

1871 - 1971

Kewanna Centennial - Harvest Festival



CHIEF KEEWAUNAY
(KEWANNA)

ORIGINAL PAINTING OF THE CHIEF MADE IN KEEWAUNAY
VILLAGE IN 1837 BY GEORGE WINTER
COPIED FROM A 2" x 3" PICTURE BY RONALD PRILLIMAN

MEMBERS OF THE 1971 KEWANNA CENTENNIAL - FESTIVAL COMMITTEE



(left to right, back row) FRED BAUMAN, vice president of the Kewanna Progressive Association; RON HAMMAN, special events chairman; JIM NORRIS, president of the Kewanna Progressive Association; and FRANCIS SANDERS, festival chairman.

(left to right, front row) ALLEN FINKE, centennial chairman; LOYD WOOLINGTON, past Progressive president; and VIC MONTZ, secretary treasurer of the Kewanna Progressive Association.

PICTURES USED IN CENTENNIAL BOOKLET

OLD PICTURES:

RESIDENCE, KEWANNA BUSINESS AND CHURCHES MOSTLY TAKEN FROM KEWANNA PICTURE BOOKLET PUBLISHED BY FRANK P. GOULD, EDITOR OF THE KEWANNA HERALD ABOUT 1904.

PICTURES TODAY:

PHOTOS DURING 1971 BY JOE GOOD, EDITOR OF THE OBSERVER.

RESIDENCE SETS SHOW HOME IN EARLY 1900 AND SAME RESIDENCE IN 1971.

REPRODUCTIONS OF NEWSPAPERS:

KEWANNA TIMES . KEWANNA'S FIRST NEWS-PAPER, MARCH 16, 1871 ISSUE, J.C. PHILLIPS AND ELI LEITER, EDITORS.

KEWANNA HERALD, ISSUE OF FEBRUARY 18, 1897, J.C. COLBY, EDITOR.



1871 — 1971

KEWANNA CENTENNIAL and HARVEST FESTIVAL

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY,
FRIDAY and SATURDAY
AUGUST 18 - 19 - 20 - 21

Kewanna, Indiana

Daily Exhibits And Attractions

Merchants and Industrial Exhibits

Flea Market and Rummage Sale

Souvenir Stand

B & B Amusements on the Midway

Free Circus Acts

Free Merchants Drawings

Eating Stand featuring Nelson's Golden Glow
Barbecue Chicken, ham and beans, soups,
sandwiches, home baked pies and cakes

Bingo Stand

Portable TV will be given away in a raffle
conducted by Kewanna Progressive Assoc

Centennial-Festival will feature Pat Kelly,
famous circus clown.

Sound by Gilliland Sound Service

Police and Parking — Kewanna Police Dept.,
Fulton County Civil Defense and Kewan-
na Explorer Scout Post

Tri-County Child Evangelism Chapel

Daily Exhibits And Attractions

The 1971 Kewanna Centennial and Harvest
Festival will feature each evening a
pageant, "The Forgotten Memorial"
written and directed by Ron Prilliman.
The pageant will feature all local talent
including the "Harvestaires" and will tell
the history of Kewanna. At the Key
Theatre, 8:00 p.m. each evening.

Fine Arts Show in local gymnasium

Hobby and Craft Exhibit located on Main
Street

Antiques and Museum in Masonic hall

Fulton County Historical Society Museum in
library basement

Flower Show sponsored by Manitou Garden
club in local gym

WCS Country Bazaar by Kewanna United
Methodist church

Indiana State Police Displays

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18

- 2:00 PM — Exhibits Open
4:00 PM — Free Act On Stage, the Frauentsteins, juggling and balancing
7:00 PM — Queen's Pageant, crowning of 1971 queen by Lois Pence of WSBT-TV and radio, South Bend and featuring the Harvestaires and the Hunsley Twins
8:00 PM — Western square dancing on Urbin's Auto lot featuring the Swingin' Dudes
9:00 PM — Free Act, on stage, the Frauentsteins
10:30 PM — Free merchants drawing, on stage

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19

- 2:00 PM — Exhibits Open
4:00 PM — Free Act, Dip-Yi-Lo, Chinese magician and wizard of magic, on stage
7:00 PM — on stage, judging of Centennial contests: homemade bread, women's dresses and bonnets and mother and daughter outfits
8:00 PM — Water ball contest by Kewanna and visiting fire departments, far east end of midway
9:00 PM — Free Act, Dip-Yi-Lo, Chinese magician, on stage
10:30 PM — Free merchants drawing, on stage

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20

- 2:00 PM — Kiddie Parade and contests. Special prices for all rides
4:00 PM — Free Act, on stage, Chase and Park, astounding performances on the trampoline
8:00 PM — Pat Kelly, famous circus clown Kids Contest
9:00 PM — Free Act, on stage, Chase and Park
10:30 PM — Free merchants drawing, on stage

Special Feature On Midway Friday

Stotts Wurlitzer Band Organ
Mounted On Circus Truck
Bell Wagon

Antique Displays In Merchants' Windows

Eberle & Son Famous Exhibitions

Circus Wagons, Animals, Trucks, Farm Vehicles and Old McDonalds Farm

12 Noon, Saturday, August 21

The Traveling Tourist Information Center Of Indiana will be on hand to give out Free Gator Ade, Pop Corn and Tourist information

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21

- 10:00 AM — Antique automobile display at ball park
12 Noon — Dinner at eating stand (All official guests of Centennial served at this time)
2:00 PM — Mammouth 500 unit parade, one of the largest ever staged in northern Indiana, led by Great Lakes Navy Band
3:15 PM — Concert by Great Lakes Navy Band, Maple City Cadets, Regal Valiants and The Colonel's, outstanding drum and bugle corps.
4:00 PM — Free Acts, on stage, four of the most outstanding circus acts in the world: Vasquez, does entire act hanging by her hair; Senor Miquel, artist of the low wire; Johnny Cline's famous circus elephants; and Melognoa's world renowned Liberty horse act.
7:00 PM — Digging up of razor and judging of Centennial beard contest, on stage, also shaving of beards
9:00 PM — Free Acts, (repeat of 4 p.m. performances)
10:30 PM — Free merchants drawing, on stage
11:00 PM — Burying of Centennial time capsule on library yard.

Kewanna

John M. Agnew and John Bauman in preparing material for the Kewanna High School Alumni Association, came across the following history of incorporated towns in Fulton County and news papers of Kewanna. The records examined extend through 1922. The Observer editors felt that it would be of general interest to bring the history of Kewanna's newspapers up to date. To do this, William Werner interviewed some of the community's older citizens and examined files in the Kewanna Library archives. His material is included in the following article.

Young men and women of Kewanna are writing history, some at home, some in Vietnam, others in Germany and in many other parts of America and the world. When we take a look at the beginnings of our town; leaders of these early days stand out in the records. They wrote the history of their day and our heritage rests on their vision and industry. One such Kewanna pioneer was Dr. John Quincy Howell.

Dr. Howell was born in Miami County Ohio in 1827. He came to Wabash, Indiana as a young printer, then to Rochester where he established their first newspaper, "The Republican" in 1850. From there he went to Plymouth, where merchants had secured 600 subscribers for him at \$1.50 each and there launched the "Plymouth Pilot" in 1852. But a couple of years later he was back down state in Muncie teaching school. The times were rugged. The Civil War was brewing. Howell found him self again in Wabash where he learned the making of tints. Then he went to Williamsport and later to Paris, Illinois. But in the mean time he had taken up the study of medicine. In 1856 at the age of 29 he was back in Wabash for the third time. Here he entered an apprenticeship in the office of Dr. Henry Perry. This completed, he returned to Rochester where he practiced until 1860. Moving to Mt. Vernon, Fulton

County (now Marshtown) at that time a thriving village with several industries, a Baptist church and board sidewalks, he opened a general store and served as their doctor for eleven years. This brings us up to 1871.

Now let us go back about thirty years. Kewanna was "Pin Hook". Perhaps you have wondered where the Pin Hook Grange got it's name. The Indians, their village on the north side of "Kewanna Lake", where the France Bruce farm was located had been moved by the government to a reservation in Oklahoma. The land about the lake now settled by Bruces from Pennsylvania; the Lake became "Bruces Lake". Settlers in this direction; the Zellers, Troutmans, Overmyers, Wentzels, Stamms, Guises, the Lunsfords and the Bruces coming to Pin Hook to trade could travel by canoe leaving their boats at the spot south of where Art Anderson's barn stands. Pin Hook was growing and now by the 18-50s the name "Pleasant Grove" was becoming more popular.

The Christian Church had moved into town to the place where the German Reformed Church had been, from their first meeting house on the Graffis farm. Fred Graffis thinks the church might have stood a bit farther west on Ned Warfield's land. The Methodists, who had been meeting at the Eli Leiter home, the Ernest Cords farm, built a log church and a little later, a frame church on the south side of the street in the west part of town where Gertrude Hiland now lives. The "Little Flock" Baptist society had a meeting place. St. Ann's Church was in Wayne Township at the site of the Catholic cemetery. A frame school house stood in the south part of town where Verlin Klinefelter lived until recently, and where Don Cochran lives now.

Harlan McKinsey said that his mother attended this school and that there was a pond north and east of the school house. Pleasant Grove had become a thriving

community, thinking of incorporation. Fulton County had only one incorporated town; Rochester.

Here Dr. John Q. Howell moved in 1871. His first residence was immediately south of the Church of Christ. The house is gone. The Frank Scott; now George Van Meter house stands on the site; but the Edith Bauman house to the south was Dr. Howell's office.

In Kewanna, Dr. Howell operated a drug store in addition to his practice; served as president of the town board at the time of incorporation, December 1871; helped the first editors, J. C. Phillips and Eli Leiter of the Kewanna Times and J. M. McAfee and J. W. Carter of the Kewanna Pilot establish a newspaper for the community.

The historian records Dr. Howell as one of the first initiators of Kewanna Masonic Lodge 546 and a Worshipful Master. Mrs. Howell was Rebecca Halstead of Muncie and they had four children. Henry D. Howell, a son, operated a clothing store where the post office is now located in the early 1900s. His extensive advertising in the Kewanna Herald of that period was testimony to his industry as a merchant.

Following are the first officers of the town board, appearing with the ordinances as taken from the board's ledger following incorporation. The Kewanna Harvest Festival Antiques Committee, Jack Hogan and Bill Werner, found this Ledger in some old papers at the rear of the former Town Hall, on Main Street, several years ago.

January 9, 1872, John Q. Howell, Pres., J. M. McAfee, Clerk, January 13, 1874, J. H. Potts, Pres., J. C. Phillips, Clerk, October 19, 1875, L. H. Shatto, Pres. John Myers, Clerk, January 11, 1876, Eli Leiter, Pres. J. W. Carter, Clerk, April 12, 1878, J. C. Phillips, Pres., J. W. Carter, Clerk, November 14, 1882, I. P. Urbin, Pres., J. W. Carter, Clerk, February 1, 1886, E. Street, Pres., W.O.B. Thomp

son, Clerk. June 23, 1886, Ephraim Street, Pres., F. L. Wagner, Clerk.

In the March 30 issue of The Observer, the most recent ordinance appeared, regulating use of fire arms, guns, pellet guns, B B guns or other dangerous items in the town limits. Following is a portion of Ordinance No. 11 dated January 13, 1874, and appearing in the Kewanna Pilot.

"Section 1. — That it shall be unlawful for any bull, ox, steer, cow, heifer or any brute of cattle kind to run at large within the corporate limits of the town of Kewanna in the months of December, January, February and March of each year."

"Section 2. — And it is further ordained that it shall be unlawful for any boar, barrow, sow, shoat or pig, to run at large within the corporate limits of said town at any time of the year."

Following is the article written by John Agnew.

"TOWNS"

(Petitions . . . to become Incorporated)

The citizens of the village of Rochester drew up and circulated a petition asking that their village be incorporated as a town. This petition was filed with the county auditor, and on June 11, 1853, the county commissioners took it under consideration. The board declared that the law had been complied with; that the survey, petition and enumeration had been deposited in a public place for public examination for the time required by law, and are duly authenticated — "therefore, be it ordered by the board that the territory embraced within the limits of the survey as presented on the plate presented to this court, be and the same is hereby incorporated — provided, that the qualified voters thereof assent thereto — and shall be known by the name of Rochester. And for the purpose of obtaining such assent, an election shall be held on Saturday, June (July) 25, at the court houses in said territory. And the auditor is required to give public notice of said election as required by the Statute." The election was accordingly held on July 25, 1853,

the returns showing that thirty-five votes were cast in favor of incorporation and twenty-four against. The commissioners were satisfied that the election "was legally conducted both in the notice, manner of voting and return — And it is therefore considered and ordered that the town of Rochester be, to all intents and purposes, an incorporated town, by the name and bounds set forth in the June session, 1853."

The first election, held on September 6, 1853, fully consummated the act of incorporation, and at this election Sidney Keith was made the first president of the Board of Town Trustees and David Pershing was elected to be the first town clerk.

"About twenty years later, the inhabitants of PLEASANT GROVE decided that they wanted their village to be an incorporated town, and they circulated a petition to this end and presented it to the commissioners for their approval. The petition was favorably considered by the board, and the petitioners were ordered to hold an election by the qualified voters to determine whether the territory should be an incorporated town. This election was held June 3, 1871, and of the nineteen votes cast all were "yes" for incorporation. When the results were returned to the board of commissioners for its inspection on December 4, 1871, the petition was formally granted by this order which reads in part "And the board being satisfied of the legality of such election, it is now ordered by the Board that said town has been incorporated by the name and style aforesaid (Kewanna) and shall hereafter be judicially taken notice of without pleading or alleging the same." THUS IT WAS that Kewanna became the second incorporated town in Fulton county.

(Information taken from Pages 52 and 53 . . . of the HISTORY OF INDIANA . . . by Logan Esarey, Ph.D. From Its Exploration to 1922. Fulton County — By Henry A. Barnhart — Volume III).

Of Kewanna's newspapers, Frank P. Gould and his "Kewan-

na Herald" won a lasting place in the memories of the citizenry. In the issue of August 25, 1899, Gould carried an article which took the entire front page, entitled, "Kewanna as She Was Sixty Years Ago and the Kewanna of Today." This paper is in the files at the Kewanna Library; but the copy I have for reference was loaned me by Byron Hudkins.

Following is the history of Kewanna's newspapers as reported by John Agnew.

"THE PRESS"

The newspaper, field of FULTON COUNTY has been well filled almost since the beginning of the county (1-23-1836) . . .

Since the first newspapers of the world were recognized as permanent institutions, the field of journalism has so broadened and developed that newspapers have become the faithful recorders of the daily life of the people they serve.

The advent of the year 1850 brought the first newspaper to Fulton county. Dr. J. Q. Howell hauled in the first printing press into the county on a wagon, rented a room in the court house, and proceeded to edit the Rochester Star.

The FIRST newspaper in KEWANNA was started in 1870 by J. C. Phillips and Eli Leiter. The first edition of the KEWANNA TIMES, as it was called, appeared on April 1870. The paper was issued every two weeks and in size was a 10x15 four column folio. The TIMES continued to be published by the same men until December 14, 1871, when it was sold to W.T. Cutshall, of Argos, who discontinued the publication and moved the plant to North Manchester, filling the unexpired subscribers with the Weekly Globe in which appeared each week a letter of local items from Kewanna written by Eli Leiter for the benefit of the Kewanna subscribers.

The PILOT was the next attempt to establish a newspaper in Kewanna and was published by J. M. McAfee and J. W. Carter. The first edition of the paper was issued February, 1872. The management shortly afterward passed into the hands of T. W. Fields and a Mr.

Davis.

During the succeeding years, many attempts were made to establish a strong and lasting newspaper, but all these efforts were of short duration. On August 20, 1883, however, the Kewanna Herald was established by W. D. Pratt, of Loganport, who printed the paper in that town for a short time. The plant was taken to Kewanna, and Sam D. Porter assumed the management only to dispose of it to George Metzger on February 9, 1884. Under the direction of Mr. Metzger, the paper became firmly established in the community but was sold on May 1, 1886, to George W. Tipton. He in turn sold out to Charles E. Newton on May 26, 1888, and the affairs of the paper remained under his control for two years when he took his brother into partnership. On January 28, 1893, the plant was sold to J. C. Colby, of Union Grove, Wisconsin. The paper remained under his control for a short time and was then sold to John P. Smith, who in turn surrendered his interests to C. M. Kenyor. Since then the paper has been owned by the following men: Frank P. Gould, Howard M. Brooke, Frank P. Gould, Harold Van Trump, Frank P. Gould, Ah. H. Lyons in the order named. The paper was purchased by Frank P. Gould for the fourth time in

1915 and he still remains as its editor. Altogether, the present editor of the Herald has directed the affairs of the paper for nearly twenty-five years, and to him is due the strong position that the Kewanna Herald holds in the community which it has served for forty years (Year: "1923").

(Information taken from the HISTORY OF INDIANA — By Logan Esarey, PhD . . . From Its Exploration to 1922 . . . (also) Fulton County — By Henry A. Barnhart (In 3 volumes) . . . Taken from Volume III).

From 1923 to the present, history of the newspapers is taken from files in the Observer office and files in the Kewanna Library Archives.

In 1933, W. H. Myers was publisher; the paper listed as a Democrat weekly newspaper. October 1946, Charles Pritchard became owner. The name was changed to the Kewanna Observer and in 1948 to The Observer, with the slogan "An Integral Part of your Community is your Hometown Newspaper."

In the issue of February 8, 1949, Editor Pritchard announced that he had sold The Observer to Bill Lyon of Marion, Indiana. Bill and Helen Lyon had come to Indiana, two years before, from California. The issue of January 5, 1950 showed Helen Lyon, Editor, Bill Lyon, Publisher. A

Republican Newspaper. Lyon continued The Observer as a community publication with the line in the banner. — "Covering Kewanna, Grass Creek, Fulton."

On December 15, 1960, Don R. Smith of Three Oakes, Mich. became editor, continuing until July 1, 1961, when Bernard C. Martin of Cartersville, Illinois, purchased the paper. On January 1, 1967, Joe and Karen Good became the owners of The Observer. The present editors have grown up with the newspaper. Joe Good has supervised operations of the shop since Bill Lyon was editor.

Town board president, Lloyd Woolington was back of the Mar Lo on the town parking lot emptying water from some tar drums. Elmer Hickle was helping him. It was warm; 70 degrees, this last day of March. Van Tuyl Gillespie, town clerk, came along. Yes, "Toad" Marvin's father's black smith shop stood right there; and across the street where Les Shidaker's D-X Station now stands was Henry Zeller's tin shop. There was a poultry house there and John Epler's livery stable and across where Elmer Seidel lives was grand father George Hickle's livery barn. On the corner where Bud Robbins Phillips '66' Station is was aunt Betty Foglesong's hotel. That was Don, Harry and Ralph's grandmother. North of the hotel was Leasure's garage and the ice house.

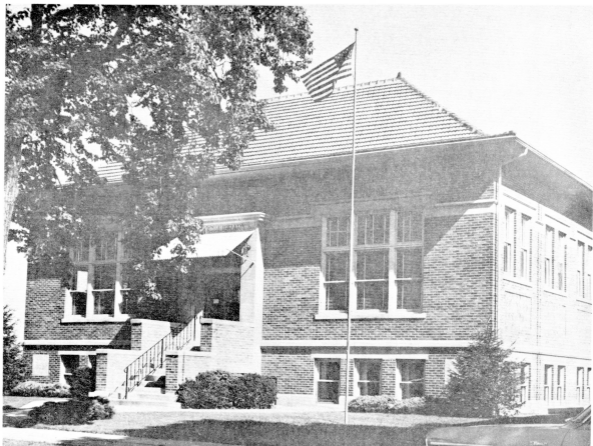
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HISTORY OF KEWANNA-UNION TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY



In March, 1904 there was talk of a public library for Kewanna and if it could be secured would prove of much satisfaction to those residing in this town and township. The following letter written March 4, 1904, throws some light on the means necessary to secure state aid:

Quote — Dear Mr. McCoy: In reply to your letter Mr. Jacop P. Dunn (Pres. Public Library Commission) requests me to say that under the law of 1901 if your citizens will subscribe \$53 for each of two years, it will be possible for you to secure the support of a free public library (see Acts 1901, amended in 1903). If you desire to awaken an interest in this matter I will be glad to come to you without any expense to your local committee and present the matter at a public meeting or to a few who are interested as you may deem best. If you do not think it advisable

to organize a permanent library now, you may secure the use of a free traveling library but I think the first plan the better one.

Very truly yours,
Mercia Hoagland,
Corresponding Sec'y &
Organizer Pub. Library
Commission

In 1905 steps were taken toward providing a public library for the town of Kewanna. A tax levy was made as provided by law which gave the enterprise a fund of \$250. A Library Board of seven was appointed: two by the Town Board, two by the School Board and three by the Judge of the Fulton Circuit Court — consisting of Mrs. Jessie Toner, Misses Jessie Slick and Rose Carnahan (Rainsberger), Messrs. W. A. Deyo, Harry Heimberger, D. H. Snepp, and F. P. Gould. The Board met immediately and organized as follows: F. P. Gould,

pres.; Mrs. Toner, Sec'y; Miss Slick, treas.; Mr. Deyo, Librarian. The Board accepted the offer of the School Board of a room in the school building for the very first library in Kewanna.

When school closed in the spring the library was open on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons and a librarian was hired by the Library Board. Mrs. Jessie Toner was the first librarian and Miss Jessie Slick was her substitute. In 1909 Mrs. Nita Barnett became substitute librarian. In 1911 Mrs. Toner and Mrs. Barnett divided the time, Mrs. Toner having the first and Mrs. Barnett the second six months of the year. After two years Mrs. Toner resigned and Mrs. Barnett held the position until 1934.

At the close of the school year in 1912 the Library Board decided to ask the Township Advisory Board to levy a tax for service to the township on a contractual

basis. Through the efforts of the board and other interested persons it was finally accomplished. By this time the library had outgrown the room in the school building, a corner room was rented uptown and the books moved into it. It was a pleasant well lighted room and with the addition of two reading tables, chairs, and new shelving, it was indeed attractive quarters. Twelve magazines were subscribed for that year and the library soon became popular with those in town and the township. The children were especially delighted in visiting the library which accounted for the increase in circulation. It was not long though before need was felt for more room.

The board learning that Andrew Carnegie through the Carnegie Corporation was giving money to build libraries contacted the corporation. After the community had complied with the necessary conditions a gift of \$8000 was made for the construction of the present building. The lot in the center of Kewanna on which the library stands was owned by Mrs. John Leiter and Mrs. Henry Howell. The price of the lot was \$1000. The two ladies donated \$100 and the balance was raised by popular subscription. W. H. Kendrick was the architect, J. J. Hill the building contractor and E. Heimburger & Son the plumbing contractor. A Mr. Stengel of Rochester installed the heating plant. The members of the Library Board at this time were: Mrs. Lulah Sibert, Mrs. L. E. Daniel, J. S. Wentzel, F. S. Scott, J. L. Bybee, W. C. Elston, and M. J. Hiland. The new library was dedicated in Nov. 24, 1914, with Dr. Stanley Coulter of Purdue University giving the address entitled, "The Community Value of the Library". The library soon became the cultural center of the community. During the winter 1914-1915 there was a series of free lectures in the Assembly room.

These were sponsored by the State Library Commission. Other meetings of literary and educational nature were also held. The Assembly room was used by the Red Cross during the first World War and during the second W.W. first aid classes were held. Cur-

rently the Farm Bureau and the Hospital Auxiliary have use of the room. Instructions in art, directed by Mrs. Carl Smith, was conducted, also classes in handicraft, under the direction of Mary Barger.

Memorial gifts have been given the library for Esther Snepp, Ralph Elston, M. J. Hiland, and Guy Urbin.

After the resignation of Nita Barnett as librarian in 1934, Miss Aileen Moore was hired to serve with Jesse Calvin as her assistant. Mrs. Calvin passed away in 1936 and the position was vacant until 1940. Miss Moore resigned in 1937 and the position was accepted by Dorothy Kaley with Enid Barnett as the assistant. Both resigned in 1941. Helen Shadel then a board member accepted the position in 1941 with Grace DeVault the assistant. Mrs. Shadel accepted a position in the Leiters Ford school and resigned in Sept. 1943. Mrs. DeVault remained as acting librarian until Dec. 1948. Mrs. Thelma Johnston, present librarian accepted the position in Oct. 1948 and became head librarian Jan. 1, 1949.

Working part time in the library are Mary L. Biber, and Mary M. Barger. Others who have worked for short periods during the past several years are: Fae Culp, Darlene Sisinger, Isabelle Brooks and Loma Collins. Several High School girls have assisted in the library. Among those were: Blanche Ball, Mary Ann Bauman, Patricia Kumlir, Joanne Graffis, Sharyn K. Johnston, Ann Zuck, Jill Urbin, and Linda Cogdill.

FORMER BOARD MEMBERS

F.P. Gould, Mrs. Jessie Toner, Misses Jessie Slick and Rose Caranahan, W.A. Deyo, Harry Heimberger, D.H. Snepp, Mrs. Lulu Sibert, Mrs. L.E. Daniel, J.S. Wentzel, F.S. Scott, J.L. Bybee, W.C. Elston, M.J. Hiland, J.C. Gorse-line, Mrs. Effie Hiatt, Mrs. Pearl Shoemaker, C.J. Sparks, Bert Gorse-line, W.B. Starr, A.D. Toner, Dr. J.M. Ward, H.A. Bright, E.B. Baughman, George Garman, Mrs. J.P. Russell, A.I. Gilbert, Walter Wilson, Thomas E. Reed, Mrs. Cora Showley, Metta Ackerman, Mrs. W.H. Myers, Mrs. Peter Dwyer, Mrs. Pearl Reed, Marie Talbott, Bert Talbott, Nada Henning, Helen Miller, Ralph V. Johnston, Clara Collins, Zora Wilson,

Catherine Hiland, Lucille Cook, Richard Fisher, James E. McKinney, Eldona Graffis, Joanna Evans, Grover E. Metzger, Alyce Plantz, Raymond Hinderlider.

The present Board members are: Mrs. Josephine Hyatt, pres.; Clement Good, vice-pres.; Lorena Sheridan, sec'y.; Mathilda Smith, treas.; Ted Urbin.

The janitors listed in the order they served: Joel Wilkinson, Howard Smith, Paul Hiatt, James Gifford, Ralph Gifford, Charles Osborn, Sam Hamilton, Frank Brown, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Kessler, Ed Hiatt, Henry Hershman, Mrs. Elverta Moore, Beulah Adams is the present library custodian.

RESOLUTION:

Pursuant to the Acts of the Legislature of the State of Indiana, in 1947, providing for public education, to promote the establishment and development of library service throughout the State and establish a uniform system provided that all libraries be governed under one rule, that each library, by their officers, pass a resolution qualifying and complying with such law. Acting in accordance with the Library Law of 1947 as amended in 1953 the Board of the Kewanna-Union Township Public Library expressed their willingness to form a single District and proposed the same to the Township Trustee and the Advisory Board. On August 1, 1953 the agreement signed by both Boards was recorded.

Since August, 1953 the Kewanna-Union Township Public Library has operated under the "1947 Library Law as amended in 1953" instead of the "1911 Library Law". The 1911 law provided for a seven member Board; 3 appointed by the Judge of the Circuit Court, 2 by the School Board, one of which was the Trustee, by virtue of his office, and 2 by the Town Board. The 1947 Law provided for a 5 member Board. Three appointments by the Judge, one by the Township Advisory Board and one by the Town Board.

Many improvements have been made to make the library more attractive and better. New shelves have been added and the old bookstacks remodeled. The floors have been sanded and refinished

New lighting and a dropped ceiling were installed. The tables and chairs in the reading area were refinished and new formica tops to brighten the tables. (This work was done by Indiana State Industries at no labor costs). The coal room was converted into a magazine room. A cement floor replaced the wooden floor in the library's auditorium and 50 new folding chairs were placed in this newly redecorated meeting room. The draw draperies were made and hung by "Friends Of The Library". The structure was tuck-pointed and the brick sealed. A wrought iron railing was installed at the front steps and a canopy placed over the doors. A few shrubs were placed along the front of the library.

Note: The preceding article appeared in the OBSERVER on April 11 and 18, 1967. Others who have served on the library board include Mrs. Josephine Hyatt, Mr. Allen Finke and Mrs. Mary Heidorn. The present board members are Mrs. Patricia Zellers, president; Mr. Donald Woolington, vice president; Mrs. Lorena S. Johnson, secretary; Mr. Clement Good, treasurer and Mr. John Urbin.

Mrs. Loma Lou Collins is the acting librarian and Mrs. Delia Greer is her assistant. Custodians are Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Adams.

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Kewanna, Indiana



KEWANNA LODGE NO. 546 F.&A.M.

On Sept. 26, 1876, John D. Howell, A. D. Toner, Hickman Phillips and James Ware, acting as party of the first part, signed a contract with Barkdoll and Kennedy, party of the second part, to build a two story frame building. This building was necessary before a charter could be obtained from the Grand Lodge of the State of Indiana, F.&A.M. for Kewanna.

The first floor of the building was to be occupied by a drug store and the second floor as a Masonic Hall. The total cost of the building, including all labor and material was \$1900. John D. Howell, owner of the drug store paid \$600 towards the building costs. The remaining \$1300 was to cover all costs of the second floor and payment was guaranteed by A. D. Toner, Hickman Phillips and James Ware. The first floor was to be completed by Nov. 15, 1876 and the second floor by Jan. 1, 1877.

In order to raise the \$1300 for payment of the second floor, there was formed the Kewanna Masonic Mutual Joint Stock Association capitalized at \$1500.

There were enough shares sold at \$25 each to amply pay the \$1300. Within 5 to 15 years afterwards, all shares were given back to the Lodge as donations.

On May 22, 1877, Grand Lodge of Indiana F. & A.M., granted a charter to the Kewanna Lodge and gave it number 546. As each Lodge requested a charter it was given the next higher number than the preceeding chartered Lodge. Kewanna therefore was the 546th Lodge to be chartered in Indiana.

The Kewanna No. 546 charter was made out to:

John C. Phillips, Worshipful Master; Eli Leiter, Senior Warden; and William A. Mogle, Junior Warden. To make the charter official, the Grand Lodge of Indiana F. & A.M. had it's principal officers of 1877 sign it. Their names were:

Frank J. Devoil, Indiana Grand Master; Andrew J. Kay, Indiana Deputy Grand Master; Robert Van Valjah, Indiana Grand Senior Warden; Bell S. Sutton, Indiana Grand Junior Warden and attested to and by John A. Bramwell, Grand Secretary.

The initial membership consisted of thirteen men and were:

Edward R. Hendrickson, Isaac Hendrickson, A. W. Jones, Samuel W. Julian, Eli Leiter, Lewis M. Lough, William Mogle, John C. Phillips, Hickman Phillips, Albert D. Toner, Peter S. Troutman, James Ware, and William White.

By the end of 1877, the membership will be about 115.

The first Worshipful Master was John C. Phillips. Since formation of the lodge in 1877, there has been 60 Worshipful Masters. This includes the present Worshipful Master, Robert Lancaster.

The present Masonic Temple is the same building that was erected in 1876. There has been many improvements, such as, Junkers oil stoves for wood stoves; inside toilet versus outside; replacement of stairway; new galvanized roof in 1908 and fibrous tiling on walls and ceiling. The biggest improvement to the building was started in 1966 and is still in progress. The improvements consist of a five-point program: (1) 1966 — new aluminum siding; (2) 1969, new roof; (3) 1970 — new floor in dining room on first floor; (4) 1971 — new forced draft oil furnace, paneling and lowering of ceilings and (5) 1972 — new modern toilet facilities.

Starting with the formation of the lodge in 1877, meetings were held on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Later on meeting nights were changed to the first and third Tuesdays of each month and this is the schedule now used.

Present day speculative Masonry has as its foundation, brotherly love, relief and truth. It does no publicity work. Charity is all carried on within its own organization. Kewanna lodge has its own charity fund and it is used quite frequently for local Masonic members unknown to the public. Indiana Grand Lodge maintains a home at Franklin, Ind., It is taking care, at present, of 433 people. These are Masons, widows of deceased Masons, Eastern Star members and children of deceased Masons. The Kewanna Lodge is assessed a certain amount each year for each member for financial support.

Donald H. Miller



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KEWANNA CHAPTER ORDER OF EASTERN STAR

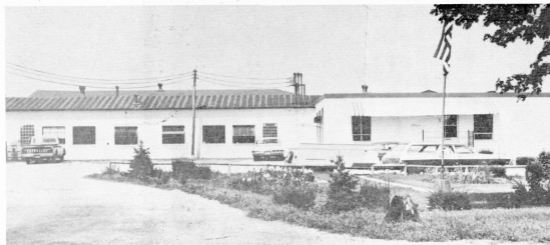
The Kewanna Chapter Order of Eastern Star was organized in 1905. Worthy Matron was Sara F. Harding and Worthy Patron was George Ralston. The first candidates initiated were Fae Culp and George Finney. The chapter received its charter in 1906. From 1950 to 1971, 80 members have received 25-year pins and eight members have received 50-year pins. The 50 year members are Fae Culp, Nettie Heimburger, Ruth Sparks, Ersa Enyeart, Lelia Tomlinsin, Ida Hogan, Lelia Sipe and Margarita Fisher. Fae Culp has been a Star for 66 years and was a very faithful member. She has been in the Masonic Home in Franklin, Ind., for two years and enjoys it very much. She has

pretty good health for a lady of 84 years. All of the members who received 50-year pins are living except Nettie Heimburger and Lelia Sipe.

Since 1960, the chapter has lost 26 members by death and 26 have demitted. The chapter helps with all the Worthy Grand Matrons projects and it helps support the Masonic Home. The group used to meet twice a month but now it meets monthly, every fourth Tuesday except in March when they meet on the second and fourth Tuesday. The chapter is dark in July and August. Naomi Mills was Grand Representative from Indiana to Illinois in 1957 and 1958. Olive Herrold was District Deputy in 1961 and 1962 and she was president of the 18th District in 1967.

The chapter has many faithful members and many have served as Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons several times. The organizer, Lois Kumler, has served 24 years and the soloist, Ruth Urbin has also served 24 years. Grace DeVault was secretary for 25 years. Fae Culp was secretary for two and one-half years, Olive Herrold for four years and Ruby Woolington, the present secretary for eleven years, Lera McKinney, the treasurer, has held her office for eleven years also. Inspection is held every year with other chapters. The present Worthy Matron is Margaret Hendrickson and Worthy Patron is Paul Leffel. There is a membership at the present time of 123.

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Kewanna, Indiana



One of these girls will reign as queen of the 1971 Kewanna Centennial—Harvest Festival. The queen was chosen at a tea held Wednesday, June 30, at the home of Mrs. Theo Urbin with Mrs.

Allen Finke assisting. The candidates were: (left to right) Diane Evers, Connie Norris, Terri Hamman, Kim Cessna, Kim Colvin, Linda Field, Linda Bangel and Kathy Smith.

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Kewanna, Indiana

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THE FOUNDER Thomas Willey, founder of The Independent Order of Odd Fellows in North America, was a man of tremendous vitality and warmth who came to the United States from England in 1817. He had been a coach-spring maker in England and became a blacksmith in the new world.

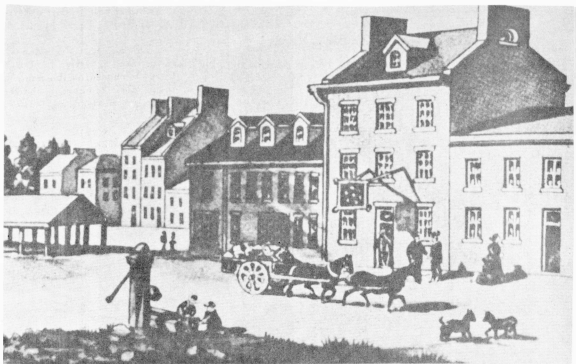
The charter for Eden Lodge No. 69 I.O.O.F. was issued July 11, 1849. The original lodge building was destroyed by fire and a new one was built in 1889.

The present officers of Eden Lodge are Paul Crill, Noble Grand; Marvin Rife, Past Grand; Marion Chizum, Jerry Sisinger and Bill DeWitt, trustees.

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Kewanna, Indiana



THE FIRST LODGE The Seven Stars Inn, on Water Street near the Baltimore harbor, was where Thomas Willey first met John Welsh and discovered that he, too, had been an Odd Fellow in England. The two men decided to establish the Order in America, with more active philanthropic goals than had characterized the Order in England. The meeting room of the Seven Stars served as the first Odd Fellows "lodge." The Inn was destroyed in the great Baltimore fire of 1904.

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KEWANNA REBEKAH LODGE NO. 140

The Rebekah lodge was instituted the 16th day of February, 1875 and a charter was issued by the Grand Lodge.

A list of the first members includes H. B. Apt; H. T. Cleland; Emma Cleland; J. Bennett; Amanda Bennett; A. H. Graham; M. J. Graham; S. Jackson; Mrs. Jackson; H. Toner; Mrs. H. A. Toner; J. W. Branthoffer; Sarah Branthoffer; H. W. Bennett; Mary Bennett; Elizabeth Shaffer; J. Kaler; Julia Kaler; Peter Apt; Leah Apt; A. R. Thompson; Harriet Thompson; J. Neary; Eliza Neary; Z. H. Shatto; A. G. Hudkins; John Zellers; Mrs. John Zellers; J. P. Urbin; Sarah Urbin; John R. Riley; M. Riley; J. C. Cannon; Mary Cannon; A. W. Graham; E. J. Graham; A. T. Jackson; Melissa Jackson; R. Hudkins; Eliza Hudkins; F. A. Hudkins; Louisa Hudkins; J. S. Roberts; Jennie Roberts; G. W. Thompson; Lizzie Thompson; G. Patty; Kate Patty; Henry Howell; Ida Howell; E. V. Hudkins; Susan Hudkins; L. C. Mills; Rachael Mills; John Gorsline; Mrs. John Gorsline; A. J. Harsh; Ada Myers; Lula Sibert; Eve Howell and Martha Carter.

The roll of officers in 1875 were Noble Grand, F. H. Graham; Vice Grand, Emma Cleland; secretary, Ester Toner; financial secretary, Cal Branthoffer; treasurer, M. J. Graham; warden, John Neary; conductor, H. H. Bennett; R.S.N.G., Mary Bennett; L.S.N.G. Amanda Bennett; R.S.V.G., Mrs. A. Jackson; L.S.V.G., Mrs R. Hudkins.

The officers in 1876 were: N.G., J. W. Branthoffer; V.G., Mary Cannon; recording secretary, Melissa Jackson; financial secretary, Hester Toner; treasurer, Louisa Hudkins; (N.G. appointments) R.S., Sarah Urbin; L.S., Julia Kaler; warden, H. W. Bennett; conductor, H. M. Hudkins; inside guardian, A. J. Jackson; outside guardian, (not given); and (V.G. appointments), R.S., Sister Apt; L. S., Sister Graham; and as chaplain, A. J. Wiley, the grandfather of Amy Wilson.

A Past Noble Grands club was organized in 1892. This is an active organization with a roll of 25 members.

The officers of the Lodge of 50 years ago were N. G., Myrtle

Enyeart; V.G., Alta Starr; recording sec., Emma Parker; financial sec., Maria Foglesong; treasurer, Emma Hogan; R.S.-N.G., Anna Cannon Merideth; L.S.N.G., Mary Kinneer; R.S.-V.G., Edith Calvin; L.S.V.G., Dottie Reese; conductor, Edith Barnett; warden, Nettie Hickle; chaplain, Elba Smith; outside guardian, Alice Miller; inside guardian, Polly Foglesong and the Past Noble Grand was Rosa Moon

Fifty year members are Gladus Wharton, Velma Lease and Chloe Hackett.

On February 21, 1968, the Leiters Ford (Cloverleaf) Lodge consolidated with the Kewanna Rebekah Lodge.

The present Rebekah officers for the year 1971-72 are, Past Noble Grand, Mazie Young; N.G., Margaret Kistler; V.G., Gertrude Reichard; recording sec., Mildred Johnson; financial sec., Helen Miller; treasurer, Fern Master; R.S.N.G., Roxie Hott; L.S.N.G., Guyla Cunningham; chaplain, Carrie Sixbey; R.S.V.N.G., Emma Foglesong (deceased); L.S.V. N.G., Ersa Enyeart; warden, Henrietta Patton; conductor, Hazel Overmyer; pianist, Thelma Johnston; flag bearer, Eva Rhoades; outside guardian, Bertha Callahan; inside guardian, Pearl Shrader.

The Rebekahs are an organization that promotes friendship, love and truth.

Prepared by:

Emma Foglesong
Eva Rhoades
Lorena S. Johnson

DON MOORE POST NO. 130 AMERICAN LEGION

Early in 1929, Vern F. Sanders and Neal M. West began contacting local veterans of World War I about establishing an American Legion Post in Kewanna. This idea met with general approval and forms for applying for a temporary charter were requested from department headquarters in Indianapolis.

The forms were received and the following veterans made application for charter, Neal M. West, Harold Roden, Charles Sears, Dale Bibler, Claude Loudon, William Eddington, Earl Henderson, Whit F. Hemiger, John E. Schirm,

Arthur Engle, Bert Berryman, Paul Root, Ernest Hogan, Rollan R. Smith and James Ware.

The name of Don Moore (who was killed in action in World War I) was chosen as the name of the post. The temporary charter was issued February 19, 1929.

A meeting was called in the assembly room of the library on the evening of February 21. As soon as this meeting was opened, Vern Sanders, James Gilbert, George Bowers and Fred Byrer (who were maintaining membership in neighboring posts) signed petitions to transfer membership to the new post, these petitions were approved and the post preceded to elect officers and the following were chosen and installed at once: Vern Sanders, Commander; Whit Heminger, Vice Commander; Neal West, Adjutant; James Gilbert, Chaplain; Ernest Hogan, Sergeant at Arms; and Fred Byrer, Finance Officer.

A fund raising committee was appointed to arrange activities for raising funds for operating expenses and the purchase of needed equipment.

The two front rooms on the second floor of the old Toner Hotel, being vacant at this time, were rented for a meeting place and general headquarters.

By special invitation, Mr. Adolph Hunneshagen and Mr. Oliver Lamborn (the sole surviving members of the G.A.R. post which had functioned in Kewanna for many years) were present at the regular meeting of May 14, 1929. These gentlemen were delighted that a post of younger veterans had been formed here and were especially delighted with the post's offer to take over the placing of flags on veterans graves and providing a military type memorial service on Memorial Day. They presented to the post their list of Civil War veterans buried in near by cemeteries and other paraphernalia for Memorial Day. As this list included only the names of Civil War veterans, and as it is the policy of the American Legion to decorate the graves of all veterans, a program was started at once to compile a complete list of all veterans buried in these cemeteries, this list has been maintained and expanded over the years and at present this post is servicing

thirteen cemeteries with a total of 307 veterans' graves dating from the Mexican War of 1848 to the present Vietnam conflict.

The members of the post began talking of the advantages of a ladies auxiliary unit and found the women very interested, so application forms and instructions were requested from department headquarters. This unit was formed and a charter was issued to them on December 28, 1929.

A permanent charter was issued to the post on February 7, 1931.

The post and auxiliary unit remained in the same quarters until November 20, 1938, when both moved to the rooms across the hall from what was then the telephone office.

Between the meetings of Aug. 24 and Sept. 14, 1944, the building at the corner of Main and Toner streets (the lower floor occupied by the Harrison funeral home and the upper floor vacant) was advertised for sale at public auction. Oura Clark, Oscar Master, Warren Gillespie and Fred Byrer attended this sale and these men authorized Conrad Clark to

enter the bidding in behalf of the post which he did and was successful in buying the building in the name of Don Moore Post No. 130 America Legion. At the regular meeting Sept. 14, this action was reported to the membership and met with unanimous approval. Oscar Master, Oura Clark and Florance Hendrickson were elected Trustees and completion of the purchase and the administration of the building was placed in their hands. Financing of the purchase was provided by loans from several members. The debt was kept entirely within the post membership. Arrangements to move into the new quarters were made and the meeting of Oct. 12, 1944, was held in the new location.

The Legion Post owned this building until March 1, 1959, when it was sold to Mr. Paul Harrison of the Harrison funeral home with provision for the Legion Post and Auxiliary unit to continue use of the second floor. When Mr. Max Metzger bought the Harrison funeral home, he continued the provision for the Post and Auxiliary unit to have the use of the second floor.

This organization is open to all war time veterans from the First World War to the present time.

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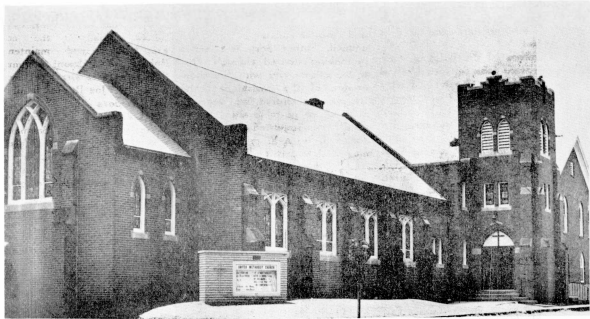
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KEWANNA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The United Methodist Church at Kewanna, known first as Pinhook, later Pleasant Grove, then Kewanna, was organized in 1839. Meetings had been held before; but it was after a camp meeting had been held in a grove where the northwest section of Kewanna now stands, that a pastor was employed and a church organized. The camp meeting services were conducted by Reverends Doud, Ritchey, Westlake and Hardy Cain. Rev. Westlake was the first pastor and he and Rev. John Ritchey were the real organizers of the church.

Meetings continued to be held in the grove, at the homes of members and in a school house west of Kewanna until 1845-46, when the first log church was built at the west end of Main Street. This was built during the pastorate of Reverends R. F. Stright and Jacob Colclazer, with the probable assistance of Rev. Frank Taylor.

This was the first church organized, and the first church house built in Union Township. The first meeting ever held was at the home of John Troutman. In 1857, the first frame church was built, the site being very near to that of the first church. Rev. William J. Forbes was pastor and the church was dedicated by Rev. T. S. Webb, then presiding elder of the dis-

trict.

In 1891, while Rev. J. W. Shell was pastor, interest in a new church was begun, Kewanna had become a station, and it was felt that a larger and better church was needed for the rapidly growing congregation. During the pastorate of Rev. E. W. Lawhon, the site of the present structure was purchased and during the terms of Reverends Robert Wilkinson and Horace N. Ogden the brick church was completed. This was dedicated by Rev. W. H. Hickman on February 9, 1895.

The congregation grew, and more room for Sunday school and social work was necessary, so an annex was built at a cost of \$15,000 and dedicated March 25, 1928. This was during the pastorate of Rev. William Hargrave.

On January 29, 1931, the brick church burned to the ground leaving the annex unharmed. Work was at once begun on a new church and the present structure was built, and was dedicated November 22, 1931, by Rev. Claude Young, District Superintendent. This was built while the Rev. Harold Pearson was pastor.

At first the Kewanna church, then known as Pinhook, was part of the Rochester Circuit, which then embraced all of Fulton county and parts of Cass, Miami and Wabash counties. Later, Pinhook was made the head of a circuit which was composed of Pleasant

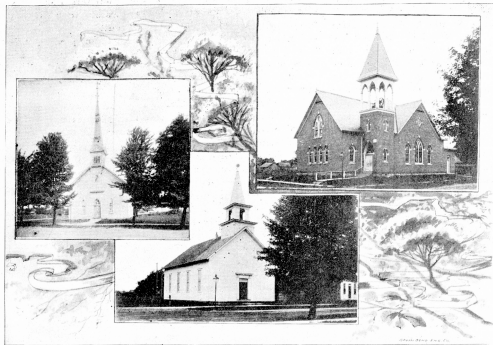
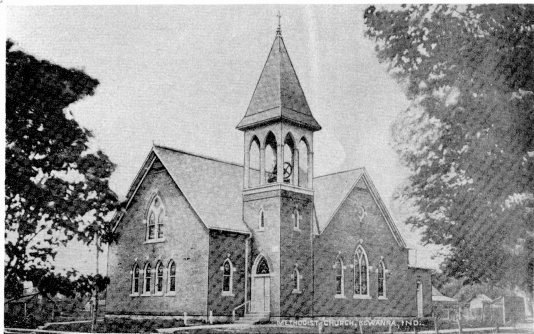
Grove (Pinhook), Mooresburg, Stony Prairie, Monterey, Leiters Ford and Bruce Lake.

For many years then, Kewanna was not part of a circuit. In the 1930's, because of depression conditions, the church at Burton was added to the Kewanna charge. This arrangement was broken up in 1940 when Kewanna became temporarily a student appointment. In 1942, the church at Fletchers Lake was added to Kewanna to make a two charge circuit.

The present parsonage was erected during the pastorate of Rev. Henry C. Riley. (Conference year, 1910-1911)

At present the membership of the church is 275 members. In its 133 years of service to the Kewanna area, the church has always been open to all for worship, Christian education and fellowship. The present pastor, Rev. James D. Butler is the 72nd pastor to serve the church.

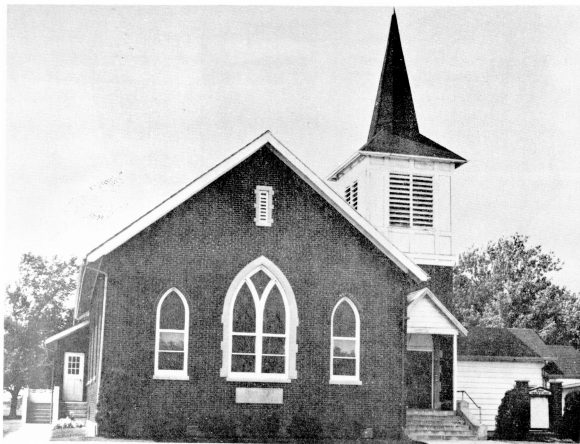
By James D. Butler



BAPTIST CHURCH.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

METHODIST CHURCH.



KEWANNA CHURCH OF CHRIST

As early as the year 1840, an organization was effected by members of the Church of Christ. At this early date, meetings were held at irregular intervals, and there was no permanent house of worship — cabins of the members being used as meeting places. On the 9th of December, 1846, the members met at the house of William Troutman to elect trustees, whose duty it should be to procure a lot upon which to erect a building, and also to superintend the construction of the building. Greenup Troutman, Ephraim Dukes and James Elliott were the trustees chosen, and promptly began to seek out a spot upon which to locate a house of worship. They purchased a lot in the town of Kewanna, but for some reason the building of the church was not begun. Several years elapsed, and in the meantime William M. Hathaway donated to the church a lot two miles west of Kewanna, upon which, in 1855, they completed a frame house, 30 x 36 feet. It

is thought that the church was located in about the center of the membership and was perhaps more satisfactory to all concerned than if it had been located in Kewanna. At the same time they held the town lot until 1876, by which time its value had become greatly enhanced. The town lot was then sold by the trustees and another lot purchased which was situated one square south of the business portion of town, on Logan Street. The old church building by this time having become dilapidated, there was a house erected in Kewanna. This new building was 32 x 50 feet and cost \$2,335. Elder William Hunter was the pastor under whom the church was erected. L. L. Carpenter dedicated the building November 19, 1876. After the death of William Hunter, Ephraim Dukes officiated as pastor, and later the church was served once a month by a minister who visited the various Churches of Christ in Fulton county. When it was not possible to have a minister present, some member or members of the con-

gregation conducted the meetings, so the church assembled regularly for services.

The court records show that the lot with building was purchased from the trustees of the German Reform Church (trustees, John W. Branthoffer, Rufus Blair, James H. Smith) to the trustees of the Church of Christ (John G. Troutman, George W. Singer, Peter S. Troutman), Lot No. 25 in Hardy Cain's Addition to the Town of Kewanna. Consideration, \$300.00. Deed made May 20, 1876.

The building erected in 1876 was remodeled in 1908 under the pastorate of J. B. Dunkleberger and dedicated by L. L. Carpenter in the fall of 1908.

The present building, which was erected in 1927, embodies all of the previously constructed buildings with an addition on the west, 30 x 54.8 feet. The trustees under whose supervision this work was done were, John H. Feidner, Thomas E. Graffis and Jerome Harris. The minister was H. F. Bulger.

After several years of minor repairs, the trustees, Fred Graffis, Cecil Engle and Robert Troutman decided that more room was needed for class room and kitchen facilities so in 1968 a basement and an outside entrance was added. A new piano was also purchased.

During the past year, the interior of the church building has been completely cleaned and re-decorated. The church has steadily grown in spirit and numbers. The present minister is Ron Prilliman.

Submitted by Fred Graffis

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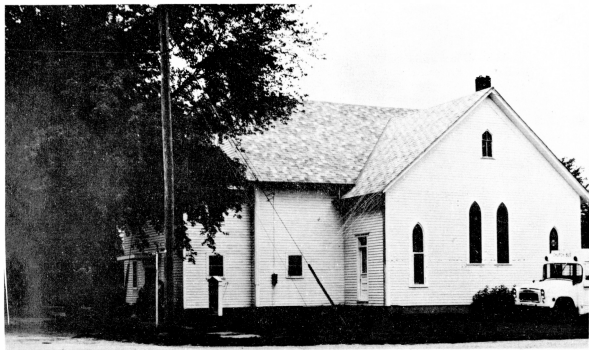
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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

The First Baptist Church of Kewanee had its beginning in the year 1849. Elder James Babcock who lived near Rochester learned of several persons of the Baptist faith living in the vicinity of Pleasant Grove (now Kewanee) who had no place of public worship, visited them and conducted services in the home of one of the members. Later they met in a school house four miles northeast of Pleasant Grove.

Elder Babcock preached once a month without compensation in material gain but was rewarded when in March of 1850 he baptized his first convert, Isaac N. McCoy. Then on the fourth Sunday in November of the same year he baptized Phebe Maxey, but she sought her membership with the Ebenezer Baptist Church, south east of Rochester.

In May, 1851, there was a sufficient number of members to organize a local church, so they adopted a set of Articles of Faith and a covenant agreement.

At this business meeting it was suggested by Isaac N. McCoy and agreed upon to call this organization, The Little Flock Church and services were conducted once a month in the Carter School house.

In September of 1851, a council of recognition convened with

churches from Logansport, Yellow Creek, Weasan and Ebenezer, which resulted in this body of believers being a constituted Baptist church. The members were Mark B. Moore, Sarah A. Moore, Susannah Lear, Isaac N. McCoy, Eliza J. McCoy, Sarah Ceplinger, James Maxey, Phebe Maxey, Ann M. Roberts, Wm. T. Elston and Theodocia Elston.

At this time the church paid Elder James Babcock for his ministerial service the sum of \$16.50.

In 1857, because of ill health Elder James Babcock resigned and his son, James R. Babcock Jr. accepted the work and was given \$50 for his annual salary.

In May of 1857 the congregation voted to change their place of worship from the Carter school house, to the Davis or Jackson school house.

The years 1858 to 1868 were trying years due to the Civil War. Two of the church members, William and Oliver Dixon, offered the supreme sacrifice.

In 1878, the present structure was built, a frame structure located near the Vandalia railroad on East Main street of Kewanee at a cost of \$3,000.

Elder James Babcock Jr. had ministered until 1861 and was succeeded by Elder Edward McGraw, who preached until 1881.

He was succeeded by Elder Simon Bybee and Elder A. E. Babcock. From 1888-1898, the following ministers served: J. B. Bair; A. D. Berry; C. M. Bragg; E. A. Knight; and C. J. Bunnel. From 1898-1908 were these ministers: W. J. Delany; J. B. Bair (second time); I. W. Martin; W. J. Carpenter; I. W. Martin (second time). During this period there were 96 baptisms. From 1908 to 1918 these ministers served: F. M. Reece; C. F. West; Reno Tacoma; E. B. Devault; J. M. Kendall and Isom Ferris. During this period there were 130 baptisms. From 1919 to 1944 the ministers were Mr. Bender; A. B. Simpson; A. A. Kay; Wm. J. Fox; J. Hooper; Wyman Hull and Hugh T. Hall.

On September 27, 1945, after the weekly prayer service, the Kewanee Baptist church was called into regular monthly business session. After lengthy discussion about liberalism and modernism which had crept into the churches, seminaries and some denominational leaders including the Northern Baptist Convention; it was voted to sever relations with the Convention and the constitution was declared null and void and the church proceeded to be an unincorporated body. Robert's Rules of Order were the order of business until a new constitution

could be drawn up.

Rev. D. B. Starks was recalled as pastor to remain indefinitely and the existing officers were to remain in office 60 days or until such time as the new constitution became effective.

The membership was also to remain intact until a new Constitution could be drawn up. The pastor and the deacons drew up the new Constitution.

On November 25, 1945, the church became an incorporated body. The First Baptist church of Kewanna with a membership composed of all members choosing to be in accord.

From 1947 to 1971, these ministers have served: Griffith Rice, W. R. Sale, Robert Belt, Harry Taylor, Gary Bargerhuff, Paul Mayo, Ray Hoffeditz and the present minister Otis R. Stone.
Rev. Otis Stone

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ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Ann's Catholic church, Kewanee, has a long history, the parish dating back over 100 years. Prior to 1857, there was only one Catholic diocese in Indiana, the diocese of Vincennes, which comprised all of Indiana and part of Illinois.

As population increased and moved northward, it became advisable to establish a second diocese. On January 10, 1858, Rev. John Henry Luers was consecrated the first bishop of Fort Wayne. At the time there were 20 churches in the area that came under his jurisdiction.

Priests from Logansport took turns in ministering to the Catholic settlers, mostly Irish, who lived in northern Cass and southern Fulton counties. The first St. Ann's church, built around 1860, was located about two miles northeast of what is now Grass Creek in Fulton county, on a plot in the Catholic cemetery.

In 1861, Bishop Luers appointed Father John McMahan, the

first pastor of the church. He also served members of St. Elizabeth's Church in Cass county. He was transferred to another parish in 1863. Priests from Logansport again attended the members of the two rural churches, from 1863 to 1868.

In 1868, Father Charles J. Maugin of Crawfordsville was appointed by the bishop to be pastor of both churches. He was succeeded by Father John Buckley in 1869 and Father I. H. O'Brien in 1870. Average annual collections from the two parishes for the years 1873 to 1877 were \$655.00.

In 1884, during the pastorate of Father M. F. Kelley, the Rosary Society was established in the parish with 47 women enrolled.

Around 1890, the original church was abandoned and a new one built across the road on land donated by Henry Ware. An organ was purchased. This church served the needs of the congregation for many years. There was a succession of pastors at intervals of a year or two from 1870

to 1908. They continued in charge of the mission church in Cass county.

In 1908, Father Edmund A. Ley became pastor. As time went on, he and some of the parishioners decided it would be more satisfactory to have a church located in town. Automobiles were coming into use and people could travel more easily and the central location was no longer so important. The idea grew and under the leadership of Father Ley plans were drawn up, donations were pledged and construction was begun on a church in Kewanee. The cornerstone was laid Oct. 12, 1919, and the church was dedicated the following year. The old building site, church, rectory, barn and shed were sold for \$3350. The cost of the new church was \$32,000. George Woolington, father of Loyd Woolington, well known local building contractor, was one of the men who helped with its construction. It is red brick, 100 x 40 feet, with a full basement.

The parish women prepared a

dinner, which attracted hundreds and served it in the church basement each summer, until the debt was paid.

Members of the building committee were John Scheetz, Michael Smith, John Shanley, Henry Hirsch, Warren Pensinger, Medda Perry, Paul Costello and the pastor, Father Ley, chairman. He was pastor of St. Ann's until 1921. He was an uncle of Paul Ley, Kewanna rural mail carrier.

The first wedding in the church was that of Mary Walsh, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Walsh and James Ware, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ware. They were married Oct. 20, 1920. Mrs. John F. Brennan was the organist. She remained the church organist for 10 years, then she resigned due to the illness of her husband.

The Peter J. Dwyer family had moved to Kewanna from Logansport and Mrs. Dwyer became the organist. She was succeeded by Mrs. Harry Bauman. A new electric organ was purchased in 1953. The present organists are Mrs. Robert Hendrickson and Mrs. Edward Williamson. Miss Cathy Walsh, a teenager, is in training as junior organist.

When the Fort Wayne diocese was divided in December, 1944, Kewanna was in the new diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana. The late Bishop John Bennett was its first bishop. Bishop John Carberry, now the Cardinal of St. Louis succeeded him. The present bishop of the diocese is the Most Rev. Raymond J. Gallagher, D.D.

Father Robert W. Sorg was pastor of St Ann's church from 1963 to 1967. The Second Vatican Council ended Dec. 8, 1965, and liturgy and customs began to

change and churches were being updated in keeping with decisions and recommendations of the council. Father Sorg was active in making desired changes. Due to his efforts and with the cooperation of the parishioners and friends, the church was redecorated, a new portable altar was installed, two imported statues were acquired, the altar railing was removed, light fixtures were changed, two doors in the sanctuary were closed and various other minor improvements and changes were made.

A parish council was elected in 1968. There is more lay participation in the liturgy and business decisions in parish affairs. This year the council voted to buy a lot owned by Mrs. James Hubeny, across the street from the church, to be used as a parking lot for its members. The present elected members of the council are: president, Dan Walsh; vice president, John Scheetz; secretary, Mrs. Ted White; treasurer, Mrs. Raymond Verhoeve; budget chairman, Dr. R. T. Lord, Lawrence Perry, Joe Wegner and Alfred

Heater.

Chairmen of the various committees named by the council are: building and maintenance, Robert Hendrickson; communication, Margaret Brennan; ecumenism, Mrs. Joe Burns; family life, Mrs. Isadore Crist; liturgy, John Federer; social action, David Beese; youth, James Bauman and education Mrs. Albert Walsh.

In addition to Father Sorg, other priests serving the parish from 1921 to the present were Fathers Michael F. Shea, Edward M. Boney, Charles J. Seeberger, Leo A. Breitenbach, Jerome C. Walski, J. Edward Holland, Chas. Remaklus, James M. Fitzgerald, Mathew N. Drennan and Joseph Clauss.

Father Richard A. Smith, a native of Logansport, has been pastor of St. Ann's since July, 1969.

Margaret Brennan

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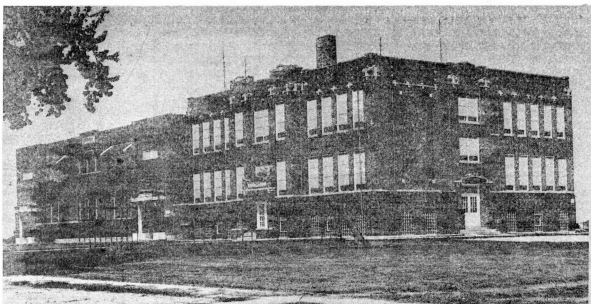
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Kewanna - Union Twp. Public Schools 1971

WORTHWHILE CLUB

About 30 ladies of Union Township met at the home of Mrs. Cora Showley at Lake Bruce on May 17, 1929, and organized a Home Economics club. Officers elected were, president, Mrs. Bessie DeLand; vice president, Mrs. Marie Busch; and secretary and treasurer, Mrs. Dola Ingram. Mrs. Ray Lough and Mrs. Marie Busch offered their cottages at any time the club wanted to hold their meetings.

Twenty-four ladies joined at this meeting. The only living charter member is Mrs. Elizabeth Lough Graffis.

The name chosen for the organization was "Worthwhile club" which was suggested by Lorena Sheridan Johnson.

It was agreed to wear print dresses to the meetings.

At different times the club has traveled to various points of interest in the company of other Home Economics clubs of Fulton county. In 1937, a balsam tree was purchased by Mrs. Ressa Lebo and Margaret Hunneshagen Werner and planted in the Community church yard. It is still standing.

The first lesson presented was on "Slip Covers", since that time there have been many helpful

lessons enjoyed by all.

The club has always donated to many worthwhile organizations. Some of these are: Heart Fund, March of Dimes, Cancer Fund, Red Cross, Christmas Seals, Retarded children's school, Woodlawn hospital and Longcliff State hospital.

The club recently celebrated its 40th anniversary. At present the club has 20 active members. The officers are, president, Artha Kreamer; vice president, Meda Hoover; secretary, Florence Hines and treasurer, Geneva Rude.

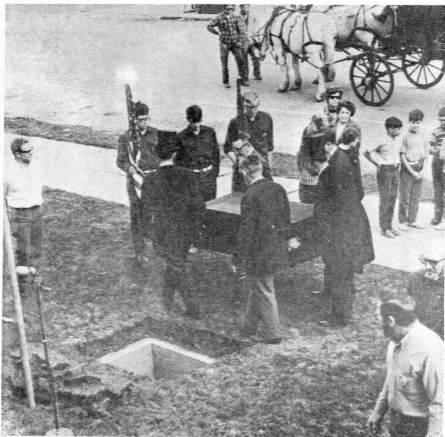
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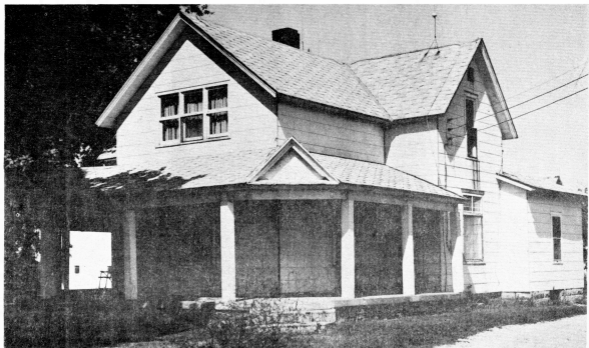
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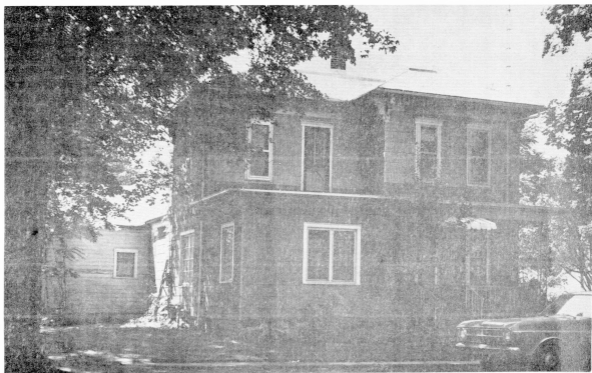
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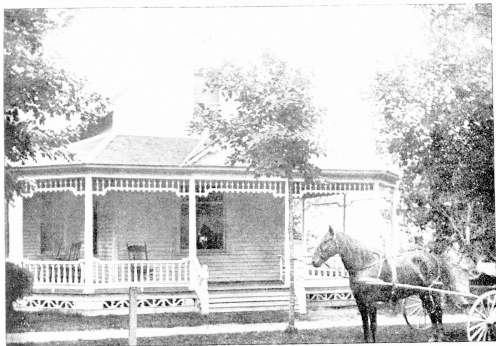
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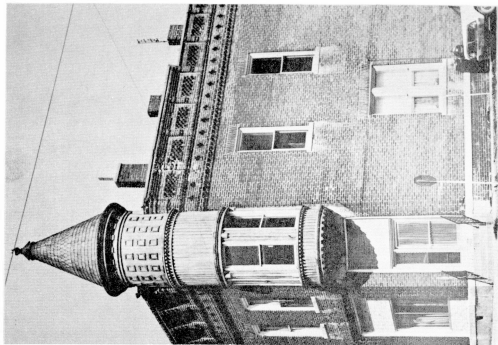
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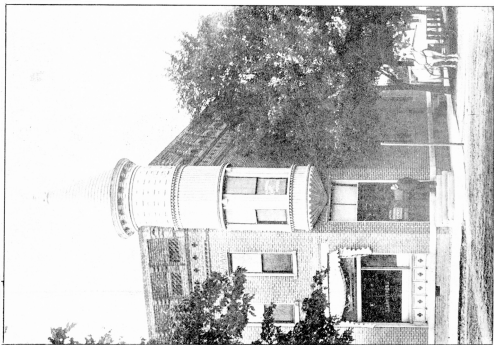
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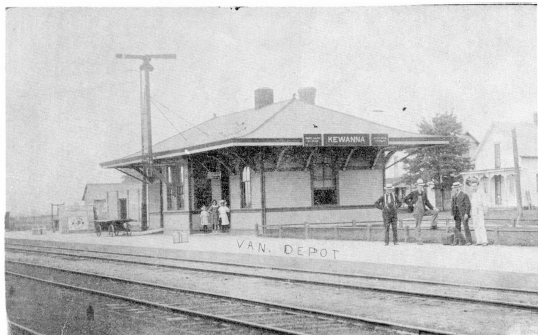
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Following is an article taken from a 1909 issue of the "The Kewanna Herald" in which Mrs. Lydia Sparks, one of Kewanna's early pioneers, tells of her life as a girl in West Virginia; and later her experiences after coming to Union Township, Fulton County, Indiana, in 1851. Byron Hudkins of Lake Bruce and Mrs. Cloyd Zuck of Kewanna have supplied this interesting article.

MRS. LYDIA SPARKS

After hearing letters read from former residents, as published in the Herald, and after hearing from the old timers, as published in the Rochester Republican, Lydia Sparks has been moved to dictate the following historical sketch. Mrs. Sparks, whose maiden name was Hudkins, now lives with her daughter, Mrs. William Zuck, east of Kewanna. She is 86 years old and has been blind for over four years. She has a remarkable memory and the following was penned as she told it.

On the 9th of March, 1823, I was born in Randolph County, West Va., near Beverly. When yet small I moved with my parents to Barbour County, West Va., eight miles from Philippi, the county seat. I was one of 13 children and am the only one living. My father was a weaver and made looms; after we girls were old enough we did the weaving. Father and the boys farmed. We spun and wove our own clothing, raised flax, grew our coloring of different colors, made striped and plaid flannels for winter dresses and made striped linen dresses for summer, wove blankets and bed spreads or counterpins, as they were then called, tablecloths, towels and coverlids, did our own tailoring, and made jeans for the men's winter clothing. On the first day of May it was customary for men to wear their home made linen pants and shirts. Brother Daniel was a wheel right and made spinning wheels; the big wheel was to spin wool, when made in rolls; the small wheel or tread wheel was to spin flax; another wheel called a spinning ginny was fastened to the wall with a band which was fastened to the opposite side of the room with

a big wire for the band to run in; this was also to spin wool; we had a reel to wind the threads on to make skeins, four cuts to the skein.

We only had three months school in the winter; the school houses were made of logs with one log taken out for a window; greased paper was put in for light; a long board was pegged fast by this window to write on. Our studies were the Testament, English reader and spelling book.

On March 28th, I was married to Arnold Poling, my wedding dress was white cambric; and I wore a cap with a full lace border. The marriage fees were fifty cents, as that was counted quite a liberal offering. We all went horse back riding to the infirmary; that was the only way the young men had to take their sweethearts. It was seven miles. We built a small log house with one window and a fire place; had a good spring of water, so we built a milk house at the spring. We lived there five years. In 1851, we moved to Indiana; came in a covered wagon and were 21 days on the road. Got here Dec. 1st; moved in with another family until February, then bought the Joshua Ball farm, where Wm. Zuck now lives, for three dollars and a half an acre. There was a little log house and fire place; the chimney was made of sticks and clay; the ceiling and roofing were made of clapboards. We were pretty well surrounded with woods and water; no end to sloughs and ponds with abundance of fish of all kinds. Wild ducks were plentiful, deer squirrel, wild turkeys, prairie chickens more than one would care to see. As we were very busy in those days my husband did not hunt much but if they came too close he would kill them. This farm is now mostly under cultivation, two miles east of our little town now called Kewanna. At that time it was called Pinhook. It had one little grocery store and four or five houses. Later it was called Pleasant Grove. We had to drive to Logansport in a wagon to do our trading; hauled all our wheat, peaches, apples and butter to Logansport. It didn't pay to take eggs as they were only 3 cents a dozen; there was

no sale for chickens. We took all our wool to Rochester to get carded as there was a little carding machine there. A few of our neighbors were Thomas Wilson; Wm. Cook, Grandfather Wallace, Isaiah Ball and Mr. Jackson, father of A. T. Jackson, deceased. There was a log M.E. church at Pinhook. As there was no Baptist church in town we went once a month to the old Moon school house where Rev. James Babcock preached. Rode horse back both riding one horse; it was 5 miles northeast of here. There were no buggies or carriages; one can hardly realize the great improvements made in the last 60 years, I must say three cheers for Indiana.

Memory calls me back to the happy days when our children were at home; we were the parents of six children — Mrs. Zuck, Jerucia Poling, Ira W., Mary Florence, James and Henry E. Poling; the later of Alexandria was called to his heavenly home Sept. 14, 1906. Only two are living at the present time — I. W. Poling of Pomona, Calif., and Mrs. Wm. Zuck of Kewanna, with whom I am now making my home. On Nov. 3, 1870, sadness entered our home when my beloved husband, Arnold Poling, was promoted to the happy home above. Three years after his death I moved to Kewanna; on Aug. 14, 1873, I was united in marriage to Rev. Jesse Sparks. We lived together 22 years. The death angel came in 1896 and called him home. Had he lived five more days he would have been 90 years old. I am still waiting the summon call to meet the loved ones gone on before.

As we are growing old, and being blind, it is quite a task, and to stay here longer I do not desire to ask. I would rather walk with God in darkness than to lose the heavenly light; and what looks dark in the distance may brighten in heaven tonight. Angels will then guide me o'er, as Jesus does the blind, the lame and poor. And there we shall meet and greet glad friends gone on before, beckoning us on to the heavenly shore.

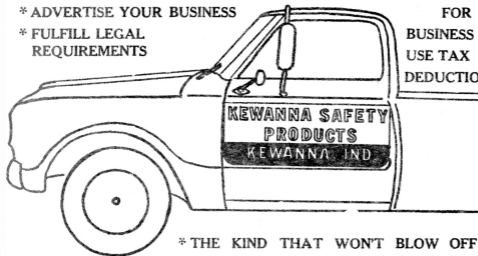
Mrs. Lydia Sparks

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Main Street, Looking West from
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PICTURE TAKEN SOMETIME IN THE EARLY 1900's



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