

Publications on Leclaire (Post-1935)

Notes:

This section contains articles published after Leclaire was no longer a village. The Nelson Company continued after 1934 in Leclaire, but had already moved some of the shops back to St. Louis or sold them off as they concentrated on twholesale plumbing distribution rather than manufacturing. The last of the shops here would close in the late 1940s and by the mid-1950s the N. O. Nelson Company was gone. This section will have articles on the final days of the company as well as obituaries of former Nelson employees.

The material transcribed here is from a variety of sources, including newspapers, periodicals and N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company publications. Additional articles are added on a regular basis and are listed in chronological order of the date originally published.

The documents contain information about Leclaire, N. O. Nelson Manufacturing and its employees, and early residents of the village.

Several newspaper articles come under the heading "Leclaire Laconics" which was the name of a regular column of Leclaire news in the early 1890s for the Edwardsville Intelligencer. Many articles have no headlines, since that was a common practice in early newspapers. In the early years of Leclaire, Edwardsville had two newspapers. Besides the Intelligencer, there was the Edwardsville Democrat which often referred to Leclaire as "South Edwardsville." Editor A. L. Brown believed strongly that Edwardsville's new suburb should not be "Leclaire."

Every effort is made to ensure accuracy in the transcriptions, but if you should identify an error, please let us know. Note that articles are typed exactly as written a century ago, so "employee" is spelled "employe" and the word street or road is not capitalized, i.e. "Main street" Also, especially in later articles, the spelling of Leclaire was sometimes mistakenly listed as "LeClaire" and the spelling of Holyoake Road is written as "Holyoke road".

Saturday, March 2, 1935
Edwardsville Intelligencer

A. H. ABBEE IS IN RACE AS ALDERMAN

Official Completing First Year as Representative from New Fifth Ward

A. H. Abbee, serving a one-year term as one of the first aldermen of the Fifth Ward, made formal announcement today of his candidacy for re-election at the municipal election to be held on Tuesday, April 16. He will be one of the candidates on the ticket headed by G. Dietrich Cassens, who has entered the campaign for mayor. The candidates have not announced a name for their ticket.

Mr. Abbee has lived in the district composing the Fifth Ward for nearly 20 years. When the plans for annexation were discussed he became one of the leaders to carry them to completion and was then elected as one of the first aldermen. Two aldermen will be elected to represent the ward.

During his first year in office he has taken an active part in administration of city affairs. He is serving on the park and playgrounds, police, fire and water and board of health committees.

Mr. Abbee has been a locomotive boiler maker for 28 years and was employed in St. Louis and Chicago before coming here to live. He has been employed by the Litchfield and Madison Railroad Company for 18 years.

Mr. Abbee owns his home at 1024 Troy road and is a taxpayer of Edwardsville. He is married, his family consisting of three children.

March 25, 1935
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Shaw Golden Wedding

Golden Wedding Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. William Shaw entertained Sunday in honor of their fiftieth wedding anniversary at their home in LeClaire. There were thirty-five relatives present.

A buffet supper was served at seven o'clock. The table was decorated with jonquils and white sweet peas and lighted with yellow and white tapers. Cut flowers and ferns were used to decorate the rest of the home.

Mr. and Mrs. Shaw were married in Belleville, Ill., March 25, 1885. The family of seven children are all living, as are seven grandchildren. Mrs. Shaw was born in Illinois in 1865. Mr. Shaw was born in England in 1860 and came to the United States when a boy. They have resided in Edwardsville for 40 years. Mr. Shaw has been connected with the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company for 46 years and is still active as superintendent of the machine shop

division of the company. Mr. and Mrs. Shaw received many beautiful flowers and gifts from relatives and friends.

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. William Hucke, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Guion and son, Edward, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Reisel and son, Richard, Mr. and Mrs. Roland Reisel, Mrs. Charlotte Reisel, of St. Louis; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Glass, Jr. of Bloomington; Mr. and Mrs. James H. Miller and daughter Harriet of Chandlerville, Mr. and Mrs. S. V. Crossman and daughter, Laura Elizabeth, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. McKee and daughter, Josephine; Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Shaw and daughter, Elizabeth Ann, Miss Mildred Shaw, Miss Ruth Shaw, and Evan Shaw, of this city.

Tuesday, July 23, 1935
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Birth Announcement: Richard Dean Reid

Announce Birth

Mr. and Mrs. Lawnin Reid are announcing the birth of an eight pound baby boy born July 22. The child has been named Richard Dean. The mother was the former Genevieve Walter.

Tuesday, July 23, 1935
Edwardsville Intelligencer

YOUNG MAN DIES WHEN CRUSHED BETWEEN TRUCKS

Erwin Sehnert, Jr., 28, In Act of Cranking Motor With Broken Starter; Motor Was in Gear

DIED AT HOSPITAL WITHIN 30 MINUTES

Internal Injuries of Stomach and Chest Result; Funeral Services to Be Held on Friday.

Mr. Erwin Sehnert, Jr., of this city, was fatally crushed between two trucks at Litchfield this morning. A truck he was cranking by hand was in gear. It crushed him against another truck a few feet ahead. He is a son of Erwin Sehnert, Sr., a highway supervisor, whose territory is from Edwardsville to Pana.

The truck which caused the fatality has recently been without a starter. The new starter had been received and was to have been installed today.

Mr. Sehnert was in a crew making repairs on U. S. 66 north of Litchfield. He drove the truck to a lot in Litchfield last night where it was parked with two other trucks. This morning about 6:30 o'clock he went to the lot to get the truck.

His father said that the motor started firing on the first quarter turn. It is not known whether the truck was left in gear last night or the shift had been changed by others. Mr. Sehnert was moved to St. Francis Hospital where death occurred within 25 minutes. His chest was crushed.

Coroner George Chase of Hillsboro conducted the inquest this morning. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

Mr. Sehnert was the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Sehnert of 716 Hale Avenue. He was born here on October 27, 1907 and was 27 years, 8 months and 26 days of age. His mother formerly was Miss Emma Rizzoli.

He attended the Edwardsville public schools. Completing his education here he was employed as a member of a corps of Frisco railroad engineers. For three years he was in this work on locating a railroad between Columbus, Miss., and Pensacola, Fla. For several years he was employed in the civil engineering department of Shell Petroleum Corporation at Roxana. He was a member of Edwardsville Council No. 1143 Knights of Columbus.

The funeral will be Friday morning at St. Boniface Catholic Church. Rev. E. J. Eckhard will officiate. Burial will be at Calvary Cemetery. The body is at Straube Funeral Home today.

Friday, July 26, 1935
Edwardsville Intelligencer

IRWIN SEHNERT, ROAD MAINTENANCE MAN, BURIED

More than 150 road maintenance men in the eighth district of the Illinois division of highways this morning attended the funeral services here of Erwin Sehnert, one of their number, who was fatally injured Tuesday morning while cranking a truck at Litchfield. Erwin Sehnert, Sr. is supervisor for the district.

Services were conducted at St. Boniface's Catholic Church at 9 o'clock. Rev. E. J. Eckhard officiated. Burial was made at Calvary Cemetery. The pallbearers were Marvin Schoeck, Marine; Robert Liebler, Virgil Mindrup, Roman Erspamer, Carlin Faust and Robert Shepard.

Many other places were represented by relatives and acquaintances who attended. They came from Farmersville, Raymond, Hillsboro, Taylor Springs, Nokomis, Gillespie, East St. Louis, Granite City, Marine, Highland, St. Louis, Minneapolis and Duluth, Minn.

Monday, September 30, 1935
Edwardsville Intelligencer

CARROLL FUNERAL SERVICES TUESDAY

Mrs. Caroline W. Carroll Dies at Home of Daughter Early Sunday

Mrs. Caroline W. Carroll, 83, died at 1:05 a.m. Sunday, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. George H. Pierson, 949 Hale avenue. Death was due to complications of old age.

Funeral services will be conducted Tuesday morning at 8:30 o'clock at the Pierson home with services following at the St. Mary's Catholic Church at 9 a.m. Burial will be in the St. Elizabeth's Catholic Cemetery in Marine.

Mrs. Carroll was born in Germany Nov. 30, 1851, coming to America with her parents in 1856. She moved to Madison County in 1860. In 1875 her marriage to Thomas J. Carroll took place and they made their home on a farm in Alhambra Township for a number of years. He preceded her in death 23 years ago. Mrs. Carroll had lived in Edwardsville since 1907. She was affiliated with the St. Mary's Catholic Church of this city.

Surviving are five children, Leo Carroll; Edwin Carroll, Alhambra; T. P. Carroll; Mrs. C. A. Cowan, St. Louis; and Mrs. George H. Pierson, of Edwardsville. She also leaves ten grandchildren and one great grandchild. Five sisters and three brothers preceded her in death.

Wednesday, February 12, 1936
Edwardsville Intelligencer
WPA Projects Delayed

WEATHER PREVENTS CARRYING ON WORK

Moderation Necessary Before WPA Projects Can Be Resumed in County.

With zero weather, which has frozen the ground to a depth of 24 inches and snow and ice, WPA projects in Edwardsville and other parts of Madison County have now been suspended for more than two weeks. Persons in charge of the projects said today they hope that in several more days outside work may be resumed. The work is being delayed only on account of weather conditions. Men report on their usual work days only to be sent home.

When the work is resumed the first activities will be the cutting of brush and trees where necessary and removal of dead wood. Handling of soil will be started as soon as ground thaws sufficiently.

The Orchard Street project here is virtually finished and the 100 men who were assigned to it have been transferred to a combination project which includes Leclaire Lake and the

Children's Playgrounds. The nature of the work will probably result in greater activities at the playgrounds until a moderation occurs that will permit working about the lake water.

At present the lake is frozen over. Drainage of the lake will be necessary to do the planned work. In deepening the lake the surplus dirt will be used for widening and improving the roadways. A sand beach about 1600 feet square is to be built on the west bank and a walk is planned around the body of water.

Completion of Orchard street fill was necessary before all plans for the playgrounds could be carried out. Rip-rap construction is planned along the eastern side of the branch from Chapman street through the grounds. A four-foot dike will be built to help control the water. The channel of the former branch will be filled. The road will be improved and dirt taken from the slopes will provide additional level space.

Wednesday, March 11, 1936
Edwardsville Intelligencer

John S. Allen Dies at His Home

Final Rites will be Conducted at the St. John's Methodist Church Friday

John S. Allen, 70, resident of this city for many years, passed away yesterday at 11:35 p.m. at his home 926 Holyoake Road. He had been in failing health for some time but had been active until March 6, when he contracted pneumonia.

The body will be at the Marks-Weber Funeral Home until 4 o'clock Thursday afternoon when it will be taken to his home. Funeral services will be held Friday at 2 p.m. at the St. John's M. E. Church. Burial will be in the Valley View Cemetery.

Mr. Allen was a son of Malachai and Nancy Allen, was born July 10, 1865 at McCameron, Ind. As a youth he moved with his parents to Donnellson, Ill., where his father engaged in the lumber business and he took up the study of telegraph. For a period of 25 years he was employed as agent for the Clover Leaf Railroad and later became connected with the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company in Edwardsville as traffic manager, where he worked until his death.

He was united in marriage to Miss Mary Alice Hutchinson of New Douglas December 31, 1886. She survived with two daughters, Miss Mable Allen and Mrs. Ruby Bardelmeier of this city; two sons, James Allen, Edwardsville, Glen Allen of Alton and one grandson. A son Stewart preceded him in death.

Mr. Allen was for many years interested in the Boy Scout movement and served as secretary of the Scout Board. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge, the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America. He had also taken an active part in the charitable organizations of the city for a number of years.

Saturday, March 14, 1936
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Funeral Services Held for Late John S. Allen

Final rites were conducted yesterday afternoon for John S. Allen, who died suddenly this week of pneumonia. Services were held at his residence on Holyoake Road with church services following at the St. John's M. E. Church at 2 o'clock. Rev. J. W. Cummins, the pastor, officiated and was assisted by Rev F. C. Stelzreide. Burial was in Valley View Cemetery.

The pallbearers were George Meyer, Perry H. Hiles, George Moorman, James L. Watson, John Hess and Ralph Suffolk of this city.

Out of town relatives and friends who attended the services were: Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Allen, Mrs. Geraldine Risk of Terre Haute, Ind., L. A. Goodwin, Mrs. H. W. Park, Jackson, Mo., Mrs. Mulford and Mrs. Ralph Barnhill, Greenville, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hittle, Forest Hittle, Harry Young, Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Wafer, Will Boone, Mrs. Ruby Barnhill of Donnellson, Mrs. Caroline Jones, Mr. & Mrs. Glen Jones, Mr. and Mrs. John Van Hooser, New Douglas, Mr. and Mrs. Newton Treese, Mrs. Sam Schultz, Mr. and Mrs. Glen Allen and son, Alton, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Eyman, Mrs. Earl Eyman, Mrs. Virgil Eyman and son, Litchfield, Mrs. Aline Sinclair, Mrs. Cyrus Geers, St. Louis, Mr. and Mrs. Wm Rotter, Granite City, Miss Marie Allen, Litchfield.

Monday, March 30, 1936
Edwardsville Intelligencer

ENTIRE LECLAIRE LAKE WILL NOW BE DRAINED

Under plans decided upon today, all of the water in Leclaire Lake is to be drained, under a WPA project, and as much of the muck and mud in the bottom as possible will be removed. The water is not as deep as formerly believed and drainage will be completed earlier than expected.

The first big fish to be secured from the lake was caught Saturday by Peter Pike, one of the workers. It was a carp weighing about 10 pounds. The number of fish in the lake is limited, it is believed, but persons watching the work have observed a few others which appear to be equally as large.

The amount of mud to be removed from the bed of the lake will depend upon the rapidity with which it dries and the number of men working on the project. Removal of the water will permit clearing out of all cans and other refuse thrown into the water.

Construction of a cement walk around the lake has been discussed. Along the southwest bank it is planned to make a two-foot fill and it is feared the embankment will not settle sufficiently for the walk.

Thursday, August 6, 1936
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Former Leclaire Residents Killed

Former Residents are Killed, Daughter Hurt

August Dierderichs, 67, former superintendent of the cabinet mill of the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company, and his wife, Mrs. Lydia Dierderichs, 66, died at St. Louis County Hospital Wednesday from injuries suffered earlier in the day when his automobile collided with a truck loaded with empty beer bottles. Their daughter, Miss Edna Deiderichs, 40, suffered a possible fractured skull and broken left leg.

Harry Frisch, who was riding in the rear seat with Miss Dierderichs, escaped with minor injuries. The family lived at Troy and Jefferson roads while residents of this city.

Friday, August 14, 1936
Edwardsville Intelligencer

NELSON REID IMPROVING FROM SEVERE FOOT BURNS

Nelson Reid, of 846 Holyoake Road, this city, is showing improvement this week from a severe case of burned feet and legs, suffered in an accident Saturday.

Mr. Reid was burned when a pair of shoes he was wearing and had just cleaned with a cleaning fluid burst into flames when a match was dropped near them. Before Reid could extinguish the blaze, both feet were burned seriously. The condition of one foot is worse than the other, with burns extending up the leg. Reid jumped into a tub of water to put out the fire.

Saturday, May 29, 1937
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Iris for Sale in Leclaire

WANT ADS

FOR SALE – Iris plants, named varieties grown as hobby, surplus plants sold each year. Special collection offer 15 labeled varieties from \$5 to \$2.50 each. Delivery in June or July. Arno W. Schlechte, 1014 Longfellow avenue.

June 2, 1937
Edwardsville Intelligencer
John Reid Park Custodian

Has Police Power

John Reid, custodian at Leclaire Park, was provided with a city police officer's badge Wednesday by Chief of Police August Soehlke. In the future he will exercise the powers of an officer in maintaining order at the grounds.

August 30, 1937
Edwardsville Intelligencer

WOODENWARE FIRM MAY LOCATE HERE, \$1000 IS NEEDED

**Chamber of Commerce is to Conduct Drive Tuesday to Secure Funds
Move Equipment to Nelson Plant.**

CABINET MILL AND MACHINERY IN DEAL

**Thirty Citizens Will Hold Meeting Monday Night to Plan Drive;
Prospectus Furnished Last Week**

Announcement was made in Edwardsville Monday that a St. Louis firm that manufactures a large assortment of wooden specialties will move its plant here if citizens provide \$1000 to defray the expense of moving equipment. In a prospectus which has been supplied to residents it is estimated that 60 to 70 men will be employed after the plant is in operation for a year or 18 month.

An arrangement has been made with the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company through which the St. Louis firm will take over the building now occupied as offices and the cabinet mill of the Nelson company. Nelson Lawnin, vice-president and manager of the company, announced Monday that the cabinet mill will suspend operations if the new arrangement is carried out and any cabinet work needed will be acquired from the new firm or elsewhere.

Negotiations to bring the new firm to Edwardsville have been underway for several weeks it was stated Monday. It was not until Thursday that W. G. Funck, his associates, members of the promotional committee of the Chamber of Commerce and a representative of the Nelson Company reached a definite decision on the plan.

The company manufactures wood specialties and sells principally to other manufacturers. Among the articles the company manufactures are crates and boxes, couch legs, arm rests and other furniture parts, handles for electric and other kitchen utensils, game and toy parts, display stands and miscellaneous finished wood products ready for fabrication. They have among their customers many nationally known concerns. Their business has outgrown the present location. It is the intention of the company to start here with a small nucleus of present employees and all additions to the force shall be secured locally. A detailed prospectus of 15 pages has been submitted by the company. It is estimated in this prospectus that within a year or eighteen months the company will employ between 60 and 80 men.

In the conference it was announced that one condition would be imposed upon citizens and that is to defray the moving expense and the cost of setting up machinery in the new location. The amount was estimated at \$1000. The present equipment of the cabinet mill at the Nelson plant will be used with other machinery which will be brought here.

With the financial consideration announced a committee of 30 citizens was appointed by T. Z. Ladd, President of the Chamber of Commerce. They will meet Monday night in the community room of Edwardsville National Bank building. They plan to raise the money in one day.

Note: Later newspaper articles confirm that the community did indeed raise the \$1000 that would bring Funck Manufacturing to the Nelson complex by October 1, 1937. As late as 1943 help wanted ads for the company in the local newspapers said "Men needed." By 1944, with a shortage of men due to WW II, the company was advertising for women "for light woodwork machines and to assemble toys." Robert Wheat, whose memories of his mother's employment at a toy company initiated our search for the company, remembered that his mother made small wooden cars.

By the time the Nelson buildings were sold to Wagner Electric in 1948, W. G. Funck's Wood Works had moved from the Cabinet Mill to the former Marble Shop. With the sale of the Nelson buildings, they would move to an Edwardsville building owned by Cassens and Sons and would declare bankruptcy by March of 1950.

When Wagner purchased the property, the former cabinet mill was occupied by the Edwardsville militia. Other buildings were occupied by Bignall and Keeler Machine Works and Edwardsville Brass. Bignall & Keeler moved to St. Louis and Edwardsville Brass employees filed applications with Wagner Electric or found jobs elsewhere.

The Edwardsville Brass building would be the last one occupied by Wagner, so when Edwardsville Brass moved out, the Edwardsville militia temporarily moved their equipment to

the brass shop. The Intelligencer reported that "The militiamen will remain in the shop for three or four months until Veterans of Foreign Wars make final plans for erecting a new building to be used as an armory."

The Nelson Factory buildings today are part of the Historic N. O. Nelson Campus of Lewis and Clark Community College. The Cabinet Mill is now the Hoffman Center. The building that was home to the Marble Mill has been gone for some time but was located where the campus courtyard is now. Begnall and Keeler occupied the Machine Shop which is on the west side of LCCC's courtyard. The building housing the Brass Shop is no longer standing. It was at the north end of the factory complex.

Notes by Cindy Reinhardt, 2009

September 16, 1937
Edwardsville Intelligencer
John Allen Will Probated

ALLEN WILL IS ADMITTED

The will of the late John S. Allen who died March 10, 1936, was admitted to probate here Wednesday at a hearing at the probate court. The petition places a value of \$5,500 upon the property. Mrs. Mary Alice Allen, the widow, is given a life estate to the property after which it is divided among four children.

Monday, October, 18, 1937
Edwardsville Intelligencer

MRS. ELIZABETH MERKLE DIES AT HER HOME HERE

Mrs. Elizabeth P. Bott Merkle died at her home at 403 Jefferson Road, this city, Sunday afternoon at 1:15 o'clock following a paralytic stroke. Mrs. Merkle was born on July 16, 1863 in Whiteport, Ulster County, New York, and attained the age of 74 years, 3 months and 1 day.

Mrs. Merkle married Frederick Merkle in New York City in September, 1883. She moved to Edwardsville in 1891, and was one of the early residents of Leclaire. Her husband preceded her in death as did two children, Frederick, Jr. and Lillian.

Three children survive: Mrs. Bertha Piper, and George and Charles Merkle, all of this city. Three grandchildren also survive as do two sisters and a brother, Mrs. Sophia Kalloway, Mrs. Henrietta Van Gordon of Kingston, N.Y. and Frederick Bott of Newburgh, N. Y.

The funeral will be held Tuesday afternoon at 2 p.m. at the Schneider Funeral Home. Rev. J. W. Cummins will officiate. Burial will follow at Woodlawn Cemetery.

November 14, 1937
Edwardsville Intelligencer (excerpt)

Leclaire Lake Park Recently Acquired by City has Been Beautified under WPA Employment Project

Leclaire Lake Park was acquired by the city when Leclaire was annexed to Edwardsville in 1934. Besides the large lake the grounds contain several acres of land. That park is also supplied with a large bandstand where a number of concerts are given annually.

Since the grounds passed to the city control a number of improvements have been begun. The large lake was entirely drained slightly more than a year ago. Through the organization of a federal project a large number of men were given employment in removing a portion of the mud bottom. Broken concrete obtained from the Illinois division of highways was used to entirely line the wall of the lake and the construction prevents washing of the banks, besides giving it a pleasing appearance.

A sand beach and wading pool for children was constructed along the western side of the lake and many of the little tots were entertained there last summer.

June 23, 1939
Edwardsville Intelligencer

WM. SHAW WITH COMPANY 50 YEARS

Official of Nelson Firm Was One of First Employes Who Came to City.

William Shaw, superintendent of the Bignall & Keeler Machine Works of the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company completed 50 years of service with the corporation this month. A number of his associates remembered the occasion Thursday. When he arrived home after his day's work at the plant he was presented with a floor lamp and a bouquet of 50 roses.

Mr. Shaw has also been a director of the company for a number of years.

The principle business of the department is the manufacture of pipe threading machines which have been sold in all parts of the world. Various styles of machines are produced, the largest cutting threads for pipe with a diameter of 20 inches. The oil fields, packing plants and other industries using large quantities of pipe have been the principal patrons. The department employs 22 machinists.

Mr. Shaw entered employment of the company in June, 1889, when the industry was located in St. Louis. Shortly afterward officials of the company began consideration of plans for changing the location. The late N. O. Nelson, founder, desired to put in effect various co-operation ideas which were successfully used for many years. Mr. Shaw moved here with the company.

July 6, 1939
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

Mrs. Maude Faust

Mrs. Maude Faust, 57, wife of Henry Faust, 708 Hale Ave., died at the Alton Hospital Thursday morning at 8 o'clock, after an illness of about two weeks.

Mrs. Faust was born on October 18, 1881 and a life-time resident of this city. She was married to Henry Faust in St. Louis on Dec. 5, 1899.

Surviving are her husband, a son, C. E. Faust, of this city; a sister, Mrs. J. A. St. Clair of Benton; three brothers, William McDaid of St. Louis, David McDaid of Staunton and Charles McDaid of Edwardsville, and two grandchildren, Carlin, Jr., and Richard Lee Faust. Her parents, three sisters and two brothers preceded her in death.

Funeral services will be held Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock from the Marks-Weber Funeral Home. Dr. Carl L. Attig will officiate. Interment will be in Woodlawn Cemetery.

February 19, 1940
Edwardsville Intelligencer

EDWARD M'LEAN (McLEAN) DIES SUDDENLY

Death Occurs at Residence of His Granddaughter in Granite City

Edward McLean, 67, foreman in the buffing and polishing department at the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company, where he has been employed for 44 years, and a former member of the Edwardsville school board for about 14 years, died suddenly at the home of his granddaughter, Mrs. Ruth Phillips, wife of Dr. John H. Phillips, Granite City, Sunday afternoon at 5 p.m.

Mr. McLean, his wife Mrs. Alice McLean, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Agles and Miss Mary McLean were visiting at the Phillips' home, where a great grandson of Mr. McLean, the son of Dr. and Mrs. Phillips was celebrating his birthday.

Mr. McLean and his great grandson were sitting on the floor when the former was suddenly stricken, dying of heart trouble a short time later.

He was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. James McLean, being one of eleven children, only one brother, Thomas of St. Louis, surviving. He was born in Dublin, Ireland, on May 10, 1872. In 1892 he was united in marriage to Miss Alice McDonald in St. Louis, moving to Edwardsville 44 years ago at the time of his employment at the Nelson Company.

Eight children were born to them, three, Elizabeth, Edward and Gertrude, preceded him in death. Surviving besides his wife and brother are five children, Mrs. Joseph Agles, Miss Mary McLean, Robert McLean, and City Treasurer Donald McLean, all of this city, and Mrs. John T. Flavin of St. Louis. Also surviving are ten grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

The deceased was a charter member of the Knights of Columbus in Edwardsville when the organization started in 1906. He served as warden of the lodge and was grand knight in 1920-21. He was recently made an honorary member of the Knights of Columbus and also belonged to the Holy Name Society of St. Mary's Catholic Church.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday morning at 8:30 o'clock from the residence at 317 West Linden street, and at St. Mary's Catholic Church at 9 o'clock. Rev. C. A. Meagher will conduct the services. Interment will be at Calvary Cemetery. The body will be taken to the residence from the Straube Funeral Home this evening.

Friday, May 3, 1940
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

Jacob S. Mueri

Jacob Samuel Mueri, 902 Troy Road, 68, died suddenly at his home here Friday morning at about 8 o'clock. He had undergone an operation about a year ago, but recently had been in good health until Thursday evening, when he was taken sick.

The illness was not considered serious and this morning he had been up for about an hour prior to his death. Shortly before that time he had retired to bed, where he was found dead. Death was probably due to a heart attack.

Mr. Mueri was born at Argovia, Switzerland, on October 4, 1871, coming to this country with his parents, Samuel and Mary Mueri, at an early age and residing in Highland.

On May 6, 1902, he was married to Miss Anna Hlein, of Pierron, at Highland. Surviving are his wife; two daughter(s), Miss Irene Mueri and Miss Leona Mueri; two brother(s), Emil, of Highland, and John, of LaCrosse, Wisc., and two sisters, Mrs. H. C. Berthoux and Mrs. Sophia Becker, both of Highland.

Mr. Mueri had been employed at the N. O. Nelson Company for about 40 years as a moulder. He was a member of the Knights of Pythias and the First Presbyterian Church.

Funeral services will be held Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock, from the Staube Funeral Home to the First Presbyterian Church at 2:30 o'clock, where Dr. Carl L. Attig will conduct the services. Members of the K. of P. will take part in the services. Entombment will be at the Sunset Hill Mausoleum.

August 31, 1940
Globe Democrat

Parking Lot to Replace N. O. Nelson Building

The eight story N. O. Nelson Building on the southeast corner of Tenth and Chestnut streets (St. Louis), built at a cost of \$189,000 30 years ago, is being razed and the site will be used as a parking lot and service station. The property has been acquired by the Speedway Realty Company, an affiliate of the Speedway Service System, which operates parking lots.

The N. O. Nelson Company, wholesalers and manufacturers of plumbing and heating supplies, has been located at 4306 Duncan avenue since 1929.

The sale price was not disclosed. Wrecking of the structure, one of the largest in the downtown area, is expected to require 90 days.

Wednesday, October 16, 1940
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Reid Twins Register for Armed Services

4 Sets of Twins Are Registered for Army Service

Four sets of Edwardsville twins were registered Wednesday for possible military service.

Clyde and Clem Bothman, owners of Bothman & Sons, local agents for the Ford automobile, went to the court house together shortly before 11 o'clock to answer the necessary questions. Their parents were the late Mr. and Mrs. Albert Bothman.

Two other twins who registered were T. Z. and Joseph Ladd. The first is assistant secretary of the Madison County Mutual Automobile Insurance Company. His brother is director of Ladd Orchestra. They are sons of Mr. and Mrs. Jos. H. Ladd.

Jerry and Hubert Keshner appeared for registration. The brothers are connected with the Site Oil Company. They are sons of Mr. and Mrs. John Keshner.

Lawnin and Nelson Reid were the other twins who registered. They are children of Mr. and Mrs. John Reid. Lawnin Reid is employed at the plant of Western Cartridge Company of East Alton. His brother is a truck driver.

October 29, 1940
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Schlechte and Bardelmeier Display Items at Hobby Show

OVER ONE THOUSAND WERE AT HOBBY SHOW

Between 1200 and 1400 persons attended the first public hobby show ever held here last Friday and Saturday in the Cassen's Building. It was sponsored by the Edwardsville Cub Scouts.

An estimated 25,000 articles were displayed, not counting thousands of stamps, match book covers, postal cards and other collections in scrap books. A total of 85 persons displayed 110 hobbies and collections.

Those attending the show voted a miniature circus, constructed by Arno Schlechte, Ruskin Avenue, as the most popular. A collection of dolls displayed by Camilla Smith, second grade student in the Columbus Building, was voted second best.

Third went to Clifford Williams, who had constructed a miniature locomotive and coal tender, made entirely from tin cans. A collection of stuffed animals displayed by Oscar Bardelmeier and a display of Norwegian wood-carving by Harry Foster were also voted for by many persons. Nearly every exhibit was fancied by at least several persons and received a number of votes.

Besides this city, exhibits were received from Greenville, Alhambra, and Glen Carbon. The proceeds from the show will be used in purchasing equipment and handicraft material for forty-three cub scouts.

November 24, 1940
St. Louis Globe Democrat
Louis D. Lawnin Funeral

Services Tomorrow

Funeral services for Louis D. Lawnin, chairman of the board of the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company will be at 10:30 a.m. tomorrow at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Spring Avenue and Lindell boulevard. Internment, which is private, will follow at Bellefontaine Cemetery.

Mr. Lawnin died of heart disease yesterday at his home, 1033 Hampton Park drive, Richmond Heights. He was 73 years old and had enjoyed good health until recently, going down to his office, 4306 Duncan avenue, as late as last Monday.

He was a descendant of Dr. John Sappington, a pioneer physician whose "fever pills" aided in the elimination of malaria from this section. After graduating of Washington University Manual Training School, Mr. Lawnin entered the employ of N. O. Nelson and became head of the company in 1917. He was succeeded as president in 1935 by his son, Nelson.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Julia Nelson Lawnin, his son Nelson, and three daughters, Mrs. James Crawford, Mrs. Sam F. Gordon and Mrs. Wallace Robinson.

The body will be at Lupton funeral establishment, 7233 Delmar boulevard, until this evening.

February 6, 1941
St. Louis Globe Democrat

Louis D. Lawnin Left \$134,858

Louis D. Lawnin, chairman of the board of the N. O. Nelson Company, plumbing supplies, 4306 Duncan avenue, who died November 23, left an estate valued at \$134,858, according to an inventory filed yesterday in the St. Louis Probate Court at Clayton.

The estate consists of \$134,020 in stocks, \$10 in cash and \$828 in goods and chattels, the inventory showed. Stocks consisted of 1212 1/2 common share of the Nelson Company listed at \$100 par value and 78 preferred shares of the same company, also with a par value of \$100.

Under terms of the will, Mr. Lawnin left \$10,000 of his Nelson common stock to each of his four children, Nelson Lawnin 14 Wydown Terrace, Clayton, president of the Nelson Company; Mrs. Charlotte L. Crawford of 21 Wydown terrace; Mrs. Josephine Lawnin Robinson of Modoc, Kan; and Mrs. Julia Lawnin Gordon, 7535 Maryland avenue, Clayton.

The residue is left in trust to the widow, Julia Lawnin, 1033 Hampton Park drive, Richmond Heights, where the Lawnins made their home. She also was left his personal effects.

Tuesday, April 22, 1941
Edwardsville Intelligencer

WM. SHAW RETIRES FROM LOCAL PLANT

Superintendent for B-K Has Spent More than a Half Century With Industry.

William Shaw, 409 Jefferson Road, superintendent of the Bignall-Keeler Manufacturing Company, has retired, it was announced Tuesday, after he had spent 52 years with the industry. Mr. Shaw said he reached a decision after much consideration and plans to spend the future as he desires. Although 81 years of age he appears to be much younger.

Mr. Shaw confided to a few of his friends last Friday that he had decided not to report for work Monday and would retire. They attempted to dissuade him but he said his definite decision had been reached.

George Merkel, a machinist in the same shop and who learned the trade under the guidance of Mr. Shaw, had been placed in charge of the shop. Mr. Merkel entered employment of the company more than 30 years ago.

The company is engaged in the manufacture of a pipe threading machine and the different models are capable of threading pipes from the smallest up to 20 inches in diameter. The machines have been extensively used in the oil industry and sales have been made in many foreign countries.

The industry was at one time an important one and employed about 60 men. A few years ago the output decreased and 25 men are now employed.

Mr. Shaw, a native of England, came to this country as a boy and went to work for the company in St. Louis in 1889. A short time later the Nelson Company located in this city and Mr. Shaw was transferred here in January 1893 after the other departments were established. He was the plant superintendent at that time and has been a director of the Nelson Company.

In discussing his long years of work Tuesday Mr. Shaw said he had never taken a vacation, one in which he went away to forget work. In former years he made many business trips for the company.

Mr. Shaw was married to Miss Elizabeth Reisel on March 25. They observed their golden wedding anniversary six years ago. His family consists of seven children.

June 28, 1941
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Obituary

Arno A. Schneider.

Arno A. Schneider, of 509 Franklin Avenue, Edwardsville, died at the age of 61, at Missouri Baptist Hospital in St. Louis, Friday morning.

Mr. Schneider was born in Germany, February 7, 1880. Later he became a resident of Troy, and 17 years ago he moved to Edwardsville where he spent the remainder of his life. Mr.

Schneider was employed as a cement finisher until a few years ago. He was married to Meta Fritzsche of Mt. Olive, May 9, 1902, and was a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church.

Mr. Schneider is survived by his wife and children, Arthur Schneider of Granite City, and Clarence Schneider of Edwardsville, three brothers, Paul, Kurt, and Martin of Mt. Olive, five sisters, Mrs. Ben Stenplowski and Mrs. Oscar Ott of Staunton, Mrs. Fred King, Mrs. John Rademacher and Mrs. Frank Schwenner of Mt. Olive, and two grandchildren.

The funeral will be held Monday, June 30, at 2 p.m. at the Trinity Lutheran Church, the body being at Marks-Weber Funeral Home until time of services at which Rev. E. W. John officiates. Burial will be at Mt. Olive.

Thursday, July 3, 1941
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Obituary: May McCune Moorman

May McCune Moorman.

Mrs. May McCune Moorman, wife of George L. Moorman, manager of the Bignall & Keeler department of N. O. Nelson Mfg. Co., died Friday afternoon at 1:10 o'clock, at Memorial Hospital at Alton. Death was due to a stroke of apoplexy and occurred about five hours after the stroke was suffered, while she was gathering flowers at the family residence, 303 Holyoake Avenue.

Mrs. Moorman arose before her husband Friday morning and while awaiting breakfast, went to the yard to pick a bouquet. After the attack she was able to walk to the rear porch, carrying the flowers and scissors. When found, she complained of a severe headache. She lapsed into unconsciousness, and did not rally from the attack.

The body is at the Lesley Marks Funeral Home on Kansas Street, and will remain there until funeral services on Sunday afternoon. A brief service will be conducted at the funeral home for the family with services at St. John's Methodist Church at 2:30 o'clock. Dr. A. R. Ransom, the pastor, will officiate. Burial will be at Valley View Cemetery.

Members of the Order of the Eastern Star will participate in the services to be conducted at the church.

Mrs. Moorman was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. W. McCune, and was born in this city on October 2, 1884. She was 56 years, 9 months and 2 days old. She attended the local schools, graduating from the high school in May, 1902, as salutatorian of the class. She graduated from Millikin University at Decatur, and attended the Chicago Art Institute. At one time she was an instructor in the Leclair Kindergarten.

Mr. and Mrs. Moorman were married June 30, 1908, the ceremony being performed at the McCune home on Hillsboro Avenue. As a child Mrs. Moorman attended Sunday school at St. John's Methodist church and became an active member of that congregation. She was a member of the ladies' aid and missionary societies, was a former teacher of the bible class and for several years was leader of the Standard Bearers.

She was a charter member of the Edwardsville Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, serving as former worthy matron and as a past president of the Worthy Matrons' Club. Mrs. Moorman was also active in Edwardsville Monday Club, a former president of the club and chairman of the art section.

In recent years Mrs. Moorman traveled extensively in this country, accompanying Mr. Moorman on business trips. On a recent trip they were accompanied home by their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Hall, Washington, D.C. The Halls left here earlier in the week, arriving home Thursday, and Mrs. Hall has been called back here by her mother's death.

Mrs. Moorman is survived by two other children, Mrs. Elizabeth West and George L. Moorman, Jr., both of this city. There are three grandchildren. Two sisters also survive. They are Mrs. Sarah Jeanes, of Staunton, and Mrs. Clara Korb, of Peoria.

July 19, 1941
Edwardsville Intelligencer
May McCune Moorman Will

Moorman Will Filed.

The will of Mrs. May M. Moorman, who died here suddenly on June 3, was admitted to probate here Friday. The petition values the estate at \$5600. Several minor bequests are made, the estate being left to her husband, George L. Moorman, who is to pay each of the three children \$500.

April 6, 1942
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATH AND FUNERALS: Henry Weidner.

Henry Weidner of 407 Franklin avenue died Saturday evening at 8 p.m. at his residence after a short illness. He was born in Jamestown, Ill., on March 1, 1857, and was the son of Hieronymus and Magdalena Weidner. At the time of his death he had reached the age of 85 years, 1 month and 3 days. He received his early education in the locality of Jamestown. He was married to Miss Elizabeth Leu on January 7E, 1886, at Jonesburg, Mo. They made their home on a farm near Jamestown for a number of years before moving to Madison County. He was engaged in farming in Pin Oak township until 1922, when he moved to Edwardsville, where he was employed by the N. O. Nelson Company and Edwardsville Creamery for a few years. Mr. Weidner was a member of the First Presbyterian Church.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Weidner, three children, Mrs. Louis Abenbrinck, Roy Weidner of Edwardsville, Mrs. Earl Blackburn of Blue Mound, Ill., and nine grandchildren. One son, Henry, died in infancy and another son, Leo Weidner, died on December 26 of last year.

The body was at the Lesley Marks Funeral home until noon today, when it was taken to the First Presbyterian Church. Funeral services were held at the church at 2 o'clock today with Rev. Carl L. Attig officiating. Interment was in the Valley View Cemetery.

Saturday, August 1, 1942
Edwardsville Intelligencer

SOCIETY NEWS

Dippold-Piper Nuptials.

Miss Ruth Piper, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Piper of Edwardsville, and Arthur Dippold, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Dippold, of Edwardsville, were united in marriage Friday evening, July 31, at 8 o'clock. The ceremony was performed at the Christian Church by Rev. Lowe.

The bride had as her only attendant Mrs. Paul Eberhardt, her sister, and the groom was attended by Paul Eberhardt, both of this city.

The bride was attired in a brown ensemble with which she wore white accessories and carried talisman roses. Mrs. Eberhardt wore a yellow and brown ensemble and also carried talisman roses.

The bride is a graduate of the Edwardsville High School and the bridegroom is a graduate of the University of Illinois. He is employed as a civil engineer for the Laclede-Christy Clay Products Co. in St. Louis.

After a brief honeymoon the two will reside on Elm street.

September 21, 1942
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Night Patrolman is Named

Fred W. Losch, 850 Holyoake Avenue, was appointed late Saturday afternoon by Mayor Oscar W. Schmidt as a night patrolman, and began work that night. There had been a vacancy in

the department for several weeks since the death of Charles Krieger. Hief of Police Alfred Daech resigned on September 15 to take effect Tuesday.

Wednesday, September 23, 1942
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Reuben Glass Obituary

Reuben Glass

Reuben Glass, of 1014 Troy Road, died Tuesday evening at 7:15 P.M. at his home. Mr. Glass suffered a cerebral hemorrhage on Saturday. He was chief engineer and plant manager at the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company. Mr. Glass was born in Caseyville on April 27, 1881, and at the time of his death had reached the age of 61 years, four months and 25 days. He was the son of the late Enoch Glass. On April 1, 1900, he was married in Taylorville to Miss Mellie Smith of Pana, Ill.

He was a member of the Edwardsville Masonic Lodge, A.F. & A. M., No 199, and belonged to the Mississippi Valley Consistory. He formerly played in the Edwardsville Municipal Band and the Shriner's Band in East St. Louis. He was affiliated with St. John's Methodist church.

Mr. Glass is survived by his wife; one son, Lawrence, of Little Rock, Ark.; two daughters, Mrs. Leta Ruby Suppiger of St. Louis, Mrs. Lora Oletha Boston of Jacksonville; five grandchildren; two brothers and two sisters, Wm Glass, Charles Glass, Mrs. Amy Koogle, all of Edwardsville, and Mrs. Ben Makeever of Newton, Iowa. Four sisters preceded him in death.

Funeral services will be held Friday at 2 p.m. at the Lesley Marks Funeral Home, and at 2:30 at the St. John's Methodist church with the pastor, Rev. A. R. Ransom officiating. Burial will be in the Valley View Cemetery.

September 18, 1943
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

Thomas R. Walton

Thomas R. Walton, former superintendent at the N. O. Nelson Company, died Thursday evening at 8:30 o'clock at the Faith Hospital in St. Louis, where he had been taken that day. Mr.

Walton was born January 3, 1867, in Manchester, England, the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Peter Walton. At the time of his death he had reached the age of 76 years, 8 months and 13 days. He was married to Miss Jane Boyd on June 8, 1892, in St. Louis. She preceded him in death on December 21, 1926. He was later married to Mrs. Ella McNeilly, who preceded him in death on March 27, 1941.

At the age of 13 he became apprenticed to William H. Bailey and Company and for eight years worked in the office. The company manufactured tower clocks. His father was deputy governor of a prison. Walton was 22 years of age when he first came to New York. He spent a year there and then came west. He was variously employed for two years before going to work for the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company. He became employed in 1892 at the Nelson Company and later became superintendent of the brass department. He retired on February 1, 1942. He served as alderman for three terms and was chairman of the board of directors of the Edwardsville Public Library. Mr. Walton was an honorary life member of the Knights of Columbus.

Mr. Walton is survived by two grandsons who are both in the armed service. Thomas Walton Moran will arrive here tomorrow and James Boyd Moran is stationed somewhere in Alaska. His only daughter, Mrs. Julia McCullom, died about a year ago. He is also survived by two sisters in England.

Funeral services will be held Monday morning at 8:30 o'clock at the Straube Funeral Home and at 9 o'clock at the St. Mary Catholic Church. Rev P. P. McGuiness will have charge of the services. Members of the Knights of Columbus will assemble in a body Sunday evening at the funeral home at 8 p.m. to recite the rosary.

Friday, November 1, 1943
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

William H. West

William H. West, 744 Holyoake avenue, who was in charge of the office of the brass department of N. O. Nelson for many years, died Saturday night at 7 o'clock at Josephine Hospital in St. Louis where he had been a patient for slightly more than two weeks. He was taken to the hospital on account of a heart ailment occurring while at work several days earlier and other complications developed after reaching the hospital. He was at the office when the final illness occurred.

West had lived in Edwardsville for nearly 40 years and in younger life took part in many civic, political and other affairs. He was employed by Nelson Company during most of his life here, but operated Edwardsville Plumbing Company for a number of years.

West was born at St. Paul, Minn., on September 27, 1865, and had attained the age of 78 years, 1 month and 3 days. He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. West. He was a boy when the

family moved to St. Louis. He received his early education in St. Louis and completed his studies at Dubuque, Ia., and Little Rock, Ark.

His father was one of the owners of the St. Louis Wooden Gutter Company, a lumber firm of that city, and West was connected with the company as a young man. After his marriage he was sent to Hope, Ark., to look after interests of his father and then returned to St. Louis to become associated with the lumber firm. Thirty-eight years ago he came to this city and entered employment of the Nelson firm.

Politically, West was a Republican and he served as a precinct committeeman on several occasions. Some years ago he served as assistant supervisor of Edwardsville township and was supervisor for one term.

His marriage to Miss Jennie Grossmuck occurred on February 16, 1886. The widow and one daughter, Mrs. William C. Smith, St. Louis, survive.

The body is at the Straube Funeral Home where final services will be held Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. Miller, Collinsville Episcopal minister, will have charge. Burial will be made at Mt. Lebanon Cemetery in St. Louis County.

July 24, 1944

Edwardsville Intelligencer

Engineer Loses Life While on Job

Henry Bangert, Electrocuted While Making Repairs at Nelson Plant

Henry Bangert, 49, 910 Holyoake avenue, chief engineer for the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company, was electrocuted Tuesday morning shortly before 7 o'clock while making repairs on a switch in the Bignall and Keeler machine works, a department of the company. Firemen operated an inhalator for half an hour in trying to save the victim's life before Dr. E. Wahl pronounced him dead.

The tragic death occurred in the presence of several other machinists who gathered in the shop earlier than was their time to begin work. The men were helpless and the 440 volts of electricity carried on the wires was so strong that Bangert was unable to release his grip.

During the first few moments of the contact Bangert struggled to free himself. George Merkel, one of the machinists, grabbed the trousers of the victim and pulled violently for some seconds before Bangert was freed and collapsed. Merkel endangered his own life. A contact with Bangert's body would have caused another circuit which might have been serious for him.

Bangert, who became acting chief engineer after the death of Reuben Glass in November, 1942, was a former assistant engineer and the two had worked together. Bangert entered employment of the company in 1920 and started upon the engineering work three years later.

Trouble had developed in one of the switches and Bangert learned that it was due to a loosened screw. He attempted to tighten the screw with a screwdriver. Apparently Bangert

believed he was working on the “cold side” of the switch, while in reality the trouble was on the “hot side”.

Bangert contacted the current with both hands and they were burned to some extent. Deputy Coroner E. P. Schneider took charge of the body and will conduct an inquest.

Henry B. Bangert was born in Ft. Russell township on June 28, 1895, and died at the age of 49 years and 27 days. He was the son of the late Henry and Gretchen Bangert. On April 3, 1920 he was married in Alton to Miss Minnie Berlemann.

Mr. Bangert was a veteran of World War I and entered the service on February 23, 1918. He served overseas and was honorably discharged on April 29, 1919. He was a member of the Eden Evangelical church and was confirmed on March 20, 1910.

Besides his widow, he is survived by three stepsons, Harris Berlemann of Peoria, Milton Berlemann of Edwardsville, and Pfc Lester Berlemann, serving with the armed forces in England. One sister, Mrs. Edna Kurz of Detroit, and two brothers, Fred Bangert of Staunton and Edward Bangert of Bethalto, also survive.

The body will lie in state at the residence, 910 Holyoake avenue, from Wednesday afternoon until Friday noon, when it will be taken to the Eden Evangelical church. Funeral services will be held on Friday at 2 p.m., with Rev H. J. Bredehoeft officiating. Marks-Weber Funeral Home will be in charge. Burial will be in Woodlawn cemetery.

Wednesday, August 14, 1944
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

Mrs. Mary Alice Allen

Mrs. Mary Alice Allen, 78, died this afternoon at 2:00 p.m. She had suffered a stroke on August 5.

Mrs. Allen was born on March 24, 1866. She was the daughter of the late Wm. And Mary Ellen Hutchinson, and spent most of her early life in New Douglas. On December 31, 1886, she was married to John S. Allen, who preceded her in death in March, 1936. One son, Stewart, died in 1910.

Mrs. Allen is survived by four children, Glenn Allen, of Alton; Mrs. Ruby Mae Bardelmeier, James W. Allen, and Mabel Allen of Edwardsville. Two grandchildren, Glenn Edward Allen and Carol Bardelmeier; and one sister, Mrs. Caroline Jones of New Douglas, also survive.

She was a member of the St. John's Methodist church and the Royal Neighbor's lodge. Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

Note: Mary Alice Allen was called Alice by her friends and referred to as Alice in most newspaper articles with society news.

October 26, 1945
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Lamkin-Taake Engagement

Announcement has been made of the engagement of Miss Lynette Taake, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Taake, 909 Ruskin, to William H. Lamkin, son of Mrs. M. D. Lamkin, at a party given Thursday evening, at the Taake residence.

Guests learned of the engagement as they entered the home, where a large satin bow was placed between pictures of the engaged couple. On the streamers were the words "Engaged – Bill-Lynn"

The wedding will take place sometime next spring.

Bridge was played and prizes awarded to the Misses LaRita Rosenthal, Gerry Kershaw and Alma Johnson.

Out of town guests were Miss Lyn Sehart of St. Louis and Miss Frances Wille of Alton.

December 20, 1945
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Women's Features

Moorman-Allen Wedding

The marriage of Miss Mabel Allen and George L. Moorman was solemnized last night at 9 o'clock at St. John's Methodist church where 15 relatives and intimate friends gathered to witness the single-ring ceremony performed by the Rev. W. E. Bush. Plans for the wedding were not previously announced and the marriage came as a surprise to many.

Announcement was publicly made today in connection with the weekly meeting of Edwardsville Rotarians at St. John's church. Mr. Moorman is president of the Rotarians and planned the announcement in connection with the pre-Christmas meeting at which the wives of club members were guests.

At the opportune time, King Eaton as an impersonator of Santa Claus and fully dressed in the regalia of one who spreads Christmas cheer, entered the dining hall. He carried a small parcel and when opened it was found to contain booklets of Christmas Carols which were inscribed with the names of Mr. and Mrs. George L. Moorman. The booklets were presented to the ladies.

The wedding was arranged without the customary formalities. Attendants were Mrs. Ruby Bardelmeier, a sister of the bride, and George L. Moorman, Jr., a son of the groom.

The bride and groom are well known residents of the city with wide circles of friends and acquaintances. Mrs. Moorman is a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Allen and a native of this city. She was graduated from the Edwardsville high school and immediately entered the employment of the N. O. Nelson company. For a number of years she held a secretarial position.

Mr. Moorman has been a resident of Edwardsville since 1896, coming to this city from Graton, S. D., when he was a boy. His first employment for a year was at the grocery store of E. J. Horning once located at the corner of Vandalia and South Buchanan streets. He has been with the Nelson company for 47 years.

Beginning in a minor clerical position, he became manager of the Bignall and Keeler Manufacturing company and assistant manager of the Nelson company.

Mr. and Mrs. Moorman have been interested in work in St. John's church and Mr. Moorman has been actively engaged in church and Sunday school activities for many years.

At the Rotarians' gathering today Mrs. Moorman wore her travelling outfit, a gray suit with hat to match. They went to St. Louis this afternoon and leave tomorrow by plane for a trip to Mexico City, Mexico. They will be at home at 926 Holyoke road after January 10.

Mr. and Mrs. Moorman will be among 18 passengers aboard a plane of the American Air Lines which will make the first air conducted Kirkland tour. The plane will leave St. Louis at 5:30 Friday afternoon and be in Mexico City in time for lunch Saturday.

July, 1946

Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

Richard M. Fagan

Richard Michael Fagan, 76, a long-time resident of this city and an employe of the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co., for 45 years, passed away Sunday morning in an Alton hospital. Mr. Fagan, who resided at 423 Plum street, had been ill for only two weeks.

The deceased retired from his employment about eight years ago, shortly after the death of his wife, Mrs. Mary Jane Fagan. He was born on December 19, 1869, in Dublin, Ireland, and at the age of 21 came to this country, where he was then married to Miss Mary Jane White, also of Ireland, at the Old College church in St. Louis on June 12, 1890.

Surviving are five sons, Matthew Sr., Arthur and Jerrett Fagan, all of Edwardsville, Thomas Fagan of San Francisco, Calif., and John Fagan of Watertown, Mass; two daughters, Mrs. William Cannon of Chicago, and Mrs. Lloyd Teague of Charleston, W.Va.; two sisters, Mrs. Arthur Waghorn of East St. Louis and Mrs. Bridget Hanley of Sioux City, Ia.; and seven grandchildren.

He was a member of the Holy Name society of St. Mary's Catholic church.

Funeral services will be held at 8:30 Wednesday morning from the Straube funeral home, followed by a requiem mass at 9 o'clock in St. Mary's Catholic church. The Rev. Fr. P. P. McGuinness will officiate. Interment will be in Calvary cemetery.

Note: This undated newspaper clipping had a note stating Mr. Fagan died on July 19, 1946.

Monday, November 25, 1946
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

Mrs. Meta Schneider

Mrs. Meta Schneider passed away at her home, 509 Franklin avenue, Sunday morning at 6 o'clock at the age of 66 years, eight months and 22 days. Mrs. Schneider had previously resided in Mt. Olive.

She was born in Zwickau, Germany, on March 2, 1880, to the late August and Augusta Fritzsche. The deceased was married to Arnold Schneider in May of 1901 at Mt. Olive. He preceded her in death on June 27, 1941.

Surviving are two sons, Arthur Schneider of Granite City and Clarence Schneider of East St. Louis; four brothers, Frank, Kurt, John and August Fritzsche, all of Mt. Olive, and three sisters, Mrs. Lena Scheiter and Mrs. Elizabeth Lorenz, both of Mt. Olive, and Mrs. Ida Franke of St. Louis. One son died in infancy.

The body will be at Marks-Weber Funeral Home until time of service. Funeral services will be held Tuesday at 2 p.m. from the Trinity Lutheran church, of which she was a member. The Rev. E. W. Jahn will be in charge. Burial will be in Mt. Olive cemetery.

Friday, February 28, 1947
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

August L. C. Schlechte

August L. C. Schlechte, 77, 1021 Ruskin avenue, died Thursday morning at 8:30 in St. Joseph's Hospital in Alton, following complications from a recent operation.

He was a retired machinist of Bignol and Keeler company, which is a department of the local N. O. Nelson plant, where he was employed for 42 years. Prior to that he did general farming in Hamel township. The deceased was born April 10, 1869, in Strasburg, Ill, to the late Mr. and Mrs. Fred Schlechte and attained the age of 77 years, ten months and 17 days. On Feb. 10, 1895, he was married to Anna Sophia Bekemeier in Worden. Mrs. Schlechte preceded him in death 16 years ago.

He is survived by two sons, Arno W., and Edwin H. Schlechte, both of this city; three daughters, Mrs. Irma Martini, Miss Irene Schlechte, both of this city, and Mrs. John Yesnosky of Bethalto. One son, Fred, and one daughter, Regina, preceded him in death. Four grandchildren survive. He is also survived by one brother, Henry, two sisters, Mrs. Louise Bauer and Mrs. Lena Mueller, all of Strasburg. One brother and one sister preceded him in death.

The deceased was a member of the Trinity Lutheran church.

The body may be viewed at the Lesley Marks funeral home after 7 o'clock this evening. Funeral services will be conducted Sunday afternoon at 1:30 from the funeral home and at 2 o'clock from the Trinity Lutheran church. The Rev. A. J. Weber, pastor of the Pleasant Ridge Lutheran church will officiate in the absence of Rev. E. W. Jahn.

Burial will be in Valley View cemetery.

November 20, 1947
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Jos. Koogle Dies of Auto Injuries

Joseph Koogle, maintenance operator for N. O. Nelson company and connected with the power plant department for 35 years, died at St. Elizabeth's hospital in Granite City at noon today from injuries suffered at 6:30 o'clock this morning while on the way to work when struck by an automobile driven by John Ruffatto, a Benld tavern operator.

Koogle was taken to the hospital with a head injury with a possible fracture of the skull, a broken right leg, injured left arm and numerous other injuries.

Mrs. Koogle, her sister-in-law Mrs. William H. Glass and Mrs. Gordon Callahan went to the hospital and remained until shortly before death. The end came while the three were en route home.

The accident occurred at the intersection of Troy and Jefferson roads, one of the hazardous spots along route 159 which is daily crossed by small children on their way to LeClaire school. Numerous efforts have been made to provide additional protection for pedestrians using the intersection.

Koogle was en route to the Nelson plant for his daily work when he was injured. Ruffatto said he observed Koogle who was preparing to cross Troy road from the west side of the highway. Ruffatto said he blew the automobile horn and it appeared to him that Koogle hesitated and then stepped in front of the automobile.

Ruffatto went to the police station, established that he carried insurance as provided by law and could be reached in Benld when wanted. He was permitted to continue a business trip to St. Louis. Nothing about the speed of Ruffatto's automobile was given in the police report.

John Gusevich was riding in Ruffatto's automobile as a guest, Mrs. Gordon C. Callahan, 855 Madison avenue, was one of the first to reach the scene. She said the injured man was on the west side of the street.

Koogle has been connected with the power plant of the Nelson company since 1910. He had charge of the maintenance of electric, water and air lines.

Koogle was a native of Rosemond, Ill., where he was born on Feb. 28, 1872, and had attained the age of 75 years, 8 months and 22 days. He was a youth of about 17 years when he came to this city in 1887.

His widow was formerly Miss Amy Glass. Besides the widow two children, Mrs. Selma Uthoff, Joliet and Norvel Koogle, Gary, Ind., survive.

Koogle was a member of the Modern Woodsmen of America and the Men's Club of St. John's Methodist church.

The body was brought to the Lesley Marks funeral home this afternoon.

Friday, December 5, 1947
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

Charles Glass

Charles Glass, 209 McKinley avenue, passed away Wednesday at the Veteran hospital in Danville where he has been a patient for the last three months. He had been employed at Shell Oil company for about 16 years.

He was born May 31, 1883 in Lebanon, Ill., and had attained the age of 64 years, six months and 3 days. His parents were the late Enoch and Myra Ann Glass.

He was married to Miss Mamie Slezinger on Oct. 14, 1905, in Nashville, Ill. She survives him.

Also surviving are one daughter, LaVerne, of this city; two sisters, Mrs. Amy Koogle of this city and Mrs. Margaret Makeeves, Newton, Iowa. Three brothers and four sisters preceded him in death.

He was a member of St. John's Methodist church, the municipal band, Masonic AFM 99, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1299, and the Spanish Was Veterans of Granite City.

The body may be viewed at the Schneider funeral home at 12 o'clock noon Saturday until Sunday at 12:30 when it will be taken to St. John's Methodist church to lie in state until 2 o'clock when services will be held with the Rev. J. E. Attey officiating.

Burial will be made in Woodlawn cemetery. Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1299 will have charge of services there.

Monday, December 8, 1947
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Burglars Enter 3 More Places Over Weekend

Large Sum of Money And Revolver Taken at Coroniotis Home

Three more places – a home and two business establishments – were burglarized over the weekend, Chief of Police Fred Losch announced today. With burglaries on the increase locally and in connection with a nationwide crime wave, Chief Losch appealed to residents to aid the police in apprehending the thieves.

Chief Losch suggested several means today through which residents may aid the police. One of the best is for a citizen who is going to be away from home for several hours to advise a

neighbor and report to police if lights are observed in the house before the time the owner expects to return home. Chief Losch said names of any providing tips will not be made public unless authorized by the person providing the information.

Money is apparently the thing most greatly sought by the thieves and Chief Losch said that no great amount should be left at home. Cameras, radios and other scarce items are also being stolen, and in cases where possible these articles should be left in places where not readily observed. Windows and doors should be locked.

The home of C. Coroniotis at 905 Hale avenue was burglarized while he and Mrs. Coroniotis attended a movie last night. A considerable sum of money and a pearl handled revolver were stolen but it is believed the thieves were frightened away when the home owners arrived unexpectedly at 10 o'clock. There was evidence that the ransacking of the home was not complete. The revolver was a Smith-Wesson of .32 caliber.

The amount of cash stolen was not revealed. The thieves did not take a number of checks given Coroniotis Saturday by merchants as payment for meat supplies. Neither did they take a number of government bonds temporarily left in his desk.

The fact that a watch, jewelry, silverware and radio were not carried away indicated to police that the thieves were forced to depart in haste.

Five drawers from a desk were removed and carried to the bathroom where they were ransacked. The sixth had not been removed. Three drawers from a bedroom dresser were also emptied in the bathroom. It is believed that lack of time prevented the thieves from going through other drawers.

Entrance to the home was made by breaking out a small portion of a glass in a kitchen door. The opening was large enough to reach a lock from the inside and open it. The thieves left through the front door.

The driveway at the Coroniotis home is along the northerly side of the house, being entered from the east. Police believe that the thieves heard the automobile as it passed the house, escaping through the front door as Coroniotis parked his car in the garage.

Crossing Inn at 445 South Buchanan street was burglarized between Sunday noon and 5 o'clock this morning, Eric Rudat, the owner, told Chief Losch. The burglary was discovered when the owner opened this morning. He was in the restaurant yesterday until noon.

The burglar entered by breaking a window. There was evidence that food was consumed. The only money in the place was \$4 in pennies. The cash was either overlooked or not wanted. In another burglary there about four months ago, the thief carried away a number of wrapped quarters and dimes but left nickels and pennies.

Wonder Café at 301 South Buchanan street was burglarized during Saturday night, Mrs. Ann Scheibe told Chief of Police Losch. Nothing but eats were taken. The visit was discovered about noon Sunday when the owner went to the restaurant. The entrance is closed on Saturday night. Entrance was made through a window.

Monday, February 16, 1948
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Obituary

Mrs. Elizabeth Shaw

Mrs. Elizabeth Shaw, wife of William Shaw of 409 Jefferson road, passed away quietly at the residence today at 5:20 A.m., following a heart attack. She had been ill for the past year.

She was born May 10, 1865, in Freeburg, Ill., the daughter of the late Caroline and Philip Reisel and had attained the age of 83 years, nine months and six days.

She attended school in Freeburg and was confirmed in the Evangelical church. Her marriage to Mr. Shaw took place March 5, 1885, in Belleville where they lived a number of years before moving to St. Louis. In 1896 the family came to Edwardsville.

Mr. and Mrs. Shaw celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 1935.

She attended the First Presbyterian church and was one of the early members of the Ladies Aid society.

She is survived by her husband William, two sons, Kenneth and Evan of this city; five daughters, Mrs. J. H. Miller of Springfield, Mrs. C. J. Smith, St. Louis, Mrs. S. V. Crossman, Mrs. W. W. McKee and Mrs. Edwin Briggs of this city. There are 11 grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

The funeral will be conducted from the Lesley Marks funeral home Wednesday at 2 o'clock with the Rev. F. L. Kinsman officiating.

Burial will be in Woodlawn cemetery.

Friends may call after 12 o'clock noon Tuesday at the funeral home.

Wednesday, April 28, 1948
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

Mrs. Lillian M. Volz

Mrs. Lillian M. Volz of 824 Troy road died Tuesday at 7:45 p.m. (CST) at St. Joseph hospital in Highland. She was taken to the hospital at noon Tuesday following a stroke earlier in the morning. She had been a resident of Edwardsville for the past 29 years, moving here from Alhambra.

She was born Jan. 19, 1896, in St. Louis and had attained the age of 52 years, three months and eight days. Her marriage to Edward A. Volz took place May 29, 1919, in Alhambra.

She is survived by her husband; her mother, Mrs. Mary C. Dauderman, one son, Wilbur of Columbia, Mo.; two daughters, Mrs. Thornton Lane, Miss Betty Jean Volz and three grandchildren.

She was a member of Eden Evangelical church, the Women's guild, committee 2 and the Ladies auxiliary of the American Legion.

The body may be viewed at the Lesley Marks funeral home after 7 o'clock Thursday until Saturday at 12 o'clock noon when it will be taken to the Eden Evangelical church to lie in state until 2 o'clock when services will be held with the Rev. H. J. Bredehoeft officiating.

Interment will be in Sunset Hill cemetery.

May 5, 1948

Edwardsville Intelligencer

Swimming at Leclaire Lake

Leclaire Lake Council Subject

Leclaire lake was one of the subjects discussed last night at the new year's meeting of the city council, officials expressing their disapproval of any swimming in the lake and discussing means of filling the southern end which is generally without water during summer months and becomes a breeding place for mosquitoes. The question was referred to the Park Board.

Chief of Police Fred Losch, city health officer, again told the council that he was advised by the state health officers last year that the lake was unfit for swimming owing to surface water from streets which drains into the lake. Plans to post notices against swimming were discussed.

City ordinances prohibit maintenance of a lake within the city. Leclaire lake was established when N. O. Nelson company located here nearly 60 years ago and once provided water for the industry. When the company transferred the grounds to the city, arrangements were made to retain the lake to provide part of the water for the industry.

The council last night agreed to hold its mid-month meeting on Monday night, May 17, one day earlier than usual.

Two ordinances were passed by the city council last night. One makes appropriations for the ensuing year and will appear in the Intelligencer as a legal publication. It contains a breakdown with all of the possible maximum expenditures. The other ordinance fixes salaries of city employes. The new salaries are increased about seven per cent.

The council passed a preliminary resolution last night providing for additional resurfacing of city streets. The fund of \$6000 will come from the city's motor fuel tax refund. During the discussions a change in the grade of Kansas street between Hillsboro and College avenues was discussed to eliminate a high curb along the easterly side of the street.

The council adopted a resolution setting salaries at \$10 for judges and clerks at the next municipal election in April, 1949. One judge responsible for the ballots and who makes returns to City Clerk Edw. Poos will receive an additional \$1.

The council informally discussed setting back the parking space of automobiles at some intersections.

Tuesday, November 20, 1948
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

Henry Faust

Henry (Kid) Faust, one of the oldest volunteer firemen in Edwardsville, was found dead Monday about 3 p.m. at his residence, 708 Hale avenue, by Alois Svoboda. His death evidently occurred sometime Sunday. He had been ill for the last several years.

He was born March 27, 1878, in Pinckneyville and had attained the age of 70 years, eight months and one day. He was the son of Adam and Elizabeth Faust. He was married to Miss Maude McDaid Dec. 5, 1900, who preceded him in death July 19, 1939.

He is survived by one son, Carlin Faust of Warrenton, Fla.; one brother, John of this city; and three sisters, living in St. Louis, and two grandchildren. One brother and one sister preceded him in death.

Friends may call at the Marks-Weber funeral home after 12 o'clock noon Wednesday until Thursday at 2 o'clock when services will be held at the funeral home with the Rev. F. L. Kinsman officiating.

Interment will be in Woodlawn Cemetery.

May 22, 1950
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Deaths and Funerals

Mrs. Gertrude Pierson

Mrs. Gertrude Pierson nee Carroll, 70, of 820 Troy road passed away Sunday at 3 p.m. at St. Elizabeth hospital in Granite City.

She was born Dec. 14, 1879 in Marine and was the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Carroll. She married George H. Pierson Sept. 18, 1905, who survives.

Also surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Laurine Reiske of Madison and Mrs. Virginia Scherer of Nameoki; three brothers, Leo Carroll of this city, Edward of Alhambra and Thomas of St. Louis; one sister, Miss Maude Carroll of St. Louis and two grandchildren, John and Carolyn Scherer.

She was a member of the Daughters of Isabella, the Century club and St. Mary's Catholic church.

Friends may call at the Schneider funeral home after 7 o'clock Monday evening until Wednesday at 9 o'clock when services will be held from St. Mary's Catholic church with the Rev. P. P. McGuinness officiating.

Interment will be in Calvary cemetery.

The rosary will be said Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. at the funeral home. The Daughters of Isabella will attend in a body at that time.

April 10, 1951
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Reids Celebrate 50th Anniversary

Mark 50th Year

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Reid of this city celebrated their golden wedding anniversary Sunday and were guests of honor at a 1 o'clock dinner given at the home of their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Lawnin Reid.

The dining room table was decorated with colors of yellow and white and a large cake topped with the inscription "Best wishes to Mother and Dad on your 50th anniversary" centered the table. Spring flowers of yellow and white were also placed throughout the house.

Mr. and Mrs. Reid were married April 6, 1901, by Dr. J. L. Cunningham at his residence. They are the parents of six children, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. They have made their home in this city for the past 50 years and reside at 848 Holyoak avenue.

Guests at the dinner included their six children, Nelson Reid and Mssrs. And Mesdames Lawnin Reid, Thomas Flavin, Jr., Fred Utecht, all of this city, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gius of Glen Carbon and Mrs. Irene Levora of Peoria.

Mrs. Reid's brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Inloes of Rock Island, were also present and six of the grandchildren; Mr. and Mrs. Al Petraitis of Collinsville, Kenneth Flavin, Dick, Ronny and Terry Reid, all of this city.

Friends and relatives also called throughout the afternoon.

April 12, 1951
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Hanser Seeking Aldermanic Seat

Harry C. Hanser of 829 Ruskin avenue is in the midst of a campaign as candidate for alderman of the Fifth ward, subject to next Tuesday's municipal election.

A building contractor, Hanser was born in Edwardsville and has been a resident of the Fifth ward for the past 29 years, where he is a property owner and taxpayer.

He was educated in the local public schools and served his carpenter's apprenticeship under his late father, Fred Hanser. He followed the carpenter's trade from 1912 to 1918, when he became a garage mechanic and later shop foreman for Bothman & Sons.

He left his position in April, 1923, returning to carpentry in association with his father. In 1936 he became assistant superintendent at the city sewage treatment plant and was named full superintendent two years later. He served in the latter capacity until July, 1940, when he went into the contracting business.

During World War II he was a foreman in the crating department of the Army Engineers depot at Granite City.

Hanser served on the Edwardsville Board of Education from 1942 until formation of the community unit school district last year.

He is a member of Carpenters Local 378 and served as its president approximately eight years. He is also an active member of IOOF lodge No. 46. A member of Eden Evangelical church, he is also treasurer of the church council.

Married, he has two daughters, Mrs. Norma Klingenberg, Miss Dorothy Hanser; and one son, Carl, a senior at Edwardsville high school.

Hanser said today that if elected as alderman of the Fifth ward he will work for the betterment of the city.

February 18, 1952
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

Arno W. Schlechte

Arno William Schlechte, who resided a mile northwest of this city on the Old Alton road, died of a heart attack at 3:30 a. m. Monday at his residence. He was a retired machinist for Bignall and Keeler Machine shop, having worked there 33 years, and for the past four months operated the elevator at the Bank of Edwardsville.

He was born Dec. 20, 1895, in Strausburg, Ill., and had attained the age of 56 years, one month and 28 days. He was the son of the late August and Sophia Beckemeyer Schlechte. He was married to Miss Minnie Clausen of St. Louis on June 10, 1920. Mrs. Schlechte survives.

Also surviving are one brother, Edwin H. Schlechte of this city; three sisters, Miss Irene Schlechte and Mrs. Albert (Irma) Martini of this city and Mrs. John (Paula) Yesnosky of Alhambra. One son preceded him in death in infancy.

He was a member of St. Paul Lutheran church in Wood River.

Friends may call at the Lesley Marks funeral home after 2 p.m. Tuesday until Wednesday at 2 p. m. when services will be held from the funeral home with the Rev. Norman Wolf, pastor of St. Paul Lutheran church, officiating.

Interment will be in the Valley View cemetery.

September 22, 1952
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Deaths and Funerals

Harry C. Hanser

Harry C. Hanser, a retired building contractor and alderman of the Fifth ward since April, 1951, died at 7:50 a.m. Monday at his residence, 829 Ruskin avenue, after suffering a stroke Sunday evening. He was 56 years old.

In failing health for many months, he retired from the contracting business a few months ago upon the advice of his physician. His last major work was the new manse for the First Presbyterian church.

Alderman Hanser's death is the second among members of the Edwardsville city council since last year's election. Fourth Ward Alderman G. Warren Buckles died on May 28 and the vacancy has not been filled. The council membership now stands at eight aldermen.

A native of Edwardsville, Mr. Hanser was born June 21, 1896, the son of the late Fred J. and Anna R. Hanser. He was educated in the local public schools and served his carpenter's apprentice under his father. He followed the carpenter's trade from 1912 to 1918, when he became a garage mechanic and later shop foreman for Bothman & Sons.

He left this position in April of 1923, returning to carpentry in association with his father. In 1936 he became assistant superintendent at the city sewage treatment plant and was name(d) full superintendent two years later. He served in the latter capacity until July, 1940, when he went into the contracting business.

During World War II he was a foreman in the crating department of the Army Engineers depot at Granite City.

He served on the Edwardsville Board of Education from 1942 until creation of the community unit school district two years ago.

He was elected to the city council April 17, 1951, defeating the incumbent, Joseph Gregor, Jr., by a margin of three votes.

An active member of Eden Evangelical and Reformed church, he attended services when his health permitted and was in attendance Sunday with Mrs. Hanser. He was also a member of the Church Council, the Eden Brotherhood and the Adult Bible class.

Memberships in other organizations included Carpenters Local 378, which he served as its president for approximately eight years, and IOOF Lodge 46 in which he was a past noble grand.

He is survived by his wife, the former Bernadine Huntsman, to whom he was married in Edwardsville June 21, 1922, by the late Rev. H. U. Rahn; two daughters, Mrs. Harold (Norma) Klingenberg, Miss Dorothy Hanser, both of Edwardsville; one son, Carl, a student at James Millikin university, Decatur; one brother, Earl F. Hanser, Edwardsville; and a sister, Mrs. Dorothy Doolittle, Granite City.

The body may be viewed at the Weber funeral home after 7 p.m. Tuesday until 11 a.m. Thursday when it will be taken to Eden Evangelical church to lie in state. The final rites Thursday will be at 2 p.m. with the Rev. H. J. Bredehoeft officiating.

Burial will be in Valley View cemetery.

Thursday, September 25, 1952
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

Mrs. Amelia West

Mrs. Amelia (Jenny) West, 86, of 744 Holyoake died Thursday morning at her home. She previously resided in St. Louis but had lived in Edwardsville for the last 45 years.

She was born Dec. 4, 1865, the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Grassmuck. She was married to W. H. West in 1887 in St. Louis. He preceded her in death in 1943.

She is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Helen Smith of St. Louis.

She was a member of the Episcopal church.

The body may be viewed at the Straube funeral home after 7 p.m. Friday until 10 a.m. Saturday when services will be held from the funeral home.

Burial will be in Mount Lebanon cemetery in St. Louis.

October 11, 1952
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Happy Days of Yesteryear: Tom Trigg of LeClaire Lake

His Galaxy of Ideas Made It the Cynosure of Village Activity

By R. Louise Travous

By the time the first decade of the 20th century rolled into the second, Thomas J. Trigg was an old-timer in LeClaire, N. O. Nelson's cooperative village. Two more years and the house on the corner across from the lake would be unquestionably his. Actually that had been his property for seven years, since the day he went to work in the brass shops in 1904, made a \$4 deposit, agreed to pay \$15 a month for nine years and was given a deed to the four-room house, with 100 feet of frontage on Hale Avenue, 150 feet fronting the lake.

Philanthropist Nelson trusted his men. There had been no question as to the amount of Tom's payments, no question as to the size of his house. Tom Trigg made \$15 a week. Had he made only \$10 he would have bought a three-room home and his payments would have been \$10 a month.

Wages were the small part of his compensation. Sometimes he got as much as \$200 in cash for a Christmas present, and always in January there was a bonus in N. O. Nelson Manufacturing company stock, some years two shares.

The spring of 1911 brought new riches. Additional to his shop work, he took on the care of LeClaire lake, the baseball diamond and the bowling alley, with \$15 a month extra pay. These were what was left of a combination of features that had given LeClaire a recreation center such as this vicinity never had before, has not had since and probably will not have again.

Streets had been paved, an inter-urban ran through LeClaire every hour, and some of the people had automobiles. It was easy now to reach the town across the tracks where the Wildey had been built, with a theater and a hall for dancing.

Beyond the shops good companies were presenting such musical comedies as "A Knight for a Day" and "Girl at the Helm," and Gus Haenchen's orchestra was playing for dances. No longer were the young people of LeClaire wanting to stay in their own village.

It was the lake that was the inestimable part of Tom Trigg's new riches. The day he took over what was left of planned recreation, LeClaire lake started moving swiftly to her hey-day.

Forty years ago the lake curved among the willows with Sonja Henie grace. The park reached the water in a long slope. Beyond the lake, where now one sees only a few acres of the original topography and houses cover a monotonously treeless level, were wide-spread low hills, deeply wooded. The winding road between the woods and the willows lured strollers, carriages and riders.

There were community barbecues in the lake park, with two roasted cows and accompanying foods in abundance served without charge to all the villagers, and the LeClaire band playing. There were boating, swimming and skating. It was more fun to dive from the arm of a tree than from a spring-board. The girls sat low in the willows to put on their skates, swung down to the ice and were off in a glamorous glide.

Tom Trigg wanted to keep the lake as it was, alive with young people. He didn't want his boys and girls slipping off to Edwardsville at 8 o'clock at night when the boats were called off the lake. It was soda and ice cream that lured them there. So he made a cart, filled it with pop, and they could buy their fill right there at the lake. He added his wife's ice cream to his stock, and that beat anything that could be bought uptown. He knew what boys liked when they played in the water and built them a raft.

Halloween brought a suspicious quiet to the village. Next morning the big factory wagon and as many smaller ones as could be managed were in the lake. Working in his spare hours of leisure, Tom was a long time getting them out. Some of the boys helped, looking sheepish. Next

year, by Tom's asking, there was a party in the bowling alley with everything free, from hot dogs to ice cream, and fun enough to silence the Halloween prank-playing urge. (Halloween was not then a month-long celebration.)

Whatever the season there were pranks, all of which Tom accepted with good nature. But it went a little hard on him one hot week when pop sales should have been at their best and his soda business dropped to zero. It was the end of a full week when Tom learned the reason. A "1" had been put in before the "5" on his "Soda 5c" sign tacked to a tree.

Tom went to extra trouble to prevent accidents. There was plenty of light around the lake for the reading of danger signs where the ice was thin, but he put up ropes and strung them with lights. When there were ladies in a boat, he told them if they wanted to exchange seats they were to come back to shore and let him hold the boat. He kept the boats scrubbed so that there would be no mud to slip on, nor accidents to ladies' dresses. It was no fault of his when a party, picnicking while he was at his shop work, threw a can into the water and a swimmer almost lost a toe.

Many visiting the lake wanted to swim but had no suit. Tom bought a hundred bathing suits, rented them out, made around \$35 on good Sundays. Mrs. Trigg washed bathing suits every day. Boats brought in around \$40 every two weeks at five cents a ride. But they were the company's boats and the company got the money.

The Nelson company provided an annual Fourth of July celebration at the lake, with Roman candles shooting between the woods and the willows on the far bank, and everyone chasing horses and elephants on the park side. He who caught one of these luminous floaters got a prize. It was Tom's idea to suspend Japanese lanterns from a frame built into each boat, giving a festive beauty to the lake as boats glided back and forth, appeared and disappeared among the willows and around the bends. Romancers of those days sigh for that remembered Venice.

The outer Tom Trigg is "going on 77" (on every birthday he drops his anniversary year and reaches toward the next), has the spring of youth in his walk, a smile from deep down, and dresses as carefully as he did 15 years ago when he walked up the gang plank of the Mississippi River boat where his son Tommy's orchestra was playing. For that appearance Tom was dressed from heel to head in white. The inner man is best described by using his own words: "I like to do good for good people."

The good that Tom has done for "good people" includes soda pop free to children without nickels, hot coffee to picnickers, help wherever he saw a chance to give it.

But his biggest giving came after the LeClaire shops closed and his son sent generous checks to replace the lesser amount of his wages. Tom's wife had died and there was no controlling voice to keep him from going on a spending spree, having the time of his life "doing good for good people." He took on the grocery lists of the sick and the needy, canned hundreds of jars of fruits and vegetables and gave them away.

The doing-good spree had been going on for months when the neighbors sent word to his son Tommy that the poor for whom Tom was supplying groceries had enlarged their lists to include candy bars and chewing-gum by the boxful, cigarettes by the carton. And those to whom he gave his fruits and vegetables weren't even returning the jars. Also there had been a poor woman wanting work. Tom had fairly stripped his house and himself of everything washable. The washerwoman had kept the wash.

Tommy came home to look the situation over, and it was at this time that he started calling his father "Junior." Using the judgment of a parent, he reduced Junior's checks to half the amount they had been and made up for the cut by sending him too many boxes of expensive

clothes: Florida sport shirts with harmonizing socks, gabardine suits in two tones, jackets in soft checks, slacks in quiet plaids.

Though he likes to dress well, there is none of the four-flusher about Tom Trigg. He speaks the plain truth more plainly than is necessary. Old friends, knowing he sold his house last month, meet him on the street and ask, "Where are you hiding, Tom?"

"At the poor farm," he answers. They look at his silk shirt and gabardine slacks and wonder what sort of joke Tom's pulling on them.

The truth is that he has been having a brief and happy sojourn at the County Home, one of several boarders in the top paying bracket. Not in the best of health, he closed his house last fall, tried a number of nursing homes, didn't like them, and Tommy came to see what could be done. A friend recommended the County Home for good food, clean comfort and kindness, and Tom could pay his way. The home, on inspection, proved up to its rating and Tom bedded down in a spacious, three-windowed bedroom, with all the privacy he could desire.

One can almost hear the happy beating of his heart when he tells you: "If the County Home ever becomes a regular nursing home with Mrs. Mary McClure at the head, there won't be enough buildings for the applicants."

Tom isn't a lazy boarder, wanting his money's worth in leisure. He keeps busy "doing good for good people." Since the day Mrs. McClure mentioned that there was too much potato being wasted in the peeling, Tom peels the potatoes as they should be peeled whenever he can spare time from painting the dining room benches. In moments of resting he visits the hospital with glasses of homemade jelly given to him by a friend who has quit housekeeping.

An Intelligencer reporter went to the lake to take his picture because Tom Trigg of LeClaire lake is leaving us Monday to go with his son. He is going to wear his Florida shirts in Florida.

Thursday, September 17, 1953
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Deaths and Funerals

Samuel A. Howerton

Samuel Asa Howerton, 1014 Ruskin avenue, died at 2:50 P.M. Wednesday at St. John's hospital, Leavenworth, Kans., of injuries received in an automobile accident Tuesday near Platte City, Mo. He was born April 11, 1897 in Edwardsville township, the son of the late William and Ellen Jones Howerton, and had reached the age of 56 years, five months and five days.

On Nov. 12, 1918, he was married in Edwardsville to Ida Klaustermeier of Alhambra.

Besides his wife, he is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Herbert (Belva) Bantz of Whitestone, N.Y., and Mrs. William (Dolores) Rohrkaste, Jr., of Edwardsville; four brothers, Frank and Orville R. of Lincoln, Ill., Edward R. and William P., of Edwardsville; six sisters, Mrs. Mabel Swain of Collinsville, Mrs. August (Effie) Strassen of Edwardsville, Mrs. John

(Etta) Laughlin of Sedgewickville, Mo., Mrs. William (Ruth) Klaustermeier of Alhambra, Mrs. Allen (Mildred) Howard of Worden, and Mrs. Donald (Evelyn) Hall of Decatur; five grandchildren, David and Sarah Bantz, William Randy Lynn and Linda Kay Rohrkaste. He was preceded in death by a sister, who died in infancy.

Mr. Howerton had worked as a highway subcontractor for the past 16 years. He was a member of the First Baptist church, a deacon and trustee for 34 years, and served as chairman of the Building committee for several years.

Friends may call at the Lesley Marks funeral home after 7 p.m. Friday until the time of service Sunday afternoon at 2:30 p.m. at the First Baptist church. The Rev. L. C. Boergadine will officiate. The body will lie in state from 12:30 Sunday at the church until the time of service.

Burial will be in the Valley View cemetery.

March 26, 1954
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

Costas C. Coroniotus

Costas C. (Gus) Coroniotis, 66, of 905 Hale avenue, died Thursday at 9:15 a.m. at St. Luke's hospital in St. Louis where he had been a patient for the past two weeks.

He was born January 28, 1888, in Xelocastron, Greece, the son of the late Christ and Barbara Coroniotis. In 1902 he came to the United States and had been a resident of Edwardsville since 1911. On July 17, 1920, he married Miss Magdalena Diepholz in Edwardsville.

He served in World War I and attained the rank of corporal. During his tenure in the Army he was sent overseas and on Jan. 19, 1919, was discharged.

The deceased was a wholesale meat distributor in Edwardsville and was a R. A. M.; Ainaad temple and Scottish Rite Bodies of East St. Louis; American Legion Post 199; Veteran of Foreign Wars Post 1299; Loyal Order of Moose 1661 of Edwardsville and Order of Ahepa of St. Louis. He attended Eden Evangelical and Reformed church.

Besides his wife, he is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Fred (Helen) Wiemers of Fort Russell Township; Two brothers, Perry of Lodi, Calif., and Pete of Gary, Ind. and one sister, Mrs. Gus Mikalis of Lodi, Calif.

Friends may call at the Weber funeral home after 7 p. m. Friday until 11:30 a.m. Sunday when the body will be taken to the Eden Evangelical and Reformed church to lie in state until 2 p.m. Sunday when funeral services will be held at the church with the Rev. R. Tormohein officiating.

At 8 p.m. Saturday, Edwardsville Lodge 99 A.F. & A. M. will conduct services at the funeral home.

Burial will be in Valley View cemetery.

Monday, April 19, 1954
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Former Resident of 1024 Troy Road

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

Mrs. Frances E. Baker

Mrs. Frances E. Baker, 73, died Saturday at 9 a.m. at St. James hospital in Pontiac. She had been residing with her daughter, Mrs. Fred L. Martin, in Pontiac and had been ill for four months.

She was born in Butler, Ill, Feb. 5, 1881, the daughter of the late Ambrose and Jenny (Thalls) Brown. On Oct. 10, 1904 she was married to Ulysses B. Baker in Edwardsville and resided in this city for 60 years. Her husband preceded her in death in July, 1944.

She is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Fred L. (Margaret) Martin of Pontiac, two step-daughters, Mrs. Harold (Vanita) Peters of Edwardsville and Mrs. M. C. (Della) Bryne of St. Louis, one brother, J. Albert Brown of St. Louis and one sister, Mrs. C. E. Clark of Osage Beach, Mo. Also surviving are five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. One daughter, Mrs. Mildred Lawson, preceded her mother in death in 1952 and one sister, Miss May Brown also preceded her in death.

The deceased was a member of the auxillary of United Spanish War Veterans and was also a member of St. John's Methodist church.

Friends may call at the Lesley Marks funeral home after 7 p.m. Monday until 2 p.m. Tuesday when funeral services will be held from the funeral home with Rev. Clyde Funkhouser officiating.

Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery.

November 8, 1954
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

George H. Pierson

George H. Pierson, 77, died at 10:25 p.m. Sunday at St. Elizabeth hospital in Granite City of complications. He made his home with one of his daughters, Mrs. Virginia Scherer of 3704 Franklin avenue in Granite City. He was a former resident of Edwardsville and a retired bookkeeper at N. O. Nelson Co. He was born Aug. 21, 1877 in Alton.

He was married to Miss Gertrude A. Carroll September 18, 1905 in Edwardsville who preceded him in death in 1950. Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Virginia Scherer of Granite City and Mrs. Laurine Reiske of Madison; one sister, Mrs. Laura Briggs of St. Louis; and two grandchildren, John and Carolyn Scherer.

He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic church in Edwardsville and St. Elizabeth Catholic church of Mitchell. He was also a member of the K. of C. in Edwardsville.

Friends may call at the Schneider funeral home after 7 p.m. Monday until 8:30 a.m. Wednesday when private services will be held from the funeral home and at 9 o'clock services will be held from St. Mary's Catholic church with the Rev. P. P. McGuinness officiating. The rosary will be said at 8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home by Rev. McGuinness.

Interment will be in Calvary cemetery.

Saturday, March 5, 1955
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

John F. Reid

John F. (Jack) Reid, 80, of 848 Holyoake avenue died at 5:30 a.m. Saturday at St. Joseph hospital, Highland. Mr. Reid, a retired coal miner and former custodian of the library, was a custodian of the court house at the time of his death. He was born January 10, 1875 in Hamel township, the son of the late Samuel and Mary Fruit Reid.

He was married to Monette Jane Inloes in April, 1901, at Edwardsville. Surviving besides his wife are two sons, Lawnin and Nelson Reid, of Edwardsville; four daughters, Mrs. Irene Leora of Peoria, Mrs. Helen Utecht, Mrs. Bernice Guise and Mrs. Cora Flavin, Edwardsville; two brothers, George W. and William Reid, Edwardsville; one sister, Mrs. Etta Hanser, Edwardsville; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. One brother and two sisters preceded him in death.

Friends may call at the Straube funeral home after 7 p.m. Saturday until 2 p.m. Monday when funeral services will be held from the funeral home with the Rev. L. C. Boergadine, pastor of the First Baptist church, officiating.

Interment will be in Woodlawn cemetery.

November 5, 1955
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

Henry W. Dohle, Sr.

Henry W. Dohle, Sr., 403 Cherry street, died at 2:55 a.m. Saturday at St. Joseph hospital in Alton, where he had been a patient since Thursday.

He was born Feb. 2, 1879 in St. Louis, a son of the late Morris and Wilhelmina Dohle and reached the age of 79 years, nine months, two days. He was married to Magdalena Merkle of Edwardsville Nov. 12, 1902 at St. Boniface Catholic church with Rev. Fr. Anselm officiating.

Mr. Dohle was a retired brass worker, finisher and pattern maker who had followed the trade for 57 years with the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co. He was an honorary member of the Knights of Columbus; a member of the Holy Name society, St. Vincent de Paul society of St. Boniface and a member of St. Boniface church.

Survivors include his wife, two sons, Leo F. Dohle of St. Louis and Henry Dohle, Jr., of Edwardsville; two daughters, Mrs. Frank (Celia) Carter and Mrs. Louis (Martha) Vanzo, Jr., both of Edwardsville; one brother and two sisters of St. Louis. Also surviving are six grandchildren, Miss Dolores Carter, Martha Anne, Patrick and Theresa Vanzo, Henry III and James Dohle.

Friends may call at the Lesley Marks funeral home after 12 noon Sunday. The rosary will be recited at the funeral home at 8 p.m. Sunday.

Funeral services will be held at 8:30 a.m. Monday at the funeral home and at 9 a.m. at St. Boniface church. The Rev. George E. Faller will officiate. Burial will be in St. Mary's cemetery.

October 8, 1956
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

Mrs. Monette Jane Reid

Mrs. Monette Jane Reid of 848 Holyoake died Sunday at 3:30 a.m. at an Alton hospital. A daughter of the late George and Mary Inloes, she was born March 8, 1879 in Litchfield.

Survivors include two sons, Lawnin and Nelson of Edwardsville; four daughters, Mrs. Irene Levora of Peoria, Mrs. Helen Utechtt, Mrs. Bernice Guise and Mrs. Cora Flavin, all of

Edwardsville; four brothers, William and Otis of California, George of Chicago and Edward of Rock Island; two sisters, Mrs. Etis Cheney of California and Mrs. Bell Kelly of St. Jacob; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Her husband, John F. Reid, preceded her in death March 14, 1955.

Also preceding her in death were a grandson, Leo Levora, who died in World War II; one brother and two sisters.

Friends may call at the Straube funeral home until 10:30 a.m. Tuesday when services will be held. The Rev. L. C. Boergadine, pastor of the First Baptist church, will officiate.

Burial will be in Woodlawn cemetery.

October 23, 1956

Globe Democrat

N. O. Nelson Co. Is Declared Bankrupt

The N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company of St. Louis, one of the nation's largest plumbing supply firms, was judged bankrupt yesterday by Referee in Bankruptcy William O'Herin.

Referee O'Herin ordered Elliot H. Stein, investment broker who was named temporary receiver for the firm on Sept. 28, to continue operation of the firm.

The ruling came as O'Herin denied a motion by the Nelson management that the bankruptcy proceedings be dismissed.

Wednesday, September 11, 1957

Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

William Shaw

William Shaw, 97, a resident of this city since 1893, died Tuesday at 2 p.m. at his home, 409 Jefferson avenue, after an illness of the past nine months.

The deceased came to the United States with his parents, William and Sarah Brown Shaw, from Birmingham, Staffordshire, England, when a boy going to Chattanooga, Tenn. In June, 1889, he moved to St. Louis, Mo., where he became affiliated with the N. O. Nelson Mfg. Co.; and served as superintendant of the Bignall and Keeler Machine Works for 52 years.

When the Nelson Co. was transferred to Edwardsville in January, 1893, Mr. Shaw moved to this city, and was a member of the board of directors for many years. He retired April 15, 1941 after more than a half century with the industry.

Mr. Shaw was a life member of the AF & AM, Edwardsville No. 99, and the Mississippi Valley Consistory of East St. Louis.

Born in Birmingham Feb 11, 1860 the deceased had reached the age of 97 years, 6 months and 29 days.

He was married March 25, 1885 at Belleville to Miss Elizabeth Reisel, who preceded him in death Feb. 16, 1948. Also preceding him were two brothers and two sisters.

Surviving are two sons, Kenneth and Evan of Edwardsville; five daughters, Mrs. A. A. (Edith) McKee, Mrs. S. V. (Laura) Crossman and Mrs. Edwin (Mildred) Briggs, all of this city; Mrs. J. H. (Irene) Miller of Springfield and Mrs. Cullin (Ruth) Smith of St. Louis; 13 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

The body may be viewed at the Lesley Marks funeral home after 7 p.m. Wednesday until the 2 p.m. service Thursday. The Rev. John P. Emig, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, will officiate. Interment will be in Woodlawn cemetery.

Masonic services will be held Wednesday at 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

August 18, 1958
Globe Democrat

New Owners to Rebuild N. O. Nelson Company

N. O. Nelson Company, an old St. Louis firm that was put through the financial wringer by eastern interests, is going to get a new lease on life.

George Hoffmann said yesterday that he and seven other employees have bought the assets of the company.

Mr. Hoffmann was a vice president of the old company and has been operating head of the firm during bankruptcy proceedings under the federal court here.

The seven other employees are managers of Nelson's remaining branches at Alton, Cape Girardeau, Jefferson City, Marion, Ill.; Little Rock, Paducah and Memphis.

PRICE NOT DISCLOSED

Mr. Hoffmann said the group bought the inventory, furniture and fixtures, real estate and the N. O. Nelson name. He declined to disclose the price paid.

The firm, a wholesaler of plumbing, heating and industrial supplies, was founded here in 1876. At one time it had 22 branches and was the fourth largest plumbing supply firm in the nation.

Mr. Hoffmann said Nelson's sales were some \$20,000,000 yearly before its troubles started late in 1955. He said the new firm expects to do about \$6,000,000 of business a year.

Nelson has been through various phases of liquidation and bankruptcy since 1955. Control of the firm first was acquired by Bellanca Corporation, then headed by Sidney Albert.

WENT INTO BANKRUPTCY

Nelson went into bankruptcy on July 23, 1955. Mr. Albert sold the Nelson stock holdings to Automatic Washer Company of Iowa which also went bankrupt. The trustee of Automatic then sold the Nelson stock to Glen L. Seydel of Davenport, Ia., and Mr. Hoffmann's group acquired the assets from Mr. Seydel.

Bellanca Corporation subsequently was de-listed from the American Stock Exchange.

Mr. Hoffmann said Nelson now has only an administrative office here at 4306 Duncan ave. He said the remaining branches will continue to operate and the new management expects to re-establish a warehouse here and expand its St. Louis headquarters operation.

Thursday, May 26, 1960
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Obituary: George Merkle

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

George F. Merkle

George Frederick Merkle, 72, of 403 Jefferson Rd, a retired machinist, died at 9:15 p.m. Wednesday at St. Joseph Hospital, Alton, where he had been admitted earlier in the day.

Mr. Merkle, a machinist over 40 years, had been employed by the N. O. Nelson Mfg. & Bignall and Keeler Co., and at the former Litchfield & Madison Railway roundhouse.

Son of Frederick and Elizabeth Bott Merkle, he was born Sept. 29, 1887 in Manhattan, N. Y. His wife, the former Pauline Jones of St. Louis, died in May, 1945.

Survivors are a son, G. Richmond Merkle, St. Louis; one brother and a sister, Charles Merkle and Mrs. Clarence (Bertha) Piper, both of Edwardsville; and two grandchildren.

Mr. Merkle was a charter member of Loyal Order of the Moose 1561, St. John's Methodist church and had been active in the Men's Bible class.

Final rites will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday from St. John's Memorial chapel, the Rev. Dr. Clyde Funkhauser officiating. Interment will be in Valley View cemetery.

Friends may call at the Lesley Marks funeral home after 12 noon Friday until 11 a.m. Saturday.

October 16, 1961
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

T. R. Gilmore

ST LOUIS – Theodore R. (Pete) Gilmore, 60, formerly an Edwardsville resident, died Saturday at 11:30 a.m., at St. Luke's Hospital.

Born July 23, 1901 in Mexico City, Mexico, he was the son of the late J. W. and Adelia Gilmore. He had resided in St. Louis 25 years.

Surviving are his wife, the former Julia Bartels; one son, Theodore W. Gilmore, Ballwin, Mo.; one daughter, Mrs. Robert H. (Helen) Walther, St. Louis; three brothers, Harry A. Gilmore of Huston, Tex.; Marcus A. Gilmore, Phoenix, Ariz., and Walter Alfred Gilmore, Centralia; one sister, Mrs. Edward A. (Isabelle) Kane, Edwardsville; and four grandchildren.

The body may be viewed at the Drehman-Harral funeral home....

January 19, 1965
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

Edwin Schlechte

Edwin H. Schlechte, 66, a former employe for the State of Illinois Highway Department and of the City of Edwardsville in later years, died Monday at 12:15 p.m. at Barnes Hospital, St. Louis. He had been a hospital patient three weeks.

Mr. Schlechte had been employed 31 years at the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company.

He was born Oct. 11, 1898 in Hamel Township, the son of the late August and Sophia Beckemeyer Schlechte. Mr. Schlechte and his wife, the former Alice Bardelmeier, resided at 1022 Longfellow Ave. The couple was married Sept. 18, 1929 in Edwardsville.

Besides his wife he is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Chester (Ruth) Heepke of Hamel Township; two sisters, Miss Irene Schlechte and Mrs. Albert (Irma) Martini, both of Edwardsville, and two grandchildren. Two sisters and two brothers preceded him in death.

Friends may call at the Lesley Marks Funeral Home until the services Wednesday at 2 p.m. The Rev. Dr. Walter J. Mehl, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, will officiate. Interment will be in Valley View Gardens of Memory.

Pallbearers will be Allan Halbe, Ronald Martini, Harry Feldner, William Heepke, William Handlon and James Allen.

September 8, 1965
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Tate-Howerton Vows Recited

The First Baptist Church was the scene for the wedding of Mrs. Ida Howerton and Hugh Tate at 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon. The Rev. B. L. Moore officiated. A reception was given afterwards by the bride's son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. William Rohrkaste Jr. of 814 St. Louis St.

Attendants were the couple's daughters, Mrs. Herbert G. Bantz of Whitestone, NY, Mrs. Rohrkaste and Mrs. Charles Sutton of Carmel, Ind.

Mr. and Mrs. Tate will be at home at 1014 Ruskin Ave. following a brief wedding trip.

Tuesday, July 5, 1966
Edwardsville Intelligencer

OBITUARIES

PIUS ROTTER

Pius T. Rotter, 78, who resided at 242 S. Fillmore St. with a son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. James H. Stack, died this morning at 12:30 at St. Joseph's Hospital, Highland. He had been hospitalized 16 days.

Mr. Rotter, son of Pius T. and Catherine Peters Rotter, had been a machinist 44 years at the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company. He was born Dec. 6, 1887 in St. Louis and was married Feb. 26, 1911 to Mary Catherine Foehrkalb at St. Boniface Catholic Church. Mrs. Rotter died June 21, 1920.

Surviving are six children, Joseph F. Rotter, Mrs. James H. (Frances) Stack, Mrs. A. C. (Marie) Richardson, Mrs. Ralph A. (Elsie) Leuschke and Mrs. Claude V. (Agnes) Schoeneweis, all of Edwardsville, and Mrs. Lawrence L. (Edna) Fields, of Forest Park, Ga; 17 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Also surviving are two brothers, Henry of Granite City and Joseph H. of Edwardsville, and a sister, Mrs. Louise Sutcliffe of Brandon, Manitoba, Canada. Four brothers are deceased.

Mr. Rotter was a member of St. Boniface Catholic Church and the Holy Name Society.

Visitation will be at Lesley Marks Funeral Home after 3 p.m. Wednesday. A Requiem Solemn High Mass will be said by the Rev. Ralph S. Guido Thursday morning at 9:30 at St. Boniface Catholic Church. Burial will be in the church cemetery.

The rosary will be recited Wednesday night at 8:15. Members of the Moose Lodge 1561 will meet in a group at the funeral home at 7:30 Wednesday.

Monday, January 16, 1967
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

William Sehnert

William Louis Sehnert of 923 Schwarz Road died Sunday at 1:40 p.m. at St. Joseph's Hospital, Highland, after a lingering illness. He was 84 years old.

Mr. Sehnert, son of John L. and Frances Spengel Sehnert, had worked in the car department of Shell Oil Company 27½ years. He retired in August of 1946.

Surviving are his wife, the former Nora Bollinger of Edwardsville, whom he married Aug 27, 1907; a daughter, Mrs. Charles (Gladys) Bovenschen of Highland, Ind.; one sister, Mrs. Joseph (Frances) McLean of Edwardsville; a grandchild and four great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, three brothers and two sisters.

Mr. Sehnert (Sehnert) was born June 29, 1882 at Pierron. He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church here and the Modern Woodmen of America.

Funeral Mass will be Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock at the Catholic Newman Chapel, 306 W. Park St. The Rev. Louis Elbow will officiate. Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery.

Friends may call at the Lesley Marks Funeral Home after 2 p.m. Tuesday. The rosary will be recited at 8 p.m.

(Note: The Sehnerts lived at 837 Troy Road from 1911-1947; He was an early Nelson employee.)

Tuesday, February 7, 1967
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

Charles Merkle

Charles Merkle of 403 Jefferson Road, a retired coal miner, died Monday at 1 p.m. at St. Joseph's Hospital in Highland where he had been a patient one day. He was 76 years old.

Mr. Merkle was born Nov. 18, 1890 in New York City, a son of Frederick and Elizabeth Bott Merkle.

He was a member of American Legion Post 199 and Veterans of World War I Barracks 977.

Surviving are a sister, Mrs. Clarence (Bertha) Piper of this city; two nieces, Mrs. Dan Dippold and Mrs. Paul Eberhardt of Edwardsville; and a nephew, Richmond Merkle of St. Louis.

Friends may call at Weber Funeral Home after 7 o'clock this evening. The Rev. Donald Frantz, pastor of First Christian Church, will officiate at the funeral rites Wednesday morning at 10:30 at the funeral home. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery.

Members of the Legion and Veterans of World War I will meet tonight at 7:30 at the funeral home.

April 16, 1968
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Area Deaths

Alfred Abbee Dies

Alfred Herbert Abbee, 85, of 1020 Troy Rd., died at 7:45 p.m. Monday in St. Joseph's Hospital, Alton, where he had been a patient nine days.

A native of London, England, he came to Edwardsville to live 51 years ago and served as the first alderman from LeClaire addition (Ward 5) when it was annexed to the city.

He was on the City Council five years.

He had retired in 1947 from the old Litchfield-Madison Railroad Co. where he worked as a boiler inspector for 30 years.

Born May 8, 1882, he was a son of Herbert E. and Louise Abbee. He was married Sept. 26, 1903 in St. John's Episcopal Church, London, to Grace Evans. She died Nov. 14, 1955.

Besides his wife and parents, two daughters, a brother and three sisters preceded him in death.

Survivors are one son, James of Edwardsville; a daughter, Mrs. Lucille Kelly, Plainfield, N.J.; one sister, Mrs. Ted (Florie) Crocker, London, and two grandsons, Mark and Chat Kelly of Plainfield.

He was a member of St. John's Methodist Church, was active in Masonic Circles and served Lodge 99, AF & AM, as worshipful master in 1927; was a past officer of Royal Arch Masons 146 and Chapter 667, Order of the Eastern Star; was a member of the Unity Court 21, Order of the Amaranth, and served as president of the Masonic Temple board for several years.

He was also a member of the local Knights of Pythias.

Friends may call at the Weber Funeral Home after 2 p.m. Wednesday until 10 a.m. Thursday when the body will be taken to St. John's Church for 1:30 p.m. services. The Rev. James Nettleton, pastor, will officiate.

Burial will be in Valley View Cemetery.

Masonic services will be held at 8 p.m. Wednesday in the funeral home.

Thursday, February 27, 1969
Edwardsville Intelligencer

DEATHS AND FUNERALS

Bertha Piper

Mrs. Bertha E. Piper, 84, 403 Jefferson Rd., died at 8:15 p.m. Wednesday in her home of an apparent heart attack.

Mrs. Piper had been a resident of Edwardsville the past 70 years.

Born May 30, 1884, in New York City, she was the daughter of Frederick and Elizabeth (Bott) Merkle.

She was married to Clarence W. Piper on April 3, 1914, in Witt. He survives.

Other survivors are two daughters, Mrs. Daniel (Ruth K.) Dippold and Mrs. Paul E. (Genevieve) Eberhart, both of Edwardsville, and three grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by two brothers and one sister.

Mrs. Piper was a member of the First Christian Church of Edwardsville.

Friends may call at Weber Funeral Home after 4 p.m. Friday. Services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday in the funeral home, with Rev. Donald Frantz, pastor of the First Christian Church, officiating. Burial will be in Valley View Cemetery.

Monday, September 22, 1969
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Home on the Road

(Photo caption) This new-look "mobile home" brought disbelieving spectators to their windows as it rolled majestically from its original site on Vandalia Street down Buchanan Street and out Troy Road. This house, and another, both the property of Ruth L. Barton, are being moved to sites at 813 Hale Ave. and 810 Holyoake Dr. to allow for the expansion of the National Food Store on Buchanan and Park Street. With the removal of the two residences, the store plans to

add a pharmacy and a new entranceway to the parking lot on Vandalia Street. The houses are being moved by Cruikshank House Moving Co., East St. Louis. The house created a few problems as it rolled along its route. A few limbs had to be cut down to clear its path, and power was temporarily shut off in areas along the route because the house was scraping against the power lines.

Note: In the photo accompanying the short article above was pictured the brick bungalow now located at 813 Hale Avenue, as it moved down the street. The photo quality is very poor so could not be copied. The back portion of the N. O. Nelson property was sold to make lots for these two homes now located behind the former N. O. Nelson's house on Jefferson Road.

March 27, 1971
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Area Deaths

Leo Carroll Dies

Leo C. Carroll, 86, 1580 Poag Rd., died at 12:30 p.m. Friday in St. Joseph's Hospital, Highland, where he had been a patient for a week.

He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and the Edwardsville Knights of Columbus.

Born Sept. 27, 1884, in Alhambra Township, he was the son of Thomas and Caroline Dzengolewski Carroll.

His wife, the former Cecelia Kaufman, to whom he was married May 31, 1914, in Edwardsville, survives.

Two brothers and two sisters preceded him in death.

Friends may call after 4 p.m. Sunday at Pletcher Funeral Home.

Funeral services will be at 9 a.m. Monday in St. Mary's Catholic Church. Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery. Rev. Louis Elbow will officiate at funeral services.

A Rosary will be said at 8 p.m. Sunday in the funeral home.

Monday September 11, 1972
Edwardsville Intelligencer

AREA DEATHS

James Allen

James W. Allen, 73, of 1025 Troy Rd, a retired Illinois Terminal Railroad clerk, died at 7:15 p. m. Saturday in Missouri Pacific Hospital, St. Louis, where he was hospitalized a week.

He retired seven years ago after 42 years as an employee of the railroad.

He was born Nov. 18, 1898 at Oakland. His parents were John S. and Mary Alice Hutchinson Allen.

He was married to Margaret Schmidt on July 19, 1943, at Union, Mo. She survives.

Surviving besides his wife are sisters Mrs. George L. (Mabel) Moorman and Mrs. Oscar (Ruby) Bardelmeier, both of Edwardsville and a brother Glen O. Allen of Van Nys, Calif.

Another brother, Stewart Allen, is deceased.

He was a member of St. John's United Methodist Church.

Friends may call at the Weber Funeral Home from 4 p. m. today until 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, when the body will be taken to St. John's Chapel to lie in state until the service.

The Rev. William B. Lewis will conduct the last rites at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday in the chapel. Burial will be in Valley View Cemetery.

April 23, 1973

Edwardsville Intelligencer

George L. Moorman, 90, Dies

George L. Moorman, 90, of 926 Holyoake Rd., an Edwardsville community leader, died at 4:30 a.m. Sunday in his home.

Mr. Moorman was active in the 1950s in promoting a higher education facility in the area, serving as chairman of the Edwardsville Chamber of Commerce Committee on Higher Education.

The committee has been credited with the eventual establishment of the Southern Illinois University Edwardsville Campus.

He was a past president of the Edwardsville Library Board of Trustees, founded Boy Scout Troop 2 and remained active in scout work, and had served as president of the Chamber.

A resident of Edwardsville more than 70 years, he was born July 20, 1882, in Jackson County, Mich.

He retired in 1955 as office manager of Bignall and Keeler Division of the N. O. Nelson Co., after 56 years of service.

His parents were Enos and May A. Algers Moorman.

He was married to May McCune on June 30, 1908. She died July 4, 1941.

On December 18, 1945 he was married to Mabel Allen, who survives.

Other survivors are a son, George L. Moorman Jr., Hanover, N.H., a former mayor of Edwardsville; daughters Mrs. Elizabeth W. West of Edwardsville and Mrs. Charles (Margaret) Hall of Silver Spring, Md.; eight grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Five brothers are deceased.

Mr. Moorman was active in the work of St. John's United Methodist Church, which he served as a board member and Sunday School superintendent 25 years.

He was a past president of the Edwardsville Rotary Club, a past master and 60-year member of Edwardsville Lodge 99, AF & AM, a charter member of Edwardsville Chapter 667, Order of the Eastern Star, a member of the Edwardsville Shrine Club, Ainad Temple of East St. Louis, and Scottish Rite Bodies of Southern Illinois.

Friends may call at Weber Funeral Home after 2 p.m., Tuesday until 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, when the body will be removed to the chapel of St. John's Church, to lie in state until the service.

The Rev. William B. Lewis will officiate at last rites at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday in the chapel.

Burial will be in Valley View Cemetery.

The family requests memorials to St. John's Church.

Masonic services will be at 8 p.m. Tuesday in the funeral home.

Wednesday, March 13, 1974
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Area Deaths

Reinhardt Wilharm, City Man, 89, Dies

Reinhardt C. Wilharm, 89, of 841 Hale Ave., died at 8:51 p. m. Tuesday in the Madison County Nursing Home, where he had been a patient five months.

He was born Nov. 27, 1884, in Prairietown, a son of the late Charles and Caroline Schonewig Wilharm.

He was married to Johanna Wiemers on Sept. 5, 1907, in Lockport, N. Y. She died July 10, 1971.

He is survived by a son, Willis E. Wilharm of Edwardsville, three grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. A daughter, three brothers, and a sister preceded him in death.

Mr. Wilhelm was a freight agent for the Illinois Terminal Railroad for more than 50 years. He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Edwardsville.

Funeral services will be at 1:30 p.m. Friday in Trinity Lutheran Church, with Rev. A. Herpolsheimer officiating. Burial will be in Valley View Cemetery, Edwardsville.

Friends may call at Weber Funeral Home in Edwardsville after 4 p.m. Thursday. The body will lie in state at the church from 10:30 a.m. Friday until the hour of service.

Friday, August 30, 1974
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Area Deaths

Edward Volz, Longtime City Resident Dies

Edward A. Volz, 79, 117 W. Franklin Ave., an Edwardsville resident for more than 50 years, died of a heart attack at 6:15 a.m. today in his home.

Mr. Volz worked for Illinois Power Co. for more than 18 years before his retirement in 1960.

He was born on Feb. 18, 1895, in Alhambra Township. His parents were the late Joseph and Mary Long Volz.

He was married to Lillian M. Dauderman, who preceded him in death on April 27, 1948.

He is survived by his second wife, the former Olinda Tegtmeier Wagner. They were married in Eden United Church of Christ in Edwardsville on March 5, 1960.

Also surviving are a son, Wilbur E. Volz of Hanover, N.H., daughters Mrs. Marvin (Betty Jean) Funston of Route 1, Edwardsville, and Mrs. Thornton (Evelyn) Lane of Edwardsville, brothers Joseph Volz of Edwardsville and Louis Volz of Alhambra, seven grandchildren and six (great-)grandchildren.

Mr. Volz was a member of World War I Barracks 977, American Legion Post 199, the Last Man's Club and Laborers Local 179, all of Edwardsville.

He was a member of Eden Church and the Eden Churchmen's Fellowship.

Friends may call at Weber Funeral Home from 11 a.m. Sunday to 11 a.m. Monday and after 11 a.m. Monday at Eden Church.

Funeral Services will be in the church at 2 p.m. Monday with the Rev. Wesley Bornemann officiating. Burial will be in Sunset Hill Cemetery.

Monday, August 11, 1975
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Area Deaths

Piper

Clarence W. Piper, 84, 403 Jefferson Rd., died at 5:45 a.m. today in St. Luke's Hospital, St. Louis. He had been ill about a week.

A resident of Edwardsville most of his life, Mr. Piper was born June 17, 1891, in Worden, a son of the late Charles and Katherine Denton Piper. He was married on April 3, 1914, to Bertha Merkle, in Witt. She died Feb. 26, 1969.

A railroad worker for more than 30 years, Mr. Piper retired in 1959 from the Chicago and Northwestern Railway.

Surviving are daughters Mrs. Ruth K. Dippold and Mrs. Paul (Genevieve) Eberhart, both of Edwardsville, and sisters Mrs. Harold (Addie) Kennedy of Worden and Mrs. Clyde (Bessie) Helton of Mattoon.

A brother preceded Mr. Piper in death.

Mr. Piper was a member of the railroad Trainmen's Association and a member and past deacon of the First Christian Church of Edwardsville.

Friends may call at Weber Funeral Home after 4 p.m. Tuesday until 11 a.m. Wednesday, when the body will be taken to lie in state at First Christian Church.

Funeral services will be at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, with the Rev. Charles Turner officiating.

Burial will be in Valley View Cemetery.

October, 2003
GlenEd Chamber of Commerce Newsletter
By Cindy Reinhardt

How to Spell Leclaire

For more than 50 years there has been an inconsistency in the spelling of Leclaire in Edwardsville. The correct spelling should be "Leclaire" with a lower case "c", not "LeClaire" with an upper case "C". When the village of Leclaire was given its name by the employees of the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company, it was named after the French father of profit sharing, Edme Jean Leclaire. Leclaire, whose company is still in existence today, spelled his name with a small "c". When Nelson founded the village, he also spelled Leclaire with a small "c". In recent years, several historians, journalists and members of the Friends of Leclaire organization have researched the matter and found this was indeed the case.

Why does it matter? The former village of Leclaire is on the National Register of Historic Places. Our interest as a National Historic District is to encourage everyone to preserve the past and record it accurately. Two things that have been consistently incorrect in "modern times" are the use of a capital "C" in Leclaire and reference to the old Leclaire School House (or Kindergarten) as the Leclaire Academy.

The Leclaire School House had an academy for only a very short time prior to 1900 but otherwise didn't use that title. The term became a popular, if inaccurate, term for the old Leclaire School House to distinguish it from the new LeClaire School. The new school name was spelled with a capital "C" until research was provided in 2001 proving the correct spelling. At that time the School District 7 changed the spelling, but at least two generations of Edwardsville school children had by then learned to spell Leclaire incorrectly.

The misspelling of Leclaire is a bit more complicated than the "academy" label, because there are many areas of the country where you will find the name spelled with a capital "C". One French historian who assisted with researching the subject said that before the French Revolution, many of the nobility capitalized part of their name such as in "Le Claire", but afterwards, partly for protection, they changed to the lower case. We don't know if this was the case with Edme Jean Leclaire, but it is another possible explanation of why the name is spelled differently around the country. The town of LeClaire, Iowa spells its name with a capital "C". And one of our own members of Friends of Leclaire has French Canadian ancestry where their name is spelled with a capital "C".

Courthouse records dating back to the founding of Leclaire, early documents written by N. O. Nelson himself, and of course, books and documents by Edme Jean Leclaire and his company all tell the true story. Leclaire was and is considered a great man in France. He was a house painter who helped lift men out of poverty by founding a company that shared profits with the workers and provided pensions in their old age. N. O. Nelson went to visit Leclaire's company in France and incorporated some of his theories and practices into the village of Leclaire in Illinois.

Friends of Leclaire are grateful for your help in correcting the spelling of our neighborhood. As a village, Leclaire was founded on six high principles: work, education, homes, recreation, beauty and freedom. All of these were to be provided to assure the citizens of the village would lead happy, fulfilled lives. We think it's a history worth preserving.

October, 2004
Leclaire Newsletter
By James Fralinger

Leclaire Cooperative Store in Edwardsville

(Note: In the last newsletter, we wondered why the Leclaire Cooperative sales receipts indicated the store was in Edwardsville, and not in Leclaire. FOL member Jim Fralinger has the answer.)

The Leclaire Cooperative was in Edwardsville.

When N. O. Nelson acquired the property for Leclaire village, the plot of land north of the Nelson Campus between Brown Street and the old railroad right-of-way was inside the city limits of Edwardsville and, therefore, technically outside the land acquired for the village itself. It was on this plot that Nelson opened the coop store in 1903. Today Leclaire Graphics occupies this site.

But this is only a small piece of the story.

Immediately after acquiring the rights to the land for the village, Nelson hired engineer, Julius Pitzman, to lay out Leclaire along the lines of an English walking park. Pitzman was very well qualified. He had laid out Forest Park and many exclusive neighborhoods in St. Louis such as: Westmoreland, Vandeventer, Portland Places, and Compton Heights.

Pitzman also pioneered the practice of selling property under restrictions.

Nelson strongly advocated the principles of the Christian Social Gospel movement. His goal was to build a decent place for working-class people, who were being forced to live under hellish conditions in overcrowded and unhealthy urban tenements, by offering them plenty of natural light, fresh air, sanitation and a safe supply of water.

Public health was an issue dear to Nelson's heart. In 1847, when he was only three years old, typhoid claimed the life of his mother and several other members of his clan of immigrants during their layover in New Orleans. And, while living in St. Louis he and his wife lost three of their five children to contagious diseases.

In his ideal village Nelson was determined to prevent the overcrowding that he believed had helped fuel these epidemics. To this end Nelson had Pitzman insert a restrictive covenant in every village deed limiting occupancy to a single family.

The restriction proved to have an unexpected consequence.

When Nelson first came to the Edwardsville area in 1890 with a proposal to build from scratch a new ideal community on the outskirts of the town, the established Edwardsville retail merchants expressed their concern about the possibility of competition coming with the

development. Once they understood, however, that the new community posed no threat because the deed restrictions would preclude competition inside the Leclaire boundaries, they became receptive and supportive.

When Nelson first opened the Leclaire Cooperative in 1903, some of the Edwardsville merchants claimed that he had betrayed them. But, since the site he picked was within the city limits, and therefore not subject to the deed restriction, there wasn't much his critics could do except to voice their objections. After all, didn't he have the right to open a store anywhere he chose so long as he didn't violate any restrictions?

Oddly enough the merchants had little to fear because the Leclaire Cooperative in Edwardsville would follow one of the key rules of the Rochdale Pioneers Plan. Prices would be pegged to market prices--no price cutting would be allowed.

For more than a century the Leclaire restrictions have been a bone of contention. Time and again Leclaire property owners have had to fight to prevent violations of a law that was confirmed in a St. Louis (Shaw Neighborhood) precedent-setting case.

The single-family occupancy restriction means exactly what it says. The old-timers who were still around when I first moved here in 1965 understood this law, honored it, and fought hard to preserve it.

July, 2005
Leclaire Newsletter
By Cindy Reinhardt

Leclaire Anniversary

The former Village of Leclaire passed a milestone of sorts in June when it reached the 115th anniversary of its founding. On June 21, 1890, N. O. Nelson, with his employees and guests, came to Leclaire to dedicate the company's new factory buildings and model industrial village. Hundreds of people attended, so many that eight special cars had to be ordered for the train from St. Louis.

Nelson's plans for Leclaire were both progressive and radical for the time. He proposed to combat the social problems of the day by providing desirable living conditions, opportunities for education and personal improvement and a strong employee/employer relationship. The wonder of it all is that he built this community with no expectation of unreasonable personal gain. With his profit sharing plan, the idea was for the workers to also become owners and therefore "the equal of the boss."

July, 2005
Leclaire Newsletter
By James T. Fralinger

Madison County Tuberculosis Sanatorium Building Demolished

The Madison County Tuberculosis Sanatorium building in Edwardsville has been demolished to make way for another shopping center. With it goes another piece of our local history and a national legacy.

A short distance from this property in what is now the Leclaire National Historic District, N. O. Nelson founded a sanatorium in the 1890s. Then in 1902 Nelson opened another facility, the Nelson Health Camp in Indigo, California. These two facilities were among the first free sanatoria in the nation.

Illinois Governor Charles Samuel Deneen, who hailed from Edwardsville, said this about Nelson's endeavors in a speech at an Illinois State Board of Charities conference.

"No question but the example set by the St. Louis philanthropist, N. O. Nelson, in instituting and endowing a farm and camp for tuberculosis patients in California has had much to do with the widespread interest in such provisions. On the floor of the ancient sea where the aseptic air holds wonderful curative properties, Mr. Nelson laid out the farm and erected tents which he furnished comfortably and in midst of which he placed an eating house. These accommodations are to be had for a trifling weekly fee, or in the event of poverty, the patient may have it all without pay."

Tuberculosis (TB) had long been the most deadly of all diseases. It was widespread in densely populated industrial centers where people were herded together and close contact with infected persons was frequent. Studies showed that more than half of the people living in large cities were either infected or had healed lesions from bouts with it. Many of its victims were children.

In a 1904 article by N. O. Nelson in a popular national publication, he described the conditions in California that prompted him to act.

"Hotels and boarding houses refuse them, hospitals are hopelessly overcrowded, sanitariums are few and expensive, beyond the reach of the majority. The climate of California on the seaward side of the mountains is rainy, foggy and chilly during the winter months; it is not a better climate for diseases than that of the East or the Middle West. Patients come on the general reputation of sunshine, oranges and winter lilies; they find a cold reception; they little means or none, they are outcasts. In many of the cities, consumption makes up one fourth of the deaths. A more pathetic situation I have never known, not even in the city slums, or the hospitals, or the battlefield."

He describes the location of his California sanitarium:

"To the west and the south, where the horizon is thirty to forty miles distant, a deep blue veils the high range and the noble San Jacinto towers over two miles heavenward, while I am sitting twenty feet below sea level. We are in no fear of being submerged, for the sand bank fifty miles wide and a hundred feet high that cuts us off from the Colorado River and the Gulf of California is more secure than the dikes of Holland. Its flora is sage brush, mesquite tree, greasewood and a few flowers; its fauna the coyote, rabbit and a large assortment of birds. Van Dyke has written a book about it, and Remington has painted its rich brown mountains.

“I bought 125 acres of land abutting on Indio Station, an important division point on the Southern Pacific, with railroad, hotel, shops and extensive yards, a village of about 50 houses and 300 people. This tract I have improved for beauty and for use with deep wells and pumping plant for irrigating and domestic water supply. Besides the camp proper, I mean to have this land in high cultivation for invalids to enjoy and convalescents to work and live on temporarily or permanently. Desert land is exceedingly fertile when watered and the crops are extra valuable for being early. Cantaloupes are a favorite crop, ripening early in June and yielding as high as \$400 an acre. Alfalfa hay yields up to 15 tons a year in ten cuttings.

Nelson set up a pumping system that ran around the clock at the rate of about a million gallons of water every twenty-four hours. The camp had a garden, cows and chickens. Nelson planted pepper trees, poplar trees and was about to set 2,000 cottonwoods. All around the perimeter of 125 acres, he planted eucalyptus. He seemed determined to turn this desert into a garden paradise and he did.

Thanks to the efforts of Governor Deneen and other government leaders, by 1925 there were about 600 sanatoria in the United States. By 1926 a total of 1,234,000 patients had received treatment in these facilities. With the development of sanatoria, the estimated death rate in the United States dropped from 202 per hundred thousand in 1900 to 81 in 1927. From those figures it's been estimated that approximately one and a half million fewer deaths from TB occurred during the period 1900 to 1925 than otherwise would have been the case.

Like Edwardsville, Indio is now a prosperous city. Situated near both Interstate 10 and the Colorado Aqueduct, it has about 60,000 people. There, local historians still refer with affection to the long-gone experimental Nelson Health Camp.

The Madison County Sanatorium played an important part in our history. Let us remember our ancestors who were treated there, cured there, and especially those who painfully drew their last breath there. We should also honor the people who were responsible for purchasing the land, constructing the building and staffing the facility.

September, 2005
Leclaire Newsletter
By Cindy Reinhardt

STATE HISTORIC MARKER FOR LECLAIRE

Friends of Leclaire and the City of Edwardsville are co-sponsoring a state historic marker for the “Village of Leclaire”. Text for the marker was the result of a cooperative effort organized by President Joan Lane using a combination of suggested texts from FOL members Bob Blain, Jim Fralinger, Jim Grandone and suggestions from others in the organization. Thanks are due to all who participated. Although it will no doubt be edited on the state level, the text submitted with the application is as follows:

The Village of Leclaire

Social visionary N.O. Nelson founded the Village of Leclaire in 1890, naming it after Edme Jean Leclaire who inaugurated profit sharing in France. In contrast to unsanitary urban tenement districts, Leclaire was a model cooperative village offering pleasant working conditions at the N.O. Nelson Manufacturing Company, affordable homes, a healthful environment, free education, and many opportunities for recreation and self-improvement. To support his commitment to the “Golden Rule”, Nelson implemented profit sharing and employee benefits. In 1934, during the Great Depression, the village was annexed by the City of Edwardsville. In 1979, the Leclaire district was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

October, 2006
Leclaire Newsletter
By Cindy Reinhardt

Leclaire Lake Memories

In speaking with older residents and former residents of Leclaire, there are many fond memories of Leclaire Lake. They remember swimming, boating and skating at the lake in early years. A romantic date in the early 20th century would be a boat rental on Leclaire Lake during a band concert. Couples would row out onto the lake to listen to the band and hold hands...nothing to risqué back then. One former resident remembered her father telling her about quietly swimming up to the boats and gentle rocking them to startle the young couples out for a romantic evening.

Swimming was a favorite pastime for local residents and visitors. Visitors from St. Louis would take a train to “the country” to spend the day. A lack of swimming apparel was no problem. Tom Trigg and his wife, who ran the boat concession for Nelson, also rented out bathing costumes. And although thousands enjoyed the pleasures of Leclaire Lake, all was not idyllic. There were no lifeguards, and over the years there was at least one drowning and several near misses that we are aware of.

During the winter bonfires and skating parties at the lake were popular entertainment. In recent years there have been few opportunities for skating, although some would say with the new depth to the lake, there is a better chance at getting a safe ice cover now. Warmer winters may be the greater determinant though for a skating surface. Residents are reminded to look for a green light in the bandstand window. A red light indicates that the ice is not safe.

Before the red light system, there were safety issues with skating at the lake. Robert Frank of Murphysboro, Illinois has been researching his wife’s family history in Leclaire and found a short article that said 8 year old George Moorman, Jr. and a friend, Lester Sean, fell through the ice on Leclaire Lake. The boys were rescued by two men. They were in about five feet of water “opposite the girl’s bath house.” George fell in first and was under the ice. Fortunately both boys could swim. Lester was in the water for about 15 minutes before he was rescued. Both boys recovered quickly. Many years later, George Moorman, Jr. became mayor of Edwardsville, serving from 1953-1957.

March, 2007
Leclaire Newsletter
By Cindy Reinhardt

Another Model Town in Illinois

In the first pages of our Leclaire history book is a reproduction of a newspaper article by reporter Nellie Bly who visited Leclaire in 1894. Before visiting Leclaire, she visited the model town of Pullman, located south of Chicago and her article compared the two towns, finding Leclaire to be far superior for the working man. Since reading that article I've wanted to visit Pullman and recently had the opportunity.

Pullman was founded in 1880 by George M. Pullman as a location for his Pullman Palace Car Company which manufactured passenger rail cars. It was one of America's first planned industrial towns. Pullman thought if he provided working men with living conditions far superior to what they typically could afford, that he could attract the best of skilled labor and achieve better productivity due to the fine living conditions and the positive spirit it would instill in his employees. In this respect his vision was similar to that of Leclaire's founder, N. O. Nelson.

Where they differed is that The Pullman Company completely controlled the town of Pullman and expected it to provide a profit of 6% on his investment. The town was designed to include a variety of buildings, including homes, recreational facilities, parks, shops, a church, hotel, school, bank, and of course, the factories. The bulk of the houses were brick row houses with finer homes in front and less finished houses farther out. All of the housing was owned by the company in contrast to Leclaire where the housing was privately owned.

Pullman didn't last long as a successful experiment. During the depression of 1893, Pullman was forced to scale back and make drastic cuts to worker wages. At the same time he stubbornly stayed with his original plan of earning 6% on his investments in the town of Pullman. Rents were not lowered and George Pullman refused to participate in arbitration. A walkout by Pullman Company workers became a national issue when the American Railway Union joined them on strike and President Cleveland sent in Federal troops to restore order.

At his death in 1897, Pullman was so hated, that his family buried him in a vault encased in concrete so no disgruntled worker could desecrate the body. A year later, the Illinois Supreme Court ordered that the non-industrial housing in Pullman be sold. The sale of the homes in Pullman took place between 1907 and 1909.

What is in Pullman today? The "jewel" of Pullman's town was the Hotel Florence, named after his favorite daughter. The spectacular Queen Anne hotel and the surviving Pullman Company factory buildings are now owned by the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. The exterior of the hotel is impressive (a local preservation group has been working on it for many years). The inside requires a bit more imagination. You can see in your mind that it was once a fabulous hotel, but a full restoration would run in the millions. They have 5-6 display rooms on the first floor available to the public and are in the process of restoration.

The main administration building (clock tower) of the factories suffered a devastating fire in 1998, but has since been rebuilt. The remaining factory buildings are in similar condition to the Leclaire factory buildings before they were rescued. Site supervisor, Mike Wagenbach, says they approach reconstruction as a triage project. First you stabilize, then, as funds become available, you do what you can to restore the buildings to good health. Because the Pullman Company continued to operate the factories well into the 20th century, manufacturing needs changed and many of the old factories were torn down. But a few remain on the 12 acre site. The buildings have features of Richardson Romanesque style that reminded us of the Leclaire factory buildings with their wide arched windows. In some cases the buildings were even topped with clearstories for ventilation and light. Due to the size of the rail cars manufactured, the Pullman factory buildings are larger and higher than those in Leclaire.

Most of the homes in Pullman also remain but as in Leclaire many have been altered. Before 1907, the Pullman Company allowed no changes in the original design of its buildings. But when the homes were sold, the new owners started making changes to suit their own needs. Many of the homes have been restored but others are awaiting that transformation. Pullman once had 14,000 residents and covered an area of 8 square blocks.

Pullman today has a Visitor's Center where tourist can view two different films on Pullman's history and view exhibits in their museum. They can also visit the Florence Hotel where tourists can come learn the story of Pullman. Since establishing the Visitor's Center, tourism has increased to nearly 10,000 visitors annually. There are annual house tours and a self-guided walking tour.

October, 2007
Leclaire Newsletter
By Mike Reinhardt

N. O. Nelson Memorial Fountain

The Journey

“With weather today that is more favorable than any during the past week, exercises were to be held this afternoon at 3 o'clock at the Leclaire school for the unveiling of the N. O. Nelson memorial. The rains of the past week have interfered with the work and it was only through most careful planning that the fountain was finished...Many of the employes (sic) in the local plant, residents of Leclaire, employes (sic) from the St. Louis office and residents of Edwardsville were assembled at the grounds early this afternoon.”
 (“To Unveil Fountain” May 24, 1924 Edwardsville Intelligencer)

Thus began “Turkey-boy's” journey with the unveiling by James E. Crawford, II, of the monument honoring his great-grandfather. The memorial consists of a statue of a boy holding a shell from which water flows while he is astride a turkey, a reflecting pool with two frogs spouting water and a red granite tablet which on the opposite side has a bronze relief plaque and a water fountain. Since that Saturday afternoon the memorial has been moved three times from its original location north of the schoolhouse near where Holyoake and Hale used to intersect.

By the early 1960's there were no longer any classes in the Leclaire schoolhouse, the water fountain didn't work, and the monument was in a neglected state and being vandalized. In 1970 the Kiwanis Club of Edwardsville moved the memorial to the new N. O. Nelson School on West High Street. The pool was filled with rocks and landscaped.

In 1998 the City of Edwardsville received control of the Leclaire schoolhouse, which became the Children's Museum after renovations. Two years later the city bought the Nelson Memorial from the school district. It was removed from its location on High Street and placed in temporary storage at the old Nelson factory, near, but still far from its original location. It was necessary to once again move the monument when Lewis and Clark Community College, the new owners of the Nelson complex, began renovating the factory buildings. In 2001 the Edwardsville Historic Preservation Commission became involved. With their help and that of the city of Edwardsville, the monument was placed on the east side of the schoolhouse, very near its original location. Turkey-boy had returned home.

The Monument

Within twenty days of the death of N. O. Nelson in California on October 5, 1922, employees at the Leclaire factory met to propose that a memorial be built to honor the founder of their company and the village of Leclaire. It was suggested that employees give the equivalent of one day's pay toward the monument. Eventually \$1,591.20 was raised by the workers at Nelson's plants. The total cost was over \$7,000, of which \$6,590 went to the sculptor. The esteem in which Nelson was held is evident in the inscription on the bronze plaque, which bears a relief portrait of him. "In Memory of Nels O. Nelson Original thinker, valiant worker, devoted leader in the faith and practice of service to his fellowmen, pioneer of profit-sharing and cooperation in America"

The sculptor was Victor S. Holm, an instructor at Washington University School of Fine Arts in St. Louis. He was a "nationally known sculptor and a leader in St. Louis art circles for 26 years", according to his obituary in the November 11, 1935 St. Louis Post-Dispatch. Besides the Nelson monument, Holm is the creator of many sculptures and monuments, some of which are familiar sights in St. Louis. These include the bear outside Kiel Auditorium (only the one with the uplifted head on the west side, the other was by another artist, a former student of Holm's), the musicians memorial and fountain in Forest Park, the Spanish American war memorial at the Civil Courts building, the Robert Barnes bust at Barnes Hospital, the statue of Governor Thomas Carlin in Carrolton and most impressively, the Missouri State Monument at the Vicksburg Civil War Battlefield, a huge monument that cost \$40,000 when it was built in 1917.

The architect of the monument was Gabriel Ferrand, who was also a member of the Washington University faculty. Ferrand was the consulting architect for the United Hebrew Temple on Skinker Boulevard in St. Louis. This beautiful building is now the headquarters of the Missouri Historical Society.

Both the sculptor and the architect attended the dedication and were schedule speakers. Ferrand did not speak because of a cold and Holm's remarks were not recorded by the Intelligencer.

Why Turkey-Boy?

"What you see is what you see." Frank Stello (artist)

Why did Holm choose a cherubic, smiling young boy holding a seashell while riding a turkey to be the subject of his statue? One can search dictionaries of symbols and iconography

for what the turkey, young boy, seashell, and water represent. Unfortunately the sculptor's words at the dedication weren't reported. L. D. Lawnin, Nelson's son-in-law, introduced Holm after his own speech. "I take pleasure in introducing the head of the School of Sculpture of Washington University, a man who has done much notable and original work in marble and bronze, Mr. Victor S. Holm." Despite such an eloquent introduction Holm's speech was not given. "The band rendered another selection. It was followed by brief remarks by Victor S. Holm, St. Louis sculptor, who spoke on some of the work incident to the memorial." (Edwardsville Intelligencer, May 24, 1924)

Perhaps Dick Norrish's explanation in the August 6, 1970 edition of the Intelligencer sums up the statue's meaning simply but reasonably. "Nelson adored children' said a long-time resident of Leclaire... This seems to be the reason sculptor Victor S. Holm chose a child for the sculpture... The turkey? Earlier in this century the turkey was considered a figure of strength, according to one source and apparently the combination of child and turkey summed up the remarkable N. O. Nelson for sculptor Holm."

Perhaps Holm was echoing Benjamin Franklin's opinion of the turkey in a letter to his daughter concerning what should be the national bird. "For the Truth the turkey is in Comparison a much more respectable Bird, and withal a true original Native of America... He is besides, though a little vain & silly, a Bird of Courage..."

What do you think? If any of our readers have a theory on "what the statue means" or has any information passed down from generation to generation on the statue, let us know.

Thanks to Kathryn Hopkins for her research and devotion to the monument. A special thanks for her efforts as chair of the Edwardsville Historic Preservation Commission to have the monument returned to Leclaire.