Springfield
CLARK COUNTY
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SPRINGFIELD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
First Printing
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PREFACE

Springfield presents almost a paradox. It has the big plants and downtown buildings of the average sizable city and also the distinctly rural character of the small town. Its market is right in the City Building, on the first floor; and farmers in overalls are commonly seen on the Square and the streets near by. Within the city limits there are huge nurseries, especially famous for their roses.

Its history, too, shows the extent to which Springfield has been influenced by the farm. Before the Civil War, when Ohio was largely agricultural, Springfield had a large reputation for making farm implements. After the war, as other Ohio cities became heavily industrialized, Springfield did not abandon its farm-tool industry, but rather adapted it to the new machine age: instead of turning out merely axes, sickles, and scythes, factories produced mowers, reapers, harvesters, and other farm machines. Moreover, local capital brought out a magazine for farmers. Today, the Crowell-Collier Publishing Company issues periodicals of general interest, such as the American, Collier's, and Woman's Home Companion.

Because of its industrial dependence on the farm, Springfield is a county seat in more than a political sense. To Clark County farmers it is not a strange urban giant sprung up in their midst, but rather a neighborly representative of their interests.

In this book, city and county are treated largely as a unit. The text was written by Myron Flechtner on the basis of research by workers under the supervision of Emerson Hansel. R. D. Sims was instrumental in making publication arrangements. The project acknowledges with thanks the help of Arthur R. Altick, curator of the Clark County Historical Museum, who supplied data for the chapter on archaeology; Oscar Hawke, county superintendent of schools; H. L. Stevens, city superintendent of schools; W. W. Keifer, former president of the Clark County Historical Society; Orton G. Rust, historian and current president of the Clark County Historical Society; and E. E. Kramp, executive secretary of the Springfield Chamber of Commerce.

HARRY GRAFF, State Supervisor
The Ohio Writers' Project
GENERAL INFORMATION

(For Springfield, except when otherwise indicated)

Population: City, 70,662; county, 95,647.

Area: City, 11.82 sq. m.; county, 407 sq. m.

Mean Altitude: 980 ft.

Railroads and Stations: New York Central Lines at Washington St., opposite Spring St.; Pennsylvania Lines at Limestone and Union Sts.; Detroit, Toledo, and Ironton Line, 300 South Limestone St.


Airport: Municipal Airport, on State Route 70, five miles southeast of business section; taxi, 75c; no scheduled air service.

Taxis: Fare 25c within city limits.

City Motor Coach Lines: Fare 7c, ten tokens for 50c.

Street Numbering: N. and S. from Main St.; E. and W. from Fountain Ave.

Traffic Regulations: N. Market Place, one way W.; S. Market Place, one way E.

Accommodations: Six hotels; tourist camps along principal highways.


Theaters: Nine motion-picture houses, one combination picture house and legitimate theater.

Recreational Areas: Snyder Park, extending N. from U. S. Route 40 at western city limits along W. bank of Buck Creek;
George Rogers Clark State Park, 7 miles southwest on Lower Valley Pike.

**Golf:** Springfield Municipal Golf Links, Snyder Park, 18 holes, greens fee 60-80c; Springfield Country Club, N. end of Fountain Blvd. at city limits, for members and guests. **Baseball and Football:** Municipal Stadium, Mitchell Blvd. and Lagonda Ave.; Wittenberg Stadium, near Woodlawn Ave. and W. Cecil St. **Bridle Path:** 10 miles long, in George Rogers Clark State Park; horses available at stable adjacent to park, fee $1 per hour. **Swimming:** Crystal Lakes, 12 miles southwest on Lower Valley Pike, then right 0.5 miles on Lake Road. **Hunting:** Rabbit, squirrel, pheasant, and occasional fox in rural sections; land owners, on request, usually permit hunting. Resident license $1, fee 25c; non-resident license, not less than $5, fee 25c. **Fishing:** Trout, suckers, bass, and carp are found in Mad River, and bass, suckers, catfish and carp in Little Miami River, Moores Run, Beaver, Lagonda, Honey and Donnels Creeks. Resident license 50c, fee 10c; non-resident license $3, fee 25c.
CLARK COUNTY SCENE

Clark County, named for George Rogers Clark, is situated in the west-central part of Ohio along the rich valleys of the Mad and Little Miami Rivers. This territory, with an area of 407 square miles, has changed from a sparsely settled Shawnee Indian country to a thriving, highly organized county with a population of more than 95,000. Forty-one per cent of its residents are employed in manufacturing. Seven State routes and three U. S. highways cross the county; all told, it has more than 700 miles of roads.

When the local area was formed, nature refrained from extravagance. The streams are neither swift, nor wide, nor deep; the hills lack the rugged character of those in near-by counties; and the plains cover no distances great enough to present the horizon as an unbroken line. Sixty per cent of the surface, irregular in contour, rolls heavily; the remainder is level or undulates gently. (More than half the land is given over to farming.) Elevations range from about 1,200 feet above sea level in the northeastern part to 836 feet in the southwestern section.

Clark County was part of Greene County when Ohio was admitted to the Union. In 1805 most of the Clark County area became attached to Champaign County; and it was from Champaign, Greene, and Madison Counties that Clark County was organized on March 1, 1818. The townships were named Pike, German, Moorefield, Pleasant, Bethel, Springfield, Madison, Harmony, Mad River, and Greene. Springfield was made the county seat. The boundary between Clark and Greene County to the south was altered in 1819, and the present line between Clark and Madison County to the east was established in 1827. Champaign County borders Clark County on the north, and Montgomery and Miami Counties limit it on the west.

Small grist- and sawmills once flourished along the Mad and Little Miami Rivers and their tributaries, the streams comprising the county's drainage system. The Mad River flows south from the north-central part of the county, but swings southwestward at a point west of Springfield and drains into
the Great Miami River at Dayton. Its chief tributaries are Donnels Creek, Honey Creek, and Buck Creek, which winds through Springfield. The Little Miami River rises in Madison township, a few miles southeast of Springfield, takes a south-westerly course, and enters Greene County at Clifton.

The climate is moderate. During the summer, temperatures average between 70 and 80 degrees, but heat waves occasionally drive the mercury above 100 degrees in July and August. Normal temperature during the winter is around 20 degrees. In the wake of northwest winds, low marks of 20 degrees below zero are sometimes reached in January and February. Rainfall is distributed quite evenly over the year, with an annual precipitation of 35 to 50 inches. The growing season ranges from 150 to 160 days.

Clark County lies in an extensive limestone area. During the glacial period, the great ice sheet that covered most of what now is Ohio rounded off the hills in the county, altered the direction of its streams, and carved new valleys. As the glacier melted and receded from this region, it deposited a layer of glacial drift, varying in places from five to a hundred feet in depth. The soils of the county, formed by deposition (of lime, gravel, and vegetative matter), weathering, and erosion, owe much of their fertility to the porosity of the "drift."

Beneath the drift lie beds of rock, formed in a prehistoric age when a great sea covered the present surface. The principal rock stratum in most parts of the county is Niagara limestone. Quarried in various places, it is used in crushed form as road-building material. Formerly, near Springfield, large quantities of Niagara also were used in lime production. Richmond shales and limestone and Monroe limestone deposits are present in some sections of the county.

The limestone cliffs bordering Buck Creek in Springfield and overlooking the Mad River west of the city are outstanding scenic attractions. In the Buck Creek area, the soft shale underlying the harder limestone has washed away in places, causing huge masses of rock to break away from the main wall. Here and there, these picturesque, overhanging rocks are balanced precariously above footpaths along the stream. Ferns
growing over the rocks and miniature waterfalls issuing from crevices characterize the cliffs in and near Springfield.

An almost complete skeleton of a mastodon, unearthed several years ago northeast of Springfield, is on display in the Wittenberg College museum. Another mastodon skeleton found in the county is in the geological museum of The Ohio State University.
The forests of the early settlers have given way to farmers' woodlots. Even so, many of Clark County's acres still hold some interest for the nature student. Wildflowers bloom in various places; thickets cover birds of many species; and wild fruits and berries can be found. In brush, holes, and trees, small animals hide from enemies and build their homes.

The woodlands east of the Mad River differ from those in the western and southern parts of the county — probably because of the differences in soil composition and drainage conditions. White oak and hickory do best east of the river, while beech, elm, black walnut, and sugar maple are more common in other sections. In early times, Indians set up sugar camps when the first warm winds blew; white men continued the practice, and still do.

All through Clark County are buckeye, pawpaw, sassafras, locust, and dogwood, which thrive in the shade of larger trees. Along the banks of streams are willow and sycamore, demanding full sunlight and moist soil. The redbud, one of the earliest flowering trees, brightens chilly April slopes with purple blossoms; and some hillsides bear clumps of hawthorn and wild plum.

Almost before other plant life has answered spring’s sweet song, dandelions and creeping phlox blanket the meadows. Swamp flowers, skunk cabbage, and iris shoot up along watercourses; in the woods, Jack-in-the-pulpit arrives, accompanied by anemone, trillium, sweet william, and mayapple. Spring beauties, dusting the sunnier patches with tiny red-veined bells, are joined by Dutchman’s breeches and blue, white, and dog-toothed violets. Wild cherry makes the May woods enchanting. Many of the summer and fall flowers are sturdy and brilliant in hue — phlox, plumed goldenrod, ironwood, cowslip, oxeyed daisy, wild aster, and varieties of the troublesome wild carrot, or Queen Anne’s lace.

Native shrubs — blackberry, raspberry, elderberry — grow in the county. Wild strawberries abound in June. Creeping
and climbing vines include grape, scarlet-berried bittersweet, orange-bellied trumpet vine, five-leaf ivy; and its cousin, the three-leaf poison variety. In early fall, red-brown clusters of sumac lace fence rows with pretty garlands.

The ferns make their stand in moist, wooded retreats. Maidenhair, cut-leaf, eagle, rattlesnake, and cinnamon are common varieties. The cliffbrake fern grows out of rock crevices in Ferncliff Cemetery in Springfield, and also along the county's streams and cliffs. Cattails and rushes choke bottom lands and swamps; and many kinds of liverwort and moss thrive in places protected from the sun's rays.

In the early days, wild animals roamed the county; the Indians hunted deer, bear, and buffalo. When the white men came, the buffalo had moved westward, but deer, bear, and wildcats still lingered. They were hunted down, and their habitats destroyed; soon they disappeared. Today only small fur-bearing animals live in the county; weasel, fox, muskrat, opossum, skunk, raccoon, and mink. Hunters must content themselves chiefly with rabbit and squirrel.

Wild turkey and passenger pigeon, prime favorites of the pioneer, have long since gone. The ring-necked pheasant, a colorful importation from Mongolia, has replaced the native species and thrives in its new environment. Geese and wild ducks are seen during migration periods. Predatory birds — sparrow, Cooper's, marsh, sharp-shinned, and other hawks — are not numerous; but the screech, barn, and monkey-faced owls give a touch of oddity. Of the shore birds, kingfisher, snipe, shitepoke, and killdeer are common; the black-crested heron and flashy egret are scarce.

In late spring, the woods, meadows, and orchards chorus to the chirping of the bobolink, mourning dove, robin, swift, bluebird, red-winged blackbird, cuckoo, catbird, oriole, meadowlark, and towhee. Spring and autumn bring the ruby-crowned kinglet. There are glimpses of the flaming cardinal, and of the cedar waxwing pecking at berries on a juniper branch. Here the year around are the chickadee, junco, titmouse, nuthatch, bluejay, black and white creeper, and wren. Two English importations, the sparrow and starling, are by far the most numerous of local birds. The starling has become such a
nuisance in Springfield that efforts are being made to reduce his numbers.

The county's streams yield black bass, rock bass, and bluegills. Rainbow and brown trout weighing up to eight pounds have been taken from the Mad River and its tributaries—the only public trout streams in Ohio. Restocking takes place each year. The open season for trout is from April 15 to September 15; for bass, from June 16 to the following April 30.

In recent years, a program of wildlife conservation has got under way in the county. Two game refuges have been set up in Mad River Township and two in Springfield Township. Propagation areas, totaling more than 1,000 acres, have been created in Harmony, Greene, and Springfield Townships and on park land controlled by the city of Springfield. The American Rangers, a group of young men between the ages of 14 and 25, are an important factor in restoring the county's wildlife. Members have planted hundreds of trees, built bird "feeds," constructed dams, aided in the distribution of fish and game, and traced several sources of stream pollution.
FIGURES OF EARTH

Centuries ago, a mysterious people roamed the Mississippi Valley. Here and there they stopped; started villages; carried on trade and travel; fashioned pottery, jewelry, utensils, and weapons; and followed the arts of peace. With immense effort they built earthen mounds — some of them quite large. These structures were generally cone-shaped, but sometimes simulated the forms of creatures. Many served as tombs for the dead; others did duty as observation posts and signal stations; and still others had religious and ceremonial purposes. At times these people waged war against one another. To protect themselves, they built great, walled forts of stone and earth, usually on high sites, with complex gateways and surrounding moats. The makers of these figures of earth were the mound builders.

Ethnologists formerly believed that the mound builders were a distinct race; but now it is generally conceded that they were the descendants of roving bands of Asiatic Mongoloids, who migrated, a long time ago, across Bering Strait to the North American mainland. By the time Columbus discovered America, the mound-building habit of these native Americans, the forbears of the modern Indian, had practically ceased — why no one knows. Yet there were a few tribes among whom the custom still prevailed at a much later date. Hernando De Soto, the Spanish invader of the Muskhogean territory in the southern United States, found the aborigines living in villages, the chiefs’ houses and the temples atop domiciliary mounds of earth. More than a hundred years later, the French, under Du Pratz, found the chief’s house and the temple of the Natchez built upon artificial mounds. A small mound of the Fisher group, near Joliet, Illinois, disclosed artifacts of the post-Columbian times, showing that the builders had been in contact with early white traders. The Pawnee were still building small burial mounds in 1833, and the Arikara as late as 1862.

Physical anthropologists have learned much about this people through examining the skeletal remains found in many of the mounds. Archaeologists have learned considerable by
studying the structure of the earthworks and the artifacts usually associated with the burials. An excellent concept of the every-day life of the mound builder is presented in Henry C. Shetrone's book, *The Mound-Builders*.

Thus far, 64 mounds, 9 enclosures, 14 habitation sites, 55 burials, and 8 cemeteries of the aborigines have been found in Clark County.

The largest mound is the one at Enon, a high cone covering an acre of ground. It has the distinction of being the second largest of this type in the State, surpassed only by the Miamisburg Mound in Montgomery County. In excavating it the workers found, 30 feet down, a curious cave. Shaped like a kiln, it was high enough in the center to permit a man to stand upright; at one side was an entrance leading from the ground level. A crude altar was littered with bones, charcoal, and decayed wood. (One story relates that the excavated material was "planted" by an earlier, but disappointed, investigator; the matter is still controversial among archaeologists.)

The Boblett group of prehistoric mounds, near Donnelsville in Bethel Township, has the smallest mound, Mound 7, only 10 feet in diameter and 2 feet high. The Boblett group is the largest in the county, consisting of seven mounds. Springfield Township has the greatest number of mounds, 17.

Other mounds of particular interest are the Bechtle Avenue Mound in Springfield, not only a burial site, but probably also a lookout point (its summit commands a view of the Mad River Valley); the Ward group of three mounds in Springfield Township; the Campbell group of three in Bethel Township; the Manring group of two, and the Newlove Mound, all in Harmony Township; the Shuey Mound in Moorefield Township; the Tremont Mound at Tremont City; the Summer's Mound in Greene Township; and the serpent effigy mound, as it is locally called, associated with the Mud Run group in Mad River Township.

The prominent earthworks are the two elliptical enclosures (Indian forts) in Harmony Township, each containing four acres within the circumvallations; the two crescent-shaped enclosures, south and southeast of Plattsburg, and one square-
shaped enclosure, north of Thorpe Station in Harmony Township; the two square areas and one crescent-shaped enclosure south of Medway, and the "L"-shaped Mud Run earthworks in Mad River Township; and the Campbell group, consisting of a geometric, rectangular-shaped enclosure, the combined length of the low-lying walls being 2,238 feet, in Bethel Township.

Early historians mentioned works in this area that have since been leveled by farmers and road builders. A conical mound measuring 150 feet across the base formerly stood just east of the intersection of Washington and Spring Streets in Springfield. In 1847, during the construction of the Mad River and Lake Erie Railroad, the mound was razed in order that use might be made of its earth; the bones and implements uncovered proved it had been a burial mound. When a mound near Snyders Station, in a Mad River Township, was opened, it yielded 128 arrowheads and a quantity of bones.

Mounds are divided into burial, effigy, and domiciliary types. The burial mounds, generally conical, were built as tombs for the dead. The effigies, in the forms of birds, reptiles, animals, or humans, were probably used in ceremonials. The domiciliary, or truncated, mounds were foundations for chiefs' houses and ceremonial temples. Of the three types, only burial and effigy mounds are found in the county.

In addition, the prehistoric people of the Ohio Valley built earthworks that are classed as protective, ceremonial, and irregular. Protective works served as forts, the embankments of which were usually built of earth or stone upon high hills or promontories. Ceremonials, constructed for religious or ritualistic purposes, took the form of geometric figures, such as squares, octagons, circles, and crescents. The use and purpose of irregulars are unknown.

Of the three outstanding mound cultures in Ohio, the Hopewell seems to have been the most advanced, with the Adena intermediary, and the Fort Ancient lowest. Another culture, evidenced by the burials found in glacial kames or gravel knolls, might be called the "Glacial Kame" culture.

In Clark County, Manring Mound 1 is the best example of the Hopewell culture; Campbell Mounds 1 and 2 and Boblett Mound 2, of the Adena. The Fort Ancient culture has not been
revealed by mound exploration, but evidence of it has been discovered on habitation sites. The Glacial Kame culture is manifested at Bull Hill in Harmony Township, Tremont Hill in German Township, and in several other sites. The materials found in them bear a striking resemblance in certain respects to those of the Fort Ancient culture.

Manring Mound 1, explored in 1940, is the first in the county to yield artifacts distinctly indicating the Hopewell culture. Among them are a large ceremonial copper axe and smaller adzes, copper breast-plate, pulley-shaped copper ear ornament, small sections of copper pin, fragments of sheet copper, platform tobacco pipes, shell beads, incised and decorated real and imitation teeth of the grizzly bear, two lower halves of animal jawbones ground and decorated with incised lines, finely made ceremonial spear-points of obsidian, and a rectangular-shaped, two-hole, slate gorget.

The low-lying embankments of the Campbell group of prehistoric earthworks are indicative of either the Hopewell or Adena culture, with the weight of evidence favoring the Adena. The Shuey Mound, which appears to be Hopewell, because of the great central fireplace and other features, has proved lacking artifacts of the Hopewell culture. Mound 2 of the Boblett group manifests the Adena culture. The classification of the remaining mounds of this group is unknown; for as yet they have not been explored.

The prehistoric, geometric ellipses (Indian forts) are undoubtedly Hopewell, and were probably built by the same native Americans who erected Manring Mound 1. This hypothesis is strengthened by the fact that the embankments and the characteristically oblong mound in the southern enclosure evidence the Hopewell culture. A four-foot shaft, sunk some years ago, revealed only gravel; since then this mound has not been explored. It is believed that a thorough examination may reveal Hopewell materials, linking the earthworks with those of the Manring group.

Much of the archaeological field work in the county has been conducted by Arthur R. Altick, curator of the Clark County Historical Museum. He has discovered 17 mounds; 10 habitation sites; 2 earthwork enclosures; and 2 Glacial Kame cemeteries. In addition, he has excavated 44 burials.
INDIAN SUMMER,
SYNDER PARK, SPRINGFIELD
FRONT LINES,
MEMORIAL HALL, SPRINGFIELD
EARLY YEARS

In the eighteenth century, the French and the English contested for sovereignty in the Ohio country. The French made friends with the Indians, buried lead plates along the Ohio River, and formally declared the land was theirs. These claims the English rejected. They sent agents of their own into the Ohio country to gain the good will and the rich trade of the Indians. So the first white men to visit the Mad River area were emissaries of intrigue and commerce.

George Croghan was one of them. In 1747 he was appointed Pennsylvania's agent for Indian affairs. The following year he met various Indian chiefs along the Ohio and gave them presents for French scalps they had sent to the Pennsylvania authorities; then he started trading posts in the Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois lands. One of his Ohio posts was situated at the Indian town of Pickawillany, near where present Piqua stands; another was at Loramie's store on Loramie Creek. At Pickawillany, where 400 Indian families lived, as many as 50 English traders met at one time.

It is possible that Croghan ventured through the Mad River and Buck Creek valleys, just as did Christopher Gist, an agent for a Virginia land company. Late in 1750, Gist came to Ohio to inspect the lands his employers hoped to acquire. At the lower Muskingum he met Croghan; together they traveled to Pickawillany, where, in February 1751, Gist witnessed the signing of a treaty between Croghan and the chiefs of the Miami, Shawnee, and Delaware Indians.

In his journal Gist faithfully described the incidents of his travels and the land he saw. He described the west-central Ohio region as

... fine rich, level land, well timbered with large Walnut, Ash, Sugar Trees, Cherry Trees, and it is watered with a great number of little streams of Rivulets, and full of beautiful natural meadows, covered with Wild Rye, Blue Grass, and Clover, and abounds with Turkeys, Deer, Elk and most sorts of Game particularly Buffaloes, thirty
or forty of which are frequently seen feeding in one meadow; in short, it wants nothing but cultivation to make it a most delightful country.

An entry for March 2, 1751 (when he had left Pickawillany for Shannoah Town), states: "George Croghan and the rest of our Company came over the River. We got our horses and set out about 35 miles to Mad Creek (this is a place where some English Traders had been taken Prisoners by the French)." Darlington, interpreting this note, says: "This point on the Mad Creek is about seven miles west of Springfield, in Bethlehem [Bethel] Township, Clark County, at the junction of the old road from Loramie's Store with the Springfield and Dayton Road or Turnpike, where the Village of West Boston stood, five miles west of Springfield."

Gist's journal continues:

Sunday 3 — This morning we started, they for Hockhockin, and I for Shannoah Town, and as I was quite alone and knew that the French Indians had threatened us and would probably pursue us or lie in wait for us, I left the path and went to the south westward.

Soon after Gist visited the Mad River region, fur traders opened a blockhouse trading post on the heights near Old Piqua, the principal town of the Shawnee. This was the first white occupation in the area. When the Indians sided with the French against the British in 1754, they burned the blockhouse and drove the traders away. After France's defeat by Great Britain in 1763, the Clark County area became a Shawnee stronghold. Peace prevailed until August 8, 1780, when George Rogers Clark and his Kentucky "Long Knives" came here and destroyed Old Piqua in retaliation for Indian forays into Kentucky (see The Springfield Chronicle).

Soon surveyors went to work in the forest. In the summer of 1795 Israel Ludlow, surveyor and co-founder of Cincinnati, camped with his party at the Broad Ford on Mad River. The men ran section lines on Government land in western Ohio — a task that was to require 12 years for completion. Two members of the group, David Lowry and Jonathan Donnel, were so impressed by the Clark County area that they decided to settle
here. After surveying land near present Donnelsville, Lowry and Donnel bought it and moved there.

At that time, wild game was abundant. Lowry, the huntsman for his settlement, claimed in later years that he had killed at least a thousand deer. Once, he said, he shot a bear and two cubs “in less than three minutes.” In one season at their settlement he and Donnel killed 17 bears.

Donnel left to make his home near the site of the later Jenkins quarries, leaving Lowry at the Donnelsville site. Lowry was soon joined by others. Making use of the Mad and Great Miami Rivers, settlers shipped their produce on flatboats to distant markets. Lowry built a flatboat he claimed was “the first that ever navigated the Great Miami River from Dayton, down, which was in the year 1800.” He took the same boat to New Orleans with a cargo of bacon, pickled pork, and venison hams; there, after selling the cargo and the boat, he bought a horse and returned with the first money the settlers had earned in their new homes.

The period between 1795 and 1808 was a time for pioneers. Settlers came here because they felt the region held great promise. Some bought their land directly from the Government, others dealt with agents; those who were Revolutionary War veterans received free grants. Most of the arrivals looked for rich bottom and meadow land that could be bought for a dollar or so an acre. In those days, pioneer families were isolated, self-sufficient economic units; and villages appeared only where there was an important store or gristmill.

The first full flush of settlement began with the new century. Tremont City was founded by John Ross in 1800, but its few log buildings were surpassed, in the next year, by Demint’s Springfield settlement (see The Springfield Chronicle). In 1803 a settlement called Buck Creek, near present-day Catawba, was born to a brief life. New Boston rose on the site of Old Piqua, almost became the county seat, and then languished. When, in 1807, Reverend Archibald Steel started a gristmill there, Medway emerged as another community. New Carlisle was founded in 1810, and South Charleston in 1815; in later years these two towns ranked next to Springfield in local importance.
(1) JAMES DEMINT CABIN
(2) GRIFFITH FOOS TAVERN
(3) JOHN REED COOPER SHOP
(4) FIELD'S CABINET SHOP
(5) TONY'S TAVERN
(6) JOEL WALKER'S TWO-STORY CABIN
(7) COL. DAUGHTERY'S STORE
(8) LE ROY DE GRAB DRY GOODS STORE
The Springfield scene, now bustling with twentieth-century magic, was once part of the country of the Shawnee. Here, in the frontier period, the tomahawk and "long rifle" struggled for mastery. In the turbulent echoes of this contest moved such vigorous figures as George Rogers Clark; Simon Kenton; Tecumseh, the great Shawnee chief; and his brother, the Prophet. Today the only reminders of this lusty chapter are a modern hotel bearing the tribal name and the George Rogers Clark Memorial State Park, southwest of the city.

Even more than with Clark, this region's early history is interwoven with Simon Kenton, Simon Girty, Colonel Logan, and other famed wilderness figures. Kenton was not only a scout and Indian fighter; he also learned to look upon this land with a speculative eye. He first trod the region in 1778, when he was 23, and the likelihood of his living longer seemed remote. He had been captured by Shawnee and was being taken to Wapatomica, for burning at the stake. Moving up the Mad River Valley, the party passed through what is now Snyder Park. At the Indian town, Kenton was forced to run the gauntlet several times before his old friend, Simon Girty, the renegade, and Peter Druillard, the British Indian agent, could secure his removal to Detroit for questioning by the British. He presently escaped and returned to Kentucky.

Two years later, he guided George Rogers Clark and 1,000 Kentuckians to Old Piqua, the principal town of the Shawnee (see Clark County Landmarks). The British at Detroit, aided by large numbers of Indians, had recently attacked several Kentucky settlements. Clark quickly raised an army and marched north to eliminate Old Piqua as a base for further attacks and, if possible, capture Detroit. Only about 300 Shawnee warriors were at Old Piqua, but runners brought back about that many Indians from other tribes. The battle opened with both sides evenly matched, since 400 of Clark's men were inactive because of their disposition behind a chain of cliffs. Clark brought several cannon into play, and the fighting was fierce for a time. Finally, after suffering about 90 killed and wounded, the Indians buried their dead and retreated—a
12-year-old boy named Tecumseh going with them. Clark was unable to march against Detroit, but this battle destroyed Old Piqua as a point of resurgence against the white man.

In 1786 Kenton led Colonel Benjamin Logan on sorties against the Shawnee towns in Logan County. Eight years later he served General Anthony Wayne and his army in a punitive expedition against the Indians. Wayne beat the confederated tribes at Fallen Timbers, and in 1795 the Greenville Treaty was signed by most of the Indian chiefs. Thereafter, peace generally prevailed in the Ohio country.

Settlers soon came to the Springfield site. In 1796 two men, named Kreb and Brown, established Kreb’s Station south of what is now West Main Street. In August 1799, Simon Kenton, now a man of affairs, arrived with John Humphreys and six Kentucky families. At the confluence of the Mad River and Lagonda (now Buck) Creek, this group built a number of cabins, a blockhouse, and a stockade. Kenton erected his house on what is now the Springfield-Urbana road, about two miles north of the city’s present northern limits; Ward settled a little farther north; while Robert Renick chose a spot on Lagonda Creek at about the position of later Bechtle Avenue.

Another 1799 arrival was James Demint, who purchased a square mile of land on Lagonda Creek. The tract ranged from present Plum Street on the west, McCreight Avenue on the north, a line south of High Street on the south, and Rogers Drive on the east.

Kenton, Ward, and Renick, with almost baronial holdings, formed a land syndicate. Renick’s portion, four miles square, was roughly bounded by present Home Road on the north, Plum Street on the east, a line between Main and High Streets to the Masonic Home entrance on the south, and another line from the entrance to Home Road on the west. The Kenton and Ward holdings, astride the Mad River Valley, embraced 25,000 acres, or 39 square miles — stretching from the forks of Mad River to the Cedar Swamp and from Lawrenceville to beyond Villa. The three partners gloried in their domain, with its rich bottoms, softly rolling fields, and groves of great trees. But Kenton, who had secured title (1788) to the Macquachack lands farther north, did not have his heart in the Mad River.
undertaking. He held to an older dream, planning a townsite some miles north of Springfield in which 960 acres would be struck off in lots. Later he moved to his northern paradise; but defective land titles sent his hopes crashing.

Demint did not bother with grandiose dreams. He put up his cabin; then he killed the snakes that infested his tract. He was soon ready for greater tasks. Early in 1801, when John Daugherty, a surveyor, arrived, Demint hired him to lay out a town. By March its limits — North, Main (now Columbia), South (now Main,) and Center Streets — were notched among the trees. Because of the numerous springs, Simon Kenton's wife, Elizabeth, suggested Springfield as a name for the town.

A few Kentuckians bought some of the townsite's 96 lots. Griffith Foos, of Franklinton (Columbus), purchased a lot and built the first tavern — with the aid of 40 settlers who trooped into town one June morning to "heist" the log structure. Demint started a gristmill and distillery in 1803; in the same year, roads were surveyed to this point from Yellow Springs, Franklinton, and Dayton. The chief avenue of entry, however, still remained the Chiuxso Trail, which had been broken by Kenton's Indian messenger, Chiuxso, from Ripley, on the Ohio River. Over it the Kentucky settlers came.

In 1804, when Demint's town had 11 cabins, it acquired a post office; and, on November 9, Robert Rennick was commissioned postmaster. Two years later Nathaniel Pinkered opened the first school at the northeast corner of Main Street and Fountain Avenue (see Schools). The Methodists, organized the same year, also used the log school as a church.

Indians living in the vicinity still cast an ominous shadow. The Billy George affair, in 1804, indicated the tenseness between white man and Indian. George, a Cherokee living at the head of Lagonda Creek, was known as a "bad Indian"; he often raided cabins for food while the menfolk were away. After several mysterious killings, George boasted of killing "two captains," and threatened to slay Kenton. When a warrant was read for his arrest, George drew his tomahawk but was shot dead by two officers. The trial, at which the officers were acquitted, comprised the first court held in Springfield.
Another scare came in 1807, when a man named Myers was killed north of town by some stray Indians. Fearful that the threatened conflict was about to break, Springfield’s settlers made ready to turn Foos’ tavern into a fort; and authorities demanded that the Indians—who were being prepared by Tecumseh and his brother for a last stand against the whites—surrender the murderer.

A council was called between the Indians and Government officials. From Franklinton hastened Governor Tiffin; from Greenville came Tecumseh, accompanied by many Shawnee. Roundhead, Blackfish, and other Indian chiefs also attended. The council was held in a maple grove north of Main Street, near Foos’ tavern (*see Springfield Landmarks*). Tecumseh made an eloquent speech. Games and contests were played. Then an agreement was reached by the Indians and the white men; and this region again seemed safe.

Later, in 1811, Tecumseh’s hope of a final stand against the white men was shattered by the Indian defeat at Tippecanoe. When the War of 1812 came, he sided with the British; and in September 1813, at the Battle of the Thames, the fiery Shawnee was killed. The war did not touch this area.

Slowly Springfield shaped up as a town. An important arrival in 1813 was Maddox Fisher, of Kentucky. With the $20,000 he brought, he started a cotton mill on Mill Run near Buck Creek in 1814. This was the first sizable local enterprise. Fisher also lobbied in the State Assembly for the creation of a new county from Champaign, Madison, and Greene Counties; this was done in 1818, when Clark County was organized. In a close contest with New Boston for the county seat, Springfield won by two votes. Town-founder Demint did not share in this new glory, having died in the previous year. The first newspaper, *The Farmer* (*see Newspapers*), heralded the town’s new importance; in 1822, when the square brick courthouse with a bell cupola atop its hip roof was completed, the editor opined it was “the best in Ohio.”

By 1828, when Springfield’s residents numbered 935, the town had bustle. Its streets resounded to the noise and commerce of many shops—six blacksmith, four wagon, two chair, four boot, six tailor, three harness, three bakery, three cabinet,
one clock, one gunsmith, two hat, two wheelwright, one coppersmith, one tin, and two millwright. There were twenty-seven carpenters, fourteen general merchandise stores, two distilleries, four groceries, three tanneries, three brick yards, three slaughter houses, one pottery, a paper mill, flour mill, and three "good houses of entertainment." Four subscription schools functioned, and four lawyers and five doctors looked after legal and medical needs.

In 1830 the population reached 1,080. A newcomer was Jeremiah Warder, a Philadelphia Quaker, who later became the town's richest man, and shaped much of its early industrial and cultural pattern. One of his first acts was to buy the village of Lagonda for $3,000. In 1832 he organized the Springfield Lyceum, a literary club; from it the first library later evolved.

In the middle 1830's crews of Germans and Irishmen labored to bring the National Road to Springfield. Working for 90 cents a day and a "jigger of whisky," they moved along West Main Street, while oxen pulled high-wheeled carts, loaded with stone, to its western limits. By 1838 the road had been completed to Sugar Grove Hill, three miles west of the town; there construction stopped temporarily. Springfield boomed before the road reached Sugar Grove. Processions of Conestoga wagons, ox carts, and lone horsemen, heading west, daily passed through the town. In September and October 1836, more than 1,200 wagons rumbled into town, paused, and rolled on again. Little stores and shops opened to take care of the emigrants' needs. It was at this time that James Leffel started his foundry; soon afterward, in 1842, William N. Whitely began to manufacture plows.

The town's place at "the end of the pike" brought extra flavor. A steady stream of travelers passed through. The daily arrival of stage coaches was a lively event; the sounding of horns brought the citizens to Main and Spring Streets to look over the newcomers and hear the driver, a worldly fellow, relate the news from down yonder.

During this colorful period, many taverns sprang up by the National Road. One of the first was the Exchange Hotel, whose second story had a hall where theatricals were sometimes performed; on special occasions, the town band played
from a platform on top of the roof. The United States Hotel, at Limestone and Main Streets, was another famous inn. Out West Main Street were the American House and the Western House, and, farther west, the Pennsylvania House (see Springfield Landmarks). The Buckeye House, at Main and Limestone Streets, was the most elegant establishment; it boasted a three-story front porch and an interior courtyard surrounded by galleries. At Main and Spring Streets was the even more famous National Hotel, run by "Billy" Werden. Tavern yards were often filled with the big wagons of emigrants bound for Indiana and Illinois.

The Murphy House also had a part in the innkeeping era—until fire destroyed it in 1841. The fire was accidentally started by some card players in the haymow of the Primrose Alley livery stable; it spread despite the best efforts of the fire companies. The parapet wall of the Murphy House, obstructing the path of the fire, saved the entire East End.

Firefighting was an exciting duty allotted to volunteer companies. Most notable was the Rover Company, which boasted a fancy ironwork hose reel; but the rival Neptunes company was not far behind in elegance and efficiency. There was always a race to reach the fire first. So eager were the companies to throw a stream of water on every fire that often more damage was done by water than fire. Rivalry grew so intense that council instituted a regular fire department, with Jerry Klinefelter of the Neptunes as its chief. So chagrined were the Rovers at this slight that they finally disbanded; they were succeeded by the Silver Grey Company.

During the 1840's machine-age marvels appeared. In 1846 the Little Miami Railroad was completed from Cincinnati to Springfield (see Travel Ways). On August 6, a gala day, local people turned out en masse to see the high-stacked locomotive, Ohio, pull the first train into town. Two years later, Mad River and Lake Erie trains were tracing a plume of smoke into town from Sandusky. Almost as astonishing was the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & Louisville Company's telegraph line that came through in 1847. Less exciting, but important, was the founding of the Mad River Valley Bank, the town's first.

Springfield folk shook their heads, however, when they saw John Pitt's clumsy thresher creaking past a near-by field for
a test run. Most of them agreed with the person who opined: "All that contraption will harvest is noise." But some of the contraptions were sold, and Springfield was introduced to the idea of labor-saving farm machinery.

The 1850's were a significant decade. At the beginning Springfield, with a population of 5,108, was incorporated as a second-class city. The first actual public school system got under way in 1855, when the board of education began to function. (Wittenberg College had started here in 1846 in a church.) (See Wittenberg College.) Elegant gas lights cast a pale glow on the spring mud and summer dust of the town's streets. In 1851 the Mad River and Lake Erie Railroad was extended to Dayton; another rail line reached out to Columbus by way of Xenia; and, in 1853, still another went to London.

This decade marked the city's debut as a farm-machinery center (see In the Factory). In 1850 Benjamin Warder and Jeremiah Brokaw began turning out reapers at their Lagonda plant; by 1853, when Ross Mitchell became a partner, the firm was annually selling two or three hundred New York reapers, all warranted to "cut one and a half acres of wheat or other small grain per hour." Later, harvesters, mowers, selfrakers, and other implements also were manufactured. William N. Whitely developed a mower in 1855, and the Champion era was foreshadowed. About this time, the P. P. Mast Company also started production of farm machinery.

On the eve of the Civil War, Springfield had a population of 7,002. Although industry was becoming important, the prevailing economy of the area was agricultural. In the county outside Springfield the rural population exceeded 17,000.

When the war came, three local militia companies were ready: the Springfield Zouave Cadets, the Springfield Light Artillery, and the Jefferson Guards. The Zouave Guards comprised part of Company F, 2nd O. V. I., the first Ohio company to respond to President Lincoln's call for 75,000 volunteers. In four years Springfield and Clark County contributed 2,550 men to "the boys in blue." J. Warren Keifer, the city's outstanding soldier, rose from major to brevet major general (see Clark County Landmarks).

The war created a demand for farm implements, and Springfield's farm-machine industry boomed. By 1870 the
city's population had climbed to 12,652. Despite the expansion of the Market Street plant, Whitely, Fassler & Kelly could not meet the demand for its mower; accordingly, in 1867, several local factories were organized to supply the market, and production capacity was greatly increased (see In the Factory).

In 1877 the P. P. Mast Company started a house organ, *Farm and Fireside*. From this modest beginning later emerged the huge Crowell-Collier plant (see Springfield Landmarks). In the same year the Robbins & Myers Company had its beginning as a foundry and machine shop. The Innisfallen Greenhouse inaugurated, in 1875, the city's nursery enterprise; the concern was said to be the first in the Nation to ship rooted plants by mail.

During these years Springfield was in the path of other movements. The first local labor union, Molders' Union No. 72, was organized in 1864; four years later, Typographical Union No. 117 began. In 1883 came the first labor federation, the Mad River Assembly of the Knights of Labor. It was followed by the Springfield Trades and Labor Assembly in 1890. From time to time the temperance movement flared up. The *Moss Covered Bucket*, a temperance newspaper, was issued locally in 1847. In 1866 Mrs. Eliza ("Mother") Stewart, later a noted temperance leader, moved here (see Springfield Landmarks). Her famous lecture, "Law and Gospel" (1872), was a prelude to the organization of the local Women's Christian Temperance Union chapter and to the famous "White Wednesday" program of hymn singing and prayer meetings (1874) by bands of women before the city's numerous saloons.

The last decade of the nineteenth century brought many modern conveniences. Black's Opera House arose in 1868 at Main Street and Fountain Avenue; by 1881, however, its glory was dimmed by the new Grand Opera House (see World of Make-Believe). Streetcars pulled by mules were introduced in 1870. In 1879 the first local "talking wires" were strung; by June 1880, Springfieldians were telephoning one another. Running water came in the following year, when the water works was completed; and electric lights were turned on in 1883. The first electric streetcars appeared in 1892.

Various landmarks arose: a public high school building (1875) at West High Street and Wittenberg Avenue; the Clark
County Courthouse (1880-81) at Limestone and Columbia Streets; the Warder Public Library (1890) at Spring and High Streets. St. Raphael Church towers went up in 1892, and Snyder Park was established in 1895, when John and David Snyder gave the tract to the city (see Springfield Landmarks).

Springfield's population continued to make rapid gains. From 20,730 in 1880, it jumped to 31,895 in 1890; by the turn of the century it was to reach 38,253. A great blow fell in 1887, when Whitely, Fassler & Kelly and the Champion Machine Company, heavily oppressed by financial troubles, went out of business (see In the Factory). In 1902, the Warder, Bushnell & Glessner Company, formerly a unit of the Champion group, was absorbed by the International Harvester Company. The city's leadership in the farm-machinery field soon passed.

The name Sun emerged as a familiar Springfield institution. The Daily Sun, the city's present morning paper, came out in 1894. A decade later, a vaudeville trouper named Gus Sun opened a little show in a local storeroom. Gus Sun became a leading vaudeville impresario; and Springfield gained fame in theater circles as the home of “Sun Time” (see World of Make-Believe).

In 1901 Springfield celebrated its centennial. Underneath the gay bunting and flags, the city had undergone a marked change since the days of founder James Demint. Red brick, sandstone, and planed board had replaced logs as building materials. Commercial and public buildings were the ornate and often heavy structures of the Victorian period. The elaborate mansions of the industrial and mercantile leaders made High Street a residential showplace. Factory whistles echoing up Buck Creek Valley, the clangor of street cars, the clop-clop of hoofbeats, and an occasional “auto’s” explosive voice now characterized the local scene.

By 1910, the city pushed out its limits and counted its people to 46,921. There was a flutter of excitement when the Westcott car was built here, and the city was thought of as a possible center of the new automobile industry. The imposing Big Four Railroad station went up in 1911; and the Springfield Board of Trade, chartered in 1887, gave way to the Commercial Club, parent of the present Chamber of Commerce.
Tiring of the old mayor-council form of government, the people voted it out in 1914 and adopted the commission-manager plan. The newly elected commissioners promptly hired Charles E. Ashburner, city manager of Staunton, Virginia, to take over here in the same capacity. Ashburner stayed four years. During his tenure, he put the city's administration on an efficient, businesslike basis. Many civic improvements were made. Springfieldians liked the commission-manager plan so much that they have kept it ever since.

The World War made Springfield grow enormously. The city pulsed with industrial activity while the Nation was at war. And the people of the city and county contributed 3,205 men to the military service. Of these, 168 lost their lives. Subscribers to a War Service fund numbered 31,936.

In 1920 the city's population reached 60,840. This decade saw local industrial production soar to new heights. International trucks steadily rolled off the assembly lines at the Lagonda plant; at Crowell's, millions of copies of magazines poured from the whining presses; and Robbins & Myers keyed its products to the electrical age. From other local factories came caskets, road rollers, piano plates, automobile bumpers, gas engines, and many other products that went out to the country.

The National Road, long eclipsed by the steam horse and the traction car, now made a comeback. East- and westbound automobiles, buses, and trucks streamed over the hard-surfaced highway. Its old role as an avenue of settlement for the pioneer west was commemorated, in 1928, by the erection of a Madonna of the Trail monument (see Springfield Landmarks).

Hard times came with the 1930's, but Springfield fared better than most industrial communities. It had one bank failure, but the loss was not great; and local industrialists cooperated to maintain industrial stability. Even during the worst of the depression, tax collections were never below 85 per cent of the total.

Various community projects were developed in this troubled decade — City Hospital, the new post office, the Y. M. C. A. building, and the municipal baseball stadium. The city im-
proved its public parks and opened the new Lagonda recreation center. A two-way police radio system was installed in 1934. A comprehensive zoning ordinance regulating building construction was adopted. Wittenberg College continued to develop in size and curricula, and several public school buildings and additions went up.

The 1930's also brought a varied pattern of events. Professional baseball came. Wittenberg College de-emphasized athletics and withdrew from the Buckeye Conference. Repeal was followed by the opening of many beer parlors, and wrestling and boxing matches came to Memorial Hall. In 1933, local trolley cars gave way to buses; in 1938, the last interurban car made its final run.

When Springfield joined in the National Road celebration in 1940, it harked back to the days when it was "the town at the end of the pike"; recalled its Conestoga wags, stage coaches, and roadside inns; saw how it had grown to be a stable industrial city of 70,000 persons; and resolutely looked to the future.
TRAVEL WAYS

Watercourses and game trails were followed by the Indians prior to the white man's arrival in Clark County. The Indians canoed over rivers and creeks on all possible occasions; when this was not feasible, they passed through the dust and mud of narrow, crooked forest paths blazed by wild animals. In places these rude trails had been rutted four feet deep by the hooves of deer and buffalo.

The pioneer settlers also made use of the old traces when they began coming here. They widened them to get their ox-drawn wagons through, and forded streams at the shallows. Gradually these primitive roads were extended to link the county's settlements. Stumps were removed, shoulders broadened, and a few roads corduroyed with logs. Toll gates went up at some points, and fees averaging two cents a mile were charged.

In 1838 the National Road (U. S. 40) reached Springfield and temporarily stopped at a point three miles west of the town. Construction soon started again, and the road resumed its westward journey across the continent. Almost at once, Springfield's business picked up. For many years thereafter, hundreds of Conestoga wagons lumbered into the town, took on food and other supplies, and lumbered out again. Hogs and chickens were confined in crude crates, and haltered cattle were pulled along by ropes. During one 2-month period, more than 1,200 wagons passed through.

So envious were the people of Dayton, by-passed by the National Road, that a group of private investors built a turnpike connecting with Springfield. The turnpike resembled the National Road in every detail, even to mile markers showing the distance from Cumberland, Maryland; duped travelers often found themselves in Dayton, some miles from their route.

Sharing the life of the National Road, Springfield became a key stopping place for stagecoaches. These distinctive vehicles, loaded with passengers and baggage, and handled by boisterous drivers, were pulled over the National Road by
WELDER, SPRINGFIELD
METALLIC CASKET COMPANY

CRANK SHAFT,
NATIONAL SUPPLY COMPANY
BLACKSMITH,
CORTSVILLE
HEAVY CASTING MACHINE SHOP.
NATIONAL SUPPLY COMPANY

ARMATURE DEPARTMENT,
ROBBINS & MYERS, INC.
spirited teams of from four to eight horses. Schedules were kept by changing horses at short intervals. Passengers were jarred and jostled about as the coaches made speed often rivaling that of the first railroads.

The stage driver was a fellow worth knowing. He was king of the road, and the way he managed his teams was a caution. He was a welcome arrival at the numerous inns along the road. (Billy Werden's place, The National, was popular in Springfield.) He brought news from distant places; he told lusty tall stories; and he sometimes reminisced about his famous passengers—Andrew Jackson, Daniel Webster, Henry Clay, and others.

Crossing this region in the forepart of the nineteenth century, an Englishman named Reed was deeply impressed by what he saw:

All the habitations were as nothing compared with the forest. I have been traveling through for two days and nights and still it was the same. Now you come to a woodsman's hut in the solitudes, now a farm, and now a village, by courtesy called a town or city, but it is still the forest. You drive on through it unbroken for miles, then you come to a small clearing and a going settlement, and then again you plunge into the wide, everlasting forest to be with Nature and God.

No canals ever entered Clark County. But in 1825, when DeWitt Clinton passed through on his way to Hamilton, he was met and escorted to that city by a party of Springfield business men. At Hamilton he broke ground for the Miami and Erie Canal. The canal followed the Miami River north from Cincinnati, skirting the western limits of the county. After 1845, it offered a continuous passage from Lake Erie to the Ohio River. For many years, part of Clark County's farm produce was shipped over it.

The railroads arrived at the mid-century. The Little Miami Railroad was the first. On August 6, 1846, the locomotive, Ohio, pulling a few cars, coughed its way into Springfield. A few days later, the first regular passenger train came through from Cincinnati. Bug-eyed spectators drew back as the train
started its return trip, not wishing to be drawn under the wheels by the "suction." Down at South Charleston a pastor saw the hand of Satan in this contraption capable of "the frightful speed of 15 miles an hour."

In the next few decades, other railroads laid tracks across Clark County. The canals declined and the stagecoaches became obsolete; by 1880, nearly every sizable community in the county had a steam line.

In 1851 the Little Miami Railroad was joined to the Mad River and Lake Erie Railroad, and a through run was opened from Sandusky to Cincinnati. The Atlantic and Great Western extended its broad-gauge track across the county in 1864, by-passing Springfield three miles to the northwest. This line became the New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio in 1880, and was later attached to the Erie system. Another railroad came through in 1878 with the completion of the Springfield, Jackson and Pomeroy Railroad. It was extended to Lima in 1893 and, after various mergers, became the Detroit, Toledo and Ironton Railroad in 1914. Henry Ford purchased it in 1920, had the cars and stations painted horizon blue, and revamped the service. The Penn Road Corporation finally bought control, and the road is now operated as a freight carrier.

The turn of the century brought the interurban. The first electric car came to Springfield in 1899 from Dayton. The following year the line was extended to Urbana, and in 1901 a branch was completed to Columbus. A series of mergers created the Ohio Electric Railway Company, and Springfield became the headquarters for a system serving Cincinnati, Toledo, Fort Wayne, Indianapolis, and many other midwestern points.

About the time of the World War, the automobile rode to its sensational triumph. One by one, the interurban lines in this area abandoned service because of lack of patronage; the last cars were withdrawn in 1938. Now most Springfieldians ride in their own cars or in local and interstate buses that purr over smooth highways on schedules figured to the minute. Trucking is enormously important. Four intercity firms and four drive-away companies operate out of Springfield, and the
trucks made by the International Harvester Company are hauled by auto transport to their destinations.

Mule-drawn cars provided local transportation in Springfield from 1870 to 1891-2. In the latter year, the city's electric trolley cars went into operation over a system built by Asa Bushnell and I. Ward Frey. Various improvements and extensions of service were made in succeeding years, and by 1928 the traction company was running 40 cars over 40 miles of track. Financial troubles put the company into receivership. In December 1933, bus coaches replaced the street cars, and the operating company — the Springfield City Lines Inc. — was granted a 10-year franchise by the city commission. Thirtys-four modern bus coaches now give city-wide passenger service.

Commercial airlines have no scheduled stops here, but the city maintains a 125-acre airport for privately owned planes. A private field, recently laid out, is used for plane flights to Plattsburg.
IN THE FACTORY

The land in most frontier areas had to be cleared of trees before cultivation could get under way, and the first settlers were, of necessity, farmers. But in all pioneer communities a pressing need soon arose for a miller who would grind corn into meal and wheat into flour, a tanner who would change hides into leather, and a sawyer who would turn trees into planks, beams, and boards. So the early industrialists in Clark County were the men who met these needs.

James Demint was the first (see The Springfield Chronicle). He had settled on the site of Springfield in 1799; in 1803, he built a gristmill and distillery at the mouth of Mill Run. Water power moved the big stone burrs that ground the grain brought here. In 1805 Simon Kenton built a gristmill on Lagonda Creek, and Cooper Ludlow started a tannery.

As more people came, other enterprises were begun. Buckskin breeches and leather shirts were good enough for the wilderness; but as forests receded and villages sprang up, men and women wanted fancier wear. These desires were satisfied locally by the cotton-fabric plant of Maddox Fisher and by the woolen-cloth mill of Ira Paige, Jacob Woodward, and James Taylor. Building was made easier about 1820, when Joseph Perrin put in operation the first sawmill in this district and James Johnson started a cut-nail factory.

It was late in the 1830's before manufacturing, as such, started. An advertisement in an 1838 issue of the Springfield Republic carried the first intimation of the city’s future course:

James Leffel, having long since been aware that Ohio is rapidly becoming a manufacturing as well as an agricultural State, and that the flouring and milling industries will form a considerable item in its internal trade, has been induced to build an iron foundry and machine shop adequate to the growing need for machinery in this section of the country.

From the Leffel shop came axes, sickles, stoves, scythes, and other homely articles. The flow of Buck Creek and Mill
Run proved inadequate for power purposes, and in 1841 Leffel assisted James and Samuel Barnett in constructing a conduit to bring water to their flour mill from a high level upstream. The increased power was shared by several other plants in the vicinity. In later years Leffel patented and manufactured turbine wheels that played an important part in the Nation’s industrial development.

After 1838, when the National Road came through the town, an immense traffic in men and goods passed over the road (see Travel Ways). Westward-bound migrants paused in Springfield to repair their wagons, shoe horses, and stock supplies. Wagon shops did a lively trade. David West operated one of the first in the town. His business improved to such an extent that he gave notice to the public in a March 1843 issue of the Republic:

This subscriber has opened a large and commodious shop on High Street, a few doors west of the Market House, where he has on hand an excellent lot of lumber and is prepared to do work in his line of business in the best style, shortest notice, and on terms to suit the times. He is thankful for past favors, and hopes, by care and attention to business, to merit a liberal share of public patronage.

During the 1850’s, when Ohio was the Nation’s leading farm State, the railroads pushed their way steadily westward. Soon most of the larger midwestern communities were linked to those in the East. Springfield had two railroads by 1851; others came later. Sensing the need of mechanical labor-aids on the farm, local manufacturers cudgeled their wits to devise them. A few were successful, and in time Springfield became a notable agricultural-machinery center.

Plows had been made here for some years, but the manufacture of farm machines was inaugurated in 1850 by Benjamin Warder and Jeremiah Brokaw. Soon joined by Ross Mitchell, the partners developed and marketed many types of farm machinery then in demand—Ketchem mowers, Densmore selfrakers, New York reapers, Ohio harvesters, Buckeye mowers, Marsh harvesters, and others. A factory built in the Lagonda section steadily grew in size as the firm—first known
as Warder, Mitchell & Company and later as Warder, Bushnell & Glessner Company — became one of the city's largest employers.

Meanwhile the Whitelys, Amos and William N., were building an enterprise that was to make Springfield a kind of “Little Chicago” in the farm-machinery field. The Whitely saga began in 1852, when the inventive William N. was an interested spectator at a State-sponsored exhibition of reaping and mowing machines held on the J. T. Warder farm near Springfield. Whitely immediately began work on a machine of his own and by 1855 had completed a practical mower. In a tryout on a farm near the city, it is said that he took the place of the horses hitched to his mower and pulled the machine the length of the field.

In 1856 William N. Whitely and Jerome Fassler organized a company to produce mowers. The two men had little capital but much inventive talent, and in their 20- by 35-foot “factory” they completed 20 machines in the first year. Oliver Kelly became a partner in 1857 and brought some capital to the firm of Whitely, Fassler & Kelly. Orders poured in, and a larger plant was built.

With the onset of the Civil War, the farm-machinery industry boomed. Springfield’s various factories rode the crest of the boom, expanded their plants, and still fell behind in meeting orders. By 1867 this situation had become particularly acute for Whitely, Fassler & Kelly. A second factory, called the Champion Machine Company, was established in 1867, with Amos Whitely as president. With a former competitor, Warder, Mitchell & Company, the Whitelys entered into an arrangement whereby that company was to discontinue its former lines and manufacture only Champion mowers and parts for sale in the northern sales district.

Now Champion machines were made and marketed by Whitely, Fassler & Kelly, the Champion Machine Company, and Warder, Mitchell & Company. Production was greatly stimulated, additional floor space was built, and more men hired. Business steadily improved. In 1874 two more units were added to the group — the Champion Malleable Iron Company, to furnish the main plants with iron parts, and the Champion Bar & Knife Company, to provide small parts.
This network of factories, located in several parts of the city and collectively called "the Champion works," made Springfield widely known. The industry achieved its greatest growth during the early 1880's. The several plants increased in size until, it was said, their combined area was exceeded in size only by the Krupp munitions works in Germany. Champion agricultural machines became known throughout the world. After Appleby patented his knot-tying device, the Whitelys leased the invention and incorporated it in their binders and combination reaper-binders. Mass production methods were used, and in some years 12,000 machines were made.

The end came suddenly. In 1887 a bank failure plunged the Whitely enterprises into receivership. The Champion group disintegrated. The East Street plant was sold, and its vast space leased to many small manufacturers. Warder, Bushnell & Glessner resumed its course as an independent producer of farm machinery. William N. Whitely later attempted a comeback by founding the Whitely Machine Company and other companies, but never recovered financial standing.

The failure of Champion industries did not end Springfield's leadership in the farm-machinery field, for near the end of the century other implement factories started. Feed grinders built in 1884 by Gustavus Foos were the first product of the Foos Manufacturing Company. The Bauer Brothers bought the plant in 1904 and have since expanded it. Seeding machines turned out by three local firms—Thomas, Ludlow & Rodgers; the A. C. Evans Company; and the P. P. Mast Company—found a ready market and changed the method of planting and cultivating grain. In 1901 there were 11 agricultural-machinery factories in the city, employing a total of 4,000 men.

The Mast Company indirectly started what is now the city's second-largest industry. To promote the sale of his implements, Mast in 1877 brought out a little magazine called *Farm and Fireside*. It was well received and in 1879 was taken over by a publishing house organized by P. P. Mast, T. J. Kirkpatrick, and John S. Crowell. The plant was moved to its present location, where it steadily expanded; near the end of the century Crowell bought out his partners and renamed the
firm the Crowell Publishing Company. Control later passed to Eastern capitalists, and in 1939 the firm became the Crowell-Collier Publishing Company (see Springfield Landmarks). Today the big, eight-story plant employs about 2,600 persons in the printing and assembling of the American Magazine, Collier's, and Woman's Home Companion.

Implements and magazines were not the only products of Springfield labor. Numerous factories founded in the late 1800's turned out miscellaneous articles; many of these firms carry on today. James Leffel & Company, the city's oldest industry keeping its original name, still manufactures turbine water wheels and Scotch marine boilers. The foundry and machine shop of Chandler Robbins and J. A. Myers moved to its Lagonda Avenue site in 1879, was incorporated in 1889, began making fan motors in 1897, and now employs 1,400 workers in producing electric motors of all kinds. A small coffin factory of the 1880's developed into the Springfield Metallic Casket Company; today its 200 craftsmen prepare more than 100 kinds of metal caskets and burial vaults. One other concern, the Wickham Company, became the leader in the production of nickelwork and metal plates for pianos.

Near the end of the century, carriages used solid rubber tires with a steel core, which were made in Springfield by Kelly's Rubber Tire Wheel Company. In 1900 the firm became the Kelly-Springfield Tire Company and switched production to pneumatic tires for automobiles. The company's product is now well known, but its plant is no longer here.

The twentieth century marked a shift from agricultural machinery to many kinds of manufactures. This change was signalized by what happened to the Warder, Bushnell & Glessner Company. Soon after its plant was acquired by the International Harvester Company, production was changed from machinery to motor trucks. Agricultural machinery fell from first place to sixth in value among the county's manufactures. Springfield did not lose out because of the change. International's local factory turned out increasing numbers of motor trucks. Today it is the city's largest employer; when business is good, it keeps nearly 4,600 people at work.

The World War brought local industry into high gear. Through the 1920's there were unprecedented peace-time orders
and tall profits. The United States Department of Commerce reported that in 1929 Clark County produced manufactures valued at more than $112,000,000; it ranked 112th among the Nation’s counties.

During the early 1930’s the depression struck the city. Employment sagged, plants operated at a fraction of their capacity, and some privation existed. After 1933, however, production slowly rose and men went back to work. Some new enterprises, a few in the automotive field, were started. From 1933 to 1937, the county’s manufactures rose in value 77.1 per cent.

By 1938 Springfield was doing well. In operation were more than 200 industrial concerns, 70 of which used 4 or more workers, while 10 firms employed more than 200 each. In the vanguard was the International Harvester Company, with 4,600 workers on its payroll. Next came the Crowell-Collier Publishing Company, with 2,600. Other leading employers were Robbins & Myers, 1,400; National Superior Company, maker of gas and Diesel engines, 600; Steel Products Engineering Company, 600; Buckeye Bumpers Company, producer of automobile bumpers, 300; Buffalo-Springfield Road Roller Company, 250; Buckeye Incubator Company, 250; and Springfield Metallic Casket Company, 200.

So complete was recovery that for 1937 both wages and product value surpassed those of 1929. The $21,000,000 paid in wages in 1937 by the county’s industries exceeded by more than 20 per cent the payroll in 1929. Clark County ranked 91st among the Nation’s counties in wages paid by manufacturing concerns. In the same year, products valued at nearly $122,000,000 were turned out locally, and Clark County stood 94th among the country’s 3,090 counties in the value of its industrial products.

Springfield has come far since that day when James Demint put up his gristmill at the mouth of Mill Run. It has adapted its energies to the needs of the time. From having been for decades a leader in the production of agricultural machinery, it has turned by easy stages to the manufacture of motor trucks, engines, road rollers, bumpers, caskets, incubators, and many other items of the assembled type.
ON THE FARM

In 1780, when George Rogers Clark and his thousand men came here to punish the Shawnee for raiding Kentucky settlements, they found rich fields of corn in the Mad River bottoms. Clark’s army destroyed the Indian council town, Old Piqua, near the site of Springfield (see The Springfield Chronicle); then it marched down the valley and burned 800 acres of nearly ripe corn. That was a lean winter for the Shawnee. The Indians were fond of this “maize” and prepared it in several ways. Sometimes they left the husks intact and placed the ears in the live coals of their camp fires, cooking the grain in its own steam. At other times they parched the kernels or pounded them into a coarse meal.

When white men arrived in the early 1800’s, they turned to farming in order to survive. Two dollars would buy an acre of land. But trees had to be felled, stumps uprooted, and sod removed before cultivation could take place. This was a slow, laborious process. At first there were no near-by towns that could serve as markets for surplus produce. So these early Clark County farms were small and self-sufficient; they grew enough to take care of their occupants — and no more. By 1810, about 500 acres were under cultivation.

Over the next several decades the forests were leveled, the county slowly filled with people, and farms took up most of the land. Markets developed as dirt roads enabled the farmers to haul their produce to Springfield and a few other villages. The 1830’s brought the Miami and Erie Canal to western Ohio, and a great demand for hogs at Middletown and Cincinnati; these factors boosted corn and hog production throughout the region. The National Road gave further stimulus when in 1840 it reached the Indiana Line.

In the 1850’s, when Ohio was the Nation’s leading farm State, Clark County became the most populous agricultural section in the west-central region. The newly opened Little Miami Railroad and the Mad River and Lake Erie Railroad provided outlets to distant markets (see Travel Ways). Machines manufactured by local inventors began to ease the
burden of hand-labor methods of farming (see In the Factory). In 1850 Benjamin Warder and Jeremiah Brokaw started making various types of farm implements, which later included mowers, reapers, selfrakers, harvesters, and other devices. And William N. Whitely in 1855 developed his Champion mower.

At this time the corn-hog type of farming prevailed in Clark County. But dairying also was widely practiced, especially by Scotch-Irish and Pennsylvania Dutch families; and for some years the raising of beef cattle had been profitable. In 1822 a farmer named Price had brought a large herd of shorthorn cattle from Kentucky. Other stock raisers obtained this breed, and shorthorns became numerous; after 1835 they outnumbered all other breeds in the county.

To exchange ideas, debate issues, and exhibit their products, Clark County farmers formed agricultural societies. The first had been started in 1840. In 1853 this group purchased a 10-acre tract in Springfield for use as a fairgrounds. A county fair was held here each year, and plowing matches, livestock exhibits, canned-goods displays, and other features brought blue ribbons and many ideas to the farmers. The Ohio State Fair was held on the Springfield grounds in 1870 and 1871. In 1872 farmers near Tremont City organized a local grange, only five years after the national body had been formed. Other granges rose in the various townships; through them, farmers aired their problems and asserted their political desires. Finally, in 1916, the county farm bureau got under way. It has grown steadily in influence and benefits; mutual insurance, marketing aids, and information on farm problems are a few of its services.

The rise of Springfield as a manufacturing center for agricultural machinery changed the methods and increased the farm yield in the county. Thirty years ago there was an average of four horses to each farm. Today the tractor and the truck have reduced by half the number of draft animals used. A wide variety of mechanical and semi-mechanical implements are now employed in plowing, discing, harrowing, seeding, cultivating, cutting, raking, and harvesting fields and crops. Soil is conserved and revitalized by modern techniques. And little Delco units for rural electrification have brought light and power to the farm. The radio transmits daily market re-
ports on all produce, and truck and trailer narrow down to minutes the amount of time required to haul crops or livestock to the nearest cooperative or stockyard. "Down on the farm" no longer signifies slow, back-breaking hand labor and acute loneliness in isolated countryside.

Today's farmers not only work more efficiently than their fathers and grandfathers; they also know more. Information on farming comes to them through many channels: radio, newspapers, magazines, the publications of the Ohio Farm Bureau and the State and Federal Departments of Agriculture, the State Fair, Farmers' Week at The Ohio State University, demonstrations at State experiment stations, and conferences called by the county farm agent. Farmers' sons take agricultural courses at modern centralized schools, participate in the programs of the 4-H clubs, and read weighty technical books.

The result is that Clark County farmers earn more money than they formerly did. In 1935, when the State average for income from all sources was $1,122 per farm, this county's average was $1,625 per farm. The average farm is 100 acres in size and has an overall valuation of about $100 per acre. Some farms are 200 acres in extent, and a limited number are worked by tenants. In 1939 Clark County had an agricultural income of $4,400,000.

General-purpose farming prevails. Corn and wheat are the principal crops, but the dominant corn-hog program — more than 40,000 hogs are raised each year in Clark County — accounts for 30 per cent of the farmers' total annual income. As more land was returned to pasture, livestock raising became increasingly important, particularly for beef cattle. In 1936 there were an estimated 29,000 head in the county, with short-horns in the lead. Cattle, hogs, and sheep are bought and sold at the yards in Springfield and South Charleston. The latter place is lively on sales days; farmers and stock dealers come from all parts of the State. Dairying is extremely important, yielding an income of a million and a quarter dollars annually.

Truck farms of from 5 to 20 acres each operate in some parts of the county; most of their vegetable produce goes to Springfield for sale or shipment. Orchards and vineyards occupy less than 1,500 acres; their crops are mostly for home use. But
nurseries for growing rose bushes, evergreens, shrubs, and herbaceous perennials are a large-scale enterprise and for some years Springfield has been one of the Nation's floricultural centers. One greenhouse has 100,000 square feet under glass. Soil, climate, and marketing facilities combine to make the nursery business profitable.

Farming in Clark County has undergone many changes since that day when the Kentucky militiamen destroyed the Indians' corn fields. Machinery has replaced the old hand methods, and the State and Federal Governments have helped with their informational services and financial benefits. The co-op has come to stay. Barn raisin's, corn shuckin's, and other rural pleasantries have passed, and the last Clark County fair was held in 1922. But agricultural expositions are, on occasion, still given at the old fairgrounds, without benefit of horse races and other traditional features. Annually since 1931, county-wide corn husking contests have attracted large crowds and recaptured some of the jollity of bygone years.
While Clark County was filling up with native-born Americans, people from far-off lands began coming here. Famines, political disturbances, and the promise of America brought them to this country. Of those entering Clark County, the majority settled in Springfield, which offered excellent opportunities for a livelihood. Throughout the nineteenth century most of the immigrants came from western Europe. Before and after the World War, however, the influx was from central and southern Europe. In 1924, with the passage of the Restrictive Emigration Act, the flow of newcomers virtually stopped. Since 1932 more Italians and Greeks have left Springfield to return to their native lands than have arrived here from abroad.

The Irish were the first to come. The great potato famine of the 1840's drove hundreds of thousands of Irishmen to these shores. Scattering as far west as the Mississippi, they helped build the new roads and canals. Construction work drew some of them to Clark County; they made homes here and stayed. In the decades that followed, there was a steady infiltration of Irish into the county.

Next came the Germans. The political reaction following the revolution of 1848 sent many of them to America. During the 1850's a number of Germans came to Springfield, possibly because the college was named for the town in which Luther had posted the 95 Theses. They opened small meat markets, combination saloons and grocery stores, and wood-working shops. In the 1870's, when there was another large exodus from Germany, more Germans arrived. Some took up land in the county and became farmers, but others made their homes in Springfield and started stores or worked as mechanics in the factories. The Germans were thrifty and industrious and made good citizens; they assimilated quickly. Many Clark County residents are of German descent.

A few Jews reached Springfield before the Civil War; more came afterwards and opened stores and shops. In the 1860's M. D. Levy established at Main Street and Fountain Avenue a
clothing store that continued to do business there for 50 years. About 100 Jewish families now live in Springfield.

Italians came about 1890; today nearly 100 families, or 475 persons, live in Springfield. A 1937 survey listed 176 Italians as foreign-born—the majority of them from southern Italy. Most of them are naturalized or have taken out their first papers. Nearly all belong to the Roman Catholic Church and send their children to parochial schools.

During the 1890's four Greeks were operating restaurants and shoe-repair shops in Springfield. They came from Sparta, a province that later sent others here. Today there are about 150 foreign-born Greeks in the city. Not more than 35 are women, and marriages between Greek men and American girls are fairly common. The Greeks manage about 75 local establishments—restaurants, beer parlors, shoe-shine stands, and amusement places. They support the Greek Orthodox Church.

Other nationality groups are limited to a few persons. Several Bulgarians and Rumanians live in the city, and a few Chinese work in laundries and restaurants.

About 85 per cent of Springfield's 70,662 residents is native-born white, with English, Irish, and German ancestries prevailing. About 12 per cent of the populace is first-generation American, with one or both parents born in Europe. Nearly 1,500 foreign-born live here, of whom 607 are aliens. Negroes make up the rest of the city's population. Few foreign-born, and only about 500 Negroes, live outside of Springfield in the county.

The city's largest ethnic group, after the native-born whites, is its 9,100 Negroes. A few freemen and fugitive slaves were here before the Civil War, but the influx of Negroes started later in the century. It reached its peak during, and just after, the World War of 1914-18, when the vast demands of industry brought many Negroes from the South to Northern manufacturing centers.

During the process of adjustment of Negroes to life in this community, Springfield has had several racial incidents. On March 7, 1904, a Negro who had killed a policeman was seized
by a mob and shot to death; a Negro district known as the
“Levee” was destroyed the same day, and the National Guard
was called on March 9 to restore order. The Guard was sum-
moned again on February 28, 1906, when a section called the
“Jungles” was burned by a gang shortly after a railroad
worker had been murdered. Another outbreak of rowdyism in
1921 brought troops here on March 12 for a third time.

Today racial troubles seem far away, and the Negroes of
Springfield are an integral part of the community. They have
their own residential areas, stores, and amusement places.
Some are lawyers, doctors, dentists, and clergymen; others are
contractors or helpers in the building industry; and many
work as laborers.
INTERIOR, HUFFMAN HOUSE

COVERED BRIDGE, SNYDERVILLE
GOTHIC ENTRANCE.
COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, SPRINGFIELD
Strange notions and odd superstitions linger with people who are close to the soil. Rain makers still carry on; the groundhog legend dies hard; and there are those who dread to see a black cat cross their path. In certain sections of Clark County, a whispered lore tells of people who are “hexed,” “bewitched,” or have had “spells” placed upon them.

Not all these dark forces are evil. “Water witches” locate underground veins for those wanting wells. A forked stick, usually of willow or peach, is all they need; holding the prongs firmly in their hands, with the end of the fork upright, they walk back and forth over the land. When the stick bends earthward, the diviner marks the spot and gives the command to dig. Sometimes water is found.

There are women who are said to possess the power to relieve pain. By merely passing their hand over the sufferer’s arm, they claim they can draw the hurt out through his finger tips. Infants have a “short growth” if they do not seem to thrive; a woman is called to “measure” them for a cure. Burns are healed by “blowing the fire out.”

Some think the howling of a dog at night portends death and the soaring of an owl over a house signifies the demise of a relative living in the direction in which the bird is flying. One breaks a dog of the habit of running away by cutting off the tip of his tail and putting it under the doorstep. Some farmers believe that planting potatoes during the dark of the moon insures good root growth and a fat harvest.

Now, as in other years, people scour the country for dandelion, horseradish, mullein, pennyroyal, poke berries, wild cherry bark, hickory bark, and watermelon seed. Some appear on the table, while others go into the preparation of home-made remedies. Goose grease provides a base for salves.

As cooks, pioneer women did well with what they had. They baked bread and pies in large brick ovens out-of-doors. Their kitchens had fireplaces wide enough for four-foot lengths of
wood, and cranes for holding iron kettles. Long-handled waffle irons, tin reflectors, and Dutch ovens generally completed their facilities.

A favorite old-time dish prepared at butchering time was a pudding made of pork scrap, liver, kidney, and tongue. After thorough cooking, the meat was removed from the rich pot liquor and put through a grinder; it was then spiced, given another heating, and placed in sacks or crocks to cool and dry. The residual broth was used in making a corn meal mush called “paun haus.” Farmers still make this mush and sell it at the Springfield city market.

The Negroes have kept alive many old fancies. Some, involving “charms” and “signs,” can be traced to Africa; others are shared jointly by Negroes and whites. Beliefs in the latter category are as follows: the first person at whom a cat looks after licking its paw will be married soon; a person who puts his hand on the head of a dead friend will never worry about the departed one, will never fear death, and will never be haunted by the spirit of the dead; if the picture of the deceased person is not turned to the wall, some other member of his family will die soon; to stop the family clock after a death is to keep bad luck away.

Medical superstitions are common: asafetida worn in a cloth bag around the neck will ward off diseases and evil spirits; dried rattlesnake skin or a copper wire bound about the affected part will cure rheumatism; and juice from a cockroach will end earache.

On New Year’s Day, many Negroes eat blackeyed beans, believing that good fortune will follow throughout the year. A flint stone or the bone from the leg of a cat is carried on the person to avoid being bewitched. The left hind leg of a rabbit keeps bad luck at bay.

A few Indian tales are still told in the county. One concerns Wildwood Flower, a Seneca maiden whose romance and death are linked with New Carlisle. The recent discovery of a skeleton near the site of Mary Reeves’ cabin—the story’s locale—has led some people to accept the legend as fact.

Wildwood Flower (Mary Reeves related in 1845) took refuge in the Reeves cabin while making her way to the Ohio
River, where she was to meet her lover, a young white man whom the Seneca had taken prisoner and adopted into their tribe. Wildwood Flower was being pursued by Bloody Panther, a jealous Indian suitor; at the Reeves cabin, he caught up with her. As he attempted to drag her from the cabin, she pressed a dagger into his heart. Another member of the pursuit party killed her on the spot. Near a spring not far from her cabin, Mary Reeves buried the poor girl.

In later years, Mary Reeves related, as she sat alone at night under the trees near her home, she would see the ghost of the Indian maiden roaming about. For many years thereafter, people believed that the ghost lived in the hillside. The old cabin has been razed, but the spring still seeps from the base of the hill; and the story of the Indian girl survives.
Springfield’s first newspaper, *The Farmer*, was started in 1817 by Gerge Smith. After he had laboriously struck off the 13-by-16 inch journal on his Washington hand press, Smith would trudge about town with the better part of the week’s issue under his arm, wistfully looking for new subscribers and hoping that old ones would pay up in cash or “kind.” *The Farmer* shortly experienced the mutations of name and ownership that befell many of the early nineteenth century papers; by 1821, it had evolved into the *Farmer’s Advocate*. Two years later it became the *Western Pioneer*, continuing under this name until 1836, when the masthead was changed to *Pioneer*. In the 1840’s it was rechristened the *Republic*, under which name it persisted almost to the end of the century.

Several other newspapers emerged during this period. Most of them died young because they served as horn blowers for passing political frenzies. Such a paper was the *Calumet and War Club*, which the Whigs used to promote William Henry Harrison for the Presidency in 1836 and 1840. Not to be outdone, the Democrats in 1839 gained a faithful trumpet when J. H. Nichols founded the *Mad River Democrat and Advocate*. It lasted seven years and then gave way to the *Union Democrat*. Under various changes of name and ownership, it was to survive the century, finally merging, in 1905, with the *News*.

These pioneer journals were housed in small frame buildings. Their equipment consisted of a Washington or Franklin hand press—a small job press operated by foot power—a composing stone or makeup table, and a limited supply of type. Tallow candles provided light; and an open fireplace or a stove gave heat. Each shop had a boy, known as a “printer’s devil,” who washed ink from the rollers, emptied the “hell box” of discarded type, and did other chores. Editors usually were such wretched penmen that typesetters had to have almost occult powers to read their script.

*The Mad River Democrat and Advocate* was a typical newspaper of the period. Editorial comments, advertisements, foreign and local news, and letters from readers were scattered
on the first and second pages; the third carried political notes, reprints from contemporary papers, and paid matter; ads filled the last page. Under the masthead appeared this commendable slogan: "Democracy is a sentiment not to be appalled, corrupted, or compromised. It knows no baseness, it cowards to no danger, it oppresses no weakness."

Early editors wrote with withering scorn and blistering sarcasm. Nichols' reply to an article in the Republic attacking a Democratic candidate was: "The above is the most dirty, low-lived, cowardly mode of electioneering we have ever seen. Men that would resort to such low tactics should be closely watched after night. Who is this writer who signs himself 'Close Observer'? A scamp who was driven from his own party for the most contemptible lying on record."

Advertisers boosted their wares to the extreme. The public was urged to try such cure-alls as: "The Baron Von Hutchelon Herb Pills, composed of herbs which exert a specific action upon the heart — give an impulse of strength to the arterial system"; "Elixir of Health, to which H. Eastman invites the attention of the afflicted, and the public generally" and "Goe-luke's Matchless Sanative, a medicine of more solace to man than the vast mines of Austria, or even the united treasures of our globe. It is possessed of a mysterious influence over many diseases of the human system."

During the 1840's, local newspapers improved their looks. Headlines — a stab of boldface — came into use. The Springfield Republic carried, on the first page, reprints from other papers, political notes from Columbus, fillers on every subject, and classified ads; on the second page, legislative news, national political notes, and Congressional activities; on the third page, editorials, "legals," and ads for patent medicines, stoves, and shoes; and on the last page, poems, news, and displays.

An early legal advertisement reflected the importance of the National Road. It said: "Notice is hereby given, that a memorial will be presented to the General Assembly of Ohio, now in session, praying for an act of incorporation to enable citizens of Clark, Greene, and Montgomery Counties to construct a turnpike road from Dayton to the National Road, on the northwest side of Mad River."
In 1843 the Millerites, a religious sect, announced that the world was coming to an end. This guff scared some Springfieldians, but the Republic merely scoffed. "We have therefore," it stated on May 12, 1843, "refrained from saying anything on the Miller supposition that the world is to end in 1843, because we thought it a mere notion, so wild and absurd as scarcely to require candid refutation — because we knew the delusion would soon correct itself. But we know of some who have said that if the world does not end in 1843, according to Miller's calculations, they would lay aside their Bibles as unworthy of confidence."

Whisky quotations were listed in the market reports. The Republic for May 26, 1843, noted: "Whisky — The market opened yesterday morning at 15½ cents a gallon, at which price a little over 100 barrels were taken; in a few hours it advanced to 16 cents, and it finally sold at 16½, the highest point it has reached since September, 1841."

Because subscribers were not always paying customers, a local editor remarked: "Bad things — a drunkard, an unfaithful servant, a smoky house, a stumbling horse, a scolding wife, an aching tooth, an incessant talker, hogs that break through enclosures, a dull razor, and worst of all, a subscriber that won't pay for his paper."

Improvements in typesetting came into use during the 1840's, and hand presses gradually gave way to power presses that could run from 1,000 to 1,500 imprints an hour. When lard lamps replaced candles, shops were better lighted.

After the mid-century, more space was given to local news. When Whitelaw Reid, a former school teacher in Clark County, was appointed librarian to the House of Representatives, the Republic dryly remarked: "The post has a good salary but not much work." It noted that Artemus Ward, formerly associated with the South Charleston paper, was stopping at Salt Lake City to have a talk with Brigham Young, after having lectured in California and cleared $8,000 in gold. Said the Republic: "It would be a blessing if some 'entangling alliance' would keep A. Ward, showman, at Salt Lake City. Without eloquence, genuine wit, or original humor — without affording information — he has realized a fortune by talking nonsense in
public.” On another occasion, a local man ran this letter in the paper: “I see that Ed Boyd was admitted to the Cincinnati bar. Sir, I hope you will correct the idea that it means me. Sir, while I have health and strength, I expect to make an honest living.

Yours truly
Edwin Boyd
X, his mark.”

The first Springfield daily, the Nonpareil, appeared in 1855, after having struggled for three years as a weekly. At the start of the Civil War the Republic also became a daily to meet the competition of its rivals, the Evening Telegram (later merged with the Republic) and the Daily News. In 1872 the Republic was doing well enough to be incorporated for $125,000. It acquired a strong rival in 1873 when the Gazette came out, at first as a weekly. One other paper, the Globe, also started in the 1870’s; later, when it took over the Republic, it was renamed the Globe-Republic.

By 1870, local newspapers were using clearer type faces and larger headlines. Patent-medicine retailers had changed their tune; instead of calling their nostrums cure-alls, they designated their wares as aids in keeping health and in giving a touch of color to fair women. Consumption remedies, sewing machines, and a mechanical clothes wringer were advertised extensively, and doctors and lawyers frequently ran notices. The progression to present-day illustrated display advertisements, attractive type faces, “headlines” and “subheads,” editorial pages, sports pages, special departments, and the popular comic section has been so gradual as to be taken for granted by most readers. Actually, much groping and experimentation were involved.

In 1894 a group of Springfield printers and journalists founded the Sun as a cooperative venture; the paper still carries on. At its inception, three other dailies enlivened the local scene. They were the Democrat, the Gazette, and the Press-Republic — the last named resulting from a merger of the Globe-Republic and the Champion City Times.

The present century brought further consolidations. In 1905 the Press-Republic joined the 66-year-old Democrat in
forming the Springfield News. In the same year the Sun absorbed the Gazette. In 1927 the two papers became part of the James M. Cox newspaper chain; a handsome Italian Renaissance building was erected in 1929 at North and Limestone Streets; and from this modern plant comes the morning Sun, the evening News, and the combined Sunday News-Sun.

In November 1909 the Springfield Tribune, official weekly publication of the Trades and Labor Assembly (A. F. of L. affiliate), was founded by C. W. Rich.

Two county newspapers are published outside Springfield. The South Charleston Sentinel is a weekly founded in 1833; at one time it was called the Banner. Two well-known Ohio journalists, Whitelaw Reid and Charles F. Browne (Artemus Ward), worked for this paper in the 1840’s. The New Carlisle Sun, a Republican weekly, has been appearing since 1900.

During the early 1930’s the Springfield-founded Ohio Examiner was notorious throughout the State. Lurid and gossipy in manner, it attacked individuals, officials, and public utilities, and spotlighted the morals of many Ohio communities. Slander suits, charges of extortion, and the arrest of the publisher on numerous occasions marked the paper’s hectic career; the publication office had to move from place to place. Eventually Grover Fleming, the publisher, was convicted and sentenced to a term in the penitentiary; and the Examiner expired. Following his release in 1940, Fleming reissued the paper as the American Examiner — but not from Springfield.
WORLD OF MAKE-BELIEVE

The theater fared badly during Springfield's early years; it showed few signs of life, largely because drama was frowned upon by people of Calvinistic and Puritan faith. Many of the town's first settlers came from New England, and to them play-acting was the Devil's bauble. This harsh, crabbed spirit often compelled actors to fall back upon their second profession, that of barbering, in order to survive.

In various timid ways, however, pageantry and pretense came to Springfield. Itinerant actors or minstrels, accompanied by performing bears, probably put on occasional acts in a tavern yard or a vacant lot. After a while, entertainments were staged in the meeting hall of the old Market House. Shows and dramas were advertised as "exhibitions," and paintings of great natural wonders as "panoramas." The low esteem of the theater in the public mind made such ruses necessary. Singers were acceptable, however, and many appeared at the Market House. The "Buckeye Singers," with Oliver Kelly, were especially pleasing.

The sensational success of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* during the pre-Civil War years brought a grudging respectability to the theater. After the war was over, almost every sizable community built gaudy "opera houses" in which plays and other diversions could be presented. Sensing the change, Andrew Black, a local merchant, in 1868 built Black's Opera House at the corner of Main Street and Fountain Avenue. It cost $100,000 and was very grand for its day. The auditorium, on the second floor, had 1,000 seats. Storerooms occupied the first floor.

The opera house got off to a good start with S. J. Muscroft's *The Drummer Boy of Shiloh*. This popular play of the Civil War, sponsored by the local Mitchell Post, G. A. R., opened on February 8, 1869; it ran for one week and was a financial success. Part of the receipts was turned over to the Ohio Soldiers and Sailors Orphans Home at Xenia. The Springfield *Republic* allayed the fears of the squeamish:
Permit us to inform all doubting friends that there is not a word or an act which can offend the most delicate sense of propriety. A school dialogue could not be more utterly innocent of evil suggestions. There is not a single instance of kissing—not a word of love-making—and no dancing except a jig by a "plantation darkey."

Black's Opera House continued to be the only place of entertainment in the town for more than a decade. It flourished, even though the quality of its fare was not distinctive. In 1881, however, John Bookwalter built the Grand Opera House, with the auditorium on the ground floor. People favored the Grand because they did not have to climb stairs. It featured second-string Broadway troupes and, on occasion, a Broadway star; many of the country's minstrel shows trod its boards. For two decades, the Grand was Springfield's leading theater.

Black's was remodeled in the early 1880's, but it did not achieve the popularity of the Grand. Ross Mitchell bought the old opera house and staged productions in it until February 19, 1903, when it was destroyed by fire. On the site rose the largest playhouse in the city, the Fairbanks Theater, which opened in 1906 with *Ben Hur*. Entertainment also was presented in the Wigwam during the 1880's. This edifice at Main and Center Streets had been erected by Benjamin Warder and others as a political headquarters. Shows were held in its auditorium for several years; then the Wigwam was converted into a livery stable, and finally became an implement store.

While the theater was now an accepted part of the city's life, and the local playhouses prospered, the productions offered were pretty bad. Most of them were melodrama; and the leading actor was the drawing card. Naturalness was ignored, and the actor played boldly to his audience; in the midst of a tense scene, action was often stopped while the star came forward to bow to the applauding spectators. The play's author was generally disregarded. His name was omitted from programs and advertisements; his royalties were not paid; the title of his play was changed at will. Besides, great liberties were taken with the text: old lines were omitted, new lines were dubbed in, and sometimes the entire play was revised to suit the actor's whims.
By and by people sensed there was something wrong with this kind of drama. Many turned in relief to vaudeville. This variety type of entertainment, stemming from the music halls of London, got its start in America in 1883, when Benjamin Keith introduced it to Boston. The public liked it, and the Keith, Orpheum, and Pantages North West were important vaudeville circuits when Gus Sun started his circuit in Springfield in 1905.

Sun had come here in 1904. After an apprenticeship as "the doctor" in Indian medicine shows, he became manager of a minstrel troupe that toured the Nation in the 1890's. He appeared in these shows, under various names, as "America's greatest juggler and equilibrist." Arriving in Springfield, Sun opened a little show in a storeroom on South Limestone Street, about where the Ideal Jewelry is now. For 10 cents the customers got three vaudeville acts and one reel of flickers. Amateur Night was held once a week, and dishes and silverware went to the winners.

Sun decided to make Springfield his permanent headquarters. He inaugurated his vaudeville circuit here and on December 1, 1907, opened the New Sun Theater, a vaudeville house with 750 seats, on the site of the old Wigwam. Later he bought the Grand Opera House, had it razed, and in 1919 built his Regent Theater on the site.

The years before and just after the first World War were the golden age of vaudeville. Stars of the legitimate theater entered the variety shows, and still there were not enough professionals to fill the demand. The door opened wide to the talented amateur. Gus Sun became one of the big names in the theater. Variety said: "He has created more 'firsts' than any other person in the show business."

Many of vaudeville's greatest headliners got their chance in Sun's booking office. One young man declared he was a comedian and secured a job at $25 a week. He was Chic Sale. Another started as a hoofer on the Sun circuit and later became a celebrated columnist and radio commentator — Walter Winchell. Jack Dempsey received $6,500 weekly on Sun time; Paul Whiteman, $10,500. Up the Sun ladder to fame went Will Rogers, Mae West, Al Jolson, the Marx Brothers, Joe Cook, Ted Lewis, Clark and McCullough, and many others.
With the coming of "talkies" in the late 1920's, vaudeville declined. Its day as the supreme form of popular entertainment was over. Other types of amusement took its place. The Gus Suns (father and son) still carry on, however. From their Springfield agency, and from branch offices in Chicago, Detroit, Columbus, and Pittsburgh, they continue to supply acts for vaudeville, night clubs, radio, fairs, amusement parks, etc.

One of America's best-known actresses, Lillian Gish, was born in Springfield on October 14, 1896. When she was one year old, the family moved to Dayton, where in 1898 her sister Dorothy was born. After living in several cities and making a few appearances on the stage, Lillian returned to Springfield in 1912 to help her mother run a confectionery. A year later the two sisters went to New York to try their luck in motion pictures. Successful years followed. Lillian became famous for her fragile, spiritual heroines; and such pictures as *Birth of a Nation, Hearts of the World, Broken Blossoms, White Sister, Romola,* and *The Scarlet Letter* carried her name around the world.

Miss Gish returned to the stage in 1930 and has since played a number of interesting roles. She appeared in *Camille, Uncle Vanya, Nine Pine Street, The Old Maid, Hamlet,* and *The Star Wagon.*

By this time, profound changes had taken place in the theater. New ideas and the success of experimental theaters in Europe and America caused the commercial playhouse to shed its outmoded trappings and come to grips with the stuff of life. The Theater Guild showed what could be done behind the footlights; and play writing and production were greatly stimulated. All over the United States, "little theaters" arose.

In 1926, an agent of the Theater Guild suggested to members of the Springfield Women's Club that they start a little theater here. Soon afterward, Miss Martha Johnson and Mrs. Herbert Reed organized a small group known as the Folding Theater Players. It was so named because folding screens were used in place of formal stage sets. The first offering, *Columbine,* a one-act play, was presented before an audience of 20 persons. Between 1926 and 1928, the Players put on 11 one-act plays.
Presently demands rose for full-length productions and for a permanent theater organization. To gauge the response to these desires, three lengthy plays were staged; after *The Royal Family* was performed in June 1930, the audience was asked to vote on a permanent theater. The result was affirmative. A goal of 1,000 paid subscriptions was set; this was soon achieved; and in September the Springfield Civic Theater was founded. Franklin Raymond, of Poughkeepsie, New York, was named director.

Since then, the Civic Theater has rooted itself in the city’s life. Six plays are presented each season, in two-night runs. All are staged in the auditorium of the Keifer Junior High School. Plays are selected with care and rehearsed with enthusiasm. Local people are able to see current plays at a moderate cost, and those who are theatrically inclined receive training in acting, stage designing, make-up, and play writing.

The Civic Theater also broadcasts plays over local or nearby radio stations, sponsors play-writing contests, and gives volunteer training to other drama groups.
PAINTERS, MUSICIANS, AND WRITERS

Not all of Clark County’s residents labored on the farm or in the marketplace. Now and then certain individuals followed rarer pursuits that were often singularly unrewarding but completely satisfying. Some painted, others wrote, and still others sang or played musical instruments. Some were born elsewhere but came here to practice their craft; others were born here but went to other cities to seek recognition. All were artists in their own way, and the county is proud to claim them as its own.

Worthington Whittredge was the earliest of the painters. He was born in Springfield in 1820. After studying art in Cincinnati, New York, and Europe, he gradually won a reputation as a landscapist. Whittredge received numerous awards, and was president of the National Academy of Design in 1875-76. Wooded glens, pastoral scenes, and sunlight and shadow characterize his pictures. The Poachers is his best-known canvas. Other works include Landscape (Cincinnati Art Museum); Camp Meeting (Metropolitan Art Museum, New York); The Window (Lennox Library); and Trout Brook in the Catskills (Corcoran Art Gallery, Washington, D. C.).

The first important artist to do his work in the county was Godfrey Frankenstein (1820-73), who came to Cincinnati from Germany in 1831. As a boy he used diluted ink, pig’s blood, and coffee stain for pigments. On moving to Springfield in 1849, he took up landscape painting in earnest; the valleys of Buck Creek, Mad River, and the Little Miami provided many of his themes. In later years Frankenstein became widely known. His Niagara Falls, an immense panorama, was exhibited throughout the country. He did portraits of John Quincy Adams and William Cullen Bryant; and a European trip resulted in several Alpine landscapes, among them the popular Mount Blanc. His brother, Gustavas, and his sister, Eliza, also were painters, but never achieved his reputation; in addition, Gustavas wrote stories for St. Nicholas.

In the early 1880’s, S. Jerome Uhl, a Holmes County man, opened a studio in Springfield. He painted portraits of many
Ohioans. One, of Henry Howe, the historian, hangs in the State Library in Columbus.

Two native sons excelled at illustration. The first was William Allen Rogers, who was born in Springfield in 1854. He went to New York in 1873 and became an illustrator for the Daily Graphic; later he joined the staff of Harper's Weekly. In 1901 he went to the New York Herald. Rogers' drawings appeared in Life, Century, St. Nicholas, and other magazines, and during the World War his cartoons and posters attracted much attention. The French Government awarded him the Legion of Honor. The other, Clarence Cole Phillips, was born in Springfield in 1880. After studying in New York and Paris, he took up magazine and poster illustration, with marked success. His sleekly beautiful women have appeared in Liberty, Good Housekeeping, Ladies' Home Journal, Woman's Home Companion, and the Saturday Evening Post.

A contemporary artist, Walter Ernest Tittle, born in Springfield in 1883, achieved distinction as a portrait painter and dry-point etcher. George Bernard Shaw, Joseph Conrad, and Presidents Taft, Coolidge, and Harding all sat for Tittle, and he did a portrait of the present Duchess of Windsor when she was Mrs. Wallis Simpson. In 1920-1 he etched portraits of 25 of the leading post-war statesmen; sets, known as the Arms Conference Portfolio of Portraits, were purchased by the Governments of the United States and Great Britain.

In recent years Springfield's Ora Steinberger was widely publicized as the "treetop artist." He had drawn illustrations for magazines and was teaching art at Wittenberg College when ill health forced him to seek the outdoors. He built a tiny hut in the top of a tree, lived in it for years, and regained his health. Old age finally compelled him to come down to earth. He is remembered for The Accolade.

One other Springfieldian, Bernice Abbot, born in 1898, gave up sculpturing in Paris to take up photography in New York. Her studies of life in New York are pertinent social documents; they have brought her recognition.

Today the art spirit in Springfield is kept alive by several local organizations. The Sketch Club and the Springfield Art League have as members many part-time artists; from time to
time they exhibit their work. The art departments at Wittenberg College and Springfield High School also exert a stimulating influence.

Music has meant more to the people of Clark County than the graphic arts, and its common expression is the collective one. Most of the musical activities center in Springfield. The Fortnightly Musical Club and the Westminster Choir of the Covenant Presbyterian Church are two of the groups fostering music here. Another, the Liedertafel, is made up of German-Americans who sing with distinction classical and German folk songs; members also take part in saengerfests held in Springfield and Cincinnati. The Mothersingers, an organization of mothers of school children, gives occasional recitals and sings over the radio. Each year the employees of the International Harvester Company present a minstrel show with orchestra music provided by a 15-piece workers' band. Another minstrel show is put on once a year by the students and faculty of the Springfield High School. Annually the schools of the county vie with one another in a music festival.

Music instruction is offered by the Wittenberg School of Music, Zirkle Studio, Brain Conservatory of Music, and Union Settlement House. Instrumental music also is taught by several private teachers.

A few Springfield musicians scored in the concert halls of Europe and America. Francis MacMillen was perhaps most widely acclaimed. He came here from Marietta in 1890 and was tutored in the violin by Robert Brain. After studying at the Chicago College of Music, he went to Germany and Belgium for advanced training; at 16 he received the “most distinguished” citation from the Brussels Royal Conservatory of Music, and later won its Franz Hals cash prize. He toured Europe’s concert centers in 1903 and America’s in 1906.

Others making names for themselves include Ralph Zirkle and Sibyl Sanderson Fagan as pianists, Ralph Wetmore as a violinist, and Catherine Guthrie (known professionally as Florence George) as a singer. A few years ago, when only 20, Miss George sang in the Chicago Civic Opera’s Rigoletto. Musical circles in the United States and Canada also know John Bennett Ham, Robert Brain, and Fritz Krueger.
WARDER STREET, SPRINGFIELD

BIG FOUR STATION, SPRINGFIELD
INTERIOR,
WARDER LIBRARY BOOKMOBILE

MAIN BUILDING,
OHIO MASONIC HOME, SPRINGFIELD
FOUNTAIN IN THE ARCADE,
SPRINGFIELD
Creative writers have been scarce. The earliest was Elizabeth Williams Champney, who was born in Springfield in 1850. Under the pen name of Lizzie Williams, she wrote numerous stories for young people. Some were illustrated by her husband, James Champney. Her best-known books are *Urizen Winnie*, *Three Vassar Girls Abroad*, *Romance of Italian Villas*, and *Patience, a Daughter of Colonial Days*.

In 1900 Lloyd Douglas, an Indiana boy, received his bachelor’s degree at Wittenberg College; three years later he became a minister. After several decades of preaching, he adopted novel writing as a profession, turning out several best sellers during the 1930’s. He has a large following because of such novels as *White Banners*, *Green Light*, *The Magnificent Obsession*, and *Forgive Us Our Trespasses*. Several have been made into movies.

In recent years a Springfield native, William Riley Burnett (1899- ), has scored with several novels about “hard guys.” While employed in the State Department of Labor Statistics, he wrote his first book, *Little Caesar* (1929). This really significant story about gangsters of the prohibition era was warmly received by a large number of people, and made into a popular movie. Burnett has not been able to repeat his initial success, but has carried his readers along with *Iron Man* (1930), *The Silver Eagle* (1931), *The Giant Swing* (1932), *Dark Hazard* (1933), *King Cole* (1936), *High Sierra* (1940), and others.

A few local men found time to write local history. William Rockel lived in the county from 1855 until his death in 1931. He wrote several law books, but is best remembered for his *Twentieth Century History of Springfield and Clark County* (1908). Orton G. Rust, born at Dialton, Ohio, in 1882, works on the editorial staff of the Springfield *Sun*; he has published two books of verse and the *History of West Central Ohio*.

But if talent has been scarce, appreciation has been keen. Today there are more than 20 reading and writing clubs in the county — most of them in Springfield. The Men’s Literary Club, the Young Men’s Literary Club, New Century, Woman’s Town Club, the Exchange, and the Wednesday Afternoon Club are typical literary organizations.
Clark County’s young people of today have no mental yardstick by which to compare their educational advantages with the meager ones of pioneer days. As they snap on an electric switch it would be difficult to visualize a pupil studying diligently at home in the flickering glare of a fireplace or in the feeble rays of candles or oil; or, as they ride today in heated motor buses over paved highways, to imagine the long hikes in extremely cold weather over frozen and rutted roads; or, while they are enjoying hot meals in the cafeteria of a steam-heated building, to picture a group of youngsters shivering around a school wood stove and munching cold lunches.

The first schools in the Springfield area were similar to those of today in only one respect — as community meeting places. In the rough log cabins the settlers’ children fussed over the three “R’s” during the day; but at night their parents often gathered there for socials, religious services, and song. Some early homesteaders held to the belief that “book larnin’” was less essential to daily living than a knowledge of woodcraft and skill with firearms; and indeed, for a short time, such was the case.

In 1806 Nathaniel Pinkered started Springfield’s first school in a log house at the northeast corner of Main and Market Streets. “Smith’s School” appeared about the same time; it was opened by Samuel Smith, a sturdy disciplinarian. At first Smith’s classes were held in the New Light meeting house; later on he built a house on the north side of Main Street, near Mill Run, and moved his school there. Schoolmaster Smith never risked spoiling the child by sparing the rod. His wife, a tall, sharp-featured Yankee who acted as his assistant, also ruled her charges with a brisk hand.

Smith, addicted to frequent draughts of “tonic bitters,” would astound his students with tall stories about Yankees. One of his yarns dealt with a Vermont farmer whose land was so rough and hard that he had to do the plowing with 50 oxen. The hills were so steep, he said, that the animals had to hang by their necks between rows. It was then the custom in the
holiday season for the larger boys to go into the school and
lock the door, barring the teacher until he agreed to treat them
with apples or candy. They tried this on Smith, but he was
shrewd; he climbed to the roof and dropped brimstone down
the chimney, then placed a board over the flue. The fumes
drove the pranksters into the yard.

In 1819 a Mr. Higgins opened a school in a frame house on
the south side of Main Street. Five years later James L. Tor-
bert started another. Torbert, a man of more than average at-
tainments, taught mathematics and ancient languages, as well
as common subjects. He studied law and, after years of teach-
ing, was admitted to the bar.

The earliest rural schools were in German and Harmony
Townships. They were established shortly after the close of
the War of 1812, and financed by popular subscription. Har-
mony School was built with volunteer labor. A third, Spring-
field Township School, was first conducted in a Baptist
Church; its desks stood against the wall. The teachers made
from eight to twelve dollars a month; they were expected to
get enough subscriptions from parents at $1.50 a term to pro-
vide their own salaries. During the 13-week term, teachers
were paid in cash, pork, corn, whisky, or board, or a combina-
tion of these.

By 1830 Springfield had three schools. One was in a frame
house, another in a one-story brick building, and the third in a
basement room. The first institution of any real scope came
in 1834, when the Ohio General Assembly authorized the incor-
poration of the Springfield High School—a private, not a
public, institution. As first conceived, the school was to pro-
vide primary, secondary, and junior-college courses of instruc-
tion. Out-of-town, as well as local, students attended the
school. After being transferred to the Ohio conference of the
Methodist Episcopal Church (1842), and for the third time
permitting enrollment of female students (1854), the school
was enlarged and named the Female College and Springfield
High School. In 1859 it became the Springfield Seminary.

At the mid-century, the city's subscription schools had 13
teachers on their payrolls. Each teacher was paid an average
of one dollar a day and had to provide equipment for his class-
In 1855, with the organization of the first board of education, the Springfield public school system got under way. Two commodious structures — 60 by 100 feet — were built for the grades. A teaching staff with some qualifications was selected. F. W. Hurt was made superintendent at $80 a month; principals were paid $55, while teachers received $25 a month. This was the beginning of public school education in Springfield on a basis comparable to present-day organization.

While the public schools attempted to take care of the community's common school needs, various private schools flourished. One of these, a select school for boys, was started in 1849 by Reverend Chandler Robbins; it was called the Greenway Boarding School. Reverend Jonathan Edwards the same year established a small school for girls in the basement of the First Presbyterian Church. Local citizens became interested in the school, organized a company in 1852, and obtained a charter for the Springfield Female Seminary. A large building was erected, and Jonathan A. Smith was named the first principal. The seminary continued to operate until 1871, when the Springfield Board of Education took it over as the Northern School, after purchasing the grounds and buildings.

Among other private schools of the period was one for which the following advertisement appeared on July 7, 1871, in the Springfield Daily Republic: "Mrs. Francis, an experienced teacher in the Public Schools, will conduct a private school at her residence, No. 72 Mulbery Street. She will give her attention exclusively to the mental and moral culture of the children put in her care. Terms, $1 per month; hours, from 8 a. m. to 11 a. m."

Although free public schools gradually supplanted the subscription schools, not all young people were subjected to the educational process; attendance of many was irregular. In 1871 the superintendent of schools, W. J. White, reported that 37 per cent of the 5,102 children of school age were not attending school, public or private. Similar conditions throughout the State caused the Ohio legislature to pass a bill compelling every child between six and fourteen to attend school for at least 12 weeks in each year.

From time to time other legislation was created to regulate and extend education. One act provided for a general tax to
finance public schools. Some supervision was given to the township trustees; extra subjects were added to the curriculum; and, to provide competent teachers, applicants were hired on the basis of experience, with graduation from an approved high school and an examination before a county board among the requirements. In the early 1900's normal schools for teachers were founded. After completing a three-months course in a normal school, an applicant had to pass a county examination before he could get a teaching certificate. Today teaching requirements are much higher. In 1937, of 192 teachers in Clark County schools, all but five had at least two years of college training, with 67 possessing B.A. degrees. Twenty also held M.A. degrees.

In 1914 the system providing for county superintendents was adopted by the State. Clark County schools began to assume their present status; one-room schools were abolished, although a number of two-room schools took their place. (There were 10 such buildings in 1937.) Gradually, modern consolidated schools came to the fore.

In recent years some rural school districts have been consolidated. Outside of Springfield, there were 14 school districts in the county in 1937. They ranged in area from six to forty-nine square miles, but the average was twenty-eight square miles. These large districts made student transportation necessary, and the familiar yellow school buses appeared on the county's highways. During 1937 school buses hauled 3,548 pupils over routes totaling 981 miles each school day.

Today the Clark County school system is one of the best in Ohio. It embraces 28 rural grade schools and 11 high schools. Many of the buildings are modern; between 1918 and 1937, thirteen schools went up that cost from $20,000 to $170,000 each. The Tremont City school, built in 1880, is the oldest in the county. Most of the rural schoolhouses also serve as community centers.

Springfield, which is a school district in its own right, has 26 elementary schools — twenty public, five parochial, and one private — five public junior high schools, one public senior high school, and one parochial high school. Approximately 12,500 pupils are enrolled in the city's public schools, and about
2,000 in its parochial schools. Nearly 400 teachers are employed in the public schools, which have close to 400 classrooms available now. The school year averages 190 class days.

The 6-3-3 plan is followed by the public schools—six years for elementary schools, three years for junior high, and three years for senior high. The curriculum is broad and inclusive; it meets the needs of almost every type of student. In addition to the standard courses given at all the public schools, special classes have been established for the benefit of particular groups. There are "Opportunity Rooms" for retarded children at Northern, Emerson, and Fulton schools, where pupils progress at their own rate and do much work with their hands. Kindergartens are conducted at Jefferson, Highlands, and Kenwood Heights schools, and there are classes for the physically handicapped at Bushnell and Keifer schools. Children completely disabled are given one hour of special instruction each day in their homes. One lip-reading class is maintained, and there are several sight-saving classes. An evening school for adults has two terms of 11 weeks each, and a six-week summer school enables regular students to make up scholastic deficiencies.

The senior public high school on Limestone Street, with 61 rooms and about 2,500 students, is modern in every respect. Its curriculum embraces 60 or more subjects. Besides the usual English and language subjects, there are courses in commercial training, manual arts, printing, industrial trades, and the fine arts. Recognizing the place of industry in contemporary life, the high school, through its unit trade courses, trains young men in several lines—pattern making, machining, machine drafting, and blue print and mechanical drawing. The work done at the school is similar to that in factories. Trades students devote three hours a day to shop work, and three hours to related subjects — shop mathematics, science, drawing, blue prints, and general courses in English, history, and other subjects. Many have jobs at graduation time.
In 1842 the Lutheran Synod of Ohio met to find a way of replacing its elderly ministers with younger men, and of opening new parishes in the State's growing communities. It decided to found a college that would train young men for the ministry. On March 11, 1845, Wittenberg College was chartered. After considering the advantages offered by several towns in west-central Ohio, the board of directors selected Springfield, then a town of 2,500 people, as the site for the school.

Reverend Ezra Keller, of Hagerstown, Maryland, was appointed president. On arriving here, he enlisted the aid of influential citizens in promoting the school's development; then he helped lay brick for the First Lutheran Church, which was going up at the corner of Wittenberg Avenue and West High Street. Here in 1845 the first classes were held, with 20 students attending. The faculty consisted of President Keller, who taught theology, and two instructors. At this time there was almost no public school system in Springfield, and elementary courses were included in the curriculum.

Soon afterward the people of Springfield donated to Wittenberg a 17-acre campus site and $10,000 for building purposes. Early in 1846 the little college moved from the church to Myers Hall, the first structure to go up on the campus. The building had not been completed, and classes at first were confined to the lower story.

President Keller died in 1848. He was succeeded by Reverend Samuel Sprecher; during his quarter-century regime the school grew greatly. The first class graduated in 1851; it consisted of eight men, four of whom became ministers. The preparation of men for the church was for many years Wittenberg's main objective. Some of its ministerial graduates became widely known: Edwin C. Dinwiddie was a prominent leader in the temperance movement from 1900 until his death in 1930; Z. Barney Phillips for years has been chaplain of the United States Senate; and Lloyd C. Douglas turned from the
pulpit to win renown as a novelist. Adam Wagnalls and Isaac Funk, founders of the Funk & Wagnalls publishing house, also were Wittenberg men.

In later years less emphasis was placed upon theological instruction and the school broadened into a liberal arts college. Various departments were inaugurated to train students in teaching, law, science, commerce, and the fine arts. In 1874 the college became coeducational. From time to time additions were made to the campus; new buildings went up; and the school continued to expand.

Today Wittenberg College has 30 departments of instruction. The school of divinity is still an integral part of the institution, but the schools of teacher training, fine arts, and music also are important. In cooperation with the Dayton Art Institute, the college offers a four-year course in the graphic arts. Bachelor degrees are conferred in arts, science, and music. About 1,600 students are enrolled each year, including those in the subsidiary schools in near-by towns. The junior college at Dayton is supervised by the Wittenberg Division of Special Schools; this department also controls the Saturday School, the summer session, and adult education and extension courses.

Scholastically, Wittenberg ranks high. It is on the approved lists of the Association of American Universities, the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, and several similar organizations. It also is connected with the Institute of International Education, a group offering exchange fellowships between American and European Schools.

Fifteen buildings now stand on the 50-acre campus. Myers Hall, still in use, is the oldest, and the Elgar Weaver Astronomical Observatory, dedicated in 1931, the newest. Facilities for athletics include a stadium seating 6,000 persons, a baseball diamond, a quarter-mile track, volleyball courts, two football practice fields, and a number of tennis courts. The combined value of the physical plant and the school endowment exceeds $4,000,000.

Since 1920, Dr. Rees Edgar Tulloss has been president of the college.
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING,
WITTENBERG COLLEGE
MYERS HALL,
WITTENBERG COLLEGE
Wittenberg College is at the north end of Wittenberg Avenue, in Springfield’s north-central section. Ward Street, with the main entrance, bounds the campus on the south. Woodlawn Avenue is on the east, West Cecil Street on the north, and Plum Street on the west. Most of the buildings are ranged around an oval. The older structures are austere Early American, but the newer buildings have Romanesque and Gothic lines. The wooded campus rolls and dips pleasingly, and leafy trees nearly hide some of the college halls. Oak, elm, maple, hickory, ash, locust, sycamore, and ironwood trees are everywhere.

Wittenberg Avenue, near Ward Street.

1. The MUSIC HALLS are three connecting frame buildings (L) just south of Ferncliff Hall. They contain the studios and practice rooms of the music department and 36 pianos and four organs used for instruction.

2. FERNCLIFF HALL, opposite the campus entrance, is a women’s dormitory (L) with accommodations for 140 girls. The two-story brick building was put up in 1914 to replace the original (1889) dormitory for women. In recent years a recreation room, a hospital room, a dining room, and parlors have been added.

North to Main entrance; R. on Campus Drive.

3. BLAIR HALL is a two-story red-brick structure (R), dedicated in 1927, that serves as the teacher-training center. A grade school is maintained here during the public-school year, and student teachers observe modern teaching methods. An auditorium in the building is used by the training school and the department of public speaking. The collegiate players present drama, and the speech department uses the stage and its equipment for laboratory work.

4. MYERS HALL, at the top of a slope, is a men’s dormitory (L) with quarters for 140 students. The four-story brick structure has a portico, supported by Greek columns, and a
cupola. This building, the oldest on the campus, was started in 1846, but not completed until 1852; for some years, classes were held here. When the structure was modernized, as a result of gifts from Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Myers and Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Myers of Ashland, Ohio, it was given its present name.

5. The TENNIS COURTS (R) are at the foot of the eastern slope.

*Turn R., cross W. Cecil St., and continue N.*

6. The HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION BUILDING, on the north side of West Cecil Street, is a large, red-brick fieldhouse with limestone trimmings. It was completed in 1930 at a cost of $500,000. Intramural athletics, collegiate contests, and student gatherings are held here. Adjacent to the fieldhouse is the McGilvray Natatorium; its swimming pool measures 25 by 75 feet. Zimmerman Field, lying to the rear, has a cinder track, a baseball diamond, volleyball courts, and football practice fields.

7. WITTENBERG STADIUM, northeast of the fieldhouse, is reached by an approach from Cecil Street. The Stadium seats 6,000 and is used by the varsity football team for home games.

*Retrace to Campus Drive; R. on Drive.*

8. HAMMA HALL, the recitation unit of the Divinity School, is a two-story red-brick building (L) that was put up in 1915. It has lecture halls, an art room, a library, and a chapel.

9. KELLER HALL, built in 1890, is a three-story brick dormitory (L) for divinity students.

10. ZIMMERMAN LIBRARY, farther down the slope, is a limestone structure (L) in modified Romanesque. It contains more than 60,000 volumes. New books and magazines are purchased from funds set up by the Excelsior Society, the Philosopher Society, Mrs. Clara Stroud, Adam Wagnalls, and the yearly appropriation of the college.

11. The ELGAR WEAVER ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY is a red-brick building (R) topped by the revolving dome of the observation tower. A classroom and a laboratory
are here; equipment includes a 10-inch telescope, a meridian transit, a chronograph, a spectroscopy, and a sidereal clock. The observatory was built with funds donated by Mr. and Mrs. Elgar Weaver, of Brookville, Ohio. It was dedicated in 1931.

12. KOCH HALL, completed in 1927, is a four-story brick building (R) with stone trim; it is commonly called the Chemistry Building. Classrooms and chemical laboratories are in the basement and on the first two floors; the first floor has, in addition, a small auditorium and a Chemical Museum. On the third floor are the experiment rooms of the psychology department.

13. RECITATION HALL, with carved cornices and spires, is a three-story brick structure (R) that went up in 1883. It houses administrative offices, classrooms, the college chapel, and the home economics department.

14. CARNEGIE SCIENCE HALL, a three-story brick building (R) erected in 1908, is used by classes in biology, geology, and physics. The physics laboratory, lecture rooms, and offices occupy the second floor; miscellaneous laboratories and lecture rooms are on the other floors.
SPRINGFIELD LANDMARKS

1. The SPRINGFIELD CIVIC CENTER, Limestone Street between Main and Columbia Streets, comprises five public and three semi-public buildings. With one exception, the structures were either built or remodeled in recent years. Much of the city, county, and Federal business takes place in this small area.

The United States Post Office, SE. corner of Limestone and North Streets, completed in 1934 at a cost of $750,000, is a two-story sandstone and granite structure. It is modern in style, with two granite columns shouldering the Limestone Street entrance. Doors, window sash, grill work, desks, and fixtures in the main lobby are made of aluminum. W. K. Shilling, of Springfield, was the architect. Two cut-stone eagles, perched at the top corners of the main unit, cast stern eyes toward Limestone Street. The birds measure 18 feet from beak to wing tip, and are said to be among the largest figures of the kind ever used on buildings.

The Municipal Court Building, SE. corner of Limestone and Columbia Streets, is a two-story brick building of the modified Victorian type. It was put up in 1880-1, and remodeled in 1925. The exterior cement finish simulates cut-stone blocks. The municipal court is here.

The Juvenile Court and Detention Home, 30 North Limestone Street, a two-story building of gray brick, was completed in 1934 at a cost of $30,000. It was designed by Lloyd J. Zeller.

The County Building, SW. corner of Limestone and Columbia Streets, is a three-story, gray-brick, stone-trimmed structure in modified Greek Revival style. It was built in 1902, after Robert C. Gotwald's plans. The entrance is through an archway flanked on each side by two fluted stone columns. County officials not housed in the courthouse have their offices here.

The Clark County Courthouse, NW. corner of Limestone and Columbia Streets, was built in 1881 and remodeled in 1922.
The first story is of rough foundation blocks; the other two are sandstone. Four pillars flank the Limestone Street entrance. A tablet at the Columbia Street entrance commemorates a boys' and girls' agricultural club organized in Springfield Township, on January 15, 1902, by Albert B. Graham, superintendent of rural schools. This organization of 85 members is said to have been the Nation's first farm club for young people.

The Young Men's Christian Association Building, SW. corner of Limestone and North Streets, dedicated on October 8, 1939, is the newest unit in the Civic Center. It is said to be one of the most complete "Y" buildings in the country. The four-story structure has buff brick facing with stone trim. It was designed by Robert F. Eastman and Ralph H. Harman in conventional seventeenth-century Italian style. The interior carries out the Italian motif, but by skillful treatment a modern effect has been achieved.

Facilities include a modern natatorium, a gymnasium 55 by 85 feet, an auditorium with a stage and an amplifying system, various game and club rooms, quarters for boys' locker rooms, a dining room, dormitories, and other features for educational, recreational, and social activities. All doors are electrically controlled. A large attic has space for additional dormitories when needed.

The Covenant Presbyterian Church (visitors welcome), NW. corner of Limestone and North Streets, an imposing adaptation of fourteenth-century Gothic, was designed by George D. Savage. The stone structure was completed in 1926 and cost $500,000. High beamed ceilings, arches, stained glass windows copied from Old World shrines, and hand-wrought swinging chandeliers give the interior a cathedral-like appearance. A gymnasium and a nursery are special features.

News and Sun Building (visitors welcome), NE. corner of Limestone and North Streets, a gray-brick and Indiana-limestone structure completed in 1929, is an excellent adaptation of Italian Renaissance architecture. The building, designed by Shultz and Weaver, has extended eaves and a tile roof. Its interior is characterized by the free use of color and an ornate ceiling. The daily Springfield Sun and News and the Sunday News-Sun are published here.
2. A bronze tablet marks the SITE OF GRIFFITH FOOS’ TAVERN, SW. corner of Main and Spring Streets, where Springfield’s early social, religious, and governental activities were centered. The spot has historical interest because of the treaty made near by in the fall of 1808. An Indian outbreak threatened, but Simon Kenton, Griffith Foos, and other settlers, meeting with Tecumseh, Roundhead, and McPherson, Indian chiefs, arranged for peace (see The Springfield Chronicle).

3. ST. RAPHAEL CHURCH (visitors welcome), near the SE. corner of Spring and High Streets, a Gothic structure of rough-dressed stone, is one of the city’s fine Catholic churches. It was built in 1892. The 184-foot spire is visible from almost any part of the city; a lower chamber holds a bell weighing eight tons. Fourteen plaques in bas-relief, depicting scenes of the Crucifixion, line the walls of the nave. The altar, of Carrara marble, was carved in Italy. Statues of Christ, the Virgin, and the Saints line the chancel and nave. Mayer, of Munich, Germany, made the stained glass windows.

4. The WARDER PUBLIC LIBRARY (open 9-9 week-days; 1:30-5:30 Sun.), SW. corner of High and Spring Streets, was given to the city in 1890 by Benjamin H. Warder, local industrialist. It was designed by one of the associates of H. H. Richardson, creator of the Richardson Romanesque style; the general form is that of an “L,” with gray limestone walls trimmed in red sandstone. All stonework, except the pillars supporting the arches, is rough-dressed. The high-pitched, red-tile roof, several round arches, and decorative tower are characteristic Richardson features. In the library are 79,453 books, many periodicals and newspapers, and a large clipping file.

Since December 1937 the institution has operated a “Library on Wheels” — a truck that travels through the county four days each week. This is a complete unit, with 3,000 volumes and a librarian; patrons make their selections inside the car. The truck has a large patronage and makes regular stops at all schools.

5. The BIG FOUR RAILROAD STATION, East Washington Street at Spring Street, completed in 1911 for the New
York Central Railroad, is an impressive structure of Indiana limestone and gray brick, with a tile roof. The central section, housing the spacious, high-ceilinged waiting room, is flanked by three-story wings. On the second floor level of the waiting room "well" is a balcony leading to the divisional administrative offices.

6. The SPRINGFIELD SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, South Limestone Street at Miller Street, built in 1911, has through later additions become one of the city's largest public buildings. Its total cost was $700,000. Set on a landscaped campus, the three-story buff brick structure is similar in motif to the Congressional Library. A local landmark is the big green dome topping the center unit. The Tiffany Gymnasium, with seats for 3,300, was added in 1932; it is the scene of many public and scholastic gatherings.

7. The SPRINGFIELD CITY BUILDING, west side of Fountain Avenue south of High Street, completed in 1890, is a large, rambling, three-story structure of red brick. The rough-dressed, gray limestone facades on Fountain Avenue and Center Street lend dignity to a somewhat drab building. A large clock tower above the east entrance is matched by one at the west end. The City Market, one of the last of the old-time marts, is on the first floor; police headquarters and municipal offices are on the upper floors.

The City Building faces FOUNTAIN ESPLANADE, once the town's busiest commercial spot and still the center of much activity. A small park dividing Fountain Avenue between High and Washington Streets was the site of the old city wood market—a busy place before the Civil War, when wood brought in by the farmers was the principal fuel used in Springfield.

8. The MASONIC TEMPLE, 125 West High Street, one of the finest York Rite temples in Ohio, was completed in 1926 at a cost of $1,000,000. The massive gray stone structure is square in shape and Oriental in appearance. Two marble columns stand at the front entrance. Across the plain facade is a Masonic aphorism, with emblems of Masonry underneath. Howard Dwight Smith was the architect.
9. The CROWELL-COLLIER PUBLISHING COMPANY PLANT (open 9-1 daily except Sat. and Sun.; guides provided), West High Street, between Wittenberg and Lowry Avenues, is said to be the largest magazine printing plant in the country; the eight-story red-brick building covers a city block. The roar of 122 printing presses greets passersby. Here are published the Woman’s Home Companion, the American Magazine, and Collier’s; about 19,000,000 copies of these magazines are printed monthly by 2,600 workers.

On the four- and six-color presses, magazine pages are printed, dried, folded, and delivered to the bindery in one operation. To prevent pages from sticking, a fine coating of paraffin is applied to each sheet. In the bindery, the folded sheets are collected and assembled by mechanical fingers so accurate that if the proper number of pages is not included the magazine is rejected. The pages are stapled in the same operation. In the final trimming, rough and uneven edges are sheared automatically, and the magazines are ready for shipping. A machine in the mailing room addresses copies for individual subscribers.

Other departments include the ink and paper storage rooms, the power plant, the composing room, the electrotyping foundry, the clerical divisions of the subscription and accounting offices, and the Crowell post office, one of the country’s busiest.

The publishing house got its start in 1877 when P. P. Mast began to print Farm and Fireside in a small upstairs room of his implement factory (see In the Factory).

10. The CLARK COUNTY MEMORIAL HALL, NW. corner of Main Street and Lowry Avenue, a two-story building of brick and stone, was completed in 1915 at a cost of $262,000. The Main Street entrance is under an impressive portico supported by six Ionic columns. The building serves as a meeting place for county associations, sectional and State conventions, and concerts. An auditorium seats 2,700. Headquarters of the county’s patriotic organizations are in various rooms.

The CLARK COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM (open 9-12 and 2-4 Tues.-Sat., inclusive), on the second floor of Memorial Hall, has on display mound-builders’ relics, Indian flints, weapons,
ornaments, mortars, pioneer musical instruments, farm implements, tools, furniture, tableware, and clothing. Also exhibited here is an old piano bought in Philadelphia by Pierson Spinning, a wealthy merchant, for his daughter; the instrument was hauled to Pittsburgh in a "prairie schooner," shipped to Cincinnati on a flatboat, and then brought to Springfield in a wagon.

Of special interest are the mementos of "Mother" Eliza Stewart, who was a prominent temperance and suffrage crusader in Springfield during the last three decades of the nineteenth century. These include a portrait of herself by an unknown artist and a copy of the 1874-5 edition of the Springfield City Directory that was found among her possessions. Attached to the fly leaf is a note by "Mother" Stewart warning all dealers not to sell liquor to any person listed in the book.

11. The COLUMBIA STREET CEMETERY, north side of Columbia Street, between Wittenberg Avenue and Center Street, contains the graves of many of the first settlers. Most of the stone tablets in the small plot are so weathered that inscriptions are illegible. The Lagonda Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, has marked the known graves of Revolutionary War soldiers; otherwise the old burial tract, with many unidentified graves and toppled slabs, shows signs of neglect. The resting place of Elijah Beardsley, who was one of the "Indians" at the Boston Tea Party, is in the northeast section.

12. CLIFF PARK, entrance west side of North Fountain Avenue, is one of the city's smaller parks. Picturesque limestone cliffs rise on its north side; Buck Creek loafs along its south side. The park is landscaped and has a well-equipped playground.

13. The SITE OF THE FIRST SETTLER'S HOME, College Avenue, between Fountain Avenue and Limestone Street, is marked by a boulder memorial on the grounds of the Northern Elementary School. One hundred feet south of the marker, the inscription states, James Demint, founder of Springfield, built the city's first cabin in 1799.

14. The WESTCOTT HOUSE, 1340 East High Street, built about 1905 for Burton J. Westcott, wealthy automobile manufacturer, was designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, noted
American architect. The two-story, stucco-and-concrete house has the characteristic features of Wright's "prairie" homes—horizontal lines, low-pitched roof, broad eaves, wide verandas, stuccoed walls with wood trim, trellis work, and the elaborate use of shrubs about the spacious lawns. An effort to integrate the house with the setting is apparent; a series of terraces projects over the site, permitting the extensive use of shrubs, flowers, and vines.

15. The GOOD AND REESE GREENHOUSE (visitors welcome), 1840 South Limestone Street, started in 1894, now has 25,000 square feet under glass. The concern is nationally known in the mail-order floral business. Its specialty is the rose, which is grown in such quantities at this and other local greenhouses that Springfield is familiarly known as the "City of Roses."

16. The "MOTHER" STEWART HOME, 215 South Yellow Springs Street, is a two-story residence of gray, dressed stone. From 1866 until 1903, it was the home of "Mother" Eliza Stewart, who was widely known for her temperance and women's suffrage activities. The house stands in a yard that is 12 feet above the street level; formerly it was known as "Apple Tree Place" because of an orchard on the grounds. Cut-glass entrance doors and two-colored cut-glass windows on the north side are distinctive features.

17. The FIRST PILGRIMS HOLINESS CHURCH, 119 North Race Street, was built in 1936-7 by Reverend Elmer E. Connin and an assistant; the men used nearly 80 tons of boulders gathered from Clark County fields.

18. The OHIO KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS HOME FOR THE AGED, SE. corner of High Street and Western Avenue, is a Pythian institution for aged members, their wives, and widows. It comprises the Mast residence and grounds and the adjoining Marquart property. The Mast home, a Romanesque structure purchased in 1913, was remodeled for use as the Administration Building, and the red-brick Marquart house was converted into the Annex and Hospital. The Home was dedicated October 3, 1915.

19. ST. MARY'S GROTTO, West High Street at Montgomery Avenue, near St. Mary's Catholic Church, is a stone structure rising 15 feet from its hillside base. It was built in
1931 by the parishioners of St. Mary's as a shrine to their patron saint; it is fashioned after Notre Dame de Lourdes, at Lourdes, France.

20. The PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE, south side of West Main Street, between Bechtle Avenue and Isabella Street, is a 20-room, two-story brick structure with Colonial wings. Porches at both the first and second stories extend the entire width of the main section on Main Street. The house was built in 1822 and did well as an inn on the National Road; at one time, Henry Clay and Andrew Jackson were guests. The D. A. R. is raising funds to restore the structure.

21. The SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS, on Dayton Avenue (R) near the south corporation limit, 2.4 m. from the Springfield Post Office, has a capacity of 30 million gallons a day. The plant, completed in 1935 under PWA, functions as a primary treatment works. Its red-brick buildings, with red-tile roofs glinting in the sun, are attractively situated behind encircling landscaped levees.

22. The OHIO MASONIC HOME, on US 40 outside the city's west limits, lies on a large tract of gently rolling land touched on the east and south by the Mad River. The home was established in 1895 by the Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio, to care for aged Masons and their wives, widows, and orphans. About 200 children and 300 adults live here.

The Administration Building, a gray limestone structure resembling a medieval castle, dominates the east slope of Sugar Grove Hill. Most of the buildings are on the hill: the Eastern Star Building, Boys' Cottage, Girls' Cottage, Children's Building, William B. Hillman Memorial, and the three-story Rickly Memorial Hospital. The hospital was opened in 1923; with additions in 1930, its size was increased to 250 rooms, of which 150 are for hospitalization purposes. The building was made possible chiefly through the gift of Ralph R. Rickly, of Columbus, for whom it is named.

On Sugar Grove Hill in the Masonic Home park is the unmarked SITE OF THE O. K. TAVERN. Local legend claims that the tavern's name was the first recorded use of the term "O. K." (History does not bear out the claim.) During the political
campaign of 1840, Democratic newspapers chided the Whigs because of a crude banner they displayed at a rally in Urbana; the banner's misspelled inscription, "Oll Korrect," was especially ridiculed. "Devil Dan" Leffel, a two-fisted Pennsylvania Dutchman who ran the tavern on Sugar Grove Hill, showed his contempt for the opposition by adopting the misspelled words, abbreviating them, and posting the initials over the entrance to his roadhouse. Since many travelers stopped at "Devil Dan's" inn, the term "O. K." (the legend affirms) was soon widely publicized.

The Madonna of the Trail Monument, on a knoll in the Masonic Home park, honors the pioneer mothers of covered-wagon days. It is one of 12 similar memorials erected by the D. A. R as National Road markers in various States; in Clark County it marks the point to which the National Road was completed in 1838.

The figures are of rose-colored poured stone, on a Missouri granite base. The central figure is a pioneer woman carrying an infant on her left arm and grasping a musket with her right hand. Clinging to her skirt is a small boy. The landscaped site is surrounded by a serpentine brick wall similar to the famed enclosure at the University of Virginia. The memorial was dedicated on July 4, 1928. Mrs. John Trigg Moss, Kansas City, Missouri, chairman of the National Old Trails Road Committee of the D. A. R., designed the moment; H. Leimbach, St. Louis sculptor, executed the figures.

23. Snyder Park, in the western section of the city along Buck Creek and Mad River, is a 225-acre tract with foot trails and auto drives. Streams and lagoons provide boating; open areas offer facilities for tennis, golf, and horseshoe pitching; and one section has playground apparatus. Band concerts are presented in the summer. The park was given to the city in 1895 by John and David Snyder. A stone arch at the main entrance on North Western Avenue was built by the citizens of Springfield as a memorial to the brothers.

24. Ferncliff Cemetery, main entrance at the west end of McCreight Avenue, comprises 210 acres of wood and lawns. It was named for its rock cliffs and numerous specimens of cliff brake, a tiny fern of unusual beauty. The graves of more than 600 Civil War soldiers are here. Asa S. Bushnell,
Governor of Ohio from 1896 to 1900, is interred in the Bushnell mausoleum. Near by is the grave of Major General J. Warren Keifer, Clark County’s soldier-statesman.

The limestone Administration Building, completed in 1931, overlooks the cemetery’s main entrance. The interior is decorated in Old English style; records of all plats and burials are kept here. A Memorial Chapel and shelter houses lie along the six miles of improved roads that wind through the grounds. Miniature caves, waterfalls, wild flowers, and trees add quiet charm to the place.

Near Memorial Chapel is a Boulder Memorial to 23 veterans of the Revolutionary War who are buried in Clark County. Their names are engraved on a tablet put up by Lagonda Chapter, D. A. R.

The Soldiers' Monument, erected in 1869 to honor Civil War soldiers of the community, stands in the center of the circular G. A. R. section. The memorial is 21 feet high and consists of a large granite base topped by the bronze figure of a soldier designed by J. A. Bailey. Four Civil War cannon surround the base. On May 30, 1924, the monument was brought here from its former location, at Limestone and Columbia Streets, and rededicated.

25. RIDGEWOOD, along Fountain Boulevard, north from McCreight Avenue to Home Road, is Springfield’s largest restricted residential area—a showplace with many beautiful homes set in landscaped grounds along winding drives. Forest trees provide shade and help to make Ridgewood most attractive.

26. The Springfield Country Club, on Home Road at the north end of Fountain Boulevard, formerly was the estate of William S. Thompson, a Springfield financier who became widely known through his hobby of breeding Shetland ponies. Five hundred acres of rolling, partially wooded land surround the Manor-style clubhouse, which overlooks the Mad River Valley. A modern swimming pool stands near the clubhouse, and an 18-hole golf links spreads to the north. Legend has it that Signal Hill, northeast of the clubhouse, is the place where Indians built smoke fires to send messages across miles of wilderness.
27. The CLARK COUNTY CHILDREN'S HOME, in a grove on Home Road, 0.3 m. E. of Limestone Street, was opened in 1878. Various additions have doubled the original tract, so that the institution's farm now embraces 135 acres. The plant consists of an administration building, separate homes for boys and girls, an auditorium, a nursery, and a health clinic. Wards of the county up to 21 years of age are cared for here.

28. The OHIO PYTHIAN CHILDREN'S HOME, NW. corner of McCreight Avenue and Fountain Boulevard, was opened in 1895 by the Knights of Pythias as a home for orphans of members. The castle-like Administrative Building, completed in 1897, is a three-story structure of light-red brick. The Boys' and Girls' Buildings, east and west of the Administrative Building, are connected with it by brick passageways. The three structures are similar in appearance: all have towers, turrets, gargoyles, and tile roofs. Other buildings house the hospital, laundry, and nursery; the last, built in 1924, has a kindergarten and dietary. The entire 38-acre tract is landscaped. Just west of the entrance to the Administration Building is a STATUE OF WILLIAM BEATTY, for 31 years grand keeper of the records and seal of the Pythian Order.

29. The ADDISON RODGERS HOUSE, NW. corner of Limestone Street and McCreight Avenue, is a two-story structure of gray brick, with large chimneys at each end. It was built in 1825 and is an excellent example of Georgian architecture.

30. The OHIO STATE I. O. O. F. HOME (visitors welcome), north side of McCreight Avenue, two blocks east of Limestone Street, is an institution for aged Odd Fellows and their wives, widows, and orphans. It is supported by the I. O. O. F. lodges of Ohio. The Administration Building, a large, four-story, red-brick structure with spires, cupolas, and a tile roof, is in modified Tudor Gothic style. It was completed in 1898 at a cost of $73,000; Frank L. Packard was the architect. Spacious landscaped grounds give a pleasing setting for the buildings. South of Springfield is the Order's 330-acre farm, where older children are trained in agriculture.

31. The MUNICIPAL BASEBALL STADIUM, Mitchell Boulevard, west of Lagonda Avenue, built by WPA in 1935, is
part of east Springfield’s recreational park system. The brick-
and-concrete structure seats 3,500 and has lighting equipment
for night baseball.

32. The INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER COMPANY
PLANT (conducted tours at 8:30, 10:30, and 1:30, Mon. to
Fri.) Buck Creek and Lagonda Avenue, Springfield’s largest
employer, with 4,600 workers normally on its payroll, manufac-
tures International motor trucks. It occupies large tracts on
both sides of Buck Creek and dominates the industrialized La-
gonda section. The factory is an outgrowth of Warder, Bush-
nell & Glessner Company (see In the Factory), which until
1902 made agricultural machinery on this site. In that year,
the firm was absorbed by the International Harvester Com-
pany; soon production was switched from mowers to motor
trucks. Now large numbers of trucks roll off the big conveyor
lines.

33. The OESTERLIN ORPHANS’ HOME, east side of
State 4, outside the north city limits, founded in 1903, is an in-
stitution maintained by the Ohio Synod and four neighboring
synods of the United Lutheran Church. It was made possible
through the gift of $30,000 by Mrs. Amelia Oesterlin, of Find-
day, Ohio. About 100 boys and girls live here. The building
group, comprising the original farmhouse, modern cottages,
and an administration building, houses a chapel, a hospital, a
laundry, living quarters, and offices. The young people attend
the Springfield public schools and receive vocational training
on the 130-acre farm operated in connection with the home.

34. The SPRINGFIELD CITY HOSPITAL, East High
Street and Burnett Road, is the city’s most imposing public
building. Constructed of buff brick and native limestone, it
was completed in 1932 at a cost of $1,738,000. Robert Eastman
was the supervising architect. The 10-story center unit is
flanked by five-story wings. Most of the 260 rooms have out-
side exposure. On the stone lintel over the main entrance is a
carving of the Hippocratic Tree of Life.

South of the hospital is the five-story Springfield School of
Nursing, which also serves as a nurses’ home. The building is
similar to the hospital in style and materials.
TOWNS AND VILLAGES

(All distances measured from downtown Springfield)

BEATTY (1,040 alt., 150 pop.), 3.3 m. S. on US 68, was settled in 1830 by Jacob Kershner. It was called Chambersburg until 1870, when the post office was established and the name changed to Beatty. Many of the residents work in Springfield. In the village are a grain elevator, a centralized high school, and an elementary school. Judge William M. Rockel (see Painters, Musicians, and Writers) lived here in the first two decades of this century.

BOWLUSVILLE (963 alt., 70 pop.), 9 m. N. on US 68, then left 0.7 m. on a county road, was founded in 1863 by Samuel H. Bowlus. Most of its residents are Scotch-Irish and Pennsylvania Dutch. The New York Central R. R. passes the western edge of the village.

BRIGHTON (c. 1,200 alt., 155 pop.), 14 m. E. on US 40, was laid out in 1835 by David Ripley and Marvin Gager; its early residents were New Englanders. For a few brief years, Brighton shared some of the business brought by the westward movement over the National Road. After 1845, when railroads passed through adjacent sections, things became quiet. Today the village lassitude is broken only by the cries of children at the centralized grade school and the soft purr of passing automobiles.

CATAWBA (1,175 alt., 244 pop.), 11 m. E. on US 40, then 5 m. N. on State 54, spreads over some hills on the highest site in Clark County. It was settled in 1838 by George Dawson and Israel Marsh, of Vermont. Marsh planted a cutting from a Catawba vine near his cabin; this gave the place its name. Buck Creek, a settlement started in 1803 one mile to the north, was moved to Catawba soon after the latter got under way.

CORTSVILLE (1,070 alt., 18 pop.), 10.5 m. SE. on Selma Road, is now almost exclusively a Negro community. During the 1850's, many abolitionist meetings were held here. An old blacksmith shop, at the intersection of Selma Road and an un-
named County road, houses a forge and a battered anvil that have seen more than a century's service.

DIALTON (1,150 alt., 128 pop.), 10.7 m. NW. on State 70, then right 2.6 m. on a county road, had a gristmill in 1859 and achieved post office status in 1865; it was named for Judge E. G. Dial, of Springfield. In the 1880's, Dialton boasted a tile plant, sawmill, wagon shop, cider mill, and two blacksmith shops. A decline soon followed, and now a small shirt factory provides the only activity. Orton G. Rust (see Painters, Musicians, and Writers) was born near by.

DONNELSVILLE (950 alt., 219 pop.), 7 m. W. on US 40, is on the east side of Donnels Creek. It got its start in 1795, when David Lowry and Jonathan Donnel came here (see Early Years). The settlement became a village in 1832.

ENON (896 alt., 320 pop.), 7 m. SW. on State 4, was founded in 1838 by Ezra D. Baker and Elnathan Cory. About the middle of the century, a local man, Edward Baker, made a "flying machine" operated by manpower; it could glide but not fly. A model is in the historical museum at Springfield. From Enon came Samuel Shellebarger, Congressman; Peter Hardman, who claimed to be a survivor of the Custer massacre; and Charles (Sparrow) Young, champion trapshooter at 82.

HARMONY (1,047 alt., 150 pop.), 6 m. E. on US 40, is a village of red-brick and frame houses, with a few modern bungalows on the outskirts. It was laid out in 1832 by Laybourn Newlove; three years later the first school was built. Joseph Newlove and Robert Black drew a brisk trade to their inn when Harmony was a stage stop on the National Road.

HUSTEAD (1,034 alt., 100 pop.), 9 m. S. on US 68, is a residential hamlet that was settled in 1830 and named for a family in this section. Except for acquiring a post office in 1880, Hustead has experienced no development.

LAWRENCEVILLE (191 pop.), 7 m. NW. on State 70, with many residents working in Springfield, finds social and recreational release at the auditorium, gymnasium, and stadium of the local high school. Emanuel Circle started a store here in 1836, but the community had to wait until 1847
before Circle and others formally platted the village and called it Noblesville. In 1875 a post office was established, and the village was given its present name.

LISBON (1,130 alt., 20 pop.), 11 m. SE. on State 70, at the junction with State 54, was founded in 1815 by Thomas Cheno-weth and Ebenezer Pattocks; by 1820 it had a school and a Methodist church. For a brief period Lisbon was a rival of Springfield and South Charleston; then it declined. A centralized grade school is all the village has today.

MEDWAY (852 alt., 552 pop.), 11 m. SW. on Lower Valley Pike, is a pleasant community of red-brick and white frame houses. On nearby farms, tobacco is grown. A gristmill, built here in 1807 by Reverend Archibald Steel, gave the village its start; other mills and distilleries arose and for a time Medway was one of the county’s busier points. Later it declined. Because of the waterpower provided by the Mad River at this place, Medway in 1850 was selected by Benjamin Warder and Jeremiah Brokaw as the site for an implement factory; but a $30,000 valuation placed on the land by its owner caused them to build their plant in Springfield (see In the Factory).

NEW CARLISLE (955 alt., 1,089 pop.), 6 m. W. on US 40, then right 5.8 m. on State 71, lies on a small plain bordered on the east and south by the valley of Honey Creek. The first settlement, called York, was made in 1810 a short distance west of the present site. The name was changed to Monroe in 1812 and to Carlisle in 1828. Today New Carlisle, as it is now called, is a rural trade center for the area. The townspeople take pride in the athletic feats of their high school boys. The 1940 basketball squad won the Ohio Class “B” championship.

NEW MOOREFIELD (1,047 alt., 154 pop.), 7 m. NE. on State 4, was settled by Hugh Wilson in 1840 and laid out as a village in 1850. The community center is the local high school. Nurseries border the western edge of the village, and the New York Central R. R. passes through it.

NORTH HAMPTON (1,100 alt., 369 pop.), 10.5 m. NW. on State 70, was platted in 1829 by Peter Baisinger. The first frame house was built in 1830 by Joseph Smith, who operated a store for several years in part of his dwelling. Most of the villagers engage in farming.
PITCHIN (1,087 alt., 139 pop.), 6 m. SE. on the Selma Pike, drowses by a hilly road near a red brick school and a white frame church. Near the center of the community are the ruins of a log structure dating back to Indian days. Green Porter started the village in 1845. From David Bennet, storekeeper and liquor dispenser, whose byword with thirsty customers was “pitch in”, came the suggestion for the name of the village.

PLATTSBURG (1,100 alt., 150 pop.), 11 m. E. on US 40, then right 2.5 m. on State 54, ranges its brick and frame houses around a modern centralized school. Surveyors wrote “Plattsburg” across their plat of the site in 1853; with an added “t”, this became the name of the village. Most of the residents are descendants of the original settlers.

SELMA (1,100 alt., 251 pop.), 12 m. SE. at the intersection of Selma Pike and US 42, was occupied in the early 1800's by Quakers, but had to wait until 1842 for platting — by Dr. Jesse Wilson. It was an abolitionist center before the Civil War; local underground stations aided many Negroes in their flight to Canada.

SOUTH CHARLESTON (1,130 alt., 1,199 pop.), 13.5 m. SE. on State 70, at the junction with US 42, is a sedate, solidly built town on a rolling site; many forest trees shade its streets and houses. The town is said to be the smallest in the United States having the commission-manager form of government.

South Charleston was founded in 1815 by Conrad Critz. The first settlers were Kentuckians and Virginians; but Quakers soon followed. Until the 1840's the town bustled as a stop on the stage line between Columbus and Cincinnati; taverns were numerous and merchants profited.

Whitelaw Reid and Charles F. Browne (Artemus Ward) were identified with the town. Reid taught here for several years and was principal of the first local high school. Eventually he became owner of the New York Tribune and for a time served as Ambassador to England. Browne edited the South Charleston Sentinel. Unable to make expenses, he quit his job and left town — and an unpaid board bill of $9. Years later, when he was widely known as a humorist, he sent the $9 to a much-surprised landlady.
Today South Charleston's residents concern themselves with farm trade. (The first agricultural fair in Ohio, outside Hamilton County, was held here in 1837.) Wednesday's livestock sales give color to the community as stock dealers from all parts of the State come here to buy or sell horses, cattle, hogs, and sheep.

The Houston Public Library, with more than 4,000 volumes, was given to the town by Leon H. and Edwin D. Houston.

TREMONT CITY (950 alt., 288 pop.), 3 m. W. on US 40, then right 7 m. on Upper Valley Pike, lies on a level plain west of the Mad River. It was settled in 1800 by John Ross and other Kentuckians; for a time it was called Clarksburg. When a post office was established in 1839, the name was changed to Tree Mount because of the town's position at the foot of a wooded hill. Later the name was modified by the postal officials.

SOUTH VIENNA (1,130 alt., 398 pop.), 11 m. E. on US 40, stretches along the highway for a mile. Founded in 1833, the village napped peacefully until 1909, when local dry-law offenders were tried before the mayor, a warm prohibitionist. The heavy fines he collected paid for street paving, electric lights, and other improvements.
CLARK COUNTY LANDMARKS

(All distances measured from Springfield Post Office)

1. The KENTON STOCKADE SITE, 2.3 m. W. on US 40 (L), is near the Ohio Edison Company Plant at the confluence of Buck Creek and the Mad River. Here in 1799 Simon Kenton and a party of Kentuckians built eight cabins and a blockhouse and stockade for protection against the Indians (see The Springfield Chronicle).

2. The OLD LIME KILNS, 5 m. SW. on Lower Valley Pike (R), put in operation in 1830, were among the first in Ohio. Quarrying still takes place here amid massive limestone outcrops, scarred hillsides, and heaps of gray-yellow shale and clay.

3. The HUFFMAN HOUSE, 6.5 m. SW. on Lower Valley Pike, is a two-story stone structure (R) built about 1829 by Jacob Huffman. The stones that he and his family gathered from the surrounding hillsides required seven years to dress and place. The job was so well done that the planed surfaces have the appearance of troweled cement. Now occupied by Ralph Zirkle, the house contains many of the original furnishings.

4. The GEORGE ROGERS CLARK MEMORIAL STATE PARK, 7 m. SW. on Lower Valley Pike, a 202-acre partly wooded and partly landscaped tract (R) with interesting roadways winding through it, was dedicated to the memory of the frontier leader. On this rolling site Clark's army defeated the Shawnee on August 8, 1780 (see The Springfield Chronicle).

The NEW BOSTON CEMETERY (R), at the park entrance, is all that remains of the once-flourishing town of New Boston. During the early years of the nineteenth century, this town at the headwaters of the Mad River was a rival of Springfield. The rivalry continued until 1818, when Clark County was created and Springfield, by two votes, was selected over New Boston as the county seat. Today the neat, hedge-trimmed cemetery contains a few toppled and half-buried gravestones. One marker indicates a burial made in 1800.
About one hundred yards east of the Clark Monument is the Hertzler House, a three-story brick dwelling of early American design, perched on a steep rise rimming the valley. It was built about 1850. The house is in the so-called "bank style," the basement being reached from the ground level on the south, while, on the north side, entrance is made directly into the second story. In 1869 Daniel Hertzler, distiller and mill owner, was robbed and murdered in this house. This unsolved crime was given State-wide publicity. Suspects were arrested and put in jail, but later they escaped.

Overlooking the broad valley at the western edge of the park is the George Rogers Clark Memorial Monument, a tall granite shaft topped by a heroic sculpted figure of Clark in the guise of a frontier soldier. Charles Keck was the sculptor. The memorial was erected in 1924 by the Clark County Historical Society and the State of Ohio.

Near the end of the lane running west of the Clark Monument is the Birthplace Site of J. Warren Keifer, one of Clark County's nationally known figures. Here Keifer (1836-1932) spent his early years, working on the farm while studying law and preparing for a long and active career as lawyer, soldier, statesman, author, and civic leader. He was a Brevet Major General in the Civil War, and President McKinley appointed him a Major General in the Spanish-American War. He served as a Representative in Congress for 14 years and was Speaker of the House from 1881 to 1883.

5. The Chillicothe-Piqua Indian Trail Ford, 7.3 m. SW. on Lower Valley Pike, crosses Mad River alongside an old dam. Over this trail, in 1780, General Clark and his soldiers marched to destroy the Indian village of Old Piqua (see The Springfield Chronicle). The cannon used in the encounter were dragged through the ford by his artillerymen.

6. The Snyderville Covered Bridge, 7.4 m. SW. on Lower Valley Pike, then left 0.1 m. on Mill Road, is one of the few century-old bridges in the county. The heavy oak timbers on the 100-foot span are decorated with the initials, dates, and dart-pierced hearts usually found on this type of structure.

7. The Clark County Infirmary, 10.3 m. SW. on Lower Valley Pike, occupies the brow of a hill (R) at the junc-
tion of Snider Road and Valley Pike. The main building is a modern red-brick structure with broad verandas and a red-tile roof. It occupies the site of the Croft Home, where in 1819 was held the first Lutheran service in Clark County.

8. The BENJAMIN LAMME BIRTHPLACE, 11 m. SW. on Lower Valley Pike, then right 0.5 m. on Lamme Lane, is a brick structure of Georgian design. Benjamin Lamme (1864-1924), a renowned electrical engineer, in 1893 devised the alternating-current generators used in inaugurating the production of hydro-electric power at Niagara Falls in 1894. President Wilson made him a member of the Naval Consulting Board of the United States in 1915. He was awarded the Edison Medal by the American Institute of Electrical Engineers in 1919, and the Sullivant Medal by Ohio State University in 1923.

9. CRYSTAL LAKES, 12 m. SW. on Lower Valley Pike, then right 0.5 m. on Lake Road, is a summer resort with fishing, bathing, and boating facilities and about 300 houses and summer cottages dotting the shores of the small lakes, whose combined area is 17 acres. A clubhouse is situated on a small island near the west shore of the largest lake.

10. The HUNT HOUSE, 4.8 m. N. on US 68, near Moorefield Township West Side School, is a two-story brick building (R) in the Georgian style. It was erected in 1830 by Major William Hunt, and stands on the site of Simon Kenton's first home in Ohio (see The Springfield Chronicle). Here Kenton's Negro servants built his log house, around which were ranged the cabins of his slaves and the bark-covered lodges of his Indian retainers.

11. The CLARK COUNTY TUBERCULOSIS SANITARIUM, 3 m. E. on US 40, is situated in a wooded 50-acre tract (L) just east of the corporation limit. The main building, for adult patients, is a four-story structure of reinforced concrete with stucco finish and a red-tile roof. Other buildings include the children's wards, nurses' home, superintendent's residence, and a school for children. The sanitarium has 120 beds. Facilities include a library of 5,000 volumes and a small auditorium, seating 50 persons, that is used for entertainments.
and religious services. An attractive cut-stone gateway to the grounds was erected in 1936 as a memorial to Anna Thompson Spencer.

12. BUENA VISTA TAVERN, 9.1 m. E. on US 40 (L), was built in 1836 and converted into a stagecoach tavern in 1849, when most east-west travel was over the National Road. It provided shelter for many celebrities of the period — P. T. Barnum, Jenny Lind, Daniel Webster, Henry Clay, Andrew Jackson, Horace Greeley, and others. Congressmen, Governors, and other well-known figures met local politicians here to discuss party affairs. Now the tavern serves as a gasoline station and inn for travelers. The old wagon sheds formerly standing at the rear of the tavern have been replaced in recent years by tourist cabins.

The yellow-brick structure, L-shaped and two stories high, is typical of its period. It has 11 rooms. A large veranda extends across the front; on the side is a porch beside which swaying stages pulled up to unload their passengers. Inside is a large fireplace richly ornamented with hand-carved panels of black walnut and cherry, and a staircase reproducing the one in Washington’s Mount Vernon.

13. The HOLLANDIA GARDENS NURSERY (R), opposite the Buena Vista Tavern, is a 50-acre tract devoted to the growing of domestic and imported shrubbery and trees.

14. The SPRINGFIELD MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, 5 m. E. on State 70, occupies a 126-acre tract (R) purchased in August 1928 by the city. It has an east-west landing run of 2,450 feet and a north-east-southwest run of 2,850 feet. Beacon, boundary, and flood lights are maintained at night. Short pleasure flights are sponsored, and planes are rented to qualified students. Accommodations include a school for flyers, hangars for private planes, repair service facilities, and a refueling station.

15. The SOUTH CHARLESTON HISTORICAL MUSEUM, cor. Church and Mound Streets, occupies part of a filling station. A varied collection of firearms — including pepper-box derringers and silver-mounted muskets dating back to the Cortez conquest — daggers, hunting knives, Indian relics, and other Americana are crowded into a small room.
16. The FREDERICK FUNSTON BIRTHPLACE SITE, in New Carlisle, NE. cor. Church and Main Streets, now marked by a gasoline station, until recently was the site of the century-old Mitchell House, an inn. Several Presidents of the United States, Charles Dickens, and other notables were guests at the Mitchell House. In it, Major General Frederick Funston, captor of Emilio Aguinaldo, Philippine insurrection leader, was born (1865-1917). His boyhood days were spent in New Carlisle. Proud citizens have erected a Funston memorial fountain on the library grounds.

17. ABERFELDA CLIFFS, 3.4 m. W. on US 40 (L), just west of the Erie Railroad, are said to have been the means of saving the life of Tecumseh during the Battle of Piqua (see The Springfield Chronicle). Tecumseh and some of the Shawnee made good their escape because the right wing of Clark’s army was unable to ascend the steep cliffs, which Clark described as “an uncommon chain of rocks.”

Spanning the Erie Railroad tracks is the ABERFELDA GOLDEN ARCH VIADUCT, completed in 1931 to eliminate a dangerous grade crossing. Just north of the viaduct the railroad passes through a deep cut, the sides of which provide interesting geological studies. When the railroad was being constructed, engineers believed that, because of rocky formations in the area, it would be necessary to tunnel through the large hill at this point. However, shovels cleared the path without encountering any rock. It later developed that the tracks had been accidentally located in a canyon cut by a pre-glacial stream and later filled with clay, sand, and gravel during the glacial period.
YEARS AND EVENTS

1751 Christopher Gist explores the Mad River Valley.

1763 The Shawnee enter the Miami Valley and build villages.

1768 Tecumseh, destined to become a great Shawnee leader, is born near Old Piqua in Clark County.

1780 George Rogers Clark and his army of 1,000 Kentuckians defeat the Shawnee at Old Piqua and destroy their village and cornfields.

1787 Virginia Military District, comprising lands between the Scioto and Miami Rivers, is opened for settlement.

1794 General "Mad Anthony" Wayne's victory at Fallen Timbers crushes Indian resistance in Ohio territory, reassures settlers.

1795 Treaty of Greenville speeds settlement of the Clark County area.

1799 Simon Kenton and John Humphreys bring party of Kentuckians here; they build cabins and stockade at forks of Mad River and Lagonda (Buck) Creek. James Demint builds first cabin on site of Springfield.

1801 Demint plats the village of Springfield. Griffith Foos opens first tavern.

1803 Demint builds a gristmill and distillery on Mill Run. Springfield's first religious services are held in Foos' tavern.

1804 Robert Rennick is commissioned postmaster of Springfield.

1805 Kenton builds a gristmill on Lagonda Creek. Cooper Ludlow starts a tannery.

1806 Nathaniel Pinkered opens Springfield's first school in a log house at Main and Market Streets.

1808 Clark County settlers, meeting near Griffith Foos' Tavern, make a peace pact with the Indians.
1810 New Carlisle is settled.

1815 South Charleston is founded.


1818 Clark County is organized and Springfield made the county seat.

1820 Population of Springfield is 1,868; of Clark County, 9,533.

1822 The Pennsylvania House is erected on West Main Street.

1827 Springfield becomes an incorporated village.

1830 Population of Springfield is 1,080, showing loss of 788 since 1820.

1834 Springfield High School, a subscription school, is incorporated by the State; students pay tuition fees.

1836 Buena Vista Tavern is erected east of Springfield, becomes a popular stopping place on the National Road.

1837 First agricultural fair in Clark County is held at South Charleston.

1838 National Road (US 40) is completed to a point three miles west of Springfield.

1840 Population of Springfield is 2,062; of Clark County, 16,882. Clark County Agricultural Society is organized.

1843 Dr. Alexander Dunlap performs second successful ovariotomy in the United States.

1845 Wittenberg College is chartered; first classes are held in First Lutheran Church.

1846 First railroad into Springfield, the Little Miami, is completed on August 6. Myers Hall, oldest Wittenberg College structure, is built.

1848 The Mad River and Lake Erie Railroad reaches Springfield. Telegraph wires strung along the National Road flash news of Zachary Taylor’s election to the Presidency.
1850 Springfield, with 5,108 residents, becomes a city. Gas lights appear on streets. Warder and Brokaw start the manufacture of agricultural machinery.

1851 First class, comprising eight young men, is graduated from Wittenberg College.

1853 Clark County Agricultural Society buys 10-acre fairground site at Springfield.

1854 Name of Springfield High School, a private school, is changed to Female College and Springfield High School; girl boarders are admitted. First Grand National Baby Show is held in Springfield; prize goes to 10-month-old daughter of William Rhome-mus of South Vienna.

1855 William N. Whitely makes his first mower. Springfield's first board of education is organized; public school system starts.

1856 Three agricultural-machinery firms organize in Springfield.

1860 Population of Springfield is 7,002; of Clark County, 22,178.

1862 James Leffel, Springfield inventor, is granted patent on double-turbine water wheel.

1864 First labor union in Clark County is organized in Springfield. Benjamin Lamme, noted electrical engineer, is born near Springfield.

1865 Major General Frederick Funston is born in New Carlisle.

1867 Mrs. Ella Sanderson is appointed Springfield postmistress.

1869 Springfield's first opera house, built by Andrew Black at Main Street and Fountain Avenue, opens on February 8 with performance of The Drummer Boy of Shiloh.

1870 Cars drawn by mules appear on streets of Springfield. The Ohio State Fair is held at fairground in Springfield, repeated in the following year.
1872 First Grange in Clark County is organized by farmers near Tremont City.

1874 Wittenberg College admits first women students.

1875 Springfield High School building is erected at West High Street and Wittenberg Avenue.

1877 P. P. Mast's firm prints a trade magazine that fore­shadows Springfield's huge publishing industry.

1878 Clark County Children's Home admits first wards.

1880 Population of Springfield is 20,730; of Clark County, 41,948.
Telephone service is inaugurated in Springfield, on June 28, with 36 subscribers.
Building now serving as the Municipal Courthouse is erected at Limestone and Columbia Streets.
Clarence Cole Phillips, Springfield artist, is born.

1881 Clark County Courthouse is erected at Limestone and Columbia Streets.
Grand Opera House is built by John Bookwalter.
Major General J. Warren Keifer, of Springfield, is first Ohioan to be chosen Speaker of the House of Repre­sentatives.

1883 Springfield's first electric-power plant begins produc­ing current in a former carriage factory.

1890 Warder Public Library is given to the city by Benjamin H. Warder.
The Springfield City Building and Market is completed.

1892 Asa Bushnell and Ward Frey sponsor Springfield's first electric street-railway system, which operates cars this year.
St. Raphael Catholic Church is completed.

1895 Ohio Masonic Home is established just west of Spring­field.
Snyder Park is given to the city by John and David Snyder.

1896 Asa Bushnell is first Clark County resident to be elected Governor of Ohio.

1897 Administration Building of the Pythian Children's Home is completed in Springfield.
1898 Administration Building of the I. O. O. F. Home is built in Springfield.

1899 First electric interurban car arrives in Springfield from Dayton.

1900 Population of Springfield is 38,253; of Clark County, 58,939.

1902 Warder, Bushnell & Glessner Company merges with International Harvester Company. Boys' and Girls' Agricultural Club is started in Springfield. County Building is put up at the southwest corner of Limestone and Columbia Streets. Fire destroys East Street manufacturing shops on February 10.

1903 American Seeding Machine Company is formed from the merger of all Springfield grain-drill manufactories with Hoosier Grain Drill Company, of Richmond, Indiana. Fountain Square Theater, formerly Black's Opera House, burns on February 19. Oesterlin Orphans' Home is founded by the United Lutheran Church.

1904 National Guardsmen come to Springfield on March 9 and 10, after a riot results in the death of a Negro. Gus Sun opens a theater on South Limestone Street, beginning a long and successful career as theater operator and vaudeville booking agent.

1906 Following a murder, mob burns section of Springfield known as the “Jungles”; National Guardsmen arrive on February 28 to quell the disorder. Fairbanks Theater opens with performance of Ben Hur.

1907 The new Sun Theater is opened at Main and Center Streets.

1910 Population of Springfield is 46,921; of Clark County, 66,435.

1911 Present Senior High School is erected on South Limestone Street. The Big Four Railroad Station is completed.

1914 Commission-manager form of government, adopted by Springfield voters, becomes effective.
1915 Clark County Memorial Hall is completed. Ohio Knights of Pythias Home for the Aged, West High Street, is dedicated.

1916 Clark County Farm Bureau is organized.

1920 Population of Springfield is 60,840; of Clark County, 80,728. Henry Ford buys the D. T. & I. Railroad, renovates equipment, roadway, and buildings.

1921 National Guardsmen come to Springfield on March 12 to handle local disturbance.

1923 Springfield Chamber of Commerce buys Lagonda Club building and moves into it.

1924 George Rogers Clark Monument is unveiled on Old Piqua site. Lagonda Chapter, D. A. R., presents to city a plaque commemorating peace treaty between early settlers and Shawnee.

1926 Covenant Presbyterian Church is completed. Million-dollar Masonic Temple goes up on West High Street.

1928 The Madonna of the Trail Monument is dedicated on July 4. The Springfield Municipal Airport is established.

1929 The News-Sun Building is completed.

1930 Population of Springfield is 68,743; of Clark County, 90,936. The Springfield Civic Theater is organized. Sesquicentennial of the Battle of Piqua is celebrated in October with a huge sham battle; deed to George Rogers Clark Memorial State Park is formally presented to the State.

1931 Administration Building is erected in Ferncliff Cemetery. First Clark County corn-husking contest is held near Springfield.

1932 New Springfield City Hospital is completed. Major General J. Warren Keifer dies on April 22 at the age of 96.
1933  Buses replace electric trolley cars in Springfield. First radio-telephone conversation between Springfield and a ship at sea is held on January 9 by William T. Smith, Jr., local operator, and Captain Christopher Ness on a fishing trawler 200 miles off the Massachusetts coast.

1934  Springfield Police Department is first in Ohio to establish a two-way radio system. New United States Post Office is completed at Lime­stone and North Streets. William McClain, Springfield student at Wittenberg College, is first Negro to win the National Intercollec­giate Oratorical Contest.

1935  Springfield’s Municipal Baseball Stadium is completed.

1937  Clark County ranks 94th among the Nation’s 3,090 coun­ties in the value of manufactured products and 91st in wages paid by manufacturing establishments.

1938  Last electric interurban line in Clark County is abandoned.

1939  Crowell Company changes its name to Crowell-Collier Publishing Company. New Y. M. C. A. Building at Limestone and North Streets is dedicated.

1940  Official U. S. Census figures for 1940 show Springfield has a population of 70,662; Clark County, 95,647.
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