

**MUSEUM located at 122 N. Main St.**  
(The Luelleman House)

# THE TOWPATH

Published quarterly (January - April - July - October) by

## NEW BREMEN HISTORIC ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 73 - New Bremen, Ohio 45869-0073

(Founded in 1973)

**VISITING HOURS: 2:00-4:00 p.m. Sundays - June, July, August**  
(Or anytime, by Appointment)

**DUES: \$10.00 Per year / Per person**

(Life Membership: \$100.00 Per person)

**July - 2002**

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**MEETINGS ARE HELD FIRST TUESDAYS**  
700 p.m. at the Museum (summer time)

**THE TOWPATH** is a historical reflection of New Bremen and the surrounding area - researched, written, and/or edited by Lucille (Topp) Francis, EDITOR, and published quarterly by the New Bremen Historic Assoc. Any stories and/or pictures that our readers are willing to share are welcomed.

### COMPLIMENTARY COPIES

With each quarterly mailing of *The Towpath*, a number of Complimentary Copies are sent to folks we think might be interested in reading one or more of the articles in that issue. If you are one of these people and would like to continue receiving future issues, please send the appropriate amount of dues (subscription) to the above address. (P.O. Box 73)

### MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Memorial donations are welcomed in any amount. When donations for any one person or couple have reached \$100.00, a brass plate engraved with their name(s) is attached to the Memorial Plaque.

## 4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC

by Dru Meyer, Special Events Coordinator

Our 4<sup>th</sup> annual summer picnic held on Sunday, June 2, 2002 from 1:00-5:00 p.m. on the museum grounds was attended by approximately 250-300 people and was termed a huge success. It was a beautiful sunny afternoon with some clouds.

Entertainment was provided by various individuals and groups from New Bremen as follows: (1) The Schnell Family: Mike, Sharon, Kristy, Joey; (2) "The Four of Us" - Jan Doenges, Lee Kuck, Judy Henry, Bob Feldwisch; (3) Dan Miller Group: Dan Miller, Lindsey Wierwille, Brittany Hartwig, Linda Homan, Melissa Coyle, Bret Rochette; (4) "Faith Quartet" - Dru Meyer, Steve Patterson, Kris Kuck, Judy Meckstroth; (5) Lindsey Wierwille & Andrea Borkowski; (6) Edith Wissman & Ethel Mesloh.

Food was served including sandwiches, cabbage roll casserole, homemade pies and ice cream. Lemonade was a best seller.

Special thanks to the committee and all who helped by monitoring the museum, serving food, setting up and tearing down or baking the wonderful pies that were for sale.

Serving on the committee were: Dru Meyer (chairman), Larry Dicke, Joyce Holdren, George & Karen Voress, Jerry & Cindy Newman, and Doris Blanke.

### CONTRIBUTORS' ISSUE

This issue of *The Towpath* consists of two articles submitted by our readers about their grandfathers.

Beginning on page 5, Emma (Opperman) Pleiman writes about her grandparents, Frank H. & Caroline L. Streine, and about The Streine Tool & Mfg. Co. Most of the pictures in this article were also submitted by her.

On pages 11-12 is an article and picture about Rev. Herbert A. Dickman, written by his grandson, Dr. John T. Dickman.

Of course, in addition to these two articles, beginning on page 12 are all those wonderful letters from you readers. If you have a New Bremen story to tell or further information about any of the past articles, I would be glad to include them in future issues.

Lucille Francis, Editor

## THE STAMCO STORY

[by Lucille Francis, Editor]

### The Beginning: The O.O. Poorman Co.

The O.O. Poorman Co. was organized in 1885 in Canton, Ohio by Oscar O. Poorman (the father?) with assets of \$30,000. In 1897, the factory and the Poorman family relocated to Piqua and in 1902 to Dayton.

In April, 1910, the New Bremen Board of Trade, represented by Ewald C. Kuenzel, secretary, and George Klanke, met with Oscar O. Poorman (the son?) and his secretary, Mrs. Leonova O. Ziegenfelder, and came to an agreement for the removal of The O.O. Poorman factory from 401 E. Third St. in Dayton to New Bremen.

In order to make the move, a building site was needed on which to build the new factory. The Henry and Anna Moeller lot (Outlot 26 in the Vogelsang Addition - 1 acre) on the northwest corner of Vogelsang (Plum) Street and South Herman Street met with Mr. Poorman's purpose because of its proximity to the railroad. It was purchased by the Board of Trade for \$300 (N.B. Sun 7/1/1910).

On May 23-29, 1910, the new manufacturing business was incorporated with a capital of \$30,000. Incorporators were Oscar O. Poorman, Edward M. Ziegenfelder, Leonova O. Ziegenfelder, and attorneys Oscar M. Gottschall and Earl H. Turner.

On June 4, 1910, the following Board of Directors was elected: O.O. Poorman (General Mgr.), E.C. Kuenzel (President), George Klanke (1st Vice-President), E.M. Ziegenfelder (2nd Vice-President), Mrs. E.M. Ziegenfelder (Secretary-Treasurer). Mr. Poorman demonstrated his good faith by insisting that the two local stockholders (Kuenzel & Klanke) be given two of the important positions on the board. Mrs. Ziegenfelder had been Secretary-Treasurer for several years with the old company and was well qualified for that job.

The new company was to manufacture sheet metal working machinery or equipment necessary for the turning out of corrugated iron, roofing, siding and the like. All equipment was to be moved to New Bremen where the new factory was expected to be completed within 4 months and was expected to eventually employ about 50 men. A spur was to be laid from the Lake Erie & Western railroad track on the west to the factory in order to unload machinery and necessary materials for the equipment of the factory.

The new factory was to be 60' wide x 160' deep, with an addition to the northwest corner for a cupola and core room to produce castings. It was to be constructed of concrete, iron and glass. Ed Granger of Piqua was awarded the contract for the foundation and drainage. The foundation and floor were to be of solid concrete. Granger was favored over local contractors since this had been a specialty of his for several years and his bid was \$400 lower than the other three bids received. Work

was to begin on July 5<sup>th</sup> and was expected to be completed in three weeks.

By August, the foundation for the main building and foundry, together with the basement under the front office, were completed and contracts were being let for construction of the factory itself. Lumber was provided by a large Dayton lumber firm. The outside of the main part of the building was to be of galvanized sheet iron to be provided by a firm using the machines which had been manufactured by The Poorman Co. (A later article of 8/12/1910 stated that the main part of the building would be covered with sheet metal pressed into the shape of large sandstones, giving an appearance of cement blocks or sandstone.) The Rabe Mfg. Co.'s sash & planing mill of New Bremen was given the contract for the millwork. The labor contract was let to a Piqua contractor. By September, most of the framework was up and ready for the iron siding to be put on.

By October, Poorman had begun to tear up his shop in Dayton and was getting the machinery loaded on the railroad cars ready for transportation and delivery here. He was aiming to vacate the Dayton property by the time his lease expired on October 20<sup>th</sup>. The first machine to arrive in New Bremen was a monster lathe which completely filled one flat car.

The front of the building was to be used for office purposes. (According to the Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, there was a 12' high wall between the office and the factory.) The front of the office was to be constructed of "a cement-sand-lime mixture with a patent reinforcement" (i.e., stucco). On October 19<sup>th</sup>, the cement workers began putting a coat of cement over the wicker work which had been put up by the sheet iron workers. Nobody thought there was any way of putting cement against a wall of open-work, however by that evening, the group of specialists from Dayton had covered over half of the front with the first coat. Many passers-by stopped to view the novelty of the situation, which was compared to plastering over a wall covered with laths. There were to be a second and third coat and special markings were to give the wall an appearance of cement blocks or sandstone.

**[EDITOR'S NOTE: I was surprised to learn that the original finish on the front of the Poorman-Stamco building was of stucco. It sounds as if this might have been the first building in New Bremen to receive this finish. How many buildings in town can you remember that were stuccoed?]**

"The cement stucco work on William Schelper's residence on Water Street has improved its appearance wonderfully. Mr. Merkowitz, who is in charge of the work, has good prospects in view toward securing quite a number of future contracts in and near New Bremen. The cement coating gives such buildings a decidedly European effect."

(N.B. Sun - 9/3/1915)

### **Machinery Being Placed**

By the end of October, about a dozen employees were busily placing machinery and working towards getting the shop ready for operation. John and George Kiesling put the finishing touches on the inside woodwork. Jim Mumaugh, Joe Hirby, Charley & John Schallenberger and August Dickman, together with foreman Woodruff, placed the heavy machinery. Val Miller of Loramie superintended the moving of the machinery. Twelve monster machines were already on the ground with several car loads of patterns and supplies to arrive.

After some inexplicable delay in getting the large engine started, Philip Hoffman was placed in charge the first week of December and soon was able to operate the dynamo thus generating current for electric light, so that work could now start early in the morning and continue until the usual quitting time in the evening. Much of the unfinished work brought along from Dayton could now be hurried out as fast as possible.

### **Production Starts**

On Monday, December 12, 1910, The O.O. Poorman factory started operation of its machinery on a small scale with 4 mechanics. The foundry department was still under construction. The moulding room still needed attention before the cupola could be put into service.

On Tuesday, January 10, 1911, the first heat in the foundry department was run off when 7500 pounds of molten iron was extracted from the large cupola and poured into flasks. By now there was a working force of 18 men. The offices were to be finished by the end of the week.

### **Name of Company Changed**

In the fall of 1912, The O.O. Poorman Co. changed its name to "The New Bremen Manufacturing Co." Oscar Poorman was again elected General Manager and Ed Ziegenfelder was elected President.

### **O.O. Poorman's Sudden Death**

On Sunday morning, March 9, 1913, Oscar Poorman died suddenly at his rooms in the Purpus & Laut block above the N.B. Sun office (above the present Howell's IGA). He had been ill for 2 weeks and the previous evening had expressed his intention of going to Dayton the next morning to enter a hospital. He was 46.

Oscar O. Poorman was a native of Stark County (Canton?) and came to Piqua in 1897 with his parents and a brother, D.O. Poorman. There they opened a machine shop and foundry which they operated "until about 7 (11?) years ago" when they moved to Dayton. The parents both died in Piqua. The mother had remarried, to a Dr. Tennell.

Oscar Poorman was the plant superintendent for the entire 3 years that the company had been located in New Bremen. He was an expert machinist with very few equals and designed the corrugated machinery bearing his name. He combined the skill of a draftsman with

practical ability in the machine shop and foundry. His father had been an expert iron worker as was his brother. The O.O. Poorman corrugating machinery was noted throughout the country for its first class workmanship.

Funeral services for Mr. Poorman were held in the chapel of Forest Hill Cemetery at Piqua where he was buried in the family plot with his parents and a nephew.

A public auction was held on May 3, 1913 to dispose of the goods and chattels of the estate of Oscar O. Poorman, consisting of stock in The N.B. Mfg. Co.

Lou H. Wessel, who had charge of the shops in Dayton before moving to New Bremen and who had been in charge of the drafting and mechanical part of the business for some weeks, assumed management of the company's affairs. Plant operations were expected to continue as usual.

### **The O.O. Poorman Co. Reorganizes**

On February 2, 1914, a new Board of Directors was elected and organized as follows: Henry Dierker (President), Louis Huenke (Vice-President), Adolph Boesel (Treasurer), Lou H. Wessel (Secretary & General Manager), Louis W. Haas (Shop Superintendent.)

By this time there was an employment of about 20 mechanics and shipments were going out as fast as they could finish the machines. Railroad tracks had been built in at the rear of the shops, right into the machine room. The machines, weighing as much as 55,000 pounds, could be lifted by means of the giant traveling crane and blocked up on a low car until they were the exact height of a flat car. They could then be hauled to the siding of the track and shoved upon the car. (see picture on page 4)

### **More Personnel Changes**

About September 1, 1914, Louis W. Haas resigned as Plant Superintendent and moved his family to Stanford, Connecticut where he accepted a new machinist position.

On Labor Day, September 7, 1914, Edward Kiefer, a mechanic and machinist formerly of Piqua and Dayton, was hired to replace Mr. Haas. Mr. Kiefer had 15 years experience with building iron working machinery, including time at the Poorman factory when it was located in Dayton.

When Mr. Kiefer came to New Bremen, The Poorman Co. employed 12-15 men, with the output limited to a small line of corrugating machinery. Sales per year scarcely exceeded \$25,000. When Mr. Kiefer celebrated his 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the company (by then, Streine Tool & Mfg. Co.), the annual sales had grown more than 10 times as large and employment had grown to nearly 100 men due to several programs of enlargement.

### **Another Reorganization**

On January 1, 1918, The O.O. Poorman Co. underwent another reorganization and also was given a new name, "The Streine Tool & Manufacturing Co.", named after its new General Manager, Frank H. Streine.

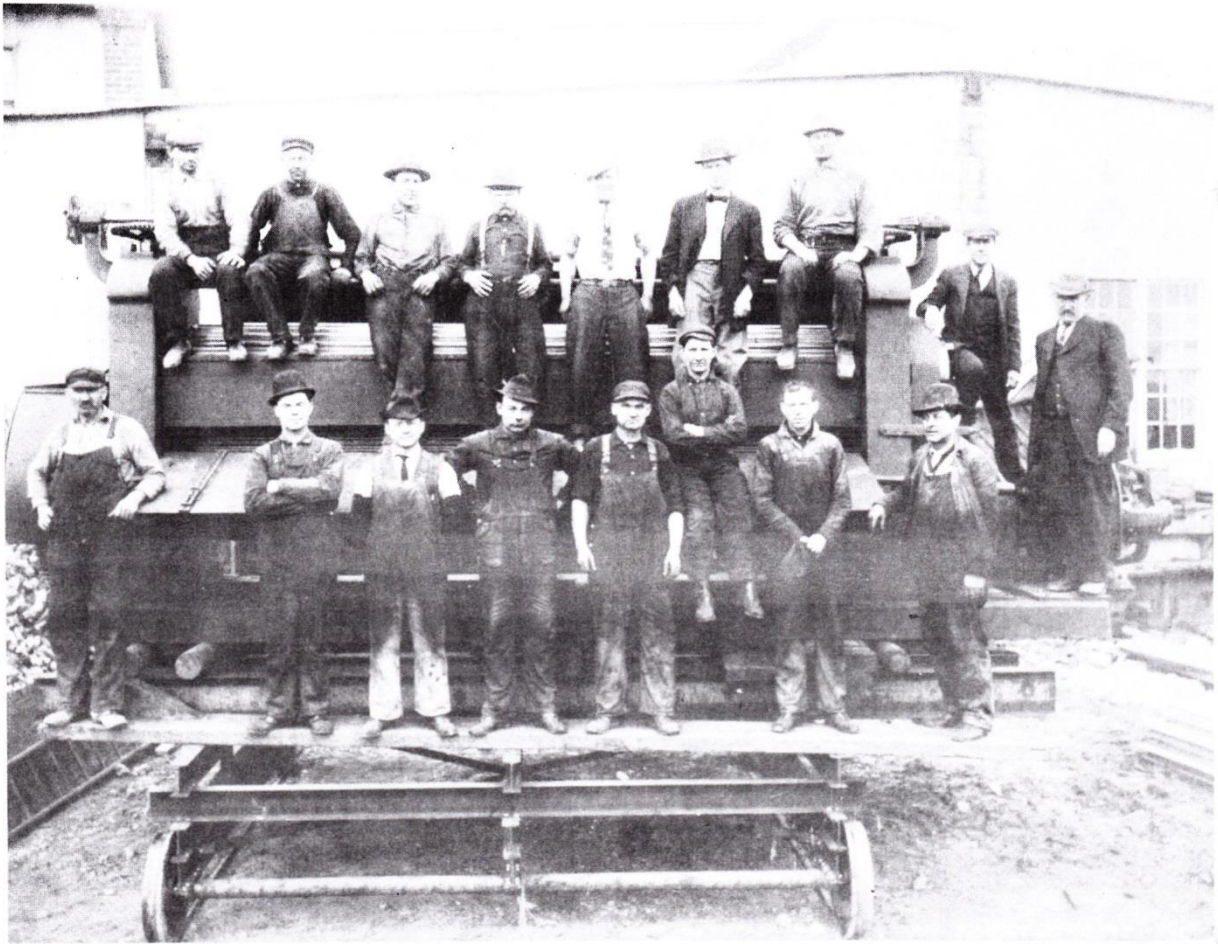


Photo by Taylor Studio - donated by Dorothy (Gobrecht) Robinson - 1996 - I.D.'s by Marge Lietz

**The O.O. Poorman Co. (aka The N.B. Mfg. Co.) Employees - ca. late 1914-1917**

This is a roll corrugating machine ready to be hauled to the railroad track for shipment (see pg. 3).

**BACK:** (1) George Thompson?, (2) \_\_\_\_\_, (3) \_\_\_\_\_, (4) Ferd Laut?, (5) Louis Kohl, (6) Lafe Dammeyer (time keeper), (7) George Gobrecht, (8) Emil ("Icy") Hirschfeld, (9) Louis Huenke (Vice-President).  
**FRONT:** (1) George Brose?, (2) \_\_\_\_\_, (3) Ed Kiefer (Plant Supt.), (4) Roscoe ("Scrappy") Lanfersieck, (5) Ed Schaefer, (6) Herb Staas? (sitting), (7) \_\_\_\_\_, (8) Ed Langhorst.

"The Poorman Co. did their own casting. They made those enormous rollers for those corrugating machines. They'd get coke in by the carload and we'd watch when they were meltin' that metal, with that old pipe stickin' up and the flames shootin' out of the top. We watched 'em pour it, sometimes. It'd take a week to cool those rollers. Ed Langhorst worked there. I think he ran one of the big lathes, and you'd have to have them set just right so they'd take off just so much. It had to be real accurate. Ed ruined one of those rollers and that was the end of Ed Langhorst."

*[from an 11/23/1994 interview with Harry Ludeka (1/28/1898-5/16/2000) by Ed Henning & Roger Mueller]*



**LEFT:** The O.O. Poorman Co. with its stuccoed front. The message on this postcard reads:

"Dear Lizzie,

This is our shop. The name is now being changed to The Streine Tool & Mfg. Co. This town is very pretty and is the highest point in Ohio.

Your loving brother (-in-law  
 Frank (Streine)"

## THE STREINE TOOL & MANUFACTURING CO.

by Emma (Opperman) Pleiman

### Frank Streine: the early years

My grandfather, Frank Hugo Streine, was born in Leipzig, Germany, on 11/17/1878, the son of Franz Edouard & Emilie Emma (Scheibner) Streine. Franz, a carpet weaver, emigrated to the United States in 1884, followed in April, 1887 by his wife and 2 sons: Frank H., age 8, and Max E., age 3. Frank H. became a citizen of the U.S. in 1894 by virtue of his father's naturalization.

Frank's early education was secured in the public schools of Newport, Kentucky, and he received his technical training at the Ohio Mechanics Institute in Cincinnati where he spent 2 years and became qualified as a mechanical engineer.

Beginning in June, 1895, Frank started a 4-year apprenticeship with the G.A. Gray Co., planer manufacturers in Cincinnati, and worked there as a journeyman until 1901.

*In an agreement signed 6/17/1895 by both 16-year old Frank H. Streine and his father, Frank E. Streine, with the G.A. Gray Co., Frank agreed to work 10 hours a day, 6 days a week, 300 days a year for 4 years to learn the trade of machinist. He was to receive wages of 5¢ per hour the 1st year, 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ the 2nd year, 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ the 3rd year, and 10¢ the 4th year, to be paid weekly. If he completed the full 4 years apprenticeship, he was to receive an award of \$100.00 for his faithful performance.*

*He further agreed "to abstain from all vicious associations or companions, intoxication, and all habits or courses of life which might tend to impair his health or otherwise make him unfit for diligent and efficient labor."*

As a young man, Frank was involved in the Socialist Party, feeling that this movement would be able to improve labor conditions for the working man. On Labor Day of 1901, he took part in the workers' march held in Cincinnati. It was estimated that as many as 10,000 men joined the march in an effort to call attention to the poor wages, long hours, and poor working conditions that were prevalent during that time.

During the next 6 years, Frank Streine was employed by the Crawley-Cook Machinery Co. at Newport, Kentucky as a journeyman machinist, and from then until 1912, he worked in different shops in Cincinnati to increase his knowledge of other types of machinery. In 1912-1913, he was superintendent of construction of water works at Newport and was in charge of the rebuilding of several large reservoirs and a pump house - also the installation of a water purification plant. Returning to Cincinnati in 1914, Mr. Streine became chief draftsman for the Bickett Machine & Mfg. Co. and subsequently was made assistant manager of the plant, where he helped to bring out several machines for work on paper goods as well as milling machines and planers.

### The Streine Family

Frank H. Streine was married in Newport, Kentucky on June 18, 1902 to Emma Clara Berndt, daughter of Gustave & Carolina (Marsch) Berndt. Frank & Emma had 4 children, all born in Newport: (1) Dorothy Caroline Emilie, (2) Frank Berndt, (3) Carol Elizabeth, and (4) Elizabeth Wilhelmina.

Emma died on August 28, 1917. A short time later, Frank and his children moved to New Bremen, where he and 4 Minster businessmen took over the operation of The O.O. Poorman Co. on South Herman Street. On August 31, 1918, he re-married, to Caroline Louise Berndt, his first wife's sister. Caroline became a devoted helpmate and loving mother to Frank's children.

(1) Dorothy Streine was a 1922 graduate of N.B.H.S. and married Clyde M. Griffin. They were the parents of 2 sons: Clyde Carroll ("Bud") and Edward Frank ("Ned") Griffin, both of whom spent a number of their school years in New Bremen. After leaving Ohio, Dorothy lived for many years in southern Texas and later moved to California. She was involved in the insurance business.

(2) Frank Berndt Streine was a 1924 graduate of N.B.H.S. and a 1929 graduate from Ohio State University. Frank B. followed his father into the iron and steel industry where he eventually was the assistant vice-president of sales and engineering with the Blaw-Knox Co. in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He married Myrtle Kramer from Minster and they had 3 children: Carolyn Myrtle, Frank & Catherine Streine.

(3) Carol Streine was a 1930 graduate of N.B.H.S. (the first class to graduate from the new 1929 high school on South Walnut St.) She attended Western College for Women in Oxford, Ohio and graduated from Northwestern Business College in Lima. She worked for several years as a deputy in the Auglaize County auditor's office of H.O. Katterhenry and later as a correspondent and circulation coordinator for *The Evening Leader* in St. Marys. Carol married Harold Opperman of New Knoxville on 11/9/1935 and they established their home at 403 E. Cherry St. in New Bremen where they raised 3 children: Emma, Hal, and Keri Opperman. Carol and Harold were both active in the P.T.A., which had been founded by her father and step-mother in 1930 and both served as president of that organization.

(4) Elizabeth ("Billie") Streine was a 1933 graduate of N.B.H.S. and graduated in June, 1935 from Kent State Normal College with a teaching degree, just days before she and her parents were involved in a hit-skip accident near Zanesville, Ohio in which her father was killed. She taught school in New Bremen and later in Akron. "Billie" married Jay E. Miller and later Richard Schlegel. The Millers spent their early years in Akron where they had 3 children: Lyn, Jay, and Ned Miller. Later, they also moved to California.

### The Streines Move to New Bremen

In late 1917-early 1918, Frank H. Streine, along with a group of Minster businessmen, took over the operation of The O.O. Poorman Co. which had been established in New Bremen in 1910. A new company was formed and called The Streine Tool & Mfg. Co., later known as STAMCO, the same as the name of its product line. The officers were: Anton L. Herkenhoff, President; Frank H. Streine, Vice-President & General Manager; John W. Eiting, Secretary-Treasurer. Other members of the board of directors were Dr. Colson L. Dine and Charles Herkenhoff. Three of these men had earlier been involved in the founding of Minster Machine Co. and what is now known as Midmark Corporation, both Minster manufacturing companies.

The enterprise soon was on a sound business footing with continued expansion and a steady increase in the demand for its products which included equipment for shearing, slitting, flattening, forming, corrugating and handling sheets, strip, tinplate and steel plates.

In May, 1928, a large addition was built onto the north side of the plant at a cost of \$30,000. A year later, in March 1929, the New Bremen Bridge Co.'s property on the south side was purchased.

During his years in New Bremen, Frank H. Streine did extensive traveling in connection with his work. He would often leave home on Monday morning on the trolley (interurban), take a train to some distant city where he was scheduled to transact business during the week, and then use the same transportation for the return trip, so as to be with his family on the weekends.

In June, 1934, Frank Streine severed his connection with the firm bearing his name, and organized the Mill Equipment Co. of New Bremen. He continued as head of this new organization until May, 1935, when the firm was bought by the Mackintosh-Hemphill Company of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, which at that time was one of the oldest companies in the steel equipment business, having been established in 1803. Frank Streine became manager of the sheet finishing division of the Mackintosh-Hemphill Co., and was engaged in laying groundwork for the firm's entry into the new field of manufacturing. He planned to divide his time between plants in Pittsburgh & Midland, Pennsylvania and Wooster, Ohio. Although his new duties necessitated frequent absences from New Bremen, he planned to retain his home in New Bremen and to stay involved in local community activities.

During his life-long connection with the steel industry, Frank Streine became one of its best known figures. He designed and built types of finishing machinery for use in the plants of the U.S. Steel subsidiaries, the Bethlehem Steel Co., the Youngstown Mills, the American Rolling Mills and others. In every possible way he sought to improve conditions in the steel industry and his accomplishments brought him wide recognition and distinction.

He utilized his power of leadership for worthy civic projects as well as for the advancement of his business activities. For 2 terms he was a member of the N.B. Board of Education and in that connection he was instrumental in bringing about the completion of the new 1929 high school building. He and his wife, Caroline, were co-founders of the N.B. Parent-Teachers' Association in 1930. He also served 2 terms as president of the New Bremen Civic Club and as president of the N.B. Tool & Manufacturers Association.

Frank H. Streine was prominent as a Republican leader, not only in his home community, but in the district and state. He was a member of the county executive committee, and in 1932 served as an alternate delegate to the National Republican Convention in Chicago. He was affiliated with the Masonic Lodge, the Eastern Stars, the Square & Compass Club, and the Knights of Pythias Lodge. He was also a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the Travelers Protective Association and the Ohio Chamber of Commerce.

### An Early Demise at Age 56

On Friday, June 14, 1935, Frank H. Streine was killed instantly in a hit and run accident on the National Highway near Zanesville, Ohio, when a passing car met another car coming from the opposite direction and cut in too close to the Streine automobile, sideswiping it and forcing it onto the berm. Out of control, the car swerved off the left side of the pavement, and upon returning to the road, rolled over twice. Mr. Streine was pinned under the wrecked machine and suffered a skull fracture and internal injuries. His wife, Caroline, and daughter, Elizabeth ("Billie"), who had both joined Frank in Pittsburgh after Billie's graduation from Kent State College the week before, suffered less severe injuries. Mrs. Streine sustained a fractured hip and Billie received several fractured ribs and a broken nose. They also suffered from back injuries and shock and were taken to the Bethesda hospital at Zanesville. They were able to return home in the A.H. Albert ambulance on Sunday. Officials investigating the accident were never successful in learning the identity of the other driver. Mr. Streine was buried in the family plot at Newport, Kentucky on Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> after services were held in the family home.

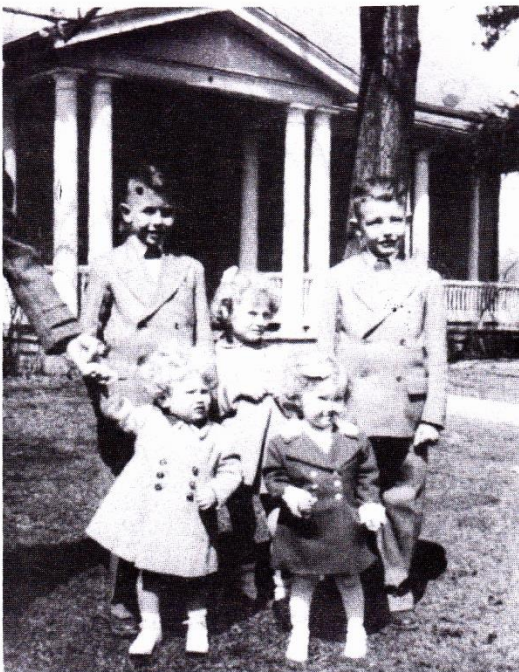
*Services were conducted Monday evening in the Streine home on North Franklin St. by the K. of P. Lodge. Private services in charge of the Masonic Lodge were held Tuesday morning. Pallbearers were J.M. Brucken, F.W. Bruns, W.A. Havemann, Leo Purpus, R.J. Knipple, Walter W. Grothaus, Albert Reiter and G.W. Wissman.*

*Honorary pallbearers were O.H. Boesel, E.C. Kuenzel, Melville Laut, H.H. Nussmeyer, John Zahn, F.T. Purpus, Herman J. Laut, Cade Schulenberg, Harry Komminsk, H.H. Huenke, Julius Gilberg, Ed Kiefr August Faehl, U.J. Schwieterman, and C.A. Schrage.*

Accompanied by members of the family and a group of friends, the body was taken Tuesday afternoon to Newport, Kentucky, where services were held at Evergreen Cemetery, with Rev. Nathan E. Vitz of New Bremen officiating. Burial took place at 5:30 p.m. as the sun was going down over the hills that he had learned to love as a boy.  
[N.B. Sun - 6/21/1935]



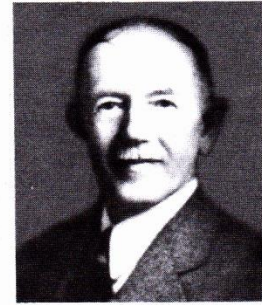
The house above was built in 1846 on Lot #28 on North Franklin St. The original building was a 1-room school, but later a room of equal size was added to the north. This building served as a school house until the Central Grade School was built in 1878 on South Franklin St. It was then sold to Frank P. Jung for \$700 and he remodeled it for residential purposes. In 1910, it was owned by Dorothea Frey. Today it is owned by David & Virginia (Warner) Friemering and is still used as apartments.  
[N.B.H.A. photo]



**The Streine Grandchildren - ca. 1939-1940**

BACK: Clyde ("Bud") & Edward ("Ned") Griffin  
CENTER: Carolyn Streine, daughter of Frank B. Streine  
FRONT: Frank Streine & Emma Opperman

## Founders of the N.B. Parent-Teachers Assoc.



### Caroline L. & Frank H. Streine

Caroline Louise (Berndt) Streine had begun a teaching career at the age of 16 (ca. 1885), and before coming to New Bremen in 1918 and her marriage to Frank Streine on 8/31/1918, she had taught in the Kentucky elementary schools for 19 years and at the high school level for 13 years. On 2/13/1915, she received a Teacher's Life Certificate from the Commonwealth of Kentucky to teach in the Common Schools of the state for life, having "filed satisfactory evidence of good moral character and having had 20 years of successful teaching experience."

In the spring of 1930, Caroline L. and Frank H. Streine were co-founders of the New Bremen P.T.A. and Mrs. Streine served as its president for the first "8 years" (a lapel pin is engraved with the dates "1930-1936"). Their first meeting was held in the fall of 1930. In addition to her involvement in the local P.T.A., Mrs. Streine was also involved in the district and state organizations. She was a member of the Hawthorne Chapter of the Order of Eastern Stars, president of the N.B. Women's Club, and an active member of Zion Evangelical and Reformed Church and of its Women's Guild.

Caroline L. (Berndt) Streine died on January 15, 1951 at the age of 82 at the family residence at 9 North Franklin St. She was buried at Newport, Kentucky with her husband.

The Parent-Teachers Association, which had been founded by Mr. & Mrs. Streine, continued until the spring of 1978 when it was disbanded due to lack of interest. P.T.A. carnivals, etc. were held as fund-raisers to help provide the students and teachers with "extras" that could not be provided with ordinary school operating funds. The P.T.A. is said to have also had a part in the appointment of New Bremen's first school health nurse, Frieda Dierker, on October 25, 1937. In the spring of 1976 the affiliation with the state and national P.T.A. was dropped, the constitution was changed, and the Association

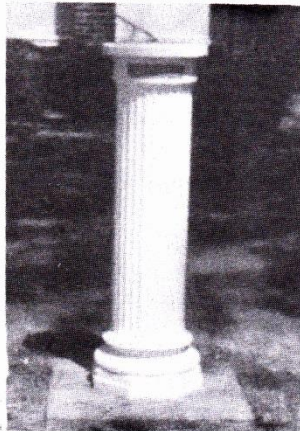


**Frieda Dierker**

became known as the Parent-Teachers Organization. The last presidents were Anna Mae Hudson (P.T.A.-1975-76), John Tostrick (P.T.O.-1976-77), and Rita Craft (P.T.O.-1977-78).

[P.T.A. information provided by R. Jay Stauffer, former N.B.H.S. Supt.]

### The Streine Sun Dial



A brass/bronze sun dial was dedicated 9/22/1936 as a memorial to Frank H. Streine, who had been a member of the Board of Education for a number of years and co-founder of the P.T.A. before he died in June, 1935. On the bottom of the dial was inscribed these words:

"Grow Old Along With Me,  
The Best Is Yet To Be."

After the sun dial was erected on the school grounds by the N.B. P.T.A.,

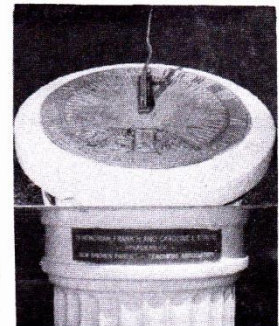
Mrs. Streine had shrubs planted around it. Over the years, the shrubs had deteriorated and the gnomon (pointer) of the dial had been broken off. Prior to

construction of the west addition to the high school in 1965, the sun dial was removed from its original location to the Harold & Carol (Streine) Opperman garden on East Cherry Street. In August, 1969, Mr. & Mrs. Opperman had the monument restored, the gnomon replaced, and added a new nameplate with the inscription "In Memoriam, Frank H. & Caroline L. Streine - Founders of New Bremen Parent-Teachers Association." The school board agreed to provide a new foundation on which to mount the restored sun dial. It was then returned to the front lawn of the remodeled school and new landscaping was added.

Plans are now being discussed by some of the grandchildren of Frank & Caroline Streine to again re-landscape around the Streine sun dial standing in front of what is now New Bremen's elementary school on South Walnut St.

[Photos by Emma (Opperman) Pleiman]

[Edited & augmented by Lucille Francis]



Streine Tool & Mfg. Co. - 1919

LEFT: The Streine Tool & Mfg. Co. with its new name plate. This postcard was sent 2/19/1919 by Frank Streine from Chicago to Mrs. Streine, c/o Hotel Gibson at Cincinnati. His message: "Arrived at Hotel LaSalle. Address me at Hotel Statler, Cleveland & after Sunday at Courtland Hotel, Canton." Love, Frank

## STAMCO (continued)

[by Lucille Francis, Editor]

When The Poorman Co. was reorganized as The Streine Tool & Mfg. Co. on January 1, 1918, the company was capitalized at \$100,000 and employed a force of 40 mechanics. The foundry was discontinued and in addition to the corrugating machines that had been manufactured by The Poorman Co., the Streine Co. also started to manufacture machine tools. The factory was to be operated strictly as a machine shop. (2/15/1918)

According to Wm. McMurray's 1923 *History of Auglaize County*, the Streine company was the "only concern of this sort in the U.S. and Canada, all the machinery used in the corrugating process on this continent being turned out at New Bremen." By 1923, the factory had also started manufacturing shearing machinery & covered 17,000 square feet of floor space.

On January 1, 1920, Walter M. Strohmeier was appointed assistant manager. In January 1928, it was disclosed that the volume of business had grown from \$60,000 in 1917 (the last year as The Poorman Co.), to \$93,000 in 1921, \$144,000 in 1923, to \$230,000 in 1927.

In those 10 years, more than \$50,000 was invested in new equipment, including 2 milling machines, 2 automatic gear cutting machines, 2 radial drill presses, an upright drill press, a heavy-duty drilling machine, a universal cutter, a grinding machine, an electric crane, 2 shapers, a planer, an air compressor with complete air lines, a blueprint machine, 2 steel treating furnaces, 5 lathes, as well as modern woodworking machinery used in the pattern shop, and a number of small metal cutting machines and miscellaneous tools. (N.B. Sun - 1/5/1928)



① Auglaize Furniture Factory with its saw-tooth roof (later New Bremen Rubber Co. / Seiberling Latex Products) at 15 West Plum St. ② Auglaize Furniture Factory warehouse. ③ New Bremen Bridge Co. building, built in 1911. ④ The 4-window addition to Streine's (was previously a private drive extending west off of Vogelsang/Plum Street. (White roof shown behind this addition is a connector built between the main plant and the bridgeworks building in 1929.) ⑤ Original O.O. Poorman machine shop and foundry (10 windows across) at 125 South Herman St. ⑥ 1928 addition. ⑦ Roof of the New Bremen Broom Factory (amongst trees). ⑧ Ball diamond of Central Grade School.

The total floor space in the old building was 10,400 sq. ft. This was increased to 15,600 sq. ft. through the erection of a 4,160 sq. ft. wing (#4 above?) and by completely remodeling the office. A 50' x 160' addition in 1928 (#6 above) brought the total floor space to 23,600 sq. ft. The new building was to be used principally as an assembly plant and for loading machines for shipment. A spur track was to be built by the Nickel Plate Railroad for loading cars under a 15-ton crane inside the new building. The payroll at that time amounted to approximately \$1500 per week.

Construction of the new building was made necessary because of the introduction of a new continuous, automatic shearing machine that had been recently designed and patented by Frank Streine. It was the biggest machine being built and it promised to substantially reduce labor costs and increase production. It was estimated that this machine would do the work of 8 or more old-type shears and would eliminate the expense of 10 men.

Other machines then being made were squaring shears, sheet & tinplate shears, mill shears, rotary gang

slitters, corrugating & crimping rolls, leveler rolls, forming & roofing presses, pipe & gutter machinery and special sheet metal machinery. These machines were being used by many of the outstanding firms in the sheet metal industry.

(N.B. Sun - 1/5/1928)

In March 1929, the factory building of the New Bremen Bridge Co. (#3 above), which had been built in the summer of 1911 by Lanfersieck & Grothaus just south of what was then The Poorman Co., was purchased and was connected to the main plant. It was to be used to house the pattern and painting departments. This brought Streine's floor space to nearly 30,000 sq. ft.

(N.B. Sun - 3/7/1929)

In September 1936, two multi-cut tinplate shears were shipped to the Soviet Union to be used in their new mills. Each of the machines weighed 25,000 pounds and 10x10 timbers as well as metal supporting rods were used in boxing the machines, for a total shipping cost of \$600. In July, four roll polishers and spare parts had been sent to the Soviet Union. Replacement parts for Stamco machines were also shipped to Mexico.

(N.B. Sun - 9/25/1936)

### Streine Mfg. Gets Largest Order in its History

In July 1937, an order was received from the Carnegie Steel Co. of Clairton, Pennsylvania for special shearing equipment for its new mill. This was the largest order ever entered upon the Streine books at one time.

A few years before, the company had been reorganized, with Frank A. Dine of Celina as General Manager and Storm B. Haarbye heading the engineering and sales departments. (N.B. Sun - 7/30/1937)

In the summer of 1939, another addition was added to the main building, making the space under roof now exceeding 1 acre. In September of that year, plant superintendent, Ed Kiefer, marked his 25<sup>th</sup> year of employment with the company. (N.B. Sun - 9/14/1939)

On April 27, 1948, the lot and buildings belonging to the New Bremen Broom Co., just north of Streine's, were acquired. The Broom Co.'s main building had been damaged by a large fire on 11/26/1947 and would need to be razed. The company had ceased manufacturing and was going through bankruptcy proceedings.

Two new additions were to be added to the Streine plant - 1 building 50' x 200' and another 60' x 200'. A new 40-ton crane was to be installed in the larger building. The plant was then manufacturing a new machine to uncoil aluminum. According to Frank Dine, it was the only machine of its type ever made. The Streine Co. worked strictly on direct orders. (N.B. Sun - 4/29/1948)

In 1951, the name of the company was again changed - from The Streine Tool & Mfg. Co. to Stamco, Inc. Another expansion program was completed at a cost of \$150,000 that added another building onto the north side of the 1928 addition, on the ground purchased from the Broom Co. It was designed to accommodate 2 traveling cranes - 1 of 10 tons and the other 30 tons. There were now 12 employees who were members of the 25-year club. In some cases, father and son would be working side by side. (N.B. Sun - 6/21/1951)

On June 15, 1957, Stamco purchased the 1878 Central School building between South Franklin & South Herman Streets at a public auction for \$15,000. (It had been replaced in 1956 by an addition to the South Walnut St. High School.) The school was razed, South Herman St. was closed off, & another building was added to the Stamco complex, this one extending east across Herman Street and taking up part of the school property. The rest of the property was turned into a parking lot.

In June 1967, Seiberling Latex Products (#1 - #2 on pg. 9) moved their rubber glove factory to Oklahoma City and their buildings and property were purchased by Stamco. The original saw-tooth building, first

occupied by the Auglaize Furniture Factory in 1914, was remodeled and the building was given a flat roof (see picture below.)

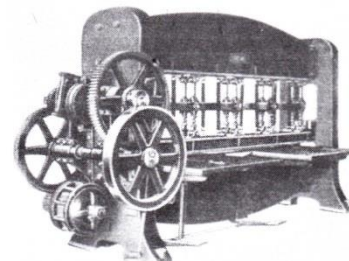
On September 19, 1968, Stamco converted to public ownership through a merger and stock transfer with The Monarch Machine Tool Co. of Sidney, Ohio and the name was changed to Monarch-Stamco.

In October 1985, Monarch-Stamco celebrated the company's 100 years in business with a public open house, giving tours of the plant. By this time, the plant occupied 155,000 sq. ft. under roof on 8.7 acres and employed 152 people. Charles Bradlee was the Vice-President & General Manager.

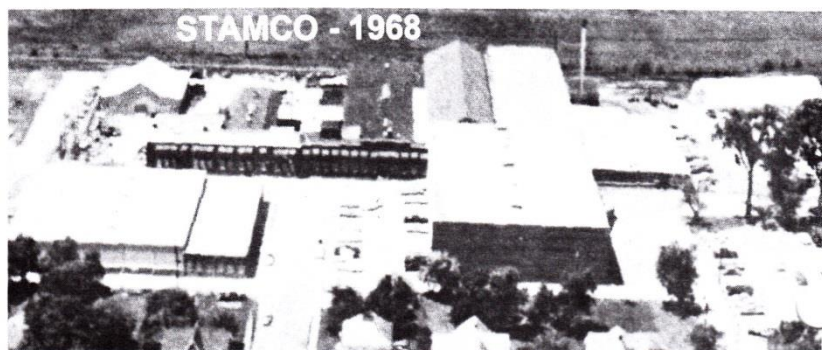
In 1990, another 42,000 sq. ft. assembly bay was added. Robert J. Kindt was the President & General Mgr.

On October 22, 1995, another open house was held to celebrate the company's 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary. By now the company was employing 225 people and had 197,000 sq. ft. under roof on 8.7 acres. According to the leaflets handed out that day, Presidents & General Managers were listed as: E.C. Kuenzel & O.O. Poorman (1910), Ed Ziegenfelder & O.O. Poorman (1912), Henry Dierker & L.J. Wessel (1914), Frank H. Streine & Walter Strohmeier (1917), Frank Dine (1944), Lee D. Harmony (1955), John R. ("Jack") Eiting (1970), Charles R. Bradlee (1977), and Robert J. Kindt (1990).

In July 1999, after another merger, the company name was changed to Genesis Worldwide. After filing bankruptcy, the name was again changed on 12/12/2001, this time back to "New Stamco, Inc. - Div. of Genesis Worldwide II."



Stamco Roofing & Corrugating Press



**REV. HERBERT A. DICKMAN***by Dr. John T. Dickman (grandson)*

Herbert Dickman was born August 8/5/1878 in New Bremen, the youngest son of Hermann Heinrich & Henriette Wilhelmine Louise (Meyer) Dickman. He had 2 sisters and 7 brothers, 2 of which died in childhood.

Herbert's early training for life was received in the public school of New Bremen. He was a frail, but studious child and a voracious reader.

Upon finishing the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, he decided to dedicate his life to the teaching profession. In those days, age and college education were of little importance in securing a teaching position in the public schools. When he was 15-16 years old, he traveled to the county seat at Wapakoneta to acquire a temporary teaching certificate. It was his intent to pass a minimal requirement test because of his age. Instead of the minimal test, he passed the regular certificate qualification test and became a full-fledged teacher at the young age of 15 or 16.

Herbert assumed a teaching position in the 1-room school which he had attended. Suddenly he became violently ill with what was probably acute appendicitis. His life was in serious danger. The attending physician, Dr. Michael Stone, held vigil as long as possible but finally announced that if the fever did not break by morning it would be necessary for him to operate. The kitchen table was prepared and the crude instruments of the time were boiled and laid out aside the table. In the 1890s, surgery was tantamount to a death sentence. Herbert, though deathly ill, was aware of his plight and vowed that if the Lord would spare his life, he would devote the rest of it to Him. That night the fever broke and by morning the pain had subsided and it was obvious that he had passed the crisis. True to his word, he sought to enter the ministry.

Herbert's early church training had been at St. Paul's Church, originally called the German Evangelical Lutheran Church. Later, around 1845, the church left the formal synod and became a free church, retaining its strong Lutheran leanings. In order for him to become a pastor, it was necessary that he attend seminary, which meant a catching up on his formal education that ended with the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Therefore, he entered Fort Wayne Academy, a Lutheran preparatory school in Indiana. However, his stay in Fort Wayne was brief. He was of feeble body and health and simply could not take the intense hazing administered by the students at the Academy. He returned to N.B. after only a week or two.

As Herbert was preparing to enter the ministry, he sought the advice of his pastor, Rev. F.W. Bertram. Rev. Bertram was a liberal in his theology and his thinking and strongly encouraged the young Herbert to continue his education, not in the old Lutheran tradition, but to take a more modern up-to-date approach. Under Bertram's influence, in 1897 Herbert enrolled in the Senior Preparatory Dept. of Hiram College in Hiram, Ohio. Hiram College had been founded by the Disciples of Christ in 1850 as the Western Reserve Eclectic Institute. It received its collegiate charter and changed its name to Hiram College in 1867. Herbert did not enroll in the actual college after completing the preparatory work in 1897, but instead, again upon the advice of Rev. Bertram, he entered Meadville Theological Seminary in Meadville, Pennsylvania. Meadville taught anything but the traditional Lutheran (Protestant) theology that he had grown up with. Meadville was a Unitarian school, which has since been absorbed by and become a part of the University of Chicago Theological Schools.

Herbert attended Meadville for four years and graduated on 6/1/1901. During some of his years at the Pennsylvania school, his mother, Henriette, moved to Meadville and provided him with a home-like surrounding. After all, his father had died in 1889, the rest of the children were married and on their own and his brother, Gustave, was running the family farm 1 mile west of town. So she seized the opportunity to provide the most conducive atmosphere for her youngest son as he undertook his studies for the ministry. Even before graduation, he had already received a call to the pastorate of the St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church at Pomeroy, Ohio.

Herbert was ordained into the Christian ministry on 6/9/1901 in St. Paul's Church in N.B. On the following Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, he was united in marriage with Lillian Sunderman, who joined him immediately in taking up the pastorate in Pomeroy. He was installed in the Pomeroy parish on 6/30/1901 by Rev. F.W. Bertram, his home town pastor, who presided at his ordination.

Herbert's seminary training was soon tested in Pomeroy. One night a frantic father knocked on his door, imploring the pastor to come to his house where his daughter lay gravely ill. Of course he heeded the call instantly. He began to gather his communion supplies and hitch up the horse to the wagon. Along the way he became troubled - what could he tell the child, how could he comfort the family? What hope could he possibly offer? His training in secular humanism at Meadville left him defenseless. He had no answers, just an empty feeling of helplessness. What should he say, what should he do? As he neared the house, he forgot about Meadville and reached in his bag for his Lutheran catechism. In it he found the strength that not only provided hope to the family, but salvation of his ministry. He had been re-empowered by the Holy Spirit. His ministry was once again firmly founded.

Owing to continuing health problems and to the moist atmosphere at Pomeroy as the result of frequent floods, Herbert was advised by two physicians to seek a drier climate. Hence, he sought a new church location and left in February 1902 to become the pastor of St. Mark's Evangelical Church at Clark and Freeman Streets at Cincinnati, Ohio.

Herbert served the Cincinnati parish most successfully. He was one of the most noted and respected ministers in that city. His sermons were frequently published in the city newspapers, which carried his name and talents far beyond the boundaries of Cincinnati. He served as St. Mark's pastor until November 1903, when he was called by the St. John's Evangelical Church in Hamilton, Ohio to succeed Rev. C.A. Herman who had recently passed away. For seven years he led a successful ministry in Hamilton. However, his conviction that a definite experience of salvation was necessary for each individual was not accepted by all of the congregation. Nevertheless, 125 of their number, mostly younger folks, supported his preaching. He reluctantly resigned in November 1910 and founded Bethel Church of Hamilton in December 1910 with these 125 supporters. The church experienced continuous growth and he served as its pastor until his retirement in March 1948.

In June 1941, great honor was awarded Rev. Dickman by Bob Jones College in Cleveland, Tennessee, which bestowed upon him the Doctor of Divinity degree.

Herbert & Lillian's marriage resulted in the birth of 4 children: Reuben H., Alvin H., Edna Crede, and Alberta Irey. His oldest son, Reuben H. Dickman, was a 5-term mayor of New Bremen from 1938-1947. He celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 23<sup>rd</sup> of this year and was recognized that day on the Today show by Willard Scott, that portion of the show being sponsored by J.M. Schmucker. One of Reuben's favorite memories was said to be that of going with his father, Rev. Herbert Dickman, to Orrville, Ohio to the J.M. Schmucker plant and coming home with a jar of Schmucker's apple butter.

Upon retirement in 1948, Herbert & Lillian moved to N.B. to assist in the care of Lillian's aging and ailing mother, Mrs. Henry (Louise) Sunderman. During the next 5 years he served as a supply pastor at Christ Church in New Bremen. In 1953, they moved to Winona Lake, Indiana, "to live in an intellectually stimulating environment." In 1958, Herbert drove to Hamilton, Ohio to speak at the church he had founded 48 years earlier. There he suffered a heart attack and was taken to Fort Hamilton Hospital. For 10 days he appeared to improve, but he died suddenly on 12/14/1958. Lillian died in Orlando, Florida in September 1981. Both are buried in German Protestant Cemetery at Lock Two along with Herbert's parents, Herman Heinrich, who died 5/28/1889, and Henriette Wilhelmine Louise, who died 3/29/1903.

## From the Mailbox...

Dear Lucille:

4/29/2002

*The Towpath* has certainly brought me into contact with relatives in New Bremen and the surrounding area. I've enjoyed reading about what life used to be like in New Bremen for many of my ancestors. My dad, Alvin H. Dickman, never really lived in New Bremen but both of his parents, Rev. Herbert August & Lillian (Sunderman) Dickman, grew up and spent some of their retirement years there. My dad, a band director, and my mom, Constance (Helmich) Dickman, a school teacher, had five daughters. We lived in Alaska and on the West Coast so we didn't get a chance to visit New Bremen very often. I do remember as a child visiting my grandparents at their home at 203 South Walnut Street. I also visited the old Sunderman farm on the outskirts of New Bremen which is now owned by Daryl and Louise Koenig.

My dad passed away March 13, 2002 at the age of 94. Before he died, his brother, Reuben Dickman, and Reuben's son, Charles, flew from Reuben's home in Orlando, Florida to Bellingham, Washington to visit with him. This was quite a feat for my Uncle Reuben, since he would turn 100 years old on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. When Uncle Reuben & Chuck visited here, he and my dad shared many memories and also discussed the best way to prepare and eat prunes. That is a good subject when both people are over 90 years old! I miss my dad, but had a long life and wonderful memories.

I certainly appreciate all the hard work you put into the publication of *The Towpath*. I enjoy doing genealogy and *The Towpath* has been very helpful. Please accept the enclosed memorial gift from my sisters and me to the Historic Association in memory of our father, Alvin H. Dickman. Thank you.

Connie (Dickman) Laakso  
Bellingham, Washington

To *The Towpath*:

5/15/2002

Enclosed is \$10.00 to renew *The Towpath* another year. I greatly enjoy reading your historical publication and appreciate all the time and effort it must entail to produce it. Thank you!

Ruth (Poppe) Kuck - St. Marys, Ohio

Thank You:

5/18/2002

Tom Braun's kind responses to my inquiries about New Bremen and your complimentary copy of the April 2002 issue of *The Towpath* were greatly appreciated. Please accept my subscription to your publication.

Tom Becker - Trinidad, Colorado

Dear Lucille:

4/15/2002

The April 2002 issue of *The Towpath* just arrived and I have already read it through twice. It brought back many memories. While I was in high school, I worked part time at Schwieterman's Drug Store. David Schwieterman, Warren Schmidt, Catherine Knost and I

would refer to Schulenberg's Store as the patent medicine store (they had no pharmacist like we had at Schwieterman's). As I recall, Schulenberg's had the alcoholic beverage license at one time. One of our older regular customers came in and jokingly said he wanted to buy something that would make him feel "like happy days are here again." I told him he would have to go to Schulenberg's for that. He then told me he wanted Carter's Little Liver Pills, as I believe that was their slogan. I am sure my face turned bright red!

I enjoyed reading about the Rabe family. Mrs. Rabe was a special friend of Gene and me. When we were moving to Germany, she had us over for dinner along with her son and daughter-in-law, Val and Susan (Schulenberg) Rabe. Mrs. Rabe loved animals and had a huge Weimaraner dog. It sat next to Susan on the sofa and it was about twice her size. While we were living in Ludwigsburg, Germany, Mrs. Rabe wrote that she was coming to Germany and would visit us. She said she would call when her train came in so we could pick her up. We were waiting for the call when there was a knock at the door and there stood Mrs. Rabe! She had walked from the train station to this American subdivision and it must have been at least a 5 mile walk. She believed in exercising long before it became popular. In that regard I remember that she had a lot at the end of South Franklin St., about 2 blocks from my parents' home at 123 South Franklin and she kept a horse there and spent many relaxing hours there after walking from her home at 207 South Washington Street to her lot. She was such a vibrant, interesting lady.

I also noted that Kathleen (Kuck) Noble is working on the Kuck genealogy and she mentioned Ernst Kuck and his wife Laura (Frey) Kuck. That was my Aunt Laura as she was my father's sister. Of course, I was a cousin to Esther (Kuck) Kuhlhorst, mother of June and Walter Lee Kuhlhorst. Walter Lee and I have had some correspondence lately even though I haven't seen him for at least 50 years.

You can see I read every corner of *The Towpath*. You do such a wonderful job. Thank you so much.

Marian (Frey) Engle - Crozet, Virginia

From "The Sidney Daily News" of 6/4/2002:

Doris (Thielker) Tangeman of Sidney, Ohio enjoyed a "wonderful visit" recently from her music teacher of 55 years ago. Gene Engle and his wife, Marian, from Crozet, Virginia were visiting the area for a couple of weeks and one of their visits included the Tangeman residence. Mrs. Engle is the former Marian Frey of New Bremen. Mr. Engle was the music instructor in the New Bremen schools from 1947-1949.

As a 7<sup>th</sup> grader in New Bremen schools, Mrs. Tangeman took private piano lessons from Mr. Engle and as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, she was one of the accompanists for the high school operetta, "The Waltz Dream."

In the July 2001 issue of the New Bremen Historic Association's historical paper, *The Towpath*, a letter was printed that had been written by Mrs. Engle, along with a 1944 Sunday School class picture which included Doris Thielker. Doris (Thielker) Tangeman was sent a complimentary copy of this paper and followed up on it by getting the Engle's address and corresponding with them. Doris Tangeman said: "An excellent teacher is remembered forever. It was quite a memorable occasion. Nothing is better than speaking to and seeing friends in person."

[Edited by Lucille Francis]

Another former New Bremen teacher remembered:

**John Francis Cindric**

John F. Cindric, a former New Bremen teacher & baseball coach, died 3/22/2002 at Sunrise Assisted Living in Findlay, Ohio at the age of 89.



John Cindric

Mr. Cindric was born 12/31/1912 in Greensburg, Pennsylvania and graduated from the University of Findlay in 1941 with a bachelor of science degree. He had coached freshman baseball there for 3 years. He had also played minor league baseball for the New York Yankees, Boston Braves and St. Louis organizations and had been first baseman for the Findlay Browns and the Lima Pandas in the Ohio State League. Cindric married Marjorie E. Solt on 8/9/1941. He served in the U.S. Army in Europe during W.W.II. He was a basketball and baseball coach at Elida before coming to New Bremen in the fall of 1946.

John Cindric was a commercial & physical education teacher, baseball coach, Sophomore home room teacher and Junior class sponsor at New Bremen High School from 1946-1952. He became the manager of the swimming pool in 1947. In June, 1949, the N.B. American Legion Post #241 sponsored a "Teen-Ager Club" after its purchase and remodeling of the former Boesel Opera House on West Monroe St. John Cindric served as chairman of the Club committee for 3 years.

In August, 1952, he resigned to become superintendent at Beaverdam High School. In 1973, he retired as superintendent of Beaverdam & Arcadia High Schools and in 1982 as a business education teacher at Columbus Grove High School. He had served as a football official for 36 years and had refereed basketball games for 30 years.

Mrs. Cindric passed away 4/26/2000. They are survived by a daughter, Susan Palisin of Berea, a son John Jr. ("Skip") of Findlay, and 6 grandchildren. Mr. Cindric is remembered by many former New Bremen students as "a wonderful teacher" and served as a role model for those who followed him.

Dear Lucille:

4/12/2002

The detailed information in the April 2002 issue of *The Towpath* about the Schulenberg family was of great interest to me. In 1927 (when I was 8 years old) my mother, Marie (Boesel) Halsema, took my sister Betty (age 12) and me from our home in Baguio, on the Philippine island of Luzon, to spend a year in the United States. My father, E.J. Halsema, was then the appointed Mayor of Baguio, but my mother wanted us to experience life in our own country by attending public school in Mt. Gilead, north of Columbus, where her parents, Julius and Amalia (Havemann) Boesel, had moved in November 1921 after my grandfather resigned as President of the First National Bank in New Bremen.

We, of course, made trips to New Bremen, going across the state via interurban cars, which were then at their height, to visit my father's sisters, Geciena & Elizabeth Halsema, and my mother's many friends and relatives.

One evening, during one of our visits to New Bremen, I tripped over a wire while playing in someone's yard and suffered a "green stick" fracture of my right arm. Cade Schulenberg, who lived just a block west of my aunts, patiently explained his work as postmaster and showed me how to put the postmark on envelopes, using my left arm. I was delighted to have something to do! (Cade Schulenberg was the Postmaster at New Bremen from 7/1/1930-8/16/1934.) I remember crossing the canal on the tumble at the lock, too. I didn't fall in, though.

A visit to the Schulenberg store to see Cade was always a highlight of subsequent visits to New Bremen, including when my mother and I went around the world in 1932, and in the winter of 1936 when I began my studies at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. My aunts were both telephone operators for the New Bremen Telephone Company and always knew which young ladies might be available for a date when I paid visits.

After spending 37 months (12/27/1941-2/1/1945) as a "guest" of the Imperial Japanese Army when it occupied the Philippines during W.W.II, and before joining the Associated Press after liberation, I visited New Bremen in the summer of 1946. I again visited with Cade Schulenberg and we discussed his fishing trips to Canada.

*Keepsake*, the autobiography of my sister, Betty (Halsema) Foley, which covers her adventurous life from 1914 to 1945, was published this year by her son, Douglas Foley, of Scottsdale, Arizona. She describes her trips to New Bremen beginning in 1916. I will send you a copy for your library.

As a historian I appreciate the work you put in to ensure the correctness of information. Memories can play tricks! I am glad I have kept a diary.

Sincerely,

Jim Halsema - Glenmoore, Pennsylvania

EDITOR'S NOTE: Work on "The Halsema Story" is in progress. It should be appearing in an upcoming issue of *The Towpath*.

Dear Lucille:

4/25+30/2002

You cannot imagine how pleased I was to receive the April 2002 issue of *The Towpath*. Although there were only a few items I had not been aware of, much of information came from my mother [Frau (Schulenberg) Kuck], my grandparents [William & Catherine (Helwig) Schulenberg] or from sets of books which were maintained in my Grandfather Schulenberg's store. I never was able to "get it in writing" for my own information, but would say that you did an extremely good effort in putting it all together in concise form.

In addition to the 4 Langhorst girls you mentioned [daughters of my uncle and aunt, Edward & Anna (Schulenberg) Langhorst], there were 2 more girls - Mrs. Ray (Frances Langhorst) Frey, who taught school in Lorain, Ohio until she married, then lived in St. Petersburg, Florida; and Mrs. Fred (Edna Langhorst) Schoonover, who lived in Lima, Ohio.

Agnes (Langhorst) Hardwick's daughter, Lois, appeared in pictures in Hollywood and played opposite Buster Brown in the 2-reel movies which preceded the featured attraction (see *"The Towpath"* - April 2001.) She made brief summertime visits to New Bremen when she was young. I recall that her father, Stanley Hardwick, whose home was in Chicago, was a very sharp dresser. At Christmas time, he pulled her on her sled, dressed in a dark suit, overcoat, scarf, bowler hat and spats - all noticeably out of place in New Bremen.

I recall the Helwig and Gress families. Charles (C. H.) & Wilhelmina (Schwede) Gress had 3 daughters: Lillian, Edna and Helen. (1) Lillian was married to Wilson Vornholt who was a funeral director in New Bremen, along with his son, Charles. (2) Edna, who never married, was great with kids, and I was always glad to see her visit when I was a little shaver. Her life was spent in service to her family. She lived with her parents until their death, then spent most of her remaining years with her sister, Helen, and her family. Edna died in Spencerville in March 1991 at 105 years of age. (3) Helen married Richard Jacobs. They ran an appliance store in downtown Lima and later Jacob's Gift Shop south of Lima on Route 25. Their son, Warren Jacobs, still lives in Lima.

Cade Schulenberg was a good people person. When he traveled in our area for the insurance company, he would occasionally stop to visit my wife & me and we welcomed his visits. Elton Schulenberg, who became executive vice-president of Firestone Tire & Rubber Co., was asked to serve the U.S. government in Washington, D.C. during W.W.II. At that time, the government invited companies to loan them some of their management team for positions in which they were experienced and well-suited. Ione (Schulenberg) Schaefer became a teacher and married Roy Schaefer, who was a chemical engineer for Dupont.

Sincerely yours,

Bill Kuck - Findlay, Ohio

(NOTE: Bill visited the editor and others on Wednesday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, and brought with him some interesting family pictures.)

Dear Lucille:

4/9/2002

I was pleasantly surprised about 2 weeks ago when I received a letter from Janice (Schaefer) Overton of Norton, Massachusetts. She is the daughter of (Schulenberg) Schaefer who was the daughter of my aunt, Lula (Taylor) Schulenberg. Janice had seen a letter I wrote in the January 2001 issue of *The Towpath* in which I asked you for the address of Ted Schulenberg, Janice's cousin. You had sent her a complimentary copy and she recognized my name, after which she got my address from you. I was delighted to hear from her. We hope to both make a trip to N.B. sometime and meet there. Isn't it amazing that I have been re-connected to two relatives through *The Towpath*? Thank you.

Mary Ellen (Taylor/Belton) Patton - Talbott, Tennessee

To Tom Braun:

4/23/2002

Quite naturally, we considered the April 2002 issue of *The Towpath* to be the best ever! I know that other families have been featured in the past and we have always been amazed at how much "stuff" is found about each family. Now I am even more amazed. For all of the information provided, our appetites have only been whetted for more.

Janet & I are planning a trip beginning in mid-May. We will be visiting relatives both living and dead: living in Chicago; New Bremen; Rochester & Ossining, New York; and perhaps a few other places as well - dead in New Bremen; Salem, Massachusetts; and Norwich, Connecticut. If possible, we would like to meet with you to pick your brain and to get another brief lesson in how to navigate the genealogy section at the N.B. library.

Ted & Janet Schulenberg - Kerrville, Texas

*NOTE: The Schulenbergs visited N.B. on May 21-23. They met with Tom Braun and enjoyed a Vornholt family get-together at John & Joyce Gilberg's. They then proceeded on their trip and also got re-acquainted with other relatives - Val & Sue (Schulenberg) Rabe in Geneseo, New York, Janice (Schaefer) Overton in Norton, Massachusetts, and Mary Ellen (Taylor) Belton/Patton in Talbott, Tennessee.*

Dear Lucille:

5/21/2002

In reading the wonderful April issue of *The Towpath* regarding the Schulenberg family, I found one slight mistake. On page 4, when you wrote about Edward & Anna (Schulenberg) Langhorst, you listed 4 daughters. There were 6 daughters, including Frances Frey and Edna Schoonover. (see Bill Kuck's letter on page 14.)

That *Towpath* was a delight for me and I thank you. A wonderful coincidence is that Val & I will have dinner in Rochester, New York this week with my cousin, Ted Schulenberg, Elton's youngest child. We have not seen each other since about 1947. He's visiting his daughter who teaches at the University of Rochester where I worked for 18 years. We will have much to talk about to remember, and the April *Towpath* is so pertinent and important to us. Ted & I were born the same year (1930) so our memory framework should be similar.

Val & I are so pleased to receive *The Towpath* and thank you for your hard work and the care that goes into each issue. It is a true treasure for us.

Sue (Schulenberg) Rabe - Geneseo, N. Y.

*NOTE: The day the April issue of "The Towpath" was mailed, I ran across an article in the 4/14/1939 N.B. Sun about the Golden Wedding anniversary of Ed & Anna (Schulenberg) Langhorst. In it were named all 6 of their daughters. I then realized that I had failed to double check that information before publishing. I was glad to hear from both Susan (Schulenberg) Rabe and Bill Kuck concerning this oversight.*

LMF, Editor

Dear Lucille:

5/20/2002

The April issue of *The Towpath*, what our four children call "The Schulenberg Issue", represents a marvelous job of collating information from what must have been a bevy of sources. Sue & I both learned much we hadn't known.

We expect to be in New Bremen on June 16-17 after Sue's 50-year class reunion at Miami. Hopefully we will be able to visit the museum on Sunday. I have several items I will bring along if the museum wants them.

I enclose photos of 2 signs that formerly hung in front of my father's office at 220 West Monroe Street. You may have your choice. I also enclose a photo of my father standing in front of his office (taken about the winter of 1967?).

The other item is a small divided wooden box with a handle on the front. It has a sliding lid to cover half of it, with a small cupped hole in the top. It was used by either the Knights of Pythias or the Woodmen of the World when they had their meeting hall above Schulenberg's Store. (I suspect it was used by the K. of P. since I also once had two K. of P. swords.)

I was told the box was used as a voting box for admitting new members. Members would choose a white marble for "yes" or a black one for "no" from a container, palm the marble so no one could see it, and then drop it through the cupped hole. After everyone had voted, the lid was slid to the other side and if there was a black marble amongst the white, the candidate was rejected - i.e., blackballed.

We hope to see you in a few weeks. Sincerely,

Val Rabe - Geneseo, New York

*NOTE: Val & Sue Rabe did visit the museum on Sunday, June 16th. It was enjoyable meeting and visiting with them. They did bring the above items to donate to the museum (see the Curators' Report on pg. 16.)*

#### DR. RABE TRIVIA

On Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, John & Barb Valentine visited the museum during our Annual Summer Picnic. They commented that their oldest son, Jody, was the last baby to be delivered by Dr. Rabe, on 7/1/1964. Dr. Rabe did this as a favor to John's mother, Mrs. Robert (Carolyn) Valentine, who was then his nurse, the last to work for him before he retired on 8/1/1971.

## Curators' Report by Joyce Holdren



- ◆ Booklets: 1944 Victory Gardens, 1946 Fishing Calendar, M. Rabe, M.D. metal sign (above), Michael Rabe photo, Knights of Pythias? voting box  
[donated by Val & Susan Rabe - see pg. 15]
- ◆ Advertising thermometers: White Mountain Creamery, Old Reliable Meat Market  
[donated by David Fogt]
- ◆ Thermometer, Calendar holder  
[Leona Laut estate]
- ◆ "Ruth's Beauty Shop" advertising items: (2) file & comb kits, (3) appointment books, (5) pens  
[donated by Ruth Luellemann]
- ◆ New Bremen advertising pens: First National Bank, German Farmers' Mutual, Green Belt, Lampert Super Market, Mesco, Greg Myers, New Bremen Machine & Tool, Maurice Stammen  
[donated by Susie Hirschfeld]
- ◆ 75-year anniversary mug from Gilberg Furniture  
[donated by Jill (Gilberg) Borkowski]
- ◆ "John Laut & Co." wooden cigar box, 1909 "Mirage"  
[donated by Tom Fledderjohann - New Knoxville Museum]
- ◆ Transfer deeds for 209 N. Franklin St. property - (6)  
[donated by Robert & Mary Finke]
- ◆ 1999 Calendar from First National Bank (with photography by Randy McCune, former N.B. resident)  
Newspapers covering the 9/11/2001 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center and the 10/8/2001 beginning of the "War on Terrorism"  
[donated by Lucille Francis]
- ◆ Newspaper articles about History of Zion's Church, 10/15/1971 Church directory, 9/7/1975 Dedication booklet  
[donated by Ollie Inman]
- ◆ 1946, 1947 Class Reunion books (50 years)  
[donated by Stan & Dona Mae (Speckman) Kuenning]
- ◆ German song book  
[donated by Jerry Brown & Mary Ann Olding]
- ◆ Photo: St. Paul's Church interior 1933-1958  
[donated by Darlene (Braun) Kohler]
- ◆ Photos: 1894 Businessmen, "Grandma" Hayes  
[donated by Janice (Schaefer) Overton]
- ◆ Photos: Huenke School class, Fred Donnerberg & family, Adam Bruggeman, threshing crew, unidentified baby & family pictures, unidentified F.W. Greber photos  
Memorial register book (unused)  
[donated by Doug Topp]
- ◆ "The First National Bank" letterhead - Julius Boesel, President - dated 1/14/1921, (3) personal letters  
[donated by Fawn Krieg]

### UNIDENTIFIED DONORS:

- ◆ Gales American Custom candy box
- ◆ Schmidt Bros. General Merchants postcard
- ◆ Dayton Daily News - 9/23/1934 showing bus in N.B.
- ◆ Bicycle Museum of America bandaid dispenser

### NEW MEMBERS THIS QUARTER (THRU 6/30/02)

- 04/12/2002 Barmada, Michelle (Hoffman) - Missouri City, TX (re-join)
- 05/18/2002 Becker, Thomas - Trinidad, Colorado
- 04/05/2002 Boesel, Dottie (Schmidt) - Bryan, Ohio (re-joined)
- 04/23/2002 Burgess, Connie (Huckriede) - St. Marys, Ohio
- 04/06/2002 Campbell, Mary Lou (Donnerberg) - N.B. (transfer)
- 05/08/2002 Fenters, Alan - New Bremen
- 03/30/2002 Fickenwirth, Dorothea H. - Lopez Island, Washington
- 04/12/2002 Fischbach, Carrol - St. Marys, Ohio
- 04/06/2002 Gruebmeier, Wilbert - New Bremen (transfer)
- 03/22/2002 Hixson, Anne (Seeman) - Washington, Missouri
- 04/06/2002 Holdren, Thomas - New Bremen
- 04/29/2002 Klinger, Christina R. (Harrod) - Columbus, Ohio
- 06/10/2002 Lunz, Doris (Christler) - New Bremen (transfer)
- 06/24/2002 Quellhorst, Kim - New Bremen
- 05/09/2002 Roediger, LaRose (Nedderman) - St. Marys, Ohio
- 05/26/2002 Schnelle, Jack - Countryside, Illinois (LM)
- 06/02/2002 Sharp, Jay - Sidney, Ohio
- 05/11/2002 Sudman, Ethel (Ahlers) - New Bremen (transfer)

### MEMBER DEATHS THIS QUARTER

- 04/06/2002 Campbell, Paul (died 4/6/02)
- 04/06/2002 Gruebmeier, Gladys (Brockman) (died 4/6/02)
- 04/15/2002 Hirschfeld, Verona (Kettler)(LM) (died 4/15/02)
- 06/07/2002 Kettler, Mabel (Oldiges)(LM) (died 6/7/02)
- 06/10/2002 Lunz, Delbert (died 6/10/02)
- 06/20/2002 Steineman, Norbert (CM)(died 6/20/02)
- 05/11/2002 Sudman, Wilbert (died 5/11/02)

### ADDITIONS TO LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

- 05/18/2002 Blederman, Sheryl (Kuck)
- 05/26/2002 Schnelle, Jack (new)
- 04/19/2002 Slattery, Calvin

### TOTAL MEMBERSHIP AS OF 6/30/02 = 782

782 = 81 CMs + 14 CMLMs + 291 LMs + 396 Yearly

### MEMORIAL DONATIONS

The following memorial donations have been received this quarter:

**In memory of Donna (Tontrup) Niemeyer**  
by her niece, Bonnie (Quellhorst) Elsass

**In memory of Alvin H. Dickman**  
by his daughters: Connie Laakso, Lois Lanphere, Cynthia Dickman, Lorraine Roddy (deceased), Leslie Terra

**In memory of Bernard & Enola (Huenke) Montague**  
by Emerson & Marlene (Montague) Recob  
Holly, Mark, John Recob

### VOGELSANG ST. BECOMES PLUM ST.

Names of several streets have been changed by official action. Vogelsang Street, running east and west from west of the canal to Herman Street, will henceforth be known as West Plum Street.

The short street between East Plum Street (east of the canal) and Front Street, connecting Canal Street and South Washington Street has been named Elm Street.

The street branching off from North Main Street & running out to the Lock Two school house will be called New Knoxville Road.  
(N.B. Sun - 7/5/1923)