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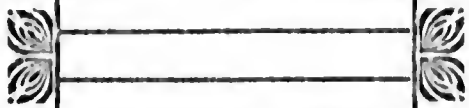
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Souvenir Supplement

OF THE



NOKOMIS



PROGRESS

ILLUSTRATED



EDITION.

NOKOMIS, ILLINOIS.

VOL. IX, No. 26.

SEPTEMBER 25, 1903.

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To the Readers of The Progress:

THIS SOUVENIR EDITION OF THE PROGRESS has been produced under many difficulties. It was begun with the hope that it would conservatively and truly set forth the history and resources of Nokomis and vicinity and the growth, development and present condition of our beautiful and prosperous city, all in a permanent form for preservation. The faces of the men who have made and are making the material and political history of Nokomis are fast passing from our view. The grim reaper has been unusually busy with his harvest during the past few years. For these reasons we have given magazine form and substantial binding to the Souvenir. Let every citizen preserve a copy. In years to come it will be of priceless value. We have endeavored to make this work worthy of the subject.

We here take this opportunity to express our thanks to our many friends, who have so generously assisted us in making this work a success.

Major D. B. Casteel has by his own efforts inaugurated and made successful this work. He did all the soliciting and compiled and wrote all the matter. He has prepared the material for many special newspaper and magazine issues, and his work bears the impress of studious care. Of necessity some typographical errors appear, it seems almost impossible to keep such a work free from them. The cover design and the mechanical work were done by and under the supervision of the publisher, with the Progress Printing Plant, and he feels justly proud of the work, realizing that at its inception it seemed almost impossible to produce this work with the limited amount of facilities to be found in a small country print shop. The work was printed on an 8x12 Challenge Gordan, one page at an impression, and it took about 160,000 impression and 2 000 pounds of paper to produce this beautiful work. We have been delayed continuously by the engraver and the work is considerable later than we hoped to make. There were other unavoidable delays that retarded the work, such as getting out the weekly paper, keeping up the job work, etc. We trust that the good people will appreciate the Souvenir.

Respectfully,

W. P. HAGTHROP,

Publisher.



THE NOKOMIS PROGRESS

SUPPLEMENTAL EDITION.

VOL. IX.

NOKOMIS, ILLINOIS, MAY 22, 1903.

No. 5

NOKOMIS AND VICINITY.

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE.



A BRIEF HISTORY of the early events that transpired near or within the limits of what is now Montgomery County, may not be without interest to our readers, so we refer to them. More than a century before the Pilgrim Fathers landed on Plymouth Rock, the white man cast his eyes over the broad expanse of these fertile plains. And here, near where the pure and limpid waters of the Big River rolled, he pitched his tent. For how many ages before this the red man had here "wooed his dusky maid" and in peace hunted the deer and other game we know not. It is known, however, that this was a point where the red man had, for many generations gathered for the council and for the dance, and here were his prolific hunting grounds. Advancement was slow, partially owing to the primitive age in which we then lived, and partly owing to the slow emigration to the west. So it was near the middle of the 19th century ere the country began to take on the appearance of civilization. It was not until 1846 that Montgomery County became identified with the older parts of the State.

For many years Nokomis lay dormant, but during the past decade the population has visibly increased, even to the superficial views. The building of houses is steadily progressing, new industries are being added, and the city is not falling behind in any of those items which go to make an active and steady prosperity.



NOKOMIS IS SITUATED on the southeastern terminus of an extensive plateau of land which lies in an almost unbroken surface for several miles, in a west and northwestern direction, and consists of a very rich black soil, while the surface of the territory on the east and south is inclined to be hilly and broken. However, it is very productive in seasons when the weather is favorable.



THIS TOWNSHIP was one of the last in Montgomery County to be settled. Sixty years ago it was practically unknown to civilization, there being only one or two white families within its borders. We are told that even fifty years ago but very few families resided in the township; the vast prairie at that time being decorated with a foliage of high grass and beautiful flowers, with immense herds of wild animals. The first settler of Nokomis township was Hugh Hightower, who settled on section 23, in 1846. Some eight years later a new settlement was opened in the northern part of the township by R. N. Lee, John Wetmore, William Boston, Abram Vanhooser, William Lee and Andrew Coiner.

The first school is said to have been taught by Henry Lower, at his own private residence, in the year 1851. The first school house was built in 1853, on section 27, near the present residence of Jacob Haller.

The first sermon was preached in Nokomis township by Rev. J. L. Crane, a Methodist Episcopal minister. The first church was a Methodist society, which was organized by Preston Wood in 1852. Mr. Wood came from England to New York City in which latter place he was employed as editor of a newspaper for six months, coming to Illinois at the expiration of that time. He was presiding elder of the Jacksonville district for a number of years, and at last accounts was still living.



THE FIRST MARRIAGE recorded in this township was that of J. W. Hancock and Miss Margaret Merritt, in 1853; the second one being Mr. Borar and Miss Margaret Hightower, also in 1853.

The railroad at this place now known as the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis was then the Alton and Terre Haute railroad. The first train was from Alton to Hillsboro, July 4, 1855, and the road was completed to Terre Haute, January 8, 1856. A station being at once established at this place, which was the foundation, and beginning of Nokomis as a village, and now one of the most beautiful small cities of southern Illinois. It was surveyed and platted by P. C. Huggins of Bunker Hill, and Captain Simeon Ryder of Alton, in the fall of 1856.

The first mercantile establishment was owned by Oliver Boutwell in the same year. The first blacksmith shop was opened by A. Swords of Audubon in 1857; he also conducted a wayside inn, where the traveling public was entertained. The first hotel was built by Mr. Hart in 1859, who was also a dealer in lumber. Dr. Welch, of Audubon put out the first physician's sign in 1857.



THE FIRST POSTOFFICE was established in 1856. The history before us states that the village was at this time known as Fillmore, but the writer cannot vouch for this, as he can find no old settler who has any recollection of this fact, although he has interviewed numerous pioneers, some of whom claim to have settled in or near the present location of Nokomis but do not remember of its having been called Fillmore.

To one Mrs. Anasa Barry of Alton, Illinois, was assigned the honor of naming this city. Being an admirer of Longfellow's poems, the song of Hiawatha, in which the old Indian squaw, Nokomis, is so frequently mentioned, being her favorite, she at once decided to name the place Nokomis.

Another story is told in regard to the naming of this city: A traveler who had stopped at a shanty near the station,



STATE STREET, LOOKING EAST.

Photo by Whittlesey.

asked the landlady for a comb, with which to dress his hair, but was assured that no such article was kept in the house. Hence he called the place No-kom-us.

A large per cent of Nokomis' pioneer settlers and business men came from Alton and other parts of Madison county; also most of the citizens of the once prosperous and historical village of Audron, which was located only six miles east of here, came to Nokomis after the postoffice was established.

The first postmaster of this place was Oliver Bontwell. In 1858 H. F. Rood took possession of the office, and in 1861 he was followed by W. F. Mulkey, but in the course of a year it again fell into the hands of Mr. Rood, who served until 1864, when it passed to Thomas Judson. D. P. Brophy came into possession of the office in 1865 and held it for a period of twenty-one years, when he was succeeded by M. E. Touhy, who was appointed under the first Cleveland administration. Mr. Touhy was succeeded by Robert Gelly, who successfully discharged the duties of the office for several years, and in 1892, John A. Monaghan was appointed. Following him came Charles F. Best, who still holds the position, at the present writing.



IN 1866 THE VILLAGE was incorporated under the general incorporation act, and a board of trustees chosen, but this incorporation was found to be deficient and in the winter of 1867, a few of the citizens met and appointed a committee to draw up a special charter, to be adopted by the legislature, then in session. This charter was granted March 9th, 1867; the first board of trustees was elected, with the following members: C. H. Schaper was chosen president of the board; A. H. Draper was elected clerk; N. M. Belnap, treasurer; and J. K. Brightman, constable and street commissioner;

B. W. Henderson, assessor. At this time the city had a population of about seven hundred people, and with three churches, eight or ten stores and such industries as are usually found in a place of its size.

On March 27, 1869, the charter was amended by a special act of the legislature.

The boundaries of the city are as follows: Beginning at a point one-half mile south of the center of the public square, the square being block 39, thence east one-half mile, thence north one mile, thence west one mile, thence south one mile, thence east one-half mile, to place of beginning.



ON FEBRUARY 6TH, 1893, the City of Nokomis organized under the General Law of the State.



THE FIRST TELEGRAPH OFFICE was established Feb. 2, 1863, N. M. Belnap as operator, which position he continuously held until his death in October, 1895.

Mason Jewitt and John W. Wetmore operated the first mill in 1858. The mill was burned in 1860.

The first newspaper published in this city was the Nokomis Adviser, issued once a month by Draper and Henderson, the first number of which appeared February 1, 1867.

The Free Press, a Democratic paper, was established in July 1870, Mr. E. M. Hulbert as editor. Some years later the Gazette was established and after running some eight years was purchased by Mr. Hulbert, who consolidated the two under the name of the Free Press-Gazette, and then the whole was launched on the sea of independent politics, and

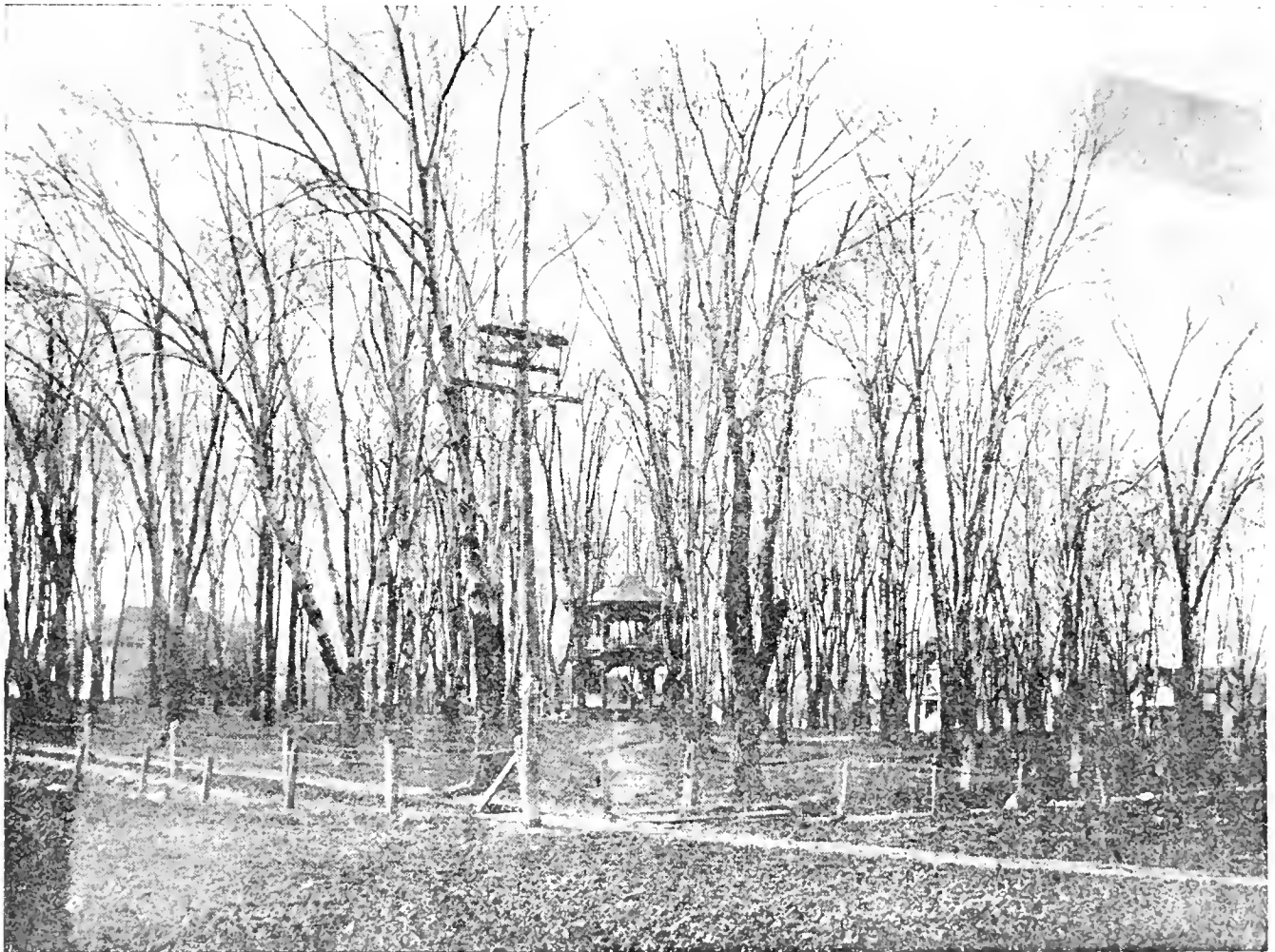
as such has been conducted. In 1880 Mr. Hulbert established a German paper, the "Deutsch Amerikaner," at the same time associating himself with the present senior partner, Joseph W. Wild, of the present firm of Wild & Webster. Mr. Hulbert owned the first power press ever brought to the county.

In April, 1895, the Nokomis Progress was established in this city by J. B. Cole and A. A. Nall, who edited it for several months. Then A. J. Eckhoff leased the plant for a few months and finally withdrew in favor of Mr. Cole, who continued as its editor until February 19th, 1897. At this time W. P. Hagthorp bought the plant and a month later took into partnership F. C. Buck. This partnership continued

surrounded by rolling prairies and grassy lands, over which the wild deer galloped in great herds, and through which rang the fierce growl of hungry wolves, mingled with the croak of the bullfrog; the earth at times being darkened with flocks of blackbirds, wild ducks and geese, cranes, beluga whoopers, etc. Also large prairie fires that swept over this country annually during the fall and winter months served to break the monotony of nature's song.



NOKOMIS HAS BEEN NOTED for its Public School, which is one of the leading schools in the county, it not



CITY PARK, LOOKING SOUTHWEST.

Photo - Wm. ...

until February, 1902, when the present editor bought out his partner's interest and has since conducted the business alone.



THE FIRST FLOURING MILL was erected in 1867 by Rhodes and Boxbunger. The first bank was organized and chartered in January 1872 under the name of Nokomis National Bank, and which to day stands as a monument to the energy and prosperity of the citizens of this city and community.

The greater number of our business houses, especially the brick ones, were erected between 1880 and 1890. Thus the city of Nokomis has grown. Thirty-five years ago she was but a small railroad station with half a dozen houses,

the leader. The citizens have been ambitious in making this school in point of thoroughness and efficiency, the equal of any in the state. Its Public School building is the pride of the city. D. H. Zepp was the first principal who taught in this building. As the population increased it became necessary to put up an addition of two rooms on the east and later another addition was built to the west. And on April 23, 1899, this building burned down. Before the burning ended, were out the board of education had men at work clearing away the debris on the ground, preparatory to erecting a new building. During the summer of 1899, the present splendid building was erected at a cost of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Nokomis has underlying an inexhaustible supply of

water, a veritable lake, a bed of sand some twenty-five feet deep, of water from which is pumped the water that supplies the city.

An electric light plant that supplies the city with an abundance of light. At this time there are thirty arc lights that make the nights as light as day.

The Big Four recently erected a beautiful depot that would be a credit to a larger city. They also erected a large freight warehouse. A new railroad will be built soon, the Frisco line extension from Shelbyville, Illinois. This will be a direct connection with Chicago and St. Louis.

The city is well equipped with a fire department. Two telephone systems with their lines reaching out in every direction, reaching every town and city in the county

It will not be many years before a coal mine will be operated in this vicinity, for an inexhaustible supply of coal underlays all the land. A prospect hole bored several years ago showed a vein of good coal over eight foot thick.



AS A MARKET this city has the reputation of excelling any other city of her size, and even towns much larger. The farmer knows he can dispose of his produce, fruit and vegetables, as well as his cattle, horses, poultry, hay and grain when he brings it here, and that he will receive the highest market price and honest measure and weights.



SPRUCE STREET LOOKING NORTH FROM CITY PARK.

and all parts of the state. It has granitoid walks in the main parts of the city. It has all the leading fraternal orders: The Masonic, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and G.A.R.

There are several life insurance orders, among which are the Modern Woodmen of America, Court of Honor, Mutual Protective League, Fraternal Aid Association, Fraternal Army of America, and Modern Americans. Also a building association. There are seven churches:—A German and English Methodist, a German and English Lutheran, a Presbyterian, Baptist and Catholic. The English Lutheran church was the first church building erected in Nokomis.



THE CENSUS for 1900 gives the population of the city as 1,371. The population of the city including the town-ship is 2,132. The population has been increasing steadily and is now about 1,500.

AMONG THE INDUSTRIES to be found here, not before mentioned, are two elevators, two poultry houses, a canning factory, a cooper shop, a machine shop, three blacksmith shops two grist mills and the city water works, which are operated by the Electric Light and Power Company and other businesses are represented as follows:

Two hotels, two printing offices, six grocery stores, three dry goods stores, two gents' furnishing goods stores, two hardware and furniture stores, two druggists, two restaurants two bakeries, four livery stables, three hardware, dry goods and notion stores, one photograph gallery, one billiard hall, one bowling alley, one marble works, one bank, two tin shops, two meat markets, two harness shops, three barber shops, one cigar factory, two jewelry stores, one lumber yard, four millinery stores, two coal yards, two undertaking parlors, four implement dealers and four saloons.

RAILROAD AND TELEGRAPH.—The following is a statement of the business transacted by the C., C., C. & St. L. Railroad at the Nokomis station for the three poorest months of the year, January, February and March, 1903, compiled and furnished through the kindness of Mr. S. R. Hudnall, agent. This report includes the c. l. & l. c. l.

FREIGHT RECEIVED.		FREIGHT FORWARDED.	
January	4,277,816 lbs	January	2,063,945 lbs
February	1,827,959 lbs	February	3,178,499 lbs
March	1,819,759 lbs	March	2,589,346 lbs
Total	7,925,534 lbs	Total	7,831,790 lbs

TICKET SALES.	
January	\$ 716 04
February	791 19
March	572 82
Total	\$1990 05

TELEGRAMS RECEIVED.	
January	146 revenue \$53 32
February	100 revenue 40 98
March	106 revenue 42 25
Total	352 Total \$136 55

TELEGRAMS SENT.	
January	112 revenue \$30 88
February	78 revenue 22 90
March	90 revenue 15 65

AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY			
FREIGHT RECEIVED.		FREIGHT FORWARDED.	
January, revenue	\$223 71	January, revenue	\$167 71
February, revenue	163 85	February, revenue	141 02
March, revenue	230 21	March, revenue	148 18
Total	\$617 77	Total	\$456 91



CITY OFFICIALS.—Mayor—John Woltmann, Democrat. Aldermen First Ward—E. E. Mallory, Republican and W. M. Jayne, Democrat. Aldermen Second Ward—W. A. Holmes, Republican and J. R. Meinzer, Republican. Aldermen Third Ward—Thomas Wolters, Republican and Dr. W. C. Hovey, Democrat. City Clerk—W. M. Tooley, Republican. City Treasurer—Fred C. Best, Republican. City Attorney—W. G. Webers, Republican. City Marshal—W. H. Walker, Democrat. Assistant City Marshal—E. J. Pullen, Democrat. Superintendent of Streets—W. E. Sides, Republican. Health Inspector—Dr. W. S. Strain, Republican. Board of Health—George Bliss, George Sippell, James Young, Jos. Wild and John Woltmann.

Supervisor—F. M. Sawyer, Democrat. Township Clerk—W. S. Kerr, Republican. School Trustee—Alf Griffin, Democrat.



NOKOMIS CITY COUNCIL.

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| J. R. MEINZER | THOMAS WOLTERS. | W. A. HOLMES | DR. W. C. HOVEY | WILLIAM M. E. |
| F. C. BEST, Treasurer | W. M. TOOLEY, Clerk | JOHN WOLTMANN, Mayor | E. E. MALLORY | W. G. WEBSER, Attorney |

THE FOLLOWING DATA was gleaned from reminiscences of Mrs. Thomas Ridler, one among the oldest and most observant residents of Nokomis. Owing to lack of space we are compelled to leave out several interesting points. Mrs. Ridler came to Nokomis in 1865 from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, with her parents. She states that the first store was conducted by Mr. Bontwell on the northwest corner of State and Pine streets; other stores were conducted at a latter date by Messrs. Mulky, Blue and Horace Rood, the latter's building was on the present postoffice site and faced toward the railroad. The only hotel at that time was one on the present site of Mrs. Allen's hotel on Front and Spruce streets, which was owned by Mrs. Ridler's father, Mr. Peter Newcomer. Mr. Sifford conducted a blacksmith shop on the present site of George Engleman's store, southeast corner of State and Spruce streets. The postoffice was then in its present location in Mr. Rood's store, D. P. Brophy being postmaster, but was afterwards moved to a building where Griffin's store now is, then later to the northeast corner of State and Spruce streets in a dry goods store owned by Mr. Hensley, where the bank is now located. John Johns owned a lumber yard where the German Lutheran church now stands. The yard was burned in the summer of 1875, one year after John Johns' death. The parlors of the Newcomer hotel were used as a waiting room by the railroad.

Thomas Ridler used the first cultivator that was brought to the county, on the John H. Beatty farm, now owned by H. B. Shephard. It was a Blackhawk walking cultivator. The reservoir was built by the C., C., C. & St. L. railroad, on land donated by the citizens in the year 1880.

The city park was laid out in 1856, and was used as a common until 1871, it was then fenced and the trees set out by order of the board of trustees.

Up to 1860 nearly all the business houses faced the railroad.

A grain elevator stood on the site of the present freight warehouse and the telegraph office was in the elevator with Mr. N. M. Behnap as operator. The first school house was a one-story building with a partition through the center

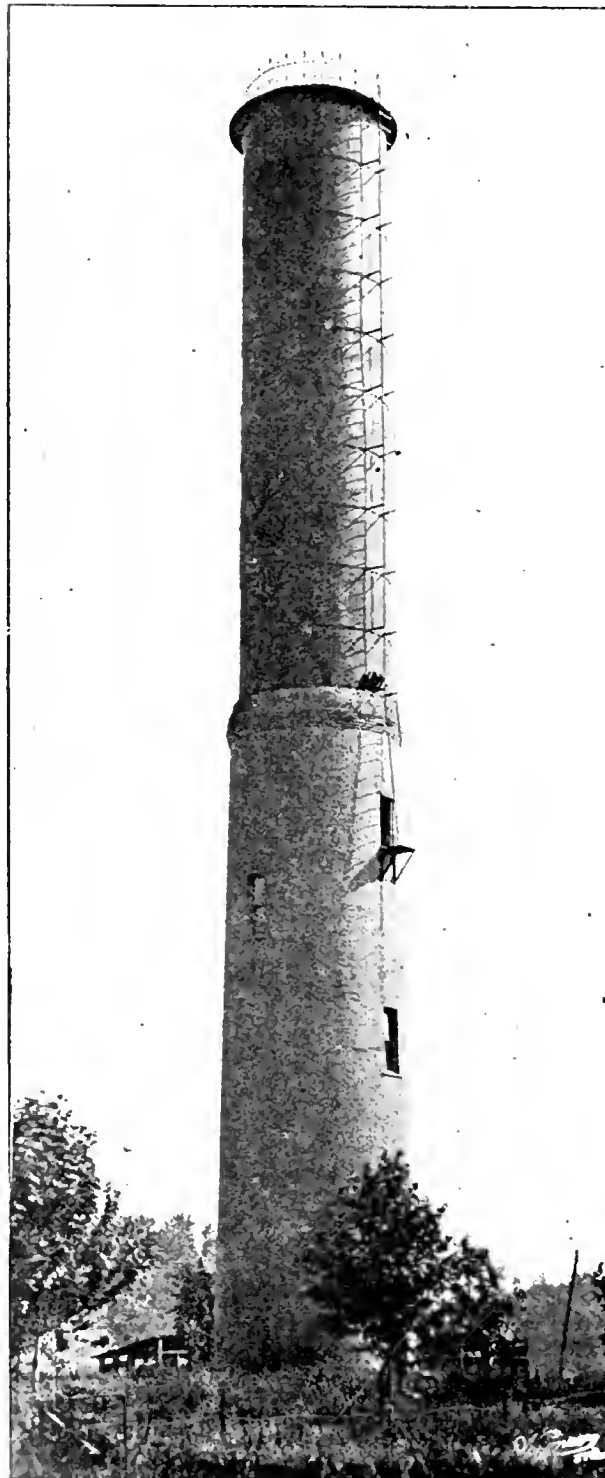
and was used for both church and school purposes. It was situated on T. A. Hiett's lots, corner South and Cedar streets. It was taught by Martin Miller. Miss Phoebe Graves taught several summer terms. Daniel Tooley afterwards conducted the schools until the erection of the new brick building in 1871. In 1865 there were only a few residences in this city. George Culp, at this time, 1865, was the undertaker and was located in a building on the northwest corner of Pine and Front streets, the present location of R. L. Anderson's barn. The water tower, of which a good illustration is presented on this page, is 102 feet high, 50 feet of the structure being of

brick and the balance of steel. The waterworks was put in by Mr. Charles T. Tobin, of Hillsboro, Illinois, at a cost of \$8000; and since extensions to the amount of \$2500 have been added, and were completed in January, 1895.

Volumes could be written of this beautiful little city of Nokomis and the position she occupies. Reared on a picturesque spot, she has all the advantages and none of the disadvantages of many other cities of like size.

Touching on the commercial interests of Nokomis, much might be said—more than the needs of this occasion call for. Suffice it, the city's location is the very heart of the garden of southern Illinois an area in extent and productiveness unequalled in any other part of this section. In fact Nokomis is solid in every way. Her great development is natural and her enterprises are founded on rock. Her busy men gather no moss and come very close to the image of their maker.

Some one has said:
 Along the vast and silent plain,
 I ride beneath the solemn evening
 skies;
 In shadowy majesty around me
 rise
 Hay-heaped monuments that now
 retain
 Some semblance of the shapes be-
 sides the drain
 Of Egypt's desert when the lotus
 lies
 Withered upon the tombs, and the
 proud eyes
 Of ancient kings are dust. Dear God,
 how vain
 The Pharaohs labor and the mighty
 toil
 Of slaves that built the pyramids
 of old,
 For here are symbols of a nobler
 spoil,
 Won in our battle with earth. Be-
 hold
 Man's history: I feel within my
 breast
 The satness of the East, the glory
 of the West.



WATER TOWER AT CITY WATERWORKS.



THE NOKOMIS BAPTIST CHURCH.

THE NOKOMIS BAPTIST CHURCH was organized May 24, 1856, with a membership of ten; and as a majority of the members lived outside the then Village of Nokomis, the meetings were held for a number of years in a schoolhouse a few miles south and east of the town. As the work of the church was carried on the membership increased and it was finally decided to remove the place of worship into the village of Nokomis. Meetings were held at stated times, by the courtesy of other church organizations in their places of worship, until 1869, when a lot was purchased at the corner of Union and Spruce streets, and in 1870 the present church building was erected there during the pastorate of Rev. Jas. M. Stiller.

A Sunday school was organized shortly after the organization of the church, and from a membership of only twelve it has increased to one hundred and sixty at this time. The church membership has grown from the original ten to one hundred and sixty-five, notwithstanding the many deaths and removals. The first pastor was Rev. Husten, and there have been altogether twenty pastors who have served this church as follows: Rev. Husten, Rev. Jacob V. Hopper, Rev. Sampson, Rev. R. R. Con, Rev. E. Jones, Rev. Jas. M. Stiller, Rev. J. H. Mize, Rev. H. L. Fields, Rev. Chas. H. McKee, Rev. S. J. Greear, Rev. S. H. Bowyer, Rev. J. J. Midkiff, Rev. S. H. Bowyer (second pastorate), Rev. L. H. Williams, Rev. M. L. Goff, Rev. O. E. Moffet, Rev. Ingram E. Bill, Rev. Geo. Kline, Rev. S. D. McKenny, Rev. C. H. Solfsberg and Rev. Geo. P. Mitchell, the latter being the pastor at this time. It is a remarkable fact that the Baptist church of Nokomis has ordained six of the twenty pastors which have served it in the past forty-seven years, and it has been called, perhaps with more or less justice, "mother of preachers."

Some of those who have served this church have gone far in the line of advancement, among whom might be mentioned Rev. J. M. Stiller, who at the time of his death was the president of an eastern Baptist college. To follow all would be impossible and to mention ever so briefly the great work they have accomplished since the Nokomis church knew them would occupy too much space. Many have gone to their reward, but their work lives, and will continue to live.

"And their works do follow them."

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH was organized in 1860 by Rev. J. C. Pallatte, with but eighteen members. The church was completed in 1868 and dedicated in 1869. The same building is still in use by the congregation, but they are making arrangements and expect to build a new church before another year rolls by.

M. E. Church.

Since its organization this church has had a large number of pastors, namely: J. C. Pallatte, Preston Wood, Joseph Harris, Elijah Hutchinson, A. H. Aldrich, J. H. Kabrick, William Taylor, E. E. Lindley, Robert Arnold, A. J. Cushman, George Miller, W. H. Whitlock, E. E. Coppethwaite, J. M. West, T. M. Dillon, L. E. James, J. W. Crane, H. W. Davis, J. J. Dugan, J. M. Driver, B. F. Madden, J. W. Eekman, E. G. Wood, E. E. Carr, W. C. Lacy, E. S. Wamsley, J. S. Tull and J. A. Stout, who is the present pastor.

The church has a membership of 210, and has a Sunday school which was organized in 1869, and now has 175 members. G. H. Webster acts as superintendent, and J. H. Crickenberger as superintendent of the Home Department. The teachers are Miss Ella Kellogg, H. C. Miller, Miss Della Smith, Miss Julia Runge, Miss Charlotte Holmes, Miss Ida McKown, Miss Edna Gaskill, J. H. Crickenberger and J. A. Stout.

The church has an Epworth League of sixty-two members, of which J. H. Crickenberger is president.

They have a Junior League of fifty-five members of which Mrs. May Williamson is president.



WHILE OUR COUNTRY was disturbed by the terrible calamities of internal strife a little band of Christians met for the purpose of organizing a church. Under the leadership of Rev. Joseph Gordan, who had been preaching to them for some time, they met on the 21st day of June 1862, just a few days

The Presbyterian Church.

before the seven days' battle between the Union and Confederate forces under the leadership of McClellan and Lee. Though organized in the days of battle it has struggled on, earnestly seeking to make of its members, each, a good soldier of the cross. At this first meeting a series of resolutions were prepared and accepted, to be presented to the next meeting of the Abton Presbytery. The paragraph preceding this series of resolutions presented to the Presbytery expresses the spirit which prompted them to so act. "We deem it a duty we owe to God and for our best interest as individuals for time and for eternity, to form ourselves into a church of Christ for the purpose of the better sustaining the interests of religion in our midst and securing the means of grace for ourselves and for our children and the community in which we live."

This church was to be known as the First Presbyterian church of Nokomis. The building (the one now occupied) was erected in 1865. Since the organization, the church has been served by twelve pastors. Rev. Joseph Gordan, who labored so faithfully to secure an organization remained with this people seven years. Rev. Gideon Clark followed remaining here for one year. Rev. C. K. Smoyer, for five years; J. P. Mills, for three years; James Lafferty, for two years. D. L. Gear served the church for only a few months when he was called to join the church triumphant, he died Oct. 9, 1880. Thomas E. Spillman filled the longest pastorate of any of the

twelve, remaining with the church for eight years. J. S. Simpson remained here for one year. Robert Carson served the church for four years and during that time baptised into the church seventy-four. J. A. Gehrett served the church to the great satisfaction of its members for three years. W. C. Logan was with the church one year, and Will A. Jackson, is with the people at the present time.

A Sabbath School was organized soon after the church organization. Never was the Sabbath School work more encouraging under the leadership of Mrs. Christina Collier as Superintendent, the school is doing good work. It now has a membership of almost 160. Since November 1st twenty-two of the pupils have been received into full membership of the church. Mrs. J. B. Satterlee has charge of the infant class; Mrs. Collier the bible class; Rev. Will A. Jackson the boys' class; Mrs. Dora Crumbagh, Mrs. A. A. Shoemaker, Misses Jennie and Myrtle Safford, Miss Isadore Stokes and Miss Kate Strain (sub.) are also teachers.

The young people are active in the Christian Endeavor organization, which has a membership of about fifty, consisting of active and associate members. Mrs. Dora Crumbagh is president of the society; Miss Kate Strain, secretary; Walter Collier, treasurer, and Miss Emma Best, organist.

Nearly five hundred members have been received into the church since its organization.

Two of her young men have become the faithful pastors of other congregations, Rev. Elisha Safford, of Edwardsville, and Rev. John Strain, of Assumption. Robert Strain another of her sons is a member of this year's class in McCornick Theological Seminary, of Chicago.

The church is entirely free from debt and increased membership and prosperous days seem to be in store for her future.

ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL CHURCH was first organized in Audubon township in the fall of 1853. Later most of the members of the Audubon church moved into or near Nokomis, consequently the building in Audubon was sold to the Methodists, and St. Mark's Lutheran Church, of

English Lutheran Church.

Nokomis, was erected and dedicated October 21, 1866.

This building is still in use by the St. Mark's congregation, but was remodeled about fourteen years ago, during the pastoral term of Rev. D. A. Shelter, and again in the summer of 1902, during the pastoral term of Rev. T. B. Hersch. From the date of its organization till September, 1872, this church had no synodical connection.

From 1872 to 1887 it was in connection with the Indiana Synod of the General Council, and from 1887 to the present time with the Central Illinois Synod of the General Synod. Three pastors, Revs. Amos Bartholomew, D. D. Swaney and Harkey, served this church during its existence in Audubon township.

Since its removal to Nokomis thirteen pastors have served this congregation, viz: Revs. M. M. Bartholomew, John Rugan, M. L. Kuekelem, J. E. Wesner, D. M. Roth Tilly, D. A. Shelter, E. S. Rees, R. L. Baine, C. R. Sherck, H. C. Funk and T. B. Hersch. The present membership is about seventy.

The Sunday School was established a short time before the church was first organized and has an enrollment at present of about eighty-five. The superintendent is Mr. R. T. Paddock, and the teachers are Misses Jennie Easterday, Francis Easterday, Alice Hubbard, Mesdames George Schaper, J. W. Russell, and Rev. T. B. Hersch, with one class to be supplied, the one formerly taught by M. A. Keislar, who moved away.



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH.

THE FIRST ITEM of the history of St. Louis' Church of Nokomis dates back to the year 1859, when Rev. Michael Colton, of Litefield, attended this place as a station, coming perhaps but once a year, to permit of the few Catholics in this vicinity performing their Easter duties.

St. Louis' Church.

Irregular services continued from that time, the congregation meeting at private houses most frequently at the home of Thomas Fnohy, who was then foreman of the section and kept a boarding house for the section men in a building which stood just north of the railroad and just east of Spruce street—until 1867, when the services of Rev. Cusack were secured to visit Nokomis regularly once a month, and what was known as Blue's hall, at the corner of State and Spruce streets, became the place of meeting. Rev. Cusack was succeeded by Rev. Welch and he by Rev. Julian Turnel, and under the latter, on July 4th, 1870, the congregation was organized and the subject of building a church began to be agitated, resulting in the erection in 1871 of the building which was occupied until May 24, 1900. In 1874 Rev. Frederic Lohmann, located at Hillsboro, became the attending priest, remaining two years, when he was succeeded by Rev. P. J. Virnich, who remained in charge until 1881. Rev. P. A. Lyons replaced Rev. Storp in November, 1893, and remained until July 1897, when Rev. C. Johannes, the present occupant became rector.

Again the capacity of the church was found insufficient and after much discussion, a meeting was called on May 1, 1898, to consider the matter. At this meeting the pastor offered to contribute \$1,000 toward the erection of a new and handsome church and this aroused the enthusiasm of those



ST. LOUIS' CHURCH.

present to such a degree that it was decided to make the effort. Rev. Johannes then began an active canvass for funds and met with such success as soon assured the erection of a structure of which the congregation might be proud. Plans were secured and, under the supervision of M. Ohlman, H. J. Bender and William Oberle, directors, and David Herlihy and Frank Yackle, trustees, the contract was let to H. Bergfeldt, of Effingham, and on July 4th, 1899, the corner stone of the present handsome edifice was laid with impressive ceremonies by the Very Rev. Vicar-General T. Hickey, and on May 24th, 1900, the finest church in Montgomery county was dedicated.

The building is constructed of limestone and pressed brick, in Romanesque style, with trimmings of Bedford rock and slate roof, and covers a ground space of 55 by 120 feet. The auditorium is 84 feet deep and 40 feet from floor to ceiling, lighted by beautiful stained glass windows. A tower 130 feet high and surmounted by a large gilded cross, rising from the southwest corner of the building, and contains a peal of three bells.

In connection with the St. Louis Church the following societies are represented: Ladies' Altar Society, with a membership of 110, and the Catholic Knights of Illinois, Branch 32, a benevolent association.



IT WAS ON THE 28th of March, 1893, when nine staunch Lutherans, firmly convinced of the necessity of a Lutheran Church, holding high the banners of divine truth, pure and undefiled, resolved to make energetic efforts in erecting an adequate building for di-

German Lutheran Church. vine services. Their work was crowned with unlooked for success; great liberality was evidenced by all members and the present handsome church rose—a monument of love and gratitude to their Savior.

The 8th of October, 1893, was the long anticipated day of rejoicing and happiness, witnessing

the dedication of the new church edifice. Two impressive and inspiring services were conducted by Professor L. Wessel, of Springfield, and Reverend C. Holst, of Mount Pulaski, Illinois.

On the 22d of October, the previously mentioned organized what is now known as the Evangelical Lutheran Trinity Congregation.

As usual, the blessed work of our heavenly Father met with opposition and discouragement from the very beginning.

Satan marshaled all his hosts against the little flock, but the members, trusting in Him, with whom nothing is impossible, and ever mindful of His blessed promise, "I shall never forsake thee nor leave thee," continued their glorious work and now reap the fruit of their patience and perseverance.

Reverend P. Kolb was the first pastor and with great sincerity labored for one year and then accepted a call to a larger parish in Stewardson, Illinois.

For three years Reverend M. Herman, of St. Paul's congregation, officiated as pastor.

The congregation again feeling able to support its own pastor, extended a call to William J. Kowert, who accepted and was ordained and installed on July 6th, 1902.

The congregation numbers at present 150 souls, 90 communicant members, 18 enjoying voting privileges.

The Sunday School superintendent is Mr. Kellermann, and the teachers are Misses A. Eckhoff, Emma Nantkes, Martha Kowert and Mrs. Anna Brakenhoff. The school has an enrollment of 40.

The Ladies' Aid Society, under the leadership of Mrs. Eckhoff, labors incessantly to defray current expenses.

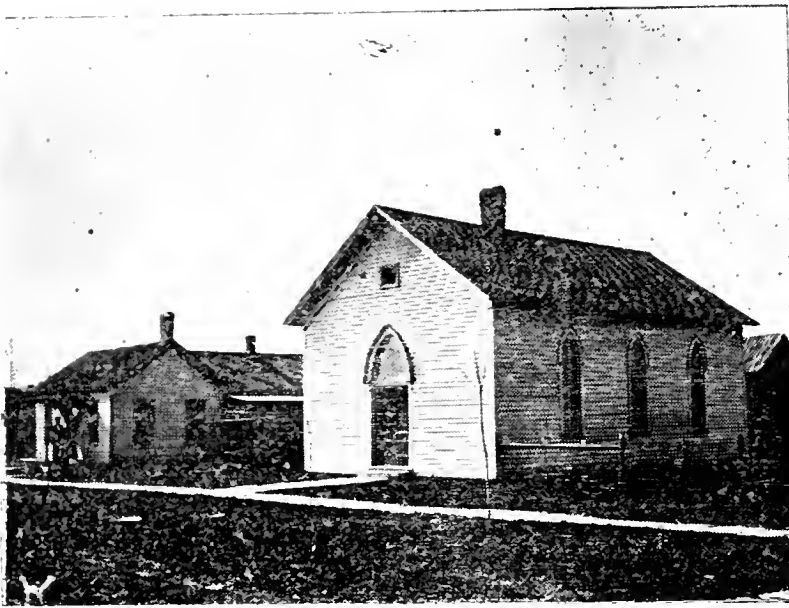
A church choir, directed by Miss A. Eckhoff, embellishes all divine services with appropriate music.

The congregation is at present in a very prosperous and flourishing condition. All services—morning and evening—German and English—are regularly attended.

May God in His mercy ever continue to bless the work begun here in His name alone to His glory and honor and the welfare of erring immortal souls.



GERMAN LUTHERAN CHURCH.

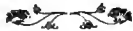


GERMAN METHODIST CHURCH.

THE GERMAN METHODIST CHURCH, of Nokomis, was first established in 1898. However, in 1890, Rev. C. J. Stuckeman began preaching here and was succeeded by Rev. W. C. Schultze, who was followed by Rev. Theo. Kies, and Rev. G. L. Boellner succeeded him and organized the church in 1898.

German Methodist Church. The first church was erected in 1898, and is still in use by the Methodist congregation. They have a membership of about sixty and since its organization at this place has had two pastors, Rev. Guido L. Boellner and Rev. Albert F. Ludwig, who is the present pastor.

They have a Sunday School, which was established in 1897 by Rev. W. C. Schultze, and which now has about sixty-five scholars. The superintendent is F. J. Pantwitt, and the teachers are Mrs. G. Brakenhoff, Mrs. A. F. Ludwig, Miss Anna Zimmermann, Miss Clara Knecht, Julius Kettelkamp, Henry Dudgey, Fred Kettelkamp, John Wildy and Mrs. R. Zimmermann.



NOTWITHSTANDING the claims of materialists and agnostics, Christianity not only is not losing ground but is spreading o'er the earth like the branches of a great tree. Never before was this workaday world so busy. The demon of iron, of steam, of rush and bustle and appalling consolidations of capital is among us, but it has not made men forget the great Architect and Engineer who built and directs this great Universe, the height, or depth, or length, or breadth of which no man has conception. Amid the metallic clang of the trip hammer, amid the whirl of the looms and giant machinery, amid the hissing and the shrieks of sirens men are not forgetting their God. Churches are being builded as never before—not even in the Middle Ages. A town without a church is not to be found anywhere upon the face of the earth. Especially in the United States is this so. Speak-

ing from a material stand point, churches enhance the value of real and personal property in every community. They give an air of respectability which would otherwise belacking.

Nokomis has, since her foundation, been noted for her temples of worship. As soon as the timbers had been felled and a few log cabins reared there followed places of worship. The pioneers of the city of Nokomis had that abiding faith in the Almighty which made their labors sweet and their burdens easy to carry.

And their successors have kept the faith and have been bountifully blessed by Him who holds the Universe in the hollow of His hand.

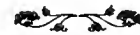
The various ministers of Nokomis who have guided the spiritual destinies of the faithful for more than fifty years have made a glorious record indeed.

So far as the writer can learn they have all produced a most favorable impression and accomplished much good.

They all seem to have been men of unbounded energy, of wonderful fertility of intellect, consumed with the desire to bring souls to God. They have all been powerful and convincing preachers of the gospel, fearless in their attack on evil, yet with all liberal minded, and ever ready to discern the grains of truth concealed in a mass of error.

Men of great zeal and sincerity of purpose, able ministers and general favorites with their congregations.

EDITOR.



CHRISTIANITY meets the dark pessimism of the world with its own glorious optimism. It, too, believes the stars go down, but only "to shine upon some fairer shore." To the Christian who is true to his religion all life is the working out of a sublime plan, whose only end is the common good. Before the very tragedies of life he stands and says, "Thou shalt know not now, but afterwards." To him death is robbed of its sting and the grave of its victory. O, that Christians would be true to the colors under which they have enlisted.



ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH.

(See Page 8.)

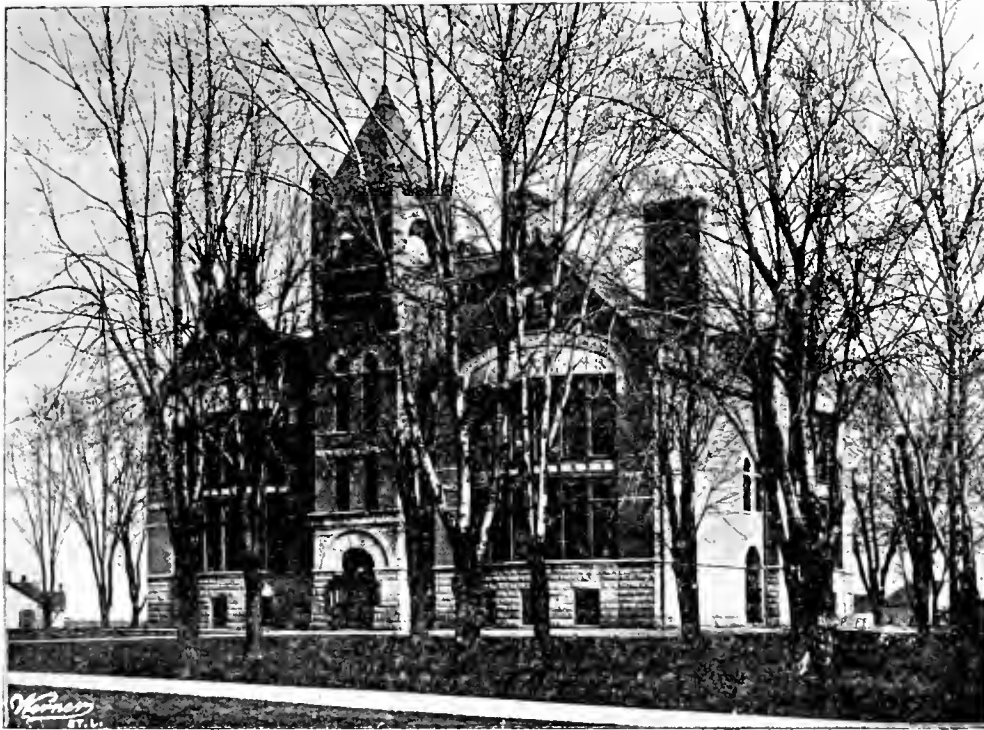
THE SCHOOLS of Nokomis began simultaneously with the town. The city was platted in 1856, and for a few years thereafter school was taught in private buildings, rented by the school authorities for that particular purpose.

The ground upon which was erected Nokomis' first public school building now forms the lot on the southeast corner of Cedar and South streets, and is owned by Mrs. T. A. Hiett. This original structure was frame in character, consisted of but one room and was erected about 1860. It was used by the public as a place for holding town meetings and public assemblies.

The religious services of the village were also held here. Each denomination took its regular turn in using the property for this purpose. It seems as though "Father" Gordon,

employed. The other teacher, however, was his wife. These two rooms and two teachers were sufficient to satisfy the conditions for a while longer; but it was only a matter of time until more room was necessitated. This want was met by renting, temporarily, first one building and then another, as the third room for educational instruction. The question of constructing a new school-house naturally grew out of these conditions, and in the summer of 1871 a two-story brick building was erected on the ground occupied by our present building. This new structure comprised four rooms, uniform in size, and a smaller one known as the recitation room, in which the superintendent held his classes.

Prior to the year 1871, the school of Nokomis had not been graded. Like other things, they had to run their course. Hence it might be said there were no records, no grades, no organization; and the work of examining and



NOKOMIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

"Uncle Billie" Van Hooser and Martha Miller did most of the preaching at this time.

This school-house was not only used as a place for speaking and preaching, but also as a place for instruction in music. Dr. H. S. Strain, Nokomis' first music teacher, organized a class in this subject and taught it in the school building.

Perhaps the first teacher that ever taught in Nokomis was Vale Lincoln. It is said by good authority that a memorial exercise was held in the school-house on the day of his burial.

One of the early teachers in the old building was "Squire" Walls, who taught for several years with good success. Another, who taught a little later, was Dan Tooley. He is remembered also as having taught with excellent success. It was during his administration that the school building was enlarged to two rooms, and a second teacher em-

classifying the pupils and placing the schools on an organized basis, was to devolve upon the superintendent in charge at the opening of school in the new building. Up to this time there had been no superintendent of schools. Mr. D. H. Zepp, one of the most thorough attorneys of Montgomery County, is the man who was employed for the work, and who, therefore, has the honor of being the first regular superintendent of the Nokomis Public Schools.

In 1876 an east wing of two rooms was added, and in 1887 a west wing of two more rooms was added, making altogether nine rooms, including the small recitation room. The building continued in this form until Wednesday night, April 19, 1899, when it and all of its contents were destroyed by fire. The property was estimated at \$20,000, but after estimating depreciation \$11,000 insurance on building and \$9,000 on contents was paid. The cause of the fire is not known.

On May 5, 1899, an election was held on the question of

issuing bonds to the amount of \$10,000 to apply on a new building.

The proposition carried almost unanimously; so this sum, increased by \$13,500 received as insurance on the old building and contents, \$1,000 premium paid for the bonds, constituted the building fund for the new school house.

The present school building is two-story, has ten large rooms, superintendent's office, library room, and five basement rooms. The building is equipped in every respect with the best of material and according to the most modern school ideas. The building, as it now stands, is estimated at \$25,000.

Our High School is in good condition. It is well equipped and supplied with library facilities, has a \$1,000 piano in it, supports a literary society and an alumni association, and maintains a strong four years course of instruction. The work of the High School is divided departmentally, Mr. Miller having the science, Miss Holmes the Latin and mathematics, and Miss Smith the English and History. Our recitation periods are of regulation length—40 minutes—except in laboratory work, the periods of which are doubled.

The High School was placed on the accredited list of the University of Illinois for the first time under the supervision of the present incumbent. All of its work is accredited, our number of credits being 42 1-2, which is 6 1-2 more than is required to enter as a freshman. By virtue of our University credit we are accredited by the State Normals of Illinois. We are also on Shurtleff's accredited list. In consideration of our standing with such educational institutions as those mentioned, graduates of the Nokomis High School should have no trouble in receiving full credit for work done here, on entering other institutions of learning, whether they be schools of medicine, law, or of higher education.

The Board of Education is composed of aggressive, yet conservative men, whose names are as follows: A. J. Williford, president; D. H. Zepp, secretary; Thomas Ridler, G. H. Webster, J. H. Crickenberger, John Woltmann, R. T. Paddock.

Our excellent corps of teachers is as follows: Harry C. Miller, superintendent; Charlotte Holmes, principal of High School; Della Smith, assistant principal; Minnie E. Puntey, grade 8; Myrtle Safford, grade 7; Emma Hutchins, grade 6; Maggie Manning, grade 5; Emma Scales, grade 4;

Augusta Hand, grade 3; Ida McKown, grade 2; Mary Beck, grade 1; Lelia Whitten, music; Clyde Liticker, janitor.

The following is a complete roster of superintendents: D. H. Zepp, 1871-1872; Dr. E. F. Newberry, 1872-1874; D. H. Zepp, 1874-1875; S. W. Culp, 1875-1876; L. B. Whitham, 1876-1877; William M. Chrichton, 1877-1878; J. M. Dixon, 1878-1879; A. C. Hancock, 1879-1881; J. M. Dixon, 1881-1882; C. P. Schwer, 1882-1883; G. F. Miner, 1883-1885; J. R. Edmunds, 1885-1888; W. B. Davis, 1888-1891; M. L. McIntyre, 1891-1898; R. H. Perrott, 1898-1900; Harry C. Miller, 1900—



EDUCATION is a better safeguard of liberty than a standing army. Education is essential to the perpetuity of a government by the people. This was recognized by those who established the Union, and has never been questioned by any who were sincere in their efforts to maintain this a free government.

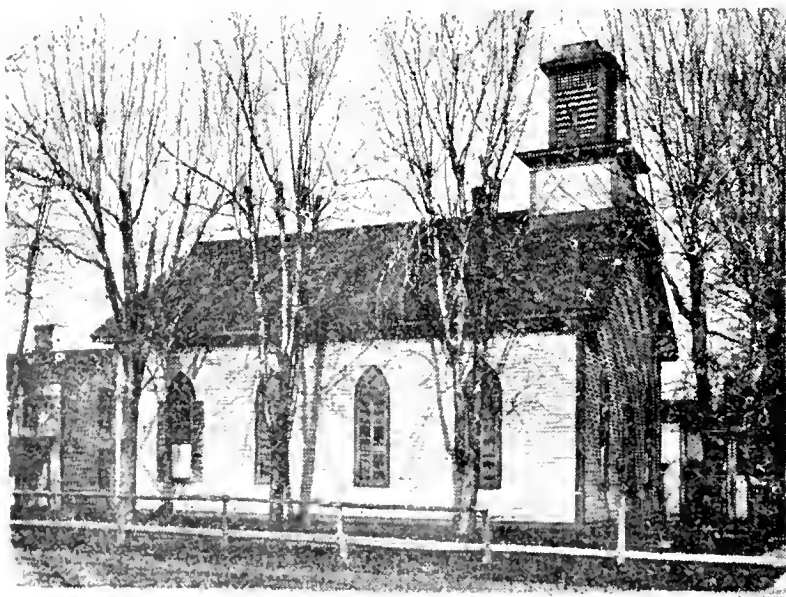
Every state has made ample provisions for the free education of its coming citizens. In many states public wisdom has not been contented with saying that every child may have the opportunity to be educated if he desire, but has gone an important step farther and said that every child must take advantage of these opportunities, regardless of his or her parents' desire.

So important and vital is free education that, next to the home, it stands dearest to the great heart of American liberty.

Every city and village point with pride to the fact that provisions for education have been made in their localities. One of the chief inducements which lead people to seek homes in any locality is the fact that such locality maintains a good system of public education. The most abundant facilities for transportation, natural resources, manufacturing establishments, and low rates of public taxation, all would fall short of building up a happy, permanent and prosperous community if the element of education for the children be unprovided for, or be placed in private hands, whereby it is accessible only to those who are blessed with the means to meet the expense. Only free public education, including elementary, high, college, universities and technical schools meet the demands of the American ideas. No greater bar exists to the progress and growth of a city and state than the fact that they occupy a secondary place in education, or are indifferent to its support. No cause will compel good people to seek homes elsewhere as much as the knowledge that any state or locality, otherwise inviting, has failed to provide for the free education of the sons and daughters of her citizens. The State of Illinois has never taken a backward step in this great work. She has shown her enduring interest by unfaltering support to every enterprise which offered increased educational advantages to her people.

The educational facilities of Nokomis have kept pace with the city's growth in other lines. The increasing needs of the city's rapidly-growing population have been met from time to time, until from the village school-house of one room and one teacher a prosperous, well-equipped system of schools has been established which is second to none in a town of her size.

Education is to unfold nature; to strengthen good and conquer evil; to give self-help; to make a man.



METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

(See Page 7.)



JOHN WOLTMANN, MAYOR.

Men whom the lust of office does not kill;
Men whom the spoils of office does not buy;
Men who possess opinion and a will;
Men who have honor, men who will not lie.

HERE AS IN every other city, village or hamlet, the mayor is the leading character. To him all visitors pay their respects; to him the people look for protection and enforcement of law and order.

Yet it is not always that good men are selected or can be induced to accept this honorable position.

Occasionally there is to be found a fearless man, a believer in law and order, one who has the nerve to assert his principles and enforce the law in an honest and manly way.

It is then that we speak with a spirit of enthusiasm of the Hon. John Woltmann, the gentlemanly and popular mayor of Nokomis, who was recently elected for the second time for this honorable position. His detailed course is so well known from his last administration that the people have no fear as to the results of his present.

He realizes that what benefits him benefits the best elements of Nokomis. He is a good business man, a man of more than ordinary executive abilities, broad-gauged, big-hearted and a man in whom the people have implicit confidence.

Mr. John Woltmann was born in the city of Norden, Ostfriesland, Germany, on August 27th, 1858. And at the age of ten years he emigrated with his parents to America; here he finished his education.

He began life for himself as a teacher of the German language in the public schools, and at the same time instructing a private class, but this proved too trying upon his weak constitution and was abandoned. His next work was that of clerking in the store of Charles Auwater, of Nokomis, but working for some one else was not his idea of business; so early in 1882 he established himself in the grocery business. Although small in the beginning, it is today the leading general store of Nokomis. This twenty-two years in the mercantile business has made him one of the best known men in the county, and in him the public has found a faithful and unswerving friend, one who is ever ready to serve his friends, a man of more than ordinary intelligence, and a representative citizen of the county.

He was married to Miss Minnie Nantkes, of this city, November 23, 1884. They have four sons, Arnold, aged 16; Jesse, 14; Louis, 9, and Carl, 6. All of them are yet in school.

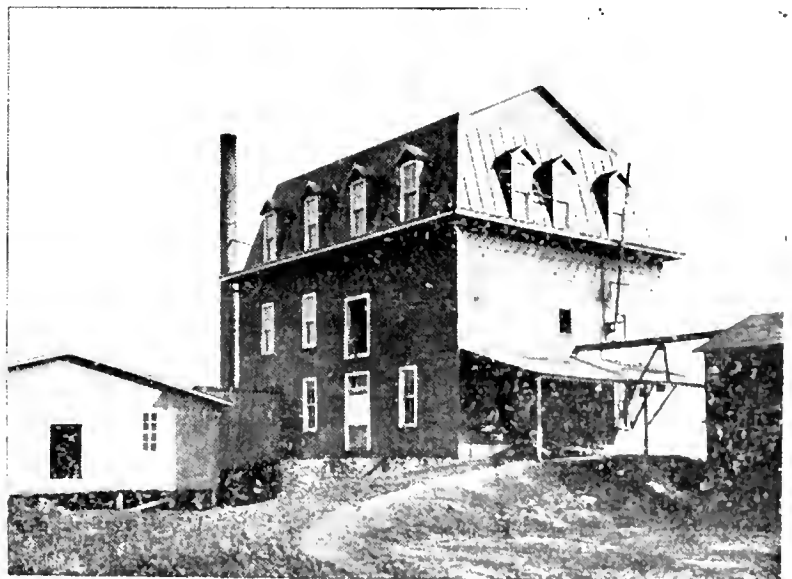
Mr. Woltman is a member of the German Lutheran Church, of which he is an exemplary member.

This is Mr. Woltman's second term as mayor, he having held the office in 1897-1898. He has also served the city for years as councilman and is now serving his ninth year as school director. He is a stockholder and director of the Nokomis National Bank.

He has entered upon the duties of his new office without a pledge to be fulfilled to friends, or a threat to be executed upon enemies. His success has justified the wisdom of the people of Nokomis in making him their chief executive. As mayor he is thoughtful, and in all things acts with justice, tempered with mercy.

The city's streets, public buildings and other municipal interests are cared for with the same fidelity as he applies to his own concerns. Through his trusty lieutenants, appointed because of their fitness rather than through their party lines, Mayor Woltmann sees that the laws are enforced. This is manifest in the safety and security of the people's property. And this makes Nokomis attractive to those who prize good government and honest administrations. To dispense the charity of the city without wounding the recipient; to do justice to the criminally disposed without vindictiveness requires a balance and an equipoise rarely developed in any one man.

Mayor Woltman is one of the very busy men of this city, but is never so much engaged that he cannot attend to the social as well as the official duties of his office. He finds time to mingle with friends and to enjoy the comforts of a charming home.



NOKOMIS ROLLER MILLS

NO BETTER criterion of the solidity and permanency of a city is afforded than a glance at the status of its financial institutions. The stability of commercial interests are, to a large extent, dependent upon the policy and conditions of local banking houses. They are the heart of the commercial life, and the various avenues of trade are the arteries through which flow the financial currents of business.

The history of the Nokomis National Bank has been an unbroken record of progress since its inception. It is constructed upon the soundest and most conservative business principles, and its management is characterized by sagacity, energy, and ability, coupled with liberality and honorable methods, closely identifying itself with the many movements that have helped in the onward growth of the city of Nokomis and Montgomery County, and contributing liberally to their interests and prosperity.

Thirty-one years of continuous business prosperity is the record of this, Montgomery County's largest and strongest bank.

The following is an official statement of the bank, made to the comptroller of the currency, April 9th, 1903:

RESOURCES.	
Loans and discounts	\$263,031 66
United States and other bonds	103,300 00
Banking house and furniture	7,500 00
Cash and due from banks	98,640 26
Total	\$472,471 92
LIABILITIES.	
Capital stock	\$ 65,000 00
Surplus and undivided profits	44,627 09
Circulation	65,000 00
Deposits	297,844 83
Total	\$472,471 92



NOKOMIS NATIONAL BANK.

The bank was organized and chartered in January, 1872, with Mr. John H. Beaty president, Mr. A. E. McKinney vice-president, and Mr. B. F. Culp cashier. In 1877 Mr. Horace F. Rood became president, Mr. George Taylor vice-president, and Mr. Alf. Griffin cashier. October 1, 1885, Mr. A. J. Williford was appointed cashier. In 1893 Mr. George Sippell became its president. All these gentlemen are well known throughout this portion of the state and are universally recognized for their public spirit.

The Board of Directors are: George Sippell, George Taylor, John Woltmann, Jacob Haller, J. A. Bohm, A. J. Williford, G. H. Spannagel, N. Singer, and W. H. Casselberry. Aside from this board there are twenty-one stockholders.

Here is employed every safeguard for the protection of their patrons and all whose funds are entrusted to their care.

They have two superior fire-proof vaults, with the latest improved Mosler Screw Door Safe with Yale triple time



GEORGE SIPPELL.

lock, and are fully insured against burglary and daylight hold-up. These are features worthy of consideration. In fact, there are many features connected with this bank that should be considered by everyone in Montgomery County who intends to open a bank account. This bank is a time-tried institution of more than local importance, and is a safe and sound repository for funds.

It is located on the northeast corner of State and Spruce streets, in the large and handsome brick structure known as the Nokomis National bank building, the bank occupying all of the first floor. The interior is handsomely fitted up after the style of metropolitan banking institutions, the furniture being substantial as well as elegant, and affording ample convenience for the transaction of business.

Of the personnel of the officials a few remarks might be appropriately added.



MR. GEORGE SIPPELL, the president, was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, in 1845, and educated in his native state. He came to Illinois in 1865, locating at Litchfield, and in 1868 he removed to Nokomis, engaging in the jewelry business, which he conducted for nearly thirty-four years. In 1871, January 30th, he was

George Sippell, President

united in marriage to Miss Anna E. Hale of Covington, Ky. Their union has been blessed by three children, two sons and one daughter. They lost by death their two sons. Their daughter, Miss Essie, is a young lady of nineteen summers and a recent graduate of Monticello Seminary of Godfrey, Illinois.

Mr. Sippell has been a resident of Nokomis for more than thirty-five years, and has won an enviable reputation as a

prudent and judicial manager, a shrewd financier, and a man of scrupulous integrity.



MR. ANDREW J. WILLIFORD is the Cashier of this bank. He was born in Montgomery County, Illinois, January 28, 1862, and received his primary education in the common schools of his state, graduating from the High School, class of 1879. He was married to Miss Mary

Andrew J. Williford, Cashier

Johnson, of Hillsboro, Illinois, February 8, 1883.

Seven children were born to this union, four sons and three daughters. Of these only four are now living, two sons and one daughter having died in infancy. The writer is informed that the two daughters, Misses Kathleen and Bessie, are just budding into womanhood. Miss Kathleen is attending Shurtleff College, Upper Merion. Miss Bessie is yet in the High School of Nokomis.

Mr. Williford is a member of the Baptist Church, has served the city as city councilman, as a member of the school board, and as president of that board for the past six years. He is also president of the Merchants' League, Past-Master of the A. F. & A. M., Companion in Pana Chapter R. A. M., and Past-Patron of the O. E. S.

Mr. Williford is an experienced accountant, a diligent student of Banking and Banking Law, and his twenty years of business experience has lent much to the success of the Nokomis National Bank. No citizen of Nokomis is more highly respected, and he always favors that which is for the upbuilding of his city and is considered one of its most liberal and progressive men.



ANDREW J. WILLIFORD.

THIS HONORABLE and responsible position is one of the most difficult to fill of any public office within our knowledge. Every man thinks there is just two positions in which success awaits him, if he only had the opportunity to fill one or the other, and they are postmaster of his town and editor of his town paper, while really there is not one out of a thousand that can fill either successfully.

But Nokomis seems to have hit upon just the right man in the person of Mr. Charles F. Best, and today it is admitted by all that he is admirably fitted for the position. While he has been an ardent party man, and a hard worker for

Samuel Kettelkamp is the carrier on Route No. 2.

I. G. Hubbard is the carrier on Route No. 3.

H. R. Mallory is the carrier on Route No. 4.

The carriers distribute mail to about 400 families. Another route may soon be established.

Mr. Charles F. Best was born in Madison County, Illinois, July 29, 1858, and was educated in this state. He speaks German fluently. He was married to Miss Mary Bote, of Witt, Illinois, March 17th, 1881. They have two daughters, who, as before stated, are in the postoffice with their father.

Mr. Best is a member of the Presbyterian Church and has held the following offices, viz: At present postmaster,



Emma Best. Charles F. Best. Martha Best.
George H. Bost. Samuel Kettelkamp. Isaac Hubbard, Jr. Herman R. Mallory.

what he believes is right, he has never been offensive or boastful in his manner. His demeanor since going into office has been such as to command the respect and esteem of all parties.

Mr. Best is ably assisted by his daughter, Miss Emma, a beautiful and accomplished young lady, but a thorough business woman, popular and accommodating.

Miss Martha, a younger daughter, but none the less efficient, is a clerk in the office.

There are four rural routes out of this office. George H. Bost is the carrier on Route No. 1.

several terms as township collector, and secretary of the Republican county central committee. He is also a member of the following lodges: Knights of Pythias, Mutual Protective League, and Yoemen of America.

Mr. Best has demonstrated that he is a business man. He is giving a business man's administration of affairs in his office and the people of Nokomis will have substantial reason for appreciating his efforts in this direction. He has a force around him whose actions in their public service are uniformly courteous. Always polite and obliging, a tireless worker, such is the Nokomis postmaster.



RESIDENCE OF W. H. SHANNON.

Photo by Whitesett.



JESSE S. GRIFFIN'S HARDWARE AND FURNITURE STORE.

Photo by Whittlesey.

LONG BEFORE MAN invented letter by which he could better record for posterity what he had learned he made pictures, as the easiest way for him to impart his knowledge to others. And even after the advent of letters their crudity was about on a par with that of their former pictures. But as the centuries rolled by the genius of man wrought great changes in the chiro-

Robert C. Whittlesey, Photographer.

graphy of the world. Yet no more rapid has this been than the art of making fine pictures, and chief among the latter is the improved progress of the photographer. It is quite natural that one of the leading institutions of Nokomis should be a photograph studio, and it is a fortunate combination of circumstances which gave the business into the hands of those who possess real taste, and have the necessary enterprise to keep abreast of the times.

Mr. Whittlesey, whose name forms the caption of this article, can be safely ranked as the leading artist of this section of Illinois, and it is also safe to say that few, if any, cities of the United States of the population of Nokomis have the equal of this establishment, or one so abundantly supplied with all the requisites of the business. His workmanship has in a high degree that artistic development, which enables him to compete with more than ordinary talent. All of the photographs for this book were made by Mr. Whittlesey, which show in a general way, the capacity of this establishment, but of course the printing of a plate in a book cannot show the full beauty of the photograph.

Mr. Whittlesey has made photography a life study. He began his trade in 1883, his instructor being Prof. L. H. Bissell, president of the Illinois College of Photography, and has put in fully twenty years in this line, and now feels fully competent to perform the most difficult work that may be brought him in his line of business.

Mr. Whittlesey was born in Upper Alton, October 6th 1869, and was educated in Ellingham and Chicago. He was married to Miss Vada Williams on April 22, 1887, at Ellingham, Illinois. To this union has been born three girls and one boy. His only son, Robert, is a bright boy, and capable of making for himself a name worthy to be remembered. He is gaining rapidly in knowledge and every morning may be seen in his place at school. The two youngest children are both in school, and by their pleasant manners, and cheerful ways are favorites with all who know them. Edith the eldest daughter, is one of the many handsome young ladies of Nokomis. She was obliged on account of weak eyes to give up her school work, sooner than she anticipated, but nevertheless has studied photography at Ellingham, and may be counted among the world's greatest artists.

Mr. Whittlesey is a member of the I. O. O. F., M. W. A. and Sons of Veterans, and has served three terms as captain of the latter. He is also a charter member of both Lew Wallace Camp No. 32, of Nokomis, and Joe Hooker Camp No. 68, of Ellingham, Department of Illinois, S. of V. He received the high compliment of Lew Wallace Camp by being elected captain one term. The same compliment was paid him by Joe Hooker Camp, here he was elected two terms.



GEORGE ENGELMAN'S GROCERY STORE.

IN EVERY SMALL CITY there is always one firm deserving of pre-eminence over its less energetic competitors and by strict adherence to apt business methods bear the palm alone. Nokomis is no exception to this rule. If there is a house in the city that is worthy of bearing the palm it is

George Engelman, Grocer.

the one owned by Mr. George Engelman. One thing is certain there is no mercantile house in Nokomis of more direct importance from a commercial point of view than this one. As a merchant he leads the van. He is a hustler for business and is getting it. He believes in modern modes of transacting business, and to accomplish this result, has equipped his store with such goods as are in daily demand by both home and country people. It has always been the policy of this house to sell a good article and to avoid handling inferior goods. This store is exceedingly attractive in appearance. The goods are all new, fresh, clean and bright; and immense stock well displayed, consisting of all the higher and better grades of staple and fancy groceries, fine teas, coffees, relishes and table luxuries. His store is 30x80 feet, giving him a floor space of 2400 square feet. Mr. Engelman carries everything pertaining to the grocery line. The standard preparations in the food lines are kept in stock and alertness in buying facilities are very popular. He has one of the largest and best displayed stock of groceries with an increasing trade that astonishes all competitors; all of which goes to show what a man of energy, nerve and industry is capable of doing. Another feature is the purchase of country produce of all kinds, thus making this a most popular store amongst the farmers and a portion of the surrounding community. His

nicey arranged stock evidences good taste and his accommodating ways adds much to the popularity of the house.

Mr. Engelman was born in Madison county, Illinois, April 23, 1870, and received his education in the school of Illinois. He was a farmer early in life, and is still the owner of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, two miles north-east of Nokomis. Three years ago he entered into the grocery business. Mr. Engelman is a thorough and progressive business man and we predict for him a success that isn't often equalled in this line of business. Personally he is one of the most genial gentlemen you could wish to meet, and one in whom implicit confidence may be reposed.



LOCATED IN THE new Law building on State street is the watch and jewelry store owned and conducted by S. M. Strain, a young man of sterling character and business qualifications. Mr. Strain was born and raised in Nokomis, being the second son of Dr. H. S. Strain, an old and

S. M. Strain, Jeweler and Optician.

highly respected citizen. He acquired his early education in the Nokomis public schools, and his first business training was received in the general store of S. Denman. Mr. Strain entered the jewelry store of George Sippell on January 1, 1896, as an apprentice, where he spent four years in preparing himself to correctly diagnose and repair sick watches. His first position was with J. J. Johnson, at Pittsfield, Illinois, where he spent five weeks in the study of the escapement of a watch and the theoretical and practical working of the watch in general. Montpelier, Indiana, was the next town in which he accepted a position, taking charge of the large store of J. E. Wuersten for six months, while that gentleman made an extensive visit in the east. Mr. R. L. Hight, of Tuscola, Illinois, then secured the services of Mr. Strain, at which place he remained eight months, then concluding that working for others was not the best for him, he decided to try for himself; accordingly, he put a work bench in the hardware store of H. C. Latham, at Irving, Illinois. His work being entirely satisfactory, Mr. Strain soon found that he would prosper and added a small stock of jewelry, enlarging it gradually until he soon



FORMER RESIDENCE OF DR. W. C. HOVEY.



S. M. STRAIN.

found it necessary to get into larger quarters, and moved into the postoffice building. After sixteen months prosperous business in Irving, Bunker Hill was tried, but this move proved a bad one, and he came to Nokomis and opened up his present handsome store, with his brother, Paul, as his partner. The store was conducted under the name of S. M. Strain & Bro., until November 1, 1902, when the present name was adopted.

Mr. Strain makes a specialty of watches, the high grade Illinois being his leader, and he recommends them as the most accurate time piece procurable. His specialty in cases is the Wadsworth the strongest case and the one that affords the surest protection to the movement. In his repair work he is very thorough and particular. During his apprenticeship and business career he has won the confidence of the people and has established a large and well pleased clientage. As an optician he has proved eminently successful and many persons relieved of eye strain and headaches by his perfect adjustment of lenses to the requirements of the eye, are standing advertisements for him.

In this watch and jewelry store are to be found, at all times, the largest line of the latest production in the jewelers' art. An immense line of watches, clocks, silverware and jewelry, a most complete repair department; in fact everything necessary to make up a first-class watch and jewelry store can be found here. With modest and unassuming grace you are received when you enter this store.

S. M. Strain is a member of Sherman Lodge No 332, I. O. O. F., of which lodge he is the permanent secretary, and he is also a member of Dewey Council, M. P. L., and was, during its existence, captain of Lew Wallace Camp Sons of Veterans. He is also a member of the First Presbyterian church and a member of the choir. Robert Anderson Jr., a pleasant and agreeable young man assists Mr. Strain in his business. This store is extensively advertised and is fast gaining favor with the people, as a place where honesty is placed above all else.



NO BUSINESS CAN stand still. It must either progress or recede, for the current of events keep moving on, so it is in the affairs of trade, and the firm that desires to advance must embody in its management the characteristics of enterprise. There is in all avenues of trade, some business which bears the stamp of the proprietors, and which through a period of success has attained meritorious celebrity. The above emphasises clearly and fully our opinion of two of the leading business men of Nokomis. We refer to the firm of Shannon & Best, who have one of the finest and best kept

general stores of this city. There is an attractive appearance about the interior of the store that proves an inducement to the prospective buyer. The groceries

Shannon & Best, General Merchandise.

handled are the best and purest that can be purchased. They consist of fine teas, delicious coffees, various brands of the best grades of flour, canned goods of every kind, fresh vegetables, pickles, lemons, oranges and bananas. The confectionery department is complete with the best brands that can be obtained. The cigar, tobacco and pipe department is all that can be asked. They have a decidedly fine line of both foreign and domestic cigars and tobaccos. They also keep a fine line of shoes for men, women and children of any size, shape or price. And last but not least, a line of dry goods, hosiery and notions.

The senior member of this firm, William H. Shannon, is a native of Toronto, Canada, and was born April 24, 1860. He received his early education in his native country. He is a licensed embalmer and a graduate of Professor Clark's School of Embalming. He was married to Miss Anna Carstens, of Nokomis, in 1898. Mr. Shannon is appreciated generally as an honorable man and valued citizen to the community.

The junior partner, Mr. Fred C. Best, was born in Madison county, Illinois, on January 27, 1861. He received his education in his native state. On April 26, 1893, he married Miss Elizabeth Partlow, of Culpepper county, Virginia. They are the parents of one child, a bright little girl of nine years, who is petted and loved by all who know her.

Mr. Best is an active member of the Presbyterian church



FRED. C. BEST.

and belongs to the Odd Fellows, M. W. A. and F. A. of A. He is one of the most highly respected citizens of Nokomis.

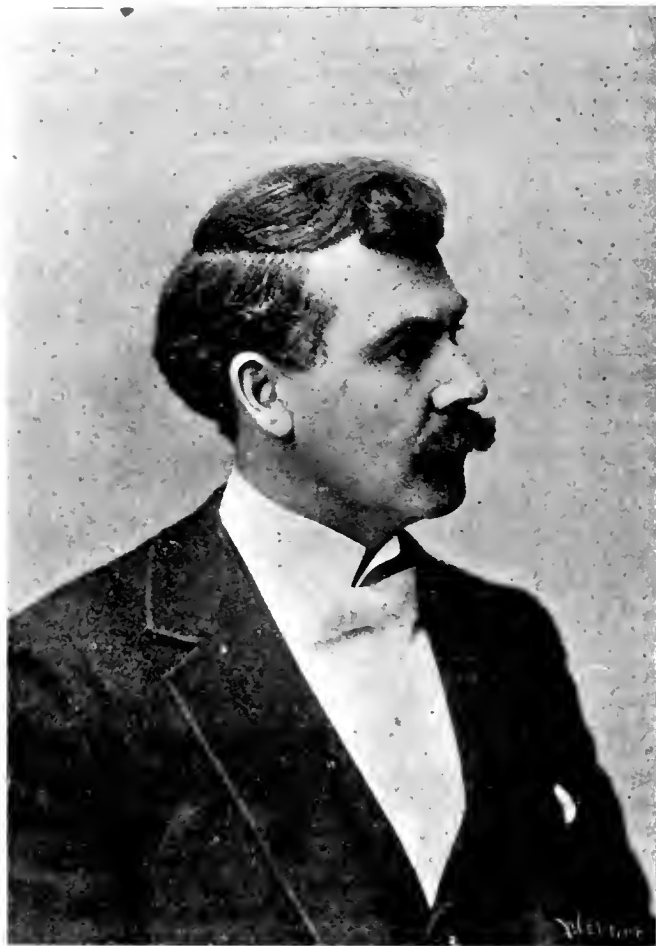


THIS STORE STANDS in the front ranks of the leading enterprises in the city. The firm does an extensive undertaking business and there are few houses in Southern Illinois that are better equipped for embalming and conducting funerals. They have a fine undertaker's wagon and one of the finest funeral cars in Montgomery county, also a grave tent for the protection of friends of the deceased. They have one of the largest and best displays of coffins and caskets in cloth, metallic and wooden, ranging in all sizes and qualities and are arranged so as to be quickly and easily shown. One

**Shannon & Best,
Undertakers & Embalmers.**

of the finest funeral cars in Montgomery county, also a grave tent

for the protection of friends of the deceased. They have one of the largest and best displays of coffins and caskets in cloth, metallic and wooden, ranging in all sizes and qualities and are arranged so as to be quickly and easily shown. One



WILLIAM H. SHANNON.

of the great inventions of the age and one that saves a great deal of annoyance, embarrassment and inconvenience is found in this establishment. It is what is known as the steel extension church truck, rubber tired, which entirely dispenses with the crowding of pallbearers carrying the remains through doors and small hallways; it also answers more fully the purpose of a bier at the home or in front of the church altar. Another invention which belongs to this business, and one which goes toward dispelling the idea that any persons are buried alive, is the automatic lowering device by which the coffin is lowered into the grave without the possibility of the remains being disarranged or

turned to one side. This machine dispenses entirely with the old time use of ropes and straps.

Mr. Shannon, who has charge of the undertaking department, is a graduate of Professor Clark's School of Embalming. Also holds a certificate from the Illinois State Board of Health as a licensed embalmer.



THE PRACTICE of law requires more talent and a more extensive knowledge than any other business or profession, and he who would win fame in its ranks must have special training, and make up his mind to continuous study and unceasing toil. To the man who possesses the gift to

**William G. Webster,
City Attorney**

steadily work his way ahead in the legal profession, surmounting the obstacles which always face

success much credit should be given, and the subject of our sketch, Hon. William G. Webster, City Attorney, has displayed those attributes and qualifications which mean a continually growing clientage and successful practice. He was born at Shelbyville, Indiana, and graduated from Lincoln, University. After-

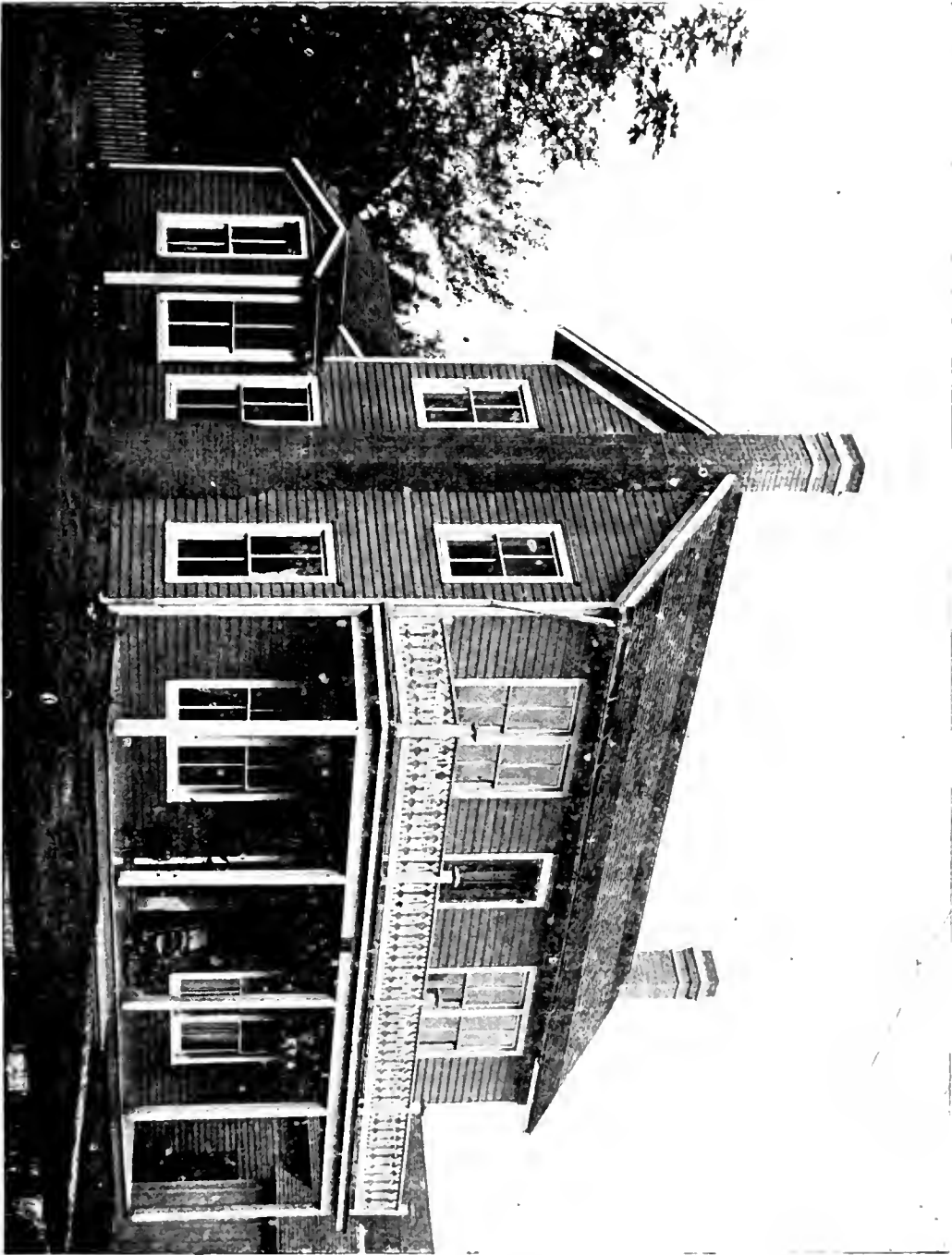
wards he taught school and then studied law at Michigan University. He was married to Miss Mary Mitchell, at Lincoln, Illinois, in 1881. Soon afterwards he moved to Mulvane, Kansas, where he had a fine law practice for years. On account of health he came to Nokomis, where he has lived for thirteen years. He has one son, George, who was recently married to Miss Maud Scott, daughter of James Scott, one of the most prominent and highly respected farmers



WILLIAM G. WEBSTER.

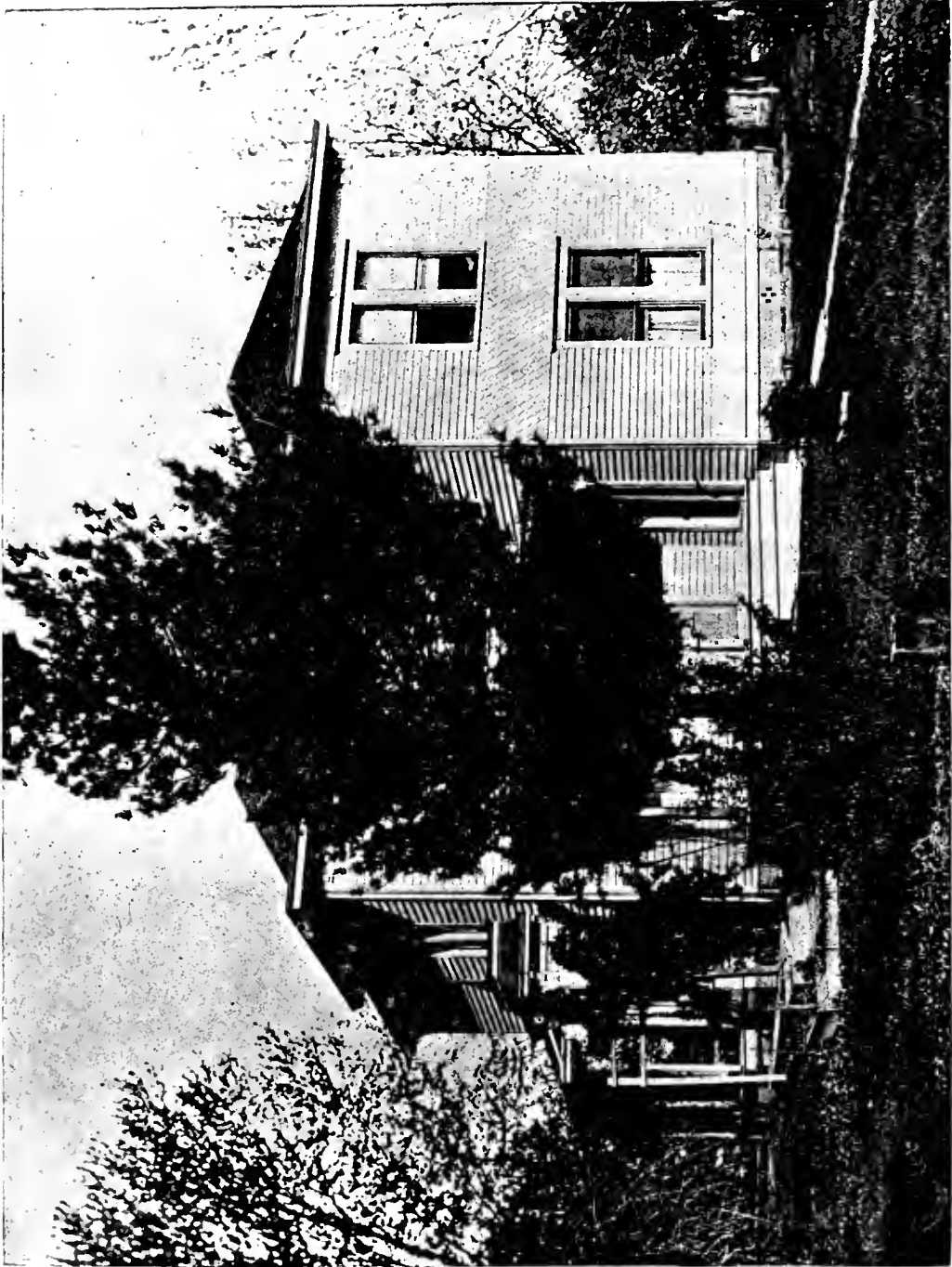
of the county; and a daughter, Esther, who is still a school girl and well educated in both English and German.

Mr. Webster organized the city under the state law, is the author of the revised ordinances, and has been alderman, mayor, and assistant states' attorney and city attorney, both here and in Kansas, having been repeatedly elected by good majorities, all of which positions he has filled with credit to himself and constituents. He was chairman of the committee that organized and built the efficient water works system of this city. He is a member of the A. F. & A. M. In politics he is a republican and has always faithfully done his part of the campaign work. By his own exertions and sterling character he has become a leader among the successful men of Nokomis, and is one of those fortunate men who carries himself with the air of a man whose affairs have been successful. Personally he is decidedly intellectual, a good conversationalist, an eloquent speaker and a genial gentleman with whom it is a pleasure to be acquainted. He is one of the men who has indelibly stamped his individuality upon the progress and prosperity of Nokomis.



RESIDENCE OF DR. H. S. STRAIN.

Photo by Whites-A



RESIDENCE OF ALSON F. WEAVER.

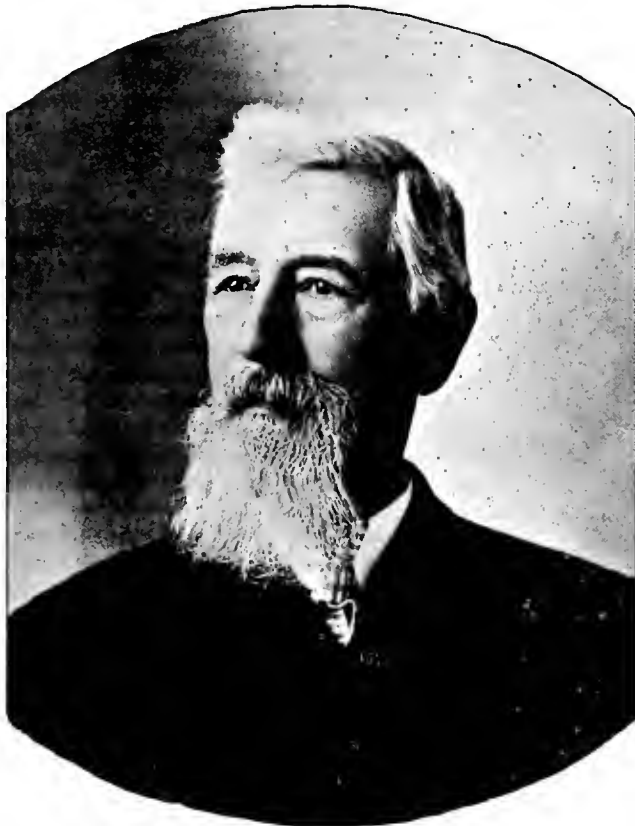
Photo by Whittlesey.

ONE OF THE most remarkable evidences of the prosperity which has been prevailing for several years in the United States is found in the wonderful development of the fire insurance business. The annual statement of the great insurance companies show that they have enjoyed an unusual share of the general prosperity.

Alson F. Weaver, Insurance.

So great and decisive has been their growth that this emphasizes the fact that the fire insurance is attaining greater popularity than it ever enjoyed before. This condition applies as strictly to Nokomis as it does to any other part of this great country, and no one reaps a greater harvest from this source than the gentleman whose name appears in the caption of this article, one of the oldest and most reliable firms of the city.

Mr. Alson F. Weaver who for the last twelve years has devoted his time and energy towards building up of a reputable and lucrative fire and tornado insurance business. He represents nothing but the best companies, therefore his risks are of the best. Mr. Weaver represents the following fire and tornado companies :



ALSON F. WEAVER.

Aetna of Hartford Connecticut	Capital, \$4,000,000
Fire Association of Philadelphia	" 2,000,000
Under Writers Agency of New York	" 5,000,000
Phenix of Brooklyn New York	" 3,000,000
Phoenix of Hartford Connecticut	" 3,000,000
Niagara of New York	" 2,000,000
Springfield Fire and Marine of Mass	" 2,000,000

Mr. Weaver does not have to rush around a great deal for his business, his long establishment in fire insurance, his personal and favorable acquaintance with nearly every free holder in Montgomery county reduces to a minimum the part of solicitor. Yet, he does not forget the printer nor the

fact that it is the duty of every business man to keep his business prominently before the people at all times. His offices are located on the second floor of the Nokomis National Bank building, rooms 1 and 2.

Mr. Weaver was born in Madison county, Illinois, September 8th, 1838, and received his primary education in the common schools of that county, soon after entering the Wesleyan University of Delaware, Ohio, and graduated in class 1861. On January 25th, 1866, he was married at Zanesville, Ohio, to Miss Martha A. Dunn of that city. Their union has been blessed by eight children, five sons and three daughters, two of the sons dying in infancy. Their eldest daughter is the wife of Mr. G. W. Churchill of Chicago, Misses Winnie and Hettie are both charming and highly accomplished young ladies and are with their parents. The eldest son Dunn W. is in the auditor's office of the great Chicago merchant Marshall Field & Co., Earl W. is attending the Commercial College at Decatur, Illinois, and Harry, the youngest, is at home with his parents.

Mr. Weaver is one of the leading citizens of Nokomis and Montgomery County, and has held positions of honor and trust. He was for eighteen years a member of the school board, supervisor of the town, township clerk, highway commissioner, and member board of directors of the Nokomis National Bank. He is a member of the A. F. and A. M. and Lodge 456, a member of Post No. 236 G. A. R. Department of Illinois and is now serving his third term as post commander.

August 9th, 1862 less than a year after leaving college, Mr. Weaver enlisted as a private in the 117th Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was at once promoted to the 3rd Sergeant, and served in that position until mustered out at Springfield, Illinois, August 9th, 1865, making full three years to a day. Few men had a wider scope of army experience than had Mr. Weaver, he not only participated in numerous battles detached service, special duty, and other positions that brought him more or less in contact with the officers of his command, giving him information and knowledge which the ordinary non-comps was seldom blessed with. On one occasion while in battle, his company being left without a commissioned officer, he took command and brought the company out with flying colors. He was with General Banks on the celebrated Red River expedition, one of the most hazardous and trying campaigns of the war while it lasted, little more than seventy days; sixty-six days of that time the command was under fire.

After being mustered out Mr. Weaver returned to his home near Edwardsville, Illinois, later going to Zanesville, Ohio, where he was married, as above stated. He tried farming on the old homestead in Madison county, Illinois, and in 1868 moved to Montgomery county, Illinois, and farmed for several years and in 1880 moved to the town of Nokomis, where he soon became one of the leading organizers. While some of his business ventures have not been as successful as were anticipated in the beginning, yet few men have succeeded in gathering around them so great a quantity of the world's goods as Mr. Weaver. Four hundred acres of Illinois rich alluvial soil besides sixty acres within the corporate limits of the city of Nokomis upon which stands his handsome residence, surrounded by every beauty, convenience and comfort that the heart could desire.

Mr. Weaver is a gentleman of most agreeable manners, easy to approach, pleasant and affable, yet there is in his manner a dignified appearance that commands respect and forbids familiarity. To these qualities of head and heart much is due to his high standing socially and the great esteem in which he is held by all who know him.

IT IS PLEASANT to do business with a thorough reliable man. One in whom you can place absolute confidence, and as such we can cheerfully recommend within named gentleman. He is one who is not fighting for the almighty dollar alone, but is seeking the harmonious interests of the

Oltmann Brakenhoff, Merchant.

citizens of his city and county, and being a man of good judgment, knows that dollars and cents and credit don't make all the capital the people of a city put into business, but the willingness of all hands to pull together for the common good, is of itself capital. And as above remarked there are none who more clearly recognize these facts than O. Brakenhoff, dealer in general merchandise.

In the grocery line we find everything fresh and pure. The canned goods are unexcelled, and they have the best

and other articles both beautiful and serviceable. In the shoe department we find shoes for men, women and children, both black and tan, and prices to suit any one. A shoe to fit any foot and a price to suit any purse is the maxim of this establishment.

The proprietor of this enterprising place of business, Mr. O. Brakenhoff, is a native of Nord-Georgs-Fehn, a small village near the city of Leer, Germany, and was born August 9th, 1858. He was educated in his native country and at the age of fourteen he became a sailor, signing with a trading vessel and for seven years he plowed the deep and briny ocean, visiting during that time almost every known part of the world.

At the end of this service he enlisted in the German navy serving three full years as required by the army and navy regulations of his country.



RESIDENCE OF OLTMANN BRAKENHOFF.

Photo by Whittlesey.

grades of flour of various kinds at lowest prices, and many new kinds of foods which are put up in boxes ready for use, such as Postum, Force and Malta Vita. The cigars and tobaccos are such as would delight a king. The candy department is always stocked with the best and the chewing gum, oranges and bananas are delicious. They have a large supply of garden seeds, etc. We next turn our attention to the dry goods department, which consists of calicos, gingham, muslins, waist goods, heavy goods for dresses, and in fact everything that could be expected in this line. The line of notions consists of pins, brooches, fancy collars, laces, dress trimmings, fine handkerchiefs, fancy pillows and head rests

In the fall of 1882 he emigrated with his father and family to America. From Baltimore, Maryland, they came direct to Nokomis, where he has since resided. His father, Mr. Harn Brakenhoff, died on his farm two miles west of Nokomis, in the fall of 1901, at the advanced age of seventy-five years. Sixteen years ago he opened a saloon in this city which he still conducts. Three years ago he embarked in the mercantile business on State, between Spruce and Pine streets. This store has proved a great success. The store has a floor space of 1800 square feet.

On November 29, 1886, he was united in marriage to Miss Anna Brakenhoff. To this union has been born three

children. The eldest, Miss Tetta, a handsome girl just budding into womanhood, has just closed her second year in the High School, while Miss Jucria has just entered the High School. Miss Josephine, the youngest, is still in the Public School.



SINCE 1889, ELWIN E. MALLORY has been a valued resident of this city, with the exception of one year spent in Jerseyville, this state. He has seen Nokomis grow



ELWIN E. MALLORY.

and expand from the little village of fifteen years ago to the well built city of today. Culture and refinement have succeeded the rude though well

Elwin E. Mallory.

meant hospitality which characterized all settlements in this section at an early day, and the tendency along both business and social lines have been for the better. Mr. Mallory has not only been an observer of this change but has taken an active part in the advancement. He has held various positions of honor and trust, such as promotes the general welfare of a community.

Born and reared on a farm in Chautauqua county, New York, and educated in the common schools of his county, he grew to manhood's estate in the peaceful and blissful avocation of farmer's boy, which he continued for seven years after beginning life for himself. The following eight years found him a diligent and trusted employe of a sewing machine company of Dunkirk, New York.

Believing that he could better his condition financially in the far west, he resigned his position with the sewing

machine company and March 1st, 1881, found him in Leudonia, Kansas, where he remained for five years. He then returned east as far as this city, where he located, securing a clerkship in the hardware house of Griffin Bros., where he remained for seven and one-half years. He then accepted a position in Jerseyville, Illinois, where he remained for one year, and then returned to Nokomis, accepting a position with the hardware house of G. H. Spannagel & Co., where he is still to be found, the favorite clerk of this large establishment.

Mr. Mallory was born in Chautauqua county, New York, on September 14, 1851, and in that state received his education and was married to Miss Lillis Dye of Cherry Creek, New York, July 2, 1869. They have three children, all living. The youngest, Jessie, now the wife of Thomas Card of this city, Ernest E. a soldier in the hospital corps of the U. S. army, stationed at Fort Bayrd, New Mexico, and Herman R. a printer by trade, but at present a U. S. mail carrier on a rural delivery route out of this city.

Mr. Mallory has held several political offices, his first being constable in 1878-79 and deputy sheriff in the same years, in his home county in New York, collector of Nokomis township in 1893, and at present city councilman. He is a member of the Methodist church and Nokomis Lodge No. 456 A. F. and A. M., Silver Cross No. 237 K. P., M. W. A. and M. P. L.

He has been honored with every chair in almost every order to which he belongs, and at present a delegate to the State Camp of the M. W. A.

Mr. Mallory made a most commendable race for postmaster of the Nokomis post office a little over four years ago; while he did not succeed, he certainly made many strong friends for the strong fight he put up.

Mr. Mallory is a gentleman who moves in the best social circles of the city and is considered one of the most progressive men of the city. Kind and generous to a fault, in fact a highly esteemed gentleman by all who know him.



FOR CENTURIES PAST the barber has been one of the great factors of man. There is nothing that so thoroughly changes a man's appearance for the better, so refreshes, so cools, so invigorates and cleanses as a half hour under the care of a good barber. Cleanliness is next to Godliness, and no one is so well prepared to do this work as the barber. And few are so well prepared as the gentleman

William M. Jayne, Tonsorial Artist.

whose name heads the caption of this article.

Mr. Jayne, as a barber, is the peer of Montgomery county, having had nine years' experience as a "boss" barber. His parlors are located one door east of Nokomis National Bank, are elegantly equipped with four of the latest improved chairs, line mirrors, keen razors, clean towels and the best workmen in the county, while the sanitary conditions are unsurpassed, and the bath rooms are equally as well furnished with nice, white and clean bath tubs, hot and cold water. In fact, every convenience and comfort that can be procured for the comfort of his patrons; every appliance known to the trade is at hand for satisfactory and rapid conduct of this business. Here the weary traveler made to feel the blessings of a cool and refreshing bath and the dusty traveler is refreshed. Another redeeming feature of this house is that it is kept free of the loading element which so frequently abstracts from the popularity of an up-to-date parlor. His parlors are well ventilated, large windows furnish an abundance of sunshine and light during the day.



WILLIAM M. JAYNE.

and numerous incandescient lights dispel the darkness of the night. Four competent polite and neat appearing assistants are always ready to attend to the wants of customers.

Mr. Jayne was born in Shelby county, Illinois, May 30, 1866. He was married to Miss Mary Cable of Oconee, Illinois, on March 28, 1889. He is an active member of the Baptist church and of the M. W. A., and K. P. lodges.

You will find Mr. Jayne a pleasant, polite and affable gentleman, a citizen recognized for his honorable dealing with his fellow man, for the Christian influence that he yields, his progressive ideas and public spirit ready and willing at any time to invest a dollar that will help his neighbor or his city.

Don't forget the place, first door east of Nokomis National Bank.



THE LOCAL RAILROAD AGENT is frequently of much greater importance in a community than the casual observer would generally suppose. A great many people do not stop to think that in the great strides of progress made by the railroads in the past decade or two conditions have

Samuel R. Hudnall. forced them to establish rigid rules governing the appointment or employing any man in a semi-official position with their vast systems.

So the agent for so important a point as Nokomis is carefully selected. Many things are considered: his general knowledge of railroading in all its various departments, his competency, his reliability, and even his private character:

These things are carefully noted and investigated, and without his knowledge or consent.

The agent being a sound, sober business man, is soon in the confidence and respect of the merchant and business men generally, and he naturally becomes a prime factor in the building up of the

town of which he is the railroad representative. He has facilities for making known to the various enterprises and to capital the advantages and resources of the city he represents, and through his efforts can make his town a great shipping point for the farmers and manufacturers.

Nokomis feels very grateful to the C., C., C. & St. L. Railway for having placed such an agent as above described at this station in the person of Mr. Samuel R. Hudnall, a gentleman highly respected by all of Nokomis, socially, as a business man, and as a local representative of one of the largest railway systems east of the Mississippi.

Mr. Hudnall began railroading eighteen years ago with the C., C., C. & St. L. Railway and during this long period has served this one company alone faithfully. Beginning as an operator, he rapidly rose to that of agent at Ohlman, transferred to Rosamond, from there to Bethalto, and when the new and handsome passenger depot of Nokomis was dedicated on the 22d of October, 1902, he was placed in charge as agent. And we are proud to say that no better selection, so far as the people of Nokomis are concerned, could have been made. Mr. Hudnall has proved himself thoroughly competent for his new duties, pleasant and accommodating, strictly business, but in such a manner as never offends.

Mr. Hudnall was born in Leaksville, North Carolina, October 24, 1859, and soon after emigrated with his parents to Illinois, where he received his education. He was married to Miss Minnie Grubbs of Hillsboro, Illinois, October 18, 1887. Their union has been blessed by five daughters, one of which died in infancy; the other four are in school. Mr. Hudnall is a member of the Methodist church, I. O. O. F. and M. W. A.

He is one of the most attentive and painstaking agents of this line and takes great pride in keeping clean and tidy his elegant offices and waiting rooms.



SAMUEL R. HUDNALL.

THE "BIG FOUR ROUTE" comprises 2500 miles of the most perfect railway in this country. The roadways noted for smooth riding, are of such perfect construction as permits the heavy vestibuled trains with their ponderous locomotives to be run at great speed and with the utmost safety. The history

A Great Railway System.

of the road begins in 1847 when the first road in the state of Indiana was completed from Madison to Indianapolis. In 1852 a branch was completed from Indianapolis to Union City where it connected with another road which had been constructed to Cleveland. Within a very few years the road made other connections and rapidly grew in size and importance. In 1859 the road was consolidated with the Ohio line and in 1868 with a line running from Cleveland to Cincinnati, and became known as the "Bee Line."

In 1853 a road was opened from Indianapolis to Lawrenceburg and in 1854 was extended to Cincinnati and began doing a large business. In 1856 a charter was granted for a

The Big Four connects at St. Louis, Peoria and Chicago with all the great lines from the west and northwest, at Louisville and Cincinnati with lines from the south, south-east and southwest and at Cleveland with railroads from all eastern points.

The Big Four has unequalled through service from St. Louis and Cincinnati to New York and Boston, and is known for its luxurious and comfortable equipment. The "Knickerbocker Special," "New York and Boston Limited," "Southwestern Limited," "The White City Special" and "The Exposition Flyer" are palaces on wheels, drawn by some of the most powerful locomotives in the world. These magnificent trains, consisting of standard and compartment Pullman sleeping cars, library cars, chair cars, dining cars and coaches, are all lighted by gas and heated by steam, and the inconveniences of travel are reduced to a minimum. The improvements in the road-beds have kept even pace with those in the rolling stock. The dining cars are owned and operated by the company and are magnificent proportions and appointments.



C. C. & ST. L. (BIG FOUR) DEPOT.

road from Indianapolis to Lafayette and in 1866 this road was consolidated with the Indianapolis and Cincinnati road and Mr. M. E. Ingalls was appointed president.

The beginning of his administration marks a distinct era in the history of the road. Connections were formed giving an entry into St. Louis and Chicago; new rails and equipment were purchased and the road soon became known as one of the great systems. In 1890 the "Bee Line" consolidated with the Big Four and the new combination took the latter name. Immediately afterwards the Wabash and Michigan was taken in giving an entry to Benton Harbor and Louisville. Shortly afterwards the I. B. & W., reaching to Peoria on the west and Sandusky on the east, was made a part of the new system. Thus, within a comparatively few years this great system, touching all principal points in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois has been built up.

OLD METHODS, old things, even old songs, are passing away; customs so popular in early days succumb to the fads of the moment. Steam is barely holding its own against the achievements of the age of marvelous electricity. Electric motors and electric powers have driven the horse

Andrew J. Eekhoff.

from the field of labor, the old lumbering coach has faded before the on-rushing steam car. Modern ideas have displaced the ancient, and log huts are no longer fit for embryo presidents to be born in. Old men have been relegated to oblivion by younger men of more progressive ideas. And he whose name heads the caption of this article is one of the foremost of the latter class.

Mr. Andrew Eekhoff is manager of the branch house in this city for the Nelson Morris & Company of Chicago,

Illinois, and is a gentleman known throughout this section of the state. He began life for himself as a "printer's devil" in the latter part of 1889, in the joint offices of the Nokomis Free Press-Gazette and Deutsch Amerikaner with Hulbert & Wild as proprietors. He remained with the office for six



ANDREW J. EEKHOFF.

years, working in both the English and German departments. He then decided to go to Chicago, secure a position and attend the Chicago Business College during the evening session. His first position there was on the Chicago Legal News. Later he went with the Blakely job office, he having a natural ability for this kind of work. After two years he completed his course in the business college and returned to Nokomis where he took charge of the Nokomis Progress, a weekly and democratic organ of this city. This position he retained for over a year when he resigned to take charge of the Pana Daily Gazette, which he edited for two years, covering the period of the celebrated coal strike of that place. During this strike his paper was the champion of the strikers. It was his writings and advice through the columns of his paper that had much to do with the lessening of crime during this fearful strike among the more turbulent element.

At this time his health began to fail rapidly and he was compelled to resign, but soon after accepted a position with the mercantile house of Woltmann & Company, which he retained for two years, when he accepted the position of manager for the Arthur Jordan Company of Indianapolis, Indiana, which he still retains, although the house has recently changed hands and is now the Nelson Morris Company of Chicago, Illinois.

Mr. Andrew J. Eckhoff was born in Nokomis, Illinois, August 28, 1874. He received his primary education in the graded schools in this city and is a graduate of the Chicago Business College. He studied German under Professor Messell of Concordia Seminary, Springfield, Illinois, and graduated in the class of 1889. He is a member of the German Lutheran church. He is an ardent young democrat and would undoubtedly make an ideal politician, having in

his favor a commanding figure, good looks, and an all 'round good mixer with mankind.

But trade seems to be his stronghold. He is a hustler for his house, a reliable man, a man who never sleeps, is ever on the go, the man to whom bicycles and railways are slow modes of transportation. In fact is an all around business man and an indefatigable worker; he never finds time to be sick during business hours, and probably covers more ground in the many different directions where business calls him than any other man in Nokomis.



THE DIFFERENT BUSINESS ENTERPRISES which go toward maintaining and prospering a thriving commercial center like Nokomis requires a far greater amount of knowledge, experience and skill in their separate lines than would at a passing thought be conceived. The

Thomas Ridler. banker would doubtless make as glaring a failure of the dry goods business as the dry goods man would of buying and selling of fine horses, and so on. With the rapid strides of modernism the public has been educated to expect the best, and nothing but the best will satisfy.

Probably no man in southern Illinois is a finer judge of horse flesh than our worthy townsman Mr. Thomas Ridler, who has been engaged exclusively in the buying and selling of fine horses for the past twenty-five years. He has in his employ a recognized expert in this line in the person of Mr. John Lee, who looks after the Nokomis business during Mr. Ridler's frequent absence in looking up and buying stock elsewhere. The buying and selling of horses has not only been a life business with him, but a life study as well,



THOMAS RIDLER.

learning and profiting in the schools of dear experience, until today he recognizes no superior in the art of selecting the best animals on foot. He is an extensive buyer on orders for such firms as Mook & Weil of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Crandall & Company of Buffalo, New York. He has one of

the best equipped barns in the country, containing 1260 square feet, arranged with all modern convenience for this special business and which is only equaled in the markets of the larger cities.

The first horse buyers' barn built in Nokomis was built by Nims & Ridler twenty years ago and still stands on the corner of Front and Pine streets. Mr. Ridler is one of the best known horse men in his line in the state, and is equally as well known in the good stock sections of Iowa, Missouri, Indiana and Kentucky.

Mr. Ridler was born in Gloucestershire, England, January 20th, 1852. He received his education in his native country and came to America in 1869, at the age of seventeen years; his first stop was in Missouri. In 1870 he came to Nokomis and since that time has made this city his home.

On the 17th day of June, 1873, he and Miss Alice Newcomer were joined in wedlock by Samuel Strider, a justice of this city. They have been blessed by six children, two sons and three daughters, but the grim hand of death claimed one of the sons at the age of eleven years and one of the daughters at the age of twenty-two years. Charles M., the eldest son, is now a traveling man out of Des Moines, Iowa. Miss Nettie, now Mrs. Bryce, is a resident of this city, Miss Katie, a beautiful and accomplished young lady of nineteen summers is at home with her parents.

Mr. Ridler has served the city one term as councilman and twelve years as a member of the school board. He is a member of the A. F. and A. M., K. P. and M. W. A.

Mrs. Ridler was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, but reared in Nokomis. It is to her that the writer is indebted for much of the valuable data and incidents that occurred in the early days of Nokomis, as will be seen in the history of this city, in this work.

Mr. Ridler should be an inspiration to every young man. He is ruggedly and conscientiously just. He was never known to do an act or speak a word for the sake of "policy." He is true to every obligation, and devotedly loyal in his friendship. His works are practical, and being practical are successful.



GEORGE F. CASTEEL,
AGENT C., C. & ST. L. RAILWAY, CAYS, ILLINOIS

PROGRESS IS AN EXCELLENT WATCHWORD. It denotes so many things—ambition, desire to please and energy. A business built on such a foundation is bound to grow and thrive, for it cannot help it. In the retail grocery business, more than any other, perhaps, daintiness and cleanliness have

Samuel J. Elam, Groceries and Restaurant

more and greater influence upon possible customers than anything else, but when to those is added progress as defined above, and a complete and well selected stock such as is carried by the above named gentleman, the combination is irresistible.

The stock is large, varied, clean, fresh and since the commencement of his trade his prices have always been reasonable and an article has never been misrepresented, and as a natural result a customer once, has become a customer always.

In addition to the grocery line, this establishment has an elegant restaurant. Everything is bright and clean, and the ice cream parlors are a most delightful accompaniment to the salesroom. Delicious cold drinks are served. They manufacture and carry a large line of cakes and bread. It is here you will find the choicest and freshest bonbons, cream candies and chocolates.

When you enter this establishment you are promptly and courteously waited upon by one of the faithful and pleasant assistants, who delight in serving the customers in the most cheerful manner.

Mr. Samuel J. Elam, the proprietor of this establishment, was born in Bond county, Illinois, November 19, 1862.

He was married to Miss Eliza Snow on May 2, 1886. He has been in the grocery business for about two years, and previous to this was a farmer.

He is a member of the A. F. and A. M. Gillham Lodge No. 809, and is recognized as an enterprising and thrifty gentleman, who is always ready to help a friend.



GEORGE FREDERICK CASTEEL was born September 6, 1871, at Arcadia, Iron County, Missouri, and educated in the Ursuline convent of that place.

In 1885, at the age of thirteen years, he was given the position of messenger boy in the Western Union and M. & O. railway offices at Columbus, Kentucky, and there studied telegraphy under the chief operator of the M. & O. railway during his spare moments.

In May, 1886, he went to St. Louis with the M. & O. railway. From there he was sent to Alto Pass, where he remained for a few months, when he was offered and accepted a better position and salary with the Missouri Pacific railway. Here he remained, with the exception of a few months, for nine years. In 1896 he accepted a position with the C., C. & St. L. railway as agent and postmaster at Lake View, and has been with that road since, at the present time being their agent at Cays, Illinois.

Mr. Casteel was married to Miss Fina Lois Spencer at Arkadelphia, Arkansas, October 2, 1892. They have been blessed by three children, two sons and a daughter. The eldest son died in infancy.

Mr. Casteel has frequently been complimented by his superiors for his neat penmanship, clean, neat and accurate reports. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and the Epworth League, of which he is treasurer of his local order. He is a young man who makes friends wherever he may be, quiet in manner, polite and gentlemanly to all with whom he comes in contact and will eventually make his mark in railroad circles.



G. H. SPANNAGEL.

IN THIS ENTERPRISING AGE the condition under which a thriving business must be conducted differs materially from those which prevailed ten, or even five, years ago. Purchasers have ceased to trade with merchants from personal friendship or because their fathers did before them.

Purchasers are studying economy and not only demand reliable, tasty goods from which to make their selections, but also keep a watchful eye on prices. Goods and prices now draw patrons as they never did before. It is these conditions which have led us to the department store of G. H. Spannagel.

To place in charge of the leading departments a salesman who shows a special aptitude for handling certain lines of goods, is one of the ideas used by Spannagel Hardware and Furniture company, which has met with unanimous public favor. These department heads are furnished with all the necessary assistants and are held responsible for their particular part of the store. Devoting most of their time to single lines, they gain unusual familiarity with the goods handled, gaining intelligent information which they give to customers. Such clerks are called "specialists." The force of salespeople in this store are competent and obliging at all times and are always ready to please. In all, there are eleven employees in the store.

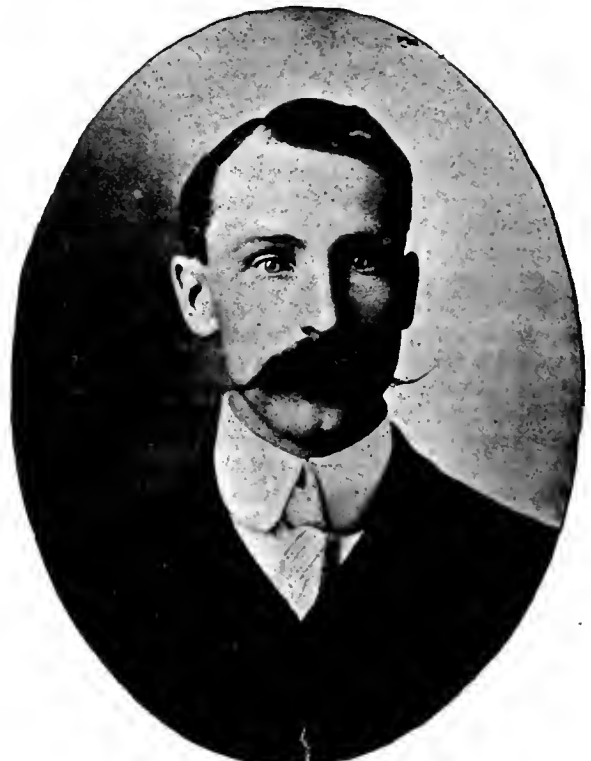
The spot cash system owes its existence to the demand for lower prices and serves the real interest of both proprietors and patrons. It is the policy of this company inflexibly adhered to. Under the credit system those who did pay settled for all. You don't help pay bad bills where every

one pays cash—there are none. Cash customers in a credit store should demand a discount; it is given everywhere, even in England. Buying for cash enables the proprietor to secure a great advantage at the factories or wholesale houses. Selling for cash permits them to turn their money rapidly and make several profits during the year. The one idea in the conduct of this house seems to be to furnish a reliable trading place for the people where they can buy everything at a uniformly small per cent over the cost in large quantities. These are the motives which make the management of Spannagel Hardware and Furniture company's store.

The history of this business since its inception in 1887 has been one of constant growth, which resulted solely from the demand of patrons. Established February 8, 1885, by Gustave R. Spannagel. In 1887 his son Gustave H. became a full partner in the house which was so conducted until 1891, when G. H. bought his father's interest which he conducted until April 1, 1898, when it was incorporated as a stock company under the firm name of The Spannagel Hardware and Furniture company, with the following officers: Gustave H. Spannagel, president; Gustave R. Spannagel, treasurer, and William H. Shannon, secretary. On January 1, 1901, Mr. Shannon withdrew and the following officers were elected: Gustave H. Spannagel, president; Albert Spannagel, treasurer, and Charles H. Kerr, secretary.

This is the largest mercantile establishment in Nokomis, one in which not a single article is missing in any of its various departments. The hardware department is replete, carrying everything that it is possible for the trade to call for. All the leading brands are carried in every line. For instance, in the stove department may be found the Radiant Home, the leader of all hard coal burners of the west, while in the soft coal burners Estate Oak, Superior Air Tight, Cole's hot blast—all the leaders. Then in the cooking stoves are to be found the Malleable steel range, Superior, and others.

The furniture department once seen is never to be forgotten. There is nothing made of wood for use or comfort or ornament but what is found here, so it is useless to itemize—it's all there.



ALBERT SPANNAGEL.

In the carpet, rug and matting line they are unexcelled, carrying one of the largest stocks, as well as the most varied grade, of any house in Nokomis. Their specialty is samples and cut orders. Here the most fastidious housewife cannot be only satisfied, but pleased.

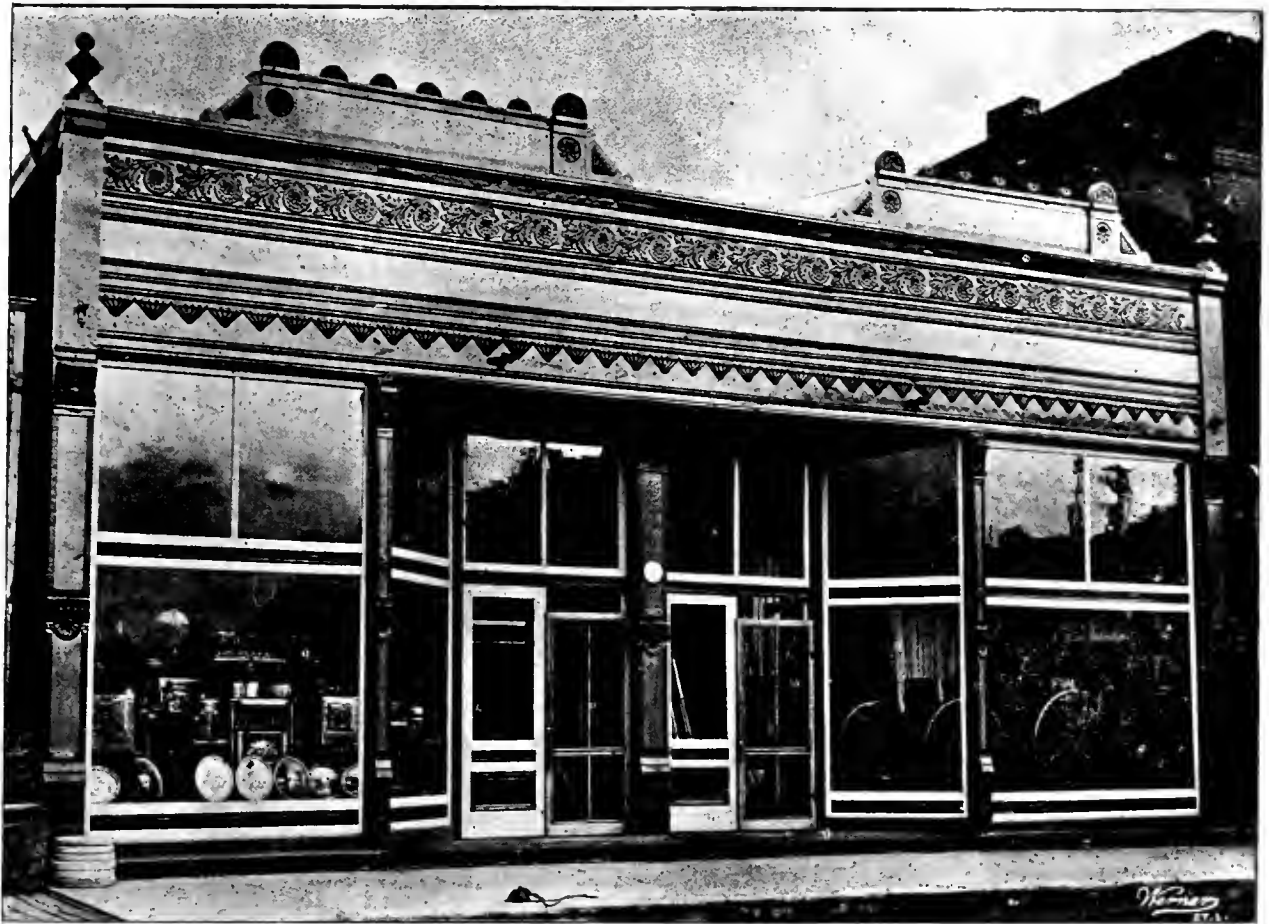
They carry a full line of sewing machines, all of the best makes as well as the cheapest and most popular brands. Also equipments and appliances, needles, oil, bands, etc.

The sewing machine department is in charge of E. E. Mallory, who has had more than twenty years' experience as a practical repairer and salesman, having served two years in a sewing machine factory in New York, and had charge of all the sewing machines as well as the other machinery for one and a half years in Dunkirk, New York, and he is considered the most practical all around sewing machine man in this part of Illinois.

and adjoining towns and the company feels quite proud to be able to compete, with confidence, with the larger cities in this class of work.

In the paint department you will find the reliable K. P. S. Hammer and other leading brands, white lead, varnishes, oils, brushes, etc.

The vehicle department of this house has no equal in this territory when it comes to selecting for its durability a buggy, phaeton, carriage, surrey, stanhope, bike wagon, driving wagon, road or spring wagon, or concord wagon. There is nothing equal to the Rex Buggy company of Connersville, Indiana, from which place all this stock comes and which is the only company that builds all its vehicles from the ground up, every piece of wood, iron and trimming passing through the hands of competent and rigid inspectors, and built under the scrutiny of the most exacting foremen.



SPANNAGEL & COMPANY'S HARDWARE AND FURNITURE STORE.

In the tinware department they have a large and well equipped tin shop, where not only repairs but new work is being constantly turned out.

They also carry all the popular brands and makes of farm implements and machinery, such as reapers, binders, mowers, etc. They also make a specialty of wire fencing, poultry netting and barbed wire.

Pumps, large and small, all makes, windmills of all sizes and various makes, all of the most popular brands and modern patterns. Do not buy a pump or windmill without seeing this stock.

As foreman of the galvanized iron department they have Mr. George Schutt, a mechanic of rare ability, whose work is known in this and other states to be perfect, and executed with artistic taste. Much of his work is to be seen in this

This is the kind of stock that the Spannagel Hardware and Furniture company carries. Therefore, you are never swindled or dissatisfied afterwards.

The wholesale and retail seed department is the largest single department connected with the house. They do a general jobbing business in all kinds of seeds, but make a specialty of grass seeds, such as clover, timothy and millet.

The building up of this branch of the business on the part of Mr. G. H. Spannagel took months of patience, study and hard work. People would insist on patronizing the wholesale houses of the larger cities for their seeds, but things are now reversed, and Mr. Spannagel is supplying many wholesale dealers of the larger cities, as well as all the principal towns of this territory, which embraces a large number of counties. In fact, the trade in this line has in-

creased to such an extent that it has really become a business within itself. The cause is easily explained, the seeds he sells are superior to all others in quality and cleanliness, they are guaranteed against all foreign matter of every kind, besides they are adapted to the soil and climate, as they are home grown.

The Spannagel Hardware and Furniture company conduct with their large store an undertaking establishment, Mr. G. H. Spannagel having charge of that department he being a licensed embalmer by the Illinois state board of health. His education and training in this line makes him thoroughly proficient in the duties of an undertaker and embalmer. So, with a man so competent at the helm of a business so completely equipped with all the modern conveniences, it is no wonder that this firm has attained the

educated in that city, graduating from the Smiths Academy and afterwards from Washington University in the class of 1878. Ten years later, in 1888, he was married to Miss Belle Middlecoff, of this city. They now have two manly little sons to bless their union.

Mr. Spannagel is too busy a man to be a seeker of office, but he is a great believer in social orders and is a member of the I. O. O. F., K. P., M. W. A., M. P. L., C. of H. and A. O. U. W.

Mr. Spannagel is a man of rare executive ability, wonderful energy and a tireless worker. He is well known throughout this part of the state as a man who possesses a full measure of those attributes which insure success, possessed of a pleasing personality, which makes life-long friends, energetic in whatever work falls to his hands. His



RESIDENCE OF G. H. SPANNAGEL.

Photo by Whittlesey

foremost position it now holds in the undertaking profession in Nokomis.

The firm has two fine hearses and keep on hand a large stock of coffins, caskets and burial cases of all sizes, burial shrouds, etc.

We have used the limit of our space and are sorry that we must cease enumerating before we have scarcely begun.

One can readily see that an immense building is required for this large stock. The main building of this establishment has a floor space of 14,348 square feet which comprises two large store rooms adjoining, including second floor.

This company has a branch house at Witt, four miles west of this city, where a splendid stock is carried, not large, but all lines represented. Mr. John Wear is in charge at that place.

Mr. Gustave H. Spannagel, the senior member of this firm was born in St. Louis, Missouri, November 30, 1863, and

success in business has never engendered a feeling of envy, but has always held the regards and confidence of the business community.

Albert Spannagel, the treasurer of this mammoth concern, was born in St. Louis, Mo., January 27, 1871. He received his education in that city and is a graduate of the Bryant and Stratton Business College. He and Miss Lillian Kerr of this city were joined in wedlock June 30, 1897, and are now the happy parents of two beautiful little girls.

Mr. Spannagel is a member of the K. of P., A. F. and A. M., and R. A. M. Chapter No. 237, and M. P. L. He began life in his father's store, but in 1896 branched out for himself in the farm implement business in this city, which he successfully conducted until 1898, when he became a member of the above company and was made its treasurer in February 1900.

Mr. Spannagel is a well known man of business who has gained in influential and wide spread patronage through his honorable methods in dealing with the public; he is a public spirited gentleman, genial and pleasant with all.

Mr. Charles Kerr, secretary of this company, was born in this city August 10, 1874. He is the son of Alfred D. Kerr, one of the old and highly respected merchants of this city. Mr. Charles Kerr began life as a newspaper boy, later on becoming the agent for various daily papers. In this line he built up a large and lucrative business. Mr. Spannagel, who is ever on the watch for good men, offered Mr. Kerr a position in the store. He had no trouble in disposing of his newspaper business, so was soon installed as a clerk in the above house. By close attention to business industry and close economy he not only saved money, but ingratiated himself into the favors of his superiors, and when the firm was changed to a stock company Mr. Kerr proceeded to invest his savings in stock. Later on, or in 1901, when Mr. Shannon, the secretary, retired from the company, Mr. Kerr was promptly promoted to the secretaryship.

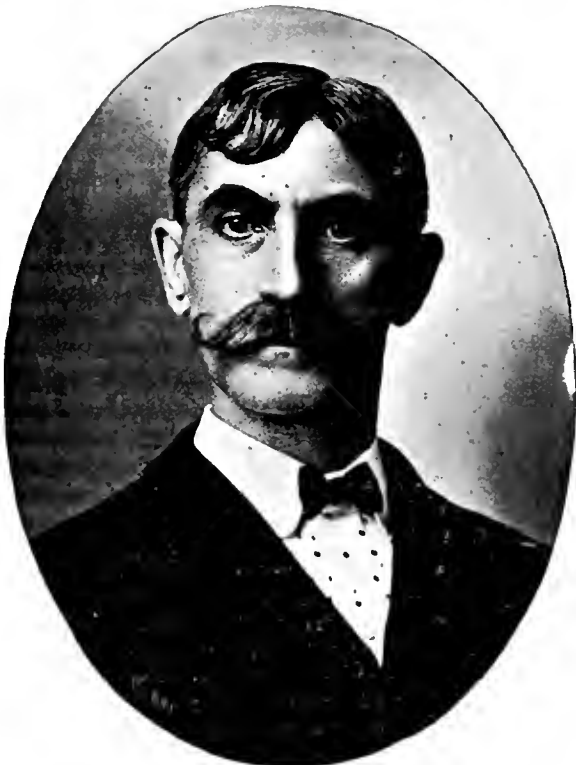
Mr. Kerr is a young man highly esteemed by all who know him as an honorable, conscientious young man, and one who is sure to make his way in the world. Although as yet enjoying single blessedness he has taken the precaution to prepare a cage for a mate, in the event of a change of mind, in shape of a handsome and commodious residence on Union street.



PLUCK, ENERGY AND ENTERPRISE, a knowledge of the people's wants and showing the people that you can supply those wants will surely bring success to any business venture. A notable instance of this is that of E. C. Drennan, the owner of the Bargain Store. We cannot

E. C. Drennan Bargain Store

pretend to itemize this great bazar, but will single out a few of the numerous departments. The clothing department consists of men's pants, overalls, jackets, shirts and ready-to-wear suits for



E. C. DRENNAN.



R. C. WHITTLESEY.

THE PHOTOGRAPHER.

SKETCH ON PAGE 19

boys, hats and caps of all sizes, and gloves for rough labor or for Sunday.

When in need of tinware there is no more complete line carried in Nokomis than at the Bargain Store. From a pie tin to a wash tub. It is not this cheap tinware that you sometimes see, but is good heavy tinware at reduced prices. The porcelain ware is also handled—pans, kettles, buckets, in fact everything. The wooden ware department is stocked with buckets, tubs, wash boards, butter bowls, butter prints and ladles.

A good line of heavy and shelf hardware—saws, axes, nuts, bolts, screws; also carpenters' tools, planes, hammers, rules, tape lines and chalk. Table and pocket cutlery are to be found in abundance here; knives and forks, scissors, wire screens, etc.

We next turn our attention to the wall paper department which is unexcelled for quality and beauty; the paper is all trimmed for the purchasers, thus saving them a great deal of annoyance and delay. In window shades we find an excellent grade of any color, size or price.

In the line of notions we find everything complete—pins, needles, perfumes, handkerchiefs, bed drapery, towels and other things too numerous to mention.

This establishment is also headquarters for pianos and organs, and musical instruments of all kinds. The instruments are sold for cash or on the installment plan.

Mr. E. C. Drennan, the proprietor of this enterprising establishment, was born at Woodburn, Illinois. He received his education in his native state, and on February 3, 1879, was married to Miss Hattie Lantermann of Madison county, Illinois. To this union has been born three daughters, Miss Lizzie, a beautiful and accomplished young lady of seventeen summers, who is stenographer and typewriter to the author of this work, and Miss Clara, ten years and Miss Jennie, six years of age.



JOHN H. CRICKENBERGER.

FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR READERS who do not understand the process of this simple, yet wonderful, industry, this article is written. Since the organization of the above named plant the growth has been rapid and substantial. Mr. John H. Crickenberger, president, and Mr. W. H. Casselberry, vice-president and treasurer, are men of

The Nokomis Electric Light and Power Plant

great ability and rugged determination, and are ever in the van of progress. They are men who understand that business must either progress or recede, for as the current of events keeps moving on, so it is in the affairs of trade, and the firm that desires to advance must embody in its management the character of enterprise. And as an establishment of the highest standard, this enterprise is worthy of more than special mention. It stands in the front ranks among the leading commercial enterprises of the city, and is in every sense of the word a metropolitan concern, reflecting credit not only upon the proprietors, but also upon the general commercial interests of the city.

It is quite safe to say that the progress made in electricity within the past decade or two has been far greater than that in any other industry. It is now the cheapest and most reliable means of lighting; it is many fold greater than that of any other illumination, while the cost is reduced to about one half.

It was through the courtesy of the above named gentlemen that the writer was conducted through this awe inspiring plant, for such it is, not knowing where to touch, when to touch or what to touch. It is the only institution that the writer knows of where visitors do not meddle; it is the only spot on earth where a "smart alec" does not exhibit himself.

This plant was organized November 30, 1894, and chartered under the laws of the state of Illinois, with a capital of \$10,000, the officers at that time consisting of George Bliss, president, A. J. Williford, vice-president, J. H. Padock, secretary and George Schaper, treasurer.

The present owners are John H. Crickenberger, president, W. H. Casselberry, vice-president and treasurer, and S. B. Brown, secretary.

The plant proper is 40x80 feet, or 3200 square feet. Their engine is a 100 horse power, made by Chase & Co. of Mattoon, Illinois. A battery of two boilers, one a 125 horse power Erie, Pennsylvania, make and one a 100 horse power Erie City, Pennsylvania.

They have two National alternating dynamos of Eau Clair, Wisconsin, make. One dynamo has a capacity of thirteen hundred sixteen candle power lamps, the other a capacity of six hundred sixteen candle power lamps. Also a series of arc lighting system with a capacity of thirty lights of two hundred candle power each. They now have twenty-five arc lights and fifteen hundred incandescent lights in the city, with fourteen miles of wire.

Messrs. Crickenberger and Casselberry are well known throughout this section of the country as men of sterling character and business ability.

Mr. John H. Crickenberger was born at Staunton, Virginia, January 20, 1852. He was married to Miss Laura Wells September 8, 1881, in this city. He is a member of the Methodist church, also of the I. O. O. F. He is owner of one of the best farms in this section, consisting of two hundred and thirty-two acres, all nicely improved with two hundred acres in meadow.

Mr. Crickenberger is a thorough gentleman, a loyal friend and an untiring worker in whatever he undertakes;

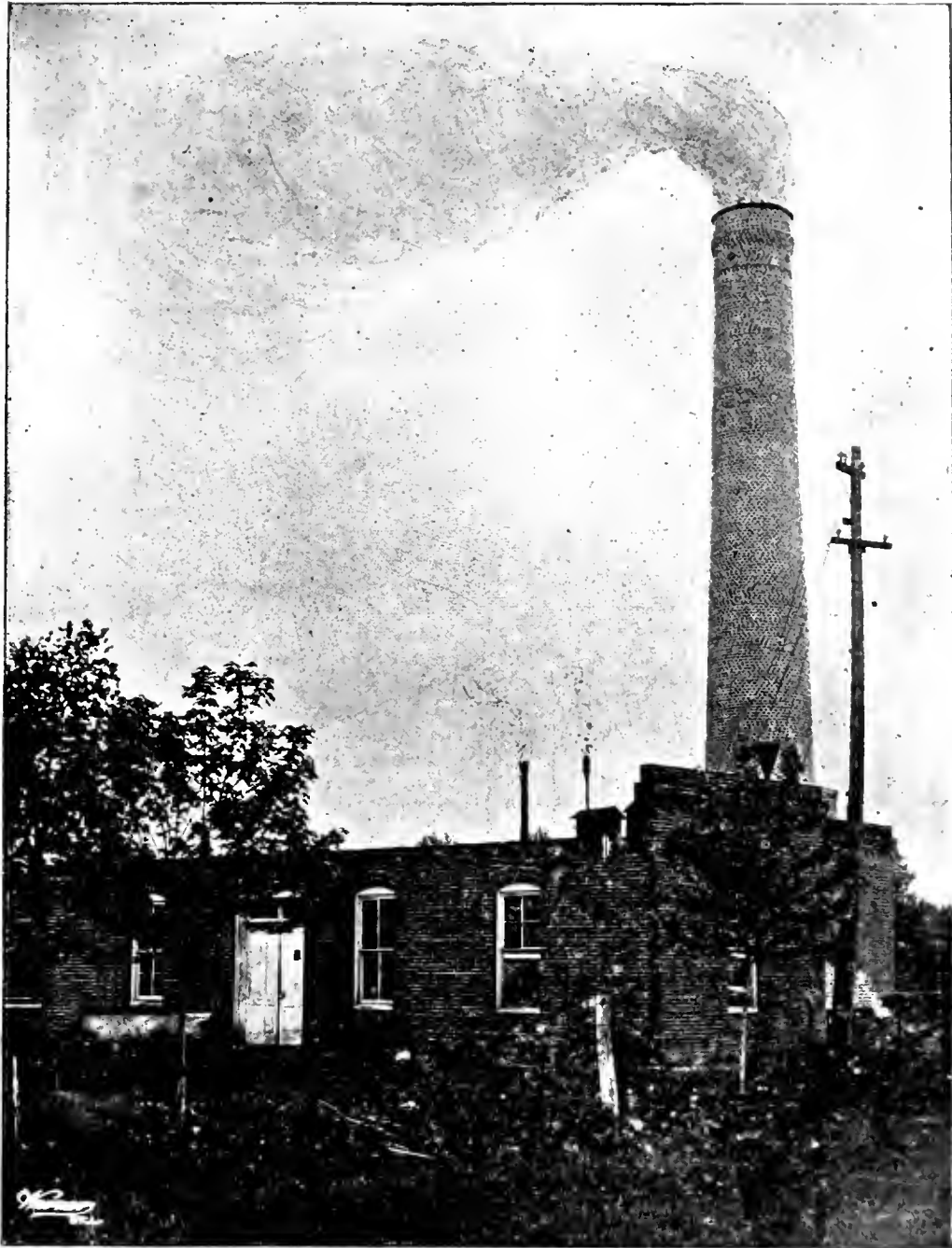


W. H. CASSELBERRY.

and enjoys not only the acquaintance, confidence and warm friendship of the commercial element of this section, but commands the esteem and respect of all who know him.

Mr. W. H. Casselberry was born in St. Clair county, Illinois, October 12, 1860. He was married to Miss Rosella Gray of this city on August 26, 1886, and are now the proud

the city, with all the latest and most modern improvements. He resided there until about two years ago when he bought an interest in the above named business. Among Nokomis business men none possess a fuller share of the peoples' confidence than does Mr. Casselberry. He has been connected with the electric light plant for the past two



CENTRAL STATION OF THE NOKOMIS ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY

parents of four daughters. Mr. Casselberry is an active member in the Baptist church, the I. O. O. F. and M. W. A. and Noble Grand of the Nokomis Odd Fellow lodge and director of the Nokomis National Bank. He owns a large and well improved farm just outside the western limits of

years. Although something of an amateur at the beginning, he has acquired a keen understanding and power of critical discrimination in everything pertaining to his plant. As a citizen, a business man and a friend none stand higher.



GARRELT BRAKENHOFF.

ONE OF THE BEST appointed dry goods stores in Nokomis is J. Woltmann & Co.'s. Being persistent advertisers, Woltman & Co. have built up an enormous business. Every day is Saturday at this store, and the public of Nokomis and vicinity have recognized the fact that every

J. Woltman & Co. Mercantile House.

day is bargain day there also. A critical buyer, Mr. Woltmann always succeeds in getting the cream of the market and at figures which enable him to give to their customers the benefit of the discounts obtained by purchasing in large quantities and at opportune times. At this establishment full value is received and the most courteous treatment accorded non-buyers as well as buyers. In addition to the dry goods department proper there is an annex in which are displayed an unusually fine line of carpets—Wiltons, Axminsters, Brussels, Velvet—all in the latest and handsomest designs. The carpet department has proven a success, for the policy that gives life and strength and character to the rest of this modern establishment is also in force here. It is the experience of every business man that customers are won, not only by excellence of goods and low prices, but also by uniform courtesy to non-buyers. The latter is certain to be in need of something some time and they will naturally bestow their patronage on the merchant who has treated them with consideration and not as a hold-up man, ready to take their money at the first opportunity and indifferent as to whether they ever come again or not. Woltman & Co. is a household word to hundreds in and around Nokomis, and the fact that an article comes from this establishment is sufficient proof, not only of its excellence, but of the buyers' judgment in securing good goods.

In addition to the dry goods department, is to be found a fine line of groceries, both staple

and fancy; shelf and heavy hardware; wall paper of the very latest designs, and notions of all description.

Country produce is taken in exchange for goods bought at this store and the highest market prices are paid.

The display at this establishment is proving a revelation to our people. From the standpoint of an artist it is ideal; it is metropolitan in magnitude and, as usual, the question is: "How can they sell at such low prices?" The store is always crowded, but as in the street cars, "there is always room for one more." The children find it beautiful, and carry away many happy memories of a glorious vision of goods in bewildering array.

When you go to Woltmann & Co.'s don't forget to take the children. They are always welcome.

A biographical sketch of the senior member of this firm—Mayor John Woltmann—will be found in another article of this book, page 13, under the caption of 'Nokomis' mayor.

Mr. Garrelt Brakenhoff, the junior member of this firm, was born in Mt. Olive, Macoupin county, Illinois, January 10, 1863, and is the son of Henry Brakenhoff, who was born in Ostfriesland, Germany, May 5, 1831, and emigrated to America in 1851. In 1854 he married Miss Henrietta Carsten of Alton, Illinois.

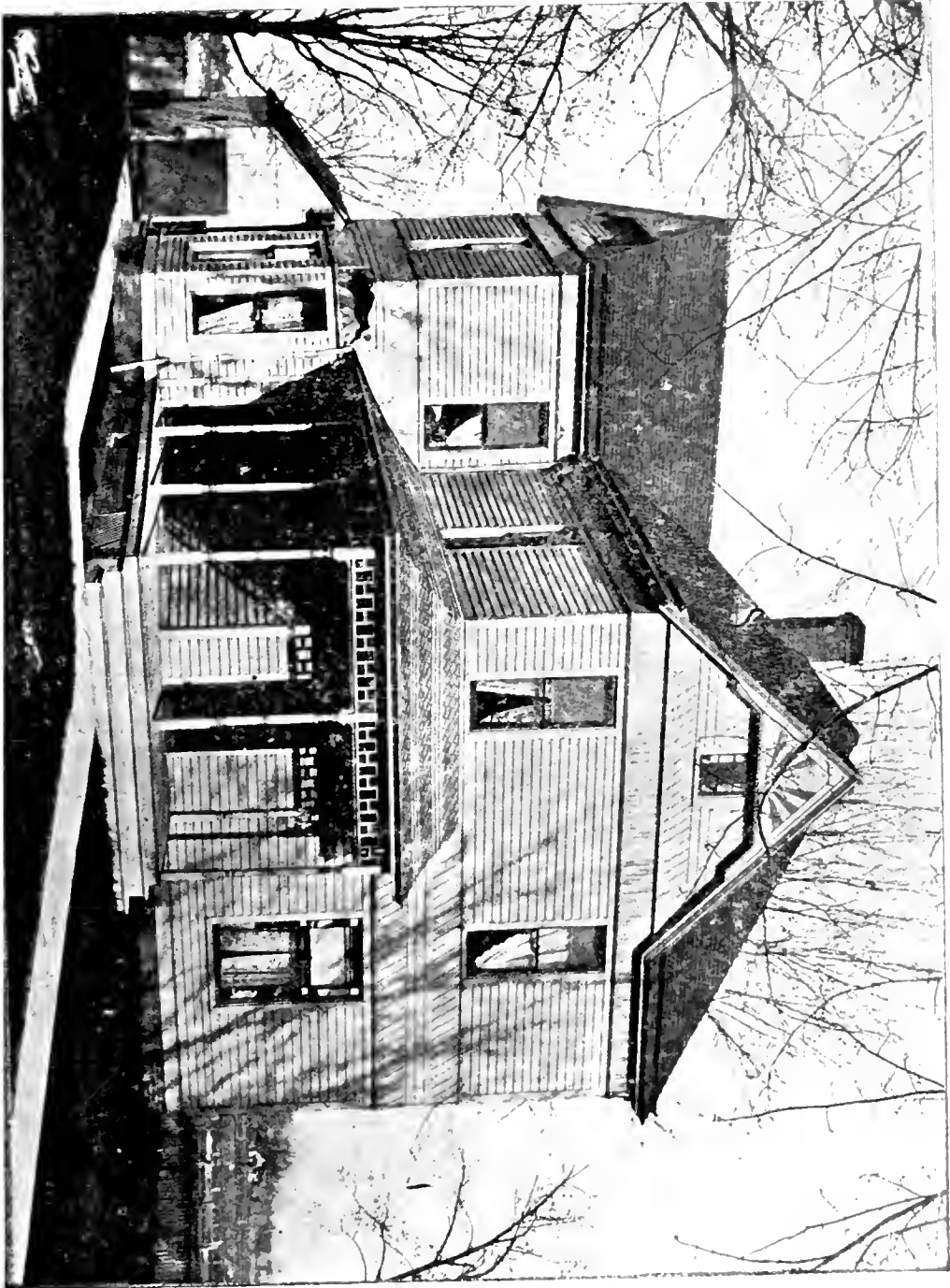
Mr. Garrelt Brakenhoff became a member of this firm before he had attained his twenty-second birthday and, like his partner, Mr. Woltmann, is well and favorably known throughout the county. He was married to Miss Lucy Essman of Bland, Missouri, in 1888. They have one daughter, Edna M., aged 13, who is still in school.

Mr. Brakenhoff is a member of the German Methodist church. He has served one term as township collector. He is a well known man of business, who has gained an influential and wide spread patronage through his honorable method in dealing with the public, and is recognized as one of the successful merchants of the county.

J. Woltmann & Co. are the leading agents of Southern Illinois for the following steamship lines—the North German Lloyd, Hamburg American Line, Red Star Line, American Line and Dominion Line. For the past year their business with the "Norddeutscher Lloyd" has been something astonishing. In fact they seem to sell two-thirds of the steamship tickets sold in Southern Illinois, besides this line is so thoroughly equipped and so well known among the German travelers that none other are considered.

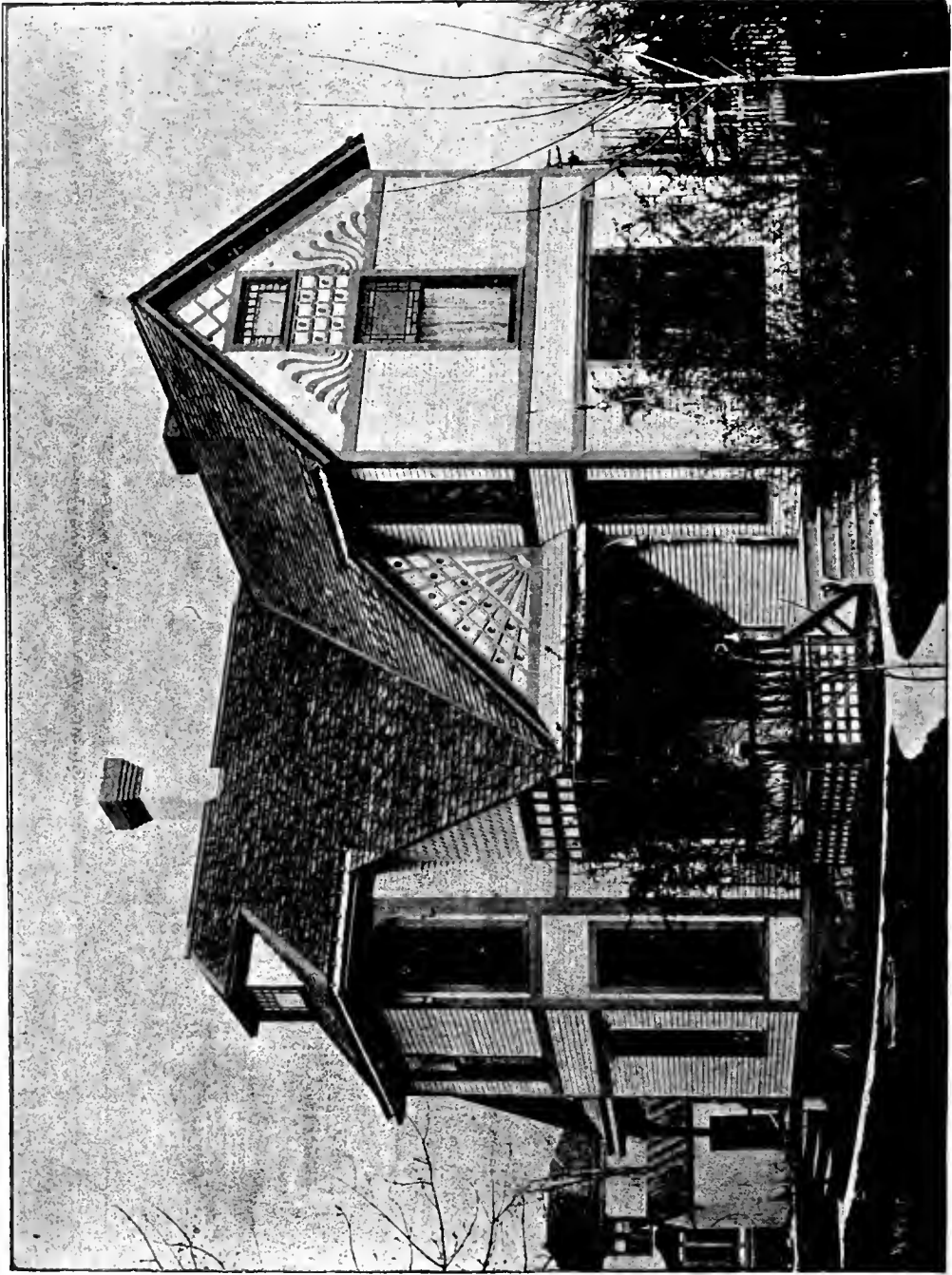


RESIDENCE OF GARRELT BRAKENHOFF.



RESIDENCE OF JESSE S. GRIFFIN.

Photo by Whitesey



RESIDENCE OF ANDREW J. WILLIFORD.

Photo by Whittlesey.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN WOLTMANN.

IN ALL WALKS OF LIFE the self made man deserves, and generally receives, the plaudits of the world. The struggles of early life naturally constitute such men to grapple with the stern realities of every day life duties. To such men obstacles are naught, and in the lexicon of their aims

general dealer in stock and has made the buying and selling of horses and mules his only vocation. His constant buying of the best stock to be found on the great stock farms of Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Indiana and Kentucky has made him an excellent judge. He is a native of that great state so

Robert L. Anderson.

Horses and Mules.

and endeavors there is no such word as fail. It is such men that maintain the commercial supremacy of America, and when they enter official life their services are rendered in the same energetic and reliable manner. These remarks are particularly applicable to the subject of our sketch, Mr. Robert L. Anderson, who needs no introduction to the people of Montgomery county. He comes of one of the best families of Kentucky, and started out in life as a



SALE STABLE OF R. L. ANDERSON.

noted for her fine horses good whiskey, handsome women and game men, all of which he is a good judge and a recognized authority, except on the whiskey question, he being a total abstainer, and we believe the only one Kentucky ever produced. He sold the first car load of horses in the National stock yards of East St. Louis. He is well known and popular with all stock dealers in St. Louis, Chicago, Indianapolis and other points. Mr. Anderson was born in Allen County, Kentucky, April 25, 1841, and received his early

education in his native state. He was married to Miss Nancy E. Williams on April 19, 1878, of Tennessee. He is the father of two children. His oldest child, Robert, is a handsome and popular young man of eighteen years, who is at present a clerk in the jewelry establishment of S. M. Strain. His youngest child, Miss Lulu, is a highly esteemed young lady. By her pleasant manner she has won for herself many friends, and by industrious study has almost gained the top round of the ladder in her school work. Mr. Anderson is the owner of a large livery stable, which has a floor space of 3500 square feet, and is at present leased to Mindrup & Oller, and is known as one of the best liveries in the city. Mr. Anderson has his office in this building, but spends most of his time on the outside. He has been in Nokomis in business for seventeen years, and twenty-five years at other points. Besides his business interests he is an active member in the A. F. and A. M., I. O. O. F., M. W. A. and K. P., and has also held the office of assessor twice, and is at present deputy sheriff of Montgomery county. As a citizen he is public spirited, industrious and honorable; as a man of business he is progressive, thrifty and energetic; and as a husband and father he is kind, considerate and generous. His friends are legion, his enemies are few, and he is generous in aiding those who are not so fortunate as himself.



THE CAREER OF A BUSINESS enterprise is the rule and standard by which the public tests its capacity and general worth. When the progress of a business has been uniformly and steadily increasing under able management, going on to further prosperity with time, it necessarily

Frederick J. Pannwitt,

imparts confidence and attracts from far and near. Such is the business of Mr. Frederick J. Pannwitt, who eighteen years ago threw open the doors of his present business to the public. Mr. Pannwitt has but few peers as a mechanic, and there is probably not a farmer in Montgomery county who does not know of Pannwitt's blacksmith and woodwork shop.

Mr. Pannwitt, having an eye to business, has equipped his shop with every known facility to the trade. His shop is large and commodious, having a floor space of 3604 square feet, and fitted with a modern gasoline engine of three horse power, power hammer, power drill, polishing machine etc., while in the blacksmithing and wood department only the best, most modern tools and ideas are used. He carries an extensive stock of iron and wood.

The Pannwitt vehicles are sold on their merits. Their good qualities are known in the entire county. First-class materials, good workmanship, graceful designs, and exquisite finish were the factors that contributed to their popularity. The price of course as a material consid-

eration, but the maker had no difficulty in getting what he deemed a fair compensation. From long experience in the vehicle business, from years of comparison with what other makers were doing, from assiduous endeavors towards a still higher development, Mr. Pannwitt's knowledge of the vehicle situation was full and complete. He made a price and did not deviate one cent from it, and the intelligent buyer knew it also. Many of the best wagons in this vicinity are the products of the Pannwitt shops, and they advertise themselves by their durability and pleasing appearance. Mechanism is displayed upon all his work and and is excelled by none. While his iron, woodwork and paint are all of the most superior material, every piece of wood and iron pass a close examination before being used.

He also makes a specialty of repair work, and many are the tumble-down, travel-worn vehicles, which under the skillful hands of his competent workmen have been made even equal to new. He is recognized as an expert in the repair of farm machinery and farm implements; while few men know so well how to shoe a horse as Mr. Pannwitt—his work fits well and are put on to stay, while he thoroughly understands and knows how to remedy defects of the hoof. In fact, to a farming community, no more useful man can be found than Mr. Pannwitt.

Mr. Frederick J. Pannwitt was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, August 31, 1860, and came to America with his parents in 1865, at the age of five years. The family went direct to Chicago, where they remained for one year; from there to a farm in Effingham county. Here the subject of our sketch received the major part of his education.

At the age of eighteen he started life for himself, going to Gasconade county, Missouri. Here he served three years in a blacksmith shop as an apprentice. Natural ingenuity and close application made him master of his trade at the end of his apprenticeship.

In 1882 he came to Nokomis and entered the employ of Mr. J. L. Freasier, where he remained until January 1, 1885. He then bought out Mr. Freasier and has since that date conducted the business in his own name. In February, 1885, he was married to Miss Margaret Essmann, of Bland, Missouri. They are now blessed by two children, one son, Ewin, 16, and one daughter Florence L., 7 years of age, both in school. Mr. Pannwitt is a member of the German Methodist church, and is also one of the trustees and Sunday School superintendent.

His wife, Mrs. Margaret Pannwitt, is recognized by all to be one of the most pleasant and kind hearted matrons of our city.

They reside in one of the handsomest and most convenient residences in the city.

Mr. Pannwitt is widely known for his enterprise and general business ability, and exhibits in his character the traits of honest integrity and sterling worth, which have ever distinguished the conduct of his life.



RESIDENCE OF FREDERIC J. PANNWITT.

FROM THE INCEPTION of this general write-up we have intended to devote considerable space to some of the oldest and most respected residents and men of business interests, but among so many good business men we find it more than difficult to select one with any degree of justice.

John J. Farner, Bazaar.

However, the name that strikes us most forcetful at present as one of the legitimate merchants, a man of true integrity of purpose, excellent business qualifications, noted for his honest and upright dealings with his fellowmen, is our worthy townsman, John J. Farner, located just across the street north of the public square. His store has a floor space of 2250 square feet. He buys his goods wherever the best and cheapest can be had for cash, always in large quantities. He pays spot cash and sells for cash. Therefore it is easy to see how he can and does sell cheaper than the cheapest. He carries a select line of men's and boys' perfect fitting suits tailor-made, not sweatshop and auction goods. This is the right place to go for the little fellow's first suit, from head to foot. Sizes three years and up, nice clean goods at reasonable prices. Hats, caps, gloves, and suspenders, always the latest novelties in neckwear, a full line of ladies' and gent's furnishings. Ironclad hosiery, underwear, buggy whips, wall paper, window shades, jewelry, clocks, spectacles, a full line of warranted pocket knives, razors, all kinds of dishes, chamber sets, a complete line of graniteware and tinware and the latest in sad irons, dustpans and corn poppers. Oil cans with which you can fill your lamps in the dark, without danger of running over. Don't fail to ask to see all these specialties. Pictures and frames out-class anything found outside of the large cities, only the prices are less. A large line of fancy Indian baskets, consisting of sewing, trinket and waste baskets; dress shirts, work shirts, all-wool flannel shirts, overalls and pants warranted against defects and ripping. A large assortment to select from.

Notions, ribbons, purses, novelties of all kinds suitable for birthday and wedding presents, umbrellas, trunks, valises and corsets.



JOHN J. FARNER.

He also carries a line of toilet articles, and remedies that will cure the sick, sold under guarantee to give satisfaction, and the one positive cure for catarrh and failing eyesight, and that will restore hearing.

He carries a line of shoes suitable for all tastes and



STORE AND RESIDENCE OF JOHN J. FARNER.

purposes that are guaranteed to give satisfaction and sold at prices to suit your money. A trial will convince you.

Also all grades of rubbers; in fact, you can get everything needed in a family except dress goods and groceries, and he says he is planning to add these two lines, after which he intends to be able to supply all your needs.

Mr. Farmer was born in Switzerland May 22, 1844, landed in Highland, Illinois, in 1854, and a year later moved to Alton, Illinois. In 1860, he moved with his parents to Prairie Town, where he learned the blacksmith trade. He was never an office seeker, but soon after he became a voter he was elected constable, which office he resigned rather than sell out a poor man's effects for debt. Afterwards he filled the office of assessor for a couple of terms. In 1877 he landed at his present location in Nokomis and conducted a blacksmithing and implement house up to about 1889.

Giving that business up he started up his general merchandising business. His success has been phenomenal in this line, which is unquestionably due to his good business qualifications, executive ability and fair, honest and upright dealings with his fellowman.

Mr. Farmer is the father of five children. Miss Louise, the eldest, is a stenographer in St. Louis, Jacob, aged 19, is a railroad clerk in East St. Louis, Miss Carrie, a handsome young lady of 17 summers, is just out of school, Miss Lillian, aged 15, is a pupil of the high school, and Frederick, aged 12 years, is in school.

THE REAL ESTATE and Loan business is represented in Nokomis by Mr. Alf Griffin, an illustration of whose residence we show here.

Mr. Griffin has lived in Nokomis for the past twenty-seven years and is well and favorably known to the people of Montgomery county. Coming to Nokomis from Morgan county, Illinois, in 1876, he entered the Nokomis National bank as bookkeeper, was afterward elected and served as cashier, resigning in October, 1885, to engage in the hardware and furniture

Alf Griffin, Real Estate and Loans.

business of Griffin Brothers. During the last five years Mr. Griffin has devoted his entire attention to his present business and has met with deserved success. He buys and sells real estate of all kinds, negotiates mortgage and other loans, and does an insurance, abstract and collection business. He has had extended experience in all these lines, and besides rendering competent, careful and prompt attention to the wants of his clients, he offers moral integrity and financial responsibility he being the largest personal taxpayer in the township.

The interior of his office is one of the nicest in the city. Everything artistically arranged, with modern furniture and all the conveniences of a modern office. It is located in his own building at No. 126 West State street.

Mr. Griffin resides with his family (wife and two daughters) in one of the most handsome residences in the city, south of the city park.



RESIDENCE OF ALF GRIFFIN.

THE THRIVING CITY OF NOKOMIS enjoys the distinction of having located in the most prominent business section a first-class modern equipped drug store, and a visitor cannot help but observe the complete arrangements which are necessary to an enterprising business of this kind.

George Schaper, Druggist.

This store is owned and conducted by Mr. George Schaper, one of the oldest registered pharmacists in the county. Twenty-seven years ago

he began the compounding of medicines and every day more or less of his time ever since has been devoted to his profession and his thousands of patrons all testify to his carefulness, liberality and fairness in all his business transactions, both in buying and selling.

His store is a model of neatness and cleanliness; shelving, counters and show cases being resplendent with bottled chemicals, drugs and proprietary medicines; also a line of the finest whiskies and wines for medicinal purposes. There is no better evidence of refinement and culture than a person's choice of toilet articles, and it is in this store that you can find an endless array of just such articles, a few of which we venture to mention here, such as delicate perfumes, odor bottles, boxes for jewels, photos, handkerchiefs, neckties, cuffs, collars, comb and brush sets, manicure sets, shaving sets, mirrors and celluloid novelties. Do not pass the line of combs, tooth, nail, hair, cloth and bath brushes; also leather goods, such as pocketbooks, wallets, card cases, ladies' chate-laines and wrist bags. There is no limit to the stationery, tablets, box paper, school books, gill books and miscellaneous

books, and if there is anything new, just out, you are sure to find it at his store.

In sporting goods there is no end, such as base balls, foot balls, tops, marbles, fishing tackle, card games, hammocks, croquet sets, etc.

The wall paper stock is the largest in southern Illinois, comprising the choicest selections from the leading factories, and ranging from the lowest in price to the finest gilt, and are able to show good patterns all the year.

Paint stock is given special attention. This branch of the business is acknowledged headquarters. Carry the Sherwin-Williams brand of mixed paint, made by the largest concern in the world. A complete stock of white lead, oils, varnishes, putty, window glass and paint brushes.

In the large and growing business Mr. Schaper is ably assisted by his son, Ed, who is at present taking a course in a regular school of pharmacy and will graduate in another year.

Mr. Schaper was born near Hillsboro, Illinois, and received his education in his native state. He was married May 10, 1884, to Leora Culp, at Nokomis, and to this union has been born three boys.

In public life he held the office of city clerk for ten years.

Mr. Schaper is one of the oldest business men in the county, reliable and trustworthy, a gentleman not only in business lines, but socially and otherwise. A man recognized for his generosity and kindness of heart. No poor or indigent person wanting medicine has ever been turned away from his store.



RESIDENCE OF ABE BOURQUIN.

THE PROSPERITY OF NOKOMIS and her activity as a trading center is due to a large extent to the up-to-date firms who fill her business ranks, and whose methods of business are conducted upon modern and honorable principles, while the stock they carry and the prices at which they sell bear favorable comparison with many larger cities.

O. H. Paddock, Lumber Company.

Honor in business always pays a fair dividend, and Nokomis business houses are conducted upon principles of unflinching integrity, and are advancing daily in public favor and command a liberal patronage throughout this section.

One of the largest and most progressive institutions of Nokomis is the O. H. Paddock Lumber company. This business was first founded in 1876 by Mr. O. H. Paddock & Son. Some seven or eight years later Mr. E. G. Greenman

repairing, there is but one thing to do, write the O. H. Paddock Lumber company for quotations. And one order filled invariably calls for a second, and that a third.

Promptness, fair and honorable dealings, has brought to this firm a large and liberal patronage. In addition to the high class material handled by them, one of the factors in their success has been promptness in execution. They are out for all the business they can get, by fair and honorable means; no other method used. The larger the order the better they like it. They are amply able to take care of any order that they may receive and they guarantee the same efficiency, high quality and promptness that have characterized their work from the beginning.

This company has a large branch yard at Ohlman, where the same variety and quality are to be found, with Mr. Kellogg in charge.



O. H. PADDOCK LUMBER COMPANY.

became a member. The firm name was then changed to Paddock, Greenman & Co. In 1893 Mr. Greenman retired from the firm which was then reorganized and incorporated under the firm name of O. H. Paddock Lumber company.

The Nokomis yards proper, including a number of the most modern lumber sheds, with large and commodious offices on the corner of State and Cedar streets, is 150 by 500 feet, or 75,000 square feet. They carry as complete a line as any yard in southern Illinois. Dressed and undressed lumber of all dimensions. Shingles and lath, manufactured work, doors, sash, blinds, panels, stair and porch railing, banisters, etc. Hair, lime and cement. Paints, oils and varnishes. Glass, single and double thickness, in all sizes. At prices just as low as the lowest.

There is no more popular or better known firm in Montgomery county than O. H. Paddock Lumber company. Whenever a man in their territory contemplates building or

They also own and conduct in Pana, Illinois, one of the largest and most up-to-date hardware and furniture houses in southern Illinois.

Mr. Robert T. Paddock, vice-president and manager of this firm, was born in Pana, Illinois, April 28, 1873. He received his primary education in the public schools of his state and graduated from the Pana high school in 1889; also from the Blackburn university, of Carlinville, in 1895, and began business with his father, O. H. Paddock, president of the company that he now represents.

He was married to Miss Helen Noterman, a highly accomplished and popular young lady of Hillsboro, Illinois, October 19, 1898. Their union has been blessed by two beautiful little girls.

Mr. Paddock is a member of the English Lutheran church and is a member of but one secret society, the K. of P.

IF THERE IS ONE THING more than another on which the people of Nokomis pride themselves it is the fine horses, together with their excellent rigs, which may be seen around any day. With the taste of the people of such a high standard, it has been necessary for the enterprising

**James C. Ward,
Livery, Feed and Sales Stable**

livery proprietors to provide patrons with turnouts that are not excelled in Montgomery county. A firm that is doing much in this respect is that of James C. Ward. And consequently is doing a fast increasing business. This stable, though established some years, was acquired by him some three years ago and from the first has enjoyed a good patronage. His premises comprise a modern livery with a floor space of 6000 square feet, and providing accommodations for one hundred head of stock. His stable is always full of boarders, which is a good recommendation. He carries almost every conceivable kind of rig; the majority of which are new and make very nobby turnouts.

The stable is thoroughly equipped with everything reliable. Horses boarded by the day, week or month. Here can be found first-class rigs, including carriages and drummers' outfits.

Outfits furnished for funerals, weddings, picnic parties and social occasions of all kinds; in fact, rigs for all occasions at the lowest prices, and safe drivers furnished when required. This place must be visited to be appreciated and rigs tested to prove their superiority. It is a first-class stable and Mr. Ward has proven himself competent to manage the best up-to-date and modern stable in this section of the state.

Mr. Ward was born in Macoupin county, January 13, 1869, and received his education in the public school of Shipman, Illinois. He is a member of the Catholic church and of the M. W. A.

Before entering into his present vocation, Mr. Ward was a successful farmer in Audubon.

Mr. Ward is a clever, accommodating and painstaking business man of practical experience and thoroughly competent to look well to the interests of his patrons.



AMONG THE NUMEROUS highly respected and popular young men of Nokomis there are none who outranks the gentleman whose name forms the caption of this article. Mr. Charles L. Rogers was born in Laporte, Indiana, September 2, 1884, came in early childhood with his parents to

Charles L. Rogers.

Nokomis and here received his education. He is a consistent member of the English Lutheran church, a member of the M. W. A., member and secretary of the Nokomis Gun club and charter member of the Alpine club.

He is engaged in the coal business with his uncle, their office being on Front street, north of Spruce street. He has been engaged in this business for the past three years, and has also, during the same period, successfully conducted a bicycle repair shop.

He is also local agent for the St. Louis and Chicago daily papers. In all these branches of trade he has proven himself to be a successful business man. He has built up a newspaper trade far in advance of his most able competitors.



RESIDENCE OF ROBERT T. PADDOCK

Photo by W. J. Casey

He is a highly respected member of his church, a very popular and hard working member for the good of all the orders to which he belongs. In fact there are few young men who have made, before attaining man's estate, such



CHARLES L. ROGERS.

remarkable progress. His gentlemanly bearing, his industry, his truthfulness in all matters, his upright dealings with his fellowman will always make him friends wherever he may be.

We are sorry that we are unable to note his marriage and the many little blessings brought thereby—as is usual in a biographical sketch of this kind—but it seems that none of the gentler sex, so far, has been able to capture him.

Although his residence upon this mundane sphere has not been of sufficient length of time to give him a vote nevertheless he has political convictions. He is an enthusiastic republican and a hard worker in behalf of his party's interest.



RAILROAD SERVICE in any capacity is arduous and trying on the nerves, and for this reason there are fewer old men, it matters not whether it be that of section hand or president of a road, engaged in railroading than any other line of business. Some positions are more difficult and exacting than others. But the ordinary position of telegraph operator requires about as much strenuousness to fill successfully as any within our knowledge. Yet it is one most eagerly sought after by the rising generation; but who can wonder at the young man or woman seeking such a position? They become fascinated with this mysterious little instrument with its constant and apparently meaningless clicks, and gaze with admiration upon the operator who reads with ease the ticks of the sounder and then begins to manipulate his key with an air of carelessness and superiority. So it is

not strange that when our young friend, Mr. Jacob M. Baston, began to look around for a life avocation that he should seek telegraphy: he desired to become a railroad operator, for the many advantages it would offer as a stepping stone for something better. He soon acquired a thorough knowledge of telegraphy and had no trouble in securing a position. It is true that the salary was something less than of the president of the road which he represented, but notwithstanding this little discrepancy in salary, he was diligent, painstaking, accurate and studious. So, after two years of arduous duty he has not only mastered telegraphy, but has acquired a general knowledge of railroad work, especially office work. He is perfectly familiar and competent to perform all the duties of a local agent, or to satisfactorily fill a clerical position in any of the general offices.

Mr. Baston was born in Huey, Illinois, August 16, 1881, and received his education in this state. He is a consistent and valued member of the Methodist church, also a member of the M. W. A.

Mr. Baston is a young man highly esteemed by the business men of Nokomis. Socially, he is a favorite with all and is recognized as a model young man. He is highly appreciated by his superiors for his reliability and trustworthiness.

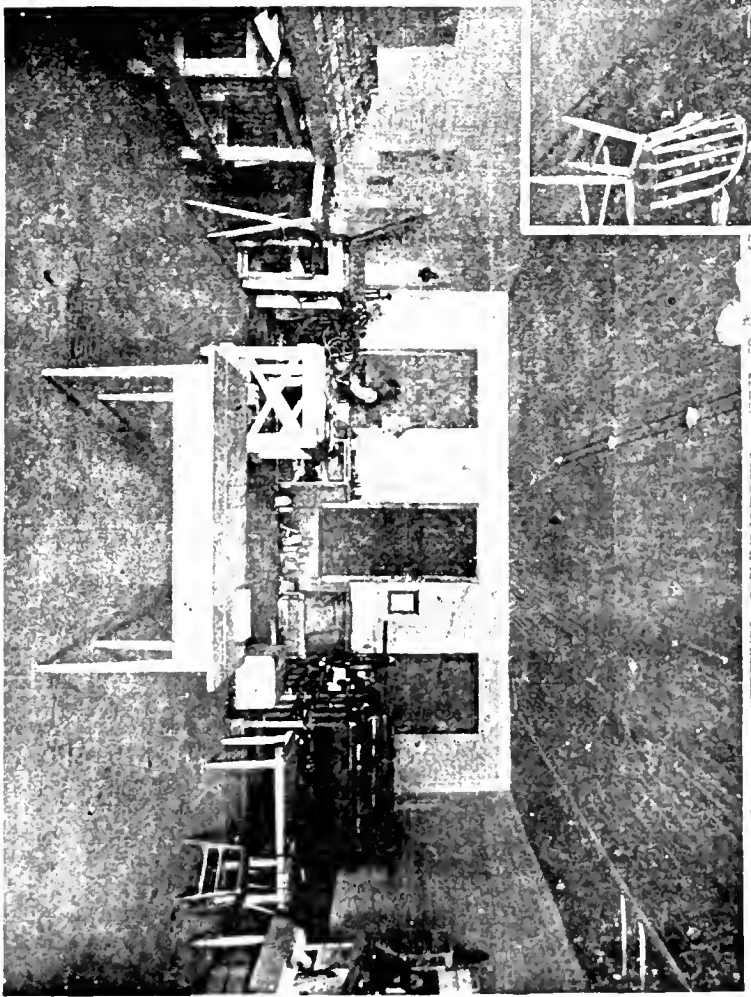
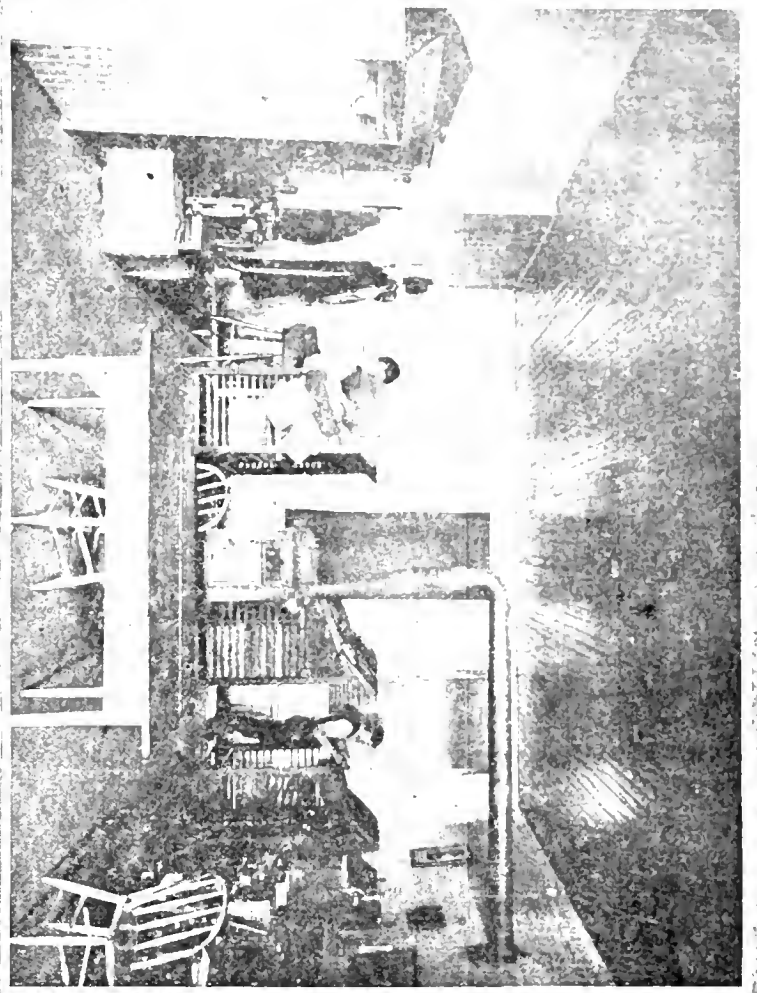


JACOB M. BASTON.



QUONE OF THE MOST POPULAR RESORTS for those who frequent refreshment parlors is the saloon of Mr. O. Brakenhoff, located two doors east of the Nokomis bank. You will find this gentleman far above the average man in like calling. His place is conducted in the most business

O. Brakenhoff, Refreshment Parlors. like and respectable manner—a place of quiet, retirement and safety, a place where only first-class goods are sold, a place where poisonous decoctions are neither sold nor given away, a place without fighting whiskey, a place that caters only to the best trade, a place where the bar, bar fixtures, beer pump and ice chest are of the most modern make. So it is not astonishing that he has by far the largest percentage of the best trade. He carries a large stock of both foreign and domestic wines, both sour



COMPOSING ROOM.

BUSINESS OFFICE.

W. P. HAGTHROP AND FAMILY.

PRESS ROOM.

and sweet. His liquors—bourbon, rye, brandies, gin and keummel—all of the highest grades and most popular brands.



OLTMANN BRAKENHOFF.

His cigars, domestic and imported, are considered the height of perfection, and his place considered headquarters for smokers. Only the choicest brands are kept in stock.

When in the city don't forget to call on Mr. Brakenhoff.



OCTAVE THANET SAYS: "What would America be without brag?" but with greater truth it can be said "What would America be without the press," and more especially the country press; for is it not in a large measure through their efforts that this vast productive country has been peopled. If the press

**W. P. Hagthrop,
Editor and Publisher.**

are not the builders are they not the promoters? Has it not been through the efforts of the press that the vast domain of the West was looked upon as no better than a great desert and which now blossoms as the rose.

But we will leave the field for a few minutes as we desire to refer more particular to the gentleman whose name you have read at the head of this article. W. P. Hagthrop, while not an old man in years, is old in newspaper work. He is editor and proprietor of the Nokomis Progress, published in this city.

The plant while not extensive, yet it is a well fitted up country printing office, having a Campbell cylinder press, upon which four five-column pages are printed at once, an 8x12 Gordon job press, one 16-inch paper cutter, five good fonts of large wood type for poster work, over eighty fonts of advertising and job type, and about 300 pounds of body type with sorts. With paper stock for all kinds of commercial and job work, a large number of stock cuts,

Mr. Hagthrop started as an apprentice on the Santa Ana, (Cal.) Daily Blade in 1886, then he went with the Santa Ana Weekly Standard for two years. He then went to San Francisco where he was with the Bancroft History company and the Wasp. From 1891 to 1893 he was with the San Bernardino, (Cal.) Daily Courier. In the spring of 1893 he came east and in 1894 worked in the different offices in Litchfield, Ill., for about a year. In 1895 he leased the Greenfield Blade, which proved a total failure financially. On February 19, 1897, he purchased the Nokomis Progress plant from F. M. Bolt, of Ramsey, Ill., and a month later took into partnership F. C. Buck, of Litchfield, who added a first-class jobbing plant. Later on they added a cylinder press as well as a quantity of new type and other material. In March, 1902, Mr. Hagthrop purchased his partner's interest and has since conducted the business in his own interest. The paper is independent Democratic in politics. When Mr. Hagthrop first took charge of the Progress its general affairs were in very poor condition but by fair and impartial treatment of his patrons, good work and business methods, he has put it on a good paying basis, while each year adds new business and new friends.

It is now eight and one-half years since he started in business for himself, six and one-half years of that time has been put in at Nokomis, where he appears to have made few enemies and a host of friends.

William P. Hagthrop was born in San Francisco, California, April 20, 1869, and educated in his native state. He was married in Indianapolis, Indiana, June 6, 1899, to Miss Hattie M. Morse, of Santa Ana, California. They are now blessed with three lovely little children, two sons and one



W. P. HAGTHROP.

daughter. Mr. Hagthrop is a member of the Presbyterian church, also a member of the I. O. O. F., K. of P., U. of H., M. P. L., and M. A. P. O.



HARRY C. MILLER, A. B.

HARRY CRAWFORD MILLER was born in Westernport, Md., April 29, 1870. The first ten years of his life were spent in Westernport and in Keyser, West Virginia. In 1880 he moved, with his parents, to Effingham, county, Ill., where he lived for several years on a small

Harry C. Miller, farm. Mr. Miller's parents finally moved from the farm to the city of Effingham in order to give the children better school advantages; and in 1889 Mr. Miller graduated from the Effingham high school, as valedictorian of his class. The following winter he taught a district school, and in the fall of 1890 he entered St. Joseph college at Teutopolis, Illinois. He afterwards entered Austin college, from which institution he graduated in 1893. Within a few weeks after graduating from college Mr. Miller was elected Principal of the Effingham high school. He was re-elected to this position, but before the time for accepting, he was offered the superintendency of the Kimmunity, (Ill.) schools, a much better position, which he accepted. Mr. Miller served the good people of Kimmunity as superintendent of their schools for three years, and was unanimously offered the place for another year; but he had planned to spend this year in college, consequently he did not remain the fourth year. While Mr. Miller was at the head of the Kimmunity schools he was married to Miss Florence, daughter of Hon. J. P. Condo, of Moccasin, Ill. Three little daughters have come to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Miller, all of whom are living: Alta, Agnes and Vinita. After taking further work in college already mentioned, Mr. Miller became Principal of the Shelbyville, (Ill.) high school. From this place he came to Nokomis as superintendent of schools, and he is now entering upon his fourth year. He has had considerable experience as an institute instructor, and holds a high grade of both the five year and life state certificates. He is a member of the post-

graduate school of the University of Illinois, and has done nearly all the work required for the master's degree.

Mr. Miller is a member of the Methodist church, and belongs to the M. W. A., Nokomis Lodge No. 456, A. F. & A. M., and also to Pana Chapter R. A. M.



THERE ARE in all avenues of trade some business which bears the stamp of the enterprise of the management, and which through a period of success attains meritorious celebrity that identifies them so closely that to hear the mention of the one is to hear the echo of its fellow.

Edward W. Lehman,
Grocer.

Not that a firm's enterprise alone makes a reputation, but it helps to draw attention to the general excellence of their stock.

The trading public are ever ready to encourage enterprise and to lend support to the man who will cater for them for trade in a satisfactory manner by providing standard goods and selling them at the most reasonable prices. This is the policy pursued by Mr. Edward Lehman.

By the means of a fresh stock of staple and fancy groceries of standard brands, low prices, and prompt and courteous attention he has succeeded in attracting a most flattering trade. Everything in the store has been selected with a careful regard for quality and purity. The utmost courtesy is shown everybody at this establishment, and the variety of goods is so great that the most fastidious can sure be suited, and at a reasonable price. Prompt delivery is one of the main features of this business. It ever aims to suit and that it has done so is eloquently proven by the number of their customers. Nobody ever leaves the store disappointed. You get your money's worth, full weight, full measure and goods as represented.

The proprietor of this establishment, Mr. Edward W.



EDWARD W. LEHMAN.

Lehman, was born at Altamont, Illinois, on April 24, 1877, and received his education in his native state. He was married to Miss Pauline L. Tschiche, November 2, 1897, at Ohlman, Illinois. To this union have been born two children, one boy and one girl. Mr. Lehman is an active member of the German church, and the Court of Honor. Mr. Lehman has proven himself to be an exemplary business man and citizen, strictly honest, a man who does not fear or hesitate to do what he believes is right, kind and generous hearted, and looks well to the comfort of those around him. As a business man he is liberal, public spirited and successful. These commendable traits of character permit him to count his friends by the legion.



THE WORLD ADVANCES and times change. The new century looks back on the old and is pleased with the improvement, but the future offers still greater changes. There are a great many business men who watch the product of the world and by offering the best to their

Alfred D. Kerr, customers, are enabled to do their proportion for the improvement education and upbuilding of their community. Such men find it a pleasure and an easy matter to keep to the front of this great march of progress. Among this class we are pleased to mention Mr. Alfred D. Kerr, saddle and harness manufacturer of this city. He has made this a life business; for more than twenty-two years he has devoted every week, every day, except the Sabbath, to this particular branch of business. He has always borne the reputation of carrying the largest and most complete stock of saddles, harness and horseman's equipment ever carried in Nokomis. Double or single harness, he has them, from the most plain farm to the handsomest and most elegant buggy



MAJ. D. B. CASTEEL, THE NEW EDITOR

and carriage harness. Saddles, no end of them, any style. Bridles, fifty styles to select from; collars by the hundreds for horses or mules; harness, by the wagon load as to harness; axle grease, etc., every brand and an abundance of it. Ladies side saddles a specialty, horse blankets, lap robes of the finest material, fine buggy rugs and rubber blankets, collar pads, fly nets, etc. It is not necessary, neither does space admit of our further advertising this stock. Suffice it to say that all you want is here. He keeps a competent corps of men to fill orders and make repairs all of which is done without delay or loss of time to the farmer. The building which Mr. Kerr occupies is his property, he uses the first floor for his store, while the second floor is used by the Nokomis Progress office.

Mr. Kerr was born in Hamilton, Ohio, September 27, 1851. Came with his parents when a child to Illinois and was here educated. He married Miss Lucinda Sales of this city in 1873. They have three children, two sons and one daughter. The eldest son, Charles H. is secretary of the Spannagel Hardware and Furniture Company. George is in the employ of the American Express Company at Chicago, where he has been the past eleven years. Mr. Alfred Kerr is one of the old aldermen of the city, he was on the council in 1891, when the water and electric ordinances as ordinances were passed. Mr. Kerr is one of the prominent and stalwart Republicans of Montgomery county, yet that does not effect in the least his standing among the Democrats, as a citizen and merchant, his outspoken loyalty to his party really makes him business man, friendly and polite to all with whom he comes in contact, and city honor.



ALFRED D. KERR.

able and truthful in all business transactions, makes him a fair and respected by all who know him.



GEORGE NOTERMAN.

MR. GEORGE NOTERMAN was born in Hillsboro, Ill. June 30, 1877, and educated in this state. He is a graduate of the Hillsboro high school and of the colleges herein after mentioned. He was married to Miss Myrtle Brown, a beautiful and accomplished young lady of Hillsboro, Illinois, January 28, 1903. He is the son of Mr. Frederick Noterman, of Hillsboro, Illinois, who emigrated from

Waynes, Germany, in 1855, first locating at Carlinville, Illinois, in the same year; afterwards moving to Hillsboro, where he established his present business, that of jeweler and watchmaker in 1857, and it was there that the subject of our sketch was born. The father is no doubt the pioneer jeweler of southern Illinois. Our subject began his apprenticeship under his father at the age of eleven years. Mr. Noterman is successor to the oldest jewelry, watch repairing and optical house in the city which was established thirty-four years ago by Mr. George Sippell, who sold the business to Mr. Noterman, who carries a large stock of watches of superior make, among these are the Elgin, Waltham, Hampden and others. In gold filled cases he has the Boss, Crescent, Duher, Wadsworth and Crown. Everyone needs and should have a watch, and as a gift we know of no more useful nor a more constant reminder of the donor than a good watch. As to clocks, he can show you as nice a line of ebonized parlor and alarm clocks as can be found in the county. A large and complete line of gold rings, all of which was bought of

the leading manufacturers of America. These rings are all bought and sold by weight so you get exactly what you pay for. His set rings are made by equally as reliable houses and set with all the popular stones. In sterling silver such as tea spoons, coffee spoons and brushes, in plated goods you will find everything in knives, forks and spoons of the 1847 Rogers Brothers', also the best triple plated and solid silver goods in all the popular and fancy prices. For richness and elegance there is nothing superior to his stock in this section.

Mr. Noterman is an excellent watch repairer and practical jeweler. Long years of experience has given him the deftness and delicacy of touch peculiar and necessary to members of the craft. He does not experiment with a watch, he can diagnose what is the matter with it just as rapidly as a skilled physician can differentiate a certain type of fever. The class of work that he does is equal in every respect to that turned out by the highest priced jeweler. Many of our people who used to go to the city for jewelry now save themselves the expense and trouble for they find what they want at Mr. Noterman's, or if not in stock it can be obtained on short notice. Courteous treatment has been one of the elements contributing to his success. He has made hosts of friends by his constant efforts to please his patrons, and he bids fair to still farther enlarge his clientele. He is also an engraver of considerable skill, having attended the Bradley Polytechnic School of Peoria and afterwards working in Pekin, Illinois, the noted engraver, Henry Zuckwiler, being his preceptor. Like all good jewelers of now a days Mr. Noterman is an expert optician, being a graduate of the Northern Illinois College of Ophthalmology and Otology class 1901. He tests your eyes free of charge, and is prepared and competent to properly fit you with glasses after you are examined. Mr. George Noterman is well known to every individual in Nokomis and vicinity for his correct and honest method of doing business, for his social and genial disposition. He is progressive and public spirited and knows the value of printer's ink.



THE GERMAN METHODIST CHURCH AS REMODELED.

EVERY COMMUNITY has among its citizens a few men of recognized influence and ability, who by their systematic and thorough method of work attain to a success which is justly deserved. That a lifetime in the pursuit of one's calling will result in substantial success, especially if perseverance and energy are applied, is found to be true in the case of Mr.

William N. Grimes,
Stock Breeder.

William N. Grimes, who from childhood has given the occupation of agriculture and stock raising the principal part of his attention. He is now a resident of Rosemond township, Christian county, where he was born and reared a thorough farmer and one of the most scientific stock-raisers of thoroughbred Herefords and graded cattle, and hog breeders of central Illinois.

Barely, if ever, is a breeding establishment founded along the line pursued by William N. Grimes, of Ohlman, Illinois. In selecting breeding stock for his herd of Herefords from the very outset and in the initial purchase for the herd, quality was the first consideration, so that when the animal was found that met his requirements as to sire or breeding matron should be, it was simply bought regardless of cost. Mr. Grimes has purchased more high priced Herefords than any other man in his neighborhood the last year. Mr. Grimes fully realizing the importance of exhibitions of live stock at the leading shows, it is the intention of the proprietor of Maplewood to exhibit a herd at most of the county fairs this year. The herd will make a strong showing and good enough to win Maplewood a good share of ribbons. It will be headed by Columbus, sired by the great Beau Donald 3rd and his dam, a full sister to the mighty Dale, the greatest show and breeding bull in the world. Columbus is much like his half brother, Disturber,



WILLIAM N. GRIMES.

which was the champion bull calf in Mr. Adam's show herd last season. There is little to criticize in the make-up of this promising bull. His head and horns are good, his front well nigh sensational, of low blocky type, well padded back



MAPLEWOOD FARM, RESIDENCE OF WM. N. GRIMES NORTHEAST OF NOKOMIS.



ORPHEUS 2D REGISTER NO. 105903.

and depth of flank, all indicating that he will grow into something that will in time be hard to get around. This was considered by J. C. Adams, of Woodland Farm, as the choice bull of his herd and was purchased by Mr. Grimes for \$1500. Mr. Adams would have exhibited this bull at the state fairs had he not have been sold to Mr. Grimes. Victress, an extra good aged cow, will be found in this herd. She is a daughter of the \$10,000 Dale and will make a good showing this season. The following is the kind, with their pedigree of stock to be found on Maplewood Farm:

1.	COLUMBUS	(Bull)	No.	143783
	Sire	Beau Donald 3d	"	86140
	Dam	Columbia 2d	"	86594
	ORPHEUS 2D	(Bull)	"	105203
	Sire	Orpheus	"	71100
	Dam	Luminous	"	76027
	LUMINOUS	(Cow)	"	76027
	Sire	Post Orbit	"	75080
	Dam	Lustre	"	76842
7.	VIVIAN	(Cow)	"	149475
	Sire	Wallace	"	119244
	Dam	Victress	"	102634
2.	VICTRESS	(Cow)	"	102634
	Sire	Dale	"	66481
	Dam	Bethel	"	66287
6.	NORDICA	(Cow)	"	140213
	Sire	Earl of Homestead 2d	"	93063
	Dam	Lady Belle	"	69280
4.	JULIA	(Cow)	"	79484
	Sire	Granger	"	59032
	Dam	Fairy	"	54514

3.	JOAN	(Cow)	"	132712
	Sire	Duncan	"	77682
	Dam	Floreuce	"	35736
5.	ADELAIDE	(Cow)	"	83024
	Sire	Columbus	"	44570
	Dam	Poppy A	"	57922

Mr. Grimes attended the big sale of thoroughbred Herefords of Mr. George H. Adams, at Linwood, Kansas, July 28 and 29, 1903. The Breeder's Gazette in reporting this big sale says that among the liberal buyers of top cattle was W. N. Grimes, of Ohlman, Illinois. He secured the imported cow, Luminous, by Post Orbit, which was the highest priced cow sold at that sale, also her son, Orpheus 2d. Luminous was selected in England by John Stewart for C. S. Cross, as the very best Hereford yearling heifer in Britain, having taken the premium at the Royal Exhibition of England the same year. She won first prize at Kansas City Royal in her yearling form. Thus Mr. Stewart's good opinion of her has been borne out.

Mr. Grimes has thoroughbred Hereford for sale at all times. Visitors given a cordial welcome. Correspondence solicited.

Mr. Grimes was born in Christian county, near Ohlman, Illinois, on the old homestead, where he now resides, December 12, 1872. Educated in the common schools of his native state. Married Miss Rosa L. Mateer, of Rosemond township, December 5, 1901. Born November 23d, 1875, within sight of Maplewood Farm, she being the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Mateer. Miss Mateer after finishing her education taught school until her mother's health failed, when it became necessary for her to return home, where she resided with her parents until her marriage to Mr. Grimes. She was and is now the model lady of the community, kind, gentle and charitable to all.



LUMINOUS, REGISTERED NO. 76027.

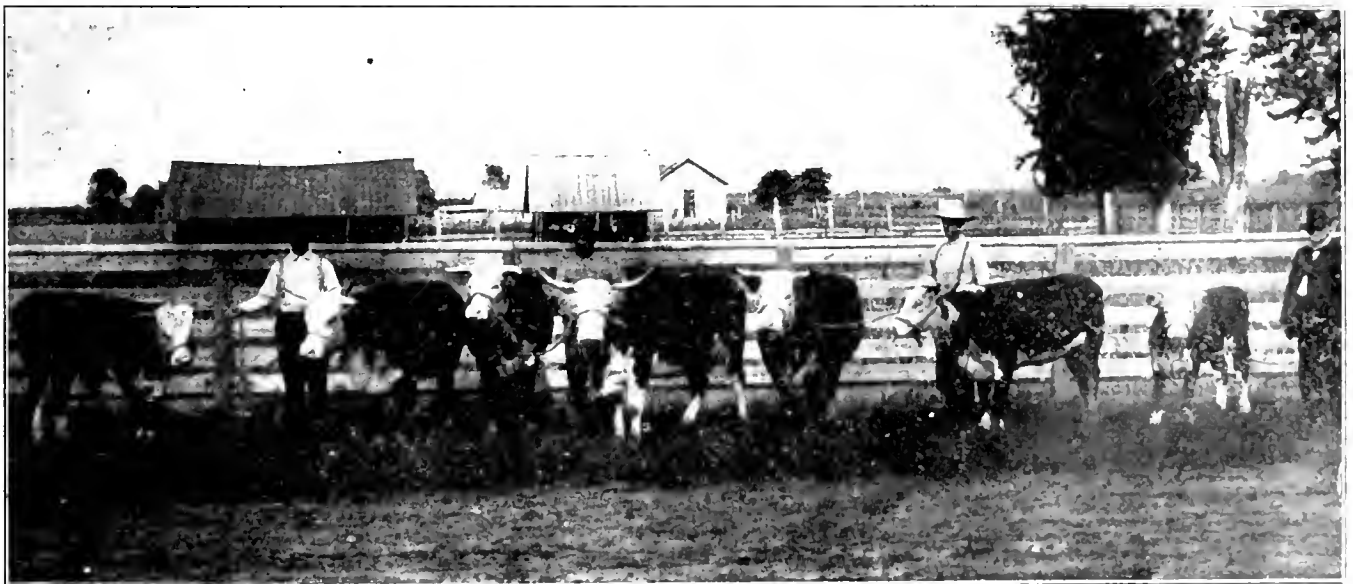
Mr. Grimes is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, also of the A. F. & A. M. and the K. of P.

Mr. Grimes owns the old homestead which consists of three hundred and sixty acres of Illinois' most rich and productive soil, also three hundred and sixty acres near the old homestead place equally as fertile. It is known through Central Illinois as Maplewood Farm, deriving its name from the numerous giant maples with their wide spreading boughs, which adorn one of the most beautiful and well-kept lawns in this part of the state. While setting well back from one of the main thoroughfares of the county, it

is a beautiful, old style, two-story frame building, well-kept, always looking in good condition, one of the happiest homes in the state.

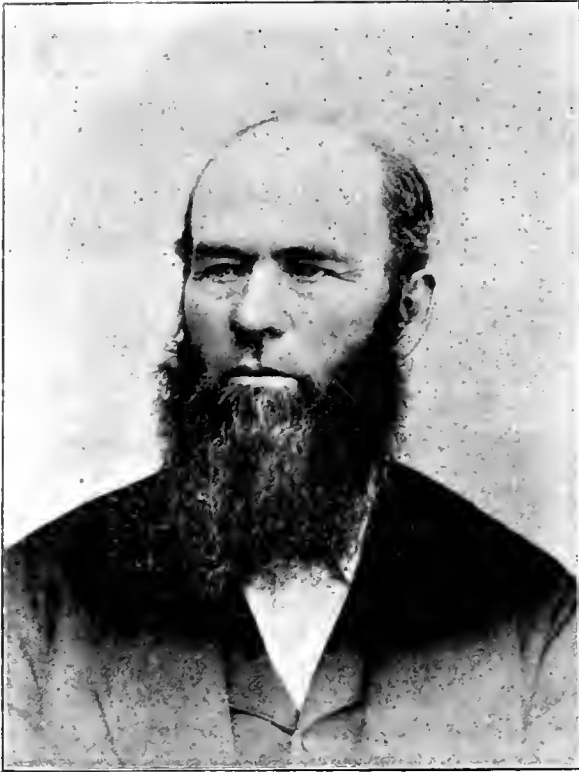
He is one of the prominent men of the county, and in every walk of life has conducted himself with honor and renown. His business is highly remunerative and he enjoys the enviable reputation of a neighbor and friend of a farmer and stock raiser far above the average.

Scrupulously accurate in every statement and in every action or position, governed by the nicest sense of gentlemanly honor. Such is Mr. William N. Grimes.



SEVEN AMONG THE CHOICE HEREFORDS OF THE MAPLEWOOD FARM.

Reading from left to right:-- 1, Columbus (143783). 2, Viatrix (10234) 3, Joan (132712) 4, Julia (79184) 5, A. L. 6, Nordica (140213) 7, Vivian (14979)



E. S. EASTERDAY.

E. S. EASTERDAY was born in New Somerset, Ohio, and when a young man came to Illinois with his parents, and settled on a farm near Nokomis. He was married to Miss Sarah E. Pyle, who died a few years ago. They had five children, Edgar, Jessie, Walter, Mabel and Karl. Jessie died when a young woman. Walter married Miss Lulu Graden, and the others are still at home. In religion he is a Protestant, in politics a Prohibition, by occupation a carpenter. The residences of A. J. Williford, Fred Law, G. H. Spannagel, W. H. Shannon and H. H. Woolston are some of the houses built by him and his son. He lives at the south end of Maple street, where he has a small greenhouse for the purpose of growing early vegetable plants, for which he has a large and increasing demand.

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==== Opposite the Nokomis National Bank.

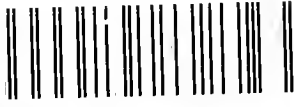
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