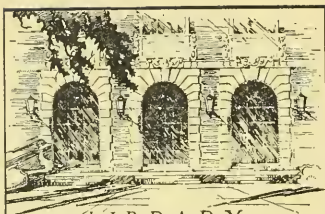


DAVIS

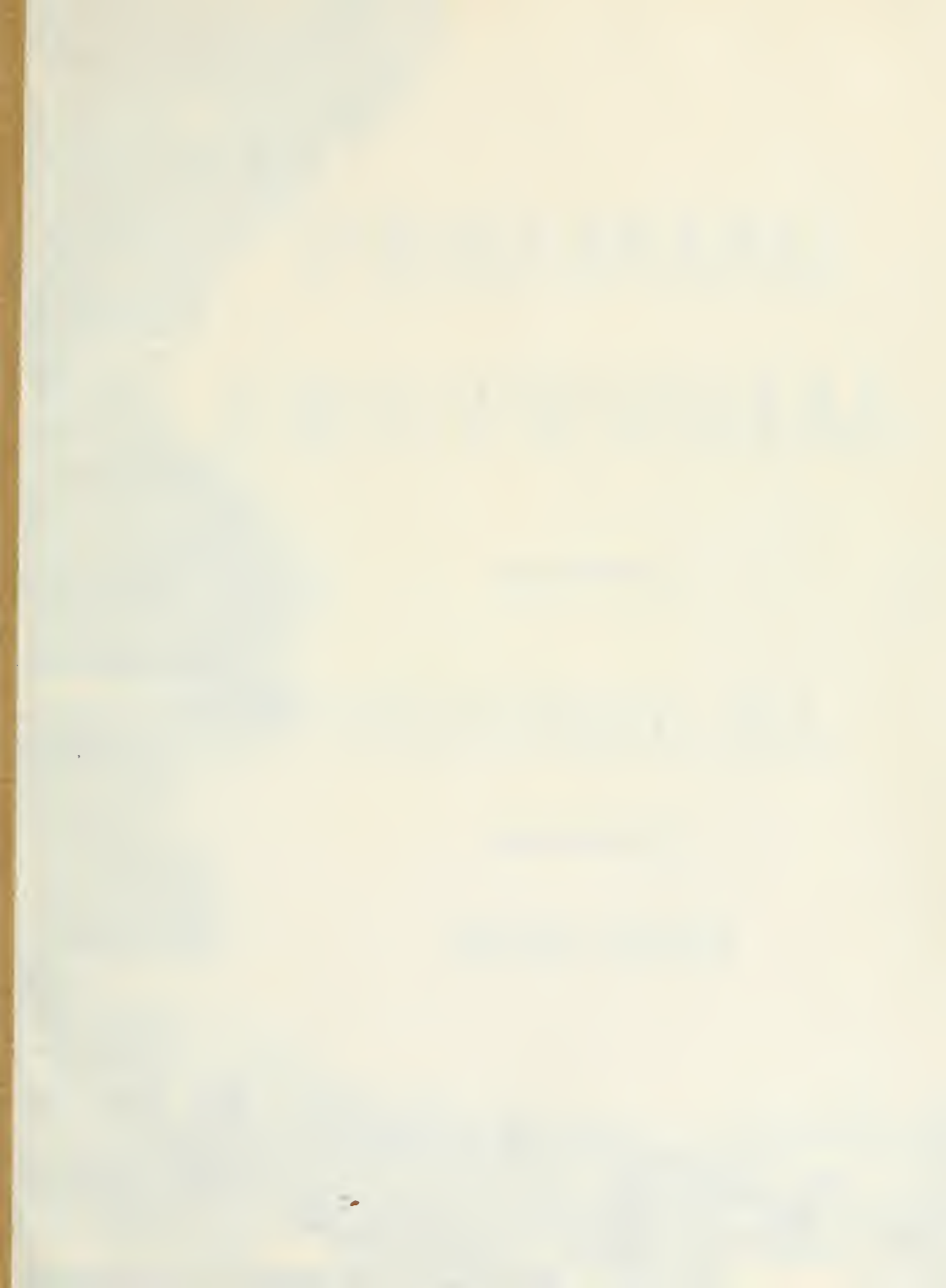
THE HISTORY OF FREEBURG
ILLINOIS. *St Clair Co.*
(1859-1959)




LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY
OF ILLINOIS

977.389
D29h

ILLINOIS HISTORICAL SURVEY





FREEBURG CENTENNIAL



FREEBURG, ILL.



1859-1959





AERIAL VIEW OF FREEBURG

FREEBURG'S CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

August 13-14-15-16

FEATURING
DRAMATIC HISTORICAL PAGEANT
"HERITAGE OF OUR PEOPLE"

Thursday through Sunday
August 14-15-16
Nightly 8:30 p.m.

New High School Gymnasium

PARADES EACH NIGHT

WILD WEST RODEO	AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITS	
FIREWORKS	INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITS	
DANCING (Old Time, Square, Ball Room)	HORSE SHOW	
CROWNING OF QUEEN	BEARD JUDGING	
CONTESTS	RIDES	
MUSIC	CONCESSIONS	GAMES

-- Synopsis --

“HERITAGE OF OUR PEOPLE”

Freeburg Centennial Pageant

PROLOGUE

- ACT I: THE TAMARAWAS
Their legend and tales.
- ACT II: EARLY FRENCH — 1700
The influence of the French on the Indians.
- ACT III: THE AMERICANS — 1797
First settlers from the East and their manner of living.
- ACT IV: THE FIRST SCHOOL — 1808
The concern of the early settlers for education.
- ACT V: GERMAN IMMIGRATION — 1833
Their culture and customs.
- ACT VI: CITY OF FREEBURG — 1859
Early conditions.
- ACT VII: EARLY CHURCHES
Religious background of the people.
- ACT VIII: THE RAILROAD — 1870
What it meant to Freeburg.
- ACT IX: LAMPLIGHTING — 1895
A nostalgic era that has passed.
- ACT X: COAL INDUSTRY — 1904
The economic stability that it brought.
- ACT XI: THE MEMORIAL IN THE PARK
A salute to all who served in the wars.
- ACT XII: FINALE

"HERITAGE OF OUR PEOPLE"

Freeburg Centennial Pageant

Cast

ACT I

THE TAMARAWAS

Ethyl Baye, Virginia Baumgarte, Ruth Callaghan, Janis Fritz, Mrs. Kenneth Kamper, Isabelle Moore, Rosie Freivogel, Judy Baumgarte, Jean Baumgarte, Pat Callaghan, Rita Callaghan, Janice Garland, Jeanette German, Dave Garland, Roger Kammler, Larry Kammler, Laura Kay Kamper, Tom McDonald, Mark Winterbauer, and Tim Kehl, tom-tom. Dancers: Dennis Ashcraft, Kenny Browning, Robert Darmstetter, Douglas Eldon, William Eller, Stephen Fritz, Gary Joseph, Kent Lannert, Gordon Stone, Tom Tritt, and Charles Vogel.

ACT II

EARLY FRENCH — 1700

Priest—Donald Rauth. Lucille Davis, Elvira Frederick, Mrs. Elmer Gauch, Mrs. Harry Gauch, Ethyl Kessler, Mrs. Donald Kessler, Mrs. Clifford Lannert, Virginia Baumgarte, Carolyn Davis, (Carder), Judy Baumgarte, Jean Baumgarte.

ACT III

THE AMERICANS — 1797

Carol Casperson, Dorothy Frederick, Mrs. Hilmar Groth, Mrs. Orville Groth, Mary Lou Herrin, Mrs. John Heatherly, Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Lannert, Mr. and Mrs. Rolland Stellhorn, Mrs. Anita Weber, Mrs. Ralph Wright, Mr. and Mrs. Elroy Barkau, Mr. and Mrs. George Gloeckler, Raymond Ross, Fiddler.

Husking Bee: Judith Lavon Anderson, Martha Ruth Borger, Paula Sue Brown-ing, Janice Fritz, Rita Heberer, Barbara Jo Kessler, Lois Ann Koesterer, Judy Lynn Lanter, Norman Nold, Dave Renner, Floyd Germann, Sandra A. Mulkey, Jane McDonald, Sharon Lee Scheid, Karen Schneider, Nancy Lou Seibert, Phyllis Ann Vieler, Jeanette Marie Walthes, Mabel Dortha Weiss, Dave Favre, William Moore, Roald Casperson, Chris Heiligenstein.

ACT IV

THE FIRST SCHOOL — 1808

Carl Hafley, schoolmaster, Glenda Sue Anderson, Ronnie Bruehl, Gary Bruehl, Colleen Hafley, Linda Herman, Stanley Herman, Steve Jackson, recitation, Dean Lannert, Donna Lannert, Bruce Morgan, Steve Morgan, Laura Ogle, Jo Ann Nast, Perry Nation, Ann McDonald, Mary McDonald, Marles Reichert, Ronnie Stellhorn, Donna Tewell, Sheila Tewell, Janis Tritt, Melody Valentine, Marilee Valentine, Anna Marie Wisniewski, Carolyn Davis.

ACT V

GERMAN IMMIGRATION

Hazel Baehr, Tommy Bauer, Patty Bauer, Mrs. Ophelia Etling, Miss Phyllis Etling, Ina Frerking, Erma Franzlau, Mrs. Dave Favre, Mrs. Floyd Germann, Mrs. Larry Heiligenstein, Florence Koerber, Freida Reiniger, Mary Schoen, Helen Schlesinger, Sabie Wild, Myrtle Yurges, Laverne Yeske, Martha Borger, Martha Ruth Borger, Eileen Brandenburger, Eva Bell Mrs. Clem Borger, Mrs. Mitch Browning, Mrs. Grover Carr, Sharon Carr, Linda Carr, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Green, Mrs. William Groh, Mrs. James Havel, Dance—Polka.

ACT VI
CITY OF FREEBURG

Harry Favre, Cordelia Favre, Carl Fritz, Cora Fritz, Sally Herman, Doris Valentine, Gordon Kamper, policeman, Mrs. Wilmer Kaiser, Mrs. Barbara Kaiser, Judy Wolski, Joe Fritz, Pamela Kaiser, Michelle, Davida, Jo Dee, Robin Favre, and David Harry Favre.

ACT VII
EARLY CHURCHES

Mr. and Mrs. Armin Becker, Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Etters, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Fuller, Mrs. Margaret Frieman, Lillian Heberer, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Joseph, Gladys Joseph, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Jackson, Ann Kessler, Jeanette Lewis, Martha Lewis, Maybelle Lehr, Mrs. Wallace Loesche, Wallace Loesche, Edna Mahlnan, Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Ovrebø, Marjorie Skaer, Ida Mae Skaer, Tresa Borger, Cheryl, Steve, and Lisa Jackson, and Joy Ovrebø. Russell Classen, traveling preacher, and Clarence Teter, song leader.

ACT VIII
THE RAILROAD

Bobby Bauer, O. W. Etters, Armin Forcade, Mrs. Armin Forcade, Robert Franz, agent, Mrs. Robert Franz, Opal Klingenhoeffer, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Martin, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Maxey, Mr. and Mrs. Armin Meier, Mrs. Arthur Miller, Mr. and Mrs. George Obernagel, Marjery Smith, James Schneider, Ethel Skaer, Ruby Wild, Mrs. Henry Weik, Orville Weik, Karen Martin, Barbara Martin, Donna Meier, Marla Smith, Shirley Skaer, Frances Skaer, Michael Walsh, Billy Walsh, Robert Walsh, Bruce Weik, Anna Wisnewski, and Janice Meng, Mrs. Neal Gerfen, Rita Heberer, Evelyn Heiligenstein, Lucille Klein, Rose Marie Kasper, Marie Kasper, Kenneth Kamper, Sharon Kruse, Lulu Kammler.

ACT IX
LAMPLIGHTING

Quintet: Louis Darmstatter, James Darmstatter, William Pitts, Isadore Friederich, Arthur Friederich. Arthur Bender, lamplighter.

ACT X
COAL INDUSTRY

Edward Baehr, Irvin Lannert, Armin Meier, Gary McDonald, Kenneth Schneider, and Richard Sanders.

ACT XI
THE MEMORIAL IN THE PARK

Bobby Baumgarte, soldier.

DANCERS: Mr. and Mrs. George Munier and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Nichols.

GERMAN BAND: Faith Ovrebø, Jane McDonald, Herschel Parrish, Gordon Carr, Jim Schneider, Tim Tritt, Vern Antry, director.

LIGHTING: Richard Bartelbort, Howard Davis, John Dittman, Jim Bay.

PAGEANT CHORUS

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Jordan
 Marie Wisnewski
 Johanna Steinberger
 Shirley Heberer
 Delores Ackermann
 Jean Ackermann
 Mrs. Florence Kehl
 Mrs. Harold Carpenter
 Gloria Germaine
 Judy Kehl
 Nancy Ogle
 Dorothy Smith
 Mary Heberer
 Barbara Kessler
 Marie Wiltshire
 Marian Rohm
 Michele Middleton
 Sharon Lanier
 Donna Nation
 Faith Ovrebo
 Judy Wolski
 Sandra Laflen
 Barbara Krauss
 Pat Stookey
 Charlene Stookey
 Madeline Krieg
 Cynthia Mueller
 Marianne Mueller
 Charlene Mueller
 Sheila McDonald
 Jane McDonald
 Judy Waeltz
 Joyce Etling
 Margaret Schweiger
 Sue Dittman
 Karen Powell
 Joyce Etling

Helen Wolski
 Alice Classen
 Fleta McDonald
 Paula Browning
 Delores Wisnewski
 Jean Wisnewski
 Kenny Joseph
 Robert Culli
 Richard Boeving
 Gary Joseph
 Gordon Carr
 Grover Carr
 Les Herman
 Carl L. Schweinfurth
 Olaf Ovrebo
 Wilma Browning
 Delores Middleton
 Dora Teter Becker
 Mrs. Irvin Lannert
 Fern Tritt
 Mrs. Henry Lannert
 Jean Zipfel
 Donna Kamper
 Mary Lou Herrin
 Mrs. Verlan Kamper
 Sharon Sheid
 Sandra Mulkey
 Marilyn Bisoux
 Judy Lannert
 Elaine Kamper
 Barbara Clark
 Virginia Weber
 Mrs. Elbert Carr
 Betty Helms
 Edith Rittenhouse
 Ruth Barber

Janice Munier
 Rose Ann Munier
 Herbadine Krauss
 Sandra Burns
 Donna Havel
 Penny Heiligenstein
 Evelyn Kalert
 Martha Kalert
 Eleanore Kalert
 Katherine Kalert
 Janet Imming
 Jane Gill
 Kathy Hacker
 Marjorie Braeutigam
 Karen Schneider
 Lou Ann Hinrichs
 Marian Heimrich
 Joyce Schubert
 Doris Schubert
 Trudy Shoemaker
 Henry Lannert
 Irvin Lannert
 Harold Carpenter
 David Sheid
 Charles Mulkey
 Bill Bender
 Carl Barton
 Clarence Teter
 Russell Classen
 Phillip Lannert, Jr.
 Howard Tritt
 Robert Davis
 Edward Baehr
 Roy Krauss
 Irvin Baumgarte
 Paul Smith

Schedule of Events

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

- 6:30 P.M. Old Timer's Parade — Awarding of prizes.
8:00 P.M. Crowning of Centennial Queen — Presentation of visiting dignitaries— Judging of beards and awarding of prizes — Free, Old time and square dancing, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hermann, callers — Ballroom dancing, Hal LeRoy and his orchestra — Industrial, antique, and rural exhibits open — Concessions, rides, games, refreshments, open.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14

- 6:30 P.M. Western Parade — Awarding of prizes.
7:30 P.M. Horse Show — Smithton Horse and Saddle Club — Presentation of awards.
8:30 P.M. Historical Pageant, "Heritage of our People" — New High School Gymnasium.
10:30 P.M. Fiddler's Contest — Western Music — Free, Old time and square dancing, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hermann, callers — Ballroom dancing, Tommy Ryan and his orchestra — Industrial, antique, and rural exhibits open — Concessions, rides, games, refreshments open.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15

Rural Good Neighbor Day

- 12:00 Noon Industrial, antique, and rural exhibits open.
2:30 P.M. Wild West Rodeo, includes novelty contests featuring local people (Greased pig — Hog calling — Milking)
5:30 P.M. Giant Float Parade — Outstanding floats, bands, corps, etc.
8:30 P.M. Historical Pageant, "Heritage of our People."
10:30 P.M. Singing by Barber Shoppers and Adelines — Free, Old time and square dancing, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Herman, callers — Ballroom dancing, Al Ross and his orchestra — Industrial, antique, and rural exhibits open — Concessions, rides, games, refreshments open.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

- Attend church of your choice.
1:30 P.M. Joint band concert, Freeburg Elementary and High School Bands.
2:30 P.M. Wild West Rodeo, includes novelty contests featuring local people (Greased pig — Hog calling — Milking)
5:30 P.M. Giant Float Parade — Outstanding floats, bands, corps, etc.
8:30 P.M. Historical Pageant, "Heritage of Our People."
10:30 P.M. Mammoth fireworks display — Ballroom dancing, Walt Schlemmer and his orchestra — Industrial, antique, and rural exhibits open — Concessions, rides, games, refreshments open.
11:00 P.M. Public Beard Clipping Exhibition.
1:00 P.M. Drawing — Awarding of Thunderbird and other prizes.

THE HISTORY OF FREEBURG

Compiled by
Mrs. Lucille Wilderman Davis

for

FREEBURG CENTENNIAL 1959

LUCILLE WILDERMAN DAVIS
Author of Historical Booklet

Born: June 6, 1915 in Freeburg, Illinois.
 Parents: Loren E. and Ada M. Wilderman, nee Huber.
 Husband: William Howard Davis.
 Education: Freeburg Elementary School. Freeburg Community High School. B.A. Degree, University of Illinois.

Occupation: Housewife.

Presently serving: Lay Leader, Illinois Commission on Children Training Staff, Kaskaskia Council Cub Scouts, Illinois Citizen's Education Commission. Life Member, Illinois Congress of Parents and Teachers. Coordinator, Television Evaluation for National Parent-Teacher. Associate Matron, Order of Eastern Star. Member, Board of Education, Freeburg Community High School. Adult Sunday School Teacher, Westview Baptist Church, Belleville, Illinois. Member, Training Union and Missionary Committee, Westview Baptist Church, Belleville, Illinois.

Past Activities: Past President, Parent-Teacher Association, Freeburg Elementary School. First Past President, Parent-Teacher Association Freeburg Community High School. Den Mother, Boy Scouts of America, Cubbing Program. Vice Chairman and Secretary, Freeburg Community High School Citizens Committee.



LUCILLE WILDERMAN DAVIS,
Author of Historical Booklet

CARL L. BARTON, General Chairman

Born: December 14, 1915 in Esther, Missouri.
 Parents: Lytle Leeman and Lula Mae Barton, nee Burns.
 Wife: Nola Veleria Barton, nee Shannon.
 Education: Elementary and High School, Esther, Missouri. A. E. Degree, Flat River Junior College, Flat River, Missouri. B.S. in Ed. Degree, Southeast Missouri State College, Cape Girardeau, Missouri. M.A. in Ed. Degree, Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri. Completing requirements for Ph.D., Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois.

Occupation: School Superintendent.

Presently serving: Vice President, St. Clair County Teacher's Association. Legislative Chairman: St. Clair County Teacher's Association, St. Clair County School Administrator's Association, Education Council of 100, Incorporated, Carbondale, Illinois, Freeburg Parent-Teacher Association. Educational Consultant, Illinois Citizen's Education Committee. Member, Executive Committee, Southwestern Illinois Council on Higher Education. Member, Executive Committee, Kaskaskia Council, Boy Scouts of America. Institutional Representative, Troop No. 30, Boy Scouts of America and Explorer Post No. 30. Member, Executive Committee, KETC, Channel 9, Educational Television, St. Louis, Missouri. President, Southwestern Illinois Educational Television Council. Presently listed in Volume XVIII (1957-58) Who's Who in American Education; is also to be included in Volume XIX (1959-60).

Past Activities: Vice President, Illinois Elementary School Association. President, Rotary Club of Freeburg. Instructor, McKendree College, Lebanon, Illinois. Republican write in candidate for County Superintendent of Schools, 1958.



CARL L. BARTON,
General Chairman, Executive Committee



Executive Committee of Freeburg Centennial Association, Incorporated. Front Row, Wilmer Kaiser, Carl L. Barton, Harry Favre. Back row, Ervin Vogel, Russell Classen and Dale Miller.

ERVIN H. L. VOGEL, Secretary

Born: April 4, 1917 in Belleville, Illinois.

Parents: Herman and Lulu Vogel.

Education: Graduate of the Belleville Grade School, Junior High School, Belleville Township High School, Hemphill Diesel School of Engineering of Chicago, and attended the American Institute of Banking in St. Louis.

Occupation: The Cashier and Director of The First National Bank of Freeburg.

Presently serving as: President of Freeburg Chamber of Commerce. Vice President of St. Clair-Monroe County Banker's Federation. Secretary of Board of Freeburg Community High School District No. 77. Secretary-Treasurer of Freeburg Centennial Association. Chairman of Troop Committee of Freeburg Scout Troop No. 30. Member of Executive Committee of Kaskaskia Council Boy Scouts of America.

Past Activity: Past President and Treasurer of Rotary Club of Freeburg. Scoutmaster of Freeburg Scout Troop No. 30.

HARRY LOUIS FAVRE, Advisory

Born: November 15, 1903 in Coulterville, Illinois.

Parents: Aime and Mary Elizabeth Favre, nee Etienne.

Education: Coulterville Public Schools.

Occupation: Implement Dealer.

Presently serving as President of the Freeburg Village Board.

Past Activities: President Freeburg Chamber of Commerce, 1944-45. President of Rotary Club, 1943-44. Freeburg Village Trustee, 1950-53. President Freeburg Board of Education (Elementary) 1945.

DALE D. MILLER, Advisory

Born: September 2, 1932 in Freeburg, Illinois.

Parents: John and Olivia Miller, nee Paule.

Education: Freeburg Grade School, Freeburg Community High School, Belleville Junior College, Southern Illinois University.

Occupation: Laboratory Tester, Shell Oil Company.

Presently Serving as: Commander of American Legion. Member of the Village Board.

Past Activities: Senior Vice-Commander of Legion Post No. 550. Sergeant-at-Arms of Legion Post No. 550.

WILMER A. KAISER, Advisory

Born: April 23, 1917 in New Athens Township, Illinois.

Parents: Andrew and Clara M. Kaiser, nee Meng.

Education: Rural school and New Athens High School.

Occupation: Retail Electrical Appliance Dealer.

Presently serving: Fire Chief, Freeburg Rural Fire District.

Past Activities: President, Freeburg Chamber of Commerce. Secretary-Treasurer L.P. Gas Association. Treasurer, Rotary Club of Freeburg.

RUSSELL H. CLASSEN, Legal Advisor

Born: December 3, 1903 in Freeburg, Illinois.

Parents: Edward A. and Margaret Classen, nee Helms.

Mrs. Classen died in December 1909. Mr. Classen was then united in marriage to Miss Lydia Ripley on January 22, 1913.

Education: Freeburg Elementary and Freeburg Community High School. Graduated from Western Military Academy at Alton, Illinois. Received B.L. Degree from College of Law, University of Illinois. Graduated from the Command and General Staff School, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; also from Contract and Termination School of the United States Air Force, Dayton, Ohio.

Occupation: Attorney-at-Law.

Presently serving: Lt. Colonel in Air Force Reserve. Judge Advocate of the 9614th Squadron of the St. Louis Air Reserve Center. Director, First National Bank of Freeburg. Public Administrator of Estates by appointment of Honorable William G. Stratton, Governor. Legal Counsel for the cities of Freeburg, Caseyville and Marissa.

Past Activities: Staff member of Eighth Air Force Fighter Command. Director of Belleville Chamber of Commerce. President, Freeburg Chamber of Commerce. President, Rotary Club of Freeburg. Public Administrator of Estates by appointment of Honorable Dwight H. Green, Governor. Republican candidate for Congress in the 25th Congressional District of Illinois.

Dedication

This Historical Booklet is dedicated to those rugged pioneer souls who migrated to this area during the early period of our country's history. These, our forebears, endured the rigors of climate, the adversities of Indian onslaughts, crop failures, sickness and disease, but their perseverance and fortitude have resulted in the development of the many advantages which we enjoy in our modern day Freeburg Community.

We also include in this dedication those present day community leaders who have inherited a goodly portion of the early pioneer spirit from their ancestors. These people work tirelessly toward the goal of attaining that degree of perfection most adequately expressed in the old American maxim "Bigger and Better".

With God's help, may we continue to grow and prosper and be exulting in our pride as citizens of Freeburg.



JOHN TOLIN LEMEN

Biography of
JOHN TOLIN LEMEN

John Tolin Lemen was born January 28, 1810, the son of Robert Lemen and Hester Tolin Lemen. His grandfather, James Lemen, Sr. and his grandmother, Catherine Ogle Lemen, were among the earliest settlers in this area, and were interested in forming pioneer churches and promoting the Baptist movement.

John Tolin Lemen married Patience Wilderman, a native of this area, on August 30, 1932. George C. and Robert W. were sons of this union. Robert W. married Barbara E. Stookey in 1856 and they had a son Walter W.; Walter W. Lemen married Elizabeth Darrow in 1881. Their only child, a son Robert Ford Lemen, resides in Belleville with his wife.

John T. Lemen was a farmer and mine operator. It was not his skill in these occupations, however, that causes us to pause and revere his memory. It was his platting of the town of Urbanna, changed in 1859 to Freeburg, that causes us to pause during this Centennial Celebration and remember his foresight and philanthropy. It was on November 11, 1836, that the town was laid out with eight blocks surrounding a square. This square was donated by John Lemen to be used as a park.

John T. Lemen served as a director of the Belleville and Urbanna (Freeburg) Plank Road Company in 1856. It was the same year that he was elected president of the St. Clair County Agricultural Society which conducted the County Fairs.



Biography of
PATIENCE LEMEN

Patience E. Wilderman, his wife, was a charter member of the First Baptist Church. John T. Lemen united with this church soon afterward and served as a trustee. The Lemens resided south of Freeburg, and a mine close to the railroad located on the Ben Hartman farm was known as the Lemen Mine. Near here, on the William Baltz farm, was the Lemen School. Farther south about three miles was a railroad stop known as Lementon Station.

John Lemen died December 23, 1875, but his memory will live on forever in the minds and hearts of the citizens of Freeburg, Illinois. He will be remembered as the progenitor of our present heritage and for whatever the future may hold in the way of enlarging upon that heritage.

Geographical Setting and Natural History

Freeburg, Illinois is located in an area blessed by God. "And God saw everything that he had made and behold it was very good"—Genesis 1:31. Among its blessings is the fact that it is located near a great waterway—the mighty Mississippi. From the raging floodwaters of this great river, Freeburg is protected by the high "bluffs." Near us are the great Mississippi flood plains, often called the American Bottom, with their sandy loam soil. In this area there are also rich deposits of loess (wind deposited soil) which is fine sediment picked up by the wind and placed on the upland earth that has been leveled and filled by glaciers. Many valleys are fertile with the accumulation of the alluvial deposits from swollen streams. The soil was the dominant factor which attracted settlers to this area.

Turkey Hill, north of Freeburg, is one of the highest points in St. Clair County. It can be seen from the east for about forty miles. From this vantage point one can overlook a vast stretch of prairie named Prairie Tamarois for the Indians who once hunted in this immense area. This great prairie south of Freeburg is now called Twelve Mile Prairie. Various grasses and plants grew luxuriantly here to feed buffalo and deer.

In the area around Freeburg may be found many springs. Silver Creek, a local waterway, was so named because of an early belief that silver could be found along its banks.

Jack's Run is another creek northeast of Freeburg which lends itself to a wildlife refuge and a bit of scenery.

The plants growing here were of many species and were essential to the settlers for medicine, farm implements, furniture, houses, and food, as well as beauty. Most of these early plants are here today—the maples, both sugar and silver, the box elder, the buckeye, the paw paw, the red bud, hackberry, black cherry, and choke cherry, hawthorn, hazelnut, dogwood, the many varieties of hickory, the many kinds of ash, the wahoo, the walnut, butternut, mulberry, sycamore, cottonwood, quaking aspen, wild plum, crab-apple, the many varieties of oak, the various willows, sassafras, elderberry, black haw, black and honey locust, basswood or linden, and the many kinds of elm which are now dying and may soon be extinct.

Raspberries, blackberries, grapes, gooseberries, and currants, as well as strawberries, were plentiful for the barefoot boys and girls, but they are now found mainly in gardens.

Not only was our land rich in plants for the settlers but also very rich in wild animals since they had abundant vegetation to feed upon. No longer do the elk, deer, buffalo, and bears feed here, but many a settler was frightened by the black bears near Freeburg. Many bones and horns have been found, and buffalo wallows are in existence to this day. The cunning fox, the mink, the skunk, the woodchuck, the muskrat, raccoon, the different kinds of squirrels, and the rabbits continue to furnish food and sport for the marksmen of today as they did for our ancestors. Many animals perished or fled with the oncoming of civilization, but many found the living good and adapted themselves to the change. Jack's Run and the Kaskaskia (Okaw) Bottoms remain a retreat for much of our wildlife.

Among the game birds which were plentiful was the wild turkey. Many of our grandparents can tell of hunting wild turkeys on Turkey Hill when food was

needed, for the turkeys were exceedingly large, and thrived well on the abundance of food around them. Thus, we see clearly how Turkey Hill, our earliest distinctly American settlement, received its name. Other game birds were the grouse and the quail of which we have only the quail today. Many water birds and songbirds are no longer with us. Ducks, geese, and swan furnished food for the early hunters as well as the present day hunters.

We were blessed with an abundance of fish which were of many species—cat, bass, sunfish, perch, pike, buffalo, and carp. What can afford more sport than catching bass!

As the potential of this area has been great, as the setting has been beautiful, so our history has been rich. To appreciate our heritage, we need to delve into the pages of history.

INDIANS IN THE AREA

Even before the time of the Indians there was a culture located between the Mississippi, Wabash, and Ohio Rivers called the Mound Builders. Much mystery surrounds them; were they the ancestors of the North American Indian, or were they the ancestors of the Aztecs or Incas? The largest dwelling place of these Mound Builders seems to have been in the low fertile land of the American Bottom in St. Clair County. The largest of these mounds, pyramidal in shape and called "Cahokia Mound", covers sixteen acres and is more than one hundred feet high. It is often called Monk's Mound because it was occupied by Monks of LaTrappe who came in 1810.

The Indians were found here in 1673 when the first actual possession of Illinois was established by Marquette and Joliet. It was soon after the discovery of this continent that three European governments started to settle, colonize, and civilize North America. Illinois became subject to claims of title by all three—Spain, France, and England before its acquisition by Virginia and the United States.

The Illinois Confederacy (known as the Illini) was composed of five tribes: the Kaskaskias, Peorias, Cahokias, Tamarois and Mitchigamies living mainly along the Illinois River. The Illinois was one of the constituent tribes of the Algonquin Confederacy inhabiting the central section of the Mississippi Valley. Like all Indians they were somewhat migratory. In 1680 the Iroquois Indians attacked the chief Indian village and many Tamarois were killed or imprisoned. They moved south. Eventually, the remainder of the Tamarois and the Cahokias settled at Cahokia and the Mitchigamies at Fort Chartres, probably, because of efforts of the Jesuits. By 1800, the Kaskaskias and Peorias, the only surviving Illinois tribes, could boast only one hundred fifty warriors.

Our area was rich in Indian lore. Turkey Hill was for many generations an Indian camping ground. Many tales are told of the Indians of this area — some of which need recording:

"When wild turkeys were found in abundance on the high wooded ridge of Turkey Hill (named by the Tamarois Indians and known to the French as "cote de dinde" which means, piece of turkey), a legend says that the Tamarois Indians had a large town on Turkey Hill many years ago. The Great Spirit sent an old Indian, who was very wise and good, with vegetable seeds and instructions on how to plant and cultivate them. He gave much good sensible counsel on how to

maintain peaceful relations with the rest of mankind. For a time this advice was much heeded and the Tammarois enjoyed an extended period of peace and prosperity. At length they grew careless and belligerent and suffered the consequences—they were wiped out by the Shawnees."

Another legend which was handed down by some one tells of the old Indian trail that went from Twelve Mile Prairie, through the Park, and followed Jack's Run to Turkey Hill. Many times the early settlers became afraid when the different Indians were on the war path and sought refuge in forts. It is alleged that one of these was near Freeburg and one on Turkey Hill. The mothers would gather up their children and seek safety at the fort.

Coming of the White Man and Early History of the Area

The first coming of the white man to our area was when Marquette floated down to Kaskaskia in 1675. There in the midst of several thousand chiefs, warriors, women, and children, he established the mission of the Immaculate Conception. Marquette died on his way home.

It was in 1677 that LaSalle was sent to explore the Mississippi Valley. Because of Indian Wars between the Illini and the Iroquois it took him five years to reach the Gulf of Mexico. Because of this expedition France claimed the Mississippi Valley which LaSalle called Louisiana in honor of the King of France.

Because of the constant harassments from other Indians, the Missionaries persuaded the Kaskaskias to move south and establish the new Kaskaskia between the Mississippi and Kaskaskia Rivers about seven miles north of Chester.

LaSalle returned to the new Kaskaskia and made it the seat of French government in America. After this, Cahokia was established, then Prairie-du-Rocher and Prairie-du-Pont. These were the first white settlements in Illinois, dating around 1718, and the total population approximated three hundred. In 1718, Fort Chartres was built between Cahokia and Kaskaskia. Here the French Governor lived, and here also was the base used by the French against the English in the French and Indian wars. When the English defeated the French in these wars, the forts were taken over by the British. All French lands east of the Mississippi became the property of England by the treaty of 1763.

When the American Revolution broke out, a young Virginian named George Rogers Clark, who had military duty along the frontiers of Kentucky, persuaded Patrick Henry to send him against the British power in the west because he realized the importance of the Illinois Territory. Through this expedition Kaskaskia, Cahokia, and Vincennes were captured and Virginia had undisputed claim to Illinois. A legislative provision was passed by Virginia in 1778, naming this land west of the Ohio River the "County of Illinois". In 1781 settlers started coming from Virginia, and by 1784 Virginia added the Northwest Territory to the United States. In the "Ordinance of 1787", passed by act of Congress, provision was made for a governor, who was designated to the militia and also had power to lay out counties and townships.

Another provision of this Ordinance which was to affect Illinois and St. Clair County very much was one which stated that there should be, "neither slavery nor involuntary servitude except as a punishment for crimes."

Aside from legend, we have some evidence of camp sites and battle grounds in our area where one can still see pieces of arrow-heads and also chips of flint. Around an old spring on the Eckert farm at Turkey Hill, many flints and arrow-heads have been found. This place gained renown as a trading post. On the John Joseph farm south of Freeburg is a spring around which many Indian relics have been found. This may have been a camp site. One mile north of Freeburg can be found evidence of an Indian camp on a hill. These Tammarois were an agricultural tribe thriving on hunting and raising vegetables. These Indians seldom molested the early American settlements in St. Clair County.

Another Article which provided the foundation of for our splendid system of education was in this ordinance, "Religion, morality, and knowledge being necessary to a good government and the happiness of mankind, schools, and means of education, shall forever be encouraged." Great is our heritage when we think of these principles which were set forth as a guide.

LAND GRANTS FOR SERVICE

The soldiers who accompanied George Rogers Clark were promised grants of three hundred acres of ground for their service. After the expiration of their enlistment in 1781, they started to come to Illinois to claim their grants and thereby became true American pioneers.

The spirit of patriotism was great during the years of 1783-1790. During this period, militia men were activated to defend their homes from Kickapoo Indian raids and from other people. The Ogles, Ben and Joseph, Sr., James Lemen, John Porter, and D. Draper were active militia men.

In 1788 General Arthur St. Clair was appointed governor of this new territory, and he established a county in 1790 which he named for himself. This county covered about one third of the state. People moved into the area at that time, bringing different religions and different customs.

In 1787 a Baptist preacher from Kentucky, by the name of James Smith, moved to New Design, a settlement south of Waterloo, and his arrival meant the beginning of Protestantism in Illinois. Smith was the first evangelical preacher to enter the territory that is now the State of Illinois. Smith is reputed to have said that he worked at blacksmithing for a living and preached for a good conscience. He held a series of meetings in the New Design area in which Shadrach Bond, the first governor of Illinois, James Lemen, and Capt. Joseph Ogle and their wives were converted.

Joseph Lillard, a Methodist missionary, started the Methodist movement in Illinois. In 1796, Reverend Hosea Riggs, a Methodist minister from Kentucky, came to Illinois and in 1803 settled at Turkey Hill. At that time, the Turkey Hill Settlement which consisted of the William Scott family and a few others; the Ogle settlement on Ridge Prairie about one and one-half miles west of O'Fallon; and a few other families, comprised nearly all of the American settlers in St. Clair County. At this time St. Clair County was a large part of the State of Illinois.

Among the early families of our area were: the William Scotts, his wife and seven children, James,

JAMES MONROE, President of the United States of America,

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING;

KNOW YE, That *Esq. Wilderman and George Wilderman* have

having deposited in the General Land Office, a Certificate of the Register of the Land Office at *Rock Hill* whereby it appears that full payment has been made for *the South West fractional quarter section seven and eight ten and the South West fractional quarter section seven in township one South of Range seven East, containing two hundred and forty seven and seventy hundredths acres*

of the Lands directed to be sold at *Rock Hill* by the Acts of Congress, relative to the disposal of the public Lands in **Illinois**, THERE IS GRANTED, by the United States, in pursuance of the Acts of Congress in that case provided, unto the said *Esq. Wilderman and George Wilderman* *the fractional quarter of section of Land* above described: **To have and to hold** the said *fractional quarter of section of Land*, with the Appurtenances, unto the said *Esq. Wilderman and George Wilderman* and to their *heirs and assigns forever, as tenants, partners and co-owners in joint tenancy*

In testimony whereof, I have caused these Letters to be made PUBLIC, and the Seal of the GENERAL LAND OFFICE, to be hereunto affixed. GIVEN under my hand at the City of Washington, the *twenty second* day of *June* in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and *twenty four* and of the Independence of the United States the forty *eighth*

In the President.

Recessed at 5 Page 211

M. C. ... Commissioner of the General Land Office.

LAND GRANT FROM PRESIDENT MONROE

William, Samuel, Joseph, John, Alexander, and Elizabeth who came from Virginia in 1794; Hosea Riggs, a Methodist minister and revolutionary soldier from West Virginia; Samuel Shook who came from Virginia; Jacob and Moses Short who came from Kentucky in 1796 and fought in the War of 1812; Reverend David Badgely and sons Aaron (a ranger in the War of 1812) Ichabod, David, Job, and Abraham; the Carr brothers: Joseph, Henry, Conrad, and Abner came from Virginia in 1803; David Phillips, a Revolutionary soldier who came from North Carolina with his three year old son Isaac; Elijah Rittenhouse and sons: Cornelius, Peter, William, and Elijah who came in 1806; Isaac Quick; John Jarvis; and John Woods.

TURKEY HILL FOR COUNTY SEAT

It was Elijah Rittenhouse, a very public spirited man, who wanted Turkey Hill as the county seat instead of Cahokia. Isaac Quick's son, Moses, built the first flatboat on the Okaw and floated it to New Orleans.

From Pennsylvania came the John Teter family, Abraham Eymann, William Miller, Martin Randleman, and Daniel Stookey who came in 1801.

From Virginia came Captain Joseph Ogle, a Revolutionary soldier, and his son Benjamin who was a ranger in the War of 1812; Joseph, who served in the Black Hawk War, and Jacob; Reverend James Lemen Sr., his wife Catherine, nee Ogle, and sons Robert, Joseph, and James. The founder of Freeburg was John Tolin Lemen a son of this same Robert Lemen. These Virginians came in 1802 with John Pulliam and his children, Robert, Nancy, Elizabeth, John, Lucinda, James, Thomas, Ruth, and Mary. George Blair, who was instrumental in founding Belleville, came with his brother William Blair. John Messinger, who helped

establish the boundary line between Illinois and Wisconsin, and who taught mathematics at Rock Hill Seminary, came in 1802. Soldiers of George Rogers Clark, Larkin Rutherford and William Biggs, came to receive their land for service. Joseph Kinney, a Kentucky merchant and Baptist preacher arrived at this time.

Among the early settlers who settled north and south of Freeburg was George Wilderman's family of ten sons and three daughters; namely, John, Jacob, Francis, James, Dorsey, Henry, Joseph, William, Levi and George; the wife of Peter Hill, the wife of Job Badgely, and the wife of Benjamin Phillips.

Then came the Woods family, and a little later the families of Perkins, Beasley, Nathaniel Hill, and James and Reuben Lively.

As you will note, it was during this period that the Americans were arriving; they were pioneering—going West. It was in 1812 that Jabez and Curtis Moore, Risdon Moore, W. D. Moore and Mr. and Mrs. Deshields and seventeen negroes came from Georgia.

John Mason Peck came as a missionary to the St. Louis area in Illinois and Missouri, and founded the Rock Springs Seminary near Lebanon.

Sam and Edward Mitchell came with slaves. John Henry Dennis, an educator, came and started a school in Belleville. He was a resident of Turkey Hill and was the first person in the State to teach Hebrew, Greek, and Latin languages. Later he became County Superintendent of Schools.

In 1818, Major Washington West, who had served in the War of 1812, and sixty-six other Virginians came overland with their slaves, cattle, and horses and settled in the area surrounding Freeburg. Another family that migrated to the same area was the Joseph McClintock family which consisted of his eight children as well as his brother.

PIONEERS MADE OWN TOOLS

Most of the early American settlers in St. Clair County were from Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, and Maryland. The names of pioneer families are for our entire area, since there were no towns at that time. In this area lived my ancestors and perhaps yours. People were very isolated. From necessity, they made their own implements, tanned their leather, wove their own cloth, and hunted their own food. There was plenty to eat and wear, but luxuries were unthought of. On Turkey Hill Springs Farm on Sugar Creek there was a large tannery and many can remember the large vats used for the curing of leather.

Each pioneer built his own cabin of logs with the help of his neighbors. Within the cabin there was crude furniture and at one end there was a large fireplace. The more ingenuity the pioneer had, the better was his living.

The pioneers were friendly and sociable. All newcomers were welcomed and helped to get their start. Log cabin raisings, quilting bees, husking bees, and apple bees were the high-lights of their lives. Dancing the jigs and reels as they formerly had done back in Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Kentucky was popular.

Wheat flour was not used very much in pioneer times. Many times people had to travel fifty miles for bread-stuffs. There were only a few mills then; one at Cahokia and one at Whiteside Station. George Wilderman of Turkey Hill gave a mill to his daughter. This daughter was later married to Peter Hill.

On the east side of Silver Creek, Joseph McKinney put up the first mill in 1815; it was a hand mill. Each patron furnished his own power. It would grind from ten to twelve bushels of corn a day. After the corn was ground, sieves were used to sift it.

In 1828, William Whichinck and his son built their own mill. They did all the work on it except black-smithing. They dressed their own stone, which was five and a half feet in diameter and many millers claimed it was better than French burrstones. By changing oxen teams, they could grind seventy-five bushels per day.

Many from this area became United States Rangers for the defense of the frontiers. The second war against England was declared on June 18, 1812 on recommendation of President Madison. The British Indian agents and traders incited the Indians to hostility to ward American inhabitants and settlers. This hostility often led to the murder of early settlers. Governor Edwards moved to stamp out Indian uprisings. It was not until the summer of 1815 that peace was restored between the United States and the tribes of the Northwest.

ILLINOIS BECOMES A STATE

In 1818, a petition was presented to Congress by our territorial delegate, Nathaniel Pope, asking for admission as a State. Following the Act of Admission, a convention was held on August 26, 1818 at Kaskaskia to adopt a state constitution. At the first election of officers of the new state, Shadrack Bond was elected Governor and Pierre Menard became the first Lieutenant Governor. The capitol of the State Government was fixed at Kaskaskia. It was in December, 1820 that the capitol was moved to Vandalia where it remained until 1839.

Some of the men of our area volunteered for the Black Hawk War in the summer of 1831, and by August, 1832 they were mustered out. Those representing Fayetteville precinct (including Freeburg) in this war were: Solomon Teter, Aaron Land, Isaac Griffin, James Hill, John Baker, and Myram McMullen.

Around the time of 1850 several from this area went to California during the "Gold Rush" and to the best of my knowledge, none of them became rich. One from here who went was F. A. Patterson, who wrote back to James Wilderman in September, 1854 telling of all the bad luck and of the killings by Indians, robbers and gamblers.

Another story tells of many farmers who left with a determination to become gold miners in California. Many traveled by ox teams across the plains and over the mountains to the land of gold. This trip took about six months. Some stayed, some tarried only four or five years, but few ever returned.

GERMAN IMMIGRATION

In 1831, 1832 and 1833 German Settlers arrived at Turkey Hill and settled in the area. Among them were John Knobloch, Thomas Heberer, Balthaser Mueller, Jacob Mueller, George Moeser, George Merger, Jacob Weber and son (on Twelve Mile Prairie), John Wendelein Knobloch, George Hehret, Adam Bopp, the Merckels, George Fischer, the Seibert family, the Funk family, the Obermueller family the Ackermann family, the Bornmann family and the Busse family.

Beginning in 1838 great numbers of German immigrants came to the Mississippi Valley. The names are listed as when "naturalized":



JOHN JOSEPH AT AGE OF 73

In 1838, Gustavus Koerner, Frederick Engelman, Philip Eckert, John Scheel, Gustavus Heimbarger, Theodore Hilgard, Edward Hilgard, and Theodore Kraft.



KATHERINE NOLD NEE PIERRE

In 1839, Adolph Berchelmann, Lewis Engelman, George Brenner, Conrad Westermann, George Neuhoft, Henry Buff, George Bunsen, Conrad Schrag, George Busch, and August Conrad.

In 1840, Ernest E. Decker, George Adam Popp, Casper Kurtz, Francis Kurtz, Philip Rauch, Adam Fritz, George Kriechbaum, George Heberer, John Maus, Joseph Ledergerber, Balthaser Weber, and Francis Perrin (a Frenchman).

In 1841, Erasmus T. Hilgard, George Hanckler, Peter Rappauf, Herman Wolf, Cornelius Nennig, and Fred Knoebel.

In 1842, Jacob Knoebel, John Geiger, William Zimmerman, Johann Freivogel, Christian Probst, Adam Probst, Gottfried Probst, J. N. Schmallerberg, Jacob Wetzler, Sebastian Pfeiffer, Carl Knoebel, Fred Aul, Conrad Bornmann, Christian Metzler, Jacob Kumm, J. L. Horeth, H. C. T. Schlieh, George Eckart, Christian Vierhaller, George Herr, F. A. M. Hassel, George and Jean Briesacher, Henry Lintz, and Michael Mueller.

In 1843, B. Robker, Henry Schraer, Henry Harwarth, John Masmann, J. H. Aggemann, W. Kracht, Bernhard Dingworth, Michael Funk, Philip Hoff, J. G. Eckert, Henry Kaysing, Christian and Jacob Kaysing, Francis Wetzler, Charles Tittmann, Charles Barth, Franz Appmann, Peter Steinheimer, Michael Junger (all German). Also two Frenchman, Michael Bage and George Perring, and an Englishman James Gibbons.

In 1844, Conrad Mueller, Martin, Henry and George Funk, Valentine Metzler, Heinrich Eidmann, George Winter, C. H. Kettler, Michel Kleinschmidt, Christoff Reinhold, John Weisenborn, Heinrich Pfeffer, John Krick, Nicholas Hertel, August Holsappel, Balthaser Mueller, Aloysius Ewers, Johannes Schaeffer, Henry Knoebel, Frederick Germann, John Winter, Jacob Laeuffert, Michel Bossie, Franz Stolz, Seb. Joseph Reichert, Karl Grossmann, Frederick Glazer, Philip Baum, John Knobloch, Nicholas Werner, George Ritter, John Weibacher, Joseph Hock, George Kuntz, Jacob Hieder, George Fisher, Anton Wichers, Adam Haas, G. P. Fein, Martin Weilmuenster, Albert Doenewald, Henry Bergkotter, Henry Zieren, Henry Unnigmann, Joseph Biermann, Peter Sauer, Frederick Kress, Joseph Abend, Martin Roos, Adam Hoffmann, Anton Amrein, Chris Belsch, Samuel Jost, David Ameiss, Henry Friederick, J. G. Neubarth, Adam Schaefer, Peter Horst, Bernhard Lake, J. G. Kratsch, John Deschner, Ferdinand Friederich, Lorenz Reichert, Philip Jeckel, John Keck, John G. Heberer, George Rauch, Peter Schneider, Michael Hild, Matthais Finklong, J. A. Krick, John W. Scholl, Johann Kehrer, Louis Vierheller, Henry Moeser, J. Wendell Eckert, Christian Gruenewald, Peter Diehl, Conrad Beelmann, Martin Sieber, George Mittelstadter, Joseph Kopp, Peter Kalbfleisch, Franz Urban, Franz Schultheis, Jacob W. Michel, Edward Abend, Conrad Liebig, John P. Trautwein, Michael Flick, Julius Scheve, and Philip Pfadler from Germany; Gregor Neyser, Ignatius Broves, Antoine Wagner, Leonard Boul, and Nicholas Barbeau from France; James Tracy from England, and Frederick Meyer from Switzerland.



LOUIS MILLER AND BARBARA MILLER

IMMIGRANTS FACED PROBLEMS

Little do we realize what these early immigrants faced. We quote from a letter written in German in July, 1834, by George Fein (Listed above) to his parents: "I must beg pardon for my long silence, but my excuse is, we were strangers in a foreign land and for a time had no permanent home. We left our fatherland on April 17, 1833, on the good ship, Salle, one of the best that sails the Atlantic. The fare from Havre, France was one hundred francs (five francs is the equivalent of \$1.00) per person young and old.

"The voyage across the great ocean was without special incident. . . . Those who intend to make a voyage of this kind had best provide themselves with dried fruit, dry bread, flour, lard, bacon, eggs, etc., enough to last about fifty days. We entered the harbor of New Orleans at 4 P.M., June 5, 1833. We lay at anchor only a few hours when a cooper appeared on board looking for journeymen; he offered me three dollars per day to work for him, but I did not accept because the climate was too hot for me, and besides, the cholera was raging so severely at the time that people fell in the streets and the dead could hardly be counted.

"On June 7th, Mr. Vogle of Ottweiler and I took passage on a steamboat going to St. Louis. We steamed up the river for some distance and then in the middle of the night the Captain of the boat, without giving us any reason landed us in a wilderness. There were no houses, no roads, not even paths, and here we poor immigrants, forty-two in number, were stranded and knew not what to do. We pitched a few tents for the women and children, and the rest of us bivouaced for

the night. The next morning, God sent a man, a Cabinet maker named Patage, to us. He was a fellow countryman from Gross Billlerdorf in Lorraine, and had been in this country several years. He led us to a large house some distance away from the river, where we were kindly received; but, here the cholera raged so severely that in the three hours we lost three of our number. I, too, was attacked, but fortunately at this time the doctors arrived. One, who was a Frenchman, could understand us. Almighty God preserved my life and restored my health.

"We remained at this place fourteen days during which time death took a toll of ten, all of them men; strange to say, none of the women were attacked. I was the only one that got cholera that escaped death. Mr. Vogle lost his oldest son. The people at this house were very human and charitable. We had no doctor bills to pay and received wine and food in abundance, everything without charge. May God bless them-----

"While in St. Louis, Mr. Vogle and I took a trip eastward into Illinois for the purpose of investigating the country. About fifteen miles from St. Louis we saw land that seemed to suit our purpose, and so we bought a farm consisting of eighty acres, etc. For this farm we paid eight hundred dollars. The taxes amount to \$2.00 a year. Government land is sold at the rate of fifty dollars for forty acres and is tax free therefor.

"A laborer receives from four to five fr. a day. There are no beggars in this section of the country because there is abundant work and good wages. Our farm is located about fourteen miles from St. Louis and eight miles from Belleville; the latter is still a small town having recently, 1814, been founded. There are no villages like those in Lorraine in the United States. People either live in towns or on farms. We have no church in our vicinity, but are not without the solace of religion because we have service in our house for the neighborhood. These are conducted by a German pastor who visits us twice a month. We are, thank God, in a good country and I wish all poor people in my district were where they could easily maintain themselves, but at the same time I will not advise my friends to come or to stay away, as each must be the master of his own destiny. One leaves his home in the old Fatherland carefree, but many dark clouds gather above his head before he has established himself in new and undeveloped country. There is much truth and falsehood written about this country, but I find experience is the best teacher. We are in a great country; liberty, equality, and fraternity reign supreme and where we address each other Thou brother and Thou sister. Whatever one earns is his own and the Government oppresses no one. No official has ever asked me for a cent. If one is an honest man, no questions are asked. The first year is indeed a hard and cruel one, but as soon as one is again moderately established, he begins to love the land and the people."

Perhaps this letter tells more of the feeling of the early immigrants from Germany than I could tell and of the hardship, especially the cholera, which endangered their lives.

We need to realize that these immigrants came after Illinois was very well established. In 1795 the County of St. Clair was divided with the southern part becoming Randolph County. Both were under the jurisdiction of the Northwest Territory until 1800, when this Territory was divided and it was known as the Indiana Territory. On March 1, 1809, the Territory of Illinois was established (this was the land now known as Wisconsin and Illinois) with a population of about 12,000. Ninian Edwards (who resided in Belleville) was appointed its governor.



WEDDING PICTURE OF WILLIAM HENRY AND
CATHERINE HERMAN JOSEPH



THE OLD KLEIN HOUSE ON THE CORNER OF SOUTH BELLEVILLE AND HIGH STREET

Development of the Village

Freeburg was platted on November 11, 1836 by John T. Lemen, as the town of Urbanna. It was composed of eight blocks, divided into one hundred twenty-eight lots. Many additions have been made to the original town. On the east side of town, Thomas Temple added thirty-six lots in 1853 and D. C. Wallace added ninety lots the same year. Reazin Thrifts added eight lots in 1857. Philip Rauch added fourteen lots on the north side in 1854; George Smith added three blocks in 1854, and the milling company twelve blocks north of town. Freeburg was a part of the Fayetteville Precinct. Precincts were the earliest subdivisions for establishing polling districts. The system began about 1818. In 1884 the Township Organization was adopted which placed the village in Freeburg Township.

When John T. Lemen platted Urbanna in 1836, he donated to the town, as a park, the present Village Square.

Having learned that another town of Urbanna existed in northern Illinois, the citizens changed the name in 1859. Since many of the inhabitants by this time were German, the name was changed to Freeburg in honor of the beautiful city of Freiburg in Baden, Germany. The centennial anniversary of this event is being celebrated by the present citizens who have received a rich heritage from these early settlers.

Joseph Reichert made the first addition of forty-two lots to Freeburg after the name was changed. A postoffice was located in Freeburg in 1851 with George W. Smith as the postmaster.

ITS INCORPORATION

Freeburg was incorporated on March 4, 1867 by the unanimous vote of the citizens. The first meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on April 4, 1867, in the public school building. Trustees at the time of the incorporation of the town were James Hill, Philip Koesterer, John Klingel, Christ Barthel, and Fred Koeberlin. The village was organized under the laws of the State of Illinois in 1875 with Dr. Frederick Koeberlin as the first mayor. Other mayors and their terms of office are as follows:

Frederick Koeberlin	1875
Joseph Reichert	1876-78 inclusive
Charles Weber	1879-80 "
George Schuerger	1881-87 "
Charles Weber	1888-89 "

Philip Hoffman	1890
Charles Weber	1891-92 "
George Schuerger	1893-1900 Died in office
Samuel Blattner	1901-1904 " " "
F. X. Heiligenstein	1905-1910
Dr. Charles L. Tegtmeyer	1911-1914
William Reinheimer	1915-1920
Dr. Charles L. Tegtmeyer	1921-1922
Peter Vogel	1923-1924
Paul Buchlitz	1925-1926 Resigned



THE PRESENT MAYOR AND MRS. HARRY FAVRE



FIRST MAYOR, DR. FRED KOEBERLEIN AND WIFE

Louis M. Schwalb	1926-1930
F. X. Heiligenstein	1931-1936
Louis Schwalb	1937-1951 Resigned
Harry Favre	completed term
John Heiligenstein	1952
Harry Favre	1953-59 Elected to 1961

John G. Sintzel Sr. was village clerk for 46 years and township clerk for 47 years.

By May the charter was received. The Catholic Church was to ring the church bells as a fire alarm. At the first meeting under the charter an ordinance was passed that "all persons selling beer and cider in less than gallens" must pay a license fee of \$25.00 a year.

The November, 1867 census showed eight hundred and eight persons living in town, four hundred sixty-eight over ten years of age and three hundred forty-one under ten years old.

In 1910 the inhabitants of the village voted on whether they wanted to be incorporated as a city or whether they would remain unincorporated. The vote was fifty-four for incorporation and one-hundred forty-one votes against. This year was also the time the fence was removed from around the Public Square. Wrestling matches on Sunday were abolished in 1912.

It was in August, 1872 that the town voted to purchase hocks and ladders for fire protection. However, Frederick Darmstatter, John Heid, Philip Krauss, John Reisel, Otto Heizmann, Philip Conrath, and John Forcade received their charter to form a corporation, the Freeburg Fire Company; Number One, in April, 1872. In 1876 it was decided by the trustees of the Village to put hooks, ladders and fire buckets in P. C. Hill's buggy shed. The town gave seventy-five dollars for payment on a new engine shortly after Freeburg Fire Company, Number One, was organized in 1876, with forty-nine members. It was interesting to note that firemen were exempt from road and street labor.

It was in March of 1890 that Freeburg purchased a large fire engine from Runsy and Company of St. Louis for four hundred dollars. A one-hundred and fifty-foot discharge hose and a twenty-four foot suction hose came with it.



EARLY HAND-PUMPED FIRE ENGINE WITH HOSE

The town purchased a new fire alarm bell on October 2, 1893 for fifty-five dollars. During 1929 our fire protection system was improved by the purchase of a shrill whistle used to sound fire alarms. The village was divided into four fire wards. A given number of whistles was used for each ward, signaling to the volunteer firemen the part of town to which they should rush.

WATER SUPPLY PROBLEM

By 1895 Freeburg had decided to provide a well in the center of the Square for water supply. John W. Klein was given the contract to dig a well six feet wide for one dollar and forty-nine cents a foot. At this time ten thousand bricks were purchased at five dollars per thousand. George Dietrich was then hired to deepen the well at two dollars a day and received fifty cents extra for every foot of rock excavated. A windmill was purchased for three thousand one hundred fifty dollars from the U. S. Wind Engine Pump Company of Batavia, Illinois. This was Freeburg's first water system.



WELL IN PARK WITH FIRST WATER TOWER AND WINDMILL. FIRST PICTURE TAKEN BY RUSSELL HAMILL, MARCH 5, 1899.

The village decided to improve its water system by building a water tower for \$6,293 and by extending its mains, in 1909, to supply more people. H. H. Hall Construction Company received the bid.

As a town grows so grow its needs. Starting in 1931



LATEST WATER TOWER

many improvements were begun to accommodate the citizens. Twenty-three thousand dollars worth of bonds were issued for waterworks expansion. Since deep wells are not possible in this area, the town decided to buy ground from the Talbot brothers for a new pump house to pump water from Silver Creek, east of Freeburg, to town. At first the water was pumped into Freeburg Lake and used directly from it. Later a reservoir was built on the ground acquired from the Talbot brothers, and the water was pumped from the reservoir to a 40,000 gallon tank near the Power Plant and the Illinois Central Railroad in Freeburg. In 1958 a new elevated tank with a capacity of 160,000 gallons was constructed on East Apple Street.

In 1904 the Board voted to build an electric light plant for five thousand dollars and to build sidewalks for five thousand dollars. The money was to be raised by a two-percent tax on all taxable property in the village.

In 1932 a stoker was purchased for the Municipal Light Plant at a cost of one thousand nine hundred dollars. For a few years there were no major improvements to the utilities, until 1935 when George Klein was given the contract for a filtration plant costing more than forty-three thousand dollars. Six months later there was a petition to build a sanitary sewer system, but nothing was done. It seems as though it was more important to improve the light plant. During 1936 and 1937 Scheid built an addition to the light plant. A 250 kilowatt engine and generator were added and a boiler and a stoker were also purchased. Klein then built an addition for the new boiler. To improve the light plant it was necessary for the village to be bonded for twenty-five thousand dollars. An additional village bond issue for twelve thousand dollars was voted in 1938 to pay for more improvements. A new smoke stack was erected at the light plant for two thousand six hundred thirty dollars.



FREEBURG MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANT WITH NEW FREEBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT.

We can well be proud that our town owns the utilities. Two diesel engines were installed at the light plant and were put into operation at 8:30 P.M., December 3, 1948. A third engine was installed the next year.

A town growing as Freeburg was, needed street



PETER HERMAN'S STORE WITH KEROSENE STREET LAMP

lights, but they were not necessary every night. In 1885 there were thirty-three kerosene lamps purchased which were to be placed on twelve-foot cedar posts. Andrew Schifferdecker was hired in June, 1886 at a salary of fifteen dollars a month to be the lamp-lighter. The following year Valentine Volz assumed the role of lamp-lighter.

By July of 1891 it was necessary to write some rules for lighting the streets. To provide you with information concerning some duties of the lamp-lighter, we present the village ordinance concerning it:

RULES FOR LAMP-LIGHTER

"The lamp lighter is to keep them clean and in good order, light them after sundown and extinguish them before sunup when burning all night. From the first of March to the last of September, light them if the moon rises after nine o'clock in the evening and extinguish them after the moon rises before midnight and if it rises after midnight, burn them all night and light them also if the moon sets before eleven o'clock in the night and burn them all night; and from the first of October to the last of February light them if the moon rises after seven o'clock in the evening according to the rules above mentioned."

Although the petition was presented in 1936 for the building of a new sanitary sewer system and disposal plant, it was not until December of 1939 that eighty thousand dollars of water and sewer revenue

bonds were issued, and the work began. Additional work was done to the sewer system in 1951 by extending the lines.

In 1876 the town rented the John Reichert Hall as a meeting place for one dollar a month. This year they found it necessary to rent a calaboose for eighteen dollars.



POURING CONCRETE AT THE OLD CITY HALL

There was an interesting town board meeting in July, 1888. A vote was taken to determine the advisability of building a village hall; the vote was a tie with the President Charles Weber casting his vote in favor of the building. The next voting was to determine



SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION AROUND THE PARK

whether a one or two-story building should be constructed; again, the vote was a tie and Charles Weber cast his vote in favor of a two-story building. At first a lot was purchased from Mrs. A. M. Conrad for one hundred fifty dollars, but because of its location Peter Herman and Joe Reichert asked the Board to buy a more suitable lot near the Square. Finally Lot ninety-four, south of Kelly's Photo Gallery, was purchased from John Klein Sr., for the same amount.

The City Hall was moved into the Barthel Building on the corner of Belleville and High Streets in February of 1957. This building was made available to the Village when the First National Bank moved into its new quarters on the corner of White and Monroe. The old City Hall was torn down at this time.



**THE BARTHEL BUILDING,
THE OLD BANK BUILDING NOW THE CITY HALL**

We can reminisce of the days when Freeburg had about six houses. We hear tales of how it took eight yoke or sixteen head of oxen to move the Peter Hill

house from his farm south of Freeburg to the present Jones lot on White Street. We hear of the good times held "back at the Lake" where many would walk for Sunday relaxation.

FREEBURG OF TODAY

Reminiscence is healthful, but we shall now record our present day assets and then formulate plans for the future. Freeburg's location is ideal with Belleville, eight miles away and St. Louis only nineteen. We have transportation facilities with the Illinois Central Railroad and with truck service. Freeburg is situated on U. S. Route 460 and Illinois Route 13. The utilities, owned by the municipality, indicate that in some respects Freeburg is self-sufficient. The sewage disposal plant constructed, extended and completed by 1950; the municipal light plant with three diesel engines completed by April, 1951; and the water filtration plant located on Silver Creek with the new water storage facilities adding enough to make 200,000 gallons of water reserve, give evidence to the fact that the citizens of Freeburg are civic minded.



**FREEBURG'S NEW WATER FILTRATION PLANT
ON SILVER CREEK**

The present officers of the Village are: Harry Favre, President; Robert Browning, Clerk; Elmer Joseph, Treasurer; Russell Classen, Attorney; Clem Berger, City Marshal; Walter Vielweber, and Louis Yurgec, Trustees.

Historical Items of Note

HUMOROUS AND OTHERWISE

On November 16, 1811 there was a very severe earthquake which caused great fear among the population of St. Clair County. The shocks were so great that chimneys fell, houses cracked, and church bells rang. (Recorded by Reynolds)

* * * * *

During the early development of the community, hogs became such a nuisance, that it was necessary for the Village to pass an ordinance which provided that no hogs could be kept within the Village limits from April 1 to November 1. The odor bothered the citizens and so did the noise.

* * * * *

The Illinois Central Train No. 505 was asked not to blow whistles or ring bells as it traveled through town at night.

* * * * *

Some may recall the Marathon races that were run from Missouri Athletic Club on Washington Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri, to the Freeburg Square. One of the Freeburg boys, Carl Warma ran the entire distance.

* * * * *

In 1870 the town deemed it worthwhile to pay fifteen dollars for fireworks on the Fourth of July.

* * * * *

At one time it seems as though the Village was in the business of fattening hogs. It was recorded that the Village sold a hog for two dollars, but the feed for it cost two dollars, so no profit was made.

* * * * *

Trains were not to exceed six miles per hour as they traveled through Freeburg, and should not block the crossings longer than five minutes at a time.

* * * * *

During the year of 1872 Alonzo Wilderman was hired as the Village attorney.

* * * * *

It was in 1877 that the Square was improved. The grounds were graded and trees were purchased from Fuchs for planting to beautify the grounds. At this time the population of Freeburg was 1,038.

* * * * *

In the month of February, 1888, Mt. Vernon, Illinois suffered a devastating tornado. Freeburg gave one hundred dollars for the sufferers and in March, seventy-six dollars were collected.

* * * * *

St. Clair County celebrated its Centennial in May, 1890. A Bavarian Band played music on a platform in the Square at Belleville during the morning. J. P. Hill represented Freeburg on the County Board for this Centennial. There was a wonderful Trades Display and a long elaborate parade. From our area came Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Miller and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hertel heading a procession of the Members of Turkey Hill Grange No. 1390, all in road carts. The horses made a good showing of the fine stock that is owned and bred by St. Clair County farmers. "The Reichert Milling Company had a finely decorated wagon on which was arranged a scene representing the interior of a mill in operation". Freeburg Fire Department was represented by its hand fire engine and reel.

A steam calliope playing "Sweet Bye and Bye" completed the parade. After that there were speeches by many dignitaries and the Centennial was concluded with fireworks in the square.

In July 1891 a committee was appointed to buy twelve lawn benches for the Park.

* * * * *

There was a Freeburg Band in 1892 which was given permission to practice in the Village Hall.

* * * * *

The school picnics on the Square were started in 1913 when the school was granted permission to use the park on Decoration Day.

* * * * *

The old rock house on South Alton Street was a "calaboose" in the early days. Later, it became the home of Charles Frank. South of this home on the corner of Alton and Washington Streets was the home of Fred Courvoisier and his family. He operated a jewelry shop while his wife had a millinery store.



FREEBURG'S CALABOOSE AND FRED COURVOISIER'S JEWELRY STORE AND MILLINERY

At the same time, about 1900, Mary Huber operated a millinery store with the assistance of her niece, Ada Huber Wilderman. At this early date hats were made by hand to suit the customer.

Paul Buchlitz had a bakery and ice cream parlor on Main Street. Nearby the Kring girls were dress-makers and their father had a drug store known as Kring's Drug Store.



KRAUSS'S ICE CREAM PARLOR

Among Freeburg's bands which traveled to all the Homecoming parades in the area was a group known as Freeburg's Drum and Bugle Corps. Many of the women of Freeburg will recall marching the streets of various towns beating their drums and blowing their bugles. Mrs. E. A. Classen organized this group and helped sponsor it for many years.

Charles Hertel, who married Josephine Wilderman in 1873, was one of the outstanding early educators of Freeburg. He taught for twenty-five years and served as County Superintendent of Schools for three terms. He and his family lived on Woodside farms northeast of Freeburg.

Many will remember that Freeburg was famous as the home of the Reichert Stables. Their stables located

on Walnut Street were owned by William Reichert, Jr. and Elmer W. Reichert. From 1918 to 1928 they had harness horses and thereafter, they had as many as seventy-two running horses. My Dandy and Brown Wisdom were the leading horses; the former won \$154,000 and the latter, \$146,000. My Dandy died in 1950 at the age of twenty-five years and was buried on the Reichert farm two miles north of Freeburg. Reicherts named one of their brands of flour "My Dandy" in honor of this horse. Today, Freeburg no longer has her flour mills, and most of her shaft mines are gone. However, as long as we remain progressive, we can adapt to the times.

In the early eating establishments, lunch was served free with the purchase of a five-cent drink. The lunch consisted of sausages, cheese, and various foods.



HOME OF AUNT SOPHIE SKAER



EARLY PARLOR SCENE OF
HERMAN FAMILY IN M. F. WILDERMAN HOME

Freeburg Churches

About the same time that the name of Urbanna was changed to Freeburg, the Freeburg churches were organized, except the Faith Baptist Church, which was only recently organized.

The First Baptist Church was formed with some members of the old Silver Creek Baptist Church, and some from the old Richland Baptist Church. The old Silver Creek Baptist Church was organized March 21, 1811. The early members were Abraham and Mary Teter, Peter and Hannah Mitchel, Rebecca Griffen, Mary Radcliff and Barbara Shook. Among the early pastors were the Reverends Moses, Joseph, and James Lemen, and the Reverends Arnott, Howell, and Stillwell, who had been pastors of Richland Baptist Church. In 1856 the congregation of one hundred fifty-nine members had fallen to sixty-two and later the church passed out of existence. However, in 1892 the new Silver Creek Baptist Church was organized at the Griffen School-house on Silver Creek.

The Richland Baptist Church was organized April 23, 1842, one and one-half miles southeast of Smithton by the Reverend Henry Ross and Nathan Arnott. The first meeting was held in the home of Abner Carr. The early members of this church were William Saunders, Hannah Arnott, Marinda Smith, Sarah Holroid, and Sara Tiner. Nathaniel Smith donated three acres of ground to be used as a church site. On this ground there was also an old cemetery. From 1857 to August 1871 no meetings were held. In 1874 the Richland Church united with the High Prairie Church, and this was called the Old Richland Church.

Later in 1856, the Reverend H. S. Deppe preached the first sermon in Urbanna (now Freeburg.) On Saturday, January 3, 1857, members met to discuss the organizing of a church in Urbanna. The following Sunday, after the sermon was preached by Elder Deppe, a meeting was held in which it was decided to organize a church. The names on the charter of the Urbanna Church were: Solomon Teter and Polly Griffen from Silver Creek Church, Joseph and Theresa Wilderman, and Sara Thrift and Elizabeth Hill from the Richland Church. During the next week Julia Wilderman, Elizabeth McLeomore, Anna Christiana Thrift, and Polly, Louisa, and Esther Teter were received into the church.

On November 28, 1857 it was resolved to build a church on the west side of the public square on a lot purchased from George and Nancy Wilderman. Among the early pastors were the Reverend Deppe, Peters, Jackson and Wright. Among the early deacons and clerks were Joseph Hill, Solomon Teter, Lewis Holcomb, John T. Lemen, who platted Freeburg and donated the Square, G. D. Patterson, Robert Lemen, F. Holcomb, A. Anthony and W. A. Wilderman. In 1869 they had a membership of one hundred sixty. but it dwindled to seventy-five by 1880. Reverend Deppe lived south of Freeburg on a farm now owned by Clarence Fries. When the name of Urbanna was changed to Freeburg, the church became the present Freeburg Baptist Church. Many descendants of these early members are members today.

With every expedition to America some Catholic missionaries came to advance the cause of Christianity. The oldest Catholic congregation in the west was at Cahokia. Other orders had established work in Kaskaskia, Tamaroa, and Peoria. In the year 1842, the Catholics of Belleville received their first pastor, the Reverend Kuenster, who remained until 1845 when the Reverend C. H. Ostlangenberg took over the duties. It is said he



THE FIRST CHURCH, THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

spoke French, German, and English fluently. He regularly attended the Freeburg congregation. Reverend Dominick Niederkorn from St. Louis read the first mass at Freeburg.

Among the early Catholic families were the Philip J. Koesterer family and Joseph Reichert family from Baden in Bavaria, and Adam Stephen. Priests from Belleville, Mascoutah, and Mud Creek (St. Libory) attended the St. Joseph's congregation. In December, 1856 plans were started for building a brick church thirty-five feet by seventy-five feet. The Reverend Bartholomew Bartels who was born on Cleve on the Rhine, Germany, and who migrated to the United States, was the first resident priest of St. Joseph's Church. Probably, he was the builder of the church. The cemetery was founded in 1860. Reverend Bartels served until 1851. After serving some other parishes he went to serve St. Cecilia parish in Bartleso, the town being named in his honor. He was succeeded at St. Josephs' by the Reverends Rosendahl, Hoffmann, and Busch. From 1862 to 1863, the Reverend F. Bergmeier was pastor and the Reverend Elshoff served from 1863 to 1865. He paid off all the church debts, and conducted a campaign for funds for the first Way of the Cross for the parish. This was erected in 1863. He died of consumption contracted during a sick call.

The Reverend Trojan served from 1865 to 1868. He was a Bohemian by birth and a skilled musician. He was responsible for procuring the first pipe organ in 1866. From 1868 to 1873, the Reverend Charles Oberprantcher assumed the duties, and he was especially interested in the establishment of a school.

The Reverend Anthony Wirtschorek, of Austrian birth, was pastor from 1874 to 1895. He added to the church a fine steeple in 1876 and placed three bells in the belfry. It was the only belfry with three bells in St. Clair County. The present rectory was built in 1894, while the Reverend Wirtschorek was pastor.

Next in line was Reverend Gerhard Jansen, who served for twenty-six years (1895-1921) and directed the construction of the present church which was built in 1911-1912. It measures fifty-two feet by one hundred thirteen feet with a height of forty-five feet and a tower one hundred sixty feet high.

Upon Reverend Jansen's death, the Reverend Wendel Gillen from Rheinland, Germany took over the parish duties. His first major project was the construction



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

of a new parochial school, which was dedicated September 3, 1923.

The first school was conducted by the pastors and lay teachers. Mr. Reineck taught from 1869-1872 in an old log church, then in rented quarters, and finally in the first school which was completed in 1871. Later the school was taught by Mr. Oberprantscher, Miss Duffy, Charles Becker (1873-1879) and finally by John Reuter until 1885. At this time an order of nuns arrived.

The Reverend Gillen resigned in 1939, returned to Germany, and died the same year. He was succeeded by the Reverend Herman Freese, who was born in St. Louis. After taking over this parish, he started to renovate all the parish buildings. During this time the rectory was renovated, a fine new convent was built, the school was enlarged and the school grounds black topped. A new organ was installed in 1946 and in 1956 the church was refrescoed. The bell ringing system was electrified and the tower clock was illuminated.

In 1957, St. Joseph's Parish was in fine condition to celebrate its Centennial.

It was on Turkey Hill that the St. Paul's United Church of Christ had its beginning. Many people had immigrated from Germany during the depression and oppression. While on Turkey Hill these people had sent to the Basel Mission in Switzerland for a pastor to

preach the Gospel. Jacob Riess was ordained and sent to this area when he was only twenty-four years of age. He preached his first sermon on Dutch Hill, November 22, 1835, and at Turkey Hill in January, 1836. A log church was built on Turkey Hill a few miles north of Freeburg.

By 1858 many of these people had moved to Urbana, now Freeburg, and organized a congregation of "The German Free Protestant Church" under the leadership of the Reverend J. B. Hoppe. The Reverend Hoppe had immigrated from Germany; he preached and also prepared men for the ministry. One of the men ordained by him was the Reverend Theodore Horn. In 1859, the year the name of Freeburg was changed from Urbana to Freeburg, the congregation purchased a lot from Jacob Skaer for one hundred dollars and built a simple church thirty feet by forty feet without bell or tower. This building served as a school room during the week and as a church on Sunday.

The first elders were Philipp Schifferdecker, Philip Hoffman, Christoph Barthel, Edmund Umfried, and Heindrich Barthel. Among the charter members were these: Adam Schoen, G. A. Umstaedter, Adam Wolf, Johann Winterbauer, Jacob Skaer, Georg Philip Betz, Peter Hermann, Adam Fischer, Johannes Weiss, George Kasselberger, Heinrich Gilbert, Friedrich Reinheimer, Philip Anthes, Jacob Gauch, Adam Fritz, Mrs. Maria Reichert, Mrs. Johanna Reichert, Mrs. Margareth Heigle, Peter Ross, Georg Voltz, Georg Lippert, Daniel Blinn, Jacob Vollmer, Louis Nicol, Samuel Lehmann, Karl Vogel, Johannes Vogel, Johannes Sorg, Johannes Klein, Georg Trost, Johannes Meng, Peter Heissler, Philipp Schickedanz, Johannes Maurer, Philip Maurer, Mrs. Barbara Lippert, Christoph Mueller, Johannes Feurei, and Phillip Keller.

The Reverend Theodore Horn, who had been serving a congregation near Waterloo was called to serve in Freeburg in 1863 and served here for thirty-six years. He also founded the Church at New Athens. The Frauenverein or Ladies Aid was organized in 1874. It was in this year too, that the congregation commissioned Karl Scheid to build a tower and steeple one hundred feet high. In 1877 a school house was built across the street where the rectory is now located. The present church building was built and attached to the tower in 1890. An interesting historical note was that Mr. Heigle rang the bell in this tower to tell the Freeburg citizens the noon hour and the hour of six.

In 1897 the Old Parish Hall was purchased as a parsonage. The Reverend Horn had lived in his own home up to that time. When he resigned, there arose a need for a parsonage. Reverend Horn passed away in 1900, after a long and blessed period of development for the church.

The Reverend Rudolph of Texas and Reverend F. Bosold preached during the year of 1897, at which time Reverend Jonathan Irion accepted the pastorate, and proceeded to organize the Sunday School Workers Conference.

In the latter part of 1901, the Reverend Ernst came, and it was during his pastorate that the pipe organ was purchased to replace the old reed organ.

The Reverend Karl Dexheimer came to Freeburg in 1903. During his pastorate the present parsonage was built, the debts were paid, and in 1910 the congregation joined the Evangelical Synod of North America. In 1908 the lot north of the church was donated by Mrs. Elizabeth Hoffmann and in 1916 the interior of the church was remodeled and art glass windows were installed.

The Reverend A. Dreusicke took up work here in July, 1917. During his pastorate the Brotherhood was

organized in 1921 and a building fund for an education hall was started.

The Reverend R. P. Zimmermann came in 1924 and served the congregation for twelve years. The new tower was built and the Mary Martha Society was organized. In 1926 the church was given the "Free Protestant Cemetery" and in 1928 the adjacent Schifferdecker and Arras Cemeteries were donated.

The Reverend Henry Radloff came to St. Paul's Church in 1936 and served two years. In 1938 the Reverend G. F. Brink came and the organizations of the church became strong and active. The janitor's home was purchased and remodeled in 1948 and the paper called "The Messenger" was printed weekly from 1938 to 1952.

The Reverend Hayward W. Kehl came to St. Paul's in 1952. Two worship services were established and in 1953 the church sanctuary was enlarged by sixteen feet, and a new Education Hall one hundred and two feet by forty-two feet was built.

One difficulty the church had was the language problem which caused the old constitution of St. Paul's Church to be written thus, "as long as three people insist on German, no English may be used in preaching."

On June 25, 1957 the merger of the Congregational Christian Churches and the Evangelical and Reformed Church caused the name to be changed to the "United Church of Christ."



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

St. Paul's United Church of Christ celebrated its Centennial in November, 1958, marking one hundred years of spiritual help for the community.

Another church organized in Freeburg about the same time was the Methodist Episcopal Church. This denomination came to St. Clair County when the Reverend Joseph Lilliard came to the county as a Methodist preacher and appointed a leader, Captain Ogle, who was converted in 1785 under the preaching of Joseph Smith, a Baptist from Kentucky. John Clarke was a Methodist circuit rider from South Carolina, but left because of slavery. He was the first man who preached the gospel west of the Mississippi. The Reverend Hosea Riggs was the first Methodist preacher who settled in Illinois. He lived around Turkey Hill.

It was on June 10, 1807 that the Ogle class voted to build a church. It was a log church and said by Governor Reynolds to be the first Methodist Church in Illinois. Twelve Mile Prairie was added as a Methodist preaching point in 1859-60.

Freeburg appeared first on the minutes of the Quarterly Conference as a part of the Mascoutah Circuit on April 14, 1860. The first Quarterly meeting held at Urbanna (now Freeburg) bears the date of June 30, 1860 with J. C. Wilderman as first Steward, and H. C. Fike as Recording Steward, S. W. Mitchell as Presiding Elder, and the Reverend H. Nelson as Pastor.

In 1862 the Reverend Joseph Earp became presiding elder and the Reverend James Johnson, pastor for two years. In 1864, the Reverend John Thatcher became pastor and in 1865 the Reverend William Wallace took charge of the work. In 1866 we find the names of the Reverend T. A. Eaton and John Weeden.

It was in 1867 that the Reverend T. J. Davis was appointed preacher in charge. It was this year that Freeburg built a brick church costing \$3703. The ground was donated by John Wilderman for the church and the parsonage.



FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

In 1868 the Reverend E. A. Hoyt became pastor and by 1869 Freeburg became the head of the circuit for four preaching points; namely Freeburg, Plum Hill, Mascoutah, and New Athens with the Reverend James Copeland as pastor.

In 1870 the names of W. H. Corrington and G. W. Robbins appear with Reverend M. P. Wilkins filling out the year. In 1872 we find the names of Reverend G. W. Hughey and Reverend J. W. Flint. In 1873 L. W. Thrall became pastor. In 1874 Rentchler was added as a preaching place, and we find the names of Reverend A. B. Morrison and Reverend J. P. Youngling. In 1883 Marissa was placed on the charge.

One of the big events was during 1871 when Peter Cartwright lectured in the Freeburg Church. The pastors listed were the Reverends:

J. W. Flint, 1872; L. W. Thrall, 1873; A. B. Morrison and J. C. Younglin, 1874; J. A. Thrapp, 1875; F. W. Davis, 1876; J. P. Youngling, 1877; T. J. Lock and A. Campbell, 1878; J. H. McGriff, 1879 and 80; Samuel Walker, 1881; David Moore, 1882; W. W. Edwards, 1883; Daniel Orr and J. W. Morris, 1884; James Hobs, 1885; George Burlingame, 1886-88; C. C. Shumard, 1888-92.

During this time the Epworth League was formed and Henry Hamill was the first president.

O. H. Clar, 1892; John McIntoch, 1893; J. M. Adams, 1893-5; A. S. Maxey, 1895-7; Charles E. Baker, 1897; Charles E. Baker, 1898; W. W. Thrall, 1899-1901; D. J. Little, 1901; John Leeper, 1902; V. B. Sullins, 1903; T. E. Hoov, 1904-05; M. Holloway, 1905; G. C. Streubing, 1907-10; O. O. Mitzel, 1910; S. Anderson, 1911; G. E. Webber, 1912-14; E. W. Edwards, 1915; H. W. Olinger, 1916; H. R. Wardell, 1917; G. W. Winker, 1918-19; Henry Heyer, 1920-21; M. Jackson, 1922-23; T. J. Wilson, 1924; Virgil Gould, 1925-30.

During the history of the church, the Reverend Gould stood out as being exceptional. The church grew under his leadership.

There was a Presbyterian Church at Turkey Hill, organized on April 20, 1820 by the Reverend Solomon Giddings, but by 1828 it was out of existence.

The Faith Baptist Church affiliated with the South-



FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH

ern Baptist Convention was the last church to be organized. It was started with a tent revival on the corner of South State and Apple Street. The Reverend Fred Probst of the Home Mission Board and Miss Louise Whitmire of the Good Will Center in East St. Louis, Illinois, led in this revival. Immediately afterward the church met in the south school building on North Alton Street in August 1954. It was conducted as a mission of the Westview Baptist Church of Belleville with Dr. Eugene T. Pratt, the Westview minister conducting services. Dr. Pratt is now in charge of the Southern Baptist Missions of Missouri.

When the school house was sold in January 1955, the Reverend Probst bid it in for Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Howard Davis in the name of Westview Baptist Church. The Reverend Timmons was the first pastor, followed by Eugene Hale, Allen Pennington, James Johnson, and the present pastor, the Reverend Clarence D. Haege. Having been a mission it was constituted into a church with forty-two members on March 24, 1957.

The five churches which we have presently, include many organizations within their own denominations. The St. Paul's United Church of Christ has a Men's Brotherhood, Mary Martha Society, Women's Guild, Married Couple's Club, Junior High Youth Fellowship, Senior High Youth Fellowship, Church Council, and the Sunday School.

St. Joseph's Catholic Church has the Holy Name Society, Altar Sodality, and Catholic Youth Organization.

The Freeburg Methodist Church has the Methodist Men's Organization, Women's Society for Christian Service, and the Clover Leaf Circle.

The First Baptist Church has the Dorcas Guild and Baptist Youth Fellowship.

Faith Baptist Church has the Baptist Brotherhood, Women's Missionary Union, Girl Ambassadors, and Royal Ambassadors.

The strength and progress of any community may accurately be gauged by the quality of service rendered through its schools and churches, as well as the quality of its family relationships from which the community is structured. Freeburg may well be proud of the institutions which serve it, but not to the extent that such pride stifles the zeal which led us to our present state of well being.

Schools Around Freeburg

Let us consider now the schools. In 1804 John Messenger taught surveying and presided over a night school near Shiloh. He became Professor of Mathematics at the Rock Spring Seminary that was founded by John Mason Peck.

In 1808, John Bradshy taught the first school at Turkey Hill. This school was located near the old spring north of the Curt Eckert house and was supported by subscription as there were no free schools as yet. It was a one-story log house with clapboard roof and puncheon floor. It had windows of greased paper to admit light. A portion of log was left out on each side to make room for this window. A large fireplace extended across the entire rear end of the room, in which on cold days, a roaring fire of logs piled high, sent out heat to warm the school master's legs. Slabs fastened by pegs on the side of the house formed the desks. Puncheon benches served as seats. The pupils all faced the wall when studying but arranged themselves in semicircles in front of the fireplace when called to recite.

There was no school in session for awhile, until 1815, when a famous old teacher by the name of Sinclair came. He taught at Turkey Hill and at Belleville. Elihu Shephard of New York settled in this county and also taught at Turkey Hill.

The first school at Shiloh was built about 1811 by a surveyor named Demmick. Before that time school was held in the house of William Adams.

Another early school was established around 1815 when John Boncher taught a subscription school in an old house on Silver Creek that was lighted by means of a trap door in the roof.

Eminent among the early teachers was a Virginian by the name of John H. Dennis who lived on a farm at Turkey Hill and who taught more than thirty years in private and public schools. He also held the office of County Superintendent of Schools for four years.

The first school districts organized in the county were established by the County Commissioners Court in 1825. They were Cherry Grove, Union Grove, Turkey Hill, Sugar Creek, Ogle Creek, Mount Pleasant, and Broad Hollow. As the county became settled, the districts were created. Names were given to the schools

by which they were known as well as by district numbers. Point Lookout School was on a ridge southeast of Freeburg. Drum Hill School near Fayetteville was so named because a man by the name of Carr, a drummer of a rifle company, settled there in early times. He could be found in the morning and evening in front of his cabin beating the drum. Emerald Mound and Sugar Loaf Schools were named after large mounds near by, thought to have been made by the Mound Builders.

The early school funds received from the State were



NORTH SCHOOL BUILDING BUILT IN 1876



OLD SCHOOL GROUP IN FRONT OF NORTH BUILDING — TEACHER, MISS MABEL LEGRAND

in State bank paper and had to be sold by the recipients at a great loss. In 1842, one hundred and twenty dollars of such paper brought only fifty dollars.

The first St. Clair County Teachers Institute was organized in April, 1859 with 83 teachers assembled at Belleville, Illinois.

In 1906, there were in Freeburg Township the following schools: the Village Schools, Pleasant Ridge, Lemen, Batdorf, Funck, and Hertel. The Freeburg Village Schools consisted of Grades 1, 2, 3, and 4. One of the first principals was Wm. A. Reis.

Very little is known about the first public school at Freeburg, but from the first log house it was moved into a two-room frame house. At one time school was located in the north side of the old brick Faulks home at the corner of State and Apple Streets. In 1876, a large four-room brick school house was built, and in 1904 another more modern school with four rooms was added. Since about 1900, in the old north building, classes were conducted for ninth and tenth year students. These classes grew into our first high school.

The first high school met at Classen's Hall now behind the Green Mill. It was only a three year high school at that time, but there was much activity. Mem-



**LIZZIE ROTH,
EARLY PRIMARY TEACHER IN FREEBURG**

bers of the first class to graduate were Louise Ross, and Oscar Dreusicke in 1923. At that time the Singer Hall was the basketball court. It was during 1922 that the first four year course started. Mr. Austin Cope was the first principal.

Freeburg is proud of her schools and their accomplishments. We have the St. Joseph's Parochial School with its building on the corner of White Street and Alton Street dedicated September 1923. The parish school is staffed by three Sisters of the Notre Dame Order, namely Sister Jana, Superior; Sister Catherine Marie, Sister Norbertus and one lay teacher, Mrs. Fayette Wuest.



ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

Freeburg has an ultra-modern elementary school made possible through the consolidation of all or parts of nineteen separate school districts which were rich in history. In 1951 the following abandoned schools were sold: High Prairie School on the Freeburg-Millstadt Road; Douglas School, five miles south of Belleville; Holcomb School, three miles southwest of Freeburg; Pleasant Ridge, east of Freeburg; Lemen School, one mile south of Freeburg; Locust Grove School, four miles southeast of Freeburg; Point Lookout, five miles southeast of Freeburg; Drum Hill School, five miles east of Freeburg; Hertel School, three miles northeast of Freeburg; and the Batdorf School on Jack's Run three miles east of Freeburg.

On January 10, 1953 a special election was held for obtaining a building site and issuing bonds for a new elementary school building. A thirteen-acre site south of the High School was chosen and the \$350,000 bond issue was passed with a vote of 658 for and 241 against. The school board consisting of Dr. Edward G. Dewein, President; Oscar Weiss; Armin Becker; Eugene Sanders; Wilbert Schneider; Edwin Wetzel; Edward Groth; and Clarence Teter, Secretary, secured the services of William Gray Potter as the architect. This school was opened in September 1954 with an enrollment of 363. On November 21, 1954, the building was dedicated and opened for all to admire. The dedicatory address was made by the Honorable Vernon L. Nickell, State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The program of school re-organization and consolidation was brought about through the leadership of Superintendent, Carl L. Barton, who came to Freeburg from Crystal City, Missouri in August of 1948. After the re-organization program had become a reality, Mr. Barton began to dream of a new school for Freeburg boys and girls. The continued addition of rural schools to the new district hastened the day when the Superintendent's plans for a new modern school building could be brought to fruition.

This building is worthy of our praise. It is the first public school building in the United States to be equipped to receive educational television in every classroom. KETC programs produced in St. Louis are channeled to students during their regular class periods. Educational T.V. continues to remain in the pioneering stage. It was coincidental that Channel 9 and our school television service began operations simultaneously.

All primary rooms are self-contained with toilet facilities for both boys and girls, also, with wash basins and drinking fountains.

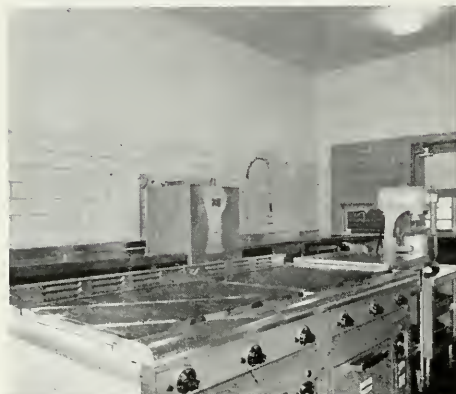
All rooms are constructed with acoustical plaster. Each room has an electronic control, self-correcting clock with the clock-controlling bell system inside and outside and the exterior flood lighting.



**CLASSROOM SCENE SHOWING
UTILIZATION OF EDUCATION T.V.**



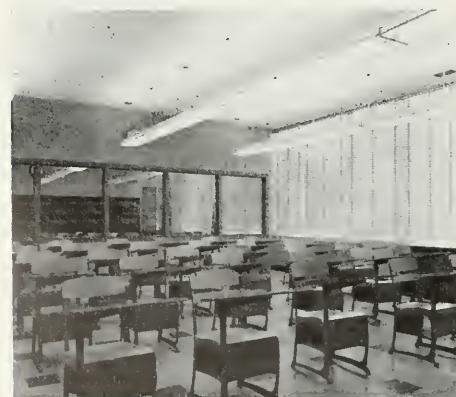
VIEW OF SCHOOL MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KITCHEN



**VIEW OF ELEMENTARY BAND ROOM —
GEORGE TUERCK, DIRECTOR**



CLASSROOM AND UPPER GRADE LIBRARY



SCHOOL BUS GARAGE



PRESENT FREEBURG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The intercommunication system is equipped with a phonograph as well as an FM and AM radio. Recordings or radio programs may be piped to any or all classrooms. This enables the teachers to utilize the offerings of KSLH, a St. Louis radio station operated by the St. Louis Public Schools.

The kitchen, which can feed 500 easily, is completely modern with stainless steel equipment. The multi-purpose room can be used for cafeteria, auditorium, and gymnasium.

Besides these features the school has a school clinic, a fine kindergarten, band room, library and a five-bus garage. The offices, library and band room are air-conditioned as they are all used during the summer months.

In January, 1954 the Broad Hollow School, the old south building, and the old north building of the Freeburg School were sold.

The citizens of Freeburg know that better schools build better communities. With the house to house campaign of the Parent-Teacher Association and the support of a citizenry alerted to the value of education, Freeburg obtained the best possible school for its children.

THE TEACHING PERSONNEL

Good building facilities are an integral part of a good educational program. However, highly qualified and dedicated teachers are the best guarantee that we have for obtaining the kind of education we want for our boys and girls.

The teaching staff of the Freeburg Community Consolidated School meets every need in this respect. It consists of Carl L. Barton, Superintendent; Leon Dickerson, Gladys Joseph, Edmund Keiser, Jr., Departmental; Wayne King, Frieda Schulte, Viola Weiss, Clarence Haege, Wendell Morris, Martha Ruth Borger, Helen Phifer, Olive V. Boyle, Erna Baltz, Nola Barton, Charles Laughlin, Eva Ovrebo, School Nurse, and Cornelia Kessler, Secretary. Other school personnel include Mr. and Mrs. Armin Meier, Curt Skaer, Willa Buecher, Sabie Wild, Bertha Vielweber, Clarence Teter and Norman Dambacher. A very dedicated teacher, Mrs. Bertha Mallrich, retired at the close of the 1958-59 school year.

Present members of the Board of Education for Community Consolidated School No. 70 are: Ralph Joseph, President; Olaf Ovrebo, Wilbert Schneider, Armin Becker, Edwin Wetzel, Donald Smith, and Eugene Sanders. Mr. Clarence Teter has been secretary

to this board for the past twenty-three years. Until June 29 of this year Dr. Edward G. Dewein had served as a member of this Board for twenty-four consecutive years. All but one of these years had been served as Board President. On June 29, 1959, Dr. Dewein succumbed to a heart attack and the cause of education in Freeburg suffered an irreparable loss.



DR. EDWARD G. DEWEIN

The present Board of Education passed a Resolution in Memoriam lauding Dr. Dewein for his contribution to the cause of education in Freeburg as follows:

RESOLUTION IN MEMORIAM

Whereas, The need for and purpose of public education have long been established in our democratic society; and

Whereas, Public schools are established to adequately provide for such education; and

Whereas, By law these schools are governed by boards of education made up of freely elected lay citizens who serve without remuneration; and

Whereas, Little or no public acclaim or recognition is ever accorded these servants of the people; and

Whereas, One such public servant, DR. EDWARD G. DEWEIN, did so unselfishly serve the cause of education in our Freeburg Community as Board President and Board Member for a total of twenty-four consecutive years; and

Whereas, The Almighty God in His infinite wisdom did call the aforementioned, Edward G. Dewein, to his eternal rest; therefore,

Resolved, That it is the sense of this statement that proper recognition and acclaim be accorded the late Dr. Edward G. Dewein for his twenty-four years of service to the cause of public education in the Freeburg Community.

Resolved, That the content of this resolution be spread upon the pages of the current record of official proceedings for Community Consolidated School, District No. 70, Freeburg, Illinois; that a copy be sent to members of the bereaved family; that copies be published in the Freeburg Tribune and the Belleville News-Democrat respectively.

Done by order of the Board of Education for Community Consolidated School, District No. 70, Freeburg, Illinois in special meeting assembled, this the 6th day of July, 1959.

Ralph M. Joseph, Board President
Clarence Teter, Board Secretary

We have another fine school, our Freeburg Community High School, which was constructed in 1927 by the Field Construction Company. The members of the Board of Education at that time were: Harrison H. Hartman, President; Loren E. Wilderman, Secretary; William F. Zerban, Louis Scheid and Elmer G. Joseph.

Plans for this beautiful high school building with its modern facilities were made by Mr. Charles H. Barts, the principal.

This school has had several additions; a new gymnasium, a new classroom wing, a new industrial arts and shop department, as well as, a bus garage. The new gymnasium and classroom wing was built during the time that Mr. E. R. Perry served as High School Principal.

One of the outstanding contributions made by the high school is its work in the area of guidance which is accomplished by an annual Careers Day, developed to aid the youth in selecting their life's work. Freeburg High School has always been noted for its baseball and basketball teams and also its band. The current teaching staff consists of Frank R. Nation, Principal; Loren Anderson, Ralph Clark, Ruth Crain, Joyce France, Violet Fritz, C. J. Pfeffer, Philip Valett, Eugene Vonderheide, Ron Herrin, William Hull, Frances Casperson, Vern Antry, Robert Gentsch, Elda Mann, and Miss Hindman.

The High School organized a Citizens Committee for the express purpose of keeping the lay citizens informed about school matters, to promote a congenial relationship among the teachers, board members, administrators, and the general lay public. Further its purpose was to adequately plan for the future needs of the school.

The present Freeburg Community High School Board of Education consists of John W. Lewis, President; Ervin Vogel, Secretary; Lloyd Groh; Mrs. Lucille Wilderman Davis; Roald Casperson; Floyd Crommet; and Arnold Waeltz.



FREEBURG COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL AT THE TIME OF ITS CONSTRUCTION



FREEBURG COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

The School Trustees for Freeburg Township are: Mr. George Vaught, Mr. Elmer Joseph, and Mr. Kenneth Kamper. Mr. Arthur P. Kessler serves as Township Treasurer.

We cannot talk about schools without mentioning

the Freeburg Citizen's Tax Committee composed of members of the elementary and high school boards of education, the elementary and high school P.T.A.'s, the high school citizen's committee, and Superintendent Carl L. Barton and Principal Frank R. Nation.

Freeburg Men Who Served in the Wars

Illinois was never a slave state in the strict sense, yet there were some forms of negro and Indian slavery. Our constitution of 1818 provided against slavery, but this law did not settle the question. The black laws of 1819, the new constitution of 1849, and the legislative acts of 1853, attempted to settle the slave issue. It was not settled, however, until resolved by force of arms during the bloody war between the states.

St. Clair County sent more than forty-five hundred soldiers to this war. Some volunteered in Missouri regiments instead of Illinois. Originally the enlistment was for three months, but most of the men re-enlisted at the close of their first enlistment period. At first, the volunteers had no uniforms; many of the Cavalry used their own horses.

From Freeburg and the surrounding area, many young men volunteered to fight for their ideals. Among these men were Samuel Blattner who volunteered with Company M, of the Seventh Illinois Cavalry in September 1861; David Jaimet, who was wounded May 8, 1862; Peter Hill; I. T. Dusenberry; Thomas Fox, who enlisted in Company K of the Seventh Illinois Cavalry in 1863; Louis Trutmann who was killed in action; Robert Thompson of the 117th Infantry Regiment; Jacob Heigle; Jacob Skaer; John Heid; Charles Frank; Jack Hill of the 117th Infantry Regiment; Timothy Holcomb of the 117th Infantry Regiment; John Ketten; Jacob Truck; Charles Brown, David H. Wilderman; Schwartz of Turkey Hill and Friederich Weinell of Company H, of the 147th Illinois Infantry. Several letters written in May of 1865, are preserved in Freeburg. Conditions in the South immediately before the surrender of the rebels are described in a letter written to Mrs. Ellen Woods Carr. "Soldiers on furlough all have plenty of Confederate money and I think that they always will have plenty, for it isn't worth any more here than blank paper. Most everything in town is cheap for cash. The citizens and a good many Rebel Soldiers think that peace is made. I would like it very much if peace was made now." In a letter dated May 24, 1865, which is in the possession of Samuel Hill, we find further mention of these times. "We had a long, tedious march from Mobile to Montgomery. It was hard work, but we got through with it well enough. The Twelve Mile boys are all heroes. We had a gay time out in the pine woods, when we heard of Lee's Surrender. We shouted and sang and acted for all the world like people at a

camp meeting do, when converted. There were many long talks that night around our camp fire about home and what we would do when we got there. On arriving here our joy was met and chilled by the intelligence of the assassination of the President. It was well for the South that the war ended as it did—The other night we had a grand illumination in camp over the capture of Jeff Davis. The boys climbed the tall pine trees and fastened burning candles in their green tops. The effect was brilliant."

Samuel Blattner, who served as one of our mayors was less fortunate; he was taken prisoner while on duty with the Seventh Illinois Volunteer Cavalry and imprisoned at Andersonville Prison. Eight of his company died at this infamous prison.

The first Homecoming Day to be held in Freeburg was on September 13, 1919. It was given as a homecoming for the soldiers, sailors, and marines of World War I. They received everything free at the celebration. There was a grand street parade, an address by Lieutenant Ewert, band concert, singing and dancing. Two drum and bugle corps participated. What a grand tribute to the boys who "fought the war to end all wars!"



**FREEBURG WORLD WAR I VETERANS
RETURNING HOME**

VETERANS OF WORLD WAR I

R. Miller	W. Heiligenstein	F. Kriegeskotte
W. Arras	X. Heiligenstein	E. Koesterer
Edw. Koesterer	F. Hillesheim	F. Koesterer
J. Barrett	E. Hillesheim	F. P. Koesterer
W. Baumgarte	J. Heid	A. Kabureck
C. Barthel	G. Heberer	J. Kasper
F. Brandenburger	B. Hartman	A. Kessler
O. Blinn	E. Hexter	J. Kuehn
W. Conrad	I. Helvey	*L. Locklar
O. Conrad	G. Heberer	H. Locklar
E. Carter	J. Jones	A. Lucash
T. Conrad	H. Albers	O. Linn
J. Dambacher	F. Kramer	J. Leboski
M. Dambacher	H. Joseph	J. Leboski
H. Dusenbury	H. Joseph	A. Leboski
E. Heiligenstein	E. Kriegeskotte	A. Lager



**SAMUEL BLATTNER, FREEBURG CIVIL WAR VETERAN
FREEBURG MAYOR 1901-04, WITH COMRADE**



FIRST FREEBURG HOMECOMING (Village Park)

E. Lucash	W. Middendorf	F. Schneider
B. Lucash	A. Rix	E. Sorg
R. Ley	S. Ridener	C. Sexton
J. Miller	W. Reese	D. Smith
W. McMillan	B. Reiniger	R. Stoneman
J. Moyle	J. Rauch	E. Stoneman
D. McBride	E. Raith*	C. Sandidge
J. Mueth	*N. Smith	R. Tegtmeyer
F. Miller	I. Spitznass	G. Talbot
G. Obernagel	H. Schwalb	L. Talbot
W. Pitts	N. Schiek	L. Wuest
W. Procasky	L. Staehle	M. Weber
W. Reinheimer	H. Schifferdecker	W. Wisniewski
G. Ramer	W. Smith	E. Walker
A. Reuter	C. Smith	E. Wild
A. Rains	L. Smith	R. Williams
A. Reinheimer	J. Smith	G. Williams
J. H. Dambacher	P. Schiek	R. Wilhelm
B. Funke	G. Stoll	W. Hoeche

After World War I there was a movement to build a proper memorial in the Square. In 1919 the Town Board voted one hundred dollars as a donation. Xavier Heiligenstein and Walter Tisch went to Graniteville, Missouri and selected a boulder on the side of a hill as the one to be used as a memorial. It was blasted off and shipped here and set in the center of the Square. A place was leveled off for the base of the bronze statue portraying a "doughboy" charging through the barbed wire with bayonet fixed. Truly, we have a beautiful monument to honor our war heroes.

In 1941 our great country again issued its call to young men and women to help preserve our way of life and to give assistance to oppressed people everywhere in their effort to throw off the conquerors' shackles. As before, the call was answered by Freeburg's young people who served in all branches of the service in many admirable ways.

VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II
Locklar-Smith Legion Post No. 550

R. Adams	M. Archer	G. Bauerer
C. Ahlers	E. Arnold	L. Bauerer
J. Ahlers	F. Ault	L. Baumgarte
K. Andres	N. Barthel	J. Becker
L. Anstadt	F. Bauer	C. Bergquist



WAR MEMORIAL IN PARK TO FREEBURG VETERANS

L. Baumgarte	D. Fischer	L. Herman
E. Blank	D. Flowers	E. Hesse
L. Bollmeier	M. Fluck	*H. Hesse
F. Borger	H. Foehrer	*L. Hesse
R. Borger	B. Francis	S. Hesse
M. Braeutigam	F. Francis	H. Hill
R. Braeutigam	W. Francis	D. Hillesheim
C. Brenner	S. Frisch	D. Hillesheim
B. Breuggemann	L. Fritz	M. Hillesheim
M. Breuggemann	P. Fuesser	R. Hinrichs
E. Burgard	R. Gauch	R. Hoffarth
F. Burgard	W. George	A. Hooper
H. Burgard	J. Gerald	J. Janssen
H. Burgard	F. Germain	R. Janssen
L. Calkin	P. Germain	E. Johnson
G. Carr	G. Goetz	E. Jones
C. Carter	D. Gabriel	E. Jones
R. Classen	J. Gabriel	E. Jones
J. Cosgrove	F. Grandcolas	J. Jones
C. Culli	R. Grandcolas	R. Jung
H. Daab	B. Grant	R. Jung
W. Daab	W. Grant	R. Jung
J. Darmstatter	W. Grau	R. Jung
H. Davis	O. Groth	R. Just
R. Dietz	L. Guenzler	*C. Kamper
F. Dittmann	D. Guetterman	E. Kasper
C. Dolle	F. Guetterman	F. Kasper
C. Dunbar	H. Guetterman	B. Kehrer
C. Eitzenheffer	E. Hafley	E. Kern
M. Etling	H. Hartman	D. Kessler
*E. Espenscheid	C. Harris	M. Ketten
A. Feldt	V. Heberer	V. Ketten
H. Feldt	W. Heberer	G. Klein
K. Feldt	C. Heiligenstein	N. Klein
L. Feldt	J. Heiligenstein	*W. Klein
N. Feldt	B. Heinecke	A. Knobloch
J. Fernandez	J. Heitman	A. Koesterer
E. Fiedler	E. Heller	E. Koesterer

E. Koesterer	J. Lively	S. Nold	H. Schlueter	C. Stein	C. Wiles
F. Koesterer	J. Locklar	C. Pauketat	G. Schoen	A. Steinberger	H. Williams
J. Koesterer	H. Lonsdale	E. Paule	W. Schoen	R. Steinberger	C. Wisnewski
N. Koesterer	F. Luby	J. Paule	O. Shoemaker	H. Suemnicht	H. Wisnewski
R. Koesterer	J. Lucash	L. Paule	F. Schneider	H. Trentman	J. Witkus
R. Koesterer	R. Lucash	P. Pheifier	J. Schwalb	T. Tyberend	E. Woodside
W. Koesterer	W. Lucash	W. Pitts	J. Schwalb	E. Valentine	E. Wolf
H. Krauss	J. Markus	W. Randle	W. Schwalb	L. Valperts	E. Worms
L. Krauss	W. Martin	E. Rasch	C. Seibert	J. Vidmar	B. Wuest
R. Lackman	B. Middendorf	D. Rausch	*D. Seibert	L. Waeltz	F. Wuest
J. Lang	A. Miller	J. Rauth	E. Seibert	A. Weber	R. Wuest
O. Langenstein	J. Miller	F. Reck	O. Seibert	C. Weber	W. Wuest
S. Langenstein	R. Miller	J. Redmond	R. Seibert	E. Weber	P. Yeske
C. Lannert	B. Mudd	B. Reichardt	M. Shanafeldt	M. Weber	J. Yurgee
H. Lannert	C. Mueller	B. Reichert	E. Shea	D. Weidmann	E. Zink
P. Lannert	E. Mueller	L. Reiss	A. Sintzel	O. Weik	WOMEN
R. Lanter	A. Mueth	R. Rogiers	L. Skaer	R. Weiler	A. Jones
G. Leboski	A. Munier	J. Reuter	D. Smith	A. Weiss	M. Heiligenstein
P. Leboski	G. Munier	D. Rutledge	L. Smith	H. Wiegmann	B. Waeltz
L. Linder	P. Munier	N. Sauzek	M. Steffen		
M. Linder	J. Nast	A. Schaefer			
K. Linder	W. Nast	C. Schaefer			
W. Linss	L. Neville	J. Schaefer			
O. Lippert	D. Ogle	E. Schifferdecker			
W. Lippert	E. Newa	H. Schilling			

It is our hope that the sacrifices of all those who served and especially of those who made the supreme sacrifice may not have been in vain and that ways may yet be found to bring about a lasting peace in the world.



HUBER'S GENERAL MERCHANDISE STORE

Transportation and Communication in Freeburg



**SPRING DELIVERY WAGON
(HAMILTON HERMAN AND LOREN WILDERMAN)**

Up to this time all transportation was by teamsters hauling the flour and coal to Belleville and St. Louis in horse and wagon. In 1857 the Belleville and Southern Illinois Railroad, later to be called the Alton and Terre Haute Railroad Company, received their charter. This road was leased to the Alton and Terre Haute Railroad for nine hundred ninety-nine years. It was called the Cairo Short Line, and crossed St. Clair County diagonally, touching Centerville, Belleville, Freeburg, Lementon, New Athens, Lenzburg, and Marissa. In the year 1869, this railroad received permission to go through Freeburg. At this time Edward Abend of Belleville, a very public spirited, progressive citizen, organized the Belleville-Urbanna Plank Road. This was a road made of planks laid along the old Freeburg-Belleville road. There were toll houses to collect the fees of about thirty-five cents. This road was one way, with the plank on the right going toward Belleville from Freeburg. When one met a wagon he had to get off to let the other pass. There was a half-way house where Frick now has his storage business, and a toll house in Belleville (recently remodeled with green siding and iron work) facing the Army Reserve Building. Because many people would use the plank road to go to Belleville and avoid the toll gate by going through the Walnut Hill Cemetery, the toll house was moved to a small house south of the Goetz farm house.

DAYS OF THE STAGE COACH

If you were traveling in the early days you could take the stage coach which stopped at Freeburg. There

of Apple Street and South State. Across the street there was a stop at the Charles Faulks house at the corner was no house, only a stable for horses, and the well



**FAULKS HOTEL (STAGE COACH STOP)
LATER HUBER HOME**

on that property was used as a watering place for the horses. Oxen were watered there in the early times. It is said that earlier the stop was made at the first Foulks house to the northeast and across the block. The house was of log construction, and the logs are still in parts of the building, which has been remodeled. Lincoln was reported to have stopped there, which could be true, since he once borrowed money from Solomon Teter.

The old Philip Hermann house on a farm now owned by his son Clarence Hermann was a Half-Way House. It was a large two-story brick house and was a stop for the stage. Jacob Weber, a harness maker, had a general store at this same location. Another stop was



**EARLIER FAULKS HOUSE CALLED HALF-WAY HOUSE
(LINCOLN IS REPUTED TO HAVE STOPPED HERE)**

the Norris Wilderman home, recently torn down, which stood on the Stoneman farm.

While telling of early transportation, it is fitting to tell of another mode of transportation which followed the stage. The early automobiles. The first was an electric car owned by W. J. Reichert, which looked very much like a buggy body. It had no top, but had a black dash board as a buggy had in those days. It could seat two people and had single tube pneumatic tires. The next automobile was an old steam driven one owned by Peter Hermann, Jr., and equipped with two seats, one facing forward and one facing back. Wouldn't it be a thrill to ride on the back seat of that Toledo, scaring the horses!



PETER HERMAN, JR.



**PETER HERMAN'S STEAM DRIVEN AUTOMOBILE
(SECOND AUTO IN FREEBURG)**

Between Fayetteville and Freeburg there was a service called "The Hack." If any one wanted to come to Freeburg to "catch the train" or to visit, he would ride on the hack. It made one trip to Freeburg and back to Fayetteville each day.

The livery stable was operated by Peter Cartwright Hill to accommodate those traveling by horse and buggy.



FREEBURG LIVERY STABLE

The railroad company built the depot in 1870. In 1896 the Belleville branch of the Terre Haute, Alton, and St. Louis was leased to the Illinois Central Railroad Company. . . . To this day it belongs to this company.

By 1925 there was enough railroad transportation through our town to necessitate the construction of a second track on the Illinois Central Railroad.

Since there were no automobiles, people came to Freeburg to visit by train and usually desired to go home on Sunday evening. The longer they could stay in Freeburg, the happier. It was the style to dress up and walk to the Illinois Central Depot to see trains arrive and depart. In this manner citizens were able to have current information concerning the arrival and departure of visitors. The Illinois Central Railroad was

asked to make Freeburg a stop for the Flyer, every Sunday evening, in order to accommodate these Freeburg visitors.

Charles Becker and Charles Thomas were granted permission to construct and maintain an electric railroad through the Village. This never materialized.

THE FIRST R.F.D.

It was in 1900 that the first Rural Free Mail route in the state was laid out on Turkey Hill and mail deliveries were begun in March of that year. By the 1900 census 1,214 people were listed in Freeburg.

The first rural mail delivery accommodating the Freeburg area was started by William Hill who in April, 1902 circulated a petition. This petition was sent by him to Washington where it was approved. William Hill was the first carrier but only carried long enough for Theodore Chesney to prepare for his new job of rural mail carrier. After Chesney assumed his duties, William Hill became the substitute carrier. In the fall of 1902 Mr. Chesney became ill and was unable to continue his duties. Again Mr. Hill took over the mail routes for a short time until Mr. Robert Fox assumed the role of rural mail carrier. Mr. Fox carried mail for thirty-two years braving the weather and bad roads. When he retired his patrons had a large celebration in his honor.

Orlando Smith took over a second route East of Freeburg. Other carriers have been Philip Lannert and Lee Smith. Present rural mail carriers are David Hillesheim, who delivers on Route One, and John Lucash, who delivers on Route Two.

Freeburg has door to door mail delivery service in town with Robert Winterbauer, Robert Frantz, and Hilcary Talbot as carriers. The streets are plainly marked with aluminum street signs, through the courtesy of the Woman's Club. They were manufactured at the G. and S. Foundry in Freeburg.

Postmaster Herbert Baltz is assisted by two clerks, namely John Rauth and Marian Rohm.



manufactured to the wholesale and retail trade. He repaired shoes, too, when necessary. Heigle operated one of the first shoe shops and his place of business became the source of yeast cakes to bake bread in many homes of



INTERIOR OF HAMILL'S STORE
(HOFFMAN BUILDING)

Freeburg. George Baumgartner had a tobacco shop at the northwest corner of the square. Here he was a manufacturer, as well as a dealer, in cigars and pipes. Timothy Holcomb and Emil Staudinger sold drugs, medicines, paints, oils, and varnishes. Charles Weber, a



INTERIOR OF YAEGER'S STORE

carriage maker by trade, was a dealer in furniture and fixtures and also made and repaired furniture. Philip C. Dare and Charles Kring had one of the earliest drug stores. Later we had Smith's and Becker's Drug Stores. Elmer Joseph acquired the Becker Drug Store.



UNKNOWN STORE IN FREEBURG



BATDORF'S DRUG STORE

Conrad Sorg was listed in 1874 as a house and sign painter, but he would also do graining, glazing, and paper hanging. At this time we had four physicians and surgeons; namely, Dr. Fred Koeberlin, the grandfather of Mrs. Theodore Seibert; Dr. Alexander Woods,



SMITH'S DRUG STORE

who was agent for the Freeburg Coal Company; Dr. M. S. Carr; and Dr. Henry Hertel.

R. W. and John T. Lemen were proprietors of the R. W. Lemen and Company. They were miners and dealers of coal in St. Louis, Missouri.

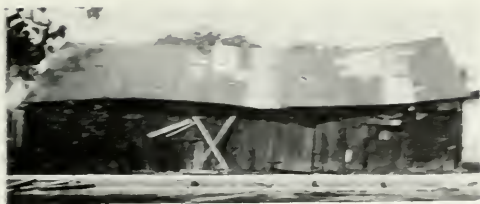
Freeburg had a creamery located on the east side



INTERIOR OF BATDORF-SMITH DRUG STORE

of town which was called the Freeburg Cooperative Creamery.

It was in 1885 that Huber and Seibert built a scale on New Athens Street west of Adam Seibert's Saloon. This same year Charles Frank, a blacksmith, received sixty-five dollars for building a hook and ladder wagon for the fire department.



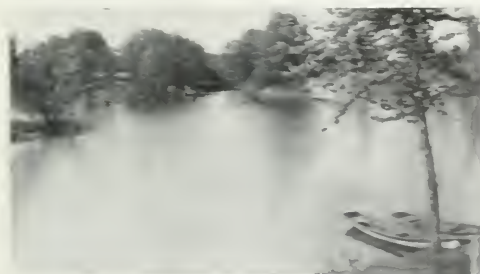
CHARLES FRANK'S BLACKSMITH SHOP

"The Freeburg Tribune" was established in 1896 by F. N. Hickman as editor and A. C. Hickman as publisher. This publication continues under the same name to this day. Among the owners have been Lucius Spruntz, Chapman, Doran, Charles Sexton, Quido Herman, and Walter Smith, the present owner. In 1904, the Freeburg Tribune was voted as the official publication of the Village of Freeburg.



INTERIOR OF FREEBURG TRIBUNE

In 1897 Reichert Mill was granted permission to lay a railroad switch on the north side of the mill. The town was still in need of additional facilities of water. F. X. Heiligenstein offered to lease ground for ninety-nine years without charge, upon which was built a pond, that served as a reservoir. The cost of the dam was six hundred ninety-eight dollars and three cents.



SCENE AT FREEBURG LAKE

By 1898 the American Telephone and Telegraph Company was given permission to erect poles along the Village streets.

Freeburg Milling Company was given free village water while building their mill at a cost of fifty thousand dollars in 1906. The Heiligenstein Brothers were the investors in this mill which had a capacity of about two hundred barrels. The name of their brands of flour were "Sweet Locust" and "Freeburg's Best."

There were two lumber yards in Freeburg during

the 1800's. The one was owned by Charles Senek, and was located on State Street where the Freeburg Lumber Company now stands. The other was a large lumber yard operated by Mr. C. A. Classen, located at 401 West Washington Street. This business was established in 1876. Mr. Classen had sent his son E. A. Classen to business college and then sold him his lumber business in 1900. This lumber yard thrived under his management and advertising. He sold lumber and supplies within a radius of fifteen miles from Freeburg to carpenters, contractors and farmers. He had 5250 square feet of his yard under roof, protecting his lumber and supplies from the weather.

BLACKSMITH MADE TOOLS

The English pioneer settlers and the German immigrants were searching for fertile soil. They took pride in their farms and they found that this was the type of land they wanted to live on. The blacksmiths and the carpenters manufactured the agricultural implements in the early days. Charles Brown had his wagon shop and Charles Frank had a blacksmith shop west of Huber's Store on Washington Street. He made wagons and manufactured agricultural implements. Across the street was another blacksmith shop owned by John Arras. He, too, was a manufacturer of wagons and agricultural implements. Peter C. Hill's advertisement said that he manufactured Black's improved gang plow and Prairie Lark Farming Mill. He was a dealer in all kinds of farming implements, wagons and buggies. There were also the shops of the Grot Brothers, Tony Meyer, and Daniel Berger, serving the farmers. Around every blacksmith shop one could see children listening



**DAN BERGER'S BLACKSMITH SHOP
(SHOWING EARL AND HERBERT SMITH)**

to the clanging of the hammer on the anvil, and watching the bellows blow on the fire. Oh, to see the smithy form implements right before their eyes!

Early implements were the cradle, the flail, the early plow, the harrow, and the cultivator. By 1845 horse power threshers and improved drills lessened the work of producing crops. By 1890, St. Clair County raised 1,577,000 bushels of corn, 487,000 bushels of oats, 2,800 bushels of rye, 1,458,000 bushels of wheat and \$88,000 bushels of potatoes.

Things change even the crops grown by farmers. At one time Huber's General Merchandise Store bought and shipped ninety car-loads of potatoes in one year.

EARLY DAYS OF SOYBEANS

Another change in agriculture which can be accredited in a way to Freeburg was the development of the soybean and its use as a grain. Loren E. Wilderman was the first farmer in this area to grow and experiment with soybeans, starting as early as 1914. He conducted experimental plots on his farm, sometimes raising as many as fifty-five different varieties for the University of Illinois. He received his idea of raising



LOREN E. WILDERMAN IN EXPERIMENTAL PLOT

soybeans after he had read in some magazine that the soybean was the chief source of protein in the diet of the Chinese for years. He finally found a seed house that handled the beans and bought a small packet. He wanted to grow them until 1920 when the Farm Bureau and Extension Department of the University of Illinois asked him to conduct the first soybean demon-

stration plot which was the beginning of the soybean industry in this part of the state. He wrote many articles for national farm magazines and spoke at many places as he developed new varieties and new phases of harvesting, production and inoculation. No one would buy the first soybeans but finally D. I. Bushnell Company, a seed house of St. Louis, bought some as a novelty in 1915. The first variety that proved satisfactory here was the Illinois 13-19. Few realize that this abundant and profitable grain crop has developed from a nonentity to one of the first ranking grains.



FARM SCENE OF 1895 WITH GUESTS ARRIVING

Others in the vicinity who have brought a name to this area in agriculture were the Helms' families, who have promoted fine livestock through the years. The A. O. Eckert who pioneered in fresh tree ripened fruit.

COAL ABUNDANT HERE

Natural resources which have greatly contributed to the progress of our area were the clay for brick and our rich supply of coal. Coal was first historically mentioned in this region of Illinois in 1873, having been discovered by LaSalle's expedition from Canada. Governor Reynolds in his "Sketches" published in 1857 stated, "some one in the American Bottom discovered smoke issuing from the ground for weeks which attracted his attention. He saw the coal in the bluff on fire, and supposed it had caught from the dry roots of a tree, that the prairie had set on fire. The fire communicated to the coal from the burning wood." Soon after this the coal trade began about 1823.

Even in the old records, much is recorded of the coal vein at Freeburg. One says that, "The thickest coal seam is perhaps that at Freeburg which is found to reach a thickness of eleven feet." Another quotation, "About three miles south-east of Freeburg surface coal of seven feet thickness is preserved. Beyond its exposure it is covered to the depth of two feet with a layer of shale. South a few miles, this seam is worked by horizontal drifts on the hillsides."

Mining was one of the leading industries of our area, and many persons will be able to recall the many mining settlements between Belleville and New Athens, most of them located on the St. Louis, Alton and Terre Haute Railroad which later was purchased by the Illinois Central Railroad. The welfare of Freeburg has depended to a large degree upon the coal mining industry which is in part responsible for the existence of the village.

It is said that the "Drum" mine on the plank road was the first mine in operation having been opened in 1862 by Jacob Belcher. Another old mine in Freeburg was the Klein Mine across from the Depot, owned by John Klein, Sr. This mine was later owned by Jacob Belcher and the Consolidated Coal Company; it was

abandoned in 1888. As you travel south of Freeburg along the railroad, there were the Enterprise mine and the Famous mine. The Famous mine was sunk on the James Hill farm by the Freeburg Coal Company, then it was sold to Charles Becker; later, to Isaac Johnson, then to Mr. Wickett. As we proceed south along the tracks, we come to the Star Mine and then the Leland Mine on the present Ben Hartman farm.

As we travel north of Freeburg, we come to the Randle mine on the Baker or W. A. Bechert farm. This mine was organized by several Freeburg business men. Next comes the Mulberry Hill Coal Mine on the Willertman farm, sunk around 1905 with William F. Zerkow serving as its engineer. This mine employed more than

three hundred men during its life span. It was owned by another prominent settlement man known as Woodman Starkey until the Willertman farm. The Decker Mine on the Fairweather farm was an outcrop near Silver Creek.

We shall mention other mines in the area, partly old and partly more recent: Decker's Mine, Enterprise Mine, Marsden Mine, Wildwood Mine, and others. These mines have disappeared but Freeburg retains memories for its coal field.

It was a normal structure for as many as fifteen hundred miners to be needed town in Freeburg, plus in addition to the regular population. Through time they seem fantastic today. It is nevertheless true.



SINKING OF MULBERRY MINE



MULBERRY MINE
DURING TIME OF PEAK PRODUCTION

any other of these early mines. The next mine in order was the St. Clair Mine on the Bechert farm, operated by Missouri and Illinois Coal Company. It was known also by the name of Dudley. At the St. Clair Mine there was a settlement with a hotel, houses and well.

Proceeding north we come to the Helms mine on the Helms farm. Another settlement was located

near it. Most of Freeburg's shaft coal mines have disappeared, but today we have one of the largest mining operations in the world in our back yard. We refer to Feasby Coal Company's Silver King Mine at Freeburg. Its predecessor was a strip mine south of Freeburg which was operated by William Wolf, who later moved to the "hill" or better mining area of Missouri.

Freeburg Coal Company has only recently set up the largest shovel in the world called "Big Paul." It moves the dirt and rock and coal. Large trucks haul the coal from its source to the customer nearest the plant where the coal is washed, crushed and ground. The material is loaded in bins for trucks loading or in other freight cars which leave it to the ship yard's railroad or barges on the Mississippi River.

The Columbia Seed Company has recently purchased the Silver King Mine, 501 West Main Street, and the Bechert home, 121 South Union Street. This company is engaged in the production and selling of high quality seeds.

The first bank in Freeburg, The German American Bank, was founded in November 1880 by August Youngblood. In 1905 the name was changed to the First National Bank of Freeburg and is composed of A. Youngblood, W. F. Bechert, J. H. Bechert, C. W. Bechert, and F. M. Youngblood. Past officers and directors include



BIG PAUL - RIVER KING MINE OF PEABODY COAL COMPANY, FREEBURG, ILLINOIS



NEW FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF FREEBURG

ent in the community and who pioneered in the local banking business were Russell E. Hamill and Susie M. Wolf. Present officials include Vernon Eckert, President; Leroy Hacker, Vice-President; Ervin Vogel, Secretary and Cashier; Eme M. Wolf, Assistant Cashier; Harry Favre and Russell Classen. In January, 1957, the bank relocated at White and Monroe Streets, in a new ultra-modern, completely air-conditioned building, which is one of the finest in this area.

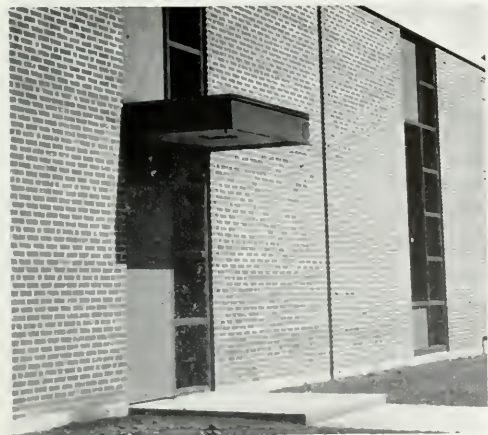
As we look about us and see such material improvements as the new Southwestern Bell Telephone Building, the new building of the First National Bank, the new Freeburg Elementary School, the recent additions to the Freeburg Community High School, the new storage facilities of the Freeburg Milling and Supply Company, the gas storage facilities of the Illinois Power Company, the enormous development of the Peabody Coal Company, the new homes, improved business houses and general well kept appearance of our community, we may justifiably speculate as to the forces

which promote such a sustained interest in the growth and appearance of a community. Our answer might of necessity be that it is a composite of many factors; ethnic background, religious and moral training, local pride and many others. Sufficeeth to say such a condition gives attestation to an enterprising and progressive spirit possessed by our Freeburg citizenry.

Many of our citizens commute daily to Scott Air Base, Turkey Hill Radar Station and to many adjacent communities to earn a livelihood. Many travel to St. Louis and back each day.

A new Southwestern-Bell Telephone Company exchange is being built in Freeburg at Alton and St. Clair Streets, and a new dial system will go into operation by the end of this year. This \$239,000 program will bring Belleville into Freeburg's "local" call area.

We need to mention our present day industries and retail business establishments.



NEW BELL TELEPHONE EXCHANGE UNDER CONSTRUCTION



E. M. WIEGMANN AND COMPANY



TOWER'S FIRE APPARATUS COMPANY



G. AND S. FOUNDRY

MANUFACTURERS—

- G. and S. Foundry and Manufacturing Company, 416 South Richland Street, makers of cast aluminum and brass articles.
- Towers Fire Apparatus Company, 502 South Richland Street, makers of fire engines and other fire fighting apparatus.
- Donley Company, R.R. 2, east of Freeburg, makers and binders of calendars and advertising material.
- E. M. Wiegmann and Company, 202 West St. Clair Street; manufacturers of electrical supplies.

STORES—

- Sander's Super Market, 203 South State Street.
- Hacker's Super Market, 114 North Main Street.
- Yeske's Market, 13 South Belleville Street.
- Burgard's Mercantile Company, 2 West Washington Street.
- J & C Rexall Drugs, 111 West Washington Street.
- Miller's Dry Goods Store, 10 South Alton Street.
- Margaret Pitt's Dress Shop, 3 South Alton Street.
- Ideal Bakery, 202 West High Street.

APPLIANCES AND FURNITURE—

- Wilmer Kaiser Electric Company, 304 West High Street.
- Lanter Refrigeration and Electric, 107 South State Street.
- Skaer Radio and T.V. Service, 107 South State Street.
- Meng Furniture Company, 403 West Washington Street.

LUMBER YARDS—

- Freeburg Lumber Company, 11 South State Street.
- Freeburg Milling and Supply Company, 409 West Apple Street.



FREEBURG LUMBER COMPANY

INSURANCE AGENTS—

- Klein Insurance, 202 North Edison Street.
- Nold Insurance Agency, 201 North State Street.
- Floyd German, State Farm Insurance, 205 North Monroe Street.

AUTOMOBILE DEALERS—

- Borrenpohl Chevrolet, Route 13.
- Dave's Ford Ranch, 1 North Monroe Street.
- Zahner's Auto Sales, 410 North State Street.

LAWYERS—

- Norman Nold, 201 North State Street.
- Russell Classen, 301 West Washington Street.

DOCTORS—

- Dr. Edward G. Dewein, 4a South Monroe Street.
- Dr. Richard Koesterer, 102 South Alton Street.

DENTIST—

- Dr. Arthur J. Jordon, 4 South Monroe Street.
- Dr. R. H. Wolf, Retired.

BARBERS AND BEAUTY OPERATORS—

- Friederich Barber Shop, 106 South Alton Street. (The oldest business establishment in town with one owner.
- Pete's Barber Shop, 1 South Richland Street.
- Dohrman Barber Shop, 8 South Monroe Street.
- Parkview Beauty Salon, 7 South Belleville Street.
- Modern Beauty Shop, 105 West High Street.
- Fischer Beauty Shoppe, 106 North State Street.
- B-Luv-Lee Beauty Shop, 112 South Alton Street.

OIL DISTRIBUTORS—

- Freeburg Oil Company, Earl Borger, owner
- Standard Oil Company, W. C. Eckert and Lester Herman, owners.

FILLING STATIONS—

- Groth's Standard Station, 210 South State Street.
- Clyde's Service Station, Route 13, south of Freeburg.
- Schweiger Service Station, 302 North State Street.
- Green Mill Service Station, 103 North State Street.
- Harris Texaco Station, 101 South State Street.
- Surmeier Shell Station, 403 South State Street.

EATING ESTABLISHMENTS—

- Quality Milk Bar, 407 South State Street.
- Green Mill Restaurant, 105 North State Street.
- Valentine Hotel, 205 South State Street.
- Burgard's Tavern, 1 West High Street.
- Rainbow Inn, Route 13, south of Freeburg.
- Eureka Inn, Route 13, north of Freeburg.
- Annie's Lunch Room, North State Street.
- Spotlight Malt Shop, 301 South Belleville Street.
- Charlie's Tavern, Richland and St. Clair Street.
- Andy's Tavern, Washington and Alton Street.
- Ray's Tavern, 211 North Main Street.
- Rehmer's Tavern, 102 South Richland Street.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS CLASSIFICATIONS—

- First National Bank, corner White and Monroe Street.



**FREEBURG MILLING AND SUPPLY
SHOWING NEW GRAIN ELEVATOR**

Freeburg Tribune, 10 South Monroe Street.
 Freeburg Bottling Co., Donald Smith, Distributor,
 201 South Alton Street.
 Freeburg Launderette, White and Richland Street.
 Muehlherr Hatchery, 602 South State Street.
 Freeburg Bowling Lanes, Route 13, north of Free-
 burg.
 Gabriel Motel, Route 13, north of Freeburg.
 Brinkman Blacksmith Shop, 503 West Phillips Street.
 Dashner Florist, Monroe and High Street.
 Favre Sales and Service Farm Equipment, Route 13.
 Munier Trucking Co., 112 East Apple Street.
 Parrish Trucking Co., R. R. No. 2, Freeburg.
 Dambacher Trucking Co., 210 North Railroad.
 E. and I. Feed Company, 113 East Emily Street.
 East Side Coal Company, R. R. No. 2, Freeburg.
 Peabody River King Mine, R. R. No. 2, Freeburg.
 Marian Nursing Home, 406 South State Street.
 Grimm and Gorly Florist, 10 North Richland Street.
 Renner Funeral Home, 206 South Richland Street.
 Stark Printing Company, 410 West Washington
 Street.
 Krieg Sheet Metal Co., 405 North Alton Street.
 Lackmann Trucking Company, 311 North Main
 Street.
 McCurdy Chemical Co., 415 South Railroad Street.
 John Koch, Newspaper distributor, 304 North State
 Street.

Freeburg Packing Company, 407 West Phillips
 Street.
 Schleuter Real Estate, 101 East St. Clair Street.
 Edwin Valentine, Milk Distributor, 405 West Wash-
 ington Street.
 Weber Lubrication Service, 301 North Monroe Street.
 Heberer Welding Shop, 114 North Monroe Street.
 Pruett Garage, North Vine Street.
 Stellar Tool and Die Company, 105 East Hill Street.

CONTRACTORS—

Clarence Scheid, Contractor, 111 South Cherry Street.
 George Klein, Contractor, 4 South State Street.
 Robert Callaghan, Inc., R. R. No. 2, Freeburg.
 Midway Excavating Company, R. R. No. 2, Freeburg.

FARM SERVICE COMPANY—

Wilbert Schneider, Oil and Gas Distributor, 308
 North State Street.

Herbert Heberer, Insurance, R. R. No. 2, Freeburg.

More recently, a natural gas dome is being de-
 veloped south of Freeburg as a permanent reservoir for
 natural gas. The Illinois Power Company constructed
 pipe lines, by which means, gas will be carried to the
 reservoir. As gas is used the supply will be replenished.

The farms around Freeburg are made up of improv-
 ed land that attracted our forefathers. The Farm Bur-
 eau, the Granges, 4-H clubs and Future Farmers of Am-
 erica have aided greatly in promoting the general wel-
 fare of our farm population.



NEW GAS STORAGE FACILITIES - ILLINOIS POWER COMPANY

Organizations

On July 15, 1864 Freeburg Lodge No. 418 Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons was instituted with nine charter members. Among them were Dr. F. Koeberlin, who served as first Worshipful Master; L. D. Turner, D. C. Wallace, Matthew Potter, Sr., William Krauss, W. R. Walker, Wm. S. Thomas, Andrew Krauss, Adam Schoen and several other brethren.

Others listed in the following meeting were: John Rauth, Philip Conrad, John Lortz, Cornelius A. Classen, Matthew S. Carr, Peter Herman, Jr., Louis Joseph, Philip Herman, Chris Heiligenstein, and Frank Mack.

The present officers are: Donald Smith, Worshipful Master; Frank Franzlau, Senior Warden; Harold Wiegmann, Junior Warden; Earl Coke, Secretary; Clifford Lannert, Treasurer.



**BUILDING OF FREEBURG LODGE NO. 418,
A.F. & A.M. (1917)**

The Freeburg Saengerbund and Literary Society which was organized March 5, 1867 laid the corner stone for the new Singer Hall in June, 1882, and the hall was dedicated in September of the same year. This singing and literary society had about thirty-eight members and about six hundred volumes in its library. The Literary Society met bi-monthly. There were heated debates on current topics, music, recitations, minstrels and three act plays. Some of the people report that the high lights of the meetings were the solos by Mary Huber and debates with Louis Eldman and Edward Helms being two of the participants. Edward Helms was a four-minute man during World War I giving inspiring speeches and encouraging his fellow-men. His well remembered closing lines were, "the land of the free and the home of the brave," or "of the people, by the people, and for the people." Dr. William Kunze and Walter Eckert were active debaters, too. Mrs. Sherman Stookey (Lora Wilderman) and Mrs. Theodore Seibert (Leona Raith) would give recitations and Nora and Theresa Schifferdecker, Miss Katie Mae Blattner and Clara Carter often sang. This was a time when everyone wore his best clothes.

The Singers' Picnic and ball was held September 19, 1886 and would have been forgotten except for the

fact that the village trustees saw the need for three extra police.

In the old Mt. Pleasant School on the Old Plank Road about two miles north of Freeburg, the Turkey Hill Grange was organized in April, 1874 by Isaac Terrill. Progressive farmers saw the need of fraternal fellowship for entire families and the need of discussing agricultural problems. The fact that this grange was organized only seven years after William Saunders started the National Grange Movement, clearly indicates the foresightedness of our forebears. The first Turkey Hill Grange Hall was a two-story frame building, built in 1885 with donations from the Patrons of Husbandry membership and from others in the community. The ground was donated by Henry and Mary Miller Eckert. The first floor served as a school. This building was destroyed by fire in 1904 and rebuilt immediately. The present building was built in 1937 with most of the labor furnished by the members and is classed as one of the finest in the nation.

Another organization came into being in Freeburg at this time, the Royal Neighbors of America. The charter members were: F. W. Herman, Peter and Bertha Yaeger, J. D. and Belle Wilderman, W. N. and Mattie Wilderman, Edward and Ettie Kamper, Wm. C. and Nancy Patterson, R. E. and Agnes Hamill, Melissa Moeser, Annie E. Pitts, Rosa Darmstatter, Wm. C. and Sarah Schlernitzauer, Wm. and Annie M. Reinheimer, H. A. and Annie Fritz, Louisa Batdorf, Ellie Stookey, Mary Stookey, Carrie C. Wilderman, and Addie Walker.

The present officers are: Martha Klein, Oracle; Sabie Wild, Past Oracle; Alice Yeske, Vice Oracle; Anna Kessler, Chancellor; Florence Koerber, Recorder; Pearl Browning, Receiver; Marie Wiltshire, Marshall; and Marion Rohm, Assistant Marshall.

The Freeburg Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star was instituted in January, 1905 with the following charter members: Amelia Raith, Frederick Moeser, Carrie Wilderman, Lulu M. Hamill, Clara Reichert, Melissa Moeser, Emma Whittaker, Margaret Herman, Cyrus Whittaker, Alma Krauss, Henrietta Herman, Ada Krauss, Laura Joseph, Ella Bechtold, Nannie Youngblood, Louis Joseph, W. Hamilton Wilderman, Ransom Youngblood and Belle Wilderman.

The present elective officers are: Marjorie Smith, Worthy Matron; Armin Forcade, Worthy Patron; Lucille Davis, Associate Matron; Edwin Dintelmann, Associate Patron; Martha Klein, Secretary; Laverne Yeske, Treasurer; June Petri, Conductress; Edna Georg, Associate Conductress.

The American Legion organized a Post in August of 1920 and named it in honor of the two men from



AMERICAN LEGION BUILDING



CHARTER MEMBERS - ROTARY CLUB OF FREEBURG

Front row, seated from the left: Director Loren E. Wilderman. Treasurer Robert Browning, President Russell Classen, Vice President E. J. Heiligenstein, Secretary Lee R. Smith and Dr. Edward G. Dewein. Second row: Elmore E. Fritz, Frank Hillesheim, Geo. N. Kumbera, E. E. Classen, Marshall J. Scott and W. R. Wolf. Back row: J. D. Miller, Raymond W. Meng, Verlan Randle, Jacob L. Baer, A. J. Jordan, John Sintzel and Walter E. Smith.



MOST RECENT PICTURE - ROTARY CLUB OF FREEBURG

Freeburg who lost their lives in World War I; namely, Nolan Smith and Louis Locklar. It is known as the Locklar-Smith Legion Post, No. 550. It was in July of 1929 that the ladies organized the American Legion Auxiliary.

On January 17, 1921, the Broad Hollow Grange was organized by E. A. Eckert, who lived east of Freeburg and served as master of the Illinois State Grange for many years, and by Louis B. Eidman, prominent farmer of Engelman Township. The charter members were: Mrs. Louisa Brandenburger, Alex Brandenburger, Florence Brandenburger, Edgar Brenner, Emelie Brenner, Edward Becker, George Dintelmann, Sr., Edwin Diesel, Walter Georg, Katie Georg, Frank Hesse, Elsie Hesse, Louis G. Joseph, Mabel Joseph, George Kuhn, Jr., Philip Keller, August Keller, Frank Meier, Mrs. Meier, Elmer Meng, Clara Meng, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Pfeiffer, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ries, Edwin Ries, Amanda Ries, Fred Stallman, Anna Stallman, Henry Stallman, Ida Stallman, Charles and Elsie Talbot, Kasper and Alvina Wis-kamp.

The Freeburg Rotary Club was organized January 31, 1938 with Russell Classen as President, Edwin Heiligenstein as Vice-President, Lee R. Smith as Secretary, Robert Browning as Treasurer, and Dr. Edw. G. Dewein, Loren E. Wilderman, and W. Robert Wolf as the Board of Directors. Other charter members were Jacob L. Baer, Edw. A. Classen, Elmore E. Fritz, Frank Hillesheim, Dr. Arthur J. Jordan, Raymond W. Meng, J. D. Miller, Verlan D. Randle, Marshall Scott, John Sintzel, and Walter Smith. At the beginning, the regular weekly meetings were held at Mary Huber's Tea Room. Currently, the meetings are held at Valentine's Hotel. The Freeburg club was sponsored by the Belleville Rotary Club with Louis C. Saeger as the special representative.

It is worthy of note that Dr. Arthur J. Jordan is the only one that has perfect attendance since the club was instituted.

Officers of the Rotary Club are: Charles Laughlin, President; Herbert Baltz, Secretary, Dr. Richard Koesterer, Treasurer, and Norman Nold, Vice-President.

The Freeburg Parent-Teacher Association was organized September 24, 1947. Mrs. Lucille Klein was elected President; Mrs. Elizabeth Lannert, Vice-President; Mrs. Marie Wiltshire, Secretary; and Mrs. Mary Burgard, Treasurer. There were fifty-five charter members in this organization. The primary aim of the Parent-Teacher Organization as stated in the constitution and by-laws is, "to promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, church, and community." The present membership approaches one hundred fifty.

To create a united effort for the welfare of youth, a High School Parent-Teacher Association was organized September 20, 1956 with seventy-four charter members. The officers elected were: Mrs. William Howard Davis, President; Mrs. John W. Lewis, Vice-President;

Mrs. Mildred Heberer, Secretary; and Mr. Edwin Stone-man, Treasurer.

In the year of 1917 a Household Science Club was formed in Freeburg.

This club published the Household Science Cook Book, composed of contributed recipes which are used in many homes, today. It was compiled by Mrs. Blanche Stookey, Mrs. Edna Hartmann, Mrs. Laura Schlesinger, Mrs. Bessie Joseph, Mrs. Alice Dietrich, Mrs. Cecile Fox, and Mrs. Olga Scheid.

The local club received a certificate of membership in the General Federation of Women's Clubs on April 20, 1926. The name of the club was changed on October 22, 1931 to Freeburg Woman's Club.

Present officers of the Woman's Club: President, Mrs. John Siemens, Jr.; Vice President, Mrs. Richard Koesterer; Recording Secretary, Mrs. James Siemens; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Vern Antry; Treasurer, Mrs. Dee C. Shain; Assistant Treasurer, Mrs. Edward Baehr.

Freeburg has an active Chamber of Commerce, which was organized as such on November 8, 1948. Originally the organization was known as the Business Men's Association. Some of the members were Isadore Friederich, Walter Middendorf, William Burgard, Jacob Martin, Jacob Linder, Fred Valkamp, Edward Martin, Conrad Meng, Elwood Smith, Louis Scheid, Ed Luriz, R. E. Hamill and Edward Classen. In December 1929 the name was changed to the Freeburg Commercial Club with F. X. Heiligenstein as President; George Klein, Vice President; William C. Borger, Secretary; Edward Martin, Financial Secretary; and Isadore Friederich, Treasurer. The Club's name was again changed in 1948 to Freeburg Chamber of Commerce and the following were the first officers: Herbert Baltz, President; Willard Borrenpohl, First Vice President; Lee Smith, Second Vice President; Harry Favre, Secretary; Dr. R. H. Wolf, Treasurer; and Russell Classen, Activities Chairman. Present officers are: Ervin Vogel, President; Willard Borrenpohl, First Vice President; Norman Nold, Second Vice President; Herbert Baltz, Secretary; and George Vaught, Treasurer.

Freeburg has a Community Council made up of two representatives from all the various organizations in the community. Although it is not always as active as possibly it could be, in its short history it has promoted cooperation among community organizations resulting in a new addition to the high school, installation of street markers, Christmas lighting contest, and many other worthwhile projects. Its present officers are: Mr. Herbert O. E. Baltz, President and Mrs. E. A. Classen, Secretary.

The Scouting Program was started about 1925 with Russell Merkel as the first scoutmaster. The second leader was Verlan Randle. He was followed by Clarence Teter who had spent several years as a lone scout,



FORE RUNNER OF FREEBURG SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

advancing without a troop or scoutmaster. Clarence served twenty-two years as scoutmaster with a total of thirty-two years in scouting. He is the only one in Freeburg to receive the Silver Beaver award for outstanding service to scouting. Ervin Vogel was scoutmaster for four years and was succeeded by Robert Vielweber who is the present scoutmaster for Troop No. 30. Some changes were made in the Scouting program during the period when Clarence Teter served as scoutmaster. At that time the Scouting Program was divided into Scouting for younger boys and the Explorer Program for older boys. Now, Morton Burgard is the Post Advisor. The Boy Scouts and Explorers are sponsored by the Freeburg Rotary Club.

In closing we would admonish the citizens of Freeburg to be ever mindful of their heritage—to love it—cherish it—and constantly enlarge upon it, in order that posterity may in retrospect, forever adjudge it to be good.

It is impossible, even illogical, to attempt to include all historical facts and all facets of community life in a booklet made so phenomenal by its brevity. Inexhaustible research, requiring much more time than was ever envisioned for this publication, would be necessary to produce so complete a narrative. We have in our history many unsung heroes, whose numerous and varied contributions to this community will remain forever a secret.

In conclusion we wish to thank all those who have

The Girl Scouts and Brownies are presently sponsored by the Woman's Club. Maribell Fischer organized the first group which later disbanded. In 1942 Vi Strand reorganized the Girl Scouts and in 1944 Mrs. Austin Mulkey became the leader. The Brownies were started in 1950 with Mrs. Donald Smith their leader. She served six years.

The Cub Pack was organized in 1951 by the Freeburg Parent-Teachers Association during the presidency of Mrs. William Howard Davis. Serving on the organization committee were Edwin W. Smith, Mrs. Loren Anderson and Mrs. Austin Mulkey. Wm. Howard Davis was selected as cubmaster and continues as their leader.

in any manner assisted in making this work possible; those who contributed articles or supplied pictures.

We want it fully known and understood that any omissions, errors, misquotes, etc. were not made willfully, maliciously, or with complete malice or forethought.

A special word of thanks goes to Miss Gladys Joseph who served as contributor, proof reader, and grammarian. Also to be included in this accolade are Mrs. Cornelia Kessler who worked long and at a late hour to complete the typing of this booklet, as did Mr. and Mrs. Charles Laughlin and Barbara Kessler. Other persons who assisted as typists were Marilyn, Martha, and Martha Ruth Borger. To all these people go my sincere thanks and appreciation.



PHAETON CARRYING BURGARD WEDDING PARTY



BURGARD WEDDING PHOTO

In keeping with the spirit of the Freeburg Centennial Celebration, Mr. Morton Richard Burgard of Freeburg, and his fiancée, Miss Joyce Ann Bruehl of Belleville, arranged to have their wedding ceremony performed in an atmosphere long since passe. The wedding took place on Saturday, July 18, 1959 at two o'clock in the afternoon at St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Freeburg.

The double ring ceremony was performed by the Reverend L. L. Eichenlaub, pastor of Grace United Church of Christ in St. Louis, who is a friend of the Bruehl family. He was assisted by the Reverend Hayward Kehl, pastor of St. Paul's.

Miss Wilma Just, the organist, and Miss Faye Pabst, the soloist, presented "Because" and "The Lord's Prayer".

Given in marriage by her brother, Lloyd P. Bruehl, the bride had Mrs. Remington Moody as matron of honor; Miss Betty Ann Foulbaum, bridesmaid; and Miss Phyllis Bruehl, flower girl. Master Lynn Bruehl acted as ringbearer. Remington Moody was his cousin's best man, and Richard Sanders was groomsman. Ushers were Kenneth Ahlers and Charles Schobert.

Members of the wedding party were attired in outfits similar to those worn in the past century. The bride's dress, an authentic copy of an Empress Eugenia style of 1959, was fashioned of silk organza and handmade French Alencon lace.

After the ceremony the bridal party left the church in an old fashioned horse-drawn phaeton to "tour the town" before attending the reception held in their honor in the church hall.

The present Mrs. Burgard is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Bruehl of 423 North High Street, Belleville, Illinois. Morton Richard Burgard is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernst Burgard of Freeburg.

Centennial Queen Candidates



FRONT ROW, left to right: Barbara Jo Kessler, Janice Fritz, Nancy Seibert, Phyllis Ann Vielweber. SECOND ROW: Jeanette Walthes, Karen Schneider,

Martha Ruth Borger, Judith Anderson, Paula Sue Browning. BACK ROW: Lois Ann Koesterer, Mabel Weiss, Rita Heberer, Judith Lanter, Jane McDonald.

Chairman and Co-chairman of Centennial Committee



FIRST ROW, left to right: Chris Heiligenstein, Lucille Davis, Isadore Friederich, Mrs. E. A. Classen, Mary Schoen, Laverne Yeske, Mary Ann Laughlin. SECOND ROW: Edward Martin, Edmund Klein, Pete Valentine, Carl Fritz, Mrs. A. J. Jordan, Dr. A. J. Jordan, Gladys Joseph, Chales Laughlin. THIRD ROW: Ray Selby,

Orison Seibert, Mitchell Stookey, Harry Hill, Ron Her-
rin, Earl Burger, Herbert Baltz. FOURTH ROW: Walter
Lucash, Jr., Irwin Lannert, Eugene Schneider, Cornelius
Nold, Oscar Skaer, Jr., Robert Winterbauer. FIFTH
ROW: Pete Bruehl, Edwin Wetzel.

Centennial Committees

As Appointed by the Executive Committee

PAGEANT COMMITTEE: Charles Laughlin, Mari-anna Laughlin, Co-chairmen; Frank Nation, Mrs. E. A. Classen, Joyce France, Mrs. Lester Fritz, Fern Tritt, Viola Weiss, Bertha Mallrich, Dorothy Mulkey, Austin Mulkey, Sandra Mulkey.

HISTORICAL BOOKLET COMMITTEE: Lucille Davis, Gladys Joseph, Co-chairmen; Rev. Hayward Kehl, Robert Browning, Mrs. E. A. Classen, Herbert Baltz, Philip Schiek, Mrs. Chris Zacher, Tillie Kasper, John Klein, John Sintzel, Elmer Reichert, Bess Joseph, William Pitts.

PARADE AND FLOAT COMMITTEE: Joseph Heiligenstein, Harry Hill, Co-chairmen; Ray Fuller, Willard Borrenpohl, Arthur Bender, Fred Koch, Jr., Louis Darmstatter, Floyd Grommet, Western Parade, Homer Linder, Dr. Richard Koesterer, Carl Fritz, Old Timer's Parade, Grover Carr, Old Timer's Parade.

HOSPITALITY AND DECORATIONS COMMITTEE: Mrs. Edward G. Dewein, Dr. Edward G. Dewein (deceased) Co-chairmen; Mr. Harry Favre, Mrs. Harry Favre, Mr. John Little, Dr. Richard Koesterer, Mrs. Richard Koesterer, Mrs. John Siemens, Mrs. Bess Joseph, Dr. A. J. Jordan, Mrs. A. J. Jordan (Appointed Chairman and Co-chairmen after the death of Dr. Dewein), Mrs. E. A. Classen.

FIRST AID AND SAFETY COMMITTEE: Robert Winterbauer, Chairman; Leon Dickerson, Clarence Teter, Mrs. Olaf Ovrebo, Mrs. James Gill, Mrs. Fred Jackson, Mrs. William Speiser, Mrs. Donald Tewell.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE: John Lewis, Chairman; Walter Smith, Mina Smith, Pete Valentine, Charles Kaiser.

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING COMMITTEE: Ervin Vogel, Chairman; Elmer Joseph, Henry Koerber, Lester Fritz, Russell Classen.

LOCATION PLANNING, BUILDING, STAND ERECTION COMMITTEE: George Vaught, Irvin Lannert, Co-chairmen; Ralph Wright, Norman Barthel, Maurice Koesterer, Donald Rauth, Arthur Och, Robert Young, Emil Ross, Clarence Scheid, George Klein, Bertram Mudd, Carl Hafley, Alphonse Krieg, Armin Meier, Curt Skaer, Harry Munier, Al Schulte, Wallace Loesche, Herschel Parrish.

LIGHTING COMMITTEE: Cornelius Nold, Louis Yurguc, Co-chairmen; Robert Lanter, Ben Burgert, William Langenstein, Jr., Charles Germaine, James Darmstatter.

DANCE COMMITTEE: Isadore Friederich, Chairman; Sam Nold, Jan Klein, Henry Green, Erwin Heberer, Lester Reichert, Kenneth Browning.

SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE: Walter Lucash, Chris Heiligenstein, Co-chairmen; Lester Herman, Orval Weik, John Heiligenstein, Howard Tritt, Ralph Joseph.

PARKING COMMITTEE: Mitch Stookey, Morton Burgard, Charles Kaiser, Robert Vielweber, Co-chairmen; Explorer Scouts.

INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION COMMITTEE: Ed Klein, Chairman; Mrs. Ralph Wright, Raymond Meng, Mrs. Oliver Klopmeier, Mrs. Orison Seibert.

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE: Gordon Kamper, Orison Seibert, Co-chairmen; Verlan Kamper, Kenneth Kamper, Art Barttelbort, Kenneth Mueller, Arthur Prochasky, Ray Prochasky, Floyd Kessler, Henry Heberer, Lloyd Groh, Armin Becker, Raymond Weiss, Washington Gauch.

FIREWORKS COMMITTEE: Ron Herrin, Chairman; Wesley Bloomer, Al Kessler, Hilmer Groth, Cliff Lannert.

RIDES COMMITTEE: Earl Borger, Ray Selby, Co-chairmen; Herman Lackman, Charles Harris, Donald Tewell, Elroy Scheffert, Louis Frerking, Robert Frantz, Roy Humphries, Robert Becherer, Edwin Stoneman, Edgar Hug.

PUBLIC ADDRESS COMMITTEE: Oscar Skaer, Jr., Carl Baumgarte.

QUEEN CANDIDATE AND TICKET PROMOTION COMMITTEE: Norman Nold, David Favre, Co-chairmen; David Renner, William Moore, Floyd Germann, Roald Caspersen, Chris Heiligenstein.

INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL EXHIBITS COMMITTEE: Eugene Towers, Eugene Schneider, Co-chairmen; Harold Wiegman, William Eckert, C. Don Donley, Vernon Eckert, James Siemens, John Siemens, Orville Groth.

PRIZE STAND COMMITTEE: Edward Martin, John Sintzel, Carl Fritz, Co-chairmen; Ben Hartman, Charles Kern, Herman Joseph, Al P. Kessler, Barney Reiniger.

MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR COMMITTEE: Edwin Wetzel, Chairman; Otto Lacquet, Sterling Heil, John Wisnewski.

BROTHERS OF THE BRUSH COMMITTEE: Pete Bruehl, Wilmer Kaiser, Co-chairmen.

SISTERS OF THE SWISH COMMITTEE: Laverne Yeske, Myrtle Yurguc, Mary Schoen, Co-chairmen; Sally Herman, Delores Weik, Leona Little, Marie Roeder, Bernice Blessing, Florence Wiskamp, Mary Lou Herrin, Wilma Browning, Ruth Groth.

CONCESSIONS COMMITTEE: Stanley Middleton, Chairman. **BINGO:** Floyd German, Lorraine Baumgarte, Elmer Klein. **WHEELS:** A. J. Jordan, Henry Green. **BEER:** "Doc" Koesterer, Bud Lucash, Glen Miles, Walter Heberer, Floyd Koesterer. **SODA:** Don Smith, Leon Dickerson, Clarence Teter, Olaf Ovrebo. **FOOD:** Leroy Hacker, Eugene Sanders, Floyd Burgard, Paul Yeske. **ICE CREAM, MILK, ORANGE DRINK:** Rudy Frievogel, Edwin Valentine, William Jones, Junior Kriegeskotte. **FISH:** Walter Schlesinger, Mark Zipfel, Walter Middelndorf, Walter Vielweber, Delbert Schoen.

COFFEE AND CAKE STAND: Thursday, August 13, Royal Neighbors; Friday, August 14, Dorcas Guild; Saturday morning and afternoon, August 15, W.M.W.; Saturday Evening, August 15, Mary Martha Society; Sunday afternoon and evening, Ladies Altar Sodality.

POPCORN STAND: High School Band Parents. **SNOW CONE:** High School P. T. A. **NOVELTIES:** Elementary School P. T. A.

POLICE COMMITTEE: Clem Borger. (Other appointees by Village Board.)

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF CONCESSIONS COMMITTEE: Wilbert Schneider, John Rauth, Maurice Braeutigam, Oliver Klopmeier, Joe Renner, David Ogle.



BROTHERS OF THE BRUSH



BROTHERS OF THE BRUSH

Brothers of the Brush

Toby Heiligenstein
 Jerry McDowell
 Eugene Schneider
 David Favre
 John Surmeier
 Roald Casperson
 Mayor Favre
 George Vaught
 John Heiligenstein
 Ray Meng
 Herb Vollmer
 Ed Pratt
 Phillip Schanz
 Harold Burgard
 Eddie Weber
 Pete Valentine
 Butch Wolf
 Les Herman
 Norman Barthel
 Carl Baumgarte
 Homer Linder
 Howard Tritt
 Edward Heberer
 Roger Zipfel
 Bert Kehler
 Charlie Eller
 Victor Klein
 Lorrain Lacquet
 Jarlath Germaine
 Kelly Wilderman
 Arthur Procasky
 Donald Smith
 Alvin Vielweber
 Robert Lanter
 Delbert Schoen
 Dennis Trentman
 Fred Schoen
 Clyde Pruett
 Robert Johnson
 Gordon Kamper
 Walter Beyer
 John Hettenhausen
 Harold Vollmer

Wally Schlesinger
 Howard Williams
 Raymond Procasky
 Vernon Buecher
 Robert Siebe
 Frank Steinberger
 Arthur Lucash
 Orval Weik
 Verlan Kamper
 Robert Frantz
 Ernest Kriegeskotte, Jr.
 Louis Kehrer, Jr.
 Harold Maxey
 Philip Lannert
 Clarence Hesse
 Pearl Seivers
 Kenneth Browning
 Wilbert Schneider
 Floyd Burgard
 Donald Harris
 Emil Krieg
 Wm. Bay
 Eugene Middendorf
 Ed Hamann
 Harold Mueller
 Simon Langenstein
 Rudy Blessing
 George Fisher
 Clarence Talbot
 Barrett Burns
 J. R. Bunce
 Alvin Ahlers
 Sam Koesterer
 Gerald Schoen
 Bob Becherer
 E. Kramer
 Nick Heidenrich
 Roy Rauch
 Mutt Kriegerkotte
 Tom Wilderman
 George Hacker
 Isadore Friederich

Harold Kessler
 Floyd Kessler
 Donald Borger
 Elroy Barkau
 Marinus Mudd
 Roy Krauss
 John Huber
 Arthur Sauzek
 William Hull
 Neal Gerfen
 Wesly Ingram
 Elmer Joseph
 Herman Lackman, Jr.
 Clarence Scheid
 Gary Towers
 Loraine Quirin
 Elroy Kasper
 Virgil Fischer
 Harry Kohr
 Wm. Jones
 Sam Nold
 Robt. Winterbauer
 Carl Barton
 Armin Meier
 Charles Laughlin
 Wilmer Kaiser
 Harry Hill
 Pete Breuhl
 Dale Miller
 Ernie Gaido
 Rudy Freivogel
 Ed Valentine
 Robert Borger
 Chris Heiligenstein
 Sterling Heil
 Walter Heberer
 Louis Werner, Jr.
 Donald Rauch
 Oscar Skaer, Jr.
 Louis Kasafirek
 Morton Burgard
 Elroy Scheffert

Robert Young
 John Locklar
 Irwin Lannert
 W. C. Eckert
 Armin Becker
 Willard Borrenpohl
 Ray Selby
 Wm. Langenstein, Jr.
 Kenny Becker
 Russell Koesterer
 Rem Moody
 Robert Vielweber
 Charles Kaiser
 Walter Vielweber
 Harold Weik
 Joseph Kasper
 Bobby Williams
 Ray Jergens
 J. C. Reuter
 R. J. Osborn
 Floyd Hill
 Norman Hafley
 Marshall Smythe
 Sam Gaido
 John Hubbard
 Alfred Baehr
 Roland Heidenreich
 X. H. Heiligenstein
 Grover Carr
 Kenneth Schneider
 Hilmer Groth
 Orville Groth
 Charles Heberer
 Willard Wild
 Robert Kasper
 Paul Wild
 Pater Koesterer
 John Rauth
 Kenneth Kamper
 Art Miller
 Delmar Feurer
 Wm. H. Davis

Sisters of the Swish

Maxine Frantz
Marie Roeder
Anna Cravens
Dolores Procasky
Alice Classen
Mrs. E. A. Classen
Mrs. Arthur Nichols
Miss Debbie Smythe
Christine Anderson
Bonnie Beinart
Mary Lou Heatherly
Helen Schlesinger
Ethel Skaar
Jeanette Walthe
Martha Ruth Borger
Martha Borger
Marie Wisniewski
Barbara Winterbauer
Jean Ann Zipfel
Rita Heberer
Barbara Kessler

Caroline Hesse
Anna Mae Fischer
Paula Sue Browning
Lucille Harris
Betty Rauch
Isabella Mudd
Marie Siebe
Martha Wright
Lucille Klein
Mary Lou Herrin
Angeline Koesterer
Mrs. Walter Middendorf
Mrs. Gerald Schoen
Mrs. John Siemens, Jr.
Tresa Borger
Marcedes Heiligenstein
Florence Gaido
Lucille Davis
Mrs. James Havel
Mrs. Robert Becherer
Mrs. Marie Kasper



SISTERS OF THE SWISH



SISTERS OF THE SWISH

Estella Severs
Cora Fritz
Marion Rohm
Opal Schifferdecker
Marie Procasky
Marjorie Skaar
Betty Rieso
Mae Jones
Marie Reuter
Elvera Friederich
Glenda Anderson
Shirlene Etling
Ruth Groth
Mary Beth Wilderman
Marguerite Reichert
Hazel Bachr
Wilma Shain
Frieda Meier
Donna Meier
Judy Baumgarte
Jean Baumgarte
Mabel Weiss
Mary Ann Meier
Tessie Valentine
Bernice Becker
Gertrude Heberer

Mrs. Ruby Wild
Mrs. Gerry Selby
Mrs. Fred Koch

Mrs. Edwin Beste
Mrs. Christi Klein
Penny Heiligenstein
Evelyn Heiligenstein
Mrs. Harry Favre
Mrs. Syriell Rogiers
Ina Frerking
Opal Klingelhoef
Florence Wiskamp
Patty Morrison
Irene Rauth
Karen Schneider
Iola Kaiser
Bess Joseph
Mae Etling
Barbara Kaiser
Pam Kaiser
Vera Joseph
Dolores Ackerman
Anna Wisniewski
Jean Ackerman
Jane McDonald
Janice Fritz
Judie Anderson
Judy Lanter

Mrs. George Kessler
Lois Koesterer
Dolores Weik
Doris Valentine
Melody Valentine
Merrilee Valentine
Sally Herman
Linda Herman
Edith Garland
Sabie Wild
Myrtel Yurgec
Marie Wiltshire
Sue Heiligenstein
Mary J. Heiligenstein
Mary McDonald
Ann McDonald
Joyce Grau
Judy Procasky
Janet Procasky
Betty Jo Wilderman
Sherry Heiligenstein
Robin Favre
Michelle Favre
Jo Dee Favre
Davida Favre



SISTERS OF THE SWISH

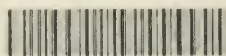






UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA

577 388029- C101
THE HISTORY OF FREEBURG FREEBURG



3 0112 025399459