



**A HISTORY  
OF  
CRYSTAL TOWNSHIP**

*IN THE CRYSTAL VALLEY*

*All thru this ever lovely vale  
The crystal waters flow  
While kindly hills guard silently  
The fertile fields below.*

*Two centuries have seen the change  
From red man to the white  
From tented dwellings primitive  
To mansions chaste and bright.*

*From birth to death the people pass  
Some bad and others good  
And yet united solidly  
In nation's brotherhood.*

*The bird songs lift me from my bed  
To view the winged band  
How beautiful, how bountiful  
This ever blessed land.*

*Coral Noble Bont*

SPECIAL THANKS FOR HELP WITH THIS BOOKLET  
GO TO KEITH CLOUD FOR MANY PICTURES, AND  
TO MAISIE WHITAKER, HAZEL MACKSAM AND  
CORAL BONT.

COVER PICTURE: The oldest house in  
the Township. J. H. Gay built this soon  
after he came in 1861. Now owned by  
Mark Kriegers.

## A HISTORY OF CRYSTAL TOWNSHIP

Our county had existed for ages as part of the red man's domain. Formal organization of Oceana County took place in 1855. It was so named by early settlers who were reminded of the ocean by Lake Michigan. It was settled mostly for its pine timber. Later hundreds of saw mills resulted in the destruction of those forests. In 1840 there were 496 people in Oceana; 1860, 1,816; 1880, 11,699; 1910, 18,739; and in 1970 there were 17,984. School census in 1880 was 167 and presently is 4,702. The 1875 valuation was \$1,795,802 and is \$102,808,826 now. In 1872 there were 24 post offices and it reached to 45 later.

Crystal Township was included in Pentwater Township which was organized in 1855. That same year the Federal Government and 54 Indian Chiefs signed a treaty by which the Indians gave up their lands near Grand Rapids and Ionia for new lands and \$540,000 in money and goods. The Indians agreed to select a Reservation. They chose a region 24 miles north to south and 6 miles wide. This is now the townships of Crystal and Elbridge in Oceana and Eden and Custer in Mason County. The Indians had chosen well. They could paddle their canoes to Pentwater and trade their maple sugar and furs with the traders. The Reservation was beautiful forest land with a growth of immense trees, pine, beech and maple. It was free from underbrush and had a profusion of flowers and foliage. It was far from the white man, and the Indians hoped to have many years before the encroachment of palefaces.

One section was taken out of each (township?) and sold as school lands. The rest after 10 years was subject to homestead entry and could be taken up by whites as well as Indians.

So in 1857 some 750 Indians were transported to Pentwater. In 1858 some 550 more came. They came on the Ottawa, a side wheeler owned in Grand Haven, and on the Charles Mears, a large propeller owned by Mr. Mears. The Indians were in awe of the sand dunes and some camped for a time and romped in the sand. Eventually they got up here to the Reservation. An interpreter, Seth Robinson, came with them. Some Indians came earlier. Anna Pawneshing's grandfather, John Buckobanow, came in 1855. Charles J. Seaman was born here in 1856. His parents arrived in 1855 also.

The Indians lived in bark wigwams and tents and later in log houses. There were numerous herds of red or fallow deer and they were a source of food for the Indians. Bear skin and bear meat were also used. There were beaver, martin, coon, mink, muskrat, otter, fisher and other trap game. There were choice fish, edible birds, wild duck and pigeon. There were wild berries. The soil was easily tilled and produced abundantly to the simple cultivation of squaws and old men. In little clearings, potatoes and corn were grown. Great quantities of maple sugar were made each spring and large amounts were traded. Some Indians peeled bark for Charles Mears. Later some worked in the logging and lumbering. Their speech was in the original languages but most could speak enough English for ordinary conversation with the white man. The State prohibited, under severe penalty, the sale of whiskey to the Indian.

The first log house with a ridge roof here was built around 1858 by Ottawa Chief Shaw-be-co-ung. The second was built by Hervey Sayles in 1860 on the same lot. These were on land later called Gay's farm.

The teachers, interpreter and blacksmiths were first appointed by the Democrats. So the

Indians here generally voted that party until 1860. Hervey Sayles, a trader whose wife was a teacher in the Indian schools, was here about six months that year before he moved to Elbridge. Due to his popularity, all twenty-eight votes that year were Republican.

The Government had agreed to build Indian school houses and to supply competent teachers. They also agreed to supply a blacksmith and to build him a shop and give him tools and a salary of \$600 annually. This all lasted six years until funds ran out and the blacksmith and teachers had to shift for themselves. The three schools on the Reservation were the first school buildings in the county. Before that, in the fall of 1859, school was held in a bark shanty here. It was taught by James Selcreg, who died the following year. Then the log building was built sometime before 1860. It was just east of the village on the D.P. Kelly place. There is a marker there. This school was taught by David K. Foster, a half breed Ottawa Indian, for at least four years. He was here until 1869 or so.

Sometime before 1860 a blacksmith shop was built on the west side of Main Street, just south of Mill Street. There is a marker here also. In July of 1861 Jared Henry Gay was sent here to blacksmith. He was born in New York in 1830 and at age eleven he moved to Ohio with his parents. He learned wagon making and also worked at sawmilling. In Muskegon he erected and ran the Gay Mill until 1857. He then bought a blacksmith shop and learned the trade at his own expense. And at the same time, he farmed. He piloted the first steamer ever run up the Muskegon. Gay and his family moved into the paymaster's one room log house, north of the shop. Later he built the log house now owned by M. Kriegers and moved into it. He was the first permanent white settler. The settlement was then called Gaytown.

Weare Township was organized in 1861 and it included Crystal and Colfax.

The Indians met once a year to be paid their annuity by the paymaster sent by the Government. This annuity varied from year to year. One time it was as low as \$4.25 and another as high as \$25.75, but mostly it averaged between \$12 and \$15. This usually lasted a couple weeks and was often mortgaged in advance. These were great events for the Indian and a greater one for the white settler. In 1861, November 25 was the day set apart. Honorable W.C. Leach, Indian agent, and his assistant, a Mr. Smith, came to Pentwater the week previous with the necessary funds. His appearance occasioned great activity in all quarters of the county. Six or seven wagons were loaded with merchandise and the procession, headed by the paymaster, started out from Pentwater for the Reservation. It resembled a great caravan. There was J. Godfrey and Julius Houseman from Grand Rapids, J. Morton from Ionia and about every business of Oceana County. There were also some who went out of curiosity or in hopes of getting some of the red man's money.

Gays were the only white settlers here until the fall of 1863, when Dr. James J. Kittridge and his family came. The Doctor was born in Massachusetts in 1816 from a long line of eminent physicians. His father, grandfather, and tracing back as far as was known, were doctors. He first practiced near his birthplace but became restless from building on the reputations of his ancestors. He came west and here gained the reputation of a leading counseling physician. He was often called to counsel twenty miles from home. At one time he covered fourteen townships. He and a partner manufactured patent medicine for a time. The long, continuous strain was more than he could endure. His health failed after a successful practice in Massachusetts, Ohio (fourteen years), Indiana, and Michigan. He moved to Crystal, where there was only one white family for seven miles, to retire from medicine. But it was to no avail, as the settlers and Indians were urgent for his services. The demands of suffering people were too much for the kind-hearted Doctor. He again doctored and many a life

was saved by his efforts. However, he never allowed a ride of more than a few miles. He settled on his farm in Section Sixteen, just east of the village, in 1864. This is the Ken Clouds' place now. The Doctor's log house is gone. The Kittridge's had a wellhouse over the creek to keep milk cool in.

During the Civil War in 1863, there was great excitement here when the Government tried to pay the Indians with greenbacks. Nearly 1200 Indians remained in Crystal for three or four weeks. During this time, Gay butchered five fat oxen, one cow and a heifer. Besides this, the Indians ate sixteen barrels of pork. All this was cooked by Mrs. Gay overseeing five cooks. John Bean, Jr., who was a teacher in the Indian schools, sent in eighteen barrels of cider (at 80¢ a barrel) to help drown their grief and they took the greenbacks.

George Lammon, born in 1827, came to the wilds of Crystal in 1864. He landed in Pentwater with \$3.00 in his pocket. The prices were high at 25¢ a pound for pork and \$14 a barrel for flour. He bought nothing except provisions for his family. However, after working steadily all year for Gay blacksmithing, by spring he was in debt \$27. He later homesteaded on 160 acres in Section 8.

DeWitt Gay, born to J.H. Gays in August of 1864, was the first white child born in Crystal. (He was first cousin to Art Gay and they married sisters). Charles Willett and his brother-in-law, Albert O. Aldrich, came in 1863. See Elmwood.

In the winter of 1865, J.H. Gay wanted to organize a new township. He made an effort to have it set off from Weare. There not being enough legal voters, he contracted the Government to deed lands in Section Ten to George Lammon, Charles Willett and A.O. Aldrich. Residents of Elbridge and Weare objected to the plan of a new township. Mr. Gay hired Charles Deane, a popular Pentwater lawyer, and won the case. Deane was the first resident attorney in the county. He was a good walker and a good talker. Mrs. Gay chose the name Crystal for the crystal streams. In July of 1865, Crystal was ordered organized, taking from Weare what is now Crystal and Colfax. The first township meeting was held in April, 1866, in the Government blacksmith shop. First supervisor was the good Dr. Kittridge; first clerk, David K. Foster, the Indian teacher; first treasurer, J.H. Gay. There were few white voters, voters being mostly Indians. Women could not vote, of course.

Henry Myers and Henry Cole (Min Beadle's father) came together from Ohio in the fall of 1865. Each settled on forty acres of school land in section sixteen. The first white death was a son of Henry Cole the same year.

William Murch and his son-in-law, Marion Huff, homesteaded in Section Seven in 1866.

Frank Kittridge and A.O. Aldrich were the first young men here. There was quite a rivalry to see who would be favored by the young ladies.

Mr. Gay brought his mother with him as a member of his family. The Kittridge girls relieved their mother of many of the household tasks. Because of their leisure time, these two women became fast friends and visited each other often. One day they sat down to rest on a log by what is now the cemetery corner. Mrs. Gay said, "That's a beautiful hillside up there. When I die I would like to be buried there." It happened that Mrs. Gay was the first death in the new township. The town board had to select and purchase a plot for a cemetery. Mrs. Kittridge told them of the conversation and a decision was made to buy the hillside. Later, when the state asked for all cemeteries to be given names, ours was named Mt. Ulyssa for Mrs. Kittridge. But through the years someone has mistakenly registered the name as Mt. Ulysses.

George Crouch and E.F. Avery settled here in 1866. Avery was the only photographer who had a professional studio in Crystal Valley, complete with skylight. This was on the south side of Mill Street. Daniel P. Kelly and Peter Cole were also early settlers. Almost all the early settlers moved into the hospitable home of Jared Gay and began by working for him in the woods or in the mill.

David K. Foster gathered statistics showing the enterprisement of the Indians on the Reservation from July, 1866, to July, 1867.

Raised:	825 bu. wheat	Have:	131 ponies
	150 bu. buckwheat		54 cattle
	7,738 bu. corn		160 swine
	11,931 bu. potatoes	Made:	16,000 pounds maple sugar
	37 bu. turnips	Built:	10 bark wigwams
	1,482 bu. oats		126 log houses
			2 frame houses
Value of land sold - \$3,220			
Deaths: 10			

The first term of school for the white children was taught in the fall of 1867 in Dr. Kittridge's kitchen by Frances Murch (Mrs. Huff). "Then a log school was built on southeast corner Moody farm but said farm at that time was owned by Henry Cole," quoted from Mrs. T.T. Jones's story. Mrs. Hattie Hickok taught the first term in the new building.

Many strong and sturdy men came to make homes for their families. The white man's ax could be heard felling the trees. Some would be sawed into lumber and others burned in order to till the soil. The hardships were many. Few could afford a team of oxen. They changed off work with each other to log and to clear the land. First homes were log and barns were log, too. Farmers would drive their stock to the creek for water. There were no laid roads.

In 1868, Colfax separated from Crystal and became a new township. Michael Frishett settled here in 1869. He operated the first sawmill. Around this time, settlers were having trouble with bears raiding their pigs.

Hattie Crouch and Alvah Hickok could be the first marriage. Or would it be Edwin Rich and Kittie Fray who were married in the summer of 1869.

The first record of an election, aside from the first one, was at a special meeting at school district number one, Section Three, on June 7, 1869. It was caused by the resignation of all the township officers except Dr. Kittridge. The results were: Clerk, Ed Avery; Treasurer, H. Cole; Justices of Peace, David Foster, Peter Cole and Frank Kittridge; Constables, Wilson Cole, Alva Hickok, I. Chatfield and Hiram Gay. Thirty-one voters were present.

The Indians received patents from the Government for individual tracts. Most of them received theirs on October 22, 1870. Very few retained them. From the Hart Journal Centennial issue of March 20, 1969, "On April 11 (1872) Editor Palmiter advised all interested that 'good bargains were yet to be made' in the purchase of rich farmlands from the Indians. While the easy pickings (of 25¢ to \$1.00 per acre) were past, there was land still to be had 'for as little as \$2.50 an acre that could be resold for \$10 or more.' The still primitive Indian had no comprehension what-

ever of the meaning of land ownership. Land to him, had always been just a part of the universe, like the wind and the sky. If the white man would give him money for putting his 'X' on a piece of paper, that seemed like a good deal, for he had learned that money could be traded for things at the white man's store"---"That was where the Indian Reservation went in Oceana County." It was reported that one 80 acre tract was bought with a bottle of whiskey. There is a 20 acre tract in Section 3 that has remained in the family continuously since Reservation days. It is now owned by Ralph Seaman.

John Bean and J.H. Gay built the first sawmill, a small shingle mill, in 1871. The sawmill and blacksmith shop burned around 1874. A larger saw and shingle mill was built on the site by Sands and Maxwell who had an interest in the former mill. It was a steam mill with upright saw and patent edger. It had a shingle capacity of 1,000,000 feet of lumber monthly and 250,000 shingles monthly. Robert Hyde was manager from 1877 to 1882. Sands and Maxwell added a general store. All the men who worked in and about the mill had to take due bills for pay. They could only be used at their store. It was sometimes hard to get postage money.

Timothy T. Jones was born in Ohio in 1841. He served 4 years in the Civil War. He came to Crystal in the fall of 1872 and engaged in farming. He was a prominent G.A.R. man, being Past Commander of the Crystal Valley Post. He was supervisor 5 or more years.

I'm not sure when Henry Cogill came but he was supervisor in 1874 and was for 10 years, not consecutively.

The township was platted in 1875. Alex Amily settled here that year taking up land under the Homestead Law. He was born in Canada in 1834 and came to Detroit in 1853 and to Pentwater in 1857. While there he had assisted in building the Government school houses. He had a wood working, wagon and blacksmith shop where Bill Smith now lives.

Irving C. Harwood came in 1876. He was employed by Sands and Maxwell in their general store. For a number of years he had full charge of it. Clark A. Noble, born in 1839 in New York also came in 1876. He had come to Pentwater in 1867 and was engaged in bookkeeping, clerking, etc. After 1875 he was a scaler several years. He was township clerk and was for several years postmaster of Crystal Valley. He died from the grippe in 1890 and Mrs. Noble became Postmistress. She held the office for 2 years until she moved away. (She moved back later).

Lumber shanties and lumber camps were springing up in our township. See map. These little mill towns were mostly doing work for the big lumber companies. Logs were hauled to the mills. Ox teams were used especially for skidding logs in the woods. Log booming was used on the North Branch starting in 1862.

In 1882, J.H. Gay was wealthy and erecting the finest house in town. (South of the village on the hill). He had a 'splendid' farm and a large quantity of pine trees. Phineas B. Harwood, born in Cass County in 1847, came this year. He was engaged in log scaling and mill and lumber business for Sands and Maxwell. In 1888, he lost his left hand running an edger. He was later supervisor, clerk, highway commissioner and was elected County Treasurer in 1896.

John W. Perkins was born in 1847 in New York. He enlisted at age 16 and was mustered out in 1865. That winter he came to Lapeer County and worked for a lumberman for 12 years. He came here as a minister in 1885. See Church History. He stayed on, bought land, farmed

and engaged in fruit culture. He had 1000 plum, apple, pear, and peach trees. In 1892, he bought the Sands and Maxwell store.

The village had a population of 200 in 1890. It had a M.E. Church, Odd Fellows Hall, general store, saw mill, hotel, wagon shop, harness shop, shoe shop, etc.

In 1894, F.O. Gardner of Pentwater owned the village saw mill and a store. In the same year Joe Frishett had a saw mill where Melvin Greiners live. Charles W. Brown built an attractive and 'commodious' store here this year. He was postmaster in Crystal Valley also, probably starting about this time.

O. T. Fisher, born in England in 1845, came to New York in 1856. He came to Leavitt in 1888 and had a saw mill there. In 1894 he moved his mill to Crystal Section 35 where he had one of the best paying mills in the township.

Chas. Brown died in 1900. In 1901 Geo. Brown's wife of 3 months died. She was 19 and was buried in her wedding dress. Dr. Kittridge died in 1904 at 88. Ulyssa died in 1905 at 89 years of age. They are all buried in our cemetery that was named for Ulyssa.

1909 - Ralph Aldrich was the youngest treasurer in the state at 21 years of age (township).

1937 - The new Crystal Valley Park was dedicated. It was constructed by the W.P.A. An 8 acre lake was formed by the construction of a concrete dam. The Government provided \$6,000 and the County \$2,400. Ira Fuller, chairman of the Road Commission, was instrumental in getting the park and the dam. Three years before, a similar plan was tried but a cloudburst in late spring washed it out as there was no spillway to relieve the strain of the water.

1939 - Electricity was brought here.

1945 - Oil was discovered here. Killed in the war were Russell Boundy, Ray Walters, Jesse and Gus Pawneshing.

1946 - Oil was struck on Section 16.

1949 - Blacktop was extended from Weare to Crystal Valley.

1951 - Gas well struck on Cloud farm.

1952 - Russell Kubon and Bernard Priebe houses burned. Heretofore the township had no fire fighting equipment.

1955 - Henry VanDenHeuvel lost barn, equipment and 34 head of cattle by fire. Charles J. Seaman died at age 99. He was of the Potawatomie Tribe. He was a carpenter and also worked a number of years in lumbering. In his youth he lost a leg in an accident in the woods. He whittled himself a wooden leg. He was deaf and so couldn't talk, but he could communicate very well as he was adept at pantomime.

1956 - Crystal gets a new oil well 2 miles Northwest of village in Section 7.

In its early history Crystal Township was the lumberman's pride but was soon ravaged by the voracious mills. Later it developed as an agricultural area. At present corn, wheat, rye, oats, pickles, string beans, hay are grown. There are over 1,000 acres of asparagus. There are some fruit trees. There are dairy and beef cattle.

In 1870 the township population was 181; 1880, 561; 1890, 750; 1900, 665; and 1970 was 452. The valuation in 1876 was \$68,088. In 1970 it was \$930,000 and presently it is \$2,567,700. Present Township officers are Supervisor, Gerald Greiner; Treasurer, Howard Terryn; Clerk, Phyllis



Greiner; Trustees, Joe Oomen and Bill Smith. The Fire Department was organized in 1954 with Bill Smith as the first chief. He retired in 1974 after serving 21 years as chief, assistant chief and fireman. Present chief is Jack White.

James Corsant became the first postmaster in Crystal Valley on July 14, 1871. To this time all mail came to Pentwater and was brought in tri-weekly with the ox team supply wagon or sleigh if weather permitted. In 1906 (and sometime before) the Maple Grove area was on Route 2, Pentwater and the Cleveland was on Route 2, Hart. Crystal Valley and Peachville got mail at their own post offices.

It was largely due to J.W. Perkins and other Crystal men that new telephone lines were built giving connections to Walkerville, Hesperia, Ferry and Hart around 1895. The local switchboard was first in Perkins' Store, then in Mrs. Fuller's home, where Clutes were later. D.W. Cummins was foreman on the line out of Hart.

A Baptist Church was built around 1897 (across from where Mike Ruggles now lives).

The Farmers Exchange Bank of Crystal opened in 1914 in the right front corner of Brown's Store. Cashier-Manager was William Wever. He was born here in 1882 and went to school at Ferris in Big Rapids. He ran the bank until 1935 when all depositors were paid and the bank closed.

See Peachville about the railroad. Also a grade was made across the township around 1910 for the Grand Rapids Northwestern but was never used.

The I.O.O.F. was organized in 1887 and in 1890 there were 33 members. The Society of Grangers was established in 1874 through the efforts of Dr. Kittridge. In 1882 there were 30 members. Other groups were the Rebeccahs, Maccabees and M.W.A. (Woodmen).

Some Early Settlers not mentioned elsewhere and the approximate year they came. S is section.

1868 - Ed Tate and parents

1871 - Moses Gerard

1872 - Chas. Runion, E. N. Briggs

1873 - Wilson Cole, S 20

1874 - H. C. Lockwood

1876 - Wm. Poe, S 17

1877 - Henry Zager, S 22; Ira Fuller, S 31; Fred Bowers, S 29; M.O. Fisher

1878 - Ernest Whiting, S 22; B.D. Clute, Jay Whitaker

1879 - Geo. Vine, S 23; \_\_\_\_\_Marvin, D.W. Cummins, Alva Darling

1880 - Hiram Wever, David Beadle

1881 - Stephen Manley, James Gay, brother to Jared

1882 - John & Dave Allen, S 18

1884 - Cliff Miller, S 23; Fred Cotton, S 34; Leon Cole, S 29

1886 - Chas. Demorest, S 29; Geo. Unger, Wm. Hughes

1887 - Chas. Hipley, S 31

1888 - David Amstutz, S 23 (In 1913 his estate owned 640 acres here).

1890 - E. Davis, Albert Jones

1892 - Josiah Ruggles, S 7

- 1895 - D. R. & John Yapple, Orrie Rowley, J. H. & E. Beach  
 1896 - Frank Ames  
 1898 - A. A. (Elias) Greiner, S 30  
 1902 - James Kenfield (Highway Commissioner several years).  
 1904 - W. H. Bays, Jay Walker, S 22; M. Enos Jensen, S 34; Delmar Cloud, S 22; S. Cloud, S 31.  
 1905 - Jeff Van Bergen, S 29  
 1906 - Frank VanDenHeuvel, John Oomen  
 1908 - John Kokx  
 1909 - J. S. Rockwell, S 29; Harvey Bickle, John Fishley, S 21; Nelson Crook, S 21; M. Jensen, S 34;  
 M. Davis, S 17.  
 1911 - Henry Oomen  
 1912 - Orson Smith, S 15  
 1913 - Percy Sawdy, John Terryn, John VanDenHeuvel, Evert Hill, Frank Schick, S 20.  
 1914 - Henry Hullinger, Henry Walters, S 27.  
 1915 - John Braspenning, S 28

SOME BUSINESSES not mentioned elsewhere

- |  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Steadman Shoe Repair   | Brewster House Hotel             |
| Ice House  | H. Gay & Son Feed Mill 1896      |
| Craig Watchmaker & Jeweler   | Ottie Green paper, The Blade, 5¢ |
| Ja. Benedict Shoe Repair   | Ion Wever Grocery                |
| Gas, Claude Clute  | John Manley Blacksmith Shop      |
| Grocery Truck, H. Jones  | Lynn Beadles' Restaurant         |
| Barber Shop  | Mustard's Farm Implements        |
| Pickle Stations by Rafleson, Mat. Kokx, Andrew Sauser & Bill Smith   |                                  |
| Garage by Otis Wever, Jay Whitaker, Hap Smith & Bill Smith (Big)   |                                  |
| Tavern by R. Hullinger, Priebe, Armock, Ramthun, Steemen   |                                  |
| I.O.O.F. Store by Gover, E. Jensen, M.Y. Miller, Melvin Miller, Neilsen, Hissong, Morgan, Wm. Smith & Paul Frishett (closed 1963). |                                  |
| Hindman's Store (was Brown's), closed 1951 or so   |                                  |
| Mustards & Oomen Scorpion  |                                  |

PRESENT BUSINESSES:

- |                               |                                    |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Gaye's Snack Bar, Macksams    | Ken's Place Garage, Purdy          |
| Crystal Valley Tavern, Kalman | Crystal Valley Beauty Shop, Eunice |
| Gerry's Boutique, Bectel      |                                    |

TAKEN FROM THE ACCOUNT BOOK of JOHN W. PERKINS 1892

- |                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 7½ lbs. pork, 75¢   | 3 lb. box crackers, 25¢ |
| 1 gal. vinegar, 18¢ | potatoes, 25¢ a bu.     |
| suspenders, 25¢     | soap, 5¢                |
| shoes, \$1.65       | barrel of salt, \$1.10  |
| dress, 18¢          | 1 lb. coffee, 25¢       |

E. Whiting bought 4 doz. and 5 eggs at 11¢, total, 49¢  
L. C. Brewster went in debt for 2 lbs. butter at 20¢ a lb. & 10¢ worth of cod fish and 1 gal. oil at 13¢  
David Unger bought a 50 lb. bag of flour for \$1.40  
Frank Whitker bought apricots at 3 lb. for 38¢  
Perry Amstutz bought a new hat for \$2.00  
Homer Gay spent \$1.64 and got 8 milk pans, 1 garden rake, a hoe and 3 pkg. seeds

### *THE BROWNE FARM*

Samuel A. Browne (or Brown) settled in Pentwater in 1869 from Chicago, having bought in connection with W.B. Phillips of Chicago, the lumber interests of Richmond and Bean. In 1873 S. A. Browne owned 5,200 acres in Crystal Township. In 1874 Browne and Phillips organized the Pentwater Lumber Company. Capital stock, \$375,000. In a short time they gave business a great boost by extending field operations from the nearby plains to the immense pine forests up the North Branch of the Pentwater River, containing 2,000,000,000 feet of choicest pine. The river was made navigable for logs by a system of 4 dams (called booming). To show the value of lands thus opened up, in 1881 P.L. Co. sold Butters and Peters 3800 acres of pine lands for \$204,000. They still owned 12,000 acres in Oceana and Mason Counties. Some quarter sections in Crystal Township sold as high as \$20,000. By 1913 Butter Salt & Lumber Co. still owned 2,120 acres here. There were 4,646 acres then owned by W.B. Phillips. Skidmore Land Co. owned this land in the 1920's. In January 1937 the land was sold to the U.S. Government for \$14,461. (there was a small amount in Colfax included in it).

### *OLD SETTLEMENTS*

**ELMWOOD** Charles Willett, born in 1826, came here elsewhere in 1863, moved his family to this eastern area in 1873. The settlement formed around the Willett-Aldrich lumber and shingle mill built in Section 23. The mill operated until 1880 when it was accidentally blown up. Albert O. Aldrich, born in Ohio in 1864, first came to the township in 1863. Then he enlisted, served until 1865, returned to Pentwater and worked in the mills and woods until 1872. He returned here then and entered the milling business with Willett. When the mill was gone, he located on his farm in Section 22. He also had 200 acres in Sections 15 and 16.

**BEANVILLE** or **BEANTOWN** was a saw mill, a store and a few houses for the mill men. It was founded in 1878 by John Bean, Jr. who built a steam mill in Section 32. The mill had one upright saw cutting about 10,000 feet a day and a shingle capacity of 40,000 A No. 1 shingles a day. Bean sold the saw mill, shingle mill and the store to Nickerson and Collister of Pentwater in 1880. W. N. Sayles was manager in 1882. Alonzo Iron, storekeeper at Beanville, disappeared June 3, 1881. It was one of the great mysteries of the county.

**WOODBURN** was 3 miles north of Crystal Valley in Section 5 on the Pentwater River. This settlement formed around the saw mill and general store of the Pentwater Lumber Co. Charles W. Brown came here in 1878 as bookkeeper at Old Browne Camp for the Company. He was born

in England in 1846, came at age one with his parents to Wisconsin, and came to Pentwater in 1868 and clerked in a hotel and store. The camp was afterward called Woodburn and the post office was moved to the Pentwater River site in 1882. Charles went with it as he had been postmaster since 1880. The office operated until 1899. In 1910 the mail went to Crystal Valley. Quote from Myrtle Miller, "From the year 1891 to 1894 my father, Nelson Frishett, had the mail route from Woodburn to Pentwater, making the 24 miles every day except Sunday. He only made 2 stops and that was at Crystal Valley and Smith Corners.... There were only 2 houses in Woodburn at that time. Years before it was a lumbering camp.... We lived in one of the houses and Browns in the other." By then Mr. Brown had gone into business for himself and had a store with the post office in it. He was supervisor from 1890 to 1893. He moved to Crystal Valley in 1894.

PEACHVILLE. Charles S. Sidler became the first postmaster here May 20, 1895. It was so named because it was a fruit growing region. It was on the Mason-Oceana Railroad which ran between Buttersville south of Ludington to Walkerville. It ran daily except Sunday. Old South Branch Camp was located here. There was a store and a boarding house. The 1895 Atlas shows 10 buildings. The post office closed in 1917.

### SCHOOLS

The earliest school records in the county office start in 1906. Most early schools were of logs and replaced later by frame. Teachers had to stoke big round oak stoves with wood, some of it green at that. Boys worked on the farm and only went to school in the winter. So some were still going at 18 and 19.

CAMP (Brown Farm) District No. 1 was there in June 1869 as a town meeting was held there then. This school was in Section 3. In 1906 there were 5 Shaconabys, 2 Seaman and 2 Chadwicks enrolled. Ed Harwood taught 4 months for \$140. In 1917 Mertie Birdsall taught 3 months and school was closed as all pupils had moved away. The building is no longer there.

MAPLE GROVE District No. 2 had 31 pupils in 1906. Florence Whiting taught 5 months and Bernice Keen, 3. (Emma Gerard Allen went there to a log school in the 1870's with hand hewn desks). Directors in 1906 were John Allen, Wm. Poe and Moses Gerard. School closed mid 1950's.

CRYSTAL VALLEY District No. 3. The previous frame building was on the same site and burned around 1895. In 1906 there were 58 pupils. Gertie Blade taught 9 months for \$345 total. Directors were B.D. Clute, W. Beech and P.H. Fuller. Elmwood and Maple Grove pupils were bused here when their schools closed. A panel truck was used to bus high school students to Hart in 1940's.

ELMWOOD District No. 4 was built in 1876 by Aldrich and Willett and named for it's location. In 1906 there were 47 pupils. Florence Llovell and then G. Walker were teachers. Directors were W. Stafford, Geo. Vine and C.B. Barker. School closed in 1945.

CLEVELAND District No. 5. Josiah Cleveland, born in New York in 1840, moved his wagon and blacksmith business from Pentwater to his farm in Section 32 in 1882. This is where J. Birkmans live. The present school was built in 1886. The first one was log. In 1906 there were 71 pupils. Siffie Cedarquist taught 8 months for \$300. Directors were M.O. Fisher, Claude Jones and Nelson Crook. School closed 1963.

KELLY District No. 6 was named for Daniel P. Kelly who first settled elsewhere in the township. He moved here and built the house and barn where John Oomens live. He built the Kelly school and also the Cleveland. Lease was given for the land for Kelly school in 1881 and it sounds as if the building was already there. In 1906 there were 25 pupils. Sophie Southwich, Neva Currie and Mable Hulett were teachers, consecutively. Directors were D.P. Kelly, Harvey Bickle and John Willett.

PEACHVILLE District No. 7 was in Section 24. The pupils went to Elmwood until Peachville school was built in 1912. That year there were 39 pupils. Nellie Shirtum taught 7 months. Directors were R.D. Robbins, C.G. Wright and Albert Boelke. School closed in mid 1940's and the district annexed to Walkerville. The building was moved to Walkerville and is still there.

From a newspaper story written in 1905, "Thirty Years Ago"

The school known as Elmwood started about this time. The board consisted of A.O. Aldrich, Chas. Willett and T.T. Jones. The school had 20 pupils. The building was a small board structure afterwards used as a woodhouse. It was built in dense forests where huge trees had been fallen in a space just enough to set the building. One day a terrific wind storm arose and the director became alarmed and ordered school dismissed and all to hasten home as soon as possible. The next day trees were found fallen in every direction and the men of the district held a bee and cut out all the timber standing near enough to the school to reach it in case of falling, which meant quite a tract as at that time the timber was virgin forest and the trees were of tremendous size and height. Course of study included bookkeeping, Civil Government, analysis, U.S. History, orthography and advance arithmetic....A Sunday school was soon organized in the school house, also a reading circle. It may not be amiss in closing this reminiscence to state that 3 years later a very neat frame school house was erected. At that time, S.A. Browne owned a large tract of timberland in the vicinity, and the first time the children saw him they took off their hats, and very respectfully gave him 3 cheers for the new school house, towards the erection of which he had contributed very largely.

From the PENTWATER NEWS 1894

1-11: Come hurry up before those nice smoking sets and dolls & vases are all gone at Perkins. Baking powder is only 20¢ a can. We are hoping mill will start up soon. 1-26: Business will seem more lively now they began work on the mill. A. W. Brown talks of leaving Woodburn. 2-2: Box Social by Paul Jones at Elmwood Feb. 6 for benefit of school. Ed Tate giving Grand Masquerade 22th. Hard Times Dance I.O.O.F. Hall, dance bill 50¢, supper at Brewster House. 2-23: Logs continue to come in despite poor sleighing for past 2 weeks. Sands & Maxwell have a good many logs to be sawed here. 3-9: F.O. Gardner has finished his logs and is now sawing Sands & Maxwells'. 16,000 is daily average. F.O. Gardner Store place to buy your groceries, dry goods & fancy articles. 3-23: C. W. Brown was over inspecting ground where he is to build his store. Warm sugar Social in old Comstock house 2 mi. west of H. Gay's Blacksmith Shop. 3-30: Paul J. has a safety & cornet. C. W. has cellar dug. 4-6: C. W. began stone wall. Republicans carried township election, 60 straight Republican votes. 4-27: We are sorry to learn that a certain young lady had to walk home through the mud a few nites ago. 5-25: C.W. will have one of finest buildings. All interested in July 4 meet town hall June 4. Hope to have Pentwater Band. 7-13: A.J. Andrus Circus in town. 7-27: Dr. Blanchard of Weare attending N. Smith's boy. 8-3: C.W. moves

into his new store this week. Bortels & Kittridges had to watch their buildings the day of the fire behind the big barn. 8-10: Crystal is surrounded with fires. 10-12: Crystal seems to be infested with sneak thieves. Some miscreant entered Ed Perkin's house and stole 20 qts. canned fruit and some groceries. 10-19: Deer hunting will soon begin. 12-21: Gardner has repaired the mill and getting everything in readiness.

#### PENTWATER NEWS 1896

1-10: The lumber is disappearing toward Pentwater again. 1-17: Cleveland entertainment coming. Adults 10¢ & children 5¢. 1-14: Logs still keep coming in at this mill. Improve the time while the sleighing lasts. 1-31: Our teacher, Will Greiner, finds his walk of nearly 5 miles each nite & morning very pleasant. It gives him a good appetite. 2-7: Need more snow. The next time a load of young people go to an entertainment, don't go to Beantown as was reported about the load which attended Cleveland School. Strange how people will talk when they have no foundation to start from. 2-28: We understand Crystal is to have a new Baptist Church. D.B. Gardner used the last snow to good advantage, hustling in logs. 3-6: Social for benefit of school took in \$4.20. Used \$4 for shades and 20¢ for a feather duster. Maple syrup 80¢ a gal. 3-27: Mill shut down til warmer weather. 4-14: J. H. Gay received 124 head of cattle from Chicago and will put them on the Browne Farm. 5-1: About 1 more week will wind up the stock of logs here. 5-15: Take your bodyguard with you if you go out after dark. You are liable to get a licking. Many farmers ready to plant corn and some have. Cut worms seem to be quite numerous this spring. Ed Gay returned from Manistee minus 2 fingers. Worked as spile driver, was standing on raft of logs and lost balance. Put out hand to keep from falling, just in time for a 700 lb. hammer to fall on it. Manistee butchers come around to pick up stock farmers have to sell. 6-5: Rye is main hay crop this summer. 6-9: Allen Poe recovering from injuries received peeling bark. L.C. Beadle returned from Grand Rapids says he guesses he'll peel bark a while yet. 7-17: Frishett & Perkins started out with threshing machine last week. 7-24: Joe Frishett lost his mill by fire, fire catching from sawdust pile. 8-28: About 250 attended Republican Rally in town hall. 9-11: Gay sold cattle to parties at Fremont. W.B. Phillips of Chicago visiting Gay and also looking after his interests in Browne Farm. 10-2: Scarlet Fever raging near Fisher camp. 10-30: Baptist ladies dinner election day 15¢. 11-6: There exists in our town a crowd of hoodlums who cannot think of anything else but to disturb meetings and do damage other ways. People pleased with election, Phineas Harwood as county treasurer. 12-4: Mrs. Hamil thrown from wagon. Dr. Kittridge stayed with her 36 hours. 12-11: Mrs. R. Hughes broke wrist trying to get into wagon and slipped. 12-25: Another light fall of which makes lumbermen happy. Mill has changed hands and will be ready to run in spring.

#### PENTWATER NEWS 1899

1-: The mill is still running. C.W. Brown is about to quit selling tobacco and cigars. 4-28: The mill will soon be done sawing lumber. Butters & Peters lumber is fast disappearing from here. Milo Gay rides in a new top carriage. 5-5: The mill has shut down. 6-23: The Baptist bell is up for good this time. 7-4: Rained but cleared off in pm., good crowd, good martial music, good speech, bicycle races. 8-4: Geo. Perkins & Florence Emerick have typhoid fever. 10-27: While driving team attached to load of potatoes, Claude Clute was caught between a stump and the wagon and his foot was badly injured.

## PENTWATER NEWS 1902

1-3: H. Lockwood is putting on a good deal of style with his new Portland Cutter. 1-1: Guy Nobles gone north for the winter. Geo. Brown had phone put in his store. Alvin Perkins rides a new Portland cutter. 80 ladies of M.E. met at Mrs. J. Perkins New Years Day for dinner. 1-17: Rebecca's will have oyster supper. Chicken Pie Social at town hall. Woodmen & Royal Neighbors had an oyster supper. 1-31: Mrs. A.O. Aldrich has a new Portland cutter. A blizzard on Mon. Dr. Spinney will be at Brewster House. Mr. Jensen will be here taking pictures. 2-7: M.O. Fisher children getting along nicely with scarlet fever. Crusaders started meetings at Baptist Church. Maccabees & wives went to Pentwater. M.W.A. (Woodmen) will have a shoe social. 2-28: Dr. Quackenbush of Pentwater will be at hotel to do dental work. Dance Fri. nite was almost a failure as nearly all the young are now walking in the straight & narrow. 4-11: M.E. Aid served dinner and supper to large crowd town meeting day. Made \$8. 4-18: Chas. Demorest, wife, 2 children, Chas. Cogill, Mrs. Ed Willett & 6 children left for Washington. Mr. & Mrs. H. Cogill will join them in Chicago. Ed Willett is already there. 4-25: Dr. Kittridge had slight stroke. Dr. Cramer treating Beadle's little boy ill with typhoid fever. 5-9: Chas. Phillips arrived with men to work on his farm. They are hustlers. Mrs. Wm. Hughes was riding on stone boat when horse ran away and threw her off. 6-16: Miss Ina Aldrich is helping Geo. Brown in the store and post office. Miss Etta Burdick died of Measles. 6-6: Wind storm did quite a bit of damage. 6-13: Work began on parsonage. Mrs. D.W. Cummins ill, Dr. Allen attending. 6-20: L.C. Brewster died of neuralgia of heart, had suffered greatly past year. 7-4: Dr. Robinson & Son of Hesperia were here and expect to move here July 10. He comes well recommended. 7-8: A number are making plans to go to Camp Houk to camp out. 8-8: T.T. Jones of Soldier's Home Milwaukee visiting here. 8-22: Born to Jim Kenfield's a 12 lb. boy. 9-5: Oattie Green went to Pentwater to work in canning factory. A.O. Aldrich building fine residence on his farm. 9-26: At caucus, J.H. Bortel, P. Fuller and D.P. Kelly elected delegates to County convention. Silas Colton died of typhoid fever. Grandpa Whiting visiting from Soldier's Home. 10-31: J.H. Gay family and Prouty, Whelply & Perkins families started for Washington. Frank Whitaker building stone wall under J. Kenfield's house. Kenfield is kept busy putting down wells. 12-5: James Gay is kept busy butchering hogs for people. M.E. parsonage nearly completed and another minister expected after holidays.

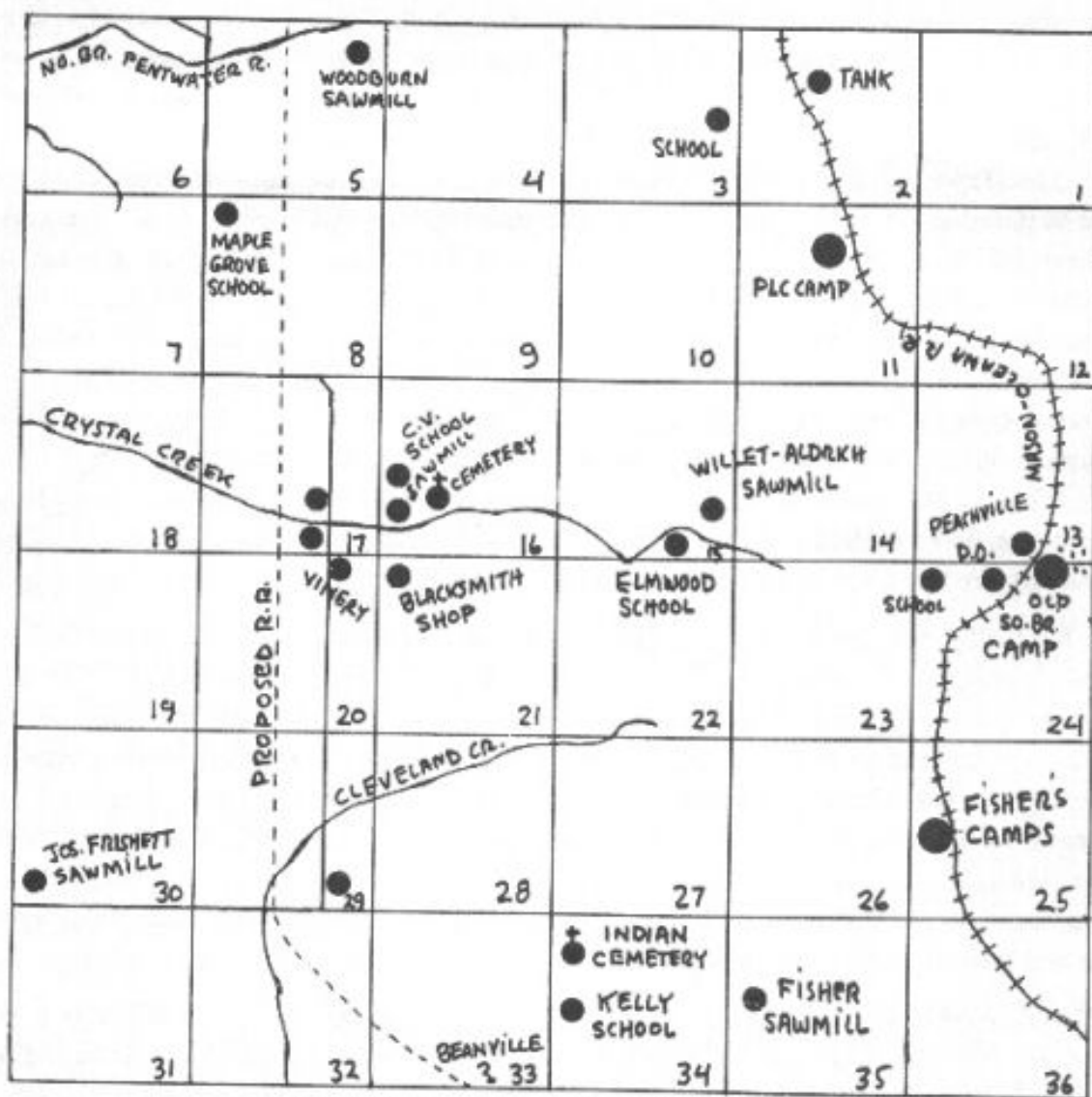
From MYRTLE MILLER: My grandfather, Michael Frishett moved to Crystal and built the first sawmill located on the creek bank right back of Marvel Wever's present home. He sawed the lumber for the John Bean shingle mill...I do not know when the town hall was built, but I recall being there to a funeral when I was only 3 (1884). It was the only building in the community to have gatherings such as church, funerals, meetings, dances, socials, medicine shows and when the school burned we finished the term in the hall. That was the year 1895. They voted there even as they do now.

Myrtle born here May 28, 1881 is the oldest living person who was born in Crystal Township. She is living in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

DAVID BEADLE was born here in 1887. He remembers the C.V. sawmill had a tramway across the road. Pile after pile of logs were everywhere there and by the blacksmith shop. Logs were hauled in all winter by sleigh. He started school at Elmwood as his mother was cook at the boarding house in Peachville for 2 years. He now lives in Custer.

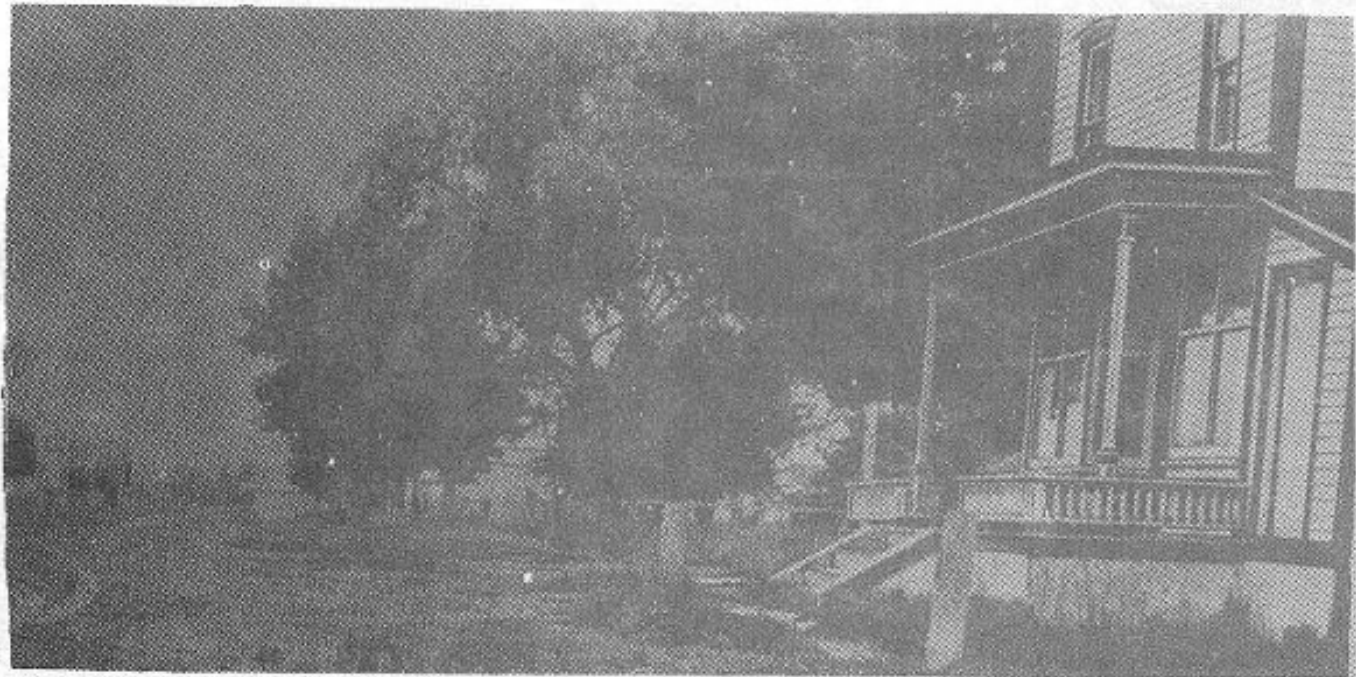
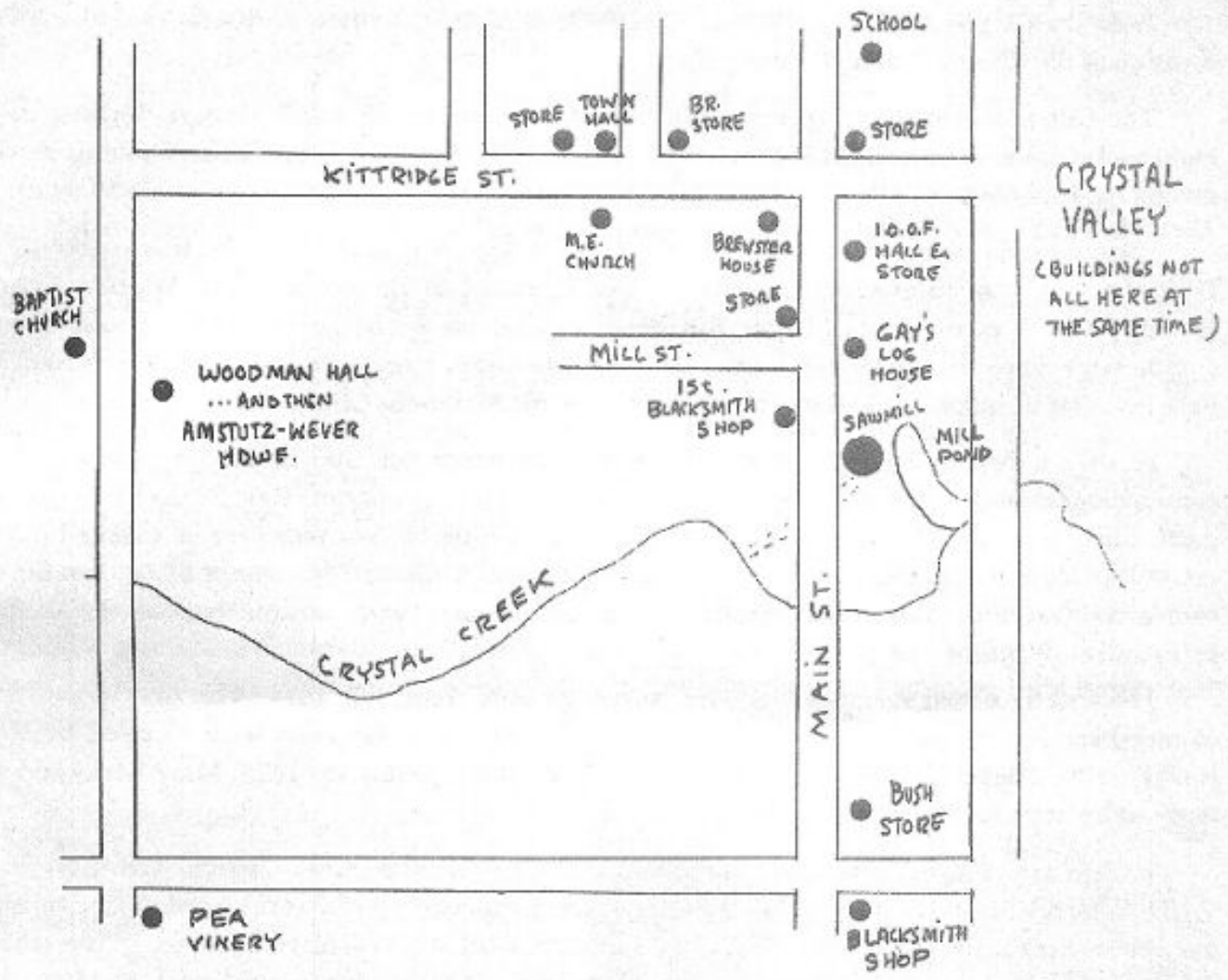
ANNA PAWNESHING living at White Ledge Nursing Home had lived on the original tract given her grandfather. Some notes from a newspaper story. "Each Indian was given a tract of land as a homestead but with coming of lumber era, most tribesmen sold their valuable virgin pine covered homesteads for a mere pittance....North Branch was flooded with logs each spring and the big drive to the Pentwater mills began with the first melting of snow. Main occupation of Indians (then) was lumbering." Anna is great niece of famed Chief Cobmoosa. She recalls "dense wilderness and the red man in his happy hunting grounds."

LUCY WEVER was born here in August 1883. Her father, D.W. Cummins, had come on ahead of the family and was building a house. His wife came from Three Rivers by ox cart. 3 children took turns riding and walking. They brought a few clothes, a dresser, a box of chickens and a cow tied on behind. The house did not have a roof yet. The Indian who was helping on the house got his wife. She came over and took Mrs. Cummins to her place over the foot bridge and Lucy was born there. She is living on Route No. 1, Scottville.



CRYSTAL TOWNSHIP





KITTRIDGE STREET 1908 & FORMER PERKINS STORE

From the CRYSTAL VALLEY M.E. CHURCH HISTORY written by Maisie Whitaker on the occasion of the Church's Centennial in 1974.

The first recorded religious services in the valley were held by the Rev. A.A. Darling in the log schoolhouse sometime in 1868. Previous to this there are reports of a Rev. Powers holding services among the Indians.

Formal organization of the church took place on Sept. 24, 1874 when the first pastor, Rev. D.W. Parsons, was assigned to the parish which consisted of Riverton, Indian Mission, Leavitt, Elbridge and Weare. Crystal Valley has been a point on a charge of the Methodist Church continuously since that time. Sometimes two and sometimes more points were on the charge. We have held fast through many changes in the history of the Methodist Church.

Services were first held in the school, later in the town hall and in 1885 a substantial and commodious church was built while the Rev. John W. Perkins was pastor. Rev. Perkins was sent here particularly because of his success in church building. During his first year here he solicited means, erected, paid for in full and dedicated the Crystal Valley M.E. Church at a cost of \$1,000. At the end of his two years as pastor he decided to stay in the area and became one of the county's successful early business men.

The first recorded member was Mrs. Susan Parsons, Sept. 25, 1874. The first in-gathering of members was the following summer when W.H. and Eliza Summers were received by letter June 1, 1875. They were followed by George and Nancy Crouch July 18, 1875. Mary Lockwood was received by letter.

The first board of trustees appointed in 1875 consisted of Geo. Crouch, Jeff Loveridge, W. H. Summers, Jared H. Gay and C. Prouty. These good people felt that the word of God must go on. Under the leadership of Mrs. Crouch a Sunday School was organized and met in the school. They continued with or without a minister. Our Sunday School records date back to 1893, with attendance about 20 and collections of five to twenty-five cents.

The new church was dedicated in 1887 with Rev. Perkins as pastor. The work of the Lord went well. A parsonage was built in 1902, the church was remodeled in 1909 and a basement was added. In 1887 the ladies organized to help and all went well through the years. Many activities were carried on.

On June 4, 1925, our church was struck by lightning and burned. A stunned community rallied, and one year later on June 20, 1926, the present building was dedicated by Dr. Hugh Kennedy, assisted by Floyd Blewfield under the pastorship of Rev. George Carter. The building committee who led the community in successfully building this church consisted of George H. and Olive Brown, H.M. and Mabel Cummins and W.A. Wever. These pioneers in religion together with our pastors and other loyal Christians have given the inspiration for all of us to have faith and carry on.

Rev. L. George Beacock was sent to us in 1926, the first year in our new church. His leadership proved very inspiring to us and it was with great pleasure that he felt able to come back to us on this 100th Anniversary of the Homecoming which he originated and we have followed since that time.

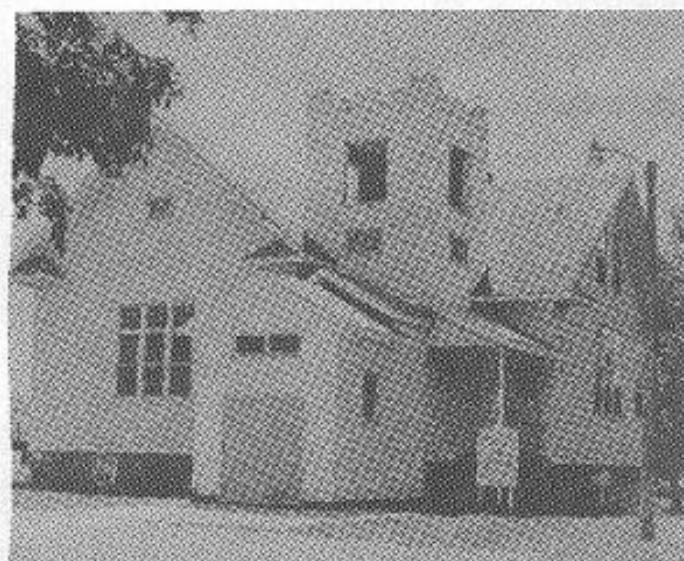
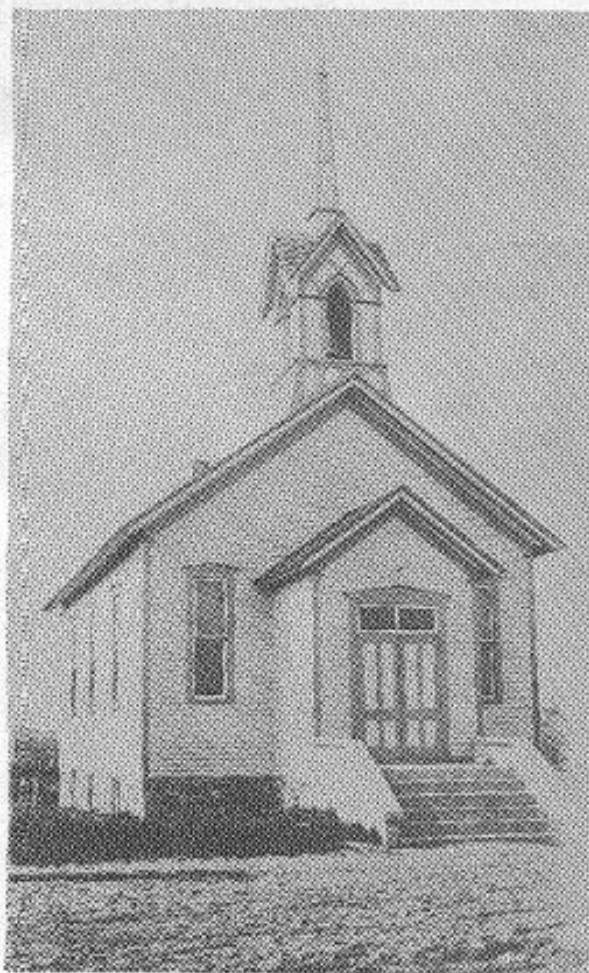
Fifty-five pastorships have served over the years, with the most recent, Rev. Hubert Bengtson,

servicing twice as minister--from 1948-1954 and from 1965-1974. In between his periods of service were Helen Westman Jackson from 1954-1957, Viola Norman from 1957-1959, William J. Schoettle from 1959-1960, Lawrence Smith from 1960-1963, and Gordon Terpinning from 1963-1965.

Records show that a number of local people have gone into Christian service from this community. Mary Rowley Wilson went as a missionary to China and together with her husband served 28 years in the field. Miss Bernice Elliott went as a missionary to India in 1914 and served 38 years. Others were Rev. Homer Welsh, Rev. Donald Walker, Rev. Orval Beach, Mrs. Clara Beach, Mary Weaver who married the Rev. Tower, Rev. Vernon Michael and Mrs. Helen Michael and local preacher, William E. Birdsall. Others have gone forth to other churches and from there to other fields of Christian service.

The two living members with the longest memberships in the church are Miss Bernice Elliott since 1904; and Mrs. Wave Rowley since 1905.

Ours is a church built by Methodist authority, but we have always tried to serve the entire community as the needs have arisen. It is our warmest desire to continue to grow and serve the community and follow the teachings of Christ to his people. We are sincerely hoping that the Little White Church in Crystal Valley may thrive and reach out with the gospel message for a second one hundred years.



**THE PRESENT M. E. CHURCH**

**THE OLD CHURCH BUILT IN 1885**



PEACHVILLE SCHOOL



CHADWICK SCHOOL (POFF, CAMP)



THE OLD CRYSTAL VALLEY SCHOOL THAT BURNED



CLEVELAND SCHOOL



ELMWOOD SCHOOL



MAPLE GROVE SCHOOL



KELLY SCHOOL



CRYSTAL VALLEY SCHOOL 1925 OR 1926



J. H. GAY



MR. & MRS. DeWITT GAY



MABEL CUMMINS & MRS. WHITING

20



J.H. GAY BUILT THIS HOUSE - HORACE MILLERS SHOWN



1915 CRYSTAL VALLEY BASEBALL TEAM



REV. CHATFIELDS & PARSONAGE 1909



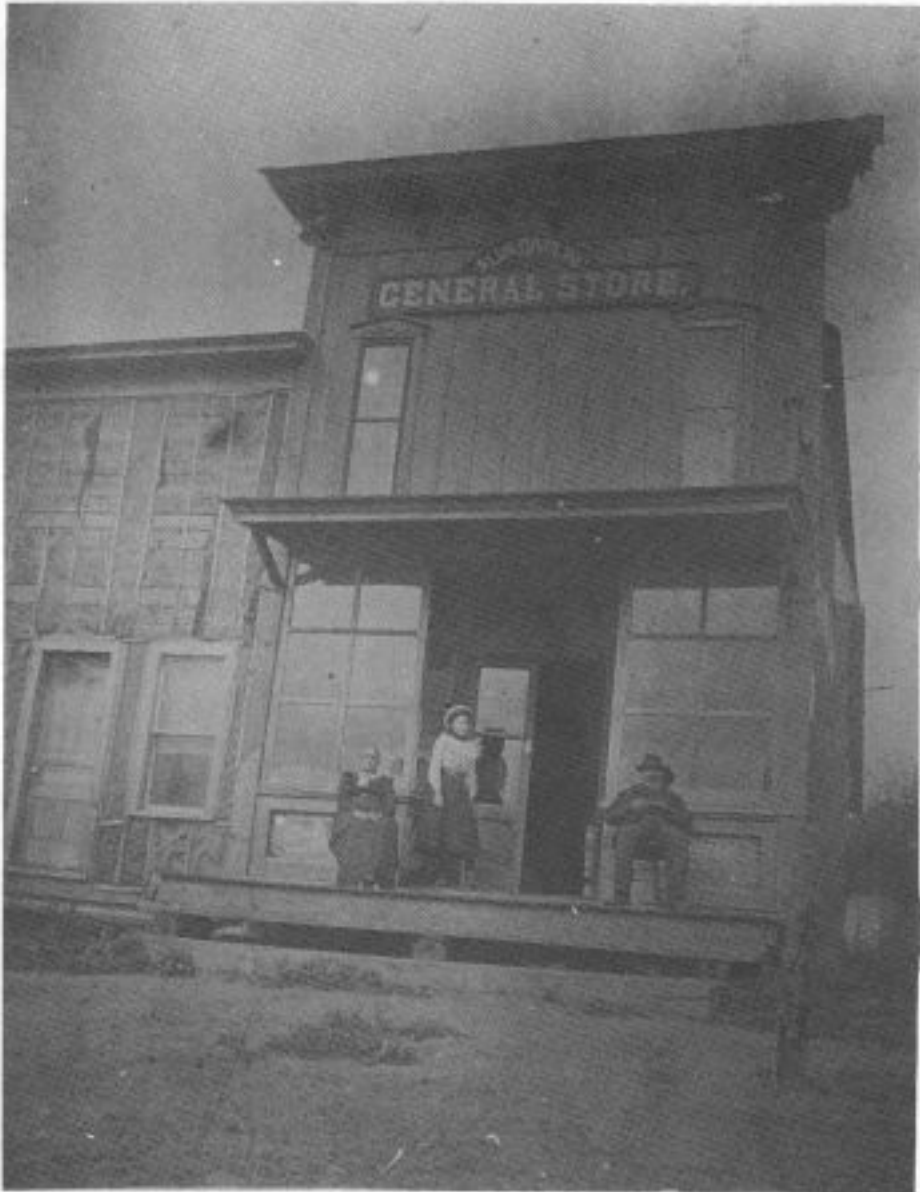
HIRAM WEVER'S FAMILY



A. A. GREINERS 1909



HENRY FRISHETT  
BUILDING BARN 1916



ALVA DARLING GENERAL STORE  
ABOUT 1904, BURNED 1906  
JUST WEST OF TOWN HALL



PEA VINERY 1915



PEA VINERY CREW 1915





BROWN'S STORE



TAKEN IN PHOTO SHOP IN C.V. 1898  
W. Clute, Unknown, Mabel Whiting and  
Theda Perkins



ELMWOOD SCHOOL



CLEVELAND SCHOOL 1892



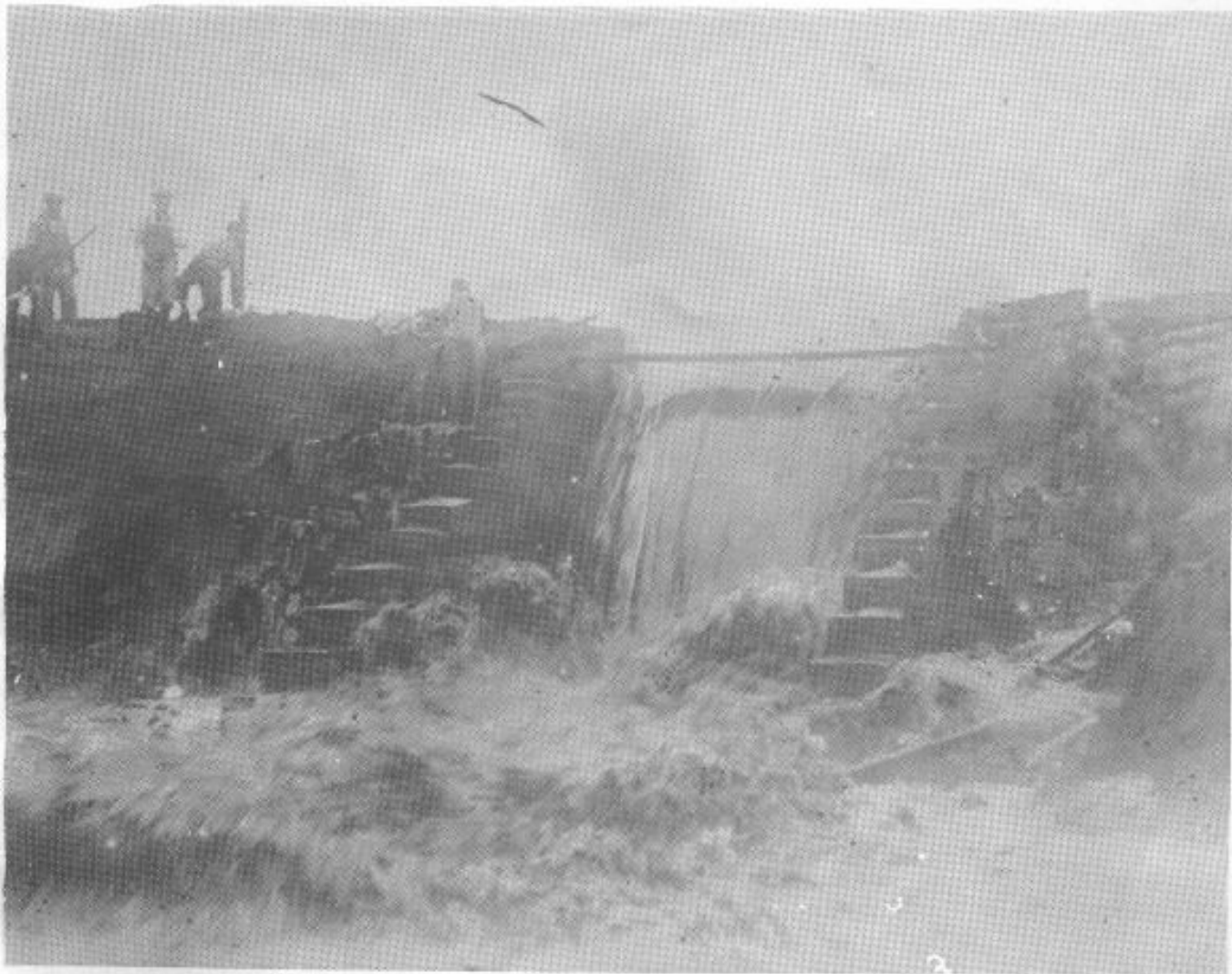
MRS. RUNION, HULLINGER, TATE,  
MACKSAM & ALLEN



DR. KITTRIDGE'S LOG HOUSE



DOCTOR'S WIFE, ULYSSA  
KITTRIDGE



**ABOUT 20 MINUTES BEFORE THE OLD CRYSTAL VALLEY DAM WENT OUT**



**CRYSTAL HIGH SCHOOL BUS 1941**



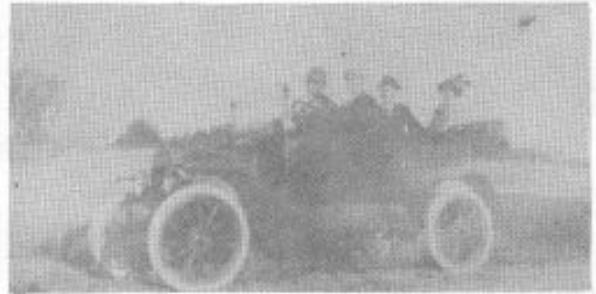
**PHINEAS HARWOOD ELECTED  
COUNTY TREASURER 1896**



**BUSH STORE ABOUT 1910 EAST OF MANFRED MILLERS**



**MAIN STREET**



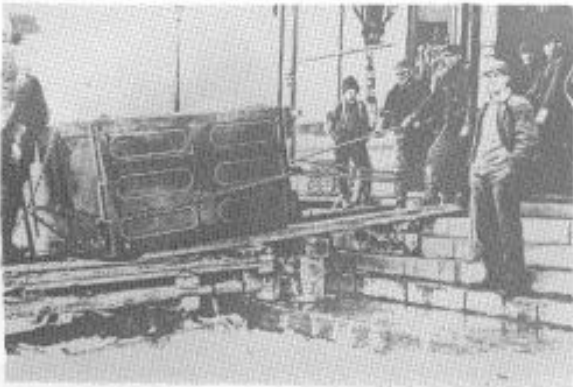
**GEORGE, OLIVE BROWN, C. WHITING  
& UNKNOWN IN BROWN'S CAR**



**LOAD OF PEAS**



**OLIVE BROWN**



**MOVING BANK SAFE INTO BROWN'S  
PRIOR TO OPENING BANK IN 1914**

**INSIDE BROWN'S STORE 1930'S, GEORGE & OLIVE IN 'POST OFFICE'**

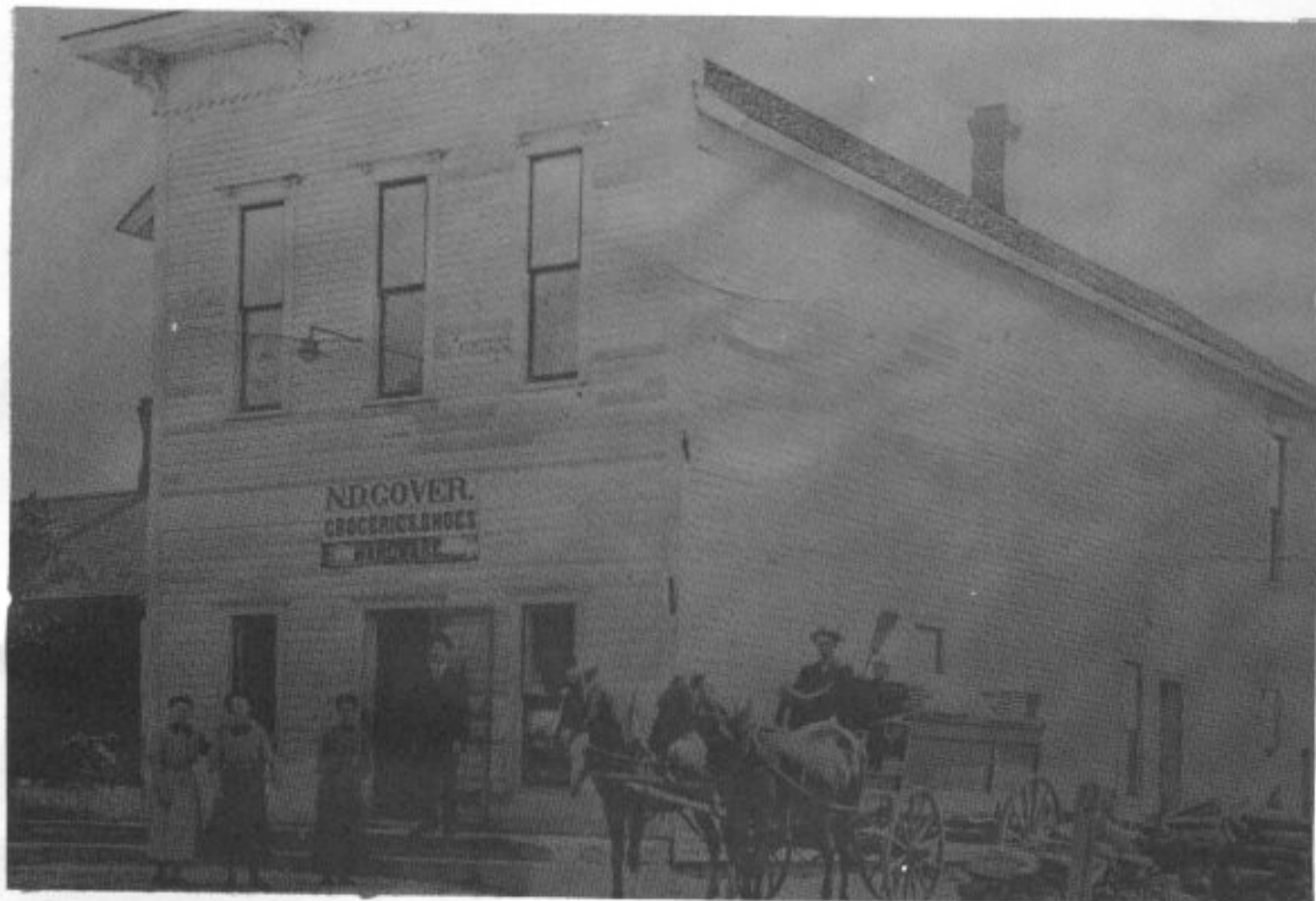




THRESHING AT CLARENCE RUGGLES' ABOUT 1928



I.O.O.F. BEE AT C. IVES 1912



GOVER STORE 1908



KITTRIDGE STREET 1927



**PERRY AMSTUTZ - ION WEVER HARDWARE, FORMERLY WOODMAN HALL WHERE  
MIKE RUGGLES LIVES**

**CLUB DANCE.**

*Yourself and Ladies are cordially invited to attend the  
First Dance to be held by the Crystal Valley  
Dance Club, at the I. O. O. F. Hall, in Crystal Valley,*

**FRIDAY EVENING, FEB. 13, 1898.**

FLOOR MANAGERS - G. COMSTOCK, B. G. FISHER

DECK CHAIRS

Supper can be procured at the Dressing House.

**SOCIAL DANCE.**

*Yourself and Ladies are respectfully invited to attend a Social Dance*

**W. S. FISHER'S BARN,**

*1 1/2 Miles Southeast of Crystal Valley.*

**SATURDAY EVE., JUNE 13, '97.**

FLOOR MANAGERS

Wm. Fisher

**MUSIC - David Henton's Full Orchestra.**

Bill, including supper, \$1.00.

**GRAND I. O. O. F. BALL**

*Yourself and Ladies are respectfully invited to  
attend a Social Hop at I. O. O. F. Hall,  
Crystal Valley, Mich. Given by  
Ladies on 24th.*

**FRIDAY EVE. FEB. 20 1891**

FLOOR MANAGERS - G. COMSTOCK, B. G. FISHER

Good Music. Dance 7:00. Supper at Brewster House

**A SOCIAL DANCE.**

**CRYSTAL VALLEY.**

*ON THE LOWER FLOOR OF ODD FELLOWS HALL.*

*Friday Evening June 19th. 1898.*

YOURSELF AND LADY ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

**MUSIC BY BRIGSTEN'S ORCHESTRA.**

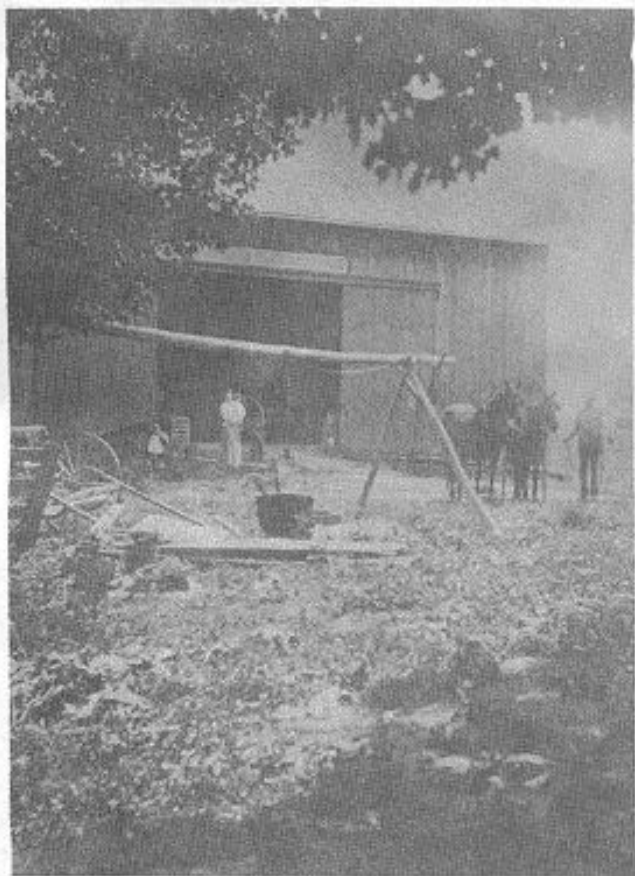
FLOOR MANAGERS - G. BARNEY, G. COMSTOCK

BILL WITH SUPPER \$1.00.





ART GAY CUTTING GRAIN, NORTH OF STORE



A. A. GREINER'S BARN & OLD KETTLE



LOG HOUSE BUILT ON RESERVATION 1863,  
BURNED 1953  
ALLEN POE & HENRY SEAMAN SHOWN