

## EARLY HISTORY OF BLOOMER

Elder N. L. Otis Recounts Reminiscences of the Township Elections and Officials Chosen and Who Are Entitled to Much Credit

After the election of Vine Luce in '82 another new man for supervisor was tried in '83 in the person of T.J. Cooper. Nor was he the only new township officer elected that year. Elder P.K. Shutter was entrusted with the tax roll, and made an excellent officer, while O.R. Goodno was selected as justice, J.H. Fowler as highway commissioner and Will Shutter as school inspector.

In '84 the majority went back to their former supervisor, C.R. Dickinson, and elected him with a large majority. Elder Shutter the democratic treasurer was re-elected by a majority nearly as large while the clerk and highway commissioner remained the same.

In '85 there were other changes--Fred Ladue was elected treasurer, L.C. Ostrander, justice, and J.W. Hallett school inspector. The clerk and highway commissioner remained the same, while the supervisor seemed to be a fixture. In the spring election of '86 several important changes were made as follows: Frank Hornbeck was created justice, Geo. Broesamle highway commissioner, Jacob Boyer drain commissioner and Degolyer Straight school inspector. Messrs. Hornbeck and Boyer were on the democratic ticket.

In '87 while the supervisor and clerk remained the same O.R. Goodno was constituted treasurer, Sam'l J. Smith justice, E. R. Banton highway commissioner and L.W. Murray school inspector, showing an inclination on the part of the people to try some new men. At the annual election of '88 no changes were made to speak of excepting that Asa Martin was re-elected justice and G.M. Barney school inspector.

In '89 a new treasurer was elected in the person of Will Shutter and a new justice, Henry J. Wilcox by name. The supervisor

and clerk remained as fixtures. The treasurer and justice were on the democratic ticket and both were elected by rousing majorities, showing that the parties were nearly balanced.

With 1890 came a change in the office of supervisor. A.R. Isham was then for the first and last time appointed by the people to that position. The clerk and treasurer remained the same but the highway commissioner was a new man in the person of Newton E. Blackmer, James P. Graham was elected justice, Chester E. Chandler drain commissioner and Geo. W. Felch and Wm. S. Fulton were on the board of review and E.W. Johnson was elected school inspector. At the spring election of '91 C.R. Dickinson was again taken as supervisor, J.P. Taylor remained as clerk, O.R. Goodno was elected treasurer, Sam'l J. Smith justice and Geo. A. Thayer was on the board of review. At the election of '92 the supervisor, clerk and treasurer remained the same and Geo. Broesanle was made highway commissioner, C.E. Chandler drain commissioner, Asa Martin justice and Geo. A. Thayer and T.J. Cooper members of the board of review.

This carries as through the fourth decade in the history of our fair township. We have seen the voting population advance from twenty to over three hundred and the improvement and value of real estate multiply many times. The growth of the township has been steady and healthy. No mushroom growth or sudden boom has ever been experienced, but our progress has been great notwithstanding.

N. L. Otis.