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[Maine? Wis.]: [Bicentennial Historical Committee], 1976

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MAINE MIRRORS

"it's past and present"

1866 - 1976



MARATHON COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY

AN OLD OAK REMEMBERS . . .

A gnarled old oak, bent but proud,
stands 'side a graveled walk.
What tales this mossy giant could tell,
if only it could talk.

Twas very small when an Indian brave
bent it to show the way
Through the trackless forest that was so dense
it hid the light of day.

Years sped by as oft they do.
The oak grew tall and stout.
And then one morn the forest woke
to a strange new kind of shout.

Timberrrr, was the cry that rent the air
as the majestic pines shuddered and fell.
The lumberjacks with saw and axe
to the pineries had come to dwell.

They sawed and they chopped, they cut and they slashed,
pine logs lay everywhere.
Some giants were felled and left to rot,
and nobody seemed to care.

Most logs were dragged to river banks
by plodding oxen teams.
When spring freshlets made rivers rage
they were rolled into the streams.

The river men with nerves of steel
would ride the stampede down
Through boiling rapids and frothy pools
to some new sawmill town.

The sawmills hummed in Big Bull Falls.
The lumber, fresh and clean,
Was cribbed, then rafted down the river
as far as New Orleans.

In a few short years a young pioneer
stood 'neath the old oak boughs,
And with a rough and grimy hand
he wiped his sweaty brow.

His yoke of oxen stood nearby
hitched to a wood-beamed plow.
They were breaking land on his little farm
for they had to live somehow.

He seeded grain between the stumps,
later cut and threshed by hand.
The work was hard and pleasures few,
but this was fertile land.

Yes . . . this was called homestead land,
promised to those who care.
If they lived on the land for several years,
the farm would then be theirs.

His wife and children shared his lot
and nere complaint would make.
For this their life they praised the Lord
as each new day would break.

Their house of logs, cracks filled with mud,
its floor was earthen still.
But a fireplace of stone and clay
subdued the winter's chill.

And their only cow searching for grass
would wander far and wide.
But a tinkling bell hanging round her neck
denied her a place to hide.

As years went by, friends came
and settled here and there.
Then more and more, and soon
their farms were almost everywhere.

The oak looked down on faces round
of children trudging to a one-room school.
Learning reading, riting and 'rithmetic,
not forgetting the Golden Rule.

The pioneers' sons and then grandsons,
improved both lands and homes.
Now finer farms are hard to find
where ere that one may roam.

Now this old, old oak could never have guessed
it would live midst fortune and fame.
For the place where this mighty tree still stands
is part of the town of Maine.

Elmer A. Seidler
July 4, 1976

Marathon County Public Library
300 N 1st St
Wausau WI 54403

COVER DESIGN BY LINDA GOETSCH

Linda is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Goetsch, Route 5, Merrill, Wis. She will be a freshman at Wausau West High and is interested in art and music. She wants to further her education in the fine arts.

W
977.529
M284

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302 + 4.70 binding chg.

Heckman
Binding

NOV. 19
7 JAN. 77

Forward

It is with sincere thanks that the Bicentennial Committee wishes to acknowledge the following for their assistance in compiling this record.

This history concerns the Town of Maine. Much research and time and effort made this publication possible.

"The History of Northern Wisconsin" - published 1881 by Western Historical Society.

"History of Marathon County" by Judge Marchetti.

Wausau Daily Record Herald.

Marathon County Historical Society.

Marathon County Public Library.

Town "Clerks Records and Books."

In addition to the above, many individuals furnished pictures, records and valuable information for which the committee is most grateful. We wish to ask your forgiveness and pardon for any errors, omissions or other data which should have been included.

We are indeed most thankful to the Wausau Paper Mill Company of Brokaw for their generous contribution to this publication. The paper used throughout was donated, thus keeping the cost at a minimum. We are indeed extremely proud of Wausau Paper.

We bow our heads in reverence and deep gratitude to

those town officials, who before our time, labored so diligently and preserved records so valuable that our rich heritage is a brief time capsule of our proud past.

We hope this book will preserve a small portion of the history of Maine Township beginning in 1866. Those early pioneers lived so vigorously, so dangerously, so willingly accomplishing with fortitude, willpower and faith this wonderful community we now enjoy in 1976.

May it preserve a reference for those generations to follow, that they may be reminded of the progress from wilderness to our modern environment, at whatever future date they choose to scan these pages.

Bicentennial Historical Committee:

Mrs. Irene Ellingson

Mrs. John Jorgenson

Mrs. Dexter Letto

Mrs. F.H. Ollhoff

Mrs. Ervin Saeger

Mrs. Gertrude Witter

Mrs. Edmund Woller

Assisted by:

Mrs. Clarence Utech

Mrs. Robert Schuett

Mrs. Kenneth Goetsch

Mrs. David Radtke

In The Beginning

MAINE TOWNSHIP

The Town of Maine was once heavily timbered with forests of pine and hardwood. It was settled by German emigrants who bought land from the government and speculators for as little as \$1.25 per acre.

The town was officially set apart from the then Towns of Wausau and Berlin on November 12, 1866 and was organized as a governing unit the following spring.

Things have changed since it was organized through a series of border changes. At first extending from the Lincoln County border through what is now the Town of Rib Mountain and parts of the Town of Texas, it had diminished in size to its present boundaries by 1892.

Town of Maine is technically known as township 30, range 7 east and lies west of the Wisconsin River. It also includes the greater portion of township 29 north of range 7 lying west of the Wisconsin River, being two townships long; bounded on the north by Lincoln County, on the east by the Wisconsin River, on the south by Wausau city limits, and on the west by towns of Stettin and Berlin.

This town was named for U.E. Maine, who was the first town chairman. He had the largest farm at that time. He was a native American and onetime county surveyor. His wife was of Chippewa Indian descent. They had a large family of very intelligent and industrious sons.

Other officers were Charles Riemer and Herman Goetsch, supervisors with Fred Dinkel, clerk, and August Zastrow, treasurer. There were also four justices of the peace, four constables, a sealer of weights and measures and an assessor.

During the first year of organization, a total of \$2,872.59 was collected in taxes as recorded in the flowing penmanship of Clerk Dinkel.

The present Clerk, Elroy Utech, reports \$530,271.80 in taxes for 1976.

The first farmer emigrant to this area in 1856 was William Thiele who settled in township 30, range 6, now Town of Berlin. Four brothers, Barteld, David, Gottlieb and Frank Roemer took land near Taegesville. That same year, John Kufahl, Gottlieb Stubbe, Gottlieb Bielke, C. Schueter and Carl Mollendorf settled on lands in the central and northern parts of the township. The southern part now bordering the City of Wausau was settled later.

David Barteld was probably the first surveyor. He farmed, erected a distillery and later opened a grocery store in Wausau.

Charles Monte started the first store near the

Lutheran Church at Taegesville in 1856. Other businesses and industries began operation which included a sawmill owned by Hackbarth and Laatsch in 1866.

A brickyard was opened in 1868 by Frank Mathie and later owned and operated for over thirty years by William Garske.

Five cheese factories were established which attested to the industriousness of those pioneers who cut trees, grubbed out the stumps and cultivated the land to begin the town's first major industry—dairying.

Land development continued and the State Agricultural Society established an experimental orchard on a ten acre plot of land now owned by Priscilla Steffke for the purpose of showing that soil and climate were suitable and profitable for apple culture. Some of the trees still remain after more than fifty years.

Five church congregations were organized. The first protestant congregation was German Methodist and began in 1859. The oldest Evangelical Lutheran Church was located near the post office at Taegesville. Another Lutheran parish was established in the northern section of the township with Rev. Joseph Fiehler as the first pastor in 1872. In 1868 another congregation organized in the southern part of the Town of Maine. Services were held in the school house until their building was completed in 1895. The fourth Lutheran group organized and erected its church in 1886. Prominent

members at the time of organization were John Kufahl, Edward Nass and John Strehlow.

Seven schools were established to meet the educational needs of families scattered throughout the township.

Five cemeteries mark the resting places of pioneers who passed this way before us and left a legacy to all who are here and to future generations. We inherit the fruits of their labors and in true respect and honor, we provide care for these established resting places at Maple Grove, Jehni, Faith (Zion), St. John's and we wonder what happened to the Iroquois Indians whose burial mounds are still visible today.

Other activities in the beginning will be discussed under such topics as Taverns, Transportation and Recreation.

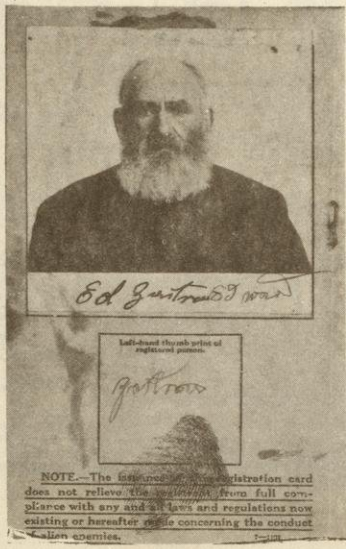
Maine township had an illustrious beginning and developed into one of Marathon County's wealthiest and most progressive townships due to the industriousness of its people, their ingenuity and wise use of its natural resources.

Its close proximity to the Wisconsin River gave it the advantage of a natural means of transportation and aided in the development of industry. It has contributed much to the scenic and aesthetic value of Maine township.

FEB 23 1918
(Date)

This certifies that
Edward Zastrow
(Name of registrant)
residing at Wisconsin Lincoln
(Town, County)
Merrill
R. P. 3x69
(Street and number)
whose photograph and signature, and / or other mark of identification, appear herein, has registered at
Wisconsin Lincoln
(Town, County)
Merrill R. P.
(City, town) (Precinct)
as a person required by law to register under the Proclamation of the President of the United States, dated November 16, 1917.

Ed. Zastrow
(Signature or mark of registered person)
Rubens & Runkle
(Registration office)
Robnacker
(Official title, printer or post office)



Alien Registration Card of Edward Zastrow, Feb. 23, 1918.

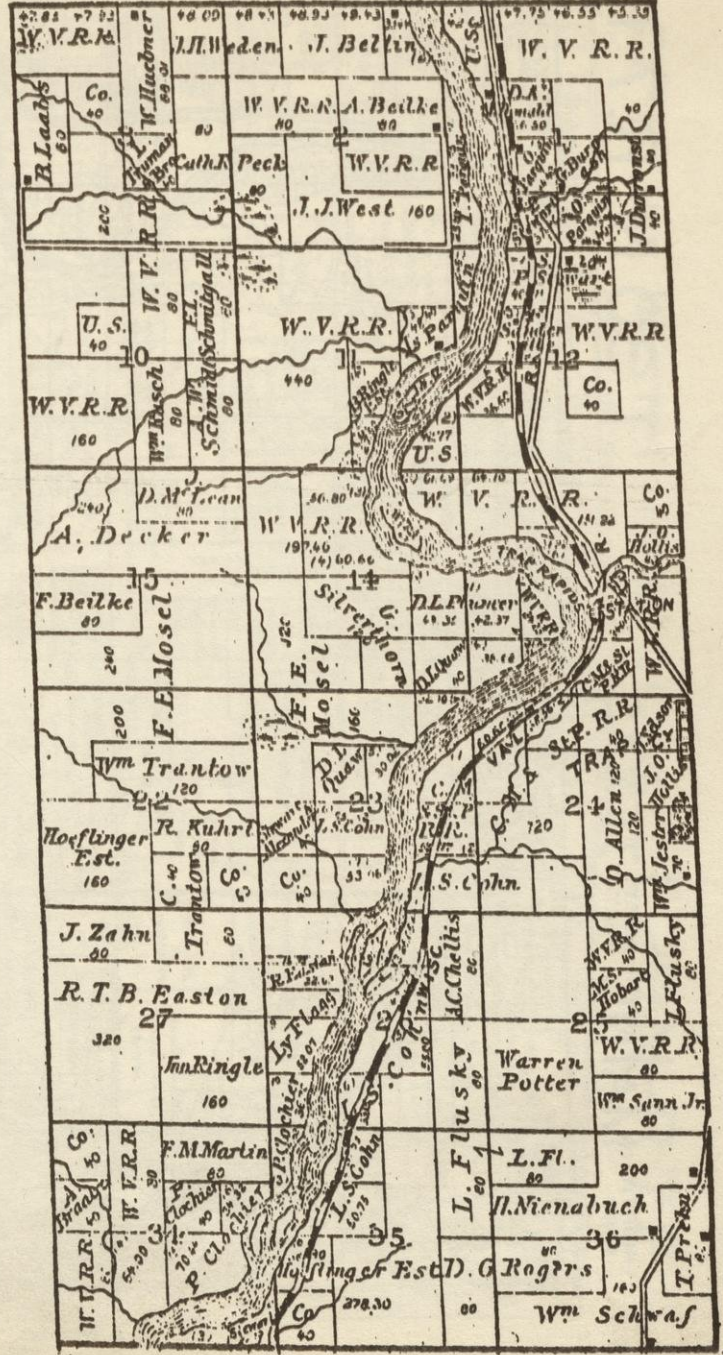
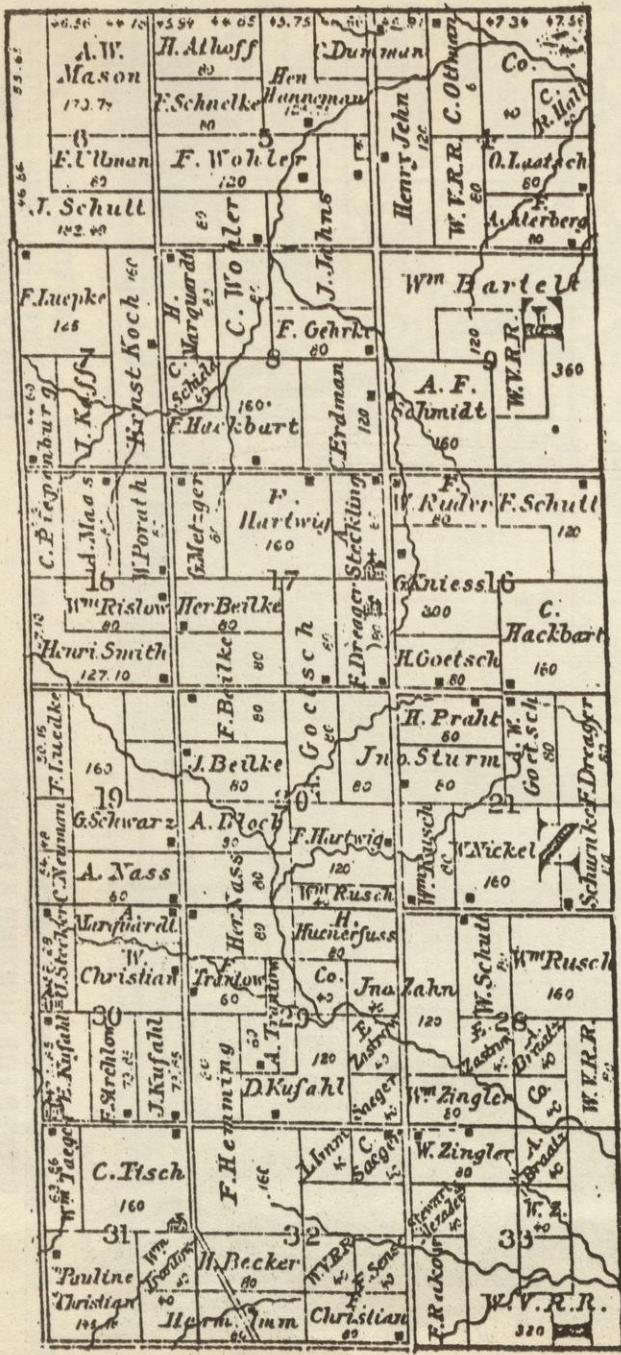
July 8 1918
(Date)

This certifies that
Wilhelmina Zastrow
(Name of registrant)
residing at R. P. 3x69
(Town, County)
Merrill
Lincoln Wis
(City, town) (State)
whose photograph and signature, and / or other mark of identification, appear herein, has registered at
Wisconsin Lincoln
(Town, County)
Merrill R. P.
(City, town) (Precinct)
as a person required by law to register under the Proclamation of the President of the United States, dated April 19, 1918.

Wilhelmina Zastrow
(Signature or mark of registered person)
Rubens & Runkle
(Registration office)
Robnacker
(Official title, printer or post office)



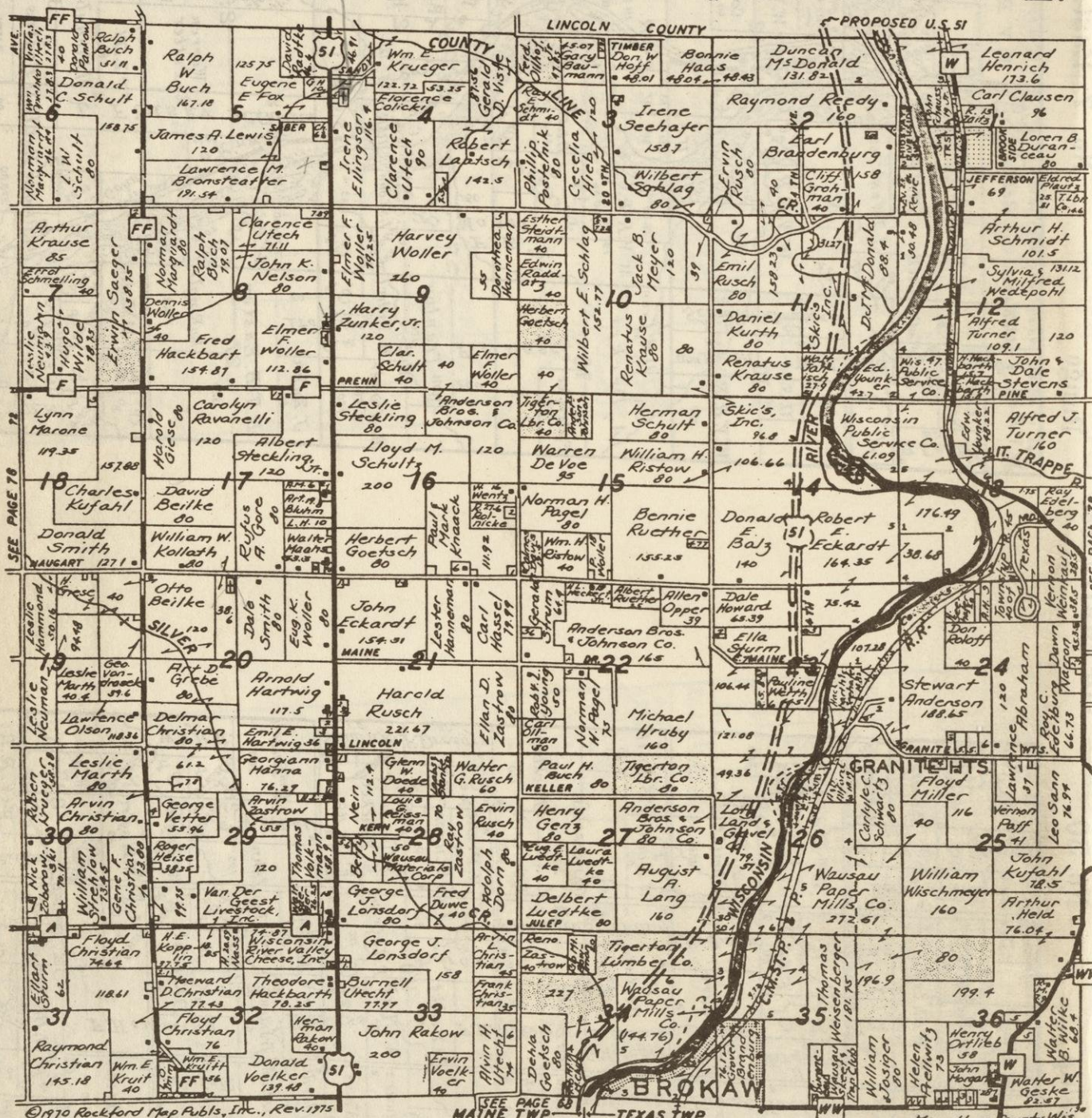
Alien Registration Card of Wilhelmina Zastrow, July 8, 1918.



5

NORTH PART MAINE WEST PART TEXAS

T 30 N.-R.7 E.



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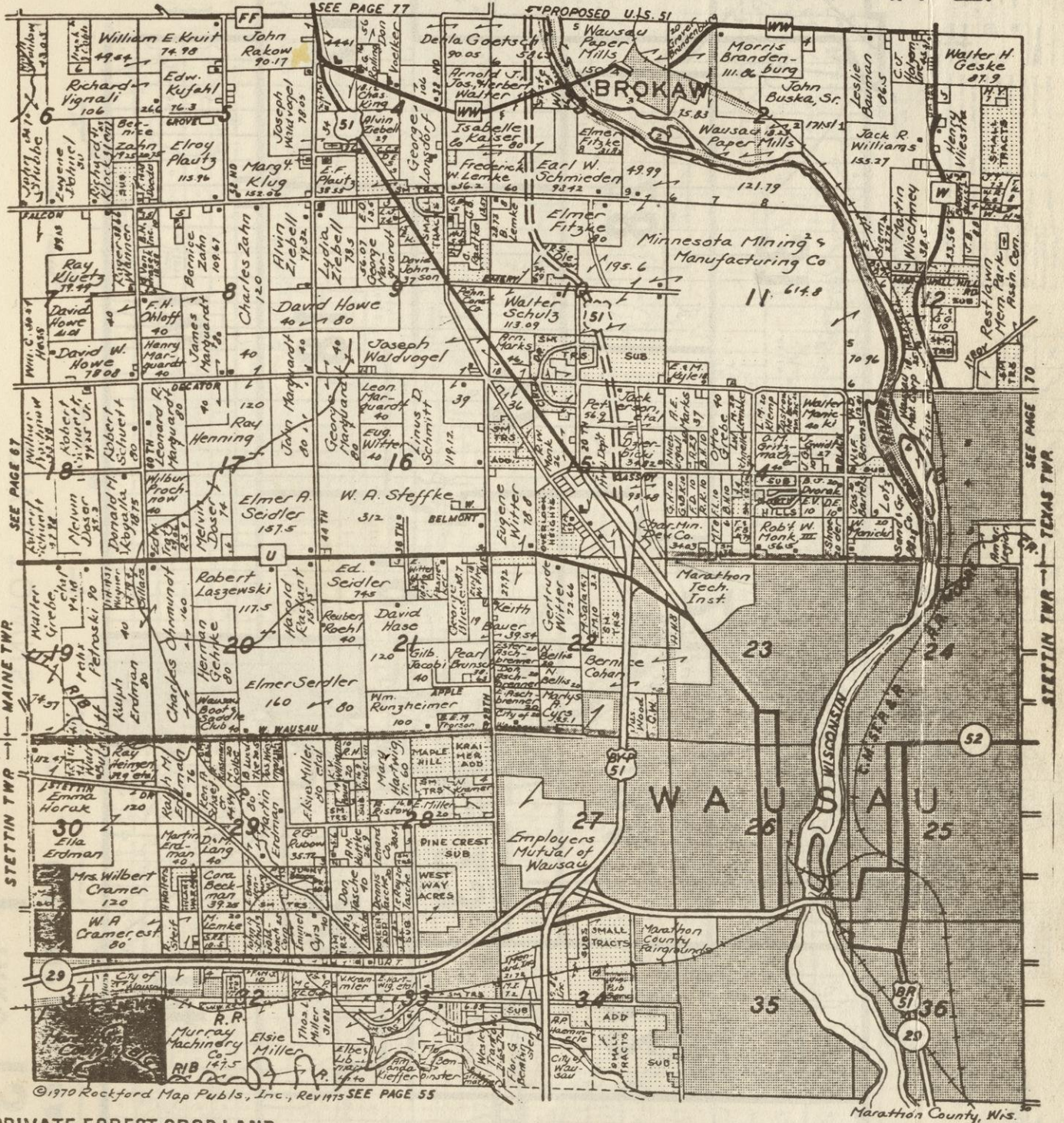
SEE PAGE 68 MAINE TWP TEXAS TWP

Marathon County, Wis.

PRIVATE FOREST CROP LAND
OPENED FOR HUNTING & FISHING

COUNTY OWNED LAND

SOUTH PART MAINE EAST PART STETTIN SOUTH PART TEXAS T. 29 N.-R. 7 E.



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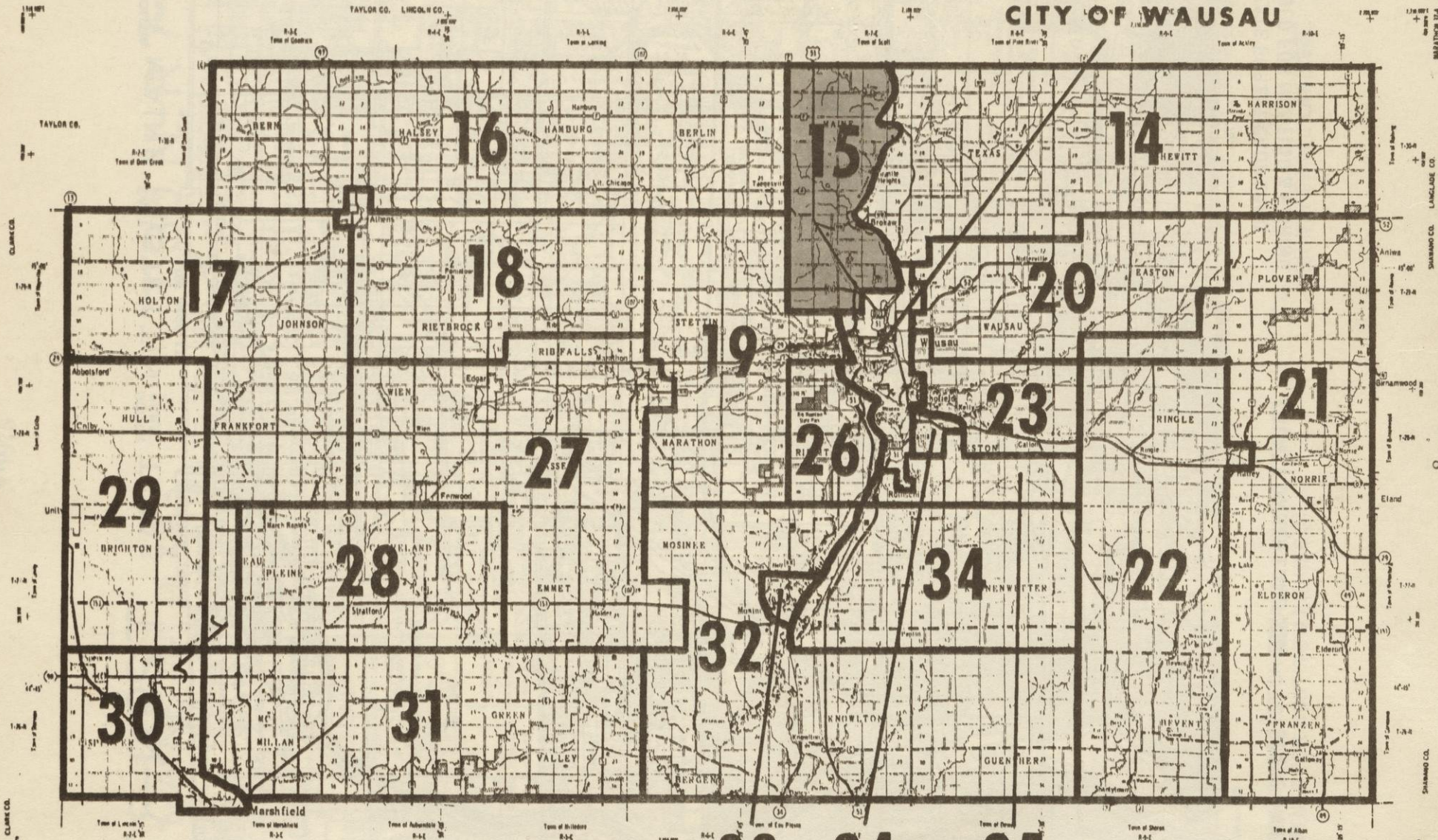
PRIVATE FOREST CROP LAND
OPENED FOR HUNTING & FISHING

COUNTY OWNED LAND

STATE OWNED LAND

SUPERVISORY DISTRICTS
MARATHON COUNTY
CIVIL TOWNS

1 THRU 13
CITY OF WAUSAU



- LEGEND**
- Railroad
 - Highway
 - U.S. Highway
 - State Highway
 - County Hwy. Letter
 - Road
 - Dam
 - Brook
 - County Boundary
 - City Boundary
 - School
 - Cemetery
 - Fish Hatchery
 - Game Park
 - County Jail
 - University
 - School
 - Public Hall or Fish Club
 - Hospital
 - Local Store
 - Range Station
 - Public Camp & Park
 - Game Park
 - County Park
 - County Jail
 - School
 - State
 - County
 - Local Board
 - State Board
 - Total for County

CIVIL TOWNS

BERN	HALSEY	HAMBURG	BERLIN	WAINWRIGHT	TEXAS	HEWITT	HARRISON
HOLTON	JOHNSON	RIEBROCK	STETSON	WAUSAU	WUSBU	EASTON	PLOVER
HULL	FRANKFORT	WIEN	MARATHON	RIDGELY	BOSTON	RINGLE	MORRIE
BRIGHTON	KAUK	EMMET	MOSKOWE	NEWITTEN	ELDERON	FRANZEN	
SINAI	MILLAN	GREEN VALLEY	BERGEN	KNOWLTON	GUENHER		



POPULATION

1910	1920	1930	1940	1950
11,111	12,222	13,333	14,444	15,555

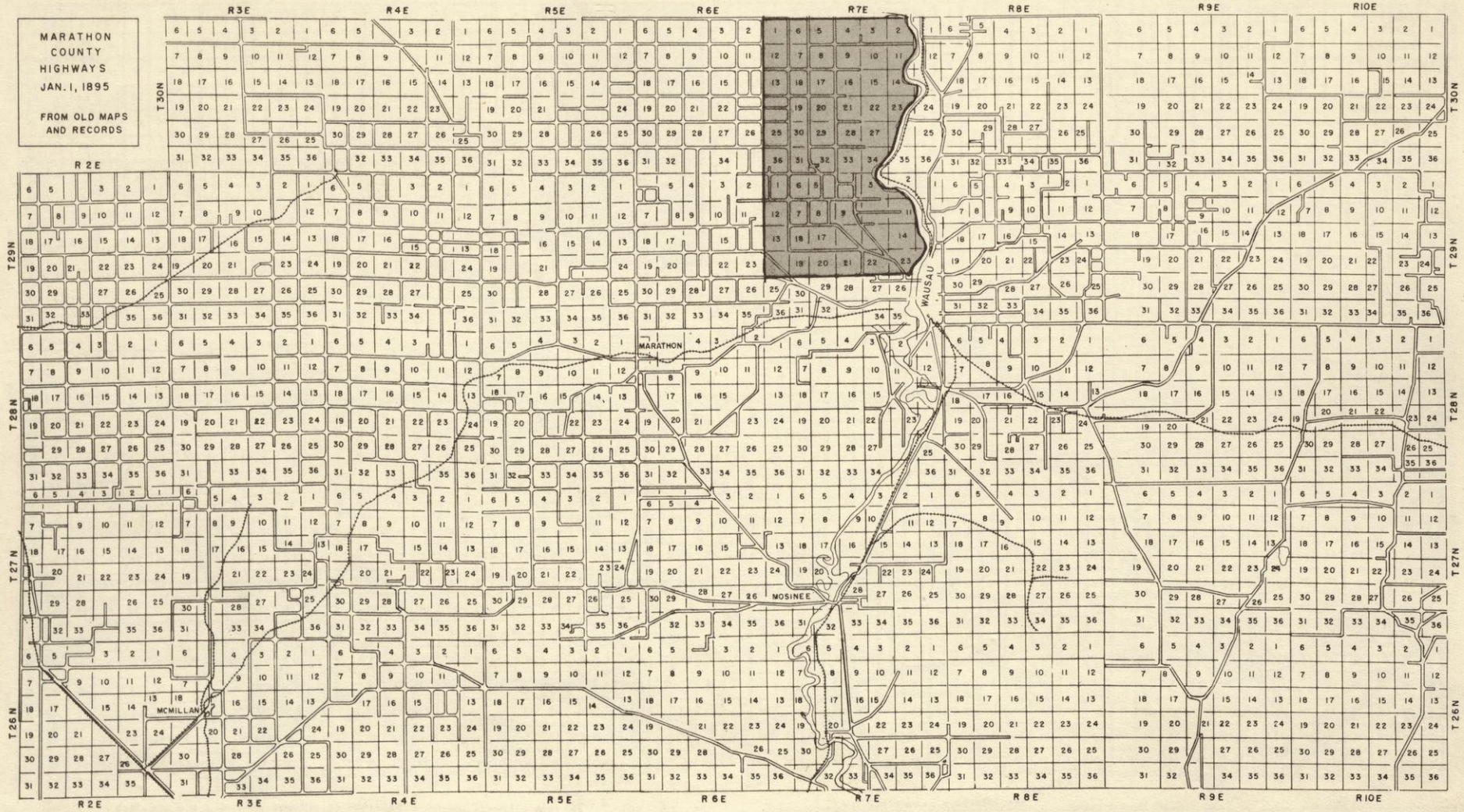
MARATHON CO.
 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

STATE OF WISCONSIN
 DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
 Bureau of Maps

SCALE 1" = 1 MILE
 JAN 1947

1:250,000
 1:500,000
 1:1,000,000

MARATHON COUNTY
HIGHWAYS
JAN. 1, 1895
FROM OLD MAPS
AND RECORDS

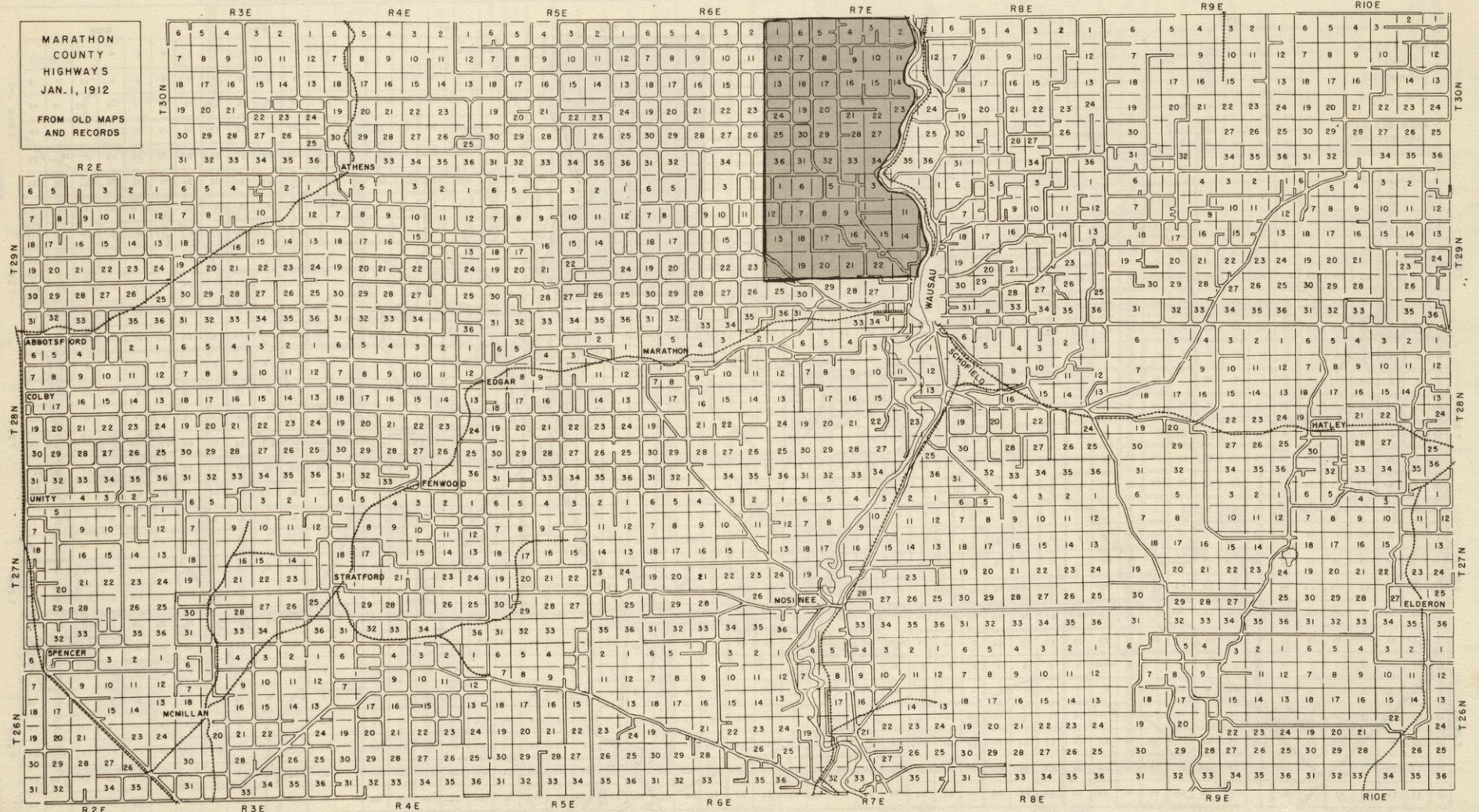


SEE KRETLOW MAP 1895

MARATHON CO. HIGHWAY DEPT. - C.E.C. - 2-1963

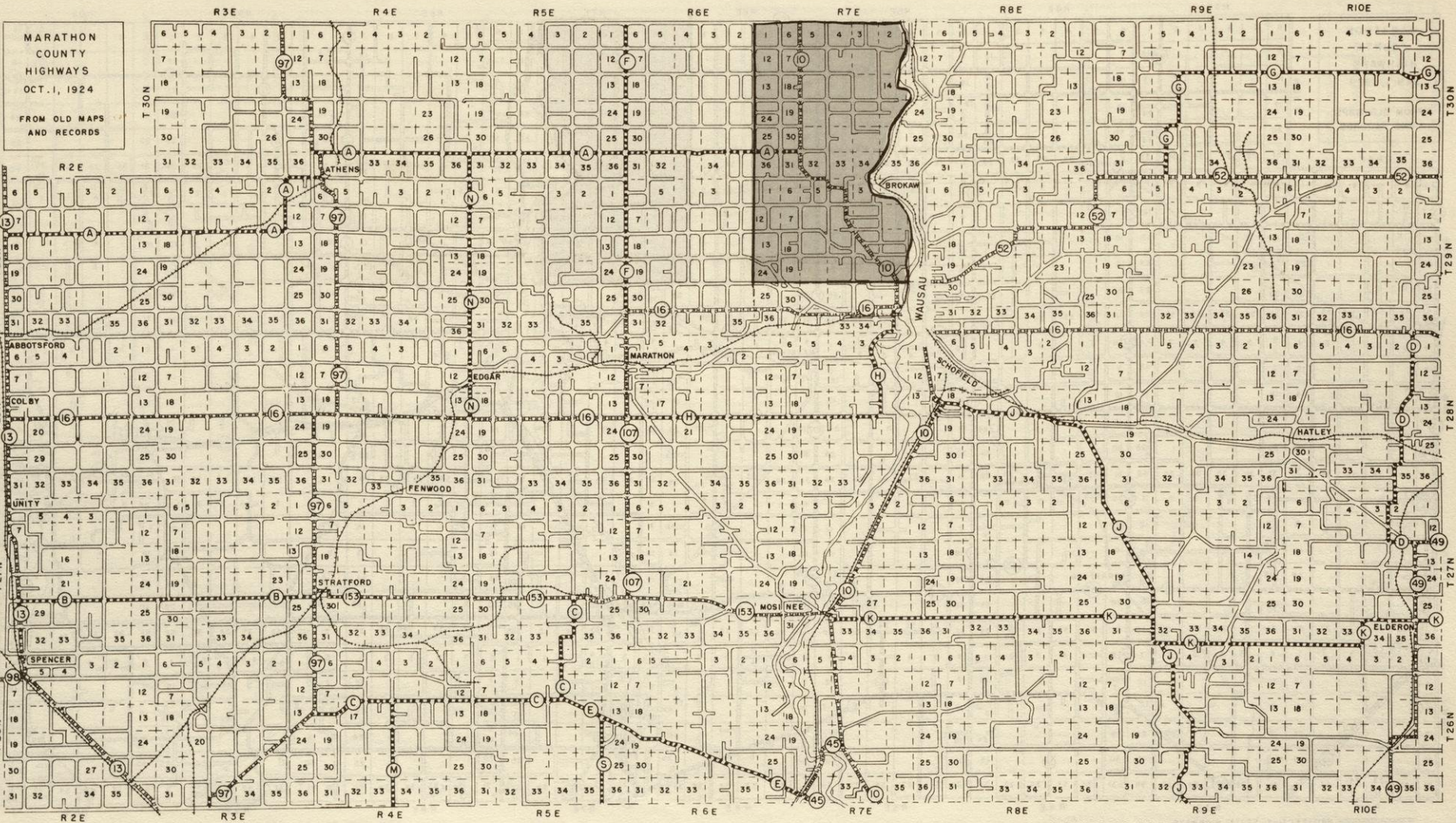
1912

MARATHON COUNTY
HIGHWAYS
JAN. 1, 1912
FROM OLD MAPS
AND RECORDS

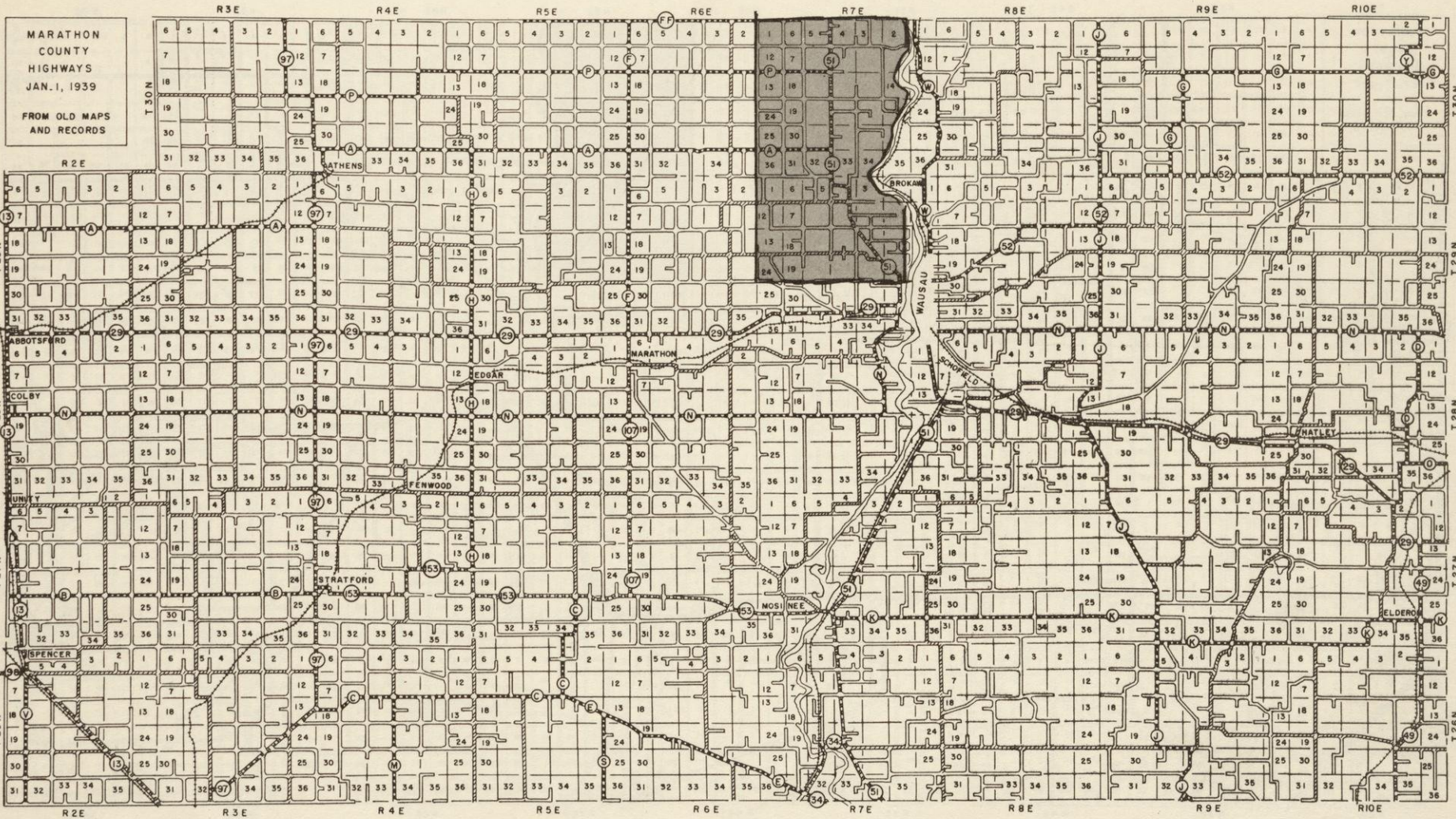


SEE KRETLOW & LAMONT MAP 1912

MARATHON CO. HIGHWAY DEPT. - C.E.C. - 2-1963



II



MARATHON COUNTY
HIGHWAYS
JAN. 1, 1939

FROM OLD MAPS
AND RECORDS

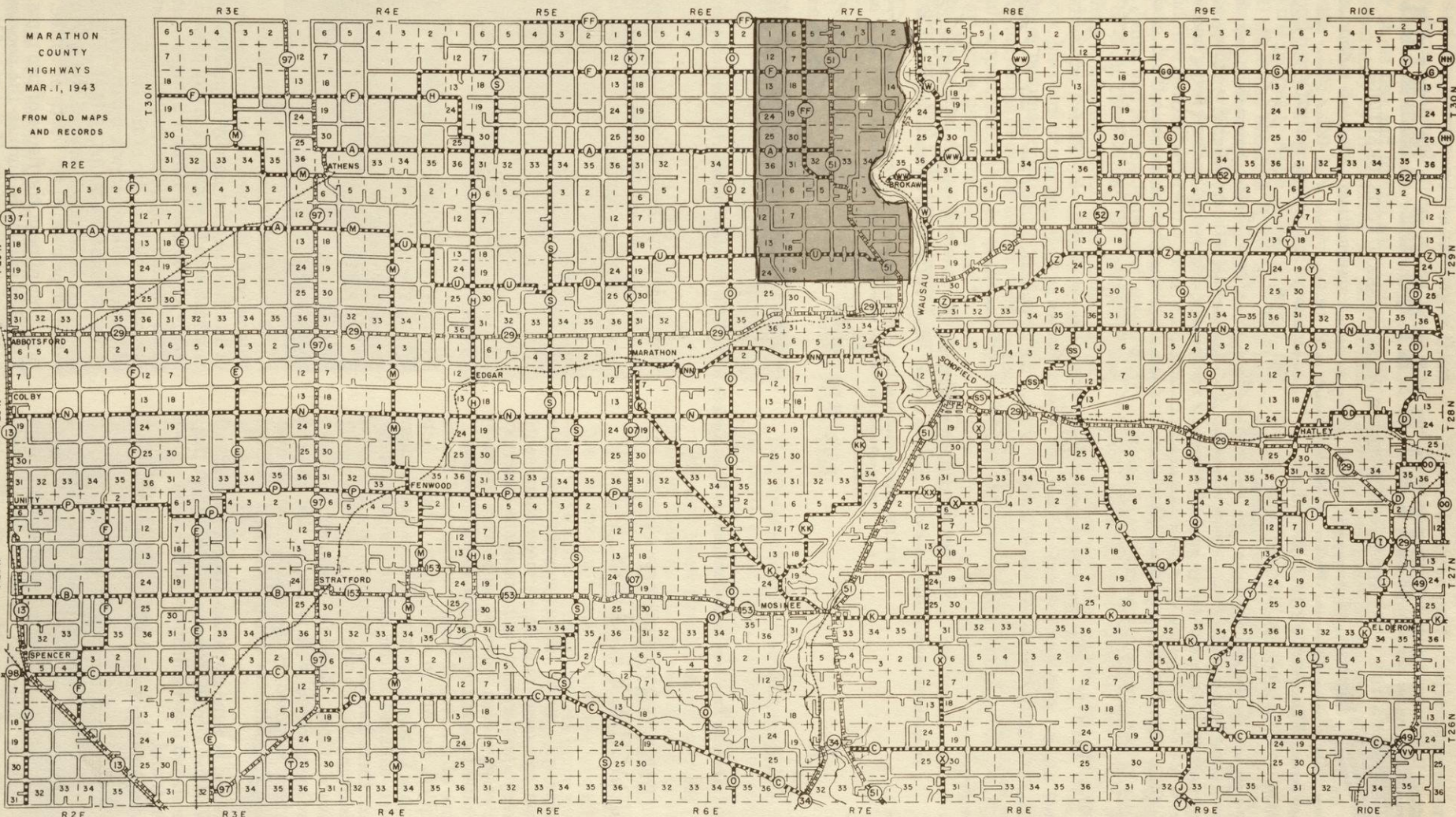
PROSPECTIVE STATE HIGHWAYS

SEE FULLER MAP 1939

MARATHON CO. HIGHWAY DEPT. - C.E.C. - 2-1963

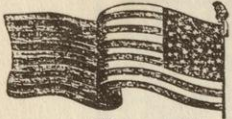
1943

13



SEE FULLER MAP 1943

MARATHON CO. HIGHWAY DEPT. - C. E. C. - 4 - 1965



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING:

Whereas, In pursuance of the Act of Congress, approved MARCH 3, 1855, entitled "An Act in addition to certain Acts granting Bounty Land to certain Officers and Soldiers who have been engaged in the Military Service of the United States," there has been deposited in the GENERAL LAND OFFICE, Warrant No. 39,803, for 160 acres, in favor of Ezeckiel Flanders, Private, Captain Puddleton's Company, Massachusetts Militia, War 1812, with evidence that the same has been duly located upon the East half of the North East quarter and the East half of the South East quarter of section seven, in Township thirty, North of Range seven East, by the District of Lands subject to sale at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, containing one hundred and sixty acres, according to the Official Plat of the Survey of the said Land returned to the GENERAL LAND OFFICE by the SURVEYOR GENERAL, the said warrant having been assigned by the said Ezeckiel Flanders, to Ernst Kock, in whose favor said tract has been located.

Now know ye, That there is therefore granted by the UNITED STATES unto the said Ernst Kock, as assignee as aforesaid and to his heirs, the tract of Land above described: To have and to hold the said tract of Land, with the appurtenances thereof, unto the said Ernst Kock, as assignee as aforesaid and to his heirs and assigns forever.

In Testimony Whereof, I, James Buchanan, President of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, have caused these Letters to be made Patent, and the SEAL OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE to be hereunto affixed. GIVEN under my hand, at the CITY OF WASHINGTON, the first day of March, in the YEAR OF OUR LORD one thousand eight hundred and fifty five and of the INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES the eighty fourth. BY THE PRESIDENT: James Buchanan, Sec'y. Recorder of the General Land Office.

RECORDED VOL. 1781 PAGE 423

This is a land grant signed by President James Buchanan to Ernst Kock Sr. Ernst Koch Jr.'s sister Ida married August Saeger. Now the Ervin Saeger farm.

UNITED STATES TO JOACHIM E.F. JAHNS

The government made arrangements with the railroad to cut and clear pine trees, move them south down the river in preparation for homesteads as service men did not receive cash. Several plots were given by the United States Government to Joachim E.F. Jahns.

In pursuance of the Act of Congress approved March 3, 1855, entitled, an Act in addition to certain Acts granting Bounty Lands to certain Officers and Soldiers who have been engaged in the military service of the United States, there has been deposited in the general land office warrant No. 60,803, in favor of William A. Denton, Private, Capt. Mosely's Company Alabama militia, Cherokee removal, with evidence that the sale warrant has been assigned by the said William A. Denton to Joachim E.F. Jahns in whose favor said tract has been located.

This homestead became a resting place for emigrants coming to Wisconsin from Germany to check out their claims. Some stayed a week or more at the Jahn's place until land was found.

The following story is typical of family arrangements in those pioneer days.

December 3, 1885- Joachim Jahns and Johanna, his wife to Carl Jahns. The said Joachim Jahns and Johanna, his wife, hereby agree and covenant to and with the second party to set over and transfer to the above named Carl Jahns, their son, their farm property situated in the Town of Maine, Marathon Co., Wis., by a good and sufficient deed of said premises and deliver

over to him all their personal property of any and all description on said farm excepting only the household goods of the first parties.



The said Carl Jahns, party of the second part, in consideration of the agreements and covenants on the part of the first parties hereby stipulates and covenants to and with said first parties to pay to said first parties annually on demand certain sums of money, deliver to them certain articles and fulfill certain conditions during the natural life of the said first parties or either of them as follows, to-wit: 5 barrels of good wheat flour, 25 bu. of potatoes, 50 lbs. of beef 50 lbs. of mutton, 200 lbs. of pork, 20 dozen eggs, \$2.00 worth of sugar, \$1.00 worth of prunes, \$1.00 worth of coffee, \$1.00 worth of rice, 1 bu. of peas, the fleece of two rams, 100 lbs. of salt, \$25.00 in money, to furnish the necessary clothing for said first parties, one-half an acre of land fit for garden purposes to keep for the use of said first parties and sur-

vivor of them, one cow in fodder and when said cow is not in milk to furnish them sufficient milk from his own cows and give said first parties and the survivor of them the use of one decent habitable room in the house on said farm, to furnish the necessary firewood cut and split ready for stove use and should said first parties desire to live separately by themselves, the said second party agrees to build a decent house for them for their use on said farm.

The said second party further agrees and covenants to and with said first parties to Anna Jahns, his sister, the sum of \$600.00 when she becomes of age and bear the expenses of a decent customary wedding and give her at that time one cow and a wardrobe and one feather bed.

The said second party further agrees and covenants to and with said first parties to decently keep, maintain and support them for the remainder of their lives, his sisters, Minna Jahns and Alvina Jahns and agrees and binds himself to treat them kindly and brotherly and suitable according to his means, and it is further agreed and understood by the parties hereto that in case the said second party, his heirs or assigns, shall at any time be guilty of cruel or inhuman conduct towards said Minna Jahns and Alvina Jahns or do not suitably and decently maintain and support them, then he shall be obliged and the said Carl Jahns hereby binds himself to pay in such case to said Minna and Alvina Jahns or her guardian for her support, and said Carl Jahns further agrees

to give to each said Minna and Alvina Jahns a feather bed and a wardrobe.

The said second party further agrees and binds himself that should he at any time sell or convey said farm he will pay to said first parties and the survivor of them \$1,000.00 in cash down and also pay to said Alvina Jahns or her guardian the sum of \$1,000.00 and to pay to said Minna Jahns or her guardian the sum of \$1,000.00.

And for the faithful performance of each and every of the conditions and covenants of the foregoing articles and agreements the said second party sum of \$4,000.00 in which sum the said second party shall stand and be indebted to the said first parties in case of any failure or nonfulfillment of any of the conditions and covenants on the part of the second party.

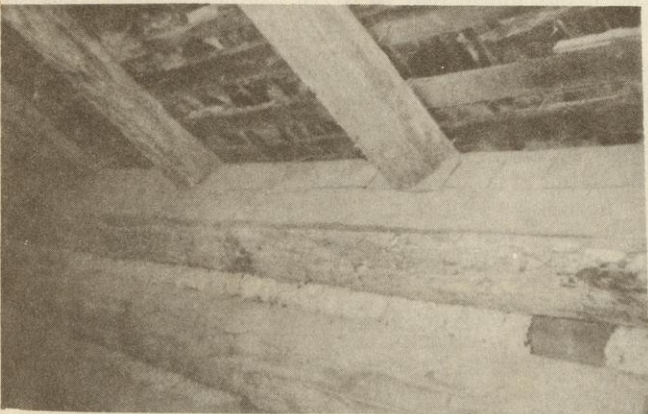
It is ordered, that all of the terms, conditions, covenants and agreements contained in said certain contract, bearing date Dec. 3, 1885, by and between Joachim and Johanna Jahns, and Carl Jahns, have been fully and wholly satisfied.

The land was then farmed by his son Ernest, and his wife Elsa, who farmed it until May 1946. At this time it was sold and the north part of the house was moved to 1207 Hamilton Street, Wausau, Wisconsin. The south part was moved to 1905 Sixth Street, Merrill, Wisconsin. This leaves only a foundation on the old homestead 1976.

LOG HOUSES



Interior of Block Log House about 1886.



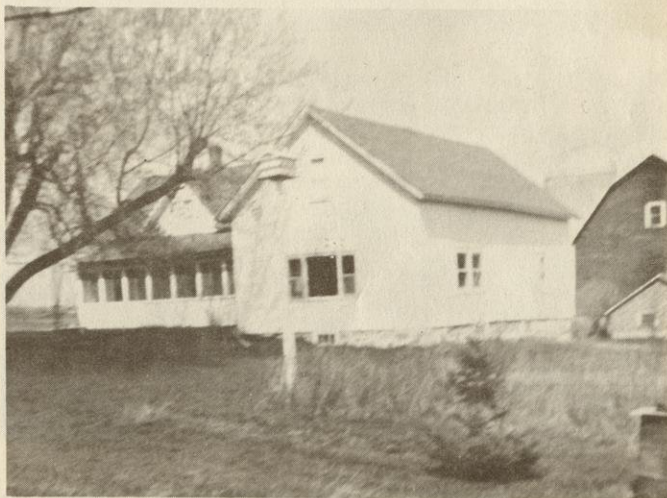
An axe and cross cut saw were the tools used by pioneers to carve the necessities out of the wilderness. First a shelter needed to be built to provide warmth and safety from the elements.

Log houses built by pioneers are still in use. Two such log structures in Main township are being used today. Both have been covered with siding to look like others now.

One such house first belonged to Frank Block and was built in 1886. In 1917 it was deeded to William Block. Mr. Henrichs owned it for a short time and then became the property of Sigmund Woller.

In 1936 the Sigmund Woller home was destroyed by fire and this log house became the temporary home for this Woller family until their new home was built.

Elmer Woller purchased the farm in 1946 and lived in the log house. The house became the home of Mrs. Woller's mother, Mrs. Martin Butt in 1966 and is located on Highway K, just north of (Zion) Faith Lutheran Church in Town of Maine.



The Block Log House many years later.

I Remember When...

Hugo Nass remembers coming from the Town of Maine from the Town of Berlin at age ten. He moved with his parents, Otto and Augusta Roeder Nass, his sister Erna, and brothers Max and Edward. The farm was purchased in 1901, from Daniel Kufahl. In 1903, Hugo's father died after a short illness. His schooling was cut short now that he had the responsibility of running the farm. His grandmother Roeder came to live with them and with the help of his grandfather, Edward Nass, and an uncle, Herman Schwartz, he learned to cut logs, take care of livestock, put in crops and make new land. Albert Trantow, a neighbor, taught him how to handle dynamite so he could blast out the stumps and large stones in the wooded area.

He planted wheat among the stumps. It had to be cut with a cradle and he remembers how adept his grandmother was at tying the bundles by twisting a sheaf of the grain so that it held the bundle together. The wheat was taken to a mill and made into flour. Three bags of wheat would make less than two bags of flour, one bag of middling and one and a half bags of bran which was fed to the cattle.



Nass home in 1905.

Left to right: Hugo Nass, William Schwartz, Erna Nass (Mrs. Harry Trantow), Augusta (Roeder) Nass and Edward Nass, on the steps.



The farm a few years later. The front porch has been remodeled. The room under the shed of the barn was used to store ice.

Most of the barns in this area were built in the early 1900's. All were built the same except the Bilke and the Tesch barns, which were round.

The Tesch barn was built by a man named Tisch in the 1880's. It had a silo in the middle with the rafters resting on it. This barn was very cold and the corn silage had a tendency to spoil easily. The Tesch boys had straw on the staging that had been left in the silo, when they bought it. They found this was a good place to hide. Often they spent the day there instead of going to school.

The Bilke barn had a chimney in the middle and was built of planks. It was used to store machinery and as a chicken and pig barn.

Most of the barns were built by Henry Neuman, Henry Wilde and Henry Ludholz crew. The other crew of carpenters was Robert and Ed Nickel and Mr. Dehnel. The foundations were made by Carl Krueger, William Schwartz, Adolf Paul and Henry Wilke.

The elm timbers were cut and hewed into a large shape with a broad axe. Field stone and granite waste were used for corner stones. Hemlock and pine were cut and made into lumber for the roof boards and sides.

In the spring, the dirt was scraped out with a horse and a bucket scoop. Sand would be hauled from the Hackbarth sand pit. Lime was hand slacked in a 8'x16'x1' box. Many barrels of water had to be on hand because the lime boiled. This was mixed with the sand for the mortar and a 2' wall was made. Most of the barns were 36'x82', 104' or 120'. The carpenters would drill the holes in the timbers and notch them, so that on the day of the barn raising, all the pieces would fit together perfectly. On the day chosen for the raising, usually before haying time, 40 to 50 men would come with pike-poles. These poles were 12' to 16' long with a spike and a hook on the end. The hook was used to raise the timber with a cry of "Yo-He" so everyone would lift together and the hook would hold the timbers so they could be slid together. No nails were used for the skeleton. The carpenters would finish nailing on the roof and side boards and putting on the wooden shingles. To wish the owner good luck, a wreath of evergreen would be hung on the top gable. This was accompanied by a speech.

Inside, the cattle were tied to a trough, with a chain. In summer, the cows were milked outside in the cowyard. If it was raining, you moved under the open shed under the barn. You were lucky if you got a cow that stood still while you milked her. Sometimes you followed the cow around with your bucket and milk stool. Many farms had windmills to draw water for the cattle but many had to drive the cattle to a creek or spring once a day, in the winter, for watering.

Herman Tesch had come from Beaver Dam and had brought with him more advanced methods of farming. He planted corn and barley. The barley was sold to the brewery. Because he threshed so much more than the other farmers, he had to furnish two men to one for threshing in the neighborhood.

There wasn't much hay grown, so the horses got what little there was and the cattle were fed chopped straw. This was a Saturday chore, chopping "Hexel" for the cows.

William Single, who lived on the George Lonsdorf farm, wrote to William Taege, who lived in the southern part of the state, to come here—"it being a gold mine." So Taege and his family came and built the saloon at what became known as Taegesville. (At one time Taegesville was noted on the road maps.) Fred Nohl, who operated the blacksmith shop, loaned him money which he lost. He had the framed note hanging on the wall in

his shop. The first mail came on a stage from Wausau on its way to Hamburg, before 1900. A postoffice was established. Taege sold his business to William Neitzke, who started the store. A series of new owners followed: Theo. Goeden, Arnett, Gulke, Marson, William Christian, William Hintz and the Schmidts.

In 1902, the mail routes started and Otto Nass bought the first mailbox for 75c, which Hugo still has. Mail came from Wausau by horse or bicycle. All the mail boxes were at the corner of the Taegeville School. In 1910 the routes were laid out, so every one north of FF, got mail from Merrill. This brought the daily paper into the homes. An ad was run that said, "More camels are coming to Wausau than there are in Asia and Africa." It proved to be an ad for cigarettes, which sold for 10c a pack or 3 for 25c.

The telephone line was built past the school from Wausau to Merrill. Mr. Taege put in his own unpeeled hemlock poles to Taegeville and the company ran the line down to him. It was a pay phone for the public. The poles didn't withstand the weather and the lines went down, and weren't rebuilt. Herman Tesch had the telephone put in his house. It too was a public phone. A sign, on an elm tree in his yard stated that a call was 25c. He got free calls for having this service for the public in his home.

Arthur Kufahl and Hugo shared a secret for over 70 years. After Mr. Kufahl passed away, the story was told. On a morning, when it was still too damp to make hay, they went down to the Silver Creek armed with dynamite, fuses and caps. The dynamite was cut in short lengths and caps and fuses inserted. Then they were coated with axle grease and it was discovered that they had not brought matches. So Hugo hiked home and was met by his grandma Roeder, who reminded him that the hay needed turning. He convinced her that it was still too wet and he hurried off to the woods with the matches. Well, the dynamite went off but the results did not yield the number of fish they had hoped it would. His grandmother did wonder about the limp fish though.

When a boy reached his sixteenth birthday, he started to carry a fancy gold watch. Hugo got his in 1907 from the Otto Mueller Jewelry Store for \$16.00. He still has it. At this time, owning a musical instrument was the fashion. The Tesch boys got a cornet as did Hugo. The Imm boys got a cornet and violin. Leo Imm played the pump organ and in three weeks, without a lesson, they played for their first dance.

Weddings were home affairs. The dance was in the home, if it was big enough, or in the barn, after the nails had been pounded down and the planks planed. Many home parties were enjoyed. The young people walked for many miles to attend them. If they didn't have any place special they were always welcome at Ed Kufahl's near Taegeville. They had three parties at other places.

In summer, the biggest event was the Mission Festival, which was the Sunday before the 4th of July. The gala affair was held in Tesch's woods in those early years. A brass band from Merrill would be invited to entertain. An archway of evergreen was built over the entrance with an appropriate Bible verse on each side. Much food was brought by each family for the noon meal. First the meal was free, but then so many city cousins started coming, so a charge was made. There was preaching by guest pastors and much singing. Walter Krueger remembers the children marching to the woods, singing songs they had learned at summer church school. Seats were planks on blocks of wood and a platform was built and draped with sheets. Bouquets of garden flowers were brought to decorate the platform. Ice which had been made in the winter and stored in sawdust, was used to keep the milk can full of ice cream frozen. On the 4th of July, there was another picnic

with games and fireworks. Later the Mission Festival was held in the Walter Kilian woods.

The Methodists also had a picnic in the woods, across from the Taegeville School. They had stands that sold pop, ice cream, fruit and fireworks. It was a day for fun and games.

In 1915, before World War I, a crew of five men came to the Nass farm. They were from Canada and picked out 12 rock elm trees, paying a sum of \$200.00 for them. They were cut and a man from Rothschild came to hew them into a 21" square. They were loaded onto a pair of sleds and delivered to Wausau. There the 51' timbers were loaded on flat cars and shipped to the East coast. They were taken to England by boat, to be used for ship building.

Threshing was a cooperative affair. Grain bundles had been stored in the barn, after drying in shocks for days, sometimes weeks, if the weather was wet, waiting for a threshing rig to come. First horse power was used and then the beautiful steam engine that had to have water and wood to make the steam for power. The blast from the whistle, coming down the road to your house, was a welcome sound. Grain was measured in half-bushel boxes. These were hustled off to the granary by a crew of young men and boys. An older, experienced, man fed the bundles into the machine because they had to be fed slow and steady so as not to plug the machine and give everybody a break. It might also send a chill through the women, in the house, because it could mean another meal. Meals were hearty and looked forward to by the children, who got to eat with the cooks after the threshers had gone back to work. One time Clarence Gehrke hid the pies that were cooling on the porch and sent the cooks into a panic. Bologna and wieners were stored in crocks of salt water, in the basement. Some people would butcher a sheep and serve mutton. The lack of refrigeration made meal getting a chore. The dust was unbearable but some could stand it better than others, so they would get the jobs in the barn. They would come to the tables black with dust and really put rings of dirt on the white tablecloths. The yellow thistles were so bad that some yards had inches of fuzz when the machine left.

Some farmers raised flax that was used for weaving into cloth. Most was used for hand towels which were sewn together at the ends so it was a continuous towel hung from a roller. Some was used for trousers. This was dyed brown with a solution made from butternuts. Most families had sheep because they needed the wool for making yarn which they would spin and then knit into stockings and mittens. Another item of necessity was a scarf to wrap around ones face when walking or riding in the sleighs. Some men learned the skill of spinning and a few could even knit.

Tillie Knorr was a dressmaker who would come and live with a family while she sewed for them. Neumann's bought a bolt of wool material, of many colors, and she sewed winter jackets for the boys in the family. There was enough left over so she sewed a jacket for Hugo.

Mr. Prechel, who was blind, built a tread mill for churning butter. It was powered by a dog or a sheep walking on the tread.

William Christian Sr., walked to the river to fish every Friday or Saturday, so they could have fish for Sunday dinner. John Kufahl would go too, and he drove a horse and buggy. They never went together and they were next door neighbors.

An incident at church remains in his memory. A Pastor Rein, who lived where Maeward Christian lives now, would come to church in a pony drawn two-wheeled cart. He would gallop all the way and the boys would unhitch the pony and tether him. He played the violin for the children's singing and one day, when the

boys wouldn't sing, he broke the bow over Albert Tesch's head.

Hugo's greatest regret was that he never got to go to a logging camp in the winter. Many of the boys his age did. There wasn't much work on the farm in the winter and many families had many boys. They would go to a logging camp up north and bring back tales of fun and hard work.

There was much pine along the rivers and creeks that was cut. The stumps are still in evidence. Hemlock was very valuable for building, as was elm. The maple was cut for firewood and hauled to Wausau, where it sold for \$5.00 a full cord. Many times a load wasn't sold and would have to be taken back home or let stand and sold the next day.

Much loose hay was hauled to the city because every family had a cow and a horse.

After the timber was cut, berries would appear and many quarts were picked and preserved for winter eating. There were the chasers and the pickers. The chasers would always think the berries were more plentiful and bigger someplace else and the pickers stayed put and picked their pails full. Hugo remembers that Emil and Bill Christian were good "Pickers."

My father, Hugo Nass, age 85, told me these stories, for which I am very grateful. I would like to pass them on to my children and their children's children.

Ada Lois Jorgensen (Nass)



Hugo Edward William Nass
June 27, 1891
Age: 85

Depression Days

The great depression brought many hardships to the Town of Maine residents as it did throughout the United States.

Low prices, bad weather and the severely cold winter of 1936 caused crop failure and much misery. It all began in 1930 and lasted for about seven years. An "old timer" tells of his experiences while cutting oats. After cutting the first strip of an eight acre field, they stopped to pull one bundle from the machine. Hay was very poor and the corn was cut with a grainbinder because it was so short; then hauled into the barn and laid on the hay to dry.

Cattle found little pasture because of the draught. They often had to eat leaves from trees and bushes. Some farmers had to cut standing trees in order to provide roughage for their cattle.

Leo Bielke, another "old timer," told how he worked to make a living raising pigs, chickens, sheep, cows and horses and then had little or no feed for them. Sometimes only the hulls from oats were to be had. One month's milk check was \$30.00 and a cow could be bought for \$16.00.

\$800 was borrowed from the bank. When the crash came and banks were closing, the money had to be repaid in full. No money was available, but a kindly neighbor, named William Woller, loaned him the money.

On the Emil Rusch farm, trees were cut down and the logs were made into pulp. An attempt to sell the pulp failed. No one would buy it. It was hauled to Wisconsin Rapids but had to be brought back. Eventually it was cut up and burned as firewood.

At times, loads of wood were hauled to Merrill to sell. Sometimes people needing the wood would be waiting at the bridge and other times no one would buy it.

Herman Krause and Henry Genz worked in the woods

for \$1.00 a day and then boarded themselves.

Cleared land was still scarce. Eighteen acres was considered to be a good sized field even though many pine stumps remained. The stones picked from the field found value in foundations, walls and fences.

People living in the city could not earn enough money to pay for needed farm products. Often they went to the farms and worked to pay for such items as eggs which sold for 12c a dozen (25c a dozen at Christmas).

Oxen were used for farm work by William Rusch. Grandma Prebbnow (who lived in the Bloch house on Highway K), often drove her team to Merrill (then called Jenny) with her two granddaughters and a load of firewood.

The Edward Saegers had twelve milk cows and received 65c for 100 pounds of milk. Straw was disguised as feed by sprinkling a mixture of salt and molasses on it at feeding time.

Horses ate hay and "haxel!" These were bundles of oats which had not been threshed. The bundles were finely chopped by a gasoline powered engine. The selling price of a 350 pound pig was \$15.00.

After the drought, the lengthy rainy season followed. Grain had been cut and shocked. As the rain continued, the grain began to sprout. When the rain finally stopped, each shock of grain was carefully turned inside out to dry.

Repairs were needed on the house. The head carpenter charged 55c an hour. His helper received 45c an hour and other workers received 25c an hour. The mason charged 35c an hour to build the chimney and 50c an hour for plastering.

Victor Sturm threshed with the steamer. The one used was owned by Nickel and Sheppard. It was operated by a crew (Emil Rusch, Ed Rusch, August Rusch, Albert Rusch and Carl Sturm) that went from farm to farm un-

til all grain was harvested. The Gareott (name of the threshing machine) chopped the bundles and sorted the grain from the straw. When the oat harvest was complete, a clover huller was taken about from farm to farm to gather clover seed.

In 1915 a Case threshing machine was being used and still stands on the Emil Rusch farm on Rainbow Drive.

Two and one-half cents was the charge for threshing. If the crop was less than 200 bushels, the farmer had to pay \$5.00 for a set up. If men were hired to help, they were paid \$1.50 a day plus their board. Combines came into use in 1947.

People in the Town of Maine were very careful. They worked hard for what they had and saved whenever possible. Many invested their savings in stocks and bonds. A man named Mr. Runke resided on the former George Lonsdorf farm and dealt in stocks and bonds. Many people knew him and invested their savings with him. When the "crash" came, Mr. Runke committed

suicide because he could not tell all the people that their hard earned savings were gone.

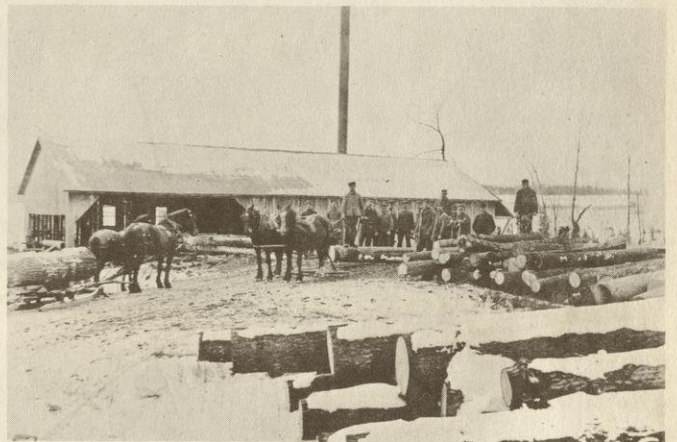
Ben Doebe tells about helping farmers when he was running a cheese factory from 1931 to 1944. Farmers found it difficult to meet their obligations and mortgages and debts became so widespread that the government placed a moratorium on payments of this type. The moratorium was administered by the Farm and Home Administration. This program consigned farm earnings but "I would not take any money off the milk checks for the months of January through April," said Ben. From May on, a larger percentage was taken when the cows were once again on pasture.

One hundred years ago Mrs. Zelsch told Otto Fitzke that there would be a big plant down by the river and there would be a strip of ground on top of the hill where nothing would grow. The big plant is now Minnesota Mining Company and the strip on the hill where nothing grows is the new four lane highway.

Logging - Lumber



A.W. Hackbarth Lumber Co., 1912.



Laatsch Sawmill

White pine was abundant in the Town of Maine. It made excellent lumber. It, being a soft wood, soon found many uses. If a large square spike was driven into it, it would not split.

In the early days of the town's development, the railroad company had logging rights. They would cut trees next to streams and float them to the Wisconsin River when water was high in spring from melting snow. As the logs arrived at one of the many sawmills, they were sawed into lumber which was used in this fast expanding region. Sometimes the railroad company cut trees near streams that never swelled enough to float the logs. These were left on the banks of the streams to rot. Remains of these trees and stumps are still evident in some forests even though this happened well over 100 years ago.

White pine was in demand in St. Louis, Missouri. Yellow pine was plentiful there but would split when spikes were driven into it.

Pioneers performed as logging crews cutting and hauling logs to local sawmills. DeFennis sawmill was probably the first owned and operated commercially in the Town of Maine. It was located where Lotz Sand and Gravel used to be, just east of Billy Goat Hill on the banks of the Wisconsin River.

Rafts were built on the ice and the sawed lumber was piled on them. When spring came and the river ice broke up, these rafts were moved down the river.

One such raft crew consisted of Herman Goetsch, Carl Kniess and Carl Hackbarth. Big Bull Falls at Wausau

and the falls at Mosinee were obstacles, but once past, the rest of the trip to St. Louis was relatively easy.

Those loads of lumber were literally worth their weight in gold for these Maine lumberjacks were paid in gold. In the years following the Civil War, paper money had little value.

The long trip home from St. Louis to Milwaukee was by train but the rest of the way was tediously traveled on foot carrying their belongings in saddles strapped to their backs. The men never stayed in rooming houses as they were afraid of being robbed. Instead they slept in caves protected from wind and weather only by hemlock boughs. Food was purchased at boarding houses. The round trip took six weeks.

Before leaving on one of those river raft journeys, Carl Kniess met a neighbor in town and asked him to take a fifty pound bag of flour home to his wife so his wife would have something to bake with while he was gone. The bag of flour was never delivered so Mrs. Kniess' diet consisted of potatoes for six weeks.

There were "landing stations" located at strategic places on the river bank. Logs were brought and dumped on the skidways, then rolled into the river and floated to the sawmills after the ice went out in spring.

The logs were marked so farmers could go to the sawmills later and get the lumber from their own logs.

Many barns in the northern part of Maine township were built from lumber sawed in the Ollhoff mill located on 60th Avenue, just north of the Marathon-County County line.



Pictured above: Norman Marquardt, left, and Ervin Saeger, right.

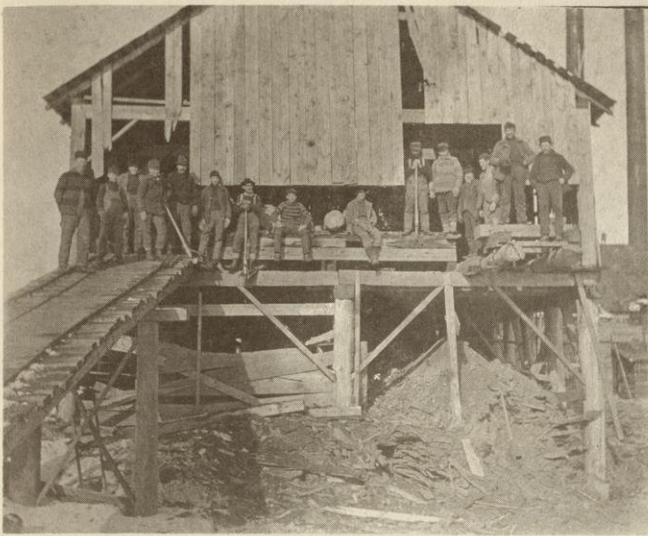


Left to right, Harry Maahs, Walter Arndt, Lucille Maahs, Scaler.

SAWMILLS

Emil Schlag, William and Walter Steidtman built their mill in 1917. A steamer was used to run it, but a boiler soon replaced it. The steamer continued to be used by the threshing crew.

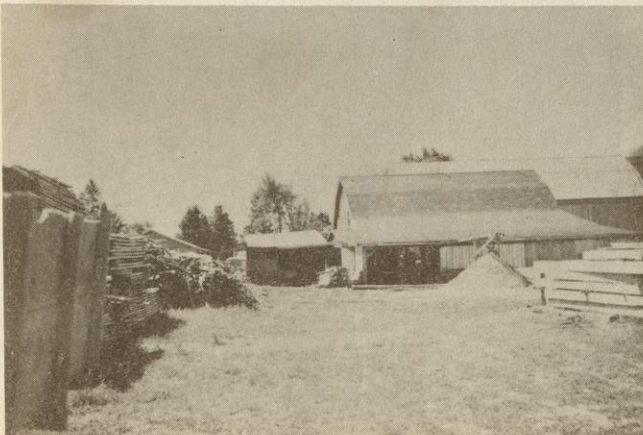
The mill was razed in 1940, then a portable mill was built and the steamer was again used to operate it. The crew moved from place to place to saw logs. Finally the steamer was sold to Mr. Weinkauf from the Town of Texas. The remains of the foundation of the sawmill are still visible.



Schlag-Steidtman Sawmill, 1916-17.



Foundation of old sawmill.



Gerald Strehlow Sawmill, 1967.

Farming - Agriculture

One of the newer slogans says "farming is everybody's bread and butter" and so it is. Everyone needs food, clothing and shelter. As we look over the countryside today it is hard to image how this area appeared to the pioneer settlers over 100 years ago.

As those early German emigrants found spots they wanted for their homes they began carving farms from the wilderness. These were trying times. The work was hard and tools were crude and scarce, often hand made to fit the task at hand. But these pioneers were strong, proud and determined. This new found freedom was very precious to them.

Changing the logged and burned over land to tillable productive fields was backbreaking work. Trees were pulled together and burned. How frustrated the farmer was when the basswood and butternut trees failed to burn. Stumps were pushed along sides of fields to form fences to keep cattle confined. Some stumps too large to remove were left to rot and the crops had to be planted around them.

When dynamite became available many stumps were blasted out. Split rails formed many fences. One lady recalls how some fences made from basswood which sprouted leaves and were very attractive. Stones were also gathered together and piled along the edges of fields. Some were used in building foundations for houses and barns.

By 1900 the earliest log structures were replaced with buildings of lumber. Timbers were hewn out of hardwoods and the siding and roof boards sawed from hemlock and pine. Cedar shingles were often hand hewn. All of the construction required many hours of hard labor.

Horses were very important to the progress of the pioneers. They were valued highly as they provided power and transportation, but inventions soon began to develop which lightened the work of both the farmer and his horse.

The early one and two cylinder kerosene and gasoline tractors were replaced with Fordson and McCormick-Deering tractors. Silos were erected and filled with the use of corn binders and silo fillers. The corn field chopper is a more recent improvement.

When electricity came to the scene in the early 1920's, many more changes took place. Cows could be milked by machine, milk cooled, water pumped, barns cleaned, silos unloaded, and cows were kept from straying with electric fences.

An 80 acre farm soon became obsolete. Farmers expanded by buying more land, increasing and improving their dairy herds. Many farmers in Maine township own fine herds of Purebred cattle today. Stumps and stones have disappeared. Fields are strip cropped, rotated and contoured to make wise use of the fertile soil.

We live in the heart of America's Dairyland and are grateful to our courageous forefathers whose ingenuity and determination has provided us with a rich heritage of the best in the agriculture business.

This complex business has never been easy but farmers are a determined group. They will continue to supply this nation with needed food and fiber so necessary to the factories and industries of our land.

Ervin Saeger was named Farmer of the Year in 1955 and John Stubbe merited this award in 1969.

Rose Skic, 19, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Skic was named Marathon County's June Dairy Princess. She helps her family manage their 110 Holstein and large acreage of farm land in the Town of Maine.



Raising a log barn.



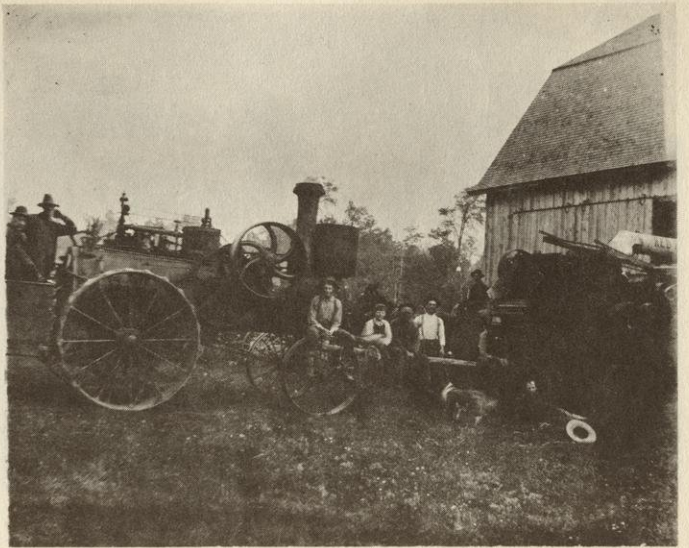
Barn raising which took place on the Fred Scharbius farm in 1901. This is now the Clarence Utech farm. Note the christening crown on top.



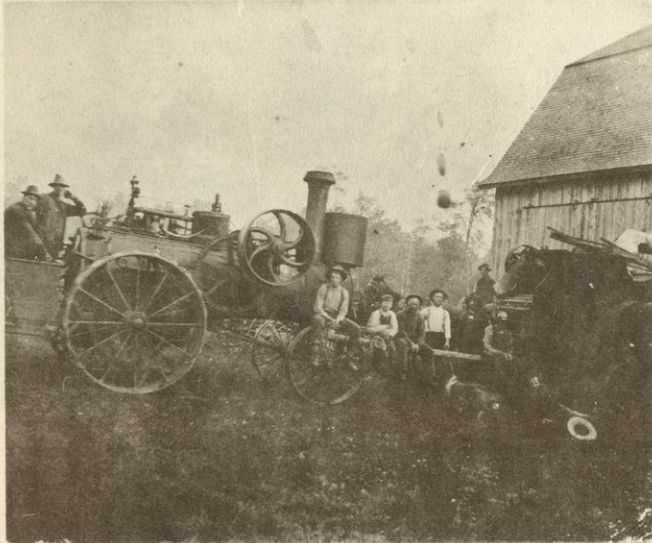
The same barn in 1912. Arthur Utech holding the horses. His wife Martha (Scharbius) and daughter Edna. His mother-in-law Wilimina Scharbius is nearest the buggies.



Note the leather thongs on the horses. Hopefully the switching would keep the horses from bolting with the load of hay, when the deer flies would bite.



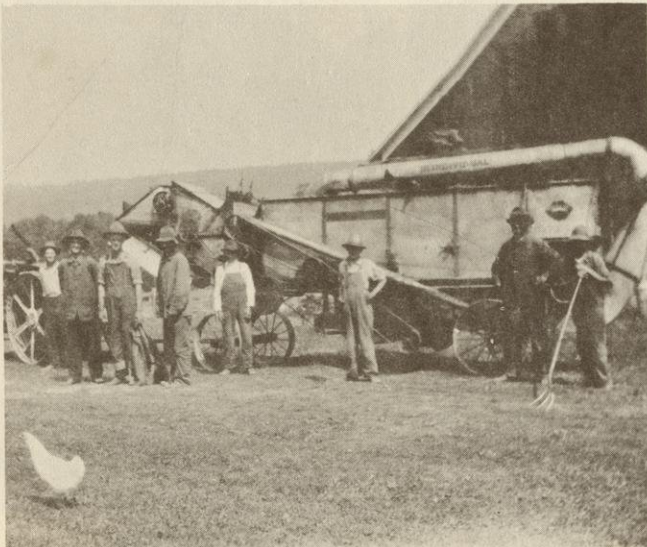
Emil Schlag with his steam engine and Red River Special threshing machine.



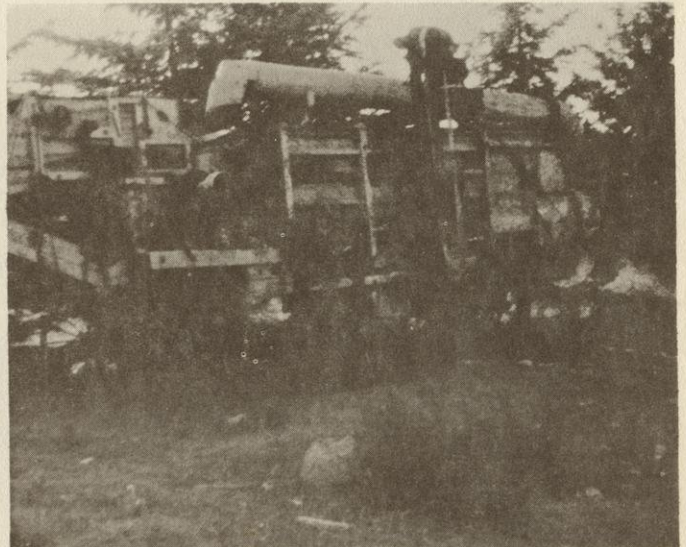
1913 Threshing Machine and Steamer



One of the first corn field choppers in this area, purchased in 1925. Clarence Utech driving the Fordson tractor and Robert Laatsch driving the team of horses to catch the chopped silage as it is delivered from the machine.



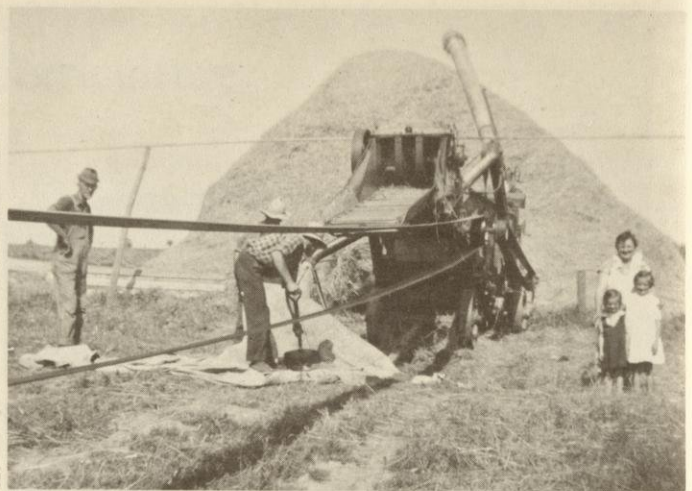
Victor Sturms threshing machine and crew.



Threshing Machine



A horse drawn corn binder, in 1942.



Threshing at Harry Sturms.
Left to right: Carles Bartelt, Victor Sturm, Mrs. Harry Sturm, Inez and Doris Sturm.



This baler, owned by Ervin Saeger, made round bales, in 1954.



Shocking corn.



Gerald Edmund Plowing Bee October 1961
October 28, 1961 - A day the Gerald Edmunds will long remember. Gerald had cut his leg with a chain saw, so the neighbors had a plowing bee and helped out. Carl Geau, Lawrence Neumann, Vilas Utech, Norman Marquardt, Walter Gutknecht (standing).

THE WITTER FAMILY

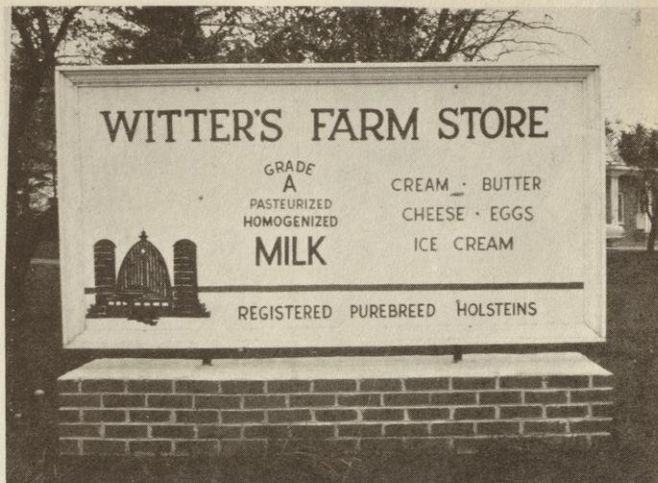
Five generations of the Witter family have lived in the Township of Maine. In November 1875, G.W. Witter, his wife and five year old son settled on land that was granted to him by the United States Government in payment for Civil War service. He had served as Second Lieutenant of Company "E", Forty Third Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer infantry. The first land cleared for farming was east of the present farm. The original house still stands.

About 1880, he started the first retail dairy business, delivering milk from a horse-drawn wagon. As he drove down the streets, ringing his bell, housewives came out and milk was measured into their containers. He taught school in the winter months, and was one of three teachers in the two classroom school that was built in 1880. He served as principal of Wausau High School from 1884 to 1886. G.W. Witter was not only a community leader, but a progressive agricultural man. In 1900, the Governor of Wisconsin, Edward Schofield, appointed him a delegate to the Farmers' National Congress held in Colorado Springs, Colorado. He was one of the first to own registered cattle and to have a state tested herd.

About 1900, the present farm site was purchased from the Gorman family, and G.W.'s son, Harry and his wife Ruby, their six children, Jere, Earl, Pearl, Grace, Emma and Lawrence moved there. Pearl Witter Derbick still resides on some of the original land.

In the early 1920's, Harry's son Earl joined in the farm and dairy business. A dairy plant was built and operations were more mechanized. A truck had replaced the horse and wagon for delivery and glass bottles were used. In 1929, the dairy barn burned during harvest. The barn was rebuilt and is the one used today.

After Harry's death in 1931, Earl and his wife Gertrude bought the farm and dairy. These were depression years, and it took long hours of hard work to make the



farm pay. Earl was a graduate of the Marathon County Agricultural School. He helped area farmers sign up for the Soil Conservation Program and served as Town Chairman for many years. He helped organize a local cooperative and served on the Town School Board. There were four children, Eugene, Grace, Dolores and Clark. Because of Eugene's interest in the farm and dairy, a pasteurizer was installed in 1948.

In 1955, Eugene, the fourth generation, purchased the entire operation and moved to the farm site with his wife and family. There were three children, Christine, Scott and Tom. The farm and dairy continued to grow and modernize, and in 1964, city milk delivery was discontinued and all the milk was sold on the farm in a self-service store. Pasteurized and homogenized milk was being sold.

At the present, Scott and Tom are incorporated with their parents in the farm and dairy. They are the fifth generation of Witters to be active in dairy farming and milk retailing, and in this bicentennial year of 1976, their story has yet to be written.



Clar-A-Lin Vigo Gal Lori, is an example of the fine purebred cattle, in the Town of Maine. She is owned by Clarence Utech and was the Jr. Champion in the District Black and White Show, in 1970.



YOUNG FARMER — GOOD FARMER

Not a BIG farmer, but a good one.

That's the story of John E. Stubbe, named young farmer of the year October 16, 1969 at a farm-city dinner sponsored by the rural affairs committee of Wausau Area Chamber of Commerce. Choosing the young farmer of the year is an annual project of the Wausau Jaycees.

Stubbe bought 84 acres of land from his father in May, 1960, after holding several city jobs. He and his wife, Marlene, decided it would be better to work harder and longer now while they are young - and build for the future.

Changes on their farm came rapidly. First the barn was remodeled and 12 tie stalls added. A new milkhouse was attached to the barn with bulk tank and related equipment.

The Stubbes also added a barn cleaner and tore down two old silos, replacing them with a new 20 by 40-foot structure with unloader and feeder.

Most of the farmland is strip cropped with diversions and erosion control. Stubbe put up all corn silage this year. He buys corn and concentrates.

There is some woods on Stubbe's land, mostly pine and maple. He does selective cutting on recommendations of the district forestry office. His father used to cook maple sap, but Stubbe has not gone into this operation.

The Stubbes are raising future hired hands - they have four boys, John, Mark, , Joel and Michael.





DEBORAH MOSER PLOG
MARATHON COUNTY DAIRY PRINCESS
ALICE IN DAIRYLAND

In looking back several years I find it both difficult and exciting to try and encapsulate the memories of the year spent as Marathon County Dairy Princess 1971-72 and then later as Alice In Dairyland 1972-73. Though both positions demanded different responsibilities and obligations, their ultimate goals were very much in line with one another. As I consider it now - the year spent as dairy princess was to serve as an excellent mini-preview of what was to follow as Alice.

I feel the clearest and briefest way to share those years with you would be to show how one position varied from the other. This involved going from:

- Promoting dairy products only one month of the year to a full time year long promotion position.

- Traveling in only one county area to traveling extensively over a state, as well as nationwide promotions in such places as: New York, Boston, Portland, Phoenix, Tampa, St. Louis, Cleveland, and Chicago.

- Promotions basically taking place in only banks and grocery stores, to a vast range of media promotions involving TV, radio, newspaper, public speaking at all levels, parades and fairs, and a variety of other activities and events.

In both cases, the positions required a salesgirl with a crown whose ultimate purpose was to add charm, dignity, and prestige to agriculturally related events; to help stimulate greater interest and advancement of agricultural products; to give special emphasis to youth groups in Wisconsin; as well as giving speeches on the status of Wisconsin agriculture. On a more personal basis, the positions involved becoming an integral part of teams composed of warm and sincere people who were also out to promote Wisconsin's finest resources and agriculture products.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to briefly share the experiences that I did have during those two very exciting years. They have served to lead me on to broader areas of interest in working with and for people. But no matter where in this country that I will be living, there will always be a special place in my heart for that part of Wisconsin that I will always call home.

Sincerely Yours,
Deborah Moser Plog



ROSE SKIC
1976 MARATHON COUNTY DAIRY PRINCESS

Rose Skic, 19, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Skic, Town of Maine, was named Marathon County's June Dairy Princess at a noon luncheon in June, 1976 at Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge. She competed against 13 other contestants.

Miss Janet Hein, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Hein, Stratford, was named runner-up. She received a \$25 savings bond, presented by County Clerk Raymond H. Ott.

Miss Skic, who has just completed a two-year course in farming and industry at University of Wisconsin-Madison, will enter University of Wisconsin-Platteville this fall.

"I love farming," she said after being crowned princess by Pam Heeg, the former princess.

The Skic farm is a family corporation, with all children stockholders. The family, which includes nine children, holds monthly meetings to discuss their operations.

The family farm has 110 Holsteins. Rose has won honors as a judge of dairy cattle. She was a former member of the Lincoln County Cups and Buckets 4-H Club and president of Wausau West Future Farmers of America.

Miss Skic received a check for \$250 for a new wardrobe, presented by Norman Zarnke, president of the Greater Wausau Retail Council; use of a 1976 Chrysler Cordoba loaned by Brickner Motors, Little Chicago, and a month's supply of gasoline, courtesy of Cloverbelt Cooperative Services, Wausau. Jim Kryshak Jewelers supplied the crown.

T.A. Duckworth, president of Wausau Area Chamber of Commerce, parent organization of the agri-business group which sponsors June dairy activities in Marathon County, lauded the 85,000 dairy cows in the county. "If the county were a state it would rank 15th in dairying," he said.

Gordon Gunderson, chairman of Marathon County Board of Supervisors, explained that the new princess would have an important job to do.

Wien Wildcats 4-H Club, under the direction of Mrs. Lawrence Wirkus, presented a short musical program.

Roger Deffner, chairman of the coronation luncheon, was master of ceremonies, and Dale Heise, chairman of the princess committee, introduced the contestants with Mrs. Joanne Leonard assisting. Elgis (Al) Berkman offered the invocation and benediction.

SOIL CONSERVATION

On January 11, 1957 the North Central Conservation Association was organized at the home of Al Berkman. The first officers were President Irwin Voelker, Vice-President George Lonsdorf, Secretary-Treasurer Rheinhard Zahn, Vernon Bahr, Maynard Christian, Clarence Mielke and Elgard Grell, Directors. This group has been very active promoting soil and water conservation. The areas included are the Towns of Maine Stettin, Berlin, Hamburg and Scott in Lincoln County. Other activities are an annual meeting and farm institute, at the Maine Town Hall. A summer picnic at Herman Rakow's cabin and various educational tours, another is a conservation trail.

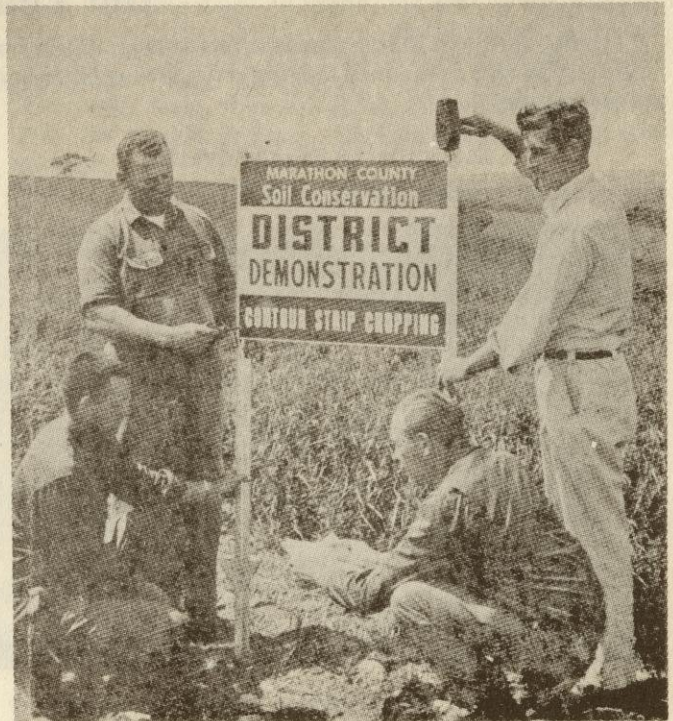
The name of the organization has since been changed and is now the North Central Watershed Association.

CONSERVATION TRAIL

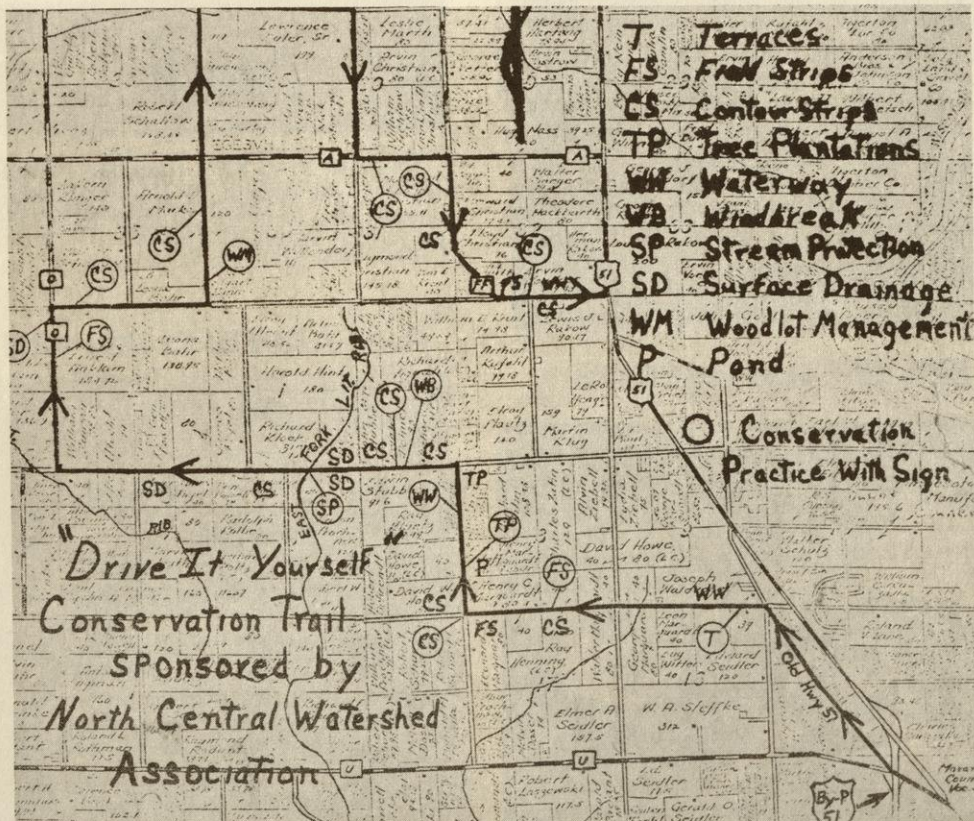
In 1967 Al Berkman, District Soil Conservationist, and formerly of the Town of Maine laid out a conservation trail in the rolling countryside north of Wausau which is the Town of Maine.

It allows the leisurely traveling motorist an opportunity to enjoy the scenery and at the same time observe farmland, soil and water projects. The trail utilizes the roads off the beaten paths of Highways 51 and K as it winds its way past watersheds, ponds, strip cropping, contour plowing and shelter belts. These practices are doing an excellent job of keeping soil and water where it belongs.

The trail is 15 miles long and gives one an extra special treat when traveled in the fall during Colorama time.



Placing of one Conservation Trail sign



Map of Conservation Trail

Family Farms 100 Years and More

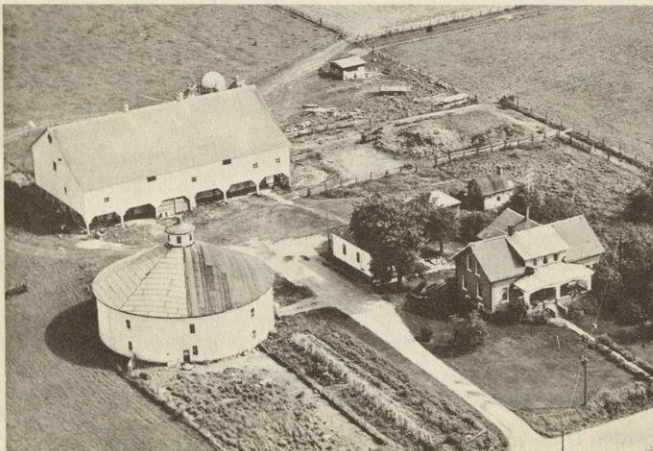
Twenty farms in Maine township have been in the family for 100 years or more. Since farming has been the leading industry in this area since logging days, it is with a great sense of pride and accomplishment that we list the names of these families.

ERVIN SAEGER FARM 1855-1976 - 121 YEARS



Ernest Koch Sr. purchased his farm from a soldier by the name of Ezekiel Flanders on March 3, 1855. A son Ernst Koch Jr. married Hulda Goetsch on May 28, 1889. There were three children, William A., Ella and Edward. They moved to Wausau in 1901, when the farm was then taken over by Ernst Koch Jr.'s sister, Ida, who married August Saeger on October 5, 1890. The five children that lived are: Willie, Edward, Paul, Martin and Alma. In 1920 Edward Saeger started to farm. He married Clara Steckling on July 3, 1920. Ervin, Reuben and Elmer were born to this union. In March 1950, Ervin Saeger purchased the family farm. He married Elvira Brunow on June 15, 1950. They are still living there at the present time. Their five children are: Marsha (Peterson), Lon, Debra (Lupton), Pamela and Todd. This farm has been in the family 121 years.

OTTO BEILKE FARM 120 YEARS



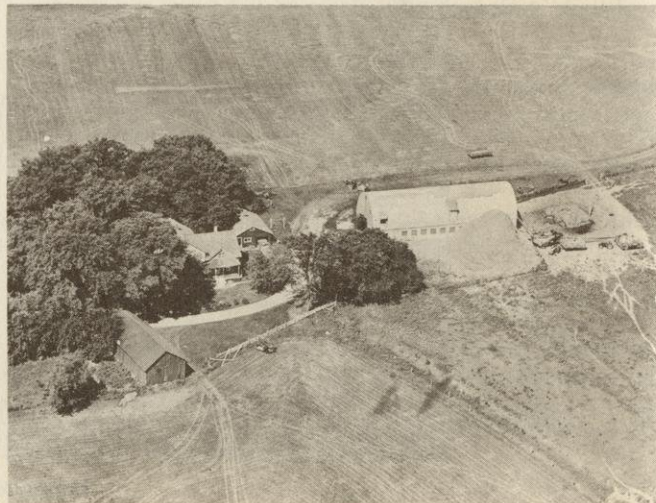
According to the Bible and gravestone John Gottlieb Beilke settled with his family in 1856. Gottlieb Frederick Wilhelm was married in 1879 when he was 27 years old and took the responsibilities of the farm. The house was built two years before he was married. The first barn was built in 1898 and the round barn was built in 1902. Leo Beilke took over the farm in 1918 and operated it until his son, Otto, bought it in 1953. Otto still farms with his wife and two children, Bobbie and Christine. The farm has been in the Beilke family for 120 years.

FRED HACKBART FARM 120 YEARS



In about 1856 Fred Hackbart purchased this farm. In 1894 it was bought by Henry Hackbart. Fred Hackbart bought the farm in the year 1934. They are still living there at the present time.

MARGARETTE KLUG FARM 119 YEARS



**DONALD SMITH FARM
1861-1976 115 YEARS**

George Schmidt bought his farm in Town of Maine. He changed his name to Smith, his wife never changed hers so when they died George was buried as Smith and his wife as Schmidt and that is how it reads on the gravestone today. Son Robert Smith was next descendant to the farm, then son Reno and wife Rose. At this time son Donald and his wife Darlene and family are farming.



JULIUS GOETSCH FARM 118 YEARS



Henry Goetsch bought this farm October 9, 1858. His son Carl took over in 1892 and farmed until his son Julius purchased it in 1942. Julius wife Della and son Harley are the present owners. It has been in the family 118 years.

**EUGENE DEHNEL FARM
113 YEARS IN 1863**



Ernest Felling sold his farm to Ernest Dehnel. His sons, Otto and Robert acquired it. Otto's son, Robert farmed until his son Ewald took over. Ewald sold to his son Eugene and wife Joan. They with their two children, Terry and Shelly are the present owners. It has been in the family for 113 years.

ROBERT SCHUETT JR. FARM 115 YEARS

Mr. and Mrs. Friedrich Schuett, Sr., of Milwaukee received the deed to the 80 acre farm October 15, 1861. They paid \$260.00 for the 80. The first deed was made out to James Single September 1, 1858.

On January 16, 1883, the land was deeded to their son Friederich George. He bought an additional 58 acres in 1902 from Henry Erdman.

On February 7, 1928, the farm was deeded to the son of F.G. Schuett and wife, Robert and Ruth.

Robert J. and his wife, Nathalie purchased the 138 acre farm December 31, 1961 and are the 4th generation owners. It has been in the family 115 years.



HANNEMANN ESTATE 1863-1970

Johan F. Beilke of Marathon County, Wis. to Henry (Heinrich) Hannemann, February 24, 1863.

Henry Hannemann died July 23, 1882; and willed it to his wife, Ernstein Hannemann.

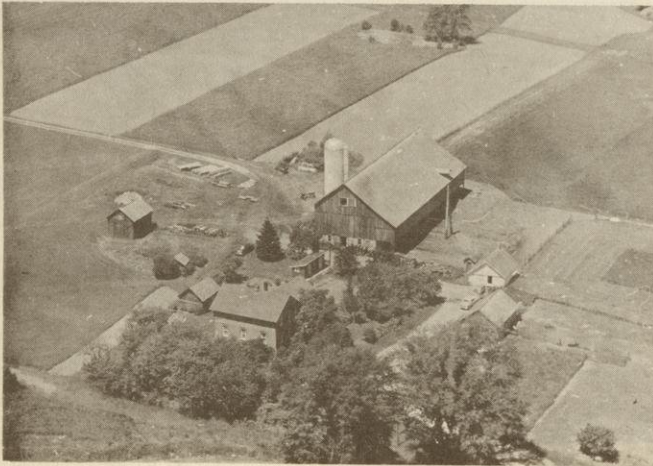
August 25, 1890, Ernstein Hannemann willed it to William Hannemann. That he would furnish her with a

suitable dwelling room in his own dwelling house, also a little cellar, 1 sq. rod of garden ground near dwelling house, and deliver to her whenever demanded the following (certain food stuff), \$15.00, one (1) cow, and food for the same, and also household and kitchen furniture.

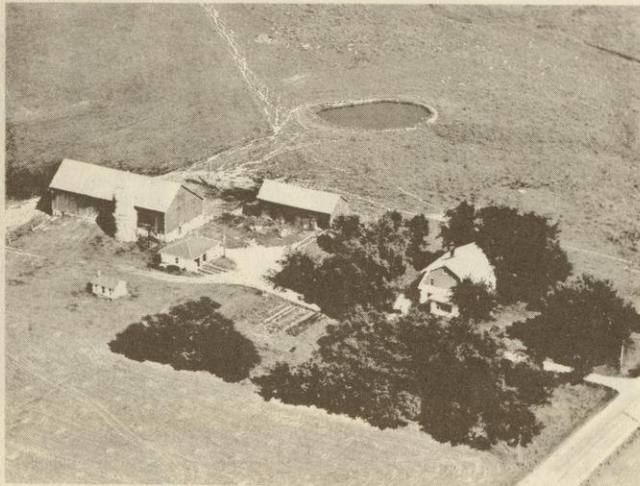
October 7, 1927, William Hannemann and Ida Hannemann willed it to Herbert Hannemann.

September 24, 1948, Herbert Hannemann died and on March 11, 1949 Dorothea Hannemann, his wife, was then full owner.

January, 1970, farm was sold to Eugene and Lucille (Hannemann) Fox, his wife.



ZIEBELL HOMESTEAD 112 YEARS



On Nov. 24, 1864 Friedrich Ziebell purchased a 40 acre homestead (located, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 8, Township 29 North Range 7 East) from Herman and Sarah (wife) Miller at the cost of \$75. Approximately one year later (Dec. 30, 1865) he purchased an adjacent "40" (NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 8) from Charles Shuter for \$100.

Through the one hundred and twelve years from the initial purchase to the present, ownership of this land has remained under the Ziebell name - the progeny of Friedrich Ziebell. The transfer of ownership since Nov. 24, 1864 is summarized as follows:

Friedrich Ziebell to Carl Ziebell, April 23, 1878.

Carl Ziebell and his wife* Alvina to Erwin Ziebell, September 17, 1915.

Erwin Ziebell and his wife Lydia to Alwin Ziebell and

his wife Adeline, January 24, 1947.

Alwin and Adeline Ziebell, present ownership.

Also during this time (on April 8, 1903) Carl and Alvina Ziebell sold a small portion (3 rods x 13 rods x 3 rods) of the "80" to Robert Howe, upon which he constructed a home. Thereafter, this portion remained part of the Howe homestead, presently owned by David Howe (Robert Howe's grandson).

The buildings on the 1864 homestead were of log construction, later replaced by a brick home (in 1904) and other farm buildings of sawed lumber, mortared rock walls and log beams and rafters. The present two story colonial type house was constructed after the brick home burned in 1934.

Another event of historical interest was the leasing (on Sept. 26, 1885) of a "parcel of land" (approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ acre) by Carl Ziebell and his wife Bertha. This parcel was leased to the School District of the Town of Maine to be used for "school purposes only" over a 99 year period. On Jan. 2, 1886 Ferdinand Nickel was contracted by the Town of Maine (District No. 1) to construct a "28 x 40 ft. and 14 ft. high" wood frame school house. He was paid \$675 for labor and materials and \$5 extra "for moving the out house". Students came for classes in this Church Hill School until 1959. It was used for other school district purposes until 1974 at which time the land was transferred back to Alwin and Adeline Ziebell (under terms of the original agreement).

Alwin Ziebell purchased and disassembled the building (for lumber) in 1974.

This briefly summarizes the history of the Ziebell homestead from the time of purchase in 1864 to the present United States Bicentennial Anniversary year, 1976.

*Carl Ziebell married Alvina after the death of his previous wife, Bertha, in 1889.

GOETSCH FARM 111 YEARS

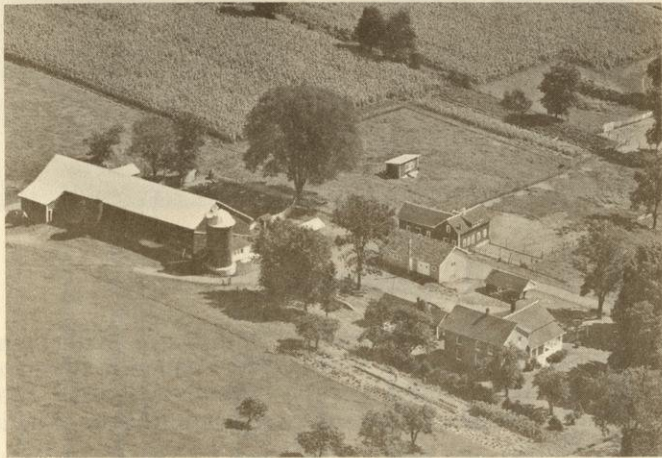
Herman Goetsch bought this farm in 1865. It was then purchased by Richard Goetsch in 1900. In about 1935 it was bought by Herbert Goetsch. Rodney Goetsch, a nephew, purchased the farm July 22nd, 1976. He married Barbara Gebarowski on April 28, 1963. They have three children. Rodrick, Richard and Raquel. This farm has been in the family 111 years.



Left to right; Herman Goetsch, Bertha Goetsch, Richard Goetsch, Bertha Goetsch, Otto Goetsch, Albert Goetsch, Emil Goetsch, Jacob Steidtman, in buggy Alma Nuegent.

JAMES MARQUARDT FARM 111 YEARS

Under the Homestead Act of Congress of 1862, Fredrick and Carolina Marquardt acquired their home farm in 1865. Fredrick owned it for 31 years. Then his son Henry Marquardt, Sr., took over the farm in 1896 and owned it for 42 years. In 1938 Henry Jr. and his wife, Dora took over and owned it for 25 years. James and his wife Lynn took over the farm in 1963 and are the present owners. It has remained in the Marquardt family for 111 years.



Paul Radtke married Mary Duman and they continued to farm with Carl. The present house was built in 1911. Carl and Mary had one son, Walter. He took over the homestead in 1938. He bought the first tractor to be used on the farm. He also had a large grain separator which he used to help the neighbors with their threshing.

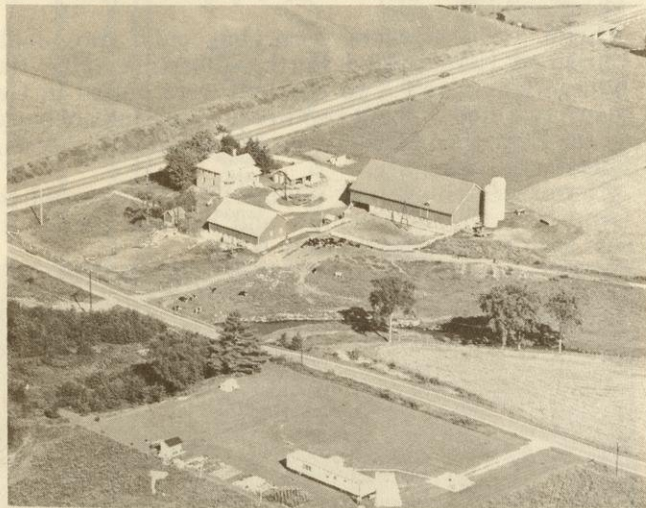
In 1961 David and his wife, the former Bonnie Nass continued farming the land. They have 3 children, Donna, Donald and Daryl making it home for 5 generations.

RAKOW FARM 110 YEARS



United States Land Grant to Jonas Knight, a private in Captain Mahoney's Company of the Maine Militia, War of 1812, to Henry Maas, April 2, 1857. Henry Maas to Fred Rakow, February 1866, Fred Rakow to Lewis Rakow, May 1936. Former Wm. Sense farm acquired in 1944. Lewis Rakow to John Rakow, September 1969.

DAVID RADTKE FARM - 110 YEARS



The great-great-grandparents of David Radtke, the Carl Duman's left Pommerania, Germany for America in 1865. They arrived in Wausau, Wisconsin June 24 of that year.

Fred Boernke, who owned land near Tagesville, met the family and took them to his place. They stayed until the Knies family invited them. They lived there temporarily helping neighbors Erdman's, Schmidt's and Schult's cut grain, thresh and do their fall plowing.

In the fall of 1866, Carl Duman purchased 40 acres of land for \$50.00. Another 40 was purchased in 1867 for \$130.00 which lay on the west side of the road. A bridge which is over 100 years old still stands over the little creek just north of the present farm buildings.

An adjoining 80 was purchased next and was located east of the original piece but was later sold to Ollman's.

All the land was heavily forested. Trees were cut down for their log house and barn. Land was cleared and farming began by 1904 when the present barn was built.

ALBERT STECKLING JR. FARM 110 YEARS

August and Agusta Steckling started farming in 1866. A son, Albert purchased the farm June 7, 1893. He married Louise Baumann. Their children are: Elsa, Flora, Ida, Harry, Hugo, Hertha, and Erna. Albert's first wife died and he later married Agusta Fritag on Nov. 1, 1914. Their two children are Albert Jr. and Adeline. Albert Jr. bought the family farm in the fall of 1936. On Oct. 11, 1941, he married LaVila Porath. Their children are: Beverly (Bauer), Joyce (Teeples), Lorraine, Carol (Floyd), Julaine (Laak) and Audrey.

The farm has been in the family 110 years.



ELROY PLAUTZ FARM - 106 YEARS

Albert Plautz and the former Charlotte Woller came from Germany, cleared land and built a log house on the present location. They had four children, Otto, Albert, Jr., Frank and Marie. Frank Sr. farmed until his death at age 56 when Frank Jr. and his wife Margaret worked the farm for the past 50 years., Their only son, Elroy, is the present owner.



DAVID BEILKE FARM

1873-1976 104 YEARS

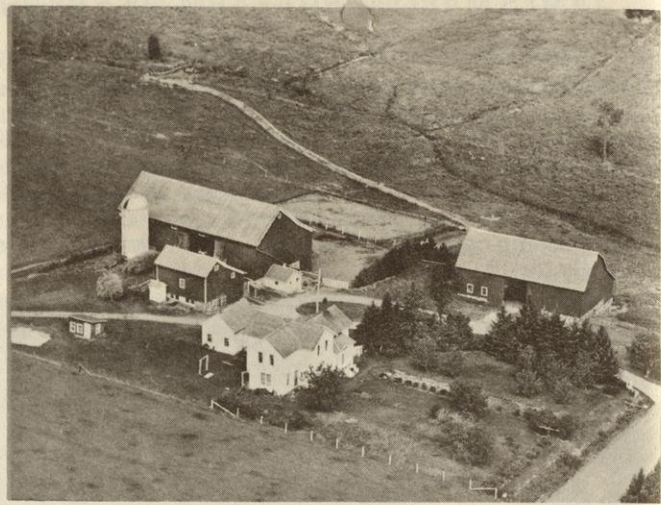
Herman Beilke bought his farm May 18, 1872, for \$370 from Herman Greuel, Son Albert Beilke then farmed until son Alfred took over. At the present time son David is the farmer.



ARVIN CHRISTIAN FARM

1873-1976 103 YEARS

William Christian and wife Sophia (Dennis) bought their 80 acres of land on April 15, 1873. His son Otto and wife Emma (Klutz) were married November 12, 1913, the farm was signed over to them March 22, 1920. They farmed until Otto's death. In 1960 son Arvin and wife Joyce became owners.



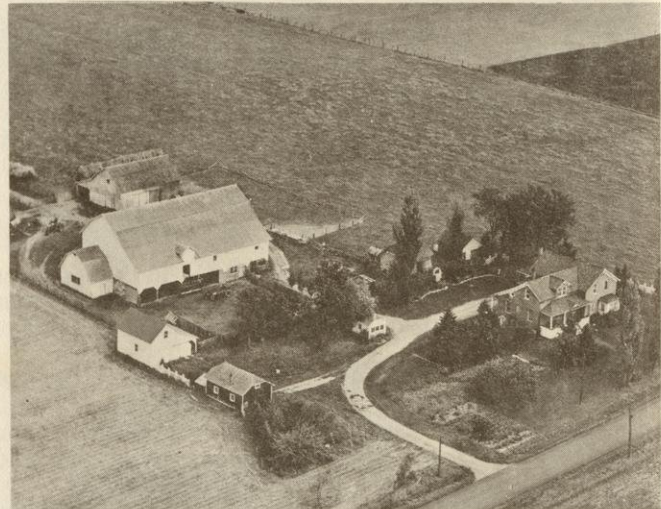
STREHLOW

Johan Ferdinand Strehlow and Maria Wilhelmina Scharwz, both born in Wandhagen, Pommern, Germany in 1830 were married there on November 19, 1856. They came to America in 1865 to what is now Slinger, Wis., in the fall.

The spring of the next year, they came to Wausau and lived in a school house on the west side for a little while, before moving to a farm now owned by Walter Emmerich, in the Town of Berlin. They sold this farm in 1873 and moved to their present farm in the Town of Maine, in 1873.

Eight children were born, but only two, Johan Christoph Herman and Bertha Albertina, (Mrs. Carl Krueger), survived. Two children were buried in Germany, two died at about two weeks of age and are buried on the Emmerich farm. Twins are buried in the Fromm Cemetery in Hamburg.

Herman Strehlow and William Strehlow owned the farm. Now Gerald Strehlow and his son, Daniel, live here with William Strehlow.



EUGENE WITTER FARM

1875-1976 101 YEARS

The Witter farm has been in the family since November 1875 which makes five generations of farmers. Today it is known as Witter Dairy. A complete story of a new dairy agriculture business is included with the agriculture story, also a picture.

The State of Wisconsin

Century Farm or Home Ownership Certificate

Mrs. Dorothea Hannemann Bergelin

HAVING PRESENTED PROOF OF PRESENT OWNERSHIP OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED
IN MARATHON, COUNTY, WISCONSIN, AND, WHICH PROPERTY WAS ACQUIRED
BY HENRY HANNEMANN IN 1863 AND HAS SINCE REMAINED
IN CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP IS AWARDED THIS

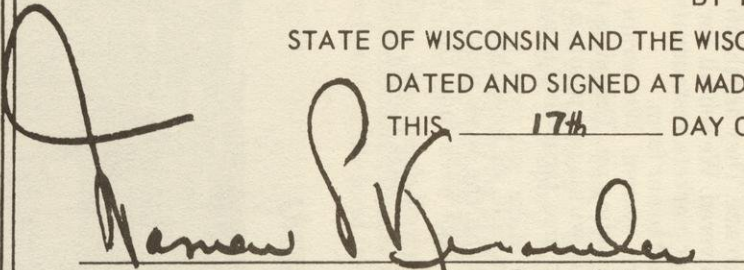
Century Ownership Certificate

BY THE

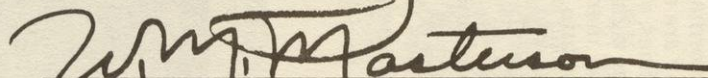
STATE OF WISCONSIN AND THE WISCONSIN EXPOSITION DEPARTMENT

DATED AND SIGNED AT MADISON, WISCONSIN

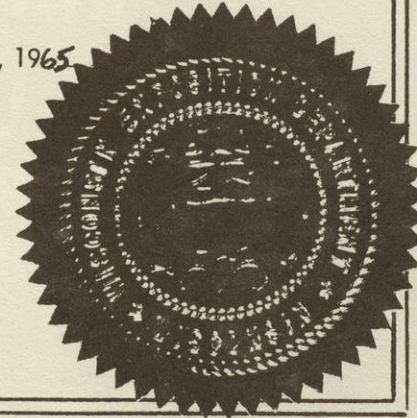
THIS 17th DAY OF AUGUST, 1965



Governor, State of Wisconsin



Manager, Wisconsin Exposition Department



Diversified Farming

WHITE WING EGG RANCH



Our egg business got underway in January of 1963, with a barn of 3,000 chickens. That seemed like a lot but in the fall of the same year the demand was there for more eggs so we built another barn, housing 4,000 chickens. It wasn't long before we were again outselling our supply so another addition was put on to the house for another 6,000 chickens. Since then we've added on to the other barn so we now have a total of 21,000 layers.

We buy our pullets when they are twenty weeks old and they start laying eggs soon. They are divided into six groups and each flock is kept for a twelve month laying period. By rotating these six flocks, we are able to have a steady supply of eggs.

The chickens are fed with a feed cart once a day and the eggs are gathered twice a day, by hand, with a cart. An experienced worker can gather 2500 eggs an hour.

All the eggs are washed, candled for cracks, blood spots and graded according to size. They are then kept in a cooler until they are delivered. We sell all our eggs locally to several dairies, super markets, restaurants and individuals who come right out to our farm.

We have a liquid manure system. We scrape the manure once a week, into a holding pit. This pit is emptied out in the spring and fall, with a pump, into a tank truck and spread directly on area farms and is plowed into the soil immediately.

Besides my husband and myself, we have three part-time workers helping us during the week plus a high school boy who gathers the eggs week-ends. Our three boys also give us much help.

Mrs. Gerald Bauman

GINSENG



98% of the United States' cultivated ginseng comes from Marathon County. A portion of it comes from the Vondrasek beds, in the Town of Maine.



In the fall of the third year, there are sizable heads of red berries containing the seed.

History

Ginseng, otherwise known as shang, or seng was believed to grow only in Asia, however, when the early Americans pushed across the Appalachians it was found that wild ginseng grew in abundance, and was already being used as medicine by scores of Indians in America.

Ginseng was not dug for money in the United States until the depression in the 1930's at which time wild ginseng became rare from over-digging.

After this people found that ginseng could be cultivated if it had the proper conditions. Marathon County was found to be one of the likely places for cultivated ginseng. Today 98% of the United States cultivated ginseng comes from Marathon County, a portion of it comes from the Town of Maine.

The Growing Process

Ginseng is a perennial which when cultivated takes from 3-4 years to reach a diggable size. The seed of ginseng is first allowed to sit in moist ground for 1 year. After this it is planted in late summer to come up the next spring. When it does come up it must be weeded and sprayed to keep the ginseng from getting blight. Each year the plant dies down in fall and sends up more leaves each spring until at the fourth year the plant has about 12 leaves. In the fall of the third year there are sizable heads of red berries containing the seed. Finally the fourth year after the seeds are picked, the ginseng is dug, washed and dried. Then the buyers try to out due each other to get the prime ginseng.

Where, How, and For What Ginseng is Used

Ginseng is used mainly in China, however, it is found in most health food stores in this country and used to some extent in most foreign countries.

Ginseng comes in many forms such as powder, capsules, or as the whole root.

Ginseng is used for fatigue, to strengthen the appetite and to aide digestion, for stomach aches, and colic, as a poison antidote, as a stimulant to the human system, to regulate high blood pressure, for diabetes, for the eyesight, for headaches and for the back.

STATE ORCHARD

An experimental orchard was established on 10 acres of the Jacob Gensman farm in 1897. This land, rented by the state on a long-term basis, was planted to apples, plums and cherries.

Soil tests were made to help determine whether Marathon County soil was suitable for apple trees. The experiment proved that the soil and the climate were suitable for profitable apple growing. The farm, including this orchard, was later owned by Ed Gensman and is presently owned by Mrs. Wesley Steffke.

Mrs. Gertrude K. Witter

MAPLE SYRUP

There is much hard maple in the area. In the early days, there was a real need for the maple syrup to be used as a sweetener, to take the place of sugar.

The first sap buckets were made of hollowed out chunks of logs. The spouts were carved out of wood. The wooden bowl would be placed on the ground and when the season was over, it was tipped upside down by the tree and left. They would develop cracks and so a rag would be stuffed in the crack in the spring. Later a spout was made of metal and driven under the hole drilled in the tree. The buckets were made of wood staves and after they were soaked, held the sap pretty well. Many varieties of cast spouts followed as did the tin pail, which hung from the spout but rusted badly. The galvanized pail was a great invention.

First the cooking was done in a big iron kettle over an open fire. Later the long flat pan took its place and a stone wall was built to contain the fire.

After the highway went through and people were going north for the summer, a market was found for selling the syrup. Many farmers bought evaporators which could cook the sap down faster and a larger crop could be realized, if the weather cooperated. The selling of the syrup has proved to be an excellent cash crop and many do and many have taken advantage of this natural product.



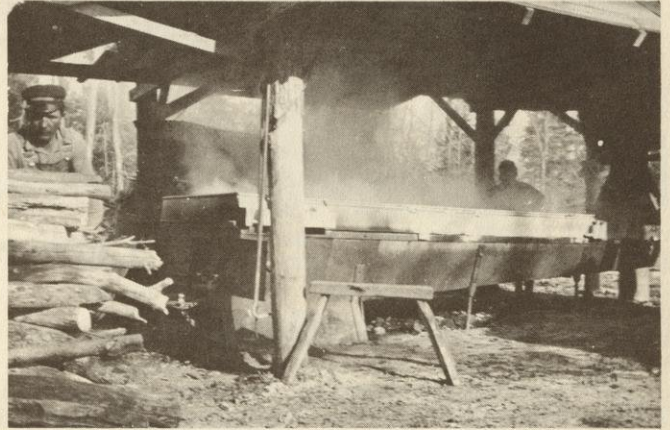
Adeline Utech with team and barrel on skids, gathering maple sap.



Raymond Zastrow washing the cooking pan and Arvin Zastrow and the horses waiting to go home with a can of syrup.



Donald Nass, Allen and Arvin Zastrow getting water from the spring for washing pans.



Reno Zastrow putting another log on the fire to keep the evaporator steaming.

HONEY

John Marson kept 124 swarms of bees near his saloon, 5 miles northwest of Wausau. Bees do well in northern Wisconsin, if properly handled. Their food is abundant, coming from the white clover, basswood, buckwheat, and other flowering plants that produce pleasing nectar and pollen. The bees have to be kept in a house or cellar, in the winter.

Theo. Hackbarth kept many hives of bees and sold the honey commercially. He received many awards for his fine honey, at the local fair.



John Marson and his bee hives, in 1895.

FUR FARMING

Fox Farms

Mr. Herbert Wiedow related his experiences in the fox fur business. His business started with 4 pair of foxes in 1929 and increased until he had 75 pair. For 15 years his business continued until fur styles changed and fox pelts were of little demand.

250 fox pelts were sold during a good year and brought about \$50.00 per pelt. However, prices dropped to \$16.00 per pelt so raising foxes was discontinued.

\$25 to \$30 a year was the cost of feeding a fox. Horse meat was a necessity in those days for feed . . . using a "hog" or meat grinder to prepare the meat was some job, but this machine saved time and money as a whole carcass could be put through the grinder in 3½ minutes, pulverizing bones and all. Any surplus meat was sold to other fur farmers in the area.

On a memorable trip to St. Paul in a Model A Ford truck at 5:00 o'clock a.m. with a load of pelts tied under a white sheet in the back, there was motor trouble and the truck quit. Not knowing what to do, the pelts were unloaded and taken to a nearby field about 300 feet from the truck and again covered with the white sheet. A search for help was made. It was daylight by the time help arrived. The pelts were still covered in the field. Soon the truck was repaired and the trip to St. Paul's Fur Market completed. \$2,000 was received for the load.

Mink Farming

Mr. Lawrence Schult is the only known mink farmer in the Town of Maine at the present time. His business started in 1940 with a few pair of mink and has enlarged his operations through the years. He is employed at the Fromm Fur Farms in Hamburg township where his interest in the business began.

Cheese Factories

CHEESE FACTORIES BEGIN

Some farmers began making cheese as early as 1880. When cows produced more milk than could be used daily, it was turned into cheese. In a small building or basement area, the family went to work to produce the first cheese in this locality.

Fred Imm made cheese in the basement of his home, now owned by George Schafer. Martin Beilke made brick cheese at home also. Gottlieb Beilke may have been the first milk man in the Town of Maine. He had a route, selling his homemade cheese and butter. He expanded his business by purchasing milk from his neighbor, Robert Smith.

As his business grew, Beilke installed a vat, boiler, steam engine with a steam whistle and other necessary equipment. It still stands today on the Otto Beilke farm located on 60th and Naugart Drive.



Building used for cheese making, still standing on the Otto Beilke farm, at 60th and Naugart Drive.

CHEESE MAKING

In the early years, each farmer would haul his own milk to the cheese factory. This meant getting up early to finish the milking in time to get the milk to the factory by 8:00 a.m. If there were stragglers, the cheesemaker blew his steam whistle which could be heard for several miles. It was known to awaken any who overslept because of a wedding the night before.

As farmers drove their horses and wagons up to the intake, each unloaded his own milk into a large round tank. Those tanks held 500 pounds of milk. The milk was weighed and samples taken for butterfat content.

After that the milk was transferred to a vat which held four to six thousand pounds. Beneath the vat, a fire was built in a flue to heat water which was in a jacket around the vat.

A good fireman worked to get the temperature to 85 degrees and keep it there which was necessary to heat the milk for cheese making. Some factories had boilers that produced steam heat which circulated through pipes around the vat.

When all milk for the day was in the vat and had been heated, the "starter" was added. Starter was a raw milk culture needed to get the milk to turn more acid. The acid content was checked and rennet added to start coagulation of the curd.

Early cheesemakers had to make their own rennet which came from the stomach of calves. Next coloring was added.

By this time, the milk had turned to a thick mass and was then cut with curd knives and stirred with long handled wooden rakes. The curds separated from the whey which was drained off and stored in a large holding tank.

The curds were cut into slabs, washed and left to drain the remaining whey off, then were matted down to a certain acidity content and put through a hand operated curd mill.

The next operation was to spread the curd over the vat and work by hand until all excess moisture was gone. Salt was added and curds were placed in cheese hoops, dressed with cheese cloth bandages and placed in a press overnight.

The cheese was then taken to a curing room for aging and storing which was about five days. It was then

taken to nearby towns for sale by the farmers. They'd load the cheese, haul it by horse and wagon and return to the factory with supplies of cheese boxes, salt and cheese cloth. The patrons were required to do this for free.

Early cheesemakers had no electricity so all water needed had to be pumped by hand. Factories closed in winter as milk production dropped due to little more than families needed for their own use. So cheesemakers and farmers worked in the woods for needed cash. Before the winter closing each farmer had a five pound cheese made for use during the winter months. Farmers skimmed cream from milk during the winter and made their own butter.

The whey was often taken home by farmers and used to feed pigs and chickens. What wasn't used in this way often drained down roadside ditches and into creeks. It could be smelled a mile away. More and more patrons discovered that whey was excellent pig feed. Those who arrived first with their milk filled their empty cans with it. Those arriving later often received little or none so the cheesemaker solved this problem so each patron would get a fair share. Later a cream separator was installed which separated the cream from whey. This was sold to butter factories and other feeds replaced whey for pigs.

When electricity came along in 1926, the work load was lightened, but the boiler still needed to be kept in firewood. A huge wood pile was needed. Many rural factories went out of business or were purchased by larger city operators. Laws governing cheese production also changed operations. One law required cheesemakers to keep their cheese six weeks before selling. Storage space and refrigeration added to the expense.

As production increased, cheese making continued through the winter months on an every other day basis. Farming continued to expand and cheesemaking became a year around job seven days a week just like the milking process has always been.



Cheese factory located east of the Church Hill School.

CHEESE FACTORIES INCREASE

One of the earliest known factories to make cheese was located across the road from the old Church Hill School.

John Groff built his factory in 1895 on the corner north of the school where H. Behrendt now lives. Reno Zahn bought the factory in 1906 and moved it across the road where C. Nass now lives. Mr. Zahn operated the cheese factory until 1917 when he sold it to Kleinheinz who operated a dairy in Wausau. George Goeden and Robert Ott were cheesemakers.

In the year 1907, two acres of land were purchased from August Saeger for \$30.00 a acre. The foundation was made in the fall of that same year by Wm. and Otto Woller, who charged \$1.50 a day. Wm. and his father,

Julius Woller, hauled 2,000 feet of lumber to Merrill to be dressed. He hired a carpenter by the name of Mr. Borchardt at \$1.50 a day. May 8, 1908 was the big day that the factory went into operation with a grand total of 670 pounds of milk, which made three singles at about 21 pounds apiece. When September rolled around, the cheese making was completed for the year.



Cheese making was again begun on May 2, 1909. On that day, there was so much snow that the farmers had to bring milk on sleds. Then by October of that year, cows ran out of milk and cheese making was halted. Back to the woods for Wm. for extra cash. 1910 was a poor year, due to the lack of rain. As the production of cheese increased, everyone in the Woller family had to help. During the summer months, 10,000 pounds of milk were made into 1,000 pounds of cheese per day. The factory was closed March 1, 1946, when they began to haul the milk to Stueber's Dairy in Wausau.

Mr. Woller was treasurer for Valley View School and was also the treasurer for the Town of Maine for many, many years. Mr. Woller was born on June 21, 1885. He died November 8, 1971 at the age of 86 and was one of the Town of Maine's distinguished citizens.

Doede Cheese Factory - Mr. Herman Meyer made brick cheese in this cheese factory located on Highway K next to the Albert Stackly farm in 1914 and 1915. He sold the business to Fred Imm who later sold it to Herbert and Herman Wiedow. Their specialty was cheddar cheese. Herbert operated the factory for just over one year.

Other cheese makers known to have made cheese at this factory include Mr. Grundman, George Schilz, Frank Combs (father of Mrs. Walter Rusch). Ben Doede became the owner in 1928.

Farmers began shipping milk to larger factories so this factory closed. The building had to be torn down when Highway 51 was being widened in 1953. The site is now the residence of Daniel Dupius.



Hillside Cheese Factory - owned by Ben Doede and Sons.

There was another cheese factory next to the Emil Rusch farm on Rainbow Drive. It was built in April of 1918. Mr. Herman Golz was the cheesemaker. After several years, the factory burned. Mr. Frank Combs was the cheese maker at the time of the fire. This factory was never rebuilt.

TAEGEVILLE CHEESE FACTORY

The cheese factory at Taegeville was a summer time or 6 month operation. Farmers would haul their milk to the factory each morning, except Sunday, with a horse and buggy. Cheese was made and put in wooden boxes, which came from a box factory, in Little Chicago. The patrons would take turns hauling the cheese to a warehouse in Wausau. In the winter, most of the cows were dry and what little milk there was, was used at home for making butter and feeding the pigs. In 1926 Page Milk, in Merrill, had trucks on the road and the cheese factory went out of business.

LUTHERS CHEESE HOUSE

This business began in 1955 on what was then Highway 51, north of Wausau. It is still located in the same place, but since the freeway opened in 1975, some tourist trade has been eliminated. However, many people acquainted with Luthers still patronize them. They have handled wholesale and retail orders for both carry out and mail order trade.

They handle a large variety of cheeses and sausages. Other gourmet items are available as well as gifts and maple syrup from local producers.

CHEESE 'N' MORE STORE



The Cheese 'N' More Store was first located in the front of the Wisconsin River Valley Cheese Inc., factory. It opened in the summer of 1970 and had three display cases holding approximately 20 Wisconsin cheese and some spreads and sausages.

While shopping, visitors could actually watch the cheese being made in the factory. Also, factory workers

were happy to double-time as clerks, chatting with visitors and filling orders.

This little cheese store became the favorite of more and more people. Soon available store space and even parking space just wasn't enough. It was time for a bigger location so in the summer of 1973, the Cheese 'N' More Store as we know it today, was built. It is one of the most unusual buildings in the state - a giant 50 foot cheddar. People enter through a large wedge cut out the side. Uniqueness continues inside with barnboard walls, huge timber beams, knotty pine counters and wagon wheel light fixtures, replicas of pioneer days.

Over 102 varieties of cheese are sold here - some made in the factory just next door and some imported from the farthest corners of the world. Wines, candies, crackers, dairy goods, novelties, and gifts have all been added. Also, this store has developed a mail order system for filling orders from all over the country and has begun distribution of its cheeses to stores in the Central Wisconsin area.

In a very short time this store has grown from a small in-plant shop to an exciting, unique store with a wide variety of quality products, a strong tourist trade, a mail order system and a distribution system to other stores in the area.

INOFOOD CORP.



It was in 1969 when three area cheese factories merged to build a new plant on 80 acres on the corner of County Trunk A and now County Trunk K. It was known as Wisconsin River Valley Cheese Company. The new cheese plant was opened on May 1, 1970. Cheddar and Colby were the two types of cheese first made, followed by many other types of domestic cheeses.

In the fall of 1970, a retail outlet was opened in the front part of the plant which also gave tourists and local people a chance to see cheese being made.

It was January, 1972 that Anco International from Stamford, Connecticut bought the controlling interest in the plant. Research and development of a spiced cheese was begun and first marketed in July of 1974 and it became known as Rondele.

This plant now produces Rondele exclusively with distribution throughout the United States and Canada with shipments to Australia and South America and in the near future to Mexico. The plant is now known as InoFood Corp. A new retail store was built in 1973 to replace the one that was located in the plant. It is called the "Cheese 'N' More Store" Inc.

Villages

Taegesville began in Maine township January, 1871 when a post office was officially established. Three churches were located nearby, a tavern, blacksmith shop and cheese factory opened for business.

The post office functioned for thirty years having been discontinued three different times before the final closing, October 15, 1901. It was originally named Maine with John Kufahl as postmaster but was discontinued two years later. It reopened February 9, 1879 with Carl Rusch as postmaster.

Carl Erdman was appointed postmaster January 17, 1881 but the office was again discontinued a month later only to be reopened August 2, 1882 with William Taege postmaster. Charles Tisch took over May 2, 1883 and held the post for five months. Then on October 26, 1883, William Kemrath received the appointment. Just one month later the office closed again and remained closed until May 29, 1884 when William Taege received the appointment a second time.

The name was changed from Maine to Taegesville on June 22, 1891 because so much mail intended for the State of Maine was being mis-sent there. Anna Taege was postmistress from August 21, 1901 to October 15, 1901 when the office finally closed with mail service coming from Wausau by rural route.

Brokaw - Even though this sleepy little village is not actually in Maine township, its history has had an impact on the lives of many who live in Town of Maine.

Since the new bridge crossing the river was completed in 1967 opening up the route W.W. to the west, Town of Maine feels even more attached to this village for many Maine residents work in the paper mill.

Opening the road to the west meant closing Brokaw School. There were over fifty students in classes by 1920 crowding into their three room school and overflowing into the Village Hall and library.

These students were bused to the Maine Elementary School in 1967.

The story of the beginning of Brokaw follows because it is typical of life in pioneer days throughout the Wisconsin river valley or wherever there was a paper mill. Brokaw had its beginning in 1899 when N.H. Brokaw, a prominent paper maker from Kaukauna, Wisconsin, heard of the excellent water power.

Ground was broken for the new factory July, 1899. Houses were built by the company and ready for people by November. Mrs. Raymond Opper was one of the first residents. Her father helped build the mill and occupied the first house.

On February 12, 1900, just seven months after construction, the mill turned out its first batch of ground wood pulp. The Village of Brokaw was incorporated and has been ever since.



Brokaw Paper Mill and dam.

Workers came from many places to work in the mill. They were of many nationalities. A large boarding

house and club house was built, including a barber shop, recreation area and rooms where men could live.

Frank Scholl bummed into Brokaw on a train July 4, 1910. He met a stranger who turned out to be a cousin whom he'd last seen in Europe. He took a job at the mill and continued there for over fifty years.

There were two saloons. One located across the river was called "Abe Liques Place". It could be visited by villagers only by walking across the dam. The stories told by old timers of those experiences might thrill or chill us. The other saloon was run by Simon Schaumburger. Prohibition closed them both.

About fifty company owned duplex houses and several small one family dwellings were set up on "Honeymoon Avenue". Once a year the company white-washed the houses and took the garbage away. Gardens extended to the cinder roads which ran by the front. Babies were born at home with a midwife assisting.

There was no fire or police protection. In March, 1914, the mill nearly burned to the ground. The only available truck was a horse drawn pumper from Wausau seven miles away.

On April 10, 1948 a fire destroyed the building housing the general store, library and village hall. A new one was built which included the post office.

The mill closed on Sundays for repairs and church was an important part of the day. The company built a Methodist Church in 1903. Lutherans held their services in the Village Hall. Much of the town was Catholic so once a month a priest from Wausau held mass for them.

Everyone from the country round went to Brokaw on payday. Sam Fox bought and sold rags, Mrs. Kemp sold apples, Mr. Koschman and Mr. Heigel, the butcher from Wausau, delivered groceries so everyone didn't have to buy from the company store. Another payday visitor was the Metropolitan Life Insurance agent who came to collect on the "nickel a week" policies that nearly everyone had.

The town had a jail, but it was never used. The same skeleton key that fit the jail, fit all the houses in town.

Brokaw was the first village to go over the top in the bond drive for World War I in 1918. A big parade with important state officials came to celebrate and erect a flag pole.

Things changed with the depression. By 1940, the Paper Mill Company began to install sewer and water. In 1948, the company sold the houses to the oldest person who lived in it. Many duplexes were converted to single family dwellings. Many people had to move out of town. Population fell from over 500 in 1930 to 380 in 1950.

The company ran a special two-car passenger train called "The Scoot" from Wausau to Brokaw to accommodate those workers on shifts. Passenger cars and good roads soon made that a thing of the past.

Now the company store is a modern office building. The church is a storage building and the school a print shop. Streets and alleys are paved. The library is a branch of the Marathon County Library system. A new village hall and fire station have been built. There is a park and playground for children.

Brokaw has moved from its quiet, secluded spot to a prominent place in the community of business and industry. The development and production of fine paper at the mill by an energetic company and people who are proud of their past and present. The new four lane freeway through Maine township has opened a whole new world to Brokaw and its future.

Industries

THE A B C's OF INDUSTRY

Maine Township

Bargain Bin
Birchfield Nursery
Bronsteatter's Carpentry Service
Cheese 'N' More Store
Corzalla's Service Station
Detjen's Body Shop
Fleet Farm Store
Furrer Motors
Goetsch Welding Shop
Henning Construction
Heritage Mutual Insurance
Housing Mart
Ino Foods
Joyce's Beauty Shop
Koenig's Certified Public Accountants
Lang Welding Service
Luther Cheese House
Lutz Sand and Gravel
Maine Super Market
Marathon Implement
Midstate Contracting, Inc.
Natraus Livestock and Shipping
Ollhoff Plumbing and Heating
Peninsula Construction
Polar Freeze Foods
Polka Twins (Kim and Phil)
Music for Anniversaries, Parties, Weddings
Russ Plumbing and Heating
Rhodes Enterprises
Urban Steel Building Construction
Valley Ford Farm Implements
VanDerGeest Livestock
Wausau Builders Lumber Company
Woller, James-General Contractor
Zastrow's Auto Pool

BLACKSMITHING

Gustav Stecklings Blacksmith Shop was erected before 1900. He made small tools for friends and neighbors. He sharpened saws and fixed any item that needed repair, sleds and wagons, even toys for children. He specialized in canthooks, a tool much in use during the logging days. Knives were also made from old saws.



Part of the shop was used for woodworking. Every spare minute was spent in making usable items for the home. Desks, chairs, pedestals and tables were needed and found a place of need.

Making walking canes was another one of his specialties. This required bending the wood and was done by first soaking it in hot water, then shaping it and fastening in the desired form. It had to be held in place securely until dry. This required much time and patience but provided chair rockers, sled runners, canes and other useful and decorative items for farm and home.

The original shop was torn down and a new one erected in 1909. It still stands today on the farm owned by Richard Gulke.

Karl Schield was born in Moetzelfitz, Germany in 1821. In 1852 he married Hannah Hackbarth. They came to America in 1856 and settled in Milwaukee.

He being a blacksmith by trade, started a shop there. In 1864 he was drafted to serve in the army the last 9 months of the Civil War.

He moved to Maine township in 1865 and purchased 40 acres of land from his brother-in-law, Fred Hackbarth where he started a blacksmith shop. He made his own coal from wood, horse shoes, cant hooks and many other needed tools and implements were made to supply the ever increasing demands of early pioneer people. He moved to Town of Scott, Lincoln County in 1873 and continued in the blacksmith business. The home of Dennis Woller on 60th Ave. now stands on the original site.

GRIST MILL

The foundation of an old grist mill, located on Rainbow Drive, close to the river, can still be seen. Little information is available except that it was owned by Julius Schmidt, whose granddaughter, now 76 years old, is Mrs. Harold (Goldie) Hanson who lives in Merrill.

This mill was known to have had a water wheel to power it. The tall building was moved to an adjacent farm and used as a granary.

The beams were purchased from Anthony Skic by Kenneth Goetsch and used as ornamental beams in the construction of their home in 1968.

Julius Schmidt was known as the "Sauer-Kraut King" because of the delicious sauer kraut he made and peddled with the help of his granddaughter from a four wheeled cart.

GARSKE BRICKYARDS

F.W. Garske came from Germany in 1860 looking for clay soil with which to make brick. He settled in the Town of Maine. Mr. Garske made brick until 1900, when his son, H.E. Garske, took over and operated the brickyards for several years more.

The old St. Michael's Church, the A. Kickbusch Company and the old Franklin School were made of Garske brick, as well as many area homes and taverns.

F.W. Garske visited Germany in 1863 and brought back with him Horse Chestnut seeds. The trees from these seeds are still growing on the original farm, now owned by Ralph Natarus, and also in the yard of his granddaughter, Ella Garske VanSlyke.

F.W. Garske died in 1932 at 90 years of age.

WAUSAU PAPER MILL

The Wausau Paper Mill came into being in 1899, when a prominent paper manufacturer, N.H. Brokaw of Kaukauna, Wisconsin, heard of the splendid water power available at what was then known as "Five Mile Dam" on the Wisconsin River. The great supply of wood suitable for paper making so close at hand also contributed to Mr. Brokaw's decision to secure an option to purchase properties for a mill site.

Articles of Incorporation were filed with the Register of Deeds on June 1, 1899. Capital stock was \$150,000. Work began at once to the surprise of the people in the surrounding area. This meant a ready market for wood being cleared from the land. Town of Maine property owners shared in the profits. Ground was broken July 12, 1899. Buildings were erected and just eight months later the first finished paper was turned out.

The paper on which this historical record is printed has been milled and donated by Wausau Paper Mill. The people of Maine Township appreciate this foresight, ingenuity and pioneering spirit that has so greatly contributed to the growth and prosperity of all of us.

Many people helped provide the labor. Business and industry have reaped untold benefits from this ever expanding enterprise.

In 1963 a new bridge crossing the Wisconsin River provided a west route to and from the Mill joining Highway WW to W on the east side of Brokaw and U.S. Highway 51 and K on the west. This route has opened the Town of Maine to expansion and a closer relationship to Wausau Paper Mill at Brokaw.

We sincerely thank you for your gifts and opportunities of service in making History happen here. .

Officers of Wausau Paper Mills for 1976

William V. Arvold-

President and Chief Executive of Officers

Wilbur P. Clarke-

Vice President Merchant Operations

Charles A. Hodgson-

Vice President Marketing

Wilbur W. Krueger-

Vice President Manufacturing

John L. Laughlin-

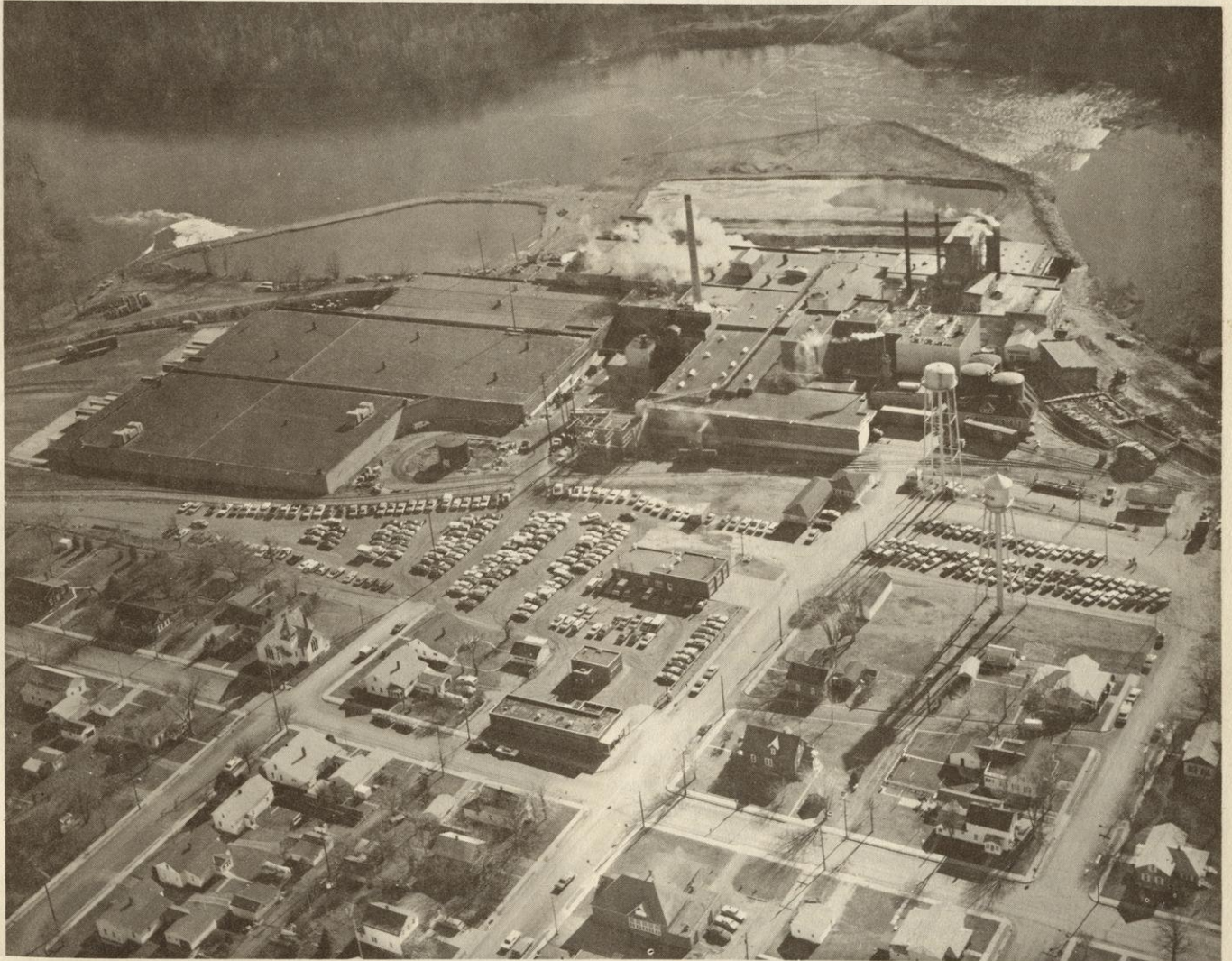
Vice President Administration

Malcolm M. Preston-

Vice President Finance and Secretary-Treasurer

Edward W. Karrels-

Controller and Assistant Treasurer



Brokaw Paper Mill

3-M COMPANY

Natural materials, from earliest times, have been used by man to put a roof over his head. Today's modern asphalt shingle combines some of man's oldest materials with advanced industrial technology.

For example, asphalt is one of the better waterproofing agents. Asphalt was used in building the Egyptian pyramids. Ancient records indicate Noah used asphalt in building the Ark.

But in historical terms, the 3M Company's entry into the home roofing market is just yesterday. Wausau is the site of the company's first roofing granule plant. That was in 1932. And the Town of Maine became important to the business about eight years later.

The granules had been produced from the quartzite out of Rib Hill near Wausau and processed at the downtown plant. But it became apparent this was not a satisfactory base rock. There was a need for a greater variety of colors and a more opaque granule.

Luckily, a satisfactory rock - called Greystone - was located about two miles north of the present Wausau city limits. A quarry was opened in 1940 and the rock was hauled to the downtown plant for crushing. It was a common site, to see the chain-driven Stirling trucks making their way between the plant and the quarry.

In the early 50's the crushing capacity at the downtown plant was being exceeded by the demand for rock. The solution to this problem was to build a crushing plant at the quarry site. Rock is reduced to about 1/4 inch which is then trucked downtown for final crushing and coloring.

The granules which leave the Wausau plant enter the asphalt shingle's manufacturing cycle at the third stage. Prior to that stage a felt backing has been soaked with asphalt. The backing is then coated with a heavier asphalt and finally, the granules are applied.

Thus the Wisconsin roofing granule facility has played a part in transforming America's drab rooftops of the early 1930's to a rainbow of 36 colors.

But color is only part of the story. Shingles with 3M's roofing granules protect against fire, wind, rain and snow. They're durable - as rugged as the quarry that gives them up to make a more secure, more comfortable home.

KOENIG & LUNDIN S.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

E.C. "Mark" Koenig started the practice of public accounting in 1951 having maintained offices in Merrill and Wausau.

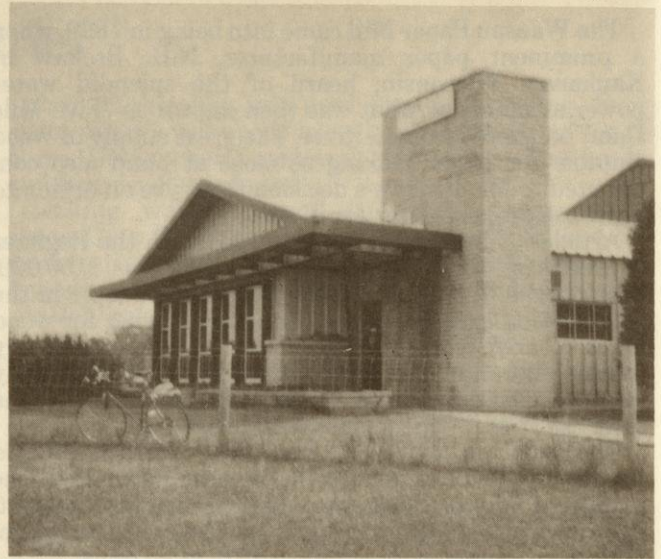
The combined offices became a reality in 1972 when the present rural building in the Town of Maine was completed.

The land on the corner of "K" and Dixie Avenue was acquired from Peninsula Construction Company and is directly across from Luther's Cheese. The total facility, improvements and personality of the property amounted to approximately \$175,000.00.

The major portion of the building is used for public accounting practice and a smaller portion is being leased to Heritage Insurance Company.

In November, 1975, Fred Lundin joined the firm. The staff consists of nine people, with three being Certified Public Accountants. The annual payroll amounts to about \$125,000.00.

URBAN STEEL BUILDINGS, INC.,



Urban Steel buildings, Inc. has been in business in the Wausau, Wisconsin area for 25 years. It has been located at the present location in the Town of Maine for over 21 years. The business consists of selling and erecting Butler Pre-engineered Buildings and allied products.

George H. Urban is the president and founder of the business and Marian R. Urban is the secretary.

Congratulations to the Town of Maine on your Centennial.

FURRIER MOTORS VOLKSWAGEN

About eighteen years ago the Autohaus, Inc., owned by Mr. Walter Short, was located in downtown Wausau. It was moved to its present location a couple of years later. Bruce D. Furrer purchased the business in 1966 and changed the name to Autobahn Motors, Inc. Around 1969 the name again was changed to Furrer Motors, Inc.

In March of this year, Mr. Robert Durdik purchased a half interest in the corporation. Mr. Durdik was from Kenosha, Wisconsin and Mr. Furrer from Green Bay.



MID-STATE CONTRACTING INC.

Mid-State was incorporated Feb. 1, 1970. It started with 13 employees at 1719 N. Merrill Ave. In June 1976 it relocated at 2001 Highway U with 14,000 sq. ft. of fabrication area and now employs approximately 70 mechanics year round.

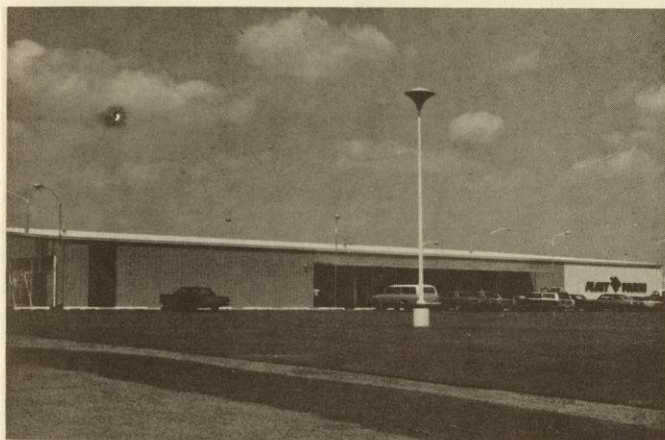
Mid-State is owned and operated by Clifford Anderson, James Fuller and Burnell Utecht. Mr. Anderson manages a branch in Marshfield.

The employees are skilled in industrial and commercial sheet metal fabrication, including stainless pipe fitting, air conditioning and mill wright work.

Through the years Mid-State has continuously performed services for paper mills throughout central and northern Wisconsin. They ship fabricated paper machine hoods to all parts of the U.S. including Venezuela.

They have done the heating, ventilating and air conditioning in many schools, hospitals and factories.

FLEET FARM



Fleet Farm, a farm oriented department store, moved to the Town of Maine, in 1966.

RED GRANITE WIS. STATE STONE

Quarrying for Wisconsin Red Granite in the Town of Maine, has come a long way since that first ledge was discovered in 1874. In 1895 this quarry (located on Maine Dr. off Hwy. K), was founded by Gustave E. Anderson, William N. Anderson and Charles E. Johnson. Today it is estimated to be about 5 acres in diameter and about 240 to 260 ft. deep. The stone in this quarry is known as Wisconsin Ruby Red.

There were several quarries in our Township, but as of today, there are only two in operation. The only other quarry being in operation was known as the Prehn Quarry, which is located at the end of Prehn Dr. off Hwy. K. The firm was established in 1925 by Arthur W. Prehn. After his death, members of his family took over the business until July 1, 1971, when Anderson and Johnson purchased this quarry. It is now known as the Rib Mountain Quarry. Though somewhat smaller, it has equally beautiful stone. It is about 1½ acres in diameter and about 150 ft. deep. The stone in this quarry is known as Rib Mountain Dark Red Granite.

Other known quarries were Renstum, Lake Wausau, Ollson (Milwaukee Granite), Deleno and Magnuson. These quarries were abandoned because they did not have the desired color.

It used to be an April to November operation, where now it is year-round one. Gone are the Striking Blast Crews where one man would turn a drill by hand while two or three men would alternately hit this drill with a large hammer. Wooden plugs soaked in water are no

longer installed in these holes so they would expand in the freezing temperatures and cause the rock to split.

Men who could put a hole in solid rock using a striking hammer in 4 or 5 minutes were professional drillers. Plugs and half rounds were put in the holes to split the granite. Today they can drill much deeper in less than a minute with little effort using their modern tools.

Air plug drills aren't around to freeze up in the winter. In the later years they had a boiler that sat next to the drill. This was moved about with the derrick so that they wouldn't have to use as much pipe to get the steam to the drill. Getting mill slabs to heat the air that would go through the pipes to the drill is obsolete. Air drills are still used today but are a lot more efficient. Hand powered drills are now replaced with automatic drills. Today chemicals are used in the air lines to keep the moisture from freezing. Steam drills were also used to make blast holes to be filled with powder. Electricity took the back-break out of many of these tasks.

The blacksmith shop too has changed. The forge and hammer were used to sharpen drills. The blacksmiths had to work with tempered steel. Today drills are sharpened with emery wheels and are made of carbide steel.

Loosening stones is now much faster; the burning method is used. Two men do this after working hours because of the noise the burner makes. Before they had the burner, they channeled openings into the stone.

Removal of the blocks was a laborious task. The horse that was used to walk in a circle to operate the winch, that would control the derrick, is no longer around.

A small portable tripod hoist, run by air, made the job of moving the chain of the derrick with its two large hooks, a lot easier. This job required the muscles of six men to move this chain about. To them this hoist was known as: "The Christmas Present."

Slow moving teams of oxen were used to haul the cumbersome stone blocks to the manufacturing plant. They were used only when the Wisconsin River was frozen solid. Their lack of speed made only one trip a day possible. Horses were later used to take the boulders down a steep cliff road to the river. Horses are no longer required to stop their work in the fields to get a rush order to the finishing plant across the river. Gone are the ferries that were large enough for two teams of horses and a wagon. So are the sledges used to carry the boulders over the frozen river.

The company first used their own trucks. In about 1926, Harry Maahs hauled the Granite to Wausau. (See Trucking). Today Radtke Transit speeds quickly along smooth roads to the Wausau finishing plant. The Rib Mt. stones are shipped by trucks from Minnesota to St. Cloud, a monument town.

In 1929 a saw shed was erected. Sawing the granite is one of the most important steps in the production of memorials. Right after the shed was completed, the Depression came and many men lost their jobs.

Radios have replaced hand signals to the men in the hoists. Each quarry now has several derricks to remove the stone and grout. 85% to 90% of the stone taken from the hole is waste.

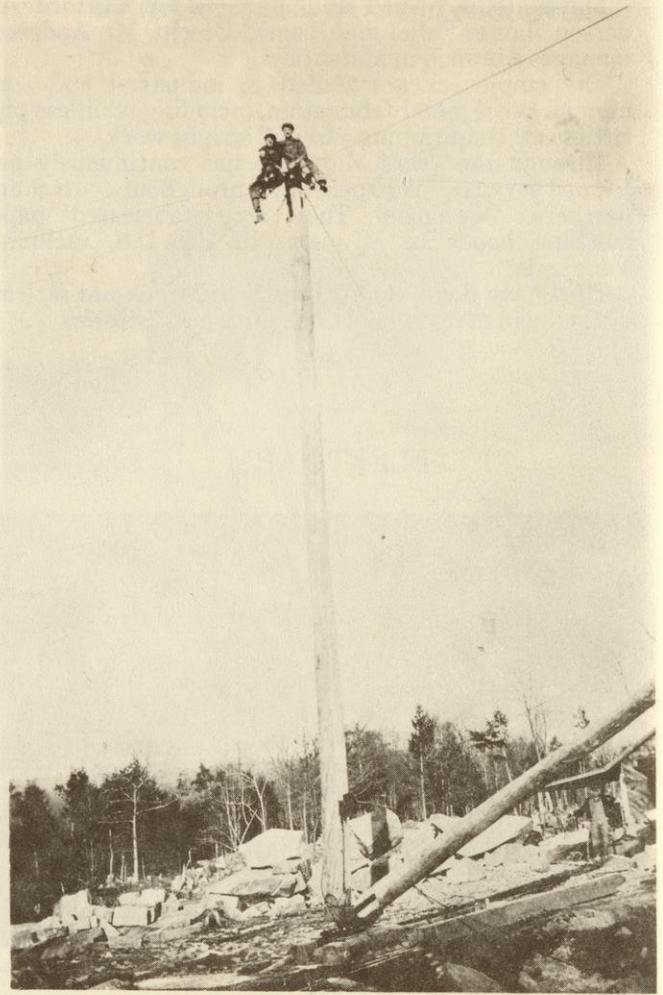
Safety is always stressed. The walls are always checked for loose shelves and places where ice could form and drop on workers below. A slim man would be chosen to hang over the edge of the hole, from a rope around his waist. Said one man: "A lot of faith and trust was put in the men behind the bushes." (The men hanging onto the other end behind a large boulder). They now use a hoist and box where the men can stand in to do this type of work. Despite the hazards, some men have worked at the quarry for as long as 50 years.

A lot of work goes into a rock before it becomes a beautiful Memorial. Once it arrives at the plant it has to

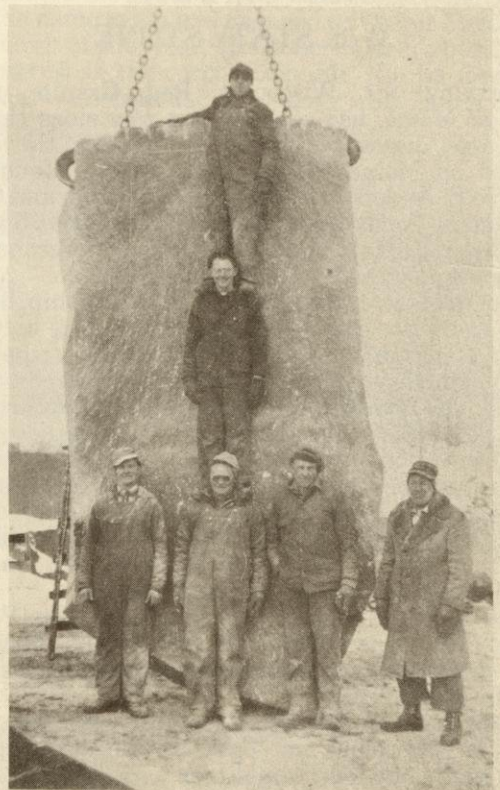
be surfaced. Then comes the polishing, grinding, honing and glossing. Only flawless granite is removed from the polishing beds. Some granite is discarded even after polishing, as every piece of granite must be perfect. These memorials never fade, crack or disintegrate when exposed to the elements. Even after all these years, it is believed that the color or texture has never changed.

In 1971 the State of Wisconsin declared the Red Granite the State Rock. How fortunate we are that so much of this magnificent rock has been discovered and quarried in our Township. How proud we should be of the founders of these quarries, and of all of the men working at this hazardous occupation.

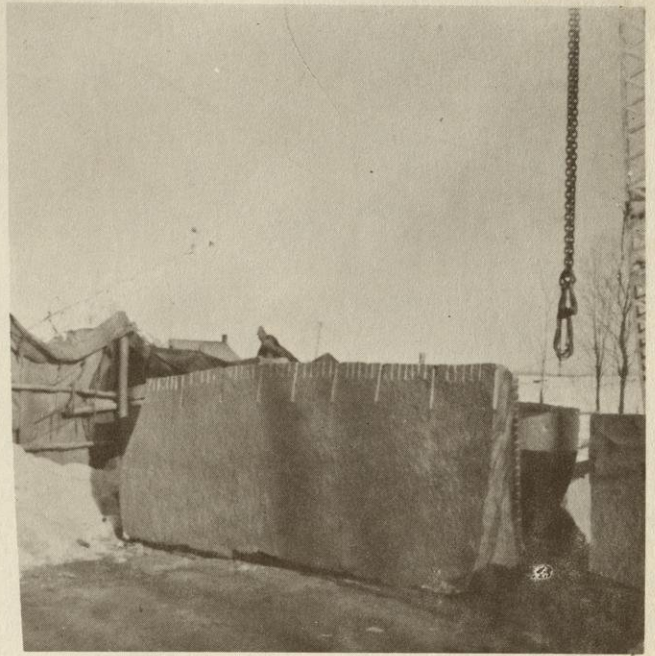
Sincere thanks to: Mrs. Arthur Beckman, Mr. Harry Sturm, Mr. Arnold Hartwig, Mr. Henry Laabs, and Mr. Arnold Goetsch for the information on quarrying.



Edmund Woller and Arthur Sturm oiling the derrick.



Bottom: Martin Mootz, Rudy Goetsch, Ed Kottke, Edwin Luedtke. Top: Sabatke, Harvey Sturm.



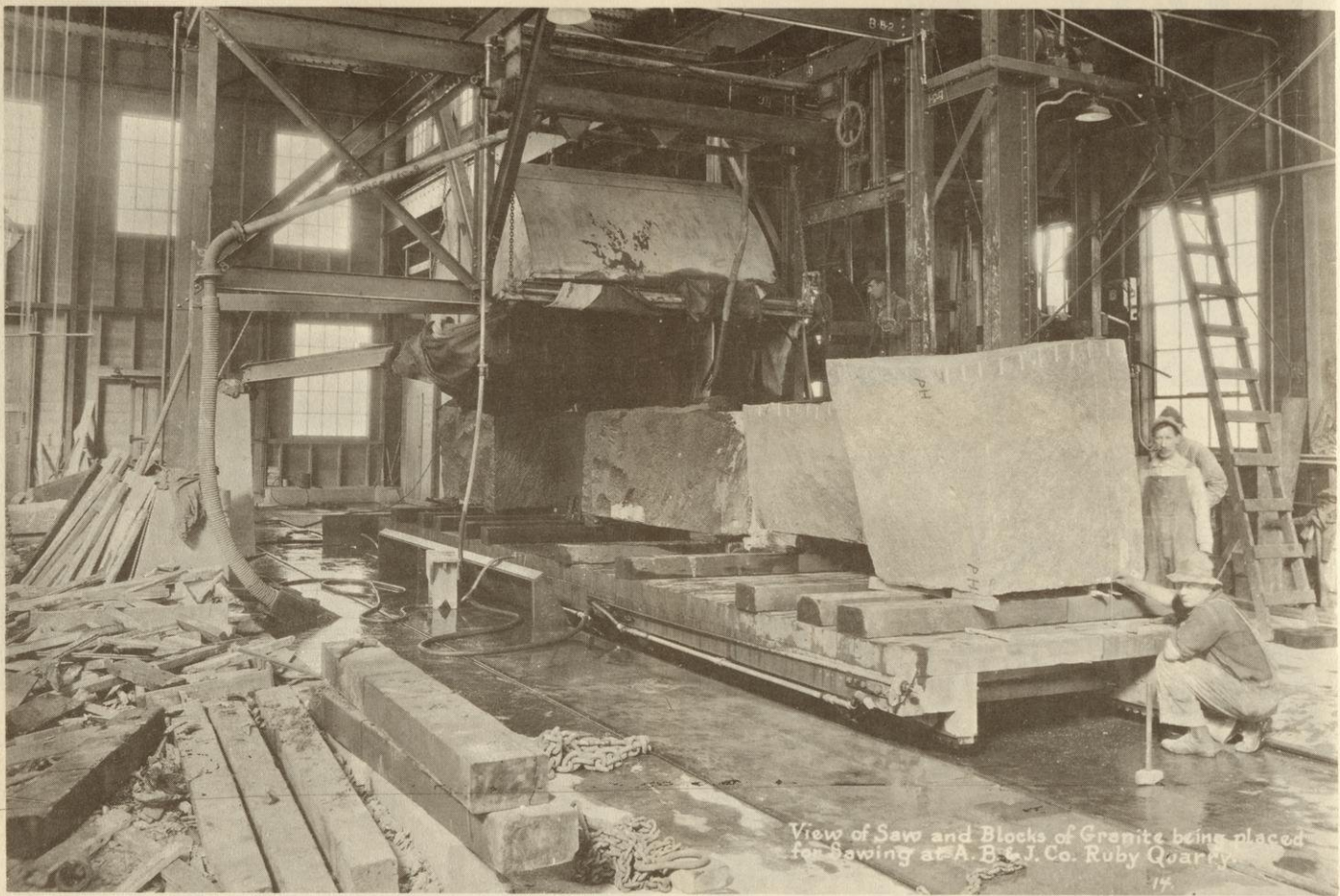
Largest stone ever taken out in the history of Rib Mountain Quarry. About 4,000 lb., 12 ft. 6 in. long, 5 ft. wide, 2 ft. 6 in. in height. Note the drill holes.



Left to right: Edmund Woller, Arthur Sturm, Otto Pagel, Edwin Luedtke, Ernest Luedtke.

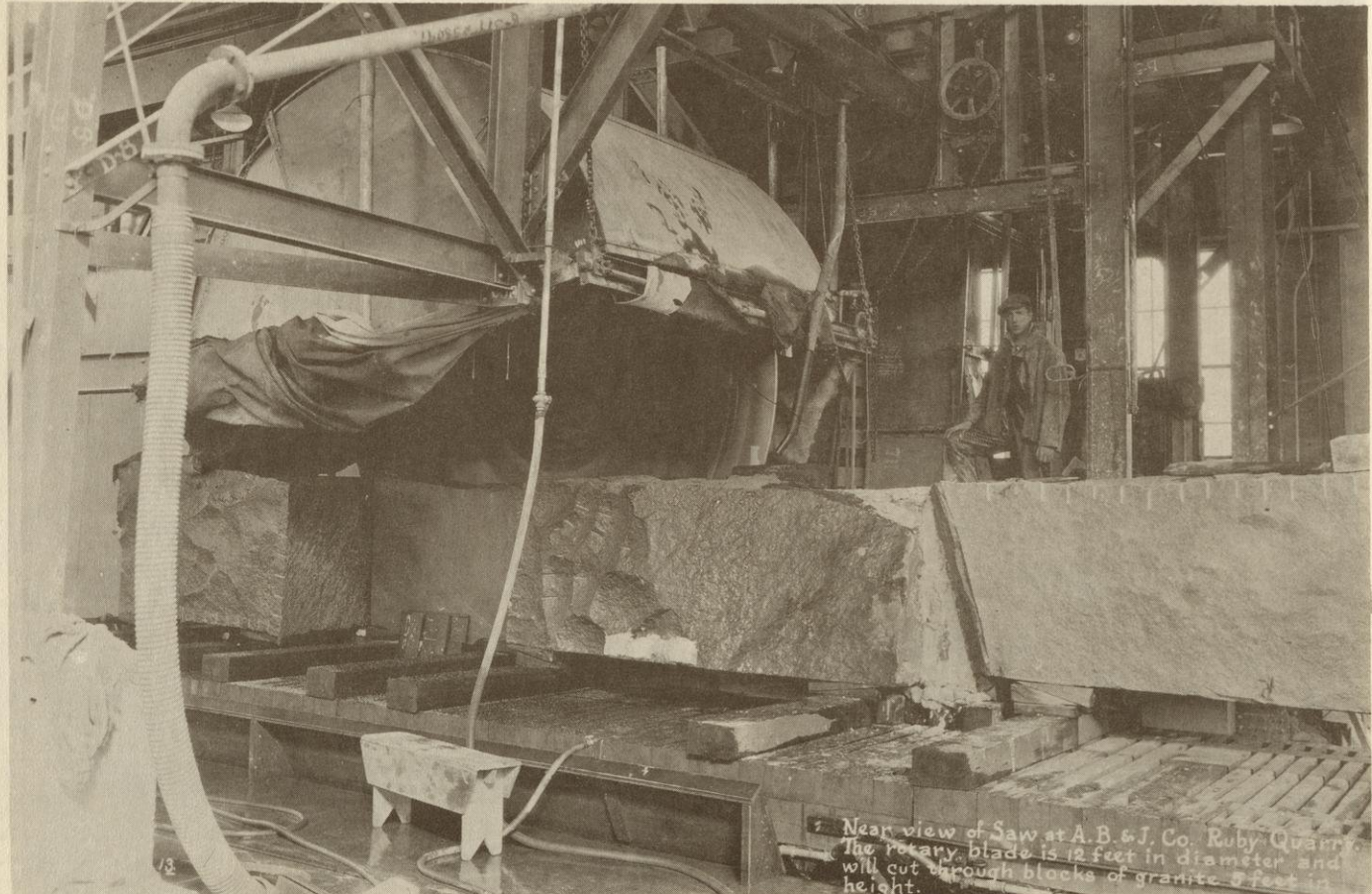


Front row - left to right: Ervin Porath, Henry Goetsch, Elmer Goetsch, Wesley Sturm, Nailus Anderson, Arnold Goetsch, Henry Genz, Emil Laabs, Herman Krause. Back row - left to right: Martin Goetsch, Edward Genz, Walter Laatsch, Eric Krause, Harry Howard, Charlie Magnuson, Herbert Hartwig, Harry Sturm, Arnold Hartwig, Paul Beilke, Anton Swanson, George Treu, Henry Laabs, Walter Hoff, unknown, Martin Smith, Martin Gebhardt, Andrew Anderson, Gust Anderson (Boss), Founder, Emil Magnuson, Helmuth Krause, Fred Raddatz, Wm. John (General Manager).
SON (BILL)



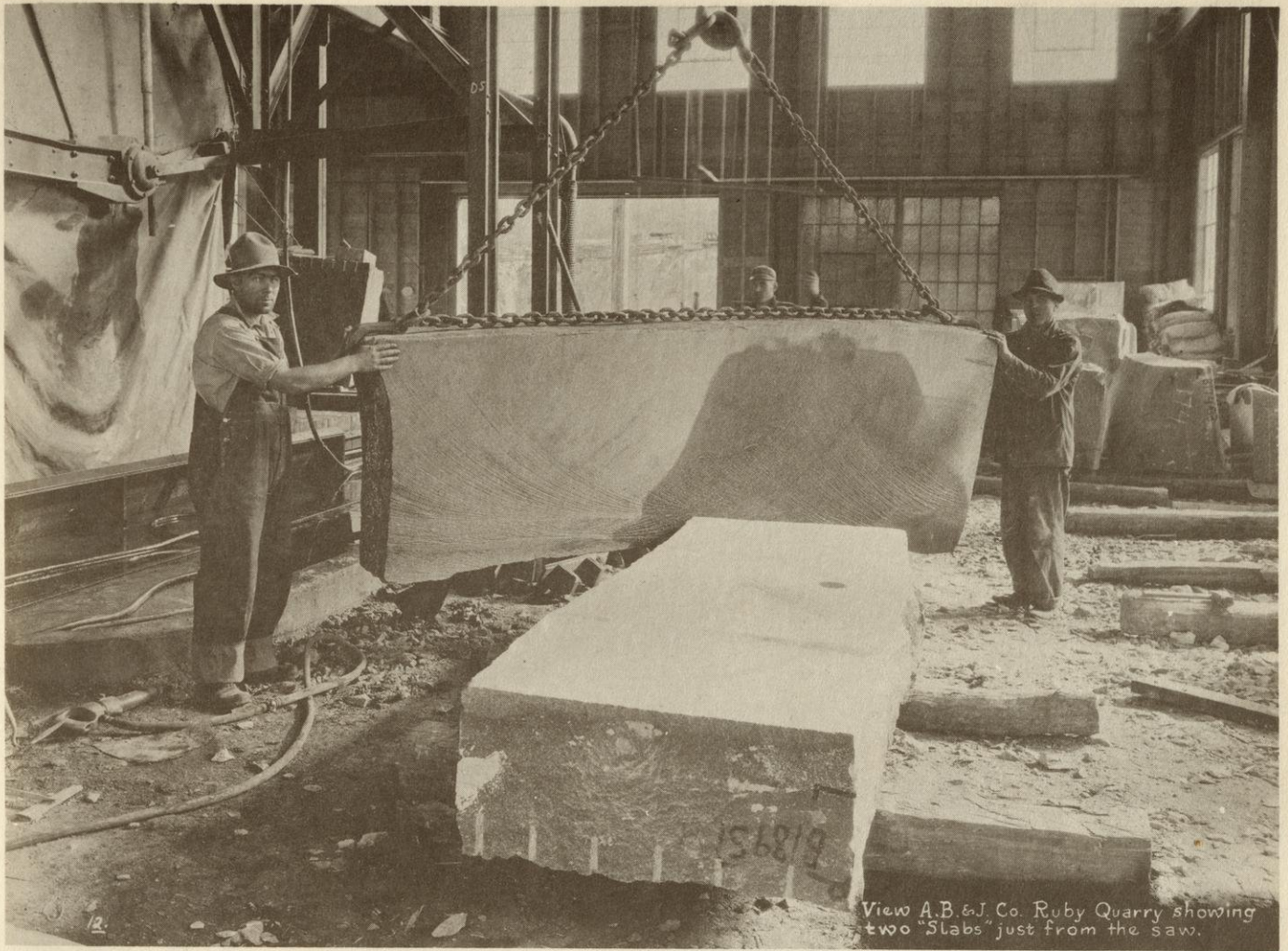
View of Saw and Blocks of Granite being placed for sawing at A. B. & J. Co. Ruby Quarry.

View of saw and blocks of granite being placed for sawing at A. B. & J. Co. Ruby Quarry.



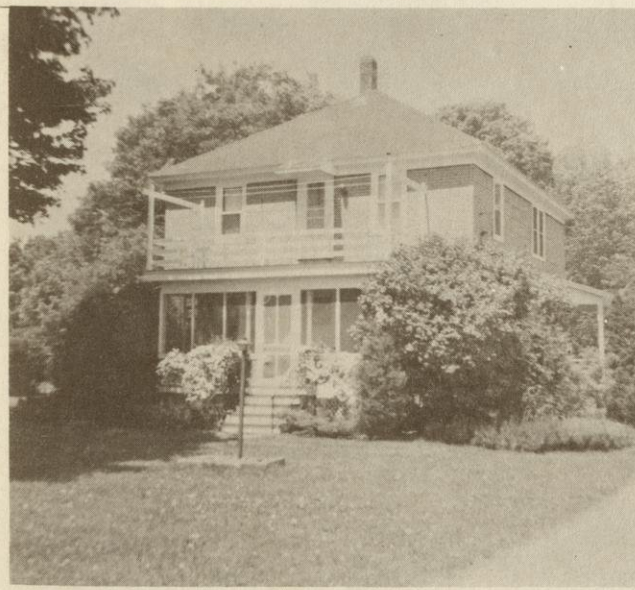
Near view of Saw at A. B. & J. Co. Ruby Quarry. The rotary blade is 12 feet in diameter and will cut through blocks of granite 5 feet in height.

Near view of saw at A. B. & J. Co. Ruby Quarry. The rotary blade is 12 feet in diameter and will cut through blocks of granite 5 feet in height.



View A.B. & J. Co. Ruby Quarry showing two "Slabs" just from the saw.

View A. B. & J. Co. Ruby Quarry showing two "slabs" just from the saw.



Quarry rooming house. Now the Edward Brandenberg home.



Town of Maine Memorial located at Juda, Wisconsin.





Transportation

Transportation was a real problem for early settlers as there were no roads. The first known routes into Maine township were by water. The Wisconsin River formed the main highway for those venture-some pioneers.

Rapids and falls made travel difficult so portages were necessary to progress beyond Stevens Point, Mosinee and Wausau.

Indian trails were used for foot travel but the transportation needs of the white men were of greater volume. A single horse or oxen was about all that could make it through this heavily forested region. However, some early Indian trails were used by early settlers to form their first roads, walking to the nearest town for flour and other needed supplies. Indians studied streams and waterways extensively and knew the best places to ford streams and the river.

In 1850 it took 3½ days to travel from Stevens Point to Big Bull Falls (now Wausau) over a rough road full of sink holes in the spring. Four years later Marathon County Board proposed a project but the road wasn't completed until 1858 and was called the Plank Road. Swampy low places were "planked" or leveled with logs called "corduroy".

Road building has been going on ever since with mud and sand surfaces being replaced by gravel, blacktop and concrete. The main road crossing Maine township from south to north is U.S. Highway 51. It was laid as a part of the federal highway system and first appears listed in Town of Maine highway records in 1873.

This road has undergone improvements by rebuilding and relocating to eliminate sharp turns and dangerous curves. It was widened in 1933 and a new four lane freeway was completed in October, 1975, linking Town of Maine to all cities and towns in all directions.

Feeder roads joining all areas of the town to the main thoroughfare are county trunk highways A, F, U, FF, and WW. All are blacktopped, making travel a pleasure. All town roads serving rural farms are maintained by a town road crew using modern equipment. Maintenance cost nearly \$120,000 in 1975.

In 1869, a 1¼ mile section called the C. Christian Road was built joining Wausau Road (51). A 3¼ mile stretch was also built to the Lincoln County line. Two and three quarters miles built in 1870 joined the Wausau Road to a Berlin Road and a mile was added to the Prochnow-Machel Road. A mile on county trunk highway A and ¾ mile on F were constructed in 1872.

In 1928, work was begun on relocating 51 from FF to the Lincoln County line. Much difficulty was encountered, cutting through the rock on the first two cuts.

Highway records continue to show additions as the township was settled. Names were given each road in 1971 and markers erected to identify them. The latest change in marking occurred when the freeway opened. Fifty-one from Wausau to the Marathon, Lincoln County line became Highway K.



A popular mode of transportation in the early 1900's. The man on the right is Ben Woller.



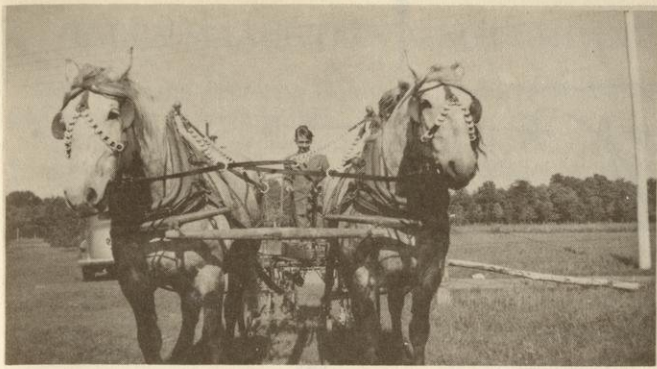
Ed Woller and Wesley Sturm going for a buggy ride, in 1920.



Two team of oxen pulling a load of the "good stuff direct from the hills of Kentucky".



Many children had wagons that their faithful pets would pull for them.



A beautifully matched team of horses.



Abe Lique in front with Roy O'Neil. Roy's father is in the back seat.



Herman Birker and visitor, in front and Mr. and Mrs. Herman Birker in back. Can anyone identify the make of car?



A 1927 Buick.



Ben Sturm's own truck in 1929. He was 17 years old at this time.

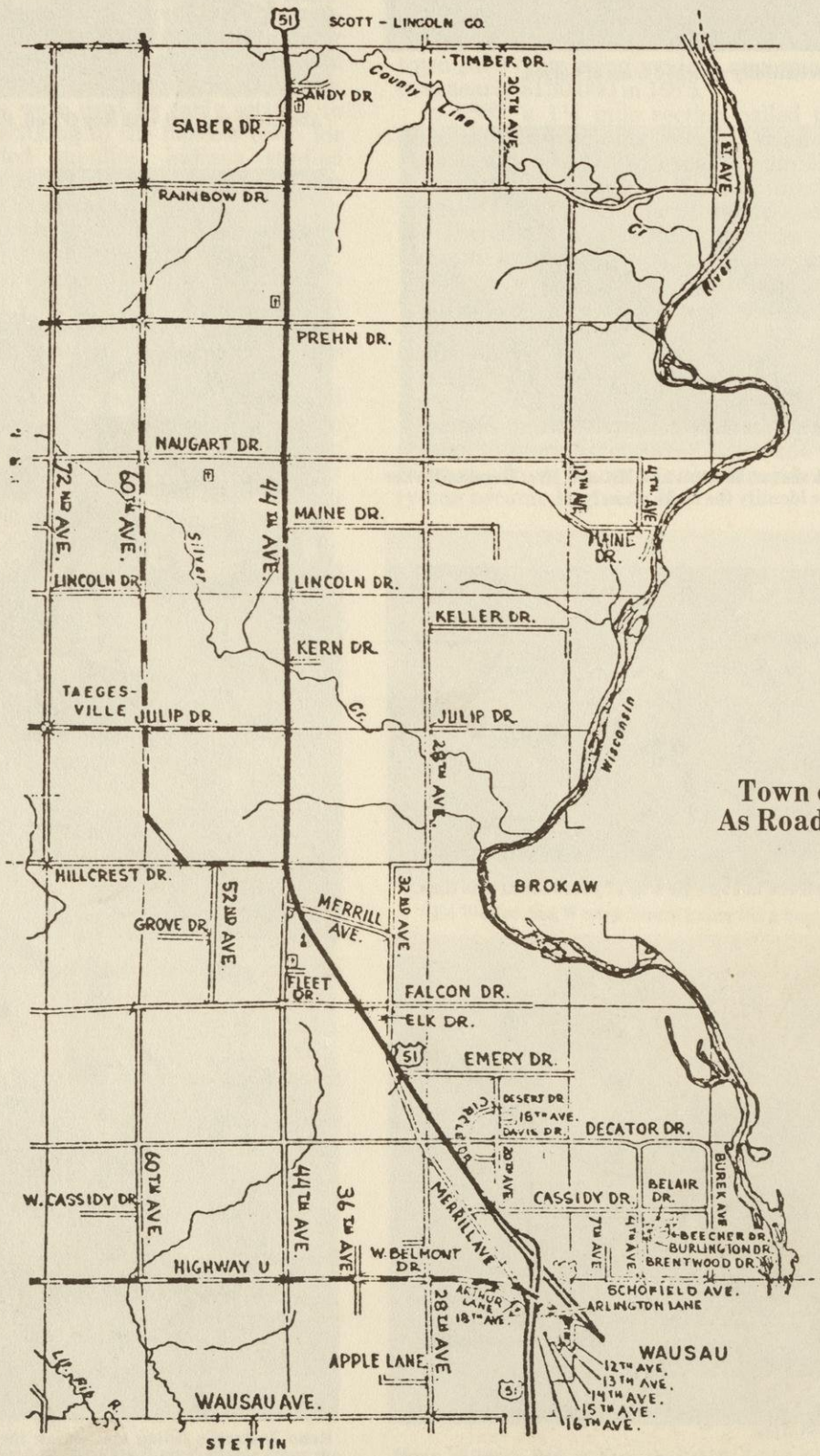
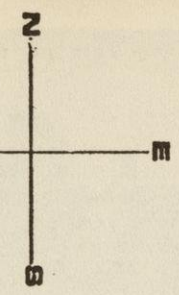


For the 6 gallon for \$1.00, we could go back to the good old days. The Red Granite Service Station.



Reno Zastrow's filling station, on the corner of A and 51. Gas was pumped into the glass holding tank, where it was measured and then it was gravity fed into the gas tank.

W. Schickel Ave



Town of Maine
As Roads are Now

HARRY MAAHS TRUCKING COMPANY

Harry Maahs Trucking Company, Town of Maine, on old Highway 51, about 1926.

The first truck he bought was a Nash, chain drive, then two Oshkoshs, 4 wheel drive, and a Model M, which was very special at that time. Later Ben Sturm, who drove for Maahs, bought a Steward truck, which could only drive 35 miles an hour, then the governor would kick out. Walter Arndt, another driver, bought a Sterling International truck. Elmer Sturm had a gas station across the road, (north), on the corner of the Arthur Sturm farm.

Some of the drivers were: Walter Arndt, a brother-in-law, who drove for him for 11 years. Ben Sturm, Walter Radtke, Harry Sturm, Reno Smith, and Wilbert Goetsch. They hauled pulp and logs, and Red Granite Stone for all three quarries, Lake Wausau, Anderson Bros. and Johnson, and Prehns. They also hauled cement for Highway 51 till the Lincoln County Line. Then they got a grading and cement job at Manitowoc on Highway 141 from Birdsell and Garske Construction Co. Later Mr. Maahs added the Red Granite Tavern on that corner.



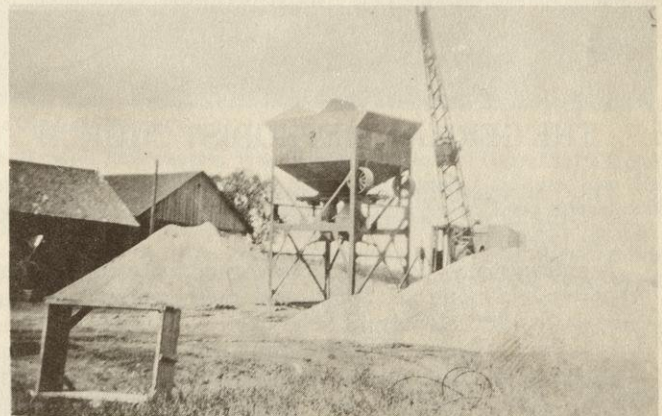
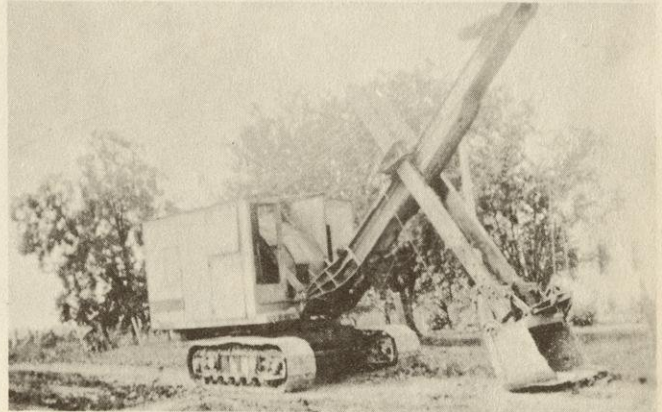
TRUCK CAR 2 1/2 T. OSHKOSH
3000 FT. LOGS. MAR 8, 1920.
HARRY MAAHS
1705. MERRILL, WIS.

Machinery used on road construction work in 1928. Frank Saegers and William Zastrows boarded up to 30 men each, while the road was being built.



Harry Maahs trucks.

Harry Maahs' trucks. Harry Maahs, Mildred Maahs and Walter Arndt are in the picture.





An Allis Chalmers grader, purchased in 1959, by the Town of Maine. On the picture are: Robert Schuett, Ervin Aschbrenner (who faithfully kept our graveled roads in good shape), Tony Yaeger (the salesman), Arnold Hartwig and Ben Sturm.



Mrs. Ervin Saeger at the wheel of her 72 passenger school bus.

School bus drivers from this township have been the following: John Eckardt, Robert Eckardt, William Kruit, Albert Goetsch, Mike Goetsch, Billy Carazalla, Diane Glasel, Lon Saeger, Otto Porath, Robert Laatsch.



Churches and Cemeteries

THE GERMAN METHODIST CHURCH

The German Methodist congregation was probably one of the first Protestant congregations to be organized in the country.

A missionary minister, Reverend Pfeffler, from Watertown, came in 1859, and held services in the homes. In 1860, Reverend Schaeffler conducted services in the Pophal home. A log building was erected north of Taegeville, in 1861, under the direction of Rev. William Meyer. Rev. Scheffler and the Rev. Nicholas Eiffer followed and the congregation grew so that Ernest Gehrke built a frame church and the parsonage in the 1880's. It was dedicated by Rev. John Beinert. The first resident pastor was Rev. Conrad Eberhard, followed by Rev. Phillip Hummel. At this time, a congregation in the Rib Falls area, and the one in Corning were also served by this pastor. Reverends Frey, Gross, Wolfe and B.B. Zuener followed. In 1929, the church family had grown small and disbanded. The church was closed and the buildings were removed in 1930.



Maine German Methodist Church. Sylvia Gehrke (Nass), Esther Gehrke (Zeinert).



Interior of the Maine Methodist Church at Christmas. Notice the long stove pipes and the gas lights.

IMMANUAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Early records show that Immanuel Lutheran congregation dates back to pre-Civil War days. The majority of Lutheran families had come from Pomerania, Germany and persuaded a Rev. Strieter to visit them, from Crystal Lake, Wisconsin. He baptized the infants and sometimes adults, and arranged for Communion services at different times and at various places. A student, J.J. Hoffman, from the seminary in St. Louis, began his work here in 1861. Pastor Hudtloff succeeded him, serving the 18 districts in central Wisconsin.

In 1865, the congregation decided to build a house of worship. Carl Kufahl sold them an acre of land for

\$5.00. A church, measuring 24' x 32,' built of logs, was soon erected for \$300.00. Edward Nass, August Prechel and Friedrich Trantow were named to the building committee. A fine brick church was built in the same location in 1889 for \$1,262.00. The Rev. Neubauer, Carl Klinger, Fritz Roemke and Herman Rollenhagen served on the building committee. In 1923 it was decided to dismantle the church and move it to the Town of Stettin. Many of the bricks were broken, so the present building, is not as tall and the steeple wasn't added. Rev. Koepf was the pastor at this time. Other pastors, not mentioned were: Rev. Julius Ehmke, Dr. Alexander and P. Retter.



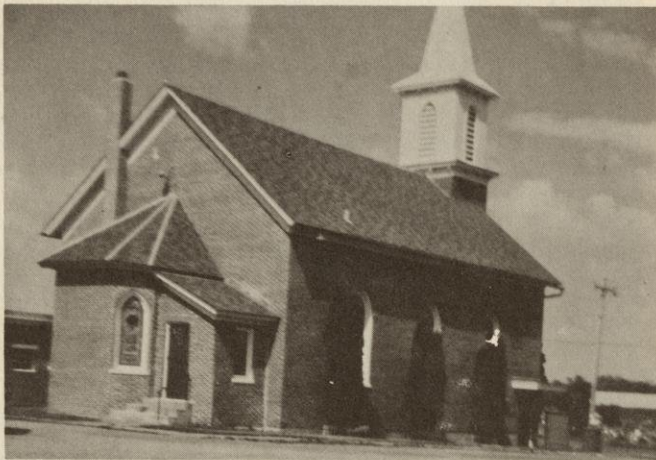
Last Church Service in the Old Log Church

Back row, left to right: Fritz Roemke, Otto Anklam, Fred Hintz, Wm. Buch, Herman Rollenhagen, Wm. Schwartz, Edward Plautz, Carl Klinger Jr., Louis Stubbe, Fritz Hintz, Carl Roemke and Robert Schmidt. Second back row: Joachim Mollendorf, Wm. Taege, Pastor Neubauer, Wm. Hintz, Wm. Plautz, Albert Staege, George Schmidt, Gottlieb Staege, Anna Klinger, Martha Klinger, Tillie Luepke, Martha Taege, Lizza Moellendorf, Clara Hintz and Anna Boernke. Second front row: Mrs. Otto Anklam, Mrs. Fred Hintz, Mrs. Joachim Moellendorf, Mrs. Albert Staege with child, Mrs. Gottlieb Staege, Mrs. George Schmidt with child, Mrs. Hoffmann, Mrs. Carl Klinger Sr., Mrs. Herman Rollenhagen, Mrs. Wm. Zumann, Mrs. Wm. Plautz, Grandma Rollenhagen, Mrs. Carl Hintz, Mrs. Wm. Taege and Grandma Klinger. Front row: Staege, Alvina Taege, Hilda Taege, Fred Anklam, Julius Plautz, Otto Hintz, Willie Taege, Ernest Roemke, Otto Hintz, Charles Hintz and Henry Zumann.



Immanuel Lutheran Church

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH TOWN OF MAINE - A.L.C.



St. John's Lutheran Church

Between 1850 and 1866, German settlers arrived in great numbers. Circuit riders, Pastor Streiter, Hoffman and Hudtloff, served these settlers.

In 1866 about 15 families built the first log church. The purchase of this plot of land is recorded at the Marathon County Courthouse. The warranty deed was dated January 9, 1866 and recorded February 14 that same year from Friedrich Hiat and Johanna (wife). The church was named Evangelish Lutheran, St. Johannes Community No. one in the Town of Wausau (now Maine), Marathon County, Wis., warranty deed dated January 9, 1866, recorded February 14, 1866, deed book G., p. 638 for a sum of \$2.00.

Mission Festivals

Mission festivals were always filled with lots of activities and much hard work. These were conducted by local churches of Maine township to carry out the mission work of the church. Everyone joined in the fellowship of working and playing together.

Sermons were held in the morning and afternoon. A guest pastor would usually deliver them in German, although English was spoken in later years.

Following the morning sermon, a delicious chicken dinner would be served to all present, prepared and served by the women of the parish. The church band rehearsed once a week in preparation for the event, playing the old hymns of the church.

The fun part was held in a nearby woods or park, often adjacent to the church. Games were played by young and old. One church member would bring a ram's head, complete with curled horns and nail it to a tree. This marked the spot for those to gather who wished to play "Sheephead."

Wooden dolls mounted on a wire would get bombarded with baseballs. "Kiggleball" was another favorite game. Other groups put on plays and skits which took a lot of time and effort on the part of the director and performers.

Following the afternoon sermon, much time was spent enjoying visiting and refreshments with friends and neighbors and listening to the music of the church band echoing through the woods.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH (FAITH) MISSOURI SYNOD

People from different parts of Germany came to Marathon County settling in the northern section of what is now Maine township, as early as 1865. Circuit riders, Rev. Strieter, Hoffman, Markworth and Hudtloff, served the area until 1870.

Twenty-two families joined together and purchased an acre of land from C. Erdman, A log church was built and cemetery plot established. Later, another six acres were purchased for a parsonage and school from J. Jahns.

Rev. William Rehwinkel was first resident pastor, from 1872 to 1887. St. Johns parish was organized and the present church building was constructed under the leadership of Rev. J.G. Gruber, who served from 1888 to 1907. Pastors since then were Rev. Luedtke, 1907 to 1910, Rev. Fiehler, 1910 to 1920, Rev. Gohlke, 1920 to 1926, Rev. Piehler, 1926 to 1970, and Rev. Herman, 1970 to 1976.

The church has purchased five acres of land across the road from the parsonage and school and plan to construct a new church edifice on it.



First parsonage & school



1976



Summer Bible School - 1948. First row: Walter Rusch, Jr., Phyllis Kleinschmidt, Joyce Hanneman, Diana Mootz, Janice Smith, Betty Lou Laabs, Marlene Woller, Joyce Laabs, LeRoy Laabs. Second row: Clifford Woller, David Woller, Duane Gruenewald, Martin Hannemann, Kenneth Sturm, Rodney Goetsch, Lester Hanneman, Laverne Gruenewald. Third row, Dorothy Goetsch, teacher, Irene Dahl, Shirley Porath, David Raddatz, Perceival Kleinschmidt, Kenneth Goetsch, Marlene Kleinschmidt, Maryann Schlag, Marg Ruether, Walter Maahs, James Mootz. Fourth row: Joanne Rusch, Elizabeth Schult, Ralph Vogt, Della Steckling, Donald Hoff, David Radtke, Irene Krause.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

The first services were held in the home of Mr. Carl Kufahl. Later services were conducted in the schoolhouse. In the year of 1884, the Andrew-Grace Congregation was organized. The organization and incorporation papers were signed by the following members: Eduard Nass, John Kufahl, John Genrich, William Krueger, August Prechel, John Krienke, Ferdinand Nickel, Carl Utech, Ludwig Bahr, Carl Neuman, Daniel Kufahl, Friedrich Grueneberg, Carl Prechel, William Barfknecht, Herman Becker, John Prill, William Christian, Emil Mathwich, Fritz Dennis, Mrs. Emily Kufahl and Mrs. Wilhelmine Gennrich. In 1884, the organization year, the congregation decided to erect its own new church building. The size of the new church was 26' x 40' x 18.' By August 29, the new church building was dedicated. In May, 1885, the new Andrew-Grace congregation called the candidate of theology Herman Kilian as its pastor, who served to 1886. He was succeeded by Pastor J.C. Himmler, who served from 1886 to 1889.

From 1889 until 1895 the congregation was served by the pastor of Naugart, Pastor T.G. Glaser. In the fall of 1895, this congregation again secured a pastor of it's own, Pastor J. Rien. His local residence was on the Maeward Christian property. The next pastor was

Pastor J.J. Meyer, who came from Kaukauna. He remained as pastor from 1903 to 1923. In 1904 a resolution was adopted to erect a parsonage. Adjoining land was purchased and the parsonage was built thereon. Mr. Robert Nickel owned and operated a sawmill in the Town of Hamburg and the necessary lumber was hauled there. The required bricks were purchased from Mr. August Goebel, who had a brick kiln in Wausau. Mr. Herman Strehlow made and furnished the plan. Members of the Building Committee were: Herman Strehlow, H. Tesch, H. Nickel, Edward Kufahl, and C. Prechel. Mr. C. Krueger was selected as the bricklayer. The new parsonage was completed and dedicated in the fall of the same year. Pastor Meyer and his family became the first residents. A new barn and the stable and the utility buildings were also erected.

In 1909 the congregation observed their 25th anniversary. Recognizing the many years of God's grace, it was resolved to enlarge their present church by adding an intermediate space of 12 feet. The building committee members were: H. Tesch, Herman Kilian, and August Hackbarth. At the time the congregation also purchased a new organ and the following year a larger organ. The interior walls and the ceiling of the church were covered with decorative sheet metal covering and

the addition of an appropriate choir loft was made. After 20 years of service, Pastor Meyer announced his retirement because of illness and weaknesses of his advanced age.

On May 13, 1923 a call was sent to Pastor August Bergmann, who accepted and served them until late in the year of 1930. A school building was built, 22' x 36' x 12' in 1924. Arthur Kufahl, William Christian, and Walter Kilian served on the building committee. The interior of the church was newly decorated and the following year the parsonage was equipped with electrical service.

On October 12, 1930 the congregation called Pastor Emil Zaremba of the St. James congregation at Norwalk. During the vacancy, Pastor William Fischer of Trinity, Town of Berlin, served until the arrival of Pastor Zaremba. During Pastor Zaremba's time, on May 3, 1932, a sewing circle was organized for the purpose of rendering assistance to the congregation. The charter members were: Mrs. Emil Christian, Mrs. Martha Christian, Mrs. Otto Christian, Mrs. William Christian, Mrs. Otto Hintz, Mrs. Otto Imm, Mrs. Ernest Roemke, Mrs. Herman Strehlow, Mrs. Emil Zaremba and Miss Charlotte Zaremba.



A little later an orchestra was organized to perform on such special occasions as Mission Festivals at home and other neighboring congregations.

Orchestra - Grace Church 1932 - 1937

Director - Gerhardt Zaremba
 Soloist - Charlotte Zaremba Strehlow
 Pianist - Theckla Fischer
 Orchestra members:
 Margaret Kilian
 William Christian
 Charlotte Zaremba Strehlow
 Irmgard Fischer
 Martha Rusch
 Bill Tessmer
 Freida Christian
 Hubert Christian
 Ardell Hilmershausen
 Arvin Strehlow
 Herbert Kilian
 Ewald Kilian
 Victor Zaremba
 Harold Bohl
 Franklin Christian
 Eugene Christian
 Carl Rusch
 Laurence Imm
 Otto Imm, Sr.

January 8, 1934, it was resolved to celebrate the 50th anniversary. Due to a fierce tornado in the section of Maine, the church building was moved several feet from its foundation. After the church building had been restored, a much less elaborate anniversary was arranged. In 1936, electrical service was installed for the

church and school building. The expense connected was nominal and was paid by the Sewing Circle. Mr. Gerhardt Zaremba was engaged as electrician. One year later, a garage was built.

Pastor Emil Zaremba served the congregation until April 1939, at which time illness and advanced age induced him to retire. Pastor M. Liesener of Brillion was the successor. He began June 18, 1939. In 1940 a furnace was installed in the parsonage and in 1941 the congregation purchased a pipe organ. The first English services were held here ever since 1940.

During 1944 the 60th anniversary was celebrated by a complete renovation of the church. The following persons were selected as the members of the renovating committee: Walter Krueger, William Strehlow, Harry Sturm, Theodore Hackbarth, Fred Duwe, Raymond Zastrow and Martin Grueneberg. The contractor was Mr. Edmund Schield.

In 1945 it was decided to have the German constitution translated into English and drop the name "Andreas" retaining only the name Grace.

Adolph Schuman began 14 years of serving the congregation in 1957. The present pastor, W.W. Gieschen, came in April of 1971.



There are 220 baptized members and 170 communicant members.

The present Church Council members are:

Harvey Neumann - president
 Carlton Luedtke - treasurer
 Gerald Revie - secretary
 Darrell Bahr - financial secretary
 Lloyd Grueneberg and Leslie Neumann - elders

The Ladies Society officers are:

Mrs. Leslie Neumann - president
 Mrs. Joyce Kufahl - vice-president
 Mrs. Charlotte Strehlow - secretary
 Mrs. Joyce Heise - treasurer
 Mrs. Ella Dinnis and Mrs. Leona Bahr - sunshine committee

CEMETERIES

The first known burial grounds to be established in Maine township are the Indian Mounds located on the Roger Johnson property at the east end of Naugart Drive.

More than a dozen graves can be seen there. It is believed that an Iroquois tribe from Canada met death near there in a skirmish with unknown explorers.

The Jehn Cemetery began in Oct. 22, 1881 when St. Paul's Congregation, Town of Scott, Lincoln County, purchased 1 acre of land from Carl Maas for cemetery purposes, free of religious connection. Lots were sold at

50¢ per grave. If a casket over 4 feet was required then \$1.00 had to be paid in advance.

The first officers were: Carl Schultz, Fredrich Schultz, and Henry Jehn. Henry Jehn was named caretaker at \$4.00 a year. He was also entitled to the hay cut from the land. In 1888, a new fence was constructed for \$12.00 by William Moehser.

In 1893 members were assessed \$3.00 which was paid to the grave diggers. Members were exempt but non members had to pay the fee in advance or were refused burial.

Helmuth Brandenburg rebuilt the fence in 1921 putting barbed wire on the south at a cost of \$10.00.

A.H. Jehn and his wife Alma along with H.H. Jehn and his wife, Pauline, gave a quit claim deed, May 23, 1927 to August Voelz, Ernest Hoff, and Jacob Steidtmann, then trustees of St. Paul's cemetery for a parcel of

land to be used for burial purposes. It has always been known as the Jehn Cemetery and is located on Highway K (old Highway 51) just south of the Radtke farm on the north 40 now owned by Irene Ellingson.

The present officers are: Eugene Seise, President, Mrs. Harold Pollach-Sec.-Treas., Wilbert Voelz-Trustee.

The newest cemetery to be established is Maple Grove. It is located just west of Highway K and Red Granite Station on Naugart Drive. The first officers were: August Rusch, Albert Sturm and Robert Smith.

The present officers are: Mr. Harry Sturm-chairman, Mr. Victor Sturm-Sec., and Mr. Fred Hackbarth-Treas.

There are cemeteries located near St. John's Church and Faith Lutheran (Zion) and were established when the churches were organized before the turn of the century.

Weddings

The courting days of our forefathers were a lot different than they are today. There were no cars or telephones. One had to walk to see his girl or just stay at home. Lucky was the young man who found his "true love" just a mile away.

The "crowds" were held in someone's home. If it was warm enough a dance could be held in the grainery. There was always a local band on hand to entertain.

William Woller, George Woller, Frank Woller, Paul Jahns and Edward Saeger played for many of those get togethers. Often times this was where the romance started. To walk 11 miles in one night was not unusual.

The news of a wedding was brought to the homes by an usher who rode on horseback. He went to the house of a would be guest, recited a short poem then went on his way to the next one on his list. The verse went like this:

"Schmear dan vagon,
Und vix die shoo,
Far flizig nacht
Die Hochzeit zu."

Translated it means, "Grease the wagon, shine the shoe and drive quickly to the wedding."

Much preparation went into a wedding in those days. Neighbors helped butcher animals and prepare food for the feast which was usually always held at the bride's home.

When that big day arrived, guests gathered at the home where they were handed cigars and a "shot" of whiskey before the church service. Some had the marriage service in the morning, others in the afternoon. Following the ceremony, the usher again on horseback, lined up the teams and wagons with the band in the lead. Next came the bride and groom, attendants and relatives and friends. To pass a wedding procession was a "no no." The wagons were staggered so that no one had room to pass. The usher, on his horse, led the group, but first he rode to the end of the line to see that all was in order. All waited until he again reached the head of the line, then hurrying on to start the celebrating.

At times the parade of guests was not so orderly. There would be a dash of horses and wagons to see who could be first. Some bands did not play at the church but would be at the home of the bride waiting for the happy couple to arrive.

There were always lots of cooks, table waiters and dishwashers on hand to serve dinner, supper, midnight lunch and for some "die hards," breakfast. Barns and graineries were used for dancing.

Sometimes a "Shiveree" would be given in the early

evening by people who had not been invited. Every imaginable item that would make noise would be used. Cowbells, circle saws, shotguns, wash boards, pots and pans were included.

A "Captain" of the group was selected to make a speech. The bride and groom gave money and the Shiveree bunch departed to a party of their own. It was considered an honor to have a shiveree in those days, but this custom had practically disappeared.

Ushers have been promoted from horseback to cars with horns blowing loudly announcing a coming wedding or the wedding party and the beginning of the festivities. This practice is still common in this area, along with the "shot" of whiskey.

Saturday seems to be the most popular day, with the church service first, followed by the reception, a dinner and dance at a local hall. "After weddings" are still a part of the celebration with more food, fun and fellowship.



Table waiters, left to right: Sarah Steckling, Herbert Hartwig, Erna Sturm, Aurelia Wendorf, Arthur Porath, Agnes Jehn, Ida Steckling, Hertha Sturm, Arthur Sturm, Lydia Porath, Gertrude Maahs, Ervin Beilke Hertha Beilke, Dela Laabs.



Cooks, front row sitting: Mrs. Gusta Sturm, Mrs. Richard Goetsch. 2nd row: Alvina Utecht, Mrs. Henry Prechel, Ida Sturm. 3rd row: Martha Sturm, Mrs. Fred Woller, Mrs. Carl Utech, Mrs. Bertha Sturm.



Minnie Woller and William Zastrow wedding.

Musicians, left to right: Robert Klebenow, Otto Brunow, Willie Klebenow, Henry Prechel.

Alma and Hulda Voelker married brothers, Eric and Herman Krause. Their sister Ida Krause married Fred Radaatz.

Ida Krause married Fred Raddatz October 19, 1907.
Eric Krause married Hulda Voelker June 19, 1909.
Herman Krause married Alma June 29, 1912.



Fred & Ida Krause Raddatz
October 19, 1907



Erick and Hulda Voelker Krause
June 19, 1909



Herman and Elvina Voelker Krause
June 29, 1912



John and Caroline Beilke
1846 or 1847



Herman Strehlow-Emily Voigt
Wedding February 1887

1890's



Robert Sturm and Martha Maahs
October 28, 1892

1900's



Emil Schlag-Geraldine Steidtman

1910's



Angela Voelz-Arthur Kufahl

1920's



Earl Witter-Gertrude Kolbe
June 17, 1925

1930's



William Strehlow-Charlotte Zarembo
1935

1940's



Adeline Neumann-Clarence Utech

1950's



Nathalie Smith-Robert Schuett, Jr.

1960's



Kenneth Goetsch-Geraldine Roeder
July 30, 1960



Mary Kay Kalafice and Reid Bronsteatter.

MR. AND MRS. RADKE ARE WED 60 YEARS

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Radke, 3300 N. 20th Ave., Wausau, observed their 60th wedding anniversary with a dinner at 29 Club and a reception at their home. They were also honored at services held at Trinity Lutheran Church, Wausau.

The former Miss Berthe Goetsch was born in the Town of Maine, and Mr. Radke was born in Wausau. They were married June 6, 1914 in the Town of Maine. They lived in the Town of Stettin for many years before moving to their present address.

Their children include Oscar, 730 S. 17th Ave.; Harold, 3304 N. 20th Ave.; Albert 2901 N. 20th Ave.; Mrs. Norton Hackbart, 306 E. Cassidy, and Mrs. DeHart Weiderhoedt, 701 Norton, all of Wausau; John, Marathon Route 2, and Paul Jr., 216 LeRoy St., Rothschild. A daughter, Mrs. Doris Ziebell, is deceased.

There are 25 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Schools

GOING TO A COUNTRY SCHOOL

The first day of school, in the fall, was a day of excitement. You came armed with a new tablet, a box of eight crayons, pencils, (if you were lucky you had nice bright colored ones - some were just brown), and maybe you had a boughten dinner bucket instead of a lard pail. The smell, from the just oiled floor, the chalk dust and the school having been closed up tight for three or four months, was overwhelming.

Teachers did not stay at one school very long, so you probably were being greeted by a new teacher. There were the brave ones who would pull some prank to see how far the new teacher would go along with such nonsense.

The day began with singing. Some teachers had a good background in music and inspired some of their pupils to further their music by taking lessons. The phonograph was introduced and one would listen to records for music appreciation. After electricity came to the schools in the 1930's, the radio provided the musical education. The "School of the Air" programs came from Madison.

Agony for some, was the day you were expected to have a poem memorized. "Where the pools are bright and deep, Where the gray, trout lie asleep, Up the river and o'er the lea, Thats the way for Billy and me," was

fun but when, "Farewell! a long farewell, to all my greatness! This is the state of man; today he puts forth the tender leaves of hopes; tomorrow blossoms. And bears his blushing honours thick upon him:" that was too much. Many an after school session was held—"until you knew it."

Recess was looked forward to. Maybe you had an unfinished ball game. It is surprising there weren't more broken arms because the force of a big eighth grader, crashing through a "Pom Pom Pull Away" line was brutal. "Red Light" was a game, the little people could play too. Rainy days meant that games could be played indoors. "Musical Chairs" and "Fruit Basket Upset" were popular.

The boys loved to ring the bell, because they knew how to pull the rope hard enough so the bell would tip and then they could go up in the attic, to the bell tower, to right it. The tales are many, of naughty things the boys did.

Coming back to school, after Thanksgiving vacation, meant that you would get your parts to be learned, for the Christmas program. Names were drawn for exchange with such secrecy but by the time of the program, everybody knew who had their name. There was much giggling among the girls if it was discovered that a boy had their name.

The night of the program, which had been rehearsed

daily for a week, you walked to school with your family. The school board had built a platform, that made much noise as you walked across it. A gas lantern provided the light and sometime during the program it usually went dim and someone would have to pump air into it. The men stood in back and the mothers with little people could sit in the seats. There was a splendid Christmas tree with handmade trimmings, with all the gifts under it. You would try to see your package and hope it wasn't a box of handkerchiefs or pencils. Everyone had a new Christmas dress and had their hair curled, with a curling iron, for the occasion. No one seemed to notice that one of the fathers would slip out toward the end of the program and when the last song was sung, there would be a sound of bells and tramping feet and Santa Claus would appear, with a sack on his back. There was always a little brother or sister that would cry. It frightened them so. When you got to be an upper grader it embarrassed you to tell Santa your name, in order to get your gift.

In the winter, there was much difficulty getting a fire started some mornings and so the room would be cold yet when the children arrived. That meant we could move the seats near the stove. The wet wool stockings were taken off and hung to dry over the jacket around the stove. About eleven o'clock the odor of over-baked stockings was heavy in the room. Many, that had to walk a long way, came with frost bitten hands and faces. A pan of snow was brought in and rubbed on the white skin and what pain when it came back to life.

The last day of school meant that the families would gather for a big picnic. There was ice cream, brought out by the dairy, in a big wooden bucket filled with salty ice. The ice cream tasted so good.

Good-byes were said and we went home a little sad sometimes. We wouldn't see our playmates for another three or four months and maybe the teacher, we had become so fond of during the year, wasn't returning.

I hope today's children are remembering things to tell their children about "the good old days."

WHERE GRANDMA AND GRANDPA WENT TO SCHOOL



The above picture shows one of the first schoolhouses in this section located in the Town of Maine. It was taken about 1865 according to John Kiefer, 620 McIndoe Street, owner of the original photograph, but other data pertaining to the school (the pupils and the teacher) are not available.

One of the fastest disappearing institutions of rural life was the one-room schoolhouse and Marathon County was among those taking part in the vanishing act.

Scores of schools have closed in the past years in this country, mostly through consolidation. Following consolidation, seven public schools in the Town of Maine closed and their pupils moved into a new 10-room school, Town of Maine Elementary School, located on Highway 51, just south of the town's hall north of the city.

There might be some who will shed a nostalgic tear at the passing of the "little, red schoolhouse," but not the teachers and pupils. One of the seven schools has an indoor chemical toilet. The rest have outdoor facilities. None has running water in the building. The boys and girls take turns bringing water from the pump.

The Town of Maine schools which will be closed are the Church Hill, Taegesville, Valley View, Pleasant View, Red Granite, Cassoday and Byron Valley.

Histories of the schools are not available. The oldest is Church Hill, which was built in 1886. It is one of several without a basement or central heating system.

Church Hill, along with the others, was modernized through the years to the extent it has an oil space heater. However, in the old days most of the schools were heated with the old wood-burning, pot-bellied stoves.

Teachers came to school an hour early to build the fire. In zero weather it took until noon before children removed their mittens, jackets, boots and caps. It was common practice to have a few dancing sessions during the morning to pound some feeling back into small feet.

How I suffered with chilblains," one teacher of the old days recalled. "The floor was like ice. You couldn't keep your feet warm."

When the stove got cherry red, the children sitting close to it were toasted, but those in the farthest corners shivered.

Before the days of transportation children walked two and three miles to school. In the very cold weather teacher met them at the door with a pan of snow and rubbed it on noses and cheeks. (Today they have learned that is the wrong therapy).

Home-knitted wool stockings protected little legs.

A.C. Werth, Marathon County superintendent of schools, pointed out that transportation of rural school children became general after World War II.

If the walls of the township schools could speak it would be with a heavy German accent. German was taught in all of the schools in the earlier days because the Town of Maine was settled generally by families who migrated here from Germany.

What older residents will recall are the happy days when the schools were centers of social activities. In the days of the box socials the young women prepared box lunches to be raffled off.

The boxes were often gaily decorated. The young men would try to buy the box prepared by the girls they had their eyes on, because by custom the girl who prepared the box lunch shared it with the successful bidder.

You couldn't be sure whose box you were bidding on. More than one swain would bid a good price to get the box prepared by one of the least attractive girls, usually because his pals had slipped him a bum tip.

Pie socials were the same, with pies being auctioned off.

The money was used to buy equipment for the school.

At Christmas time every school held a party, with programs staged by the children. This was followed by a hearty lunch.

Making Christmas presents for parents was another custom. In some schools all children made the same kind of gifts, but in others they had a choice.

The one-room hot lunch program consisted of an electric hot plate heating a water bath into which the children put their jars of soup and other food.

The seven schools had been operated as separate school districts until July 1, 1954, when they were consolidated after years of discussion.

The one-story Town of Maine School building of curtain wall construction cost \$150,000. The classrooms are large. Each is equipped with cupboards and a lavatory. Ceilings have acoustical tile and rooms are lighted with rows of fluorescent lights.

VALLEY VIEW DISTRICT NO. 3

Home, church and school, in that order marked the development of life in Maine township. An attempt has been made to show the progress of education from its beginning. The first school to be started became known as Valley View District No. 3. Classes were first held in a log building located just north of what is now the Elmer Woller home on Highway K and next to the cemetery of Faith Lutheran Church.

The first term began October 15, 1888 and ended March 29, 1889. 46 students enrolled with Frank Clark as teacher.

James Sexton taught 53 students the next two years with enrollment going to 60 by 1891. William Urban taught the term in 1893 ending in March as students were needed to help at home. A frame building was built near what is now the parsonage for Faith Lutheran.

Miss Ella Cain taught the next two terms following by Frank Trickey. Three summer terms were held with E.E. Gruber teaching. Records show that the subjects taught in 1900 - 1902 by A.J. Schmidt included reading, history, geography, physiology, arithmetic, spelling, penmanship and German.

Ida Krause came to teach in 1909 and added language and agriculture to the curriculum.

Teachers who continued at Valley View's present brick building on Rainbow Drive were as follows:

- 1914 Eleanor Bradfish
- 1916 Aurelia Wendorf
- 1917 Arthur Gnirk
- 1918 W.V. Renner with Otto Porath, Henry Hackbarth and William Woller on the board.
- 1919 Ewald Borchardt
- 1920 Inez Buch
- 1922 Henrietta Zulsdorf
- 1923 Minnie Seefeldt
- 1925 Emma Marquardt
- 1929 Ewald Borchardt
- 1931 Eleanor Reinke
- 1946 Carolyn Zimmerman
- 1948 Emma Marquardt Stubbe



Valley View School



Valley View School

CHURCH HILL DISTRICT NO. 1

Gleanings from the treasurer's cash book for Church Hill District show that school began in 1890 and continued through 1910 in the German language being taught by August Kell.

Herman Nickel became treasurer in 1913 when records for school expenses were written in English. Louise Grade was the teacher and received \$88.00 per month. Board members were John Zahn, Arthur Kufahl and Walter Ohrmundt.

Other teachers included:

- 1946 Irene Luedtke
- 1948 LaVern Machel with Ray Kluetz, Ervin Ziebell and LeRoy Yaeger as board members
- 1950 Ewald Hertz



Valley View School 1924-25, Miss Emma Marquardt teacher.



Church Hill School



Church Hill School



Taegeville School

TAEGESVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1

Taegeville School District No. 1 may have been the first to be established. It was first operated from a log building facing north on Highway A, just east of the post office.

In 1900 the next building was erected and faced the east. Board members in 1918 were Fred Imm, Emil Christian and Hugo Nass.

Teachers included:

1926-1929 Doris Kutz Forsmo

1929-1930 Esther Billington

1930-1931 Alice Hackbarth

1931-1933 Hilbert Pricke

1933-1934 Esther Krenz

Emily Franke

Marcella Luedtke

Records have been lost but Irene Ellingson taught two terms (1945-46). 42 students were enrolled in grades 1 through 8. A PTA was organized and students participated in the 4-H hot lunch program.

Other teachers who followed were:

Mrs. Alice Fricke

Mrs. Ada Schave

Mrs. Olga Woller with Lawrence Imm, Emil Christian and Reno Zastrow on the board.

SINGLE SCHOOL

The Pleasant View District No. 4 began in 1909 by first being known as the Single School since it was located on land then owned by William Single. Miss Angeline St. Mary was the teacher. Her salary was \$40.00 per month.



Single School

At the annual meeting July 13, 1916 it was decided to divide the Single School into two districts. District No. 4 had a new brick building located on the William Gensman farm. It cost \$3,500.00 and contained such new innovations as a furnace in the basement and an indoor dry closet system.

It then became known as Pleasant View. Agnes Liliquist was the first to teach in the new building. Thirty pupils enrolled.



Taegeville School



Pleasant View School



Pleasant View School

Other teachers included: 1910 Miss Lily Rifleman, 1912 Ida Reinke, 1945, Hattie Wanta-Elmer Seidler, Leonard Marquardt and Robert Schuett were on the board.

The Red Granite District No. 5 records have been lost. Little information is available but this district was organized after the turn of the century. A frame building which still stands is located one mile east from the Red Granite Station on Naugart Drive. In 1918, Mr. William J. Rusch, Ted Goetsch and Robert Smith were members of the board.

Teachers known to have taught there were: 1934-43 Irma Belter, 1943-46 Ada Lois Nass-Valentine Brzoznesy, Victor Sturm and Harry Dahl were on the board. 1947-48 Ewald Borhardt - Ben Ruether, Walter Rusch and Harry Dahl were on the board.



Red Granite School

The Cassody District No. 6 was formed on June 12, 1916 when it separated from the Pleasant View School at a committee meeting held at the Frank Deischel residence.

The southeast corner of the S.E.N.W. section 15, town 29, range 7 was selected as the site for the building. The land was purchased for \$25.00.

F. Deischel, F.O. Imm and H.E. Garske each received \$15.00 for services rendered when the building was constructed. Mr. Ed Seidler remembers that he wanted to work on the building but was unable to get a job because he was not old enough. He was 17.

Elva Goebel was the first teacher. She received \$40.00 per month. She taught three terms of nine months each. Oswald Reiche, Fred O. Imm and Henry Garske were board members in 1918.

In 1921 an eight month term was voted in but the

next year, nine months of school was again held. This continued until 1934 when an eight month term was again voted in which continued for two terms.

Teachers through the years included: Esther Tage, Selma Kuhnert, Mrs. Paul Krueger, Erna Anklam, Pearl Benedict, Francis Weibel, Herbert Semerau, Ruth Sischo, Emma Schulz, Rosalie Krahn, Emma Stubbe, Gladys Petran, Marie Knopa, Howard Akey, Deborah Garske, Ruth Jane Runke, Stanley Kordus, Leone Lane, Lorraine Kralcik.

Roland Lane, John Van Slyke and Arnold Marks were on the board.

Salaries gradually went to \$267.20 per month by 1954 when Cassody along with all other school buildings were closed to form one district (1954). The building is now an office for the Housing Mart.



Cassoday School



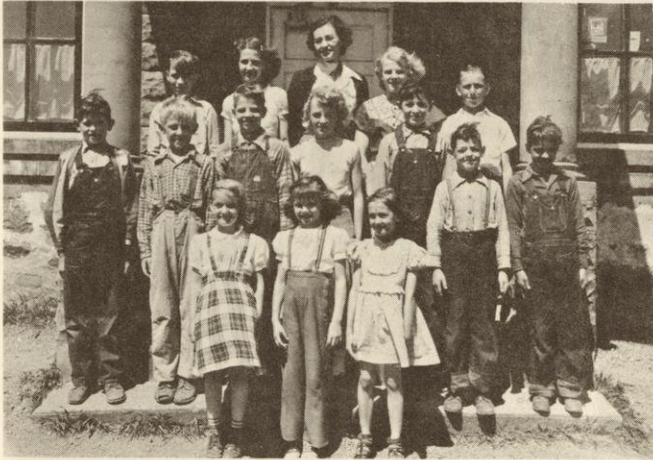
Cassoday School

On August 25, 1917 Town of Maine supervisors Otto Porath, Frank Plautz and Otto Woller posted a notice to all qualified voters to attend the first meeting of this new school district to be held at the home of William Laatsch, Sept. 3, 1917.

This was the seventh and last district to be organized in Maine township for school purposes. It was named Byron Valley. Officers elected were Emil Rusch, clerk, William Laatsch, treasurer, and John Mootz, director. The following year Jacob Steidlmann replaced John Mootz and plans were made to purchase a site and construct a building.



Byron Valley School



Byron Valley School

An acre of land was purchased for \$30.00 in the N.W. corner of the E $\frac{1}{2}$ of E $\frac{1}{2}$ of the N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 10, town 30, range 7 which is two miles east of Highway K on Rainbow Drive.

The building was constructed of cement blocks, had a basement with furnace and indoor toilets. It opened for an eight month term in 1919. Students attended Valley View on a tuition basis until the new building opened.

At the annual meeting each year, salaries were established for board members and various housekeeping duties were distributed to the lowest bidder. The clerk got \$5.00, director \$3.00 and treasurer \$4.00. Carl Brandenburg got the job of scrubbing the floor three times for \$10.00, Emil Rusch oiled it at the beginning of the term for \$6.00.

Twenty cords of dry and twenty cords of green wood were purchased. Installation of the furnace and indoor toilets cost \$380.00.

Viola Brix was the first teacher. She received \$70.00 a month salary and was required to teach German one hour each day.

By 1928 it was decided to scrub the floor four times a year and the clerk's salary went to \$10.00. The director and treasurer each received \$3.00 for the year. A nine month's term was established and continued until 1933.

The school celebrated 25 years in 1942 and closed in 1954 to become part of the reorganized district Town of Maine.

Teachers who taught at Byron Valley included: 1919-21 Viola Brix, 1921-23 Helen Hill, 1923-25 Alma Peterson. 1926-27 Gertrude Kilt and Herbert Will, 1929-30

Erna Buss, 1930-31 Marvin Ringle, 1931-33 Ewald Borchart, 1933-42 Reinhardt Latzig, 1942-43 Arnold Marks, 1943-45 Irene Luedtke, 1943-47 Priscilla Latzig, 1947-49 Irene Ellingson, 1949-54 Mavis Woller.

Emil Rusch, Marcus Sturm and Walter Hoff were board members when it closed with Emil Rusch serving as clerk continuously from the beginning of Byron Valley School.



1946-47 grade school: Phyllis Heib, Donald Sturm, Richard Heib, David Schlag, Kenneth Sturm, Philip Krause, Dolores Bielke, David Woller, Irene Krause, Herbert Laatsch, Ruth Bielke, David Raddatz, Mary Ann Schlag, Clifford Woller, Florian Raddatz, Adeline Woller, Harder, John Harder, Donald Hoff, Mrs. Priscilla Latzig.

Reorganization of Districts (1954)

All seven districts were combined into one for school purposes in 1954. Ben Sturm, chairman, Clarence Utech, clerk and Walter Hoff, treasurer were elected officers. These schools operated in their separate school buildings for five years.

In 1959 a special meeting was held to discuss the crowded conditions in each of these seven, one-room buildings. Plans were made to construct a new one, large enough to house ten classrooms and a multipurpose room.

At the annual meeting in July, plans for this new facility were voted down, but in December, another meeting was held and the project got the green light. The present site was approved and named, The Maine Elementary School District No. 1. It began operation in 1960. All students living two miles from school were bussed to school.

Funds were made available to equip the kitchen, landscape the grounds, install playground equipment, install draperies or blinds, an intercom system and fences.

Voluminous records, kept by Clerk Utech for eight years, tell of the growth and expansion through the eight years our township school was in operation. An active parent-teacher organization and a mothers' club worked to supply many new teaching tools and an excellent staff directed by George Klinker provided top-notch instruction for students.

On June 22, 1962, all school property of District 1 was transferred to the Wausau School District. It continues to provide the best education we know for grades Kindergarten through five.

When the new bridge crossing the Wisconsin River at Brokaw was completed, the Brokaw School was closed and those students were transferred to the Maine School. Those students living in the northern part of Maine township were transferred to the new building in Berlin township. So Town of Maine continues its close relationship with our good neighbors just west.

District Treasurer's Bond.

[State of Wisconsin.]

Know all Men by these presents, That I, Albert Sturms, Treasurer of School District No. 5, Town of Maine Marathon County and State of Wis. his surety are held and firmly bound unto said School District, in the sum of One Thousand Dollars, to be paid to the said

School District, for the payment of which, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators, jointly and firmly, by these presents.

In Witness Whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals, this 10 day of July A. D. 1911

The condition of the above obligation is such that if the said Albert Sturms Treasurer as aforesaid, shall faithfully discharge the duties of his office as Treasurer of said School District, and shall well and truly pay over to the person or persons entitled thereto, upon the proper order therefor, all sums of money which shall come into his hands as Treasurer of said District, and shall, at the expiration of his term of office, pay over to his successor in office all moneys remaining in his hands as Treasurer aforesaid, and shall deliver to his successor all books and papers appertaining to his said office, then this obligation shall be void, otherwise of full force and virtue.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in the Presence of

B. W. Goble, Albert Sturms, E. J. Evans

Approved this 10 day of July 1911

John Ruether, Director, J. K. Beilke, Clerk.

THE LAW.—Section 35. The treasurer of each district shall, within ten days after his election, execute to the district and file with the clerk, a bond in double the amount of money, as near as can be ascertained, to come into his hands as treasurer, with sufficient sureties, to be approved by the director and clerk, conditioned for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office, and if he shall fail to do so, his office shall be vacant, and the board shall thereupon appoint a treasurer, who shall be subject to the same conditions and possess the same powers as if elected to that office.

Section 36. Whenever the director and clerk of any school-district shall deem the security upon the bond of the treasurer insufficient, they shall have the right to demand additional security, and the refusal or neglect of the treasurer to furnish such additional security, within ten days thereafter, shall vacate his office. School Law of 1873.

COMMENTS. A neglect to file the bond, completed and approved, within ten days, as the law directs, vacates the office. Filing it with the approval of one member of the board only, or after the time expires, is of no effect. It is obviously improper for either the director or clerk to become surety for the treasurer.

The power granted the clerk and director, by this section, should be exercised whenever the interests of the district demand it. No good citizen will regard the exercise of this power as an imputation upon his character. Whenever the security on the bond is not such as the law requires, it is obviously the duty of the treasurer to furnish additional security, and it must be done promptly, within ten days, just as in the original filing of the bond.

Under the present United States tax law the treasurer's bond does not require revenue stamp, as formerly.—Comments on the School Law, by Hon. S. Fallows.

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[State of Wisconsin.]

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School District, for the payment of which, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators, jointly and firmly, by these presents.

In Witness Whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals, this Fourth day of October A. D. 1911

The condition of the above obligation is such that if the said Albert Laatsch Treasurer as aforesaid, shall faithfully discharge the duties of his office as Treasurer of said School District, and shall well and truly pay over to the person or persons entitled thereto, upon the proper order therefor, all sums of money which shall come into his hands as Treasurer of said District, and shall, at the expiration of his term of office, pay over to his successor in office all moneys remaining in his hands as Treasurer aforesaid, and shall deliver to his successor all books and papers appertaining to his said office, then this obligation shall be void, otherwise of full force and virtue.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in the Presence of

A. W. Goetsch, Albert Laatsch, Albert Sturms

Approved this 4 day of October 1911

Fred Waller Jr., Director, J. W. Beilke, Clerk.

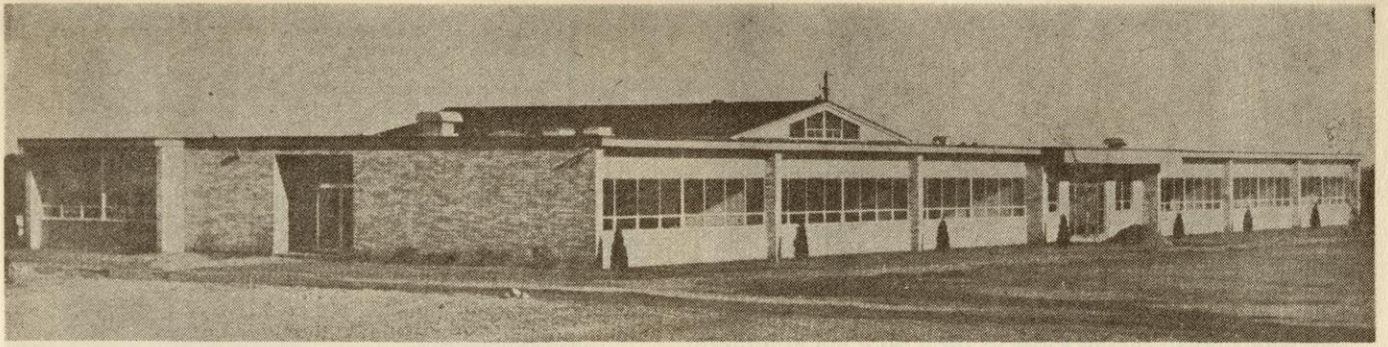
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Build a school in the country and let the town grow up around it. That's a simplified version of what people are doing in rural areas surrounding the City of Wausau in central Wisconsin.

Townships are locking the doors on their one-room schools, pulling together their resources and building modern, multi-room elementary schools on the outskirts of the city.

Though the area still must be classified as rural, its pupil population is high and the land is valuable—the city is edging outward.

"To eliminate long transportation routes and to provide for community centers around the city proper," are the reasons for building outside the city, as cited by A.C. Werth, Marathon County Superintendent of

Schools. Junior and senior high school pupils are transported into the city.

Three townships surrounding Wausau have established "city type country schools" so far. Maine on the northwest side has a 10-room school, while to the west are Stettin with 9 rooms and Rib Mountain with 16 rooms.

The townships of Hewitt and Texas are planning to build an 8-room school northeast of the city, according to Mr. Werth. "After reorganization is completed, these schools will have the same educational program as any of the elementary schools in the city," Mr. Werth added.

As published in the Aug. 7, 1961, issue of the Midland Cooperator.

N.C.T.I.

The educational operation known today as North Central Technical Institute began in 1912 in a small two story building called Wausau Vocational School.

It all began in 1911 when the State Legislature passed Wisconsin's first vocational education law creating an educational climate for the future growth and general welfare of all citizens.

In the half a century which followed, the school expanded into nearly every conceivable type of facility available, stores, chapels, hotels, labor temple and garages in the Wausau area, always adapting to meet the growing need and provide every-expanding services.

After World War II, a factory building was renovated to provide centralized facilities for what had become Marathon County Technical Institute.

The new state-wide districting concept was created by the State Legislature in 1965. This called for new ideas and larger facilities to fulfill bigger purposes in adult education.

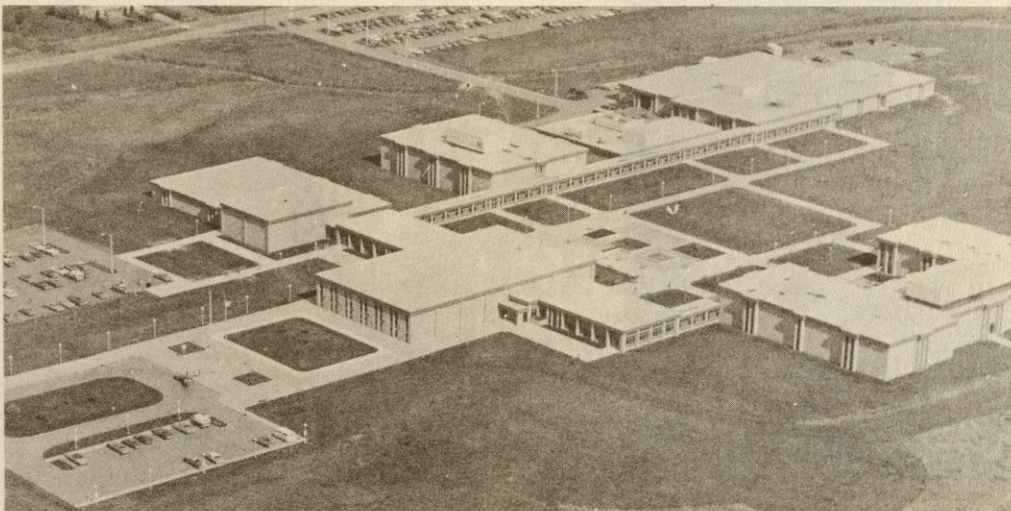
June, 1967 saw the beginning of the present 100 acre

campus in the southern end of Maine township. The building was completed March, 1969 and is an attractive, efficient service center for vocational, technical and adult education. It is dedicated to the philosophy that there is dignity in all types of work well performed.

The Health Occupations Center was added to the campus in 1971.

More than 300 men and women from throughout the community serve on N.C.T.I.'s thirty citizen advisory committees. They volunteer their time and expertise without financial reward, so that the school's instruction can remain attuned to the ever changing requirements and standards of career fields.

The faculty, under the direction of Lawrence B. Hoyt has increased from 18 in 1957 to more than 120 instructors with 75% holding master's degrees. They provide top-notch instruction to more than 10,000 students each year, who enroll in more than 36 different courses.



Taverns

Most of the taverns, or saloons, as they were called, in the early history of our town, were located on the first main road between Wausau and Merrill.

After a day of hauling logs or firewood into the city, they were welcome spots on the way home. Here one could get warm and enjoy the company of his neighbor, while he sipped the "brew". (Maybe milking would be late that night.) A cold glass of beer, on a hot summers evening, after a day in the fields, was also welcome.

Some of the original taverns still exist. Probably the only one to keep its original name and building is the Bee Hive.

John Marson, who immigrated here from Luxemburg, Germany, obtained a license from the town board in 1894. The place was called "Luxemburg", until the people called it the Bee Hive because of the many hives he kept here. A favorite chant said by the customers was as follows, "Luxemburger, Yuk, Yuk, Yuk. Hat All Mein Gelt Fur Yukt." He also was a dealer in hides and skins which he bought and sold. A lively evenings entertainment was enjoyed when the "quarry boys" and the "papermill boys" would meet and a fight would ensue. Usually the "quarry boys" sent the "papermill boys" home early. Marson sold the place to Frank Helke and he to Herman Rollenhagen.

Taegeville had a saloon with a dance hall upstairs. Later a grocery store was added and William Hintz built a separate dance hall. Walter Krueger recalls that the first owner, Mr. Taege held dances, in the woods in the summer, on what was his farm later. Dorian Schmidt, the present owner, discontinued the grocery store. It is a popular place for wedding receptions.

Because Brokaw didn't allow taverns, Abe Lique built on the east end of Falcon Drive, so the people could cross the river, by way of the papermill dam, and walk up the hill to his saloon and hotel. He was a colorful character who was an avid hunter and drove one of the first cars. The boys would love to race with him, on their bicycles.



Abe Lique at Abe's Place. He was about 45 years old and was going hunting.

"Here Tis" was built by Peter Groff. It is not known if a man named Lambrecht was a co-owner or if he worked for Groff. Other owners were Frank and Paul Marth and Ed Nickel.

It was known as Rainbow Gardens and had cabins for rent, when Mathilda Jesse owned it.

Joe Nein's called it "Little Bavaria" and made it famous for German food, which they were masters at because they had come from Germany.

Mrs. Galdys Hafeman is the present owner.



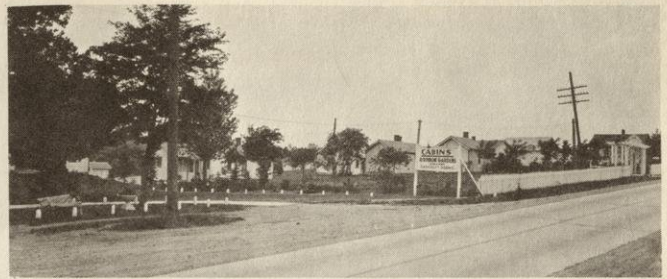
Abe's Place. Valra Lique (Evans) of Estacada, Oregon was born here. She was 2 years old, when this picture was taken in 1919.



Here 'Tis Taken in 1916 when it was the "Gables"



Mrs. Gladys Hafeman, the present owner of Here 'Tis.



Rainbow Gardens in the 1930's.



The Towne House as it appears today, on Merrill Avenue.

The original 120 acres on which the Towne House now stands was deeded to Ben Hirsh in 1857; by the act of Congress of 1855, to certain officers and soldiers of military service. This was called "Bounty Land". This land was acquired for Mr. Hirsh by his Corporal Isaac Neely and Captain Tates, for his service with the Kentucky Militia in the War of 1812.

In 1867 this land was acquired by B.C. Plumber and John Brown through a tax deed for \$24.97.

In 1884 Mr. Garski sold 1½ acres on which the Town House stands to Mr. Bill Eschwig for \$75.00 who at this time erected the center part of the two-story building as a combination home and saloon.

The Town House is nearest to Wausau and some of the building is original. Mr. Eschwig got his license in 1887. In 1902 he sold to a Mr. Sternberg.

In 1905 the property was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Hoffman. They called the place "Palace Gardens". About 1915 Mr. Hoffman installed a small version of what is now a bowling alley. It was a short alley with small pins and wood balls about 4" in diameter and was called "Duck Pins". At this time the place was also enlarged to almost its present size.

About 1920 the name was changed to "Range Gun Club" and there was trap shooting in the back of the property; also across the street was a hanger and landing field for small planes of the time, the first in Wausau. (Where Marathon Implement now stands). Owners after Hoffman were: Voight, Charles Andler and Hal Haloway. He named it "Wau-Wis".

The place changed hands four times between 1928 and 1951 when it was acquired by Vera and Vern Schmiedens. It was the Schmiedens who did the extensive remodeling and improvements as the place is today. After 21 years of excellent business the Schmiedens retired and sold the place to Russ and Judy Schaut of Milwaukee who own it today.



Bullocks is a supper club now. It was known as the Silver Moon when Clarence Schnecks owned it and as the Commodore Club when Blanche and Rudy Bye were operating it.

During World War II, a tavern known as Jack's PX was built at the north end of the township. It has now been converted into a duplex.

All the establishments have had many owners. The names have been changed, and a few new places have been added over the years. The town board has regulated the number of taverns that are issued licenses. Some have become supper clubs. Others are; Harter's and the Red Granite Tap.

The first owner of the land now owned by Schmidt's Ballroom was bought from the U.S. Government on October 4, 1855 by Charles Schlueter.

There were many succeeding owners of this property throughout the years, one being Mr. Taege from which the name Taegesville arrived which many of you can recall. A post office was also built here at that time.

In later years it was sold to William and Martha Hintz who built the dance hall, naming it the Spot Light Pavilion.

Lorton and Irene Schmidt purchased it from the Hintzes on March 18, 1946. After remodeling and adding an addition the name was changed to the present Schmidt's Bar and Ballroom which it has been the past 30 years.

On May 1, 1952 a partnership was formed by the Schmidt's and their son Dorian, who still operates the business at the present time. Lorton, Dorian's father passed away March 10, 1961.

Schmidt's Ballroom is well known throughout the state and neighboring states for the appearance of many famous orchestras making it this areas favorite old-time dancing spot.

After many years of planning and preparation by Dorian, it hosted this areas first Polka Festival being held on July 23, 1967 with a crowd of 4,000.

Schmidt's Ballroom is now equipped to accommodate your wedding dinner, dance and reception, Christmas parties, banquets, etc.



Schmidt's Ballroom



Schmidt's Ballroom



The Maple Leaf Pavilion and Saloon in December 1924. It was located on 3 acres of land. The present owner is Shirley Flowers, who has owned it since June of 1970. It is known as Shirley's Bar.



Schmidt's Ballroom 1976

Clubs - Organizations - Recreation

4-H CLUBS

MAINE

Maine-This was organized March 25, 1941 at Pleasant View School. The founder of the club was Mr. William Lonsdorf. Assistant leaders were Mrs. William Lonsdorf and Mrs. Earl Witter.

Officers elected were Eugene Witter, President; William Lonsdorf, Jr., Vice-President; Grace Witter, Secretary-Treasurer; and Joyce Derbick, Reporter. There were eleven charter members.

Leaders through the years were: William Lonsdorf 1941-46, Mrs. William Lonsdorf 1941-43, Mrs. Earl Witter 1941-43, Elizabeth Lonsdorf 1942-43, Mr. Arnold Marks 1943-46, Mr. Eugene Witter 1944-50, Mr. James Wood, Jr., 1944-47, Mrs. George Lonsdorf 1945-55, Mrs. Aaron Miller 1945-51, Mr. Robert Schuett, Jr. 1950, Mrs. Robert Schuett, Jr., 1960, Mrs. Robert Buettner 1968, Mr. and Mrs. Schuett and Mrs. Buettner are the present general leaders. Membership at the present time is 76.

NORTH MAINE

North Maine started out as the Valley View 4-H in 1934 with Mr. and Mrs. Ewald Borchardt as leaders. Marvin Plisch and Reinhard Latzig coached and directed drama activities, which won state championships 2 years in a row. "The Cardigan Kid" and "Who Gets the Car Tonight" were winners. The Borchardts moved away in 1945 and the club continued under the leadership of Mrs. Irene Ellingson, Mrs. Reno Smith, Mrs. Elroy Utecht, Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Saeger and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Utecht. It was discontinued for 2 years and then re-organized in 1957 when the name was changed to Hill and Dale. Mr. and Mrs. Dorian Thurs were leaders.

The club was again renamed in 1961 to North Maine and has continued to the present under the guidance of many community leaders. Mrs. James Lewis is the present general leader.

CASSODY

This club was active for many years in the southern part of Maine township and created a lot of competition to neighboring clubs. Industrial development in the area created other interests. Members joined Maine or North Maine when Cassody disbanded.



Maine 4-H Club donated the piano to the Maine Town Hall. George Lonsdorf, Roger Mider, Robert Schuette, Jr., Eugene Witter.

MAINE 4-H CLUB

35 YEARS AGO

Organized on March 25, 1941 in the Town of Maine, Marathon County with eleven members, at the Pleasant View School.

General leaders responsible for its organization and operation were Mr. and Mrs. William Lonsdorf Sr. and Mrs. Earl Witter. Junior Leaders were George Lonsdorf and Eugene Witter, assisted by the officers William Lonsdorf Jr., Grace Witter and Joyce Dirbick.

Their year ending financial report showed a balance of \$13.41. Profits were derived from an ice cream social, a sandwich sale and 4-H club exhibit by arranging a booth at the Wisconsin Valley Fair.

The highlight of the clubs first year was having a member win the Health Award, namely Eugene Witter. Eugene received a trip to the Wisconsin State Fair in Milwaukee and placing within the top ten during State Health competition.

"Efficiency Counts" was the club's motto throughout their first year relating to project work and their finished product as the end result.

In June, 1942, Grace Witter participated in the Marathon County Fire Prevention Contest and placed first in the girls division. Her essay "We The People Are Unconscious," was then sent to the state committee for consideration and then on to the National Committee when in 1943 Grace was selected to receive a \$100.00 scholarship in the National Fire Prevention Contest.



Mr. and Mrs. William Lonsdorf Sr., first leaders of the Maine 4-H Club.

Jim Wood and Eugene Witter were leaders in 1944. The Wisconsin Bankers Association presented Eugene Witter with a \$35.00 War Bond for outstanding 4-H Club work in 1944.

Paper drives were popular at this time, with the club gathering up 2,830 lbs. netting a profit of \$17.56. In May of 1945 the club gathered up over 14,000 lbs. of scrap paper much of which went into the manufacture of food cartons and ammunition boxes for the Armed Forces.

George Lonsdorf and Mrs. Aaron Miller were leaders in 1946. This was an honorable year for Eugene Witter, who became President of the Marathon County Leaders Federation.

In 1947 a piano that is still being used was donated to the Town Hall. They operated a lunch stand at one of the first "Grassland Field Days." They made a profit of \$132 and they used this money for a club trip to Wiscon-

sin Dells.

Thirteen members picked 125 sacks of potatoes for the Aaron Millers on Oct. 11 while Millers were busy replacing a barn destroyed by fire in Sept.

In 1948 Robert Schuett Jr. was awarded a 2 year scholarship to the "Farm Short Course" at Madison on the basis of his achievements in 4-H club work.

In 1950 Robert Schuett Jr. became club leader.

Martin Jennyjohn won 53 prizes on his herd of Poland China hogs at the Fair.

In 1953 two books were donated to the Marathon County Library in memory of Mr. Earl Witter.



Foods and nutrition project meeting, 1956. Left to right: Helen Marquardt, Janice Ziebell, Virginia Marquardt, Katy Marquardt. Maine 4-H Club.

In 1959 Gayle Ann Siedler attended 4-H Club week at Madison.

In 1960 the club won first place in drama with a one act play "Sunday Costs 5 Pesos". Mrs. Robert Schuett Jr. was assistant leader. Gayla Seidler won first place in state wide speaking contest. She received a chest of silverware.

In 1963 Nola and Neal won blue ribbons in their county speaking contest.



Sharon Buettner-demonstration at Wisconsin Valley Fair 1963. Maine 4-H Club.

In 1964 Mr. and Mrs. R. Schuett Jr. were delegates to the Citizenship Short Course in Washington D.C. for one week. In 1965 they also took part in a "People to People" 4-H leaders delegation tour of Europe including Soviet Union.

In 1966 Mrs. Robert Bueltner became an assistant leader.

In 1971 Miss Debra Moser, one of our members, was June Dairy Princess. Sharon Buettner was one of 20 4-H members from the state to take part in the "Reach Out Group" related to music and drama. This year the Chicago 4-H and Marathon Co. 4-H exchanged members for 5 day visits. Bob Schuett III and Richard Buettner were from Marathon County and a month later two came from the Chicago 4-H.

In 1972 Debortah Moser was chosen "Alice in Dairyland."

Linda Lonsdorf represented Marathon County in the 35 piece State 4-H band. Karen Schuett and Deborah Zahn participated in the Chicago 4-H exchange.

In 1976 we now have 72 members and 12 leaders.

CHURCH HILL 4-H CLUB

Church Hill 4-H Club was organized in 1945 by Mrs. Frank Plautz and Mrs. Walen Howe. There were a total of eleven members.

They had a band led by a Mr. Ziebart.

Members worked on projects as well as putting up booths at the Fair.

This club disbanded after about 5 years of club work.

CASSODY ALL-STARS 4-H CLUB

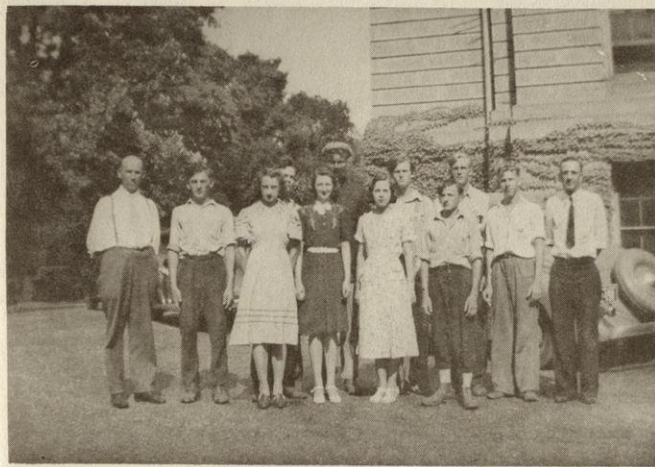
The Cassody All-Stars 4-H Club was organized at the Town of Maine Cassody School in 1948 by the teacher Mrs. August Schultz. Mr. Arnold Marks was the first general leader. Some of the other leaders through the years were Mrs. Arnold Marks, Mrs. Walter Manicke, Mr. Bill Steidtmann, Mrs. Adolph Hintz, Mrs. Jane Pellet, Mrs. Arthur Freiberg, Mrs. Dorothy Nass, Mrs. George Waldvogel, Mrs. Angie Jozwiak and Gary Draheim.

Through the years the club was very active with many fine programs, and outstanding achievements. Many have gone on to hold fine and responsible positions today.

It is truly sad that the club collapsed when Mrs. Nass gave up the leadership and moved away, because she had to give up her home to make room for the new Highway 51. The club membership was usually between 20 and 35 young people. Many have now joined other area 4-H clubs.



Play scene from "Who Gets The Car Tonight". Left to right: Walter Piehler, Reuben Schult, Florence (Hackbardt) Wood, Renata Schult, Elroy Utech.



Cast of play "Cardigan Kid"

Front row, left to right: Ewald Borchardt, Melbourne Laatsch, Florence (Hackbart) Wood, Dorothy Woller, Lorna (Jahns) Utecht, Robert Laatsch, Wally Piehler, Reinhart Latzig. Second row, left to right: Clarence Utech, Reuben Schult, Otto Porath, Elroy Utech.

LANGE'S WOODS

Souvenirs of Nature, also known as Lang's Woods, is located in section 27 of the Town of Maine adjacent to the new Highway 51. It began as a land improvement project on an 80 acre piece of land purchased from Clint Clausen in 1961. Another 80 was purchased in 1969 from Wilbert Goetsch.

Interest in nature by young people, induced the owner to study, plan and develop 20 acres of the land into two nature trails which included 44 stations and a black topped convalescent trail for wheelchairs about ¼ mile long. There is also a covered bridge.

Later a museum was added. This includes wood carvings and artifacts obtained from Anton Kordick. There is also a major exhibit of land surveying implements by Harold Laurence.

These self-guiding trails are open to the public year around. Special tours of the museum can be arranged by appointment. The project was planned as a public service to those interested in studying nature or merely wishing to enjoy a few hours of relaxation. There is no charge of any kind.

HOMEMAKERS CLUBS

The history of the homemakers' clubs in the state of Wisconsin has deep roots in the township of Maine. The first Maine Homemakers Club, still a most active club in 1976, was begun more than 60 years ago and is the state's oldest club, according to Edith Bangham, one of Marathon County's early home agents. She is presently writing part of the history of the Wisconsin Extension Service.

Homemaker groups, such as First Maine, grew out of the home front emergency situation of World War I. Wheat, meat and sugar were scarce items during this time. To help with these problems, 15 emergency home demonstration agents were hired in Wisconsin. Mary Brady served in Marathon County as such an agent.

An agent's task was to help women organize for a war economy. Few who lived through those years will forget wheatless, sugarless and meatless days, or how to make cottage cheese.

The war ended suddenly in 1918 and all agents with

the exception of Mary Brady were out of a job. The Marathon County Board, influenced by the urgent requests of homemakers' groups, voted to appoint Mary Brady on a permanent basis. She became Wisconsin's first home agent and remained the only home agent in the state for 10 years. She served under the strong and personable directives of state home economics leader, Mrs. Nellie Kedzie Jones. Maine homemakers, along with all Marathon County homemakers, had two special champions for their cause, Mary Brady and Nellie Kedzie Jones - whom they held in very high regard.

Through the years homemakers clubs in the township grew in number. Their projects often reflected the problems or challenges of the times. For example, in an effort to help women who were pressed for meal preparation time, the one dish meal was promoted. (The men eventually got used to them.)

Another example was a beautification project. Marathon County homemakers planted 30 miles of roadsides on Highway 51 with native trees and shrubs using the lilac bush as the feature. They started planting at the Portage-Marathon line and extended to the Lincoln County line.

Today, Maine township has seven clubs. Following are their names, dates of organization and present leaders: First Maine, 1919, Mrs. Keith Bauer, pres., Maine Busy Bees 1925, Mrs. John Jorgensen, pres., Handy Hands, 1954, Mrs. Vernon Kueknerfuss, pres., Mainette, 1960, Mrs. Ed. Kufahl, pres., North Suburnetts, 1964, Mrs. Lloyd Derbick, pres., Friendly 12, 1974, Mrs. Jon H. Graf, Trails End, 1974, Mrs. Ervin Saeger, pres.

MAINE LIONS CLUB

Present officers of the Maine Lions Club are:

President, Mike Zubrick, Vice President Jim Gwidt, 2nd Vice President Ed Kufahl, Secretary, Dave Johnson, Treasurer Eugene Utecht, Tail Twister Ken Utecht, Lion Tamer Doug Krueger. They have a membership of 33 who are actively involved in projects that support the following:

Lions Camp - Rosholt, Leader Dog School - Snowmobile Derby.

Funds for these projects are raised in various ways. Two of their annual projects include a Halloween Dance at Schmidts Ballroom and a pancake dinner.

Social events for the family include a steak fry, corn roast and Christmas party.



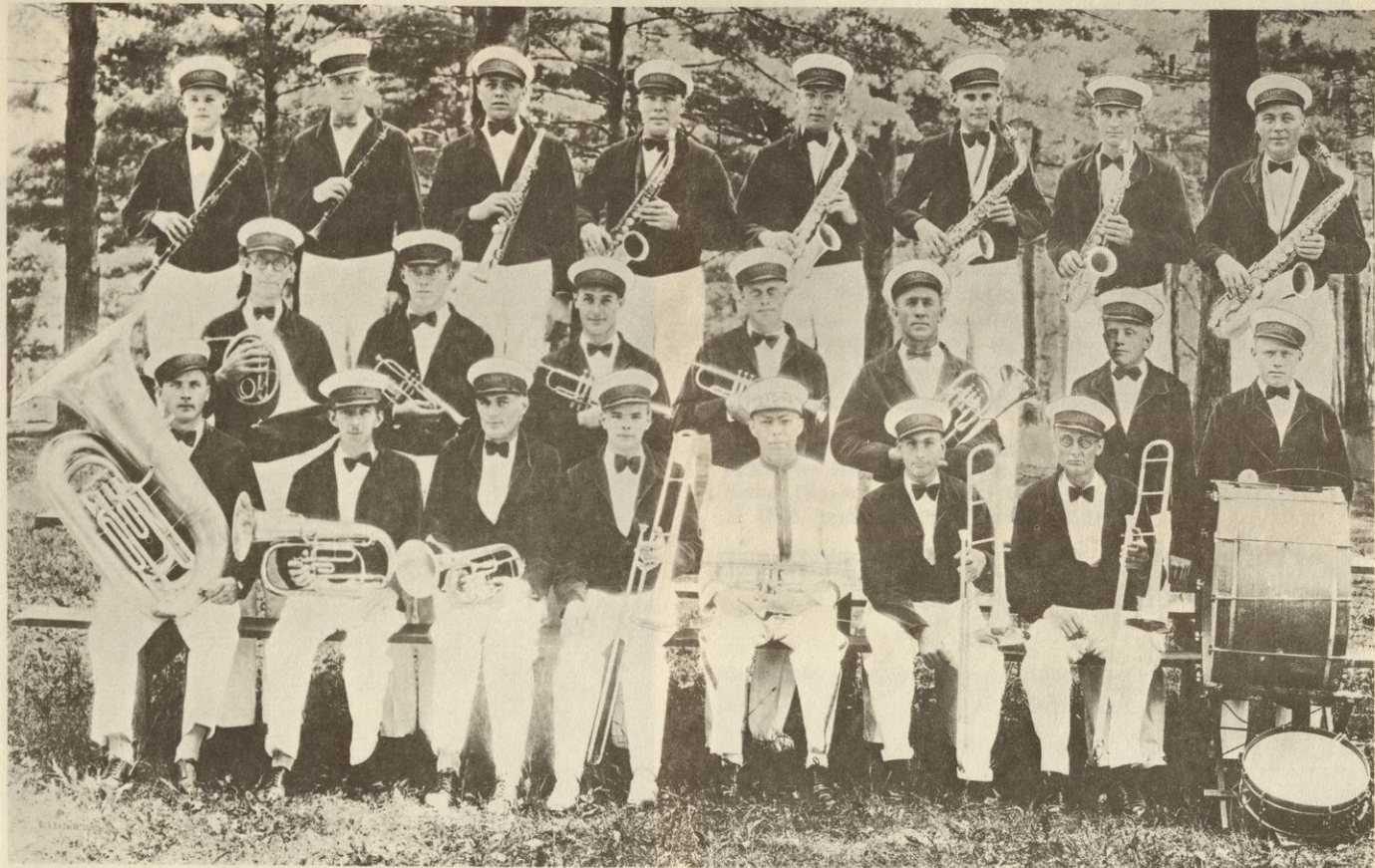
Albert Voelker, William Voelker, Emil and Leo Imm.



A neighborhood band. Top row: Harry Laabs, Arthur Sturm and Herbert Hartwig. Bottom row: Harry Maahs, Frank Woller and William Radtke.

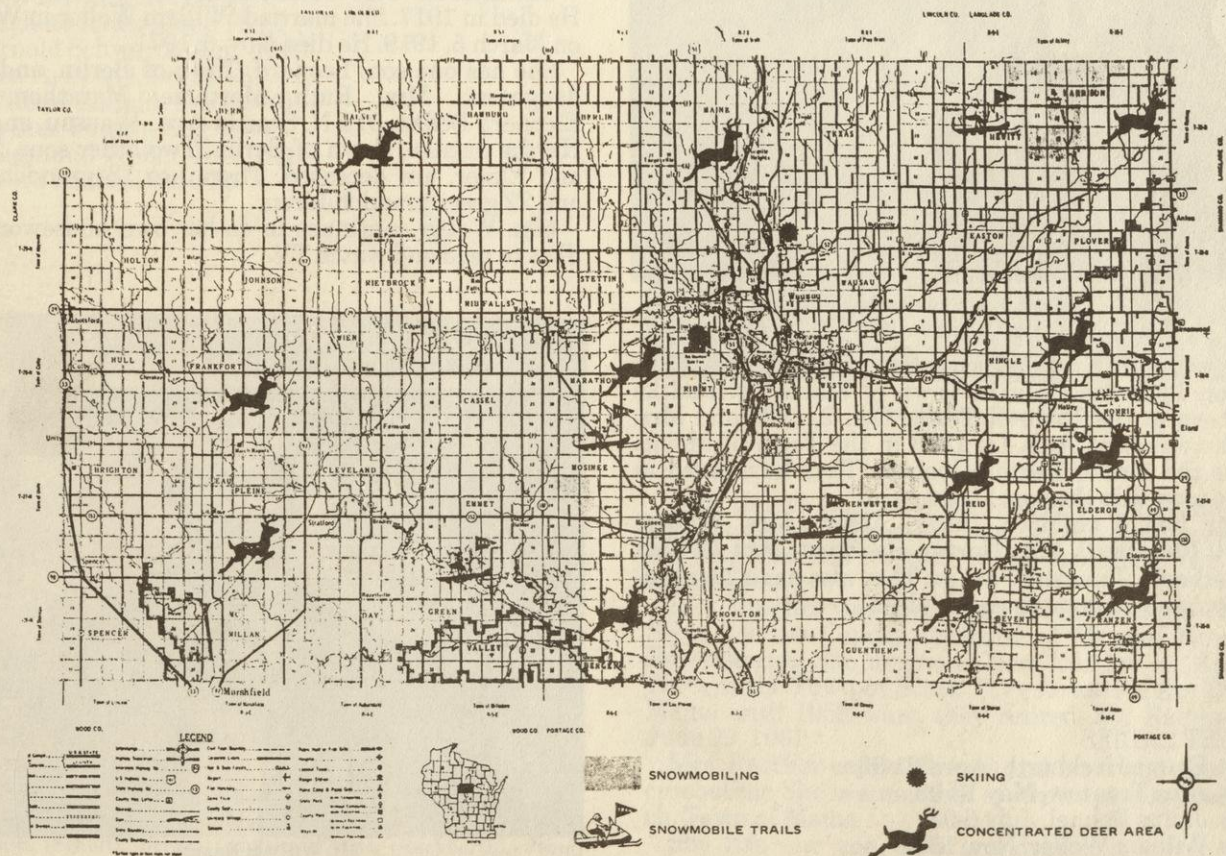


Richard Bauman, William Christian, Arthur and Henry Prichel, Martin Christian.



Top row: Daniel Rusch, Roman Maahs, Raymond Sturm, Wesley Sturm, Walter Schult, Walter Marquardt, Raymond Voigt and Walter Hoff. Second row: Paul Beilke, Ben Porath, Arthur Kickbusch, Edgar Sturm, Walter Steckling, Harry Maahs and Walter Maahs. Front row: Walter Radtke, Emil Woller, Ervin Porath, Carl Rusch, John Kollath, director, Herbert Kilian and Albert Giese.

MARATHON COUNTY WINTER RECREATION



Golden Agers

Town of Maine residents wish to congratulate the 47 Golden Agers who have lived and worked through the years so they can enjoy their retirement.

Each one who stops to think of the valuable contributions made to the growth and development of Maine salute you and wish you continued good health and happiness. We thank you for your stories of the past. You have enriched the lives of many. God bless you all.

The Committee

GOLDEN AGERS, PRESENT AND FORMER, OF THE TOWN OF MAINE

OLDEST COUPLE

Mr. Paul Radke, Oct. 2-88
Mrs. Paul Radke, Aug. 15-83
(Married 62 years)



Mr. & Mrs. Paul Radke
Taken Christmas 1975

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Radtke were married June 6, 1914 at Zion Lutheran Church, Town of Maine. Mr. Radtke was born in the Town of Texas, Oct. 2, 1888 and Mrs. Radtke was born Aug. 14, 1893 in the Town of Maine. She is the former Bertha Goetsch. They have lived in Maine township the past 20 years.

They had 8 children, Oscar, Albert, Mrs. Wilbert Ziebell (deceased), Mrs. Norton Hackbart, Mrs. DeHart Wiederhoeft, John and Paul Jr. They also have 23 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

OLDEST LADIES

Mrs. Emma Hackbarth, April 21-93
Mrs. Alex Trantow, May 13-93
Mrs. Julius Dehnel, July 6-93
Mrs. William Woller, Nov. 13-93



Mrs. William Woller

Mrs. Woller was born in the Town of Scott, Nov. 13, 1884.

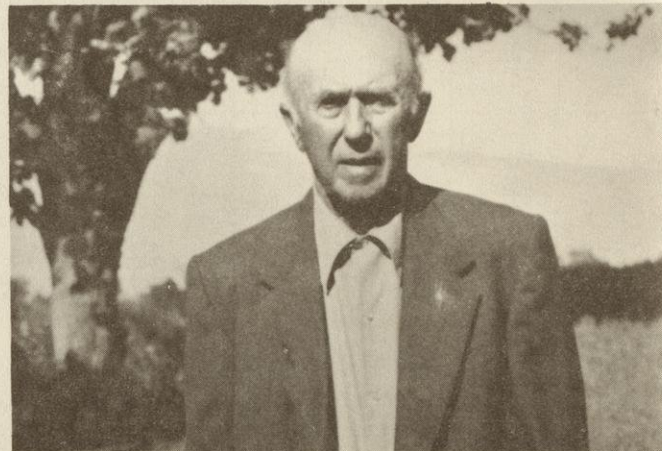
She married Otto Utecht in Merrill on Dec. 20, 1902. He died in 1917. She married William Woller in Wausau on March 5, 1919. He died Nov. 6, 1971.

She has one son, Leonard, Town of Berlin, and three daughters, Mrs. Ruth Matthiae, Marathon; Mrs. Eleonora Beilke, 919 N. Second Ave., Wausau, and Mrs. Hertha Jaenke, Town of Berlin. Two other sons, Victor and Elmer, are deceased. There are 13 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Woller continues to do her own housework and likes to read and watch TV.

OLDEST MAN

Mr. William Raasch, Oct. 10-92



Mr. William Raasch

Mrs. Emma Hackbarth, April 21-93
 Mrs. Alex Trantow, May 13-93
 Mrs. Julius Dehnel, July 6-93
 Mrs. William Woller, Nov. 13-93
 Mr. William Raasch, Oct. 10-92
 Mrs. Schmieden, Mar. 22-91
 Mrs. Helena Ruether, April 16-90
 Mrs. Emma Kleutz, Mar. 9-89
 Mrs. Ernest Luedtke, Aug. 2-89
 Mr. Anton Imm, Feb. 4-88
 Mrs. Frank Lemke, Mar. 21-88
 Mr. William Runzheimer, Aug. 5-88
 Mr. Anton Kufahl, Aug. 19-88
 Mr. Wilhelm Bartelt, Sept. 6-88
 Mr. Paul Radke, Oct. 2-88
 Mrs. Martin (Olga) Schult, May 17-87
 Mrs. Otto (Emma) Christian, June 9-87
 Mr. Walter Kilian, Feb. 5-86
 Mrs. Emil Rusch, Sept. 19-86
 Mrs. Hazel Thomas, Feb. 20-85
 Mrs. Otto Imm, Mar. 3-85
 Mrs. Wilford Trantow, Mar. 27-85
 Mr. Hugo E. Nass, June 27-85
 Mr. Albert Kell, Aug. 15-85
 Mr. Leo Imm, Mar. 10-84
 Mr. George Beilke, Mar. 12-84
 Mrs. Walter (Anna) Steidtman, Mar. 13-84
 Mrs. Sylvia Nass, Mar. 18-84
 Mrs. Edwin Sturm, June 6-83
 Mrs. Erna Trantow, June 9-83
 Mrs. Paul Radke, Aug. 15-83
 Mrs. Reinhold Weise, Oct. 7-83
 Mr. Alfred Genrich, Dec. 13-83
 Mr. Leo Beilke, Jan. 8-82
 Mrs. Clara Hamke, Mar. 6-82
 Mrs. Flora Beilke, Mar. 23-82
 Mrs. Ella Machel, Mar. 26-82
 Mrs. Louise Kufahl, Aug. 8-82
 Mr. Herbert Wiedow, Sept. 5-82
 Mr. Edward Saeger, Feb. 9-81
 Mr. Michael Bauer, June 18-81
 Mr. Arnold Schwartz, Aug. 30-81
 Mr. Ben A. Doede, Dec. 15-81
 Mr. Wilbert Kufahl, Feb. 29-80
 Mr. Arthur Porath, Aug. 8-80
 Mrs. Sigmund Woller, Nov. 1-80
 Mrs. Emil Laabs, Dec. 6-80.



Living members of the Herman and Bertha (Beilke) Imm family. Picture taken May 29, 1976. Left to right: Leo Imm 84, March 24, 1892, Esther (Haakenson) 79, May 10, 1897, Emma (Hackbarth) 93, April 21, 1883, Anton Imm, 88, February 14, 1888.



Mrs. Helena Ruether

Mrs. Helena Ruether observed her 90th birthday at an open house at the home of her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Ruether, Route 5, Merrill, with whom she resides.

Mrs. Ruether was born April 16, 1886, in the Town of Scott, Lincoln County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Claus Bartenhagen. She married Claus Ruether on April 28, 1906, in the Town of Scott. They farmed in the Town of Maine until 1958 when they retired. Mr. Ruether died June 29, 1961.

Mrs. Ruether enjoys flowers and birds and does much crocheting. She is a member of Grace evangelical Church, Town of Maine.

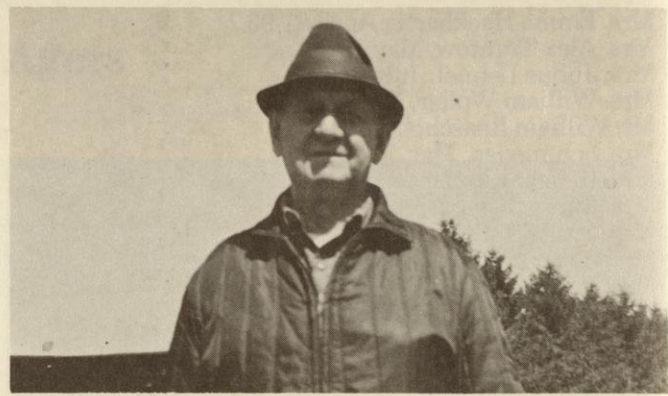
She has one son, two grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.



Herman Imm family, 1905. Top Row: Anton, Fred, Ida (Nickel), Otto, Guste (Saeger), Emil. Bottom Row: Bertha (Zahn), Herman (father), Leo, Anna (Schult), Bertha (mother), Emma (Hackbarth). Front: Esther (Haakenson).



Mr. & Mrs. Robert Sturm
Married 70 Years



Mr. Leo Bielke



Mr. & Mrs. Emil Rusch
Married April 10, 1911 - 65 Years.



Mr. B.A. Doede

FIVE GENERATIONS



Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Wiedow
Married Nov. 1, 1916 - 60 Years



Jennifer Ann Wood is held by her great-grandmother, Mrs. Gwendolyn Aschbrenner, 1511 N. 28th Ave., Wausau. Completing the five generations are (left to right) Mrs. Geraldine Wood, 1301 Kenwood Dr., Wausau, the grandmother; Jeffrey Paul Wood, 2606 N. 96th Ave., Wausau, the father, and Mrs. Albertina Schmieden, Wausau, Route 1, the great-great-grandmother.

CHAIRMAN	SUPERVISORS	CLERK	TREASURER	ASSESSOR	JUSTICE OF PEACE	CONSTABLES	SEALER OF WTS. & MEAS.
1906 Henry Radtke	Henry Fitzke C.F. Jahns	Henry Hackbart	Ed. Gehrke	Robert Goetsch	Dan Genrich & Reno Zahn 2 yrs.	Frank Block & Herman Genrich	Ed Rusch & Henry Garske
1907 Henry Radtke	Henry Fitzke Albert Sturm	Henry Hackbart	Ed. Gehrke	Frank Deichsel	Frank Deichsel & Henry Hackbart 2 yrs.	Ed Rusch & Henry Garske	Ed Rusch & Henry Garske
1908 Frank Deichsel	August Ohrmundt Frank Block	Henry Hackbart	Ed. Gehrke	Robert Goetsch	Reno Zahn & Dan Genrich 2 yrs.	Frank Plautz & August Goebel	Ed Rusch & Henry Garske
1909 Frank Deichsel	August Ohrmundt Frank Block	Henry Hackbart	Fred O. Imm	Robert Goetsch	Fred Imm Jr. & Henry Hackbart 2 yrs.	Ed Rusch & Henry Garske	Ed Rusch & Henry Garske
1910 Frank Deichsel	August Ohrmundt W.A. Steidman	Henry Hackbart	Fred O. Imm	August Hackbart	Frank Deichsel & Reno Zahn 2 yrs.	Ed Rusch & Frank Plautz	Ed Rusch & Frank Plautz
1911 Frank Erdman	August Ohrmundt Wm. Steidman	Henry Hackbart	Fred O. Imm	Fred Imm Jr.	Fred Imm Jr. & Henry Hackbart 2 yrs.	Ed Rusch & Frank Plautz	Ed Rusch & Herman Nickel
1912 Frank Erdman	Wm. Steidman Herman Machel	Henry Hackbart	Fred O. Imm	Fred Zahn	Frank Helke & August Hackbart 2 yrs.	Ed Rusch & Herman Nickel	Ed Rusch & Herman Nickel
1913 Frank Erdman	Wm. Steidman Herman Mackel	Henry Hackbart	Wm. Woller	Fred Zahn	Henry Hackbart 2 yrs.	Ed Rusch & Reno Zahn	Ed Rusch & Reno Zahn
1914 Hubert Hoffman	Frank Plautz Otto Porath	Henry Hackbart	Wm. Woller	Fred Zahn	Frank Helke	Wm. Zastrow & Reno Zahn	Wm. Zastrow & Reno Zahn
1915 Reno Zahn	Frank Plautz Otto Woller	Henry Hackbart	Wm. Woller	Fred Zahn	Reno Zahn 1 yr. Henry Hackbart 2 yrs.	Wm. Zastrow & Robert Zahn	Wm. Zastrow & Robert Zahn
1916 Reno Zahn	Frank Plautz Otto Woller	Henry Hackbart	Wm. Woller	Fred Zahn	Reno Zahn 2 yrs.	Wm. Zastrow & Robert Zahn	Wm. Zastrow & Robert Zahn
1917 Otto Porath	Frank Plautz Otto Woller	Henry Hackbart	August Rusch	Frank Deichsel	Fred Zahn	Hubert Hoffman & Wm. Zastrow	Hubert Hoffman & Wm. Zastrow
1918 Otto Porath	Frank Plautz Otto Woller	Henry Hackbart	August Rusch	Frank Deichsel	Fred Zahn 1 yr. Henry Hackbart 2 yrs.	Hubert Hoffman & Albert Rusch	Hubert Hoffman & Albert Rusch
1919 Otto Porath	Frank Plautz Otto Woller	Henry Hackbart	August Rusch	Frank Deichsel	Frank Deichsel 2 yrs.	Hubert Hoffman & Albert Rusch	Hubert Hoffman & Albert Rusch
1920 Otto Porath	Frank Plautz Otto Woller	Henry Hackbart	August Rusch	John Mootz	Frank Plautz 1 yr. Hy. Hackbart 2 yrs.	A.J. Lique & Albert Rusch	A.J. Lique & Albert Rusch
1921 Herman Otto 2 yrs.	Frank Plautz 3 yrs.	A.W. Rusch	Wm. Laatsch	John Mootz	Frank Plautz 2 yrs.	Albert Rusch & Arthur Marth	Albert Rusch & Arthur Marth
1922 Herman Otto	Carl Sturm North	A.W. Rusch	Wm. Laatsch	John Mootz	A.W. Rusch 2 yrs.	Albert Rusch & Arthur Marth	Albert Rusch & Arthur Marth
1923 Herman Otto	Carl Sturm	A.W. Rusch	Wm. Laatsch	John Mootz	Herman Otto 2 yrs.	Albert Rusch & Arthur Marth	Albert Rusch & Arthur Marth
1924 Herman Otto	Emil Schulz South Carl Sturm North	A.W. Rusch	Wm. Laatsch	John Mootz	A.W. Rusch 2 yrs.	Albert Rusch North Arnold Schmieder	Ed. Rusch North Ervin Ziebell South
1925 Herman Otto	Emil Schulz South Carl Sturm North	A.W. Rusch	Anton Kleutz	John Mootz	Herman Otto 2 yrs.	Ed. Rusch North John Zahn South	Ed. Rusch North John Zahn South
1926 Herman Otto	Emil Schulz South Carl Sturm North	A.W. Rusch	Anton Kleutz	John Mootz	Carl Sturm 2 yrs.	Ed. Rusch North Ervin Ziebell South	Ed. Rusch North Ervin Ziebell South
1927 Herman Otto	Emil Schulz South Fred Hartwig North	A.W. Rusch	Anton Kleutz	Fred Imm	Herman Otto 2 yrs.	Ed. Rusch North Ervin Ziebell South	Ed. Rusch North Ervin Ziebell South
1928 Herman Otto	Emil Schulz Fred Hartwig	A.W. Rusch	Anton Kleutz	Robert Goetsch	A.W. Rusch	Ed. Rusch North Ervin Ziebell South	Ed. Rusch North Ervin Ziebell South
1929 D.M. Genrich	Emil Schulz Fred Hartwig	A.W. Rusch	Anton Kleutz	Robert Goetsch	A.W. Rusch	Ed. Rusch North Ervin Ziebell South	Ed. Rusch North Ervin Ziebell South
1930 D.M. Genrich	Emil Schulz Fred Hartwig	A.W. Rusch	Anton Kleutz	Robert Goetsch	A.W. Rusch	Ed. Rusch North Ervin Ziebell South	Ed. Rusch North Ervin Ziebell South
1931 D.M. Genrich	Emil Schulz Fred Hartwig	A.W. Rusch	Anton Kleutz	Robert Goetsch	D.M. Genrich	Ed. Rusch & Ervin Ziebell	Ed. Rusch & Ervin Ziebell
1932 D.M. Genrich	Emil Schulz Fred Hartwig	A.W. Rusch	Anton Kleutz	Robert Goetsch	Walter Hoff 2 yrs. Arthur Kufahl 1 yr.	Ben Woller & Ervin Ziebell	Ben Woller & Ervin Ziebell
1933 D.M. Genrich	Ernst Gehrke Erich Krause	Otto Imm	Anton Kleutz	Robert Goetsch	Arthur Kufahl 2 yrs.	Ben Woller & Ervin Ziebell	Ben Woller & Ervin Ziebell
1934 D.M. Genrich	Ernst Gehrke No. 1 Erich Krause No. 2	Otto Imm	Anton Kleutz	Robert Goetsch	Wifford Trantow 2 yrs.	Ben Woller & Ervin Ziebell	Ben Woller & Ervin Ziebell
1935 D.M. Genrich	Ernst Gehrke No. 1 Erich Krause No. 2	Otto Imm	Anton Kleutz	Robert Goetsch	Arthur Kufahl	Ben Woller & Ervin Ziebell	Ben Woller & Ervin Ziebell
1936 D.M. Genrich	Emil Schulz No. 1 Erich Krause No. 2	Otto Imm	Anton Kleutz	Robert Goetsch	Willford Trantow	Ben Woller & Ervin Ziebell	Ben Woller & Ervin Ziebell
1937 D.M. Genrich	Emil Schulz No. 1 Erich Krause No. 2	Otto Imm	Anton Kleutz	Robert Goetsch	Arthur Kufahl	Reinhold Weiss & Ervin Ziebell	Reinhold Weiss & Ervin Ziebell
1938 D.M. Genrich	Emil Schulz No. 1 Erich Krause No. 2	Otto Imm	Anton Kleutz	Robert Goetsch	Willford Trantow	Reinhold Weiss & Ervin Ziebell	Reinhold Weiss & Ervin Ziebell
1939 Ewald Borchardt	Emil Schulz No. 1 Erich Krause No. 2	Otto Imm	Anton Kleutz	Robert Goetsch	Arthur Kufahl	Reinhold Weiss & Ervin Ziebell	Reinhold Weiss & Ervin Ziebell
1940 Ewald Borchardt	Otto Aschbrenner No 1 Erich Krause No. 2	Ott Imm	Anton Kleutz	Theodore Hackbarth	F.C. Erdman	Carl Brandenburg & Ervin Ziebell	Carl Brandenburg & Ervin Ziebell
1941 Ewald Borchardt	Otto Aschbrenner No 1 Erich Krause No. 2	Otto Imm	Anton Kleutz	Theodore Hackbarth	Arthur Kufahl	Herbert Hartwig & Ervin Ziebell	Herbert Hartwig & Ervin Ziebell
1942 Ewald Borchardt	Otto Aschbrenner No 1 Erich Krause No. 2	Otto Imm	Anton Kleutz	Theodore Hackbarth	F.C. Erdman	Herbert Hartwig & Ervin Ziebell	Herbert Hartwig & Ervin Ziebell
1943 E.R. Borchardt	Otto Aschbrenner No 1 Walter Steckling No. 2	O.E. Imm	Anton Kleutz	Theodore Hackbarth	Arthur Kufahl	Herbert Hartwig & Ervin Ziebell	Herbert Hartwig & Ervin Ziebell
1944 E.R. Borchardt	Herbert Wiedow No. 1 Walter Steckling No. 2	O.E. Imm	Anton Kleutz	Theodore Hackbarth	F.C. Erdman	Herbert Hartwig & Ervin Ziebell	Herbert Hartwig & Ervin Ziebell
1945 Earl Witter	Herbert Wiedow No. 1 Walter Steckling No. 2	O.E. Imm	Emil Rusch	Victor Sturm	Arthur Kufahl	Arnold Baumann Ben Sturm	Arnold Baumann Ben Sturm
1947 Earl Witter	Herbert Wiedow No. 1 Walter Steckling No. 2	O.E. Imm	Wm. Woller	Victor Sturm	Arnold Kaiser	Herbert Goetsch Elmer Fitzke	Herbert Goetsch Elmer Fitzke
1949 Earl Witter	Herbert Wiedow No. 1 Walter Steckling No. 2	O.E. Imm	Wm. Woller	Victor Sturm	John Kollath	Herbert Goetsch Elmer Fitzke	Herbert Goetsch Elmer Fitzke
1951 Earl Witter	George Schaefer No. 1 Walter Steckling No. 2	Lawrence Imm	Wm. Woller	Arnold Marks	Arnold Kaiser	Herbert Goetsch Elmer Fitzke	Herbert Goetsch Elmer Fitzke
1952 Earl Witter resigned Ben Sturm appointed							
1953 Ben Sturm	Robert Schuett Sr No 1 Arnold Hartwig No. 2	Lawrence Imm	Wm. Woller	Arnold Marks		Herbert Goetsch Elmer Fitzke	Herbert Goetsch Elmer Fitzke
1955 Ben Sturm	Robert Schuett No. 1 Arnold Hartwig No. 2	Elroy Utecht	Wm. Woller	Edward Kufahl		Herbert Goetsch Elmer Fitzke	Herbert Goetsch Elmer Fitzke
1957 Ben Sturm	Robert Schuett Sr. Arnold Hartwig	Elroy Utecht	Wm. Woller	Edward Kufahl	Wilbert Goetsch	Herbert Goetsch Elmer Fitzke	Herbert Goetsch Elmer Fitzke
1959 Ben Sturm	Robert Schuett Sr. Arnold Hartwig	Elroy Utecht	Wm. Woller	Ervin Saeger	Joe Nein	Herbert Goetsch Elmer Fitzke	Herbert Goetsch Elmer Fitzke
1961 Ben Sturm	Robert Schuett Sr. Arnold Hartwig	Elroy Utecht	Wm. Woller	Ervin Saeger	Eliminated	Herbert Goetsch Elmer Fitzke	Herbert Goetsch Elmer Fitzke
1963 Ben Sturm	Robert Schuett Sr. Arnold Hartwig	Elroy Utecht	Wm. Woller	Ben Seehafer			
1965 Ben Sturm	Arnold Kaiser Clarence Utecht	Elroy Utecht	Ray Kluetz	Charles Pasnecker			
1967 Ben Sturm	Arnold Kaiser Clarence Utecht	Elroy Utecht	Ray Kluetz	Charles Pasnecker			
1969 Ben Sturm	Arnold Kaiser Clarence Utecht	Elroy Utecht	Ervin Saeger	Charles Pasnecker			
1971 Edward Kufahl	Arnold Kaiser Clarence Utecht	Elroy Utecht	Ervin Saeger	Charles Pasnecker			
1973 Edward Kufahl	Arnold Kaiser Clarence Utecht	Elroy Utecht	Ervin Saeger	Charles Pasnecker			
1975 Edward Kufahl	Arnold Kaiser Clarence Utecht	Elroy Utecht	Ervin Saeger	Charles Pasnecker			

Chronological Order of Events

- 1867 The first town meeting of the Town of Maine was held in the schoolhouse of District No. 1 on the 8th day of April 1867. Resolved that 1) 7 mills of one dollar shall be raised for road purposes; 2) \$1000 be raised for a town tax; 3) \$500 be raised for school purposes; 4) the town clerk shall have a salary of \$150 and assessor \$42. In July three school districts were organized. It cost \$588 to run the town this first year.
- 1868 \$500 was to be raised for building and repairing bridges. Road and bridge work went ahead. New roads were laid out.
- 1869 \$600 is to be raised for the town tax: \$500 for school purposes; \$300 for a special road tax. Town clerk shall receive salary of \$100. The men working at the elections received \$3. The boundaries for School District No. 5 were laid out.
- 1870 Resolved that 1) the assessor shall have \$2 a day while actually engaged in assessing the town; 2) supervisors shall not use any longer time than 2 days inspecting the roads, 2 days in letting out improvements and 2 days in approving said improvements.
- 1871 Resolved that horses, mules and asses shall be kept from running at large by a fine of \$5, between the months of May and 1st of November. John McClass and Wm Gehrke were appointed pound masters and they shall receive half of the fine for their trouble. Each year more roads were opened and farmers were paid \$5, \$10, \$20 or \$30 for their land that was used for the roads. U.E. Maine was the surveyor for the town.
- 1874 June 13: A meeting was held for the people to vote on the proposition of the Wis. Central Railroad Company to aid in building a railroad from Portage to Wausau. Eighty-seven voters were present and all voted against the proposition. A decision was made establishing which town would care for each mile of road on township lines.
- 1875 The town was divided into 8 road districts.
- 1878 The town raised \$200 school tax but in May of that same year they had to transfer \$27.52 from the town fund in order to receive state school money. In June, the Board of Review met and the following complaints heard: 1) An ox was assessed at \$100 and worth only \$80; 2) A reaper was assessed \$160 and worth only \$100 and a sewing machine assessed \$30 and worth only \$20. The supervisors of the Town of Maine and Town of Weston met in the County Courthouse to organize the joint School District No. 5 of the Towns of Weston and Maine.
- 1882 Adam was built at B. Singles' mill for \$1,349. First saloon license granted to Wm Taeye and Thomas Boyle for \$75 each. The license fees were used for building highways and bridges. Many of the farmers received 7 to 10 dollars for planks they used for bridges. The town paid a man \$40 for an artificial leg.
- 1883 Wm Kamroth received a saloon license.
- 1884 School District No. 4 was formed out of territory taken from District 1.
- 1885 District No. 6 was formed.
- 1886 The license fee for saloons went up to \$100. One farmer's horse contacted the contagious horse disease called "Glanders." Aug Kell received \$2 for treating the horses and Franz Zastrow received \$2 for driving his team out to the Paque farm in the matter of Paque's horses having the "Glanders."
- 1887 Alois Eschwig was issued a saloon license.
- 1888 Dr. Sauerkering of Wausau and Dr. Senn of Milwaukee were to operate on a pauper lady. \$255 was for traveling expense for the lady to go to Milwaukee and \$3.00 was for underwear for her. First old person unable to support himself was sent to the County Poor Farm. His upkeep to be paid by the Town of Maine.
- 1889 A pauper is to receive \$10 a month until changed by town board.
- 1890 Building our first town hall: \$300 was raised for this purpose. A tract of land of 60 sq. ft. was bought from Fred Rakow for \$25. A.W. Schmidt received \$1 for recording the deed for the land. Bernhard Laabs was the contractor. Berlin Insurance Co. received \$3.29 for insuring the town hall. James Burns received \$135 for building a bridge across the Little Rib River. Complete settlement with treasurer for 1890 was \$1836.30 town expense.
- 1893 April: The following territory - Sections 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33 and 34, all in township 29, north of range 7 east, all in the Town of Maine, were detached from said town and attached to the Town of Stettin. Landmarks are to be placed at section corners. The section corner stones were bought from John Braasch for \$128.00.
- 1901 Organs must have found ready customers but the assessor had too heavy a pencil so the Board of Review had a busy time lowering the assessed valuation on them while valuation on pianos was raised.
- 1904 School District No. 5 was formed.
- 1905 A resolution was passed that a licensed person may deal or traffic in any spirituous malt or intoxicating liquors or drinks as beverages in the Town of Maine.
- 1909 First tuition paid to Wausau High School, \$18. F. Woller painted the town hall for \$7.50
- 1910 Around 1910 the laying out of new roads must have been nearly completed. Now they could start making the existing roads better and build better bridges. Continental Bridge Co. built the bridge across Byron Creek for \$685.
- 1912 A special town meeting was held in the town hall, for the purpose to raise money for the construction of bridges that have been washed away by the recent flood. That fall they had a bill at the Wausau Iron Works of \$4386 for building bridges. In August of that year they resolved to let the City of Wausau have the gravel in the hill termed as "Garske Hill" just north of Wausau, for road purposes. In return for the gravel the city should cut down the hill 5 feet and gravel the road from there to the city limits, the whole width of the roadbed not less than 5 feet. In the General Election in the fall of that year, they voted on Woman Suffrage. Six votes for Woman Suffrage and 174 against.
- 1913 Town of Maine appropriated \$1000 for the improvement of the road known as the Wausau-Merrill Road.
- 1914 On Feb. 21, the town board granted the petition that a rural telephone line could be laid starting at the county line of Section 5 & 6, township 30, range 7, and running south to Section 20, then east to Section 16, then south to Section 31 and other roads where subscribers may reside.
- 1916 The sum of \$400 shall be raised for building a new town hall after 3 years. In 1917 the motion was made to use the above \$400 to repair the present town hall. Paul Hintz was hired to repair said town hall. One elderly man was on relief and received \$20 a month.

- 1918 A bounty of 25c per woodchuck was paid.
- 1920 Women were allowed to vote for the first time in the General Election held in Nov. of 1920.
- 1921 The chairman shall receive 40c an hour for his work. The supervisors shall receive 35c an hour for their work. The town clerk \$150 a year, treasurer \$150, assessors \$150, highway supt. 35c a hour, men working on highway 40 cents an hour and the same rate for team, 10 cents be allowed per hour for wagon or plow. Town tax \$700, highway and bridge tax \$1500, tax for the poor \$600, 3 mills on the dollar for highway taxes, saloon license \$50.
- 1924 A saloon license was \$50 and cigarette license \$5.
- 1927 Resolved that the buses or heavy trucks shall not be allowed to drive on our roads during the soft season. The value of our town is now \$2,231,935. Town of Maine expenses for year 1927 were \$5,352.17.
- 1929 Bought a tractor for \$5245, a grader for \$1995 and a snowplow for \$2151. Ernst Jahns, Arthur Utech, Alfred Genrich and Ervin Ziebell were the first men to operate the snowplow. Resolved also to build a shed for the machinery and to raise \$1000 for the building of it.
- 1931 Bought 2 small graders.
- 1932 First time gravel was hauled by truck.
- 1933 Resolved that in case of a grasshopper plague, the town shall buy the White Arsenic. A case of small pox was reported. The "Poor Fund" paid out \$1024.56.
- 1935 The town board shall hire able bodied men, who are on relief, to repair fences that were damaged by the snowplow. A small caterpillar tractor, patrol grader and tumble bug were purchased.
- 1938 Motor patrol grader was purchased. Taverns must close at 1 a.m., remained closed Sunday forenoons. No new tavern licenses will be issued, there are enough.
- 1939 Arthur Utecht started grading the roads with the patrol grader. A motion was made to raise \$500 for the new town hall building fund and the chairman was authorized to appoint a building committee for the new building. A motion was made to build a new shed big enough to house all the new machinery.
- 1940 New town hall was being built. On the building committee were Earl Witter, Arthur Kufahl, W. Trantow and W. Hoff. Vernon Schmieder bought the old town hall for \$85.00. Total town hall fund was \$16,974.
- 1941 The new town hall was dedicated Jan. 9, 1941.
- 1943 First snow fences were bought.
- 1946 A motion was made to buy a patrol grader and snowplow.
- 1949 A motion was made and seconded that the assessor shall try to get signatures of the farmers for calf vaccination. Marcus Lemke started busing high school students in the fall for \$283.55 a month. Ervin Aschbrenner started grading roads with patrol grader.
- 1950 Wages per hour: common labor 65c, tractor and gradermen 75c, tractor men on snowplow 85c, wing tenders 75c, chairman 75c and 5 cents mileage, supervisors 70c and 5 cents mileage, constables 65c. Monthly wages: clerk \$350, treasurer \$250 and assessor \$275. Total paid out by the highway & bridge fund, \$17,067. Total paid out by the general fund, \$7,440.
- 1953 Purchased 10 ton Oshkosh trucks and plow for \$16,835.
- 1954 At a special school referendum election, it was voted to merge all 7 school districts into one district.
- 1955 Old road boss system was abolished. Town supervisors to take care of the road work. A cat tractor was purchased.
- 1958 Town of Maine started blacktopping roads with great success. As a result we are proud of our roads. Town of Maine was one of the first towns in Marathon County to blacktop.
- 1959 Allis Chalmers grader bought for \$16,075. In October, the town board received a map of the by-pass of Wausau by U.S. Highway 51. As a result some of the old roads crossing the new highway had to be closed.
- 1961 Streets and avenues will be named. Housetrailers must now pay a monthly tax of \$4.00. Town of Maine and Merrill purchased a fire trunk truck. On August 4, a 5 man delegation from Turkey was present at the town hall to ask the town board about local government and taxation.
- 1962 International truck and end loader purchased. Maine Elementary School dedicated March 5, 1961. Town of Maine employees under Social Security.
- 1965 Fire numbers were put up. The town will furnish a 20 ft. culvert on all roads in the town for all new homes. Town of Maine will raise the sum of \$25,062 for the Brokaw Bridge project.
- 1967 A zoning committee was appointed, namely Mike Knuth, George Lonsdorf, Clifford Hoerter, Roland Bickford and Arlan Allmann. Mobile homes under 35 ft. in length must now pay \$7.00 a month tax and those over 35 ft. \$9.00 per month starting Jan. 1, 1968.
- 1970 Town board and the zoning committee were very busy rezoning parcels of land for various businesses. Glen Doede was appointed building inspector.
- 1972 The interior of the town hall got a thorough cleaning and paint job by the First Maine, Maine Busy Bees and Mainettes Homemakers and Maine 4-H Club. New road grader bought.
- 1973 A well was drilled by the town hall.
- 1974 Due to the construction of U.S. Highway 51, James Peterson & Sons, Inc., were granted the right to remove fill material from the Charles Ohrmundt property and the Hanz Trucking Co., to remove fill material from the George Lonsdorf and Burnell Utecht property.
- 1975 Dec. 8, 1975 at the town hall property holders, with objections to the appraisal and assessment, were sworn in and all testimony was recorded by tape recorder and a secretary. On the following days the Board of Review met with all the objectors.
- 1976 Town of Maine now has an assessed valuation of \$24,947,356.

Disasters

Fires: Henry Paque barn, 1966, Emil Rusch barn 1975, Rufus Gore barn 1976, Symbund Woller 1947-48, Robert Laatsch barn 1970, Gustav Tesch, William Kruit barn, Jack B. Meyer barn 1972, Aaron Miller barn, Sept. 1947, Otto Imm house, Hugo Nass house 1944, Julius Woller house 1913.

A flood washed out a bridge on Highway 51.

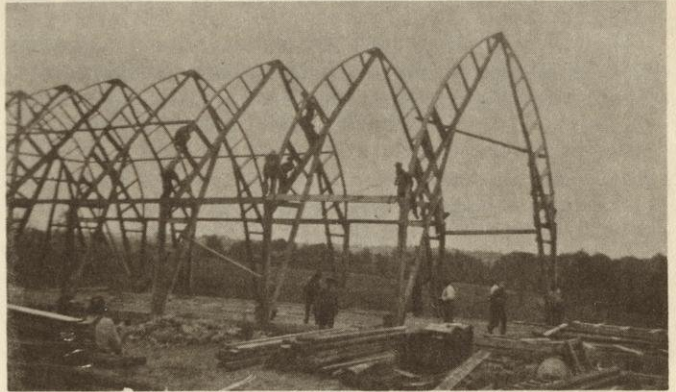
Auto accidents: Arthur Utech, 1947 on Co. Trunk A, Mrs. Fuhrman, Robert Kufahl. The Marshall Schneiders and Mr. Herman Marquardt were killed July 2, 1936 on Decater Drive near the Church Hill School. They were going to the cemetery.

Several accidents happened on old 51 where the old road curved past Radtke's farm and also on the sharp curve near Little Bavaria. A tanker truck on old 51 rolled over and killed a mother and her child.

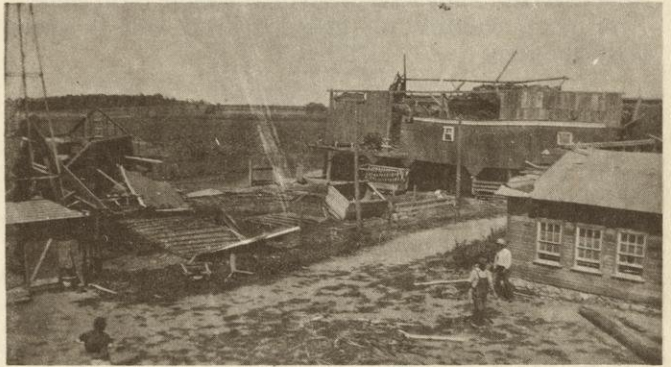
Tornado in 1934 when the Grace Lutheran Church was moved off its foundation, the William Strehlow barn was demolished and damage was done to the Hugo Nass woods. Ida Rusch barn 1934, barn blew down on Pastelnick farm in 1974.

A gun accident, Kathy Schmidt, July 23, 1973.

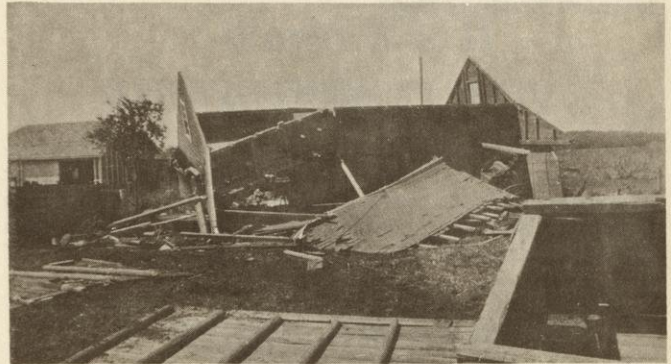
A gun accident, David Schlag, Feb. 5, 1955.



Barn raising on the Sigmund Woller farm after a fire that destroyed the barn in 1947. This design is typical of the newer structures called hip roofed barns.



Strehlow, August 1934



Strehlow, August 1934



The wedding of Selma Woller in 1913 at the old Julius Woller home, known later as the Victor Woller farm. Fire destroyed this house and all other buildings when a lantern was used while putting gas in a car. This was about 1929.

Town of Maine Pioneer 91, Honored April 13, 1969

A Town of Maine pioneer who probably held an area record for continuous residence on the same farm was the guest of honor at an "open house" on the farm he has resided all of his 91 years.

The celebrant was Henry F. Marquardt and the "open house" took place in the modern brick dwelling which had replaced the log cabin in which he was born April 13, 1866. The celebration, to which all his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren attended, preceded the 60th wedding anniversary observance of Mr. and Mrs. Marquardt, July 3.

Hale and hearty, despite the rigorous life of a farmer

who had seen the timber-covered area give way to cultivated fields and pastures, Marquardt was the family expert on horses and assisted with the chores on the family farm now operated by his grandson, Henry Jr.

His more than 90 years did not prevent him from his special care of the two horses on the farm or from participating in the cooking of maple sap in the family's sugarbush.

He is the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Fred Marquardt, who homesteaded the present farm in the Town of Maine after they had given up an earlier farm in the

Town of Hamburg. The Fred Marquardts, according to a grandson, were practically "starved off" the first land because it was practically impossible to make the long trip - afoot - to the supply source at Stevens Point through the dense wilderness and the woodland foot trails.

Henry Marquardt's early life was extremely rugged by modern standards. Besides helping with the farm work, he attended the log cabin school adjacent to the present St. John's Lutheran Church in the Town of Maine. For his religious training, he and Julius Henning, a neighbor whose son still operates a farm next to the Marquardt homestead, walked to the former Zion Lutheran School here at Fifth and Scott Sts. The approximately six-mile hike was made for morning sessions before the return walk was made.

The original 80-acre homestead was later increased by Henry Marquardt to include another 80 acres. The place, which was a clearing in the wilderness, is now among the more substantial in the county, with its modern home and superior outbuildings. The present operator has also added an additional 40 acres.

Two years after Henry Marquardt took over the family farm in 1895 he and the former Miss Emma Zahn were married. They have lived on the same farm since.

He had 7 children, 23 grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.

PASTORS

The good Lord blessed the homes, churches and schools by inspiring several men from Town of Maine to continue their education in religious study and become teachers and preachers.

They are: Rev. Edward Koch-Oshkosh, Rev. Ronald Goetsch-Marshfield, Rev. Gerhard Rusch-Victorville, California, Rev. Martin Porath-Durante, California, Rev. Harold Sturm-Arlington, Wisconsin, Rev. Martin Goetsch, Deceased, Rev. Theodore Zaremba-Deceased, Rev. Gerhard Reiff-Deceased.

OTHER PROMINENT PEOPLE

Gerald Goetsch-Musician, Mr. Walter Piehler-Attorney, Mr. William Koch-Banker, Mr. Walter Marquardt-Executive at Murray's Foundry, Dan Generich-Chairman of Marathon County Board, Ben Sturm-Chairman of Marathon County Board.

WALTER H. PIEHLER

Walter H. Piehler, a practicing attorney in the City of Wausau, Wisconsin, and a member of the firm of Terwilliger, Wakeen, Piehler, Conway & Klingberg, S.C., was born in Milan, Town of Johnson, Marathon County Wisconsin, on March 17, 1924. He moved to the Town of Maine with his parents, the Reverend and Mrs. Walter Piehler, in November of 1926, attended Valley View Grade School and graduated from Merrill High School in 1941.

Walter enrolled at Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Indiana in 1941 and finished the equivalent of two years of liberal arts college and one year of law school before entering the Air Force Cadet program in February of 1943. During his Air Force tour of duty he attended the University of Chattanooga in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and specialty schools in radio, electronics and radar, and was ultimately sent to England with the 453rd Heavy Bomber group as a radar specialist.

In 1945, he completed both his Liberal Arts and Law School education at Valparaiso University, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1947 and a Juris Doctor degree in law in 1948. He has practiced law with Genrich & Terwilliger and its successors in Wausau since 1948.

Walter is a member of the Marathon County, State of Wisconsin, and American Bar Associations, as well as other legal organizations, and has the honor of being a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. He has lectured at State Bar Legal Seminars and aided in teaching trial practices courses at the University of Wisconsin Law School and has lectured on legal engineering forensics at Iowa State University.

His civic interests included many active years of participation in Wausau Jaycee work, with particular emphasis on the July 4 Celebration of which he was chairman for a number of years. While with the Jaycees he was active in founding the Marathon County Blood Bank and is its president. He aided in establishing the Civil Service Commission of the Marathon County Sheriff's Department and has been a member of the Commission for a number of years.

While at Valparaiso he married Bess Buettner of St. Louis, Missouri, and they now reside at 142 Eau Claire Boulevard in Wausau, with their children, David (a student in Engineering at Valparaiso), Karen (a home economics student at Iowa State) and Barbara (who will be a senior at Wausau East High School).

WILLIAM A. KOCH

Mr. Koch was born April 4, 1890, on a farm now owned by Ervin Saeger in the Town of Maine, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernst C. Koch. He and his family moved to Wausau in 1901 and "Bill" completed his elementary schooling there and was graduated from Wausau High School with the class of 1908.

He was married June 14, 1916 to Miss Louise Grade, who died October 13, 1958. Mr. Koch followed her in death on November 6, 1959. They had three children, Mildred, Corrine and William, Jr.

Mr. Koch rose in traditional style in his chosen field of endeavor, starting out as messenger boy at the Bank in 1906 and becoming the president in 1947.

His many civic activities through the years included being president and treasurer of the Wausau Chamber of Commerce; president and member of the board of directors of the West Side Businessmen's Association; member of the advisory committee for St. Mary's Hospital; president of the Kiwanis Club; member of the city park board; director and treasurer of the Marathon County Savings and Loan Association.

His other affiliations included the Wausau Club, The Wausau Boosters Club, the Salvation Army and the Christian Businessmen's Committee. He was a member and former officer of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church.

MR. WALTER A. MARQUARDT

Walter A. Marquardt was born in the Town of Maine, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Emil Marquardt. He attended the former Valley View Grade School, and graduated from Merrill High School and Merrill Business College. He also attended numerous short-term courses at several colleges, including IBM at Endicott, New York. Attended Zion Lutheran Church (now Faith Lutheran Church) in the Town of Maine.

After graduation, he worked for Merrill Manufacturing prior to going to Wausau to work at the American National Fox and Fur Breeders Association.

Marquardt joined Murray Machinery, Inc. as an accountant in 1940; served as comptroller until 1950, when he was elected secretary of the company. In 1953 he was elected a director, was named assistant manager in 1955, elected vice-president and general manager in 1967, and president of the company in 1974.

He has been active in Wausau civic and community affairs. He is a past director of Central Wausau Progress, Inc. and Wausau Area Chamber of Commerce; past president and past chairman of United Fund of Marathon County, Inc. and was a member of Rotary Club.

Currently he is director of the YMCA Foundation, Inc., Wausau Area Chamber Foundation, Inc., Central National Bank and First American National Bank. He is a member of the Wausau Club, Wausau Country Club, and is active in all the Masonic organizations.

He resides in Wausau and is married to the former Lavora Genrich. Has a son and a daughter.

MR. BEN STURM

Ben Sturm one of our own Town of Maine boys was not content following in his father's footsteps as a farmer.

At the early age of 16 in 1928 the Harry Maahs trucking line looked very tempting to him. He applied and was given the opportunity to drive one of the trucks he so much admired. At seventeen he was allowed to buy a truck of his very own, hauling cement, logs, and pulpwood. In 1935 he hired a crew and began building electric power lines. They built 3,000 miles of high line. Top operations were 60 men, 12 trucks, 2 earth boring machines and 2 crawler tractors. The area they covered was Merrill, Wausau, Stevens Point, Waupaca, Tomahawk, Minocqua, Eagle River, Three Lakes, Cran- don, Rhinelander and Antigo. He retired in 1950.

Ben was appointed town chairman in 1952 for 1 year to fill the unexpired term of Earl Witter who had to retire due to illness. He was elected to the board the following year which he was a member of for 20 years 1952 to 1971. He was county board chairman for 2 years 1963 and 1964.

Ben and his wife, Esther, have 2 daughters, Joyce and Karen, 2 grandchildren. When I asked him what he did now as his retirement project he said "I enjoy most, doing absolutely nothing." Of course, I think he was teasing as he enjoys building small scale tractors and he's always ready to help when needed, as what grandpa wouldn't enjoy entertaining his grandchildren.



Joyce, Esther, Ben Sturm and Karen

VETERANS

We have listed names of many who have served in the various branches of service to our country. We wish to ask your pardon and forgiveness for all the names we have omitted. We apologize for incomplete information as to branch, rank or the conflict involved.

Completing 4 years with the Marines in the Helicopter Division this Bicentennial Year is Sgt. Gordon H. Davis stationed at Jacksonville, N.C.

Mexican War

Arthur Porath

Civil War

George W. Witter

Henry Kuckuk

Daniel Ristow**

Wm. Steidtmann

World War I

Martin Beilke

Walter Beilke

Henry Genz

Albert Kniess**

Albert Ruether

Elroy Schwartz

Edward Steckling

Edward Saeger

Willie Saeger**

George Schaeffer

Arthur Porath

Earl W. Witter

Harry Woller

Paul Jahns

Wm. Krueger

Hilbert Tesch

Robert Lambrecht

World War II

James Beilke

Franklin Beilke

Gerald Beilke

Rueben Beilke

Carl Brandenburg

Ed Brandenburg

Harvey Christian

Adolf Dorn

Charles Grohman**

Orville Grohman

Clifford Grohman

Werner Genz**

Charles Hackbart

Norton Hackbart

Ed Hall

Melvin Heinke**

Clarence Heinke

Marcella Heinke

John Harter

Otto Imm

Marvin Imm**

Lawrence Imm

Neal Jones

John Jorgenson

Walter W. Jahns

Robert Janisch

Walter Janisch

Emil Janisch

Herbert Kaiser

George Kufahl

August Karpinski
 Arnold Kaiser
 Renuatus Krause
 Wm. Kruit
 Charles King
 Marvin Neumann
 Lynn Marone
 Duncan McDonald
 Jack Mootz
 Reinhardt Marquardt
 Charles Ohrmundt
 Raymond Ohrmundt
 Paul Paque
 Walter Piehler, Jr.
 Otto Porath
 Ben Porath
 Martin Raatz
 Rueben Roehl
 Wilbert Ruether
 Ervin Saeger
 Ernst Steidtman**
 Clarence Schmirler
 Wm. Steidtman, Jr.
 Walter Steidtman, Jr.
 Fred Steidtman
 Elmer Schlag
 Ed Schultz
 Elroy Smith
 Elmer Smith
 Roger Sommi
 Anthony Skic
 Earl Schmieden
 Harley Schmieden
 Irving Trantow
 Wilford Trantow, Jr.
 Warren Tessmer
 Elroy Utech
 Myron Utech
 Orval Utech
 Walter Voeltzke
 Werner Weiss
 Amos Woller
 Harvey Woller
 Lloyd Woller

Korea

Gerald Czech
 James Goetsch
 Richard Giese
 David Hansen
 Roger Kell
 Walter Kurth Jr.
 Wilmer Krueger
 James Lewis
 Richard Nieuwenhuis
 Thomas Nieuwenhuis
 Roger Schlag
 Rodney Treu
 Lavern Woller
 Gary Hoerter

Vietnam

Walter Jahns Jr.**
 Carl Janisch Jr.
 Edward Krause
 Dennis Letto
 Paul Marquardt
 Steve Marquardt
 Wayne Marquardt
 Lon Saeger
 Gerald Woller

National Guard & Reserve

Harlan Allman
 Larry Aschbrenner
 Leon Aschbrenner
 Gerald Bauman
 Gene Bartelt
 David Beilke
 Allen Buch
 Ralph Buch
 Mark Bronsteatter
 Jerome Buch
 Gene Christian
 Allen Greunwalt
 Martin Hanneman
 Lester Hanneman
 Ronald Gert
 LeRoy Laabs
 Vernon Lane
 Herman Hinz
 James Marquardt
 Ronald Lemmer
 Dale Ollhoff
 LeRoy Ollhoff
 Lyle Nass
 Robert Porath
 Rodney Roeder
 Tom Rakow
 Donald Smith
 Franklin Trantow
 James Woller
 Gary VanDerGeest
 Burnell Utecht
 David Prei
 Gerald Strechlow
 Wm. Strechlow
 Clarence Shellbrach
 Gerald Thurs

Men in Service

Donald Aschbrenner	Warren Lambrecht
Frederick Aschbrenner	Phillip Lambrecht
Kenneth Aschbrenner	Dexter Leland Letto
Gene Aschbrenner	Daniel Lonsdorf
Warren Aschbrenner	Marshall Moeck
Gary Baumann	Peter Monday
James Behrendt	Donald Marquardt
Eugene Dehnel	Dean Neumann
Allen Fitzke	Daniel Ohrmundt
Bruce Flora	Franklin Prochnow
Eric Flora	Henry Radtke
Albert Goetsch	David Radtke
Kenneth Goetsch	Merlin Schmieden
Franklin Hintz	Duane Schmieden
David Howe Jr.	Gordon Schlueter
Donald Hoff	Wilbert Schlueter
Karen Hase	John Stubbe
Dawn Hruby	Richard Stubbe
Sue Hruby	LeRoy Sillars
Myron Hackbart	Richard Sillars
Bruce Jenson	Lawrence Schultz
Tom Kelly	Dale Smith
Guy Kufahl	Michael Utecht
Gerald Kollath	Richard Vignalli
Guy Langsdorf	Clark Witter
Don Lane	Clifford Zahn

The Working Woman

Thoughts of Yesteryear and Today

Hurry, hurry, hurry, rush, rush, rush, bake some bars to take to P.T.A. tonight, pick up Junior from football practice, make do with a quick meal because the children have piano lessons late this afternoon. Oh yes, Dad won't be going to P.T.A. as he has a church meeting. Oops, got to arrange for a babysitter and on and on it goes, the mad rush. This type of schedule is normal and not unusual in many homes today.

When things really get frantic, perhaps we'd like to travel back in time and think about how our great-grandmothers managed their homes. Their schedules were not as hectic because they weren't involved in as many outside activities. Their lives were centered around the home.

Husband and wife shared in working for their livelihood, which was usually farming. Both shared in work in the fields, doing the barn chores and raising and teaching their children.

Sometimes when we think "women's work is never done" it's because we're so exhausted from keeping everyone's schedule straight. We buy most of our food and clothing in super markets and shops, while our ancestors made almost everything from scratch.

They spun wool into yarn and knit many of the garments they needed. They also spun flax for cloth which was sewn by hand. If the cloth was to be colored it had to be dyed using nuts, roots, seeds or berries of plants.

Washing clothes was another big ordeal. No automatic washers or dryers in those days. First, the water had to be carried in from the well and heated on the kitchen stove. It was put into tubs and the clothes were handled over piece by piece and rubbed on a washboard. Housekeepers were glad when hand washers were invented.

There were no fancy detergents or perfumed soaps at hand to help. Soap was also made by hand from lard and lye.

When it was bath night, the old wash tub was hauled out again. No faucets with hot and cold running water were available.

Women prepared all the food. They baked bread, gathered fruits in season and canned and stored some for winter. They cured the meat, rendered the lard and made sausage from the meat while the men hunted and butchered animals for meat.

There were no vacuum cleaners either. In fact, some had to contend with dirt floors.

There were some social get togethers but many of these also consisted of work. There were quilting parties, corn husking bees and barn raisings. I'm sure not many of us would like to trade places with a 'homemaker' of grandmothers time, for she had little leisure and fun things were few and far between.



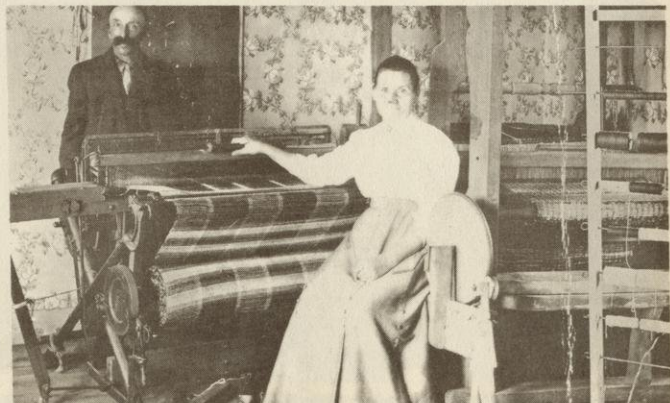
This washing machine was used by Mrs. Fred Scharbius in the early 1900's, and also by her daughter, Mrs. Arthur Utech. This early machine consisted of a paddle which worked as an agitator and was moved back and forth by the handle on the outside. The inside of the washer had a corrugated effect like a washboard.



Mrs. Otto (Emma) Christian spinning wool at the Wisconsin Valley Fair in Wausau, for a homemakers club. She was 82 years old.



Grandma Utech feeding chickens.



Mr. and Mrs. Fred Utech with old fashioned loom.

Communications

Do you remember when?

Phone bills were only \$12.00 a year?

When you had about nine on a party line and every one along the line would be kept well informed on all the latest neighborhood news and gossip, every time the "rings" went?

The old crank telephones where you had to crank "one long" to get Central?

When phone numbers were something like 9636F31, and you would take the last two numbers and crank "three long" and "one short" to reach a party on your line?

Yes! Those were the days. . .

The phone company that brought telephones to this area in about 1914 or 1915, was the Bell Telephone system. Farmers who wanted lines to their home would buy a share to get into, what was like a cooperative. All the farmers from this co-op would install the posts and lines. The men would also keep the lines free of brush and tree branches. Once the lines were up, two or three linemen would keep it in repair, and also replaced the fuses and the long round 8 inch dry cell batteries located in the telephone. One man would collect the yearly phone bill and long distance tolls. Every party line had their own co-op, and once a year they would meet for their annual meeting.

In about 1959, the large wooden box telephone, with the little crank on one side, the receiver on the other, the two shiny bells on the front along with the long adjustable, extending mouth-piece, that used to grace our walls, was stilled forever. People reflect, and agree, that the old crank telephone, with the party line, provided more entertainment than our modern day TV soap operas.

Yes! Those were the days. . .

An Outhouse Was Important

A LOVE STORY

An outhouse - or privy - is almost a thing of the past now.

Not too many years ago they were common, and sometimes neighbor vied with neighbor in striving for perfection in outside bathroom decor.

But this isn't a story about outhouses. This is a love story.

An outhouse sort of figures into the theme, however - an outhouse and a mean old gander.

It was back in 1924. I was 10 years old at the time, just the right age to have flappin' ears when Ma and Pa talked. Especially if the conversation was about Uncle Ferdy and Millie Rappentorfer.

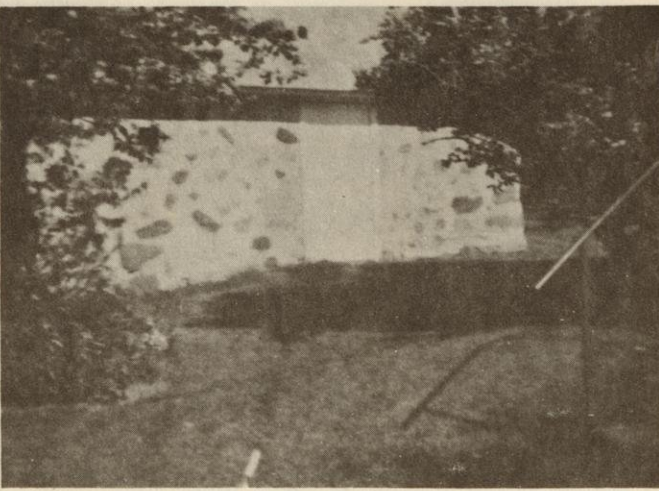
Uncle Ferdy was my favorite. He was always happy and jolly. At least until his barn burned down with 34 head of cattle. And he broke up with Millie.

All in the same week.

Uncle Ferdy started drinking. Pa said you couldn't blame him. Uncle Ferdy didn't try to replace his herd - he just kep making trips to a fellow near Glandon for "white lightning."

He drink up a hay rake, corn planter, and was half way through a manure spreader when one day Ma said to Pa, "Go over and get your crazy brother, he can use the spare room."

I could tell then that Ma had a plan to bring Uncle Ferdy and Millie together again. What neither one of us



Smoke house on Ellingson farm, 1899.



Fashions of 1911. Left to right: Martha Strehlow, Laura Neitzke, Ida Mathwich, Minnie Strehlow, Alma Strehlow, Anna Hintz.

knew was that the plan wouldn't have been worth a darn without the outhouse - and the old gander.

That gander was so mean he even hated himself. He only tolerated Pa and me because we fed the geese. Ma had to kind of take her chances when she went outside. She usually carried a broom. But I'm getting ahead of my love story.

Uncle Ferd came to live with us, helping Pa with the chores and in between times driving over to Glandon.

"Ferd," Pa said one day, "how do you come out ahead driving 20 miles to buy that filthy stuff?"

"You just gotta drink 'til it pays," Uncle Ferd said.

One day Ma put her plan into action. She invited Millie and her aunt, Mrs. Kousatz, over for the afternoon.

It was a beautiful August afternoon. A lazy summer day when the bees droned, the birds sang, and cows were glad to lay in the shade of an elm tree.

Ma told Millie and her aunt to go out and look at her flower garden while she made coffee, I s'pose hoping Uncle Ferd would see his girl and "make up."

I was up in the hay loft playing when I glanced out the half-door and saw the geese lying in the shade of the barn, right where Millie and her aunt were headed. I didn't even have time to yell. The old gander flew into action.

The gander had his wings spread low and he was hissing so loud you could have heard him across a forty of slippery elms.

The two women let out a little cry and started running for the nearest harbor - the outhouse. Millie made it all right, but the old gander nipped the aunt on the calf of her leg.

She let out a Chippewa war whoop and finally got inside. Never belittle the bite of a gander. He can take a neat chunk of flesh with one jab of his broad yellow bill.

Uncle Ferd was feeding the chickens in the coop and heard the commotion. He sized up the situation right away. As he neared, the gander turned on him, and Uncle Ferd swung the small feed pail, catching the gander on the top of the head with the pail's bottom edge.

The gander went down for the count, knocked out. Uncle Ferd took a step backward, ready to swing again when he tripped over the rock border of Ma's flower garden. He landed in a mess of cosmos, marigolds, bachelor buttons and phlox.

Three yellow jackets, a black wasp and a couple of bumble bees took up the gander's fight. I could see a hummingbird, too, but he took off and was out of sight in no time.

Uncle Ferd made it to the barn and slammed the door. But he was stung below one eye, on the forehead and on the back of the neck. Also on his rear end.

In the meantime the gander wobbled to his feet and staggered away. The ladies peered cautiously out of the privy and started for the house.

They laughed a little nervously as they had coffee and cake. It wasn't until later they had reason to yelp again - Uncle Ferd came to the back door with his face looking like he had been kicked by a government mule.

In two minutes Millie had him on a chair by the window in an attempt to remove the stingers. By now you could hardly find his nose, much less a bee stinger. But Millie lovingly cradled Uncle Ferd's head in her arm, searching diligently. Later she went outside and mixed some mud to put on the stings.

Uncle Ferd tried not to let on he was also stung on the rear end.

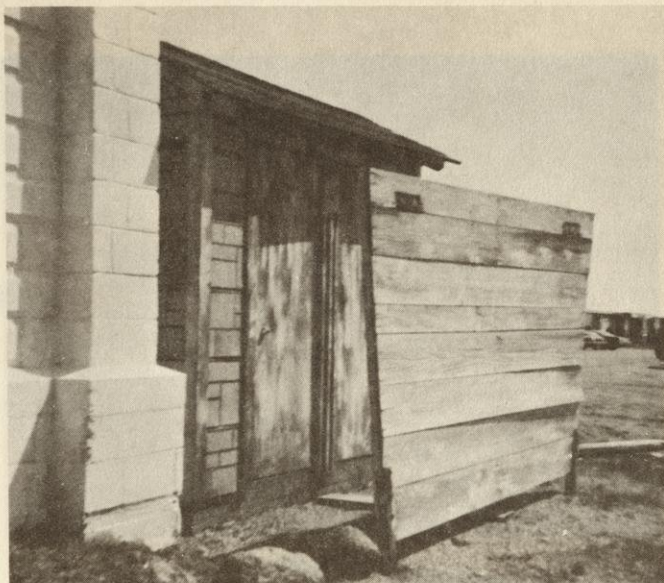
Well, Uncle Ferd sat in the shade the rest of the afternoon, and pretty soon Millie joined him. You could tell everything was all right again.

That evening at milking time Ma said to Pa, "Wasn't that nice the way Millie took care of Ferd's bee stings?"

"That's when he really got stung," Pa mumbled under his breath.

"What's that?" Ma asked.

"Oh, nothin', Pa said.



An outhouse or privy is almost a thing of the past. This one, or one like it was a common sight as late as 1924. Sometimes neighbors vied with one another in striving for perfection in outside bathroom decor. Among the activities carried on there were reading the discarded Sears Roebuck catalog and lingering long enough for someone else to do the dishes.

This outdoor model is still functioning at the Town Hall. (1976).



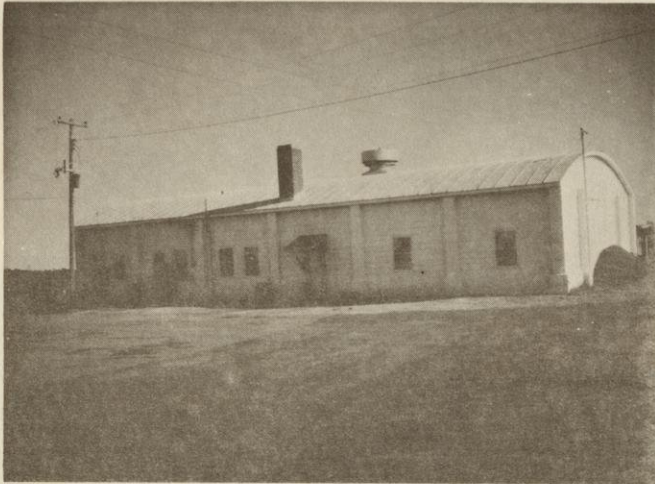
MAINE TOWN HALL

In 1939 voters elected to erect a new town hall. Earl Witter, Walter Hoff, Herbert Wiedow, Alfred Trantow and Arthur Kufahl, members of the building committee, working with the State Industrial Commission carried out plans for the present facility.

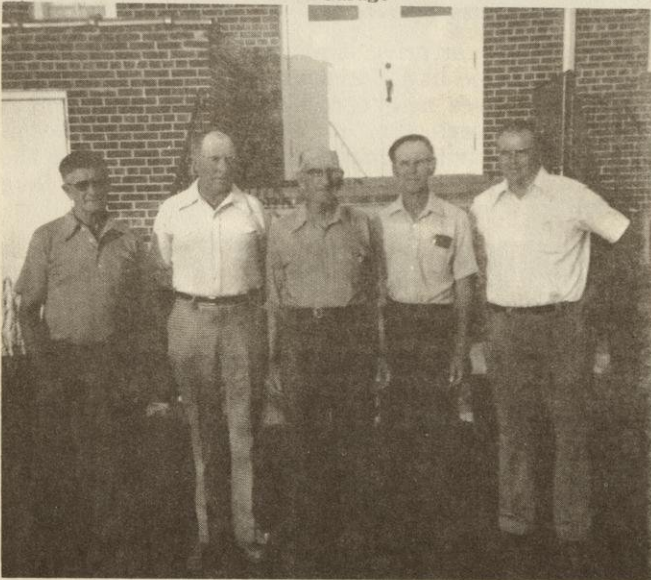
Three quarters of an acre tract of land was also purchased from Leo Imm for \$100.00 upon which the town garage was built. Edmund Schield was hired as contractor. With the help of many of the town's taxpayers, the buildings were completed in 1940.

The buildings serve as the center for community events when needed. All elections and town business is conducted at the town hall and road equipment stored and

serviced at the garage. Town of Maine officials are: Mr. Ed. Kufahl, chr.; Mr. Elroy Utecht, clerk; Mr. Ervin Saeger, treasurer; Mr. Clarence Utech and Mr. Arnold Kaiser, supervisors, Mr. Charles Pasnicker, assessor.



Town Garage



1976 Town of Maine Officials. Left to right: Elroy Utecht (Town Clerk), Ervin Saeger (Town Treasurer), Arnold Kaiser (Town Supervisor), Clarence Utech (Town Supervisor), Edward Kufahl, (Town Chairman).



July 4, 1976 Bicentennial Display Booth in the Exhibition Building, Marathon Park, Wausau. Left to right: Irene Ellingson, Gertrude Letto, Mrs. Edmund Woller.



Mrs. Edmund Woller.

"Time goes, you say? Ah no! Alas,
time stays, WE GO".

Anonymous Quote

The Paradox of Time

"All things must end
So this history we send
On its way may it wend
And into time and eternity blend."

by Irene Ellingson

"Lives of great men all remind us we can make our lives
sublime and departing leave behind us footprints on the
sands of time."

from Psalm of Life
by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

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