

### Oldest Clawson Resident Recalls Its Early Days

The romance that surrounds the founding and naming of the village of Clawson, which celebrated its Golden Jubilee on Saturday, is reflected in the simple sequence of Mrs. Frances J. Bowers' address to the Golden Jubilee committee. Mrs. Bowers, who lives at 238 Southfield avenue, in Birmingham, was born on the site of the village 31 years before the postoffice was named. Her paper to the committee follows:

The committee has requested me, being the oldest living resident of Clawson, to recall as many events in the history of the town as possible. There may be many mistakes which I hope you will correct.

Many of us received our mail from Royal Oak either by going after it or by sending neighbors who would bring up for all who needed it. There was an old-fashioned stage coach which carried mail and passengers three times a week over the plank toll road from Royal Oak to Rochester, leaving mail at Big Beaver. After a time George Hickey began carrying mail three times a week on the Niles road from Royal Oak to Troy Corners.

My husband made a hinged covered mail box, nailed it on a fence, and hired Hickey to bring our mail, so Clawson not being named was getting more efficient mail service. John Lawson, Burnett Grow, and Henry Bowers began sending in petitions and lists of names to Washington. Many names were rejected. At last, in desperation and partly as a joke, the name of Clawson, by which an old lady (Mrs. Codner) always called the Lawson family, was sent. To our surprise the name was accepted. The first Postmaster was Andrew Bean. For a short time the mail was kept in his home until he and John Lawson built the store, as partners. The office was a meeting place for all the men in the evening. Questions of local and national importance were discussed and settled by the interested crowd seated on nail legs, cracker barrels, and even the counters. John Bell said that if the store should burn some night his Epb's body would be found among the ruins. That was before Epb was married.

Not Political Job  
The position of postmaster was not political but was transferred to whoever owned the store. There were many changes, and when the Detroit Electric cars ran through on Main street from Royal Oak to Styles Corners, we received two mails a day, local street car service to Detroit every hour, several limiteds running through to Flint and Saginaw. Later, people began coming out to look for homes to buy or lots to build on. Their first question was if there were school or church privileges. From such requirements sprang up the Community Church. There was a strong Christian sentiment owing to the services held in our school house for 17 years by the Rev. Erastus Herrington of Fourtowns. New school houses were being built, land values went higher for several years, and Clawson became a flourishing village. It has now all the modern improvements of any city of its size in Oakland County. The name looks well when printed or written, sounds well when spoken, and means the old home town to many in other states. Its location is fine and there is room to expand without becoming a slum of some larger city. Keep it on the map with its best class of younger men, who are many of them grandsons of the old timers who believed in God and kept their powder dry, such as Christian service and Sabbath keeping.

### Thrilling Stunts for State Fair Stampede



All of these sports of the Wild West will be seen at the Michigan State Fair, August 31 to September 6. Upper left, cowboy taking plunge from spiking broncho; upper right, cowboy in act of leaping from horse to steer in steer riding stunt; center, Col. Frank Hatley, arena director, left, and Dick Shelton, holder of world's champion cowboy belt; right, who will be seen at the State Fair Stampede.

### Attends Funeral Of Father In Iowa

Dr. Paul J. Stryker left Sunday for Washington, Ia., to attend the funeral of his father, Rev. W. R. Stryker, who died suddenly at the age of 73 years Saturday evening. Dr. Stryker will resume his practice here Aug. 25.

### CARS COLLIDE; KNOCK DOWN MAIL BOXES

A minor accident occurred at the intersection of Long Lake and Lahser roads Saturday morning when two cars collided and their veered off to the side of the road knocking down a row of mail boxes.

Karl Segall, 320 Interlocken avenue, Pine Lake, was driving east on Long Lake road, and Fred W. Jeffers, 15617 Glastonbury avenue, Detroit, was driving north on Lahser road, intending to turn west on Long Lake road. Each driver claimed that the green light was with him and that he was unable to stop in time to avoid the crash.

No one was injured, although both cars were somewhat damaged.

### Case Enough

Many a man's prediction of a world panic is based on the hole in his pocket.—Dallas News.

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between Troy and Royal Oak for half a mile to the west had never been opened) the supervisors of both towns were called together three times without taking any action, and were told their next call would come from Lansing. The road was opened at once. Before that if any one wanted to go over to the Reid Farms or anywhere on Crooks road, they were obliged to drive three miles around. At that time, no one had ever heard of telephones, electric lights, or street cars; Detroit was still using the old style omnibus—a cross between the prairie schooner and the modern motor-bus. Had an airplane passed over the town, all the inhabitants not frightened to death would have thought Elijah was returning to earth in the chariot in which he was carried up to Heaven. And now when we can listen over the radio to voices hundreds of miles away with no visible means of connection, it is not hard to believe that the Heavens declare the superiority and the firmament showeth his handiwork.

The committee asked me to name some of the old time homes in the city. The first was the little home owned by Mary McBride, which was for a short time occupied by George W. Hay.

**Banker's Home Next**  
Next was the home of Henry Blair and his wife, parents of Frank Blair, one of your most honored natives and donor of the Blair Memorial Library (his birthplace) to the city of Clawson; next was the birthplace and home of Herm Hendrickson, your honorable bank president and man of several activities for the benefit of his home town. He was the younger son of Uncle George and Aunt Mollie Hendrickson. Next was the old-time log house where Aunt Rhoda's brick house now stands; next was the home of an English family, John Price and two sons, Oliver and Albert, and Phillips Baker and Oliver Phillips of Rochester.

The home is still in the possession of the Starr family: Returning from there, was only the home of Grandfather William Bell, a good old covenanter from the Emerald Isle and the land of the kilts and bagpipes. Going east, the first house was that of John and Abigail Buell. Bert, Charles, and Melvin owned the store—and were Postmasters of Clawson. Nellie, the wife of Judge Floyd Buck of Birmingham, used to escort all the youngsters to school their first day.

There was no other house until the Merritt Chase place, once the property of Chester Morgan. Then the Frank Warrenner home, the Blakelys, Parkers, McYeans, Dodds, Davidsons, Braces, the brothers Sam and Adam Reid; the Louis Stanch Farm, the Peter Reid and Lambert farm. Then you drove straight across the Grand Trunk track onto the Saginaw turnpike and met up with toll gate kept by Theodore Blum-

**Open-Townline Road**  
After the close of the Civil War in 1866 (the Township line road

Starr farm. He lives in Los Angeles. Then the original Orson Starr farm where the old Copper Bell Foundry stood. David Starr lived there for years.

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After passing Council Corners and the home of Eleanor Halsey, turning south at Big Beaver Corners was the home of Clement Peasall. With its well-built foundation and cupola, it is still standing, at least 100 years old. Next was the home of George Morke, who went to Texas via the Covered Wagon Route. For many years Orson Avery and George Hunt lived there.

Next was the Joseph McCracken home, owned by Payson Halsey who brought up his seven sons in the way they should see, and one daughter, Mrs. Joy Colling of Royal Oak. Crossing back at Council Corners, we come to the little red log cabin school house, a perfect model of inconvenience. Many children of the vicinity graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts and are men and women of clean, upright lives.

Next was the home of Aunt Eunice James, for many years the property of the Most Family. This was the house of Deacon Clark was the home of the Clark family. Then the large farmhouse of Uncle Joshua and Aunt Polly Fay. It is the exact spot where the hands of the late James Mooney now stand. Next was the home of James Lawson, Sr., father of John and Jacob Lawson.

Returning to the Corner was the home of John Lawson and the birthplace of James, Jr., our state representative, and John, Jr., and Mrs. Lottie Switzer of Royal Oak. Crossing the town line going south was the Andrew Bean house, built and owned by the MacDowells. Next, the James Bowers Johnston home, occupied by the Nash family, who moved to Northville and from there to Hollywood. Cal. and John Clark, son and Willis of Venice are still living. Burnett Grow at one time owned the home.

Then John Bell and his wife raised their family there until they both passed over the Great Divide. Next was the Almond Starr or Moses Larson Farm, named for many years by Myron Bailey, now of San Diego, California. Next was the Charles