifying where improvements are needed.

The report cited major findings of more than 100 audits in 1972. Bond noted that "in a few instances we have been denied access to essential records," and consequently could not provide an opinion on the accuracy of the particular agency's records.

Bond's report said expense records of the Missouri House and Senate do not contain sufficient detail, and said the legislature should provide a dollar for each 10 miles — is automatically paid to a member if he is in attendance "regardless of whether the mileage was actually traveled."

No control exists to determine if mileage actually was traveled, the report said. Lawmakers receive \$8,400 a year and expenses of \$10 a day. The report recommended legislation authorizing expenses for air travel, since day.



—News-Press photo by Ival Lawhon Jr.

"That's where I lived when I was a boy"

George K. Heckel, 90, at right, tells his son, George K. Heckel Jr.

Brooklyn Bridge in North Side recalled

RICK W. SLATER
Staff writer

Never seen Brooklyn

Blacksnake Creek? You can talk about it. Heckel, a retired bridge operator, returned 90 recently, suspension bridge, cable, just like the use the smaller span by his father, Mathias

kel, born in Germany, is an attraction at New combination beer garden amusement center which the St. Joseph avenue bridge also served to ons of the park. Today g, at 3307 St. Joseph v Ulm Apartments.

bear, 6-foot tall, as actions," recalled were other animals as

lot of other attrac- could come and spend ere athletic contests man band to provide

as conceived in Ger- Brooklyn, N.Y., said sold a combination

Here in St. Joseph, Mathias Heckel entered the grocery business at 24th and Jackson streets. With the profits from the store he built a number of houses in that area which for awhile was known as "Heckeltown."

"My father, who had been sent to a tinning school in Germany by the mother of Kaiser Wilhelm, was an inventor. My father patented several heating stove improvements while he was in St. Louis and had 35 people employed in making the devices, which produced more heat with less coal. He knew how to conserve energy long before today's crisis," George declared.

"My father's next venture was to buy 50 acres of land in Dug Cut, just about where the new West Belt is being built. He bought 300 pigs and was fattening them when cholera hit — and every one of them died."

Mathias was an early day philanthropist and he operated a soup kitchen for the poor during a depression around the turn of the century. A city directory for 1897 lists the place as "Heckel's Helping Hand Institute," at the southeast corner of Second and Michel. The house, from which Abraham Lincoln reportedly once spoke, was razed in 1972.

"I remember my mother, who was nursing one of my brothers, even

operated German-English school, said, "Morning classes were in German and the afternoon lessons were in English."

After leaving school, George worked for the Volksblatt, a German language newspaper, which his father had purchased after the hog debacle. George's first job was delivering the newspaper on a pony and later he set type and ran the press for the publication. The paper was printed in a building behind the Heckel home. The paper suspended publication many years ago.

In 1910, George went to work for the Armstrong Automobile Co., a repair shop, as a mechanic. Only bankers, and a few other persons, he said, had automobiles in those days.

In 1914, he opened his own garage in the South Side and stayed there for 39 years, training his brothers, Matt, William and Fred as mechanics. Fred still lives in St. Joseph. George's sister, Mrs. Evart Sullenger, also resides in St. Joseph. George later operated a service station at 24th and Mitchell for several years before retiring in 1959.

The day the accompanying photograph was taken, George was at the First Federal Savings & Loan Association office at Seventh and Felix

Brooklyn Bridge on Blacksnake Creek on the map. With him was his son, George K. Heckel Jr., who is a vice-president of the association and an early St. Joseph history buff.

The younger George said some of the checks written on an account his grandfather, Mathias, had in the bank, then known as the German American Bank, are displayed on the wall there.

"The French settled this part of the country," said the elder Heckel, "but the Germans made it prosper."

He pointed to the bank as an example of that early effort by the Germans in St. Joseph to help the city prosper.

"When I was a boy, St. Joseph had three breweries, three shoe factories, wholesale grocery houses and a number of wholesale dry goods firms. It was really booming. Then it went downhill for awhile," he stated.

"Now it is coming back and growing again."

"My only regret is that I retired too soon. I quit at 70. I should have kept on," he concluded.

And as he left the bank building and started off at a brisk stride to the Senior Citizens Center — which meant a steep climb up Felix street hill — the small, short, gray-haired but energetic man, looked like he would keep his pledge.

Smaller Counties Get Larger Share of Gas Tax Than Buchanan

Since Missouri voters nearly three years ago approved sharing of state gasoline tax receipts with counties and municipalities, Buchanan county has been credited with \$99,062.92.

The state highway department reported the county has actually received \$86,530.13, for reimbursement on road maintenance projects, and has on deposit \$12,532.79.

As the result of a March, 1962, election, counties receive one-fourth of a cent of the five-cent-per-gallon state gasoline tax. Municipalities get three-fourths of a cent, and the four cents goes to the state highway department.

An Ironie Twist

The county figure does not include the amount allocated to St. Joseph or any of the towns in Buchanan county. This is money that goes for county highway department operations.

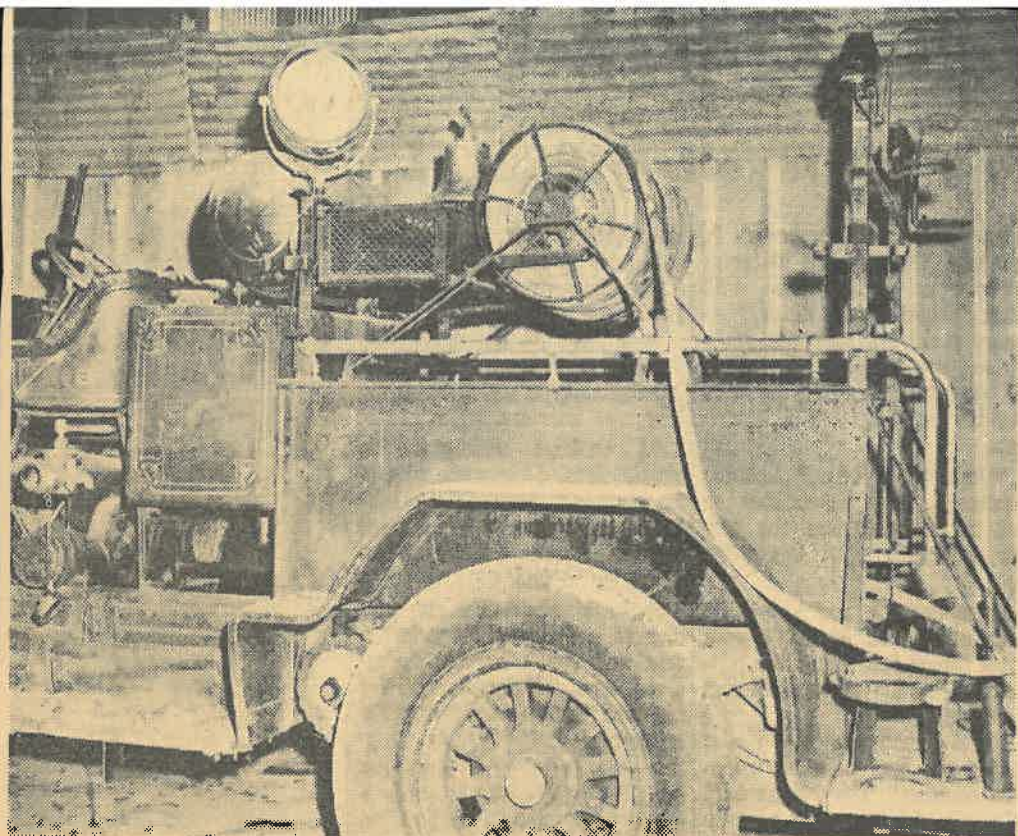
Ironically, Buchanan county is receiving far less revenue than many counties with a smaller population. The funds are distributed on the basis of a formula taking into consideration rural assessment valuations and rural road mileage. Population is not a factor in the formula.

Other County Figures

Compared with Buchanan county's \$99,062.92 (population: 90,581), these are the amounts credited to some other counties, with population listed in parentheses:

Nodaway (22,215), \$180,036.27;
Harrison (11,603), \$116,750.80;
Johnson (28,981), \$134,397.73;
Jefferson (66,377), \$221,354.51;
Franklin (44,566), \$136,493.86,
and Dunklin (39,139), \$123,658.04.

Green county (Springfield) has a population of 126,276, and has been credited with \$198,681.93.



Mayor Orders Revamping of Old Fire Truck for Display

Mayor Arthur J. Meers has instructed Fire Chief Lawrence Jesse to proceed with the restoration of a 1922 American LaFrance fire truck.

"I told the chief to begin the revamping work as soon as possible," the mayor stated.

The truck, the last of a number purchased when the fire department was motorized 42 years ago, is now in storage at Rosecrans Field.

The restoration and eventual

NP 10-20-64
display was agreed upon as councilmen, some six months ago, rejected a proposal to sell the truck. Instead, it was decided, the truck should be cleaned and placed on display. It will probably be located in Patee Park near the locomotive given the city by the Burlington railroad.

"We have been too busy with regular maintenance of equipment now in use," Chief Jesse said Saturday.

"We have only one mechanic or the department now and as our trucks get older they require more work. I think we will be able to work the renovation of the old truck into our schedule soon. We plan to paint the truck and take some of the dents out of the fenders."

Plans also call for welding some parts of the truck shut so as to prevent danger to children who might climb on the apparatus.

STP CHAS. LIGGETT Contracts keep promises

N-P 6-5-98

If you want to be certain a business promise will be kept, get it in writing.

That's one thing Charles Dwight Liggett learned when he and his partners, the late Jack Hill and the late Robert DeHart, sold their STP business here to Studebaker-Packard in 1961. Officials of the company assured Liggett the plant would remain in St. Joseph, yet about two years later, the St. Joseph plant was moved to South Bend, Ind.

The story of the birth and sale of STP — that stands for "Specially Treated Petroleum" — is related in "NOVI, the Legendary Indianapolis Race Car" by George Peters and Henri Greuter, published by Bar Jean Enterprises, Hazelwood, Mo.

While the book, the second volume of a series about the NOVI race cars, glorifies the history of the car that was adored by Indianapolis 500 race fans for more than a decade, the most interesting "local" part of the book is a long chapter that tells of STP, which the NOVI helped make famous.

Basically, this is the story of the vision and ingenuity of Liggett, a St. Joseph native and president of Chemical Compound Co. He bought the exclusive rights to the German-invented lubricant for \$1,500 at an industrial fair at Hanover, Germany, in 1954, from I. G. Farben, the industrial giant. Nine years later, Chemical Compound Co. sold STP to Studebaker-Packard for a reported \$10 million, plus retaining 30 percent of STP ownership.

After purchasing the STP formula

TIMELY OBSERVATIONS
EMERITUS



Fred Slater

“
... get it in
writing ...
”

rights, Liggett returned to St. Joseph, where he had been manufacturing and selling embalming fluid and other chemicals, as well as operating the American Wallpaper Co. He began canning STP in the garage at the rear home at the southeast corner of Ninth and Messanie streets. The familiar oval label, with the letters STP inside, incidentally, was the result of doodling by the late Louis J. Rudolph, a pharmacist friend of Liggett.

STP had many virtues, such as reducing friction, lowering the temperature of moving parts of an engine, and blending with other petroleum products. One woman even wrote Liggett that it cured her baby's diaper rash, but the St. Joseph entrepreneur did not follow up on that potential market.

With Liggett traveling to races and county fairs, the Indianapolis Speedway and automobile shows, pushing STP sales, the receipts of the company grew from \$2,000 in 1954 to \$90,000 in 1956 and to more than \$10 million in 1961. During the expansion, the operation was moved to a new plant on South Sixth Street.

When Studebaker announced in 1963 it was moving the STP plant from St. Joseph to South Bend, Liggett resigned from his post as president of the STP division.

Actually, the story of STP — which is still a standard product in automotive stores and garages — is the story of Liggett, who was an entrepreneur before most people knew what the word meant. He built and owned the Indian Grill Restaurant on Mitchell Avenue, invented and sold a chemical to remove sludge from septic tanks, sold slot and game machines to clubs on military reservations, was a licensed Indian trader and a recognized expert on Oriental rugs, and had business interests in Las Vegas.

Liggett, who visited in St. Joseph last year, is currently at his residence in Zurich. He holds both Swiss and U.S. citizenship, having his official American residence in Nevada. For a number of years, he lived in Denver, Colo.

The former St. Joseph man, now in his mid-80s, is still a human dynamo, flying from Zurich to London in the morning for a medical appointment and being back in Switzerland that evening.

Liggett, who graduated from the former Robidoux Polytechnic High School, once told an interviewer, "Sleep is a waste of time." That is typical of his energy.

Now a world traveler, Liggett still remembers the Studebaker double-cross and warns, "Get business promises in writing."

Fred Slater's column runs on Fridays.