

## Once A Thriving Town; Now Only Ruin Remains

You who will seek the adventure of travel in neighboring districts this summer probably will journey out Grand River avenue. At the top of a certain desolate hill on the north side of the highway at the eastern boundary of Livingston County a crumbling wall tells a story.

This little section of land now holds but the last fragments of a thriving middle-western town that was 100 years ago, a flourishing community where a large saw mill, three hotels, three general stores, two large shoe shops (for in those days all shoes were made by hand), five blacksmith shops, the first Baptist Church, in this part of the state, and two brick yards located just north of Kent, Mich. Now all that remains is the crumbling wall of a single building, a relic of another "dead-end" village.

A few months ago, upon inquiry, we learned that this was the town of Kent, where in 1831, the first settlement was made.

Until 1840 the town thrived. Under what was known as the "Wild Cat" banking laws of Michigan at the time a brick bank was operated in the village and the bank notes it issued were as good as gold.

A Mile Square  
The land plotted for the village was more than a mile square and its lots sold for city prices. One of the residents came from Buffalo, N. Y., where he had sold his home in the center of the city because he wanted to "come west and invest in a live town." He died poor. Grand River avenue led through the community and was at that time, a plank road from Detroit to Lansing.

M. P. Butterfield, who kept a shoe shop and store, John Daily, who came from New York and was at one time postmaster and delivered mail three times a week; the two Crouse brothers, who for many years operated a large store, and Gates, who was the village justice of the peace, were prominent residents of the community.

There were two doctors in the town, Drs. Curtis and Wells. There was a prosperous business, agriculture and typhoid being prevalent in the early days of the community.

By 1853 there was as many as 50 houses. This was before there were any railroads in that part of Michigan, and with their coming, Kent was doomed to rapid decline. But before the iron rails stretched through neighboring territory, enormous loads of farm produce, farm supplies and stock for the stores, were transported on that plank road.

100 Teams In Line  
Great, winding chains of horses, sometimes as many as 100 teams, pulled heavily loaded wagons. There were two four-horse coaches running daily over the stage line. After a gradual decline in the interest of the population in agricultural and manufacturing pursuits when the D. L. & N. railroad was constructed, travel on the plank was reduced to the minimum.

The bank failed, the dam went out, men failed in business and much of the property was sold for taxes. Many homes were abandoned and with the destruction of time their materials supplied the few who remained with kindling wood.

And so the town that was expected to grow into a large city, declined slowly, lingeringly, and then rushed headlong into oblivion—oblivion, all but a crumbling wall.

## ALBIE TRIES THIRD SCHOOL SPORT

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## VILLAGE COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Village Commission held Monday, March 24, 1930, at 8 p. m.

Present: President Allen, Commissioners Lewis, Allen, Tucker, Connolly, Hubbard and Lowman.

Absent: None.

Minutes of meetings held March 13th and 15th, 1930, approved as printed.

11th—Motion by Commissioner Lewis, seconded by Commissioner Allen, that the following resolution be adopted: In accordance with resolution No. 10, the President Allen appointed the following committee: Finance Committee—Commissioners Hubbard and Lowman; Public Works Committee—Commissioners Allen and Tucker; Fire and Police Committee—Commissioners Allen and Tucker.

10th—A hearing was held on the removal of a tree on the west side of Elm Street, north of Maple Avenue.

10th—Moved by Commissioner Allen that the matter of removing a tree on N. Main St. be laid on the table for one week.

9th—President Allen, Commissioners Lewis, Allen, Tucker, Connolly, Hubbard and Lowman.

11th—A communication was received from Dr. Newitt requesting the revocation of a license. Dr. Newitt asked to appear on same in the Commission in two weeks.

11th—Moved by Commissioner Allen that the following bills be paid: American Cattle Raisers' Ass'n, \$25.00; Commercial Printing & Supply Co., \$25.00; Electric Light & Power Co., \$25.00; Election Board Fees (Records), \$10.00; Michigan Live Stock Ass'n, \$10.00; Frank S. Millard, \$10.00; Pittsburgh Equitable Mortgage Co., \$10.00; Price Plumstead, petty cash, \$10.00; Potomac & Grand Co., \$10.00; Rice, Waterhouse & Co., \$10.00; Richardson, Franklin Co., \$10.00; Joseph T. Ryerson & Son, \$10.00; Smith & Wesson Co., \$10.00; Walter Pratt, \$10.00.

Yess, J. Nays, 8.

11th—Moved by Commissioner Hubbard that the bill for \$15.75 presented by Walter Pratt for a refund on building permit No. 218 for 1928 be added to the bill.

Yess, J. Nays, 8.

11th—Moved by President Allen that the \$50,000.00 Civic Center bonds approved by the voters on Monday, March 19, 1930 be sold and 100,000 of them be placed in "The Michigan Live Stock Ass'n" for not less than two consecutive weeks with the special agreement that the bonds be sold on the 15th day of April, 1930 at which time they shall be publicly opened and read, after which they shall be tabulated and the bonds awarded to the bidder offering the bid most advantageous to the Village of Birmingham at its regular meeting held that date at 8 o'clock P. M. provided however that all bids may be rejected should they be considered unsatisfactory.

Yess, J. Nays, 8.

11th—Moved by Commissioner Connolly that a plenary license be issued to ground in Birmingham Co. and that their bond covering same be accepted.

Yess, J. Nays, 8.

11th—Moved by Commissioner Lowman that an appeal license be issued to Mark Feldman and his bond covering same be accepted.

Yess, J. Nays, 8.

11th—Moved by Commissioner Tucker that the meeting adjourn.

Yess, J. Nays, 8.

MYRTLE E. CARSON, Village Clerk.

## INVENTIONS NEEDED

In spite of man's progress in mechanical lines, as yet no definite perfection has been reached in regard to an automatic machine for laying bricks. The chap who figures out a conveyor system that will do the trick, will make himself a fortune.

Salt that is kept in small containers gets damp and won't "run" because it absorbs moisture from the atmosphere. A specially constructed salt shaker that allows the air to circulate, and thus remove moisture, will adorn every housewife's table—and make profit for its inventor.

In these days of electric refrigeration why shouldn't some body invent a small, portable arrangement of the principle of electric refrigeration which can be built into a water pitcher for table use. Here's an idea that somebody ought to "cash in" on in the near future.

Sugar is put up in small cubs to make it appear nice, and to make for ease and uniformity in handling. The chap, or "chaps," who comes through first with a device that will release correct portions of sugar for its various uses will "sweeten" his (or her) own bank account.

Some man or woman is destined to perfect a means of converting paper, or some other cheap substance, into wearing apparel. Men's collars, for instance, offer a splendid opportunity for a start.

Too much of the lead in pencils is destroyed by pencil sharpeners. This may be good for pencil manufacturers, but pencil users will buy a sharpener that does not eat up so much of the lead every time it is sharpened.

The mechanical genius who develops a typewriter that will require fewer keys than those now in use, will practically revolutionize the business—not to mention the office routine of the business world.

STATE OF MICHIGAN—The Probate Court for the County of Oakland, do hereby order that the City of Pontiac, in said County, at the 19th day of March, A. D. 1930, be and it is hereby ordered, that the Estate of James M. Clement, deceased.

It is Further Ordered, That public notice be given by publication of a copy of this order once each week for four consecutive weeks previous to said day of hearing, in the Birmingham Record, a newspaper printed and published in said county.

W. A. McGAFFEY, Judge of Probate.

RUTH EMERICK HARRIS, Clerk.

## GOODYEAR'S ENORMOUS COTTON PLANTATION BEGINS CULTIVATION

Akron, O.—Spring cultivation started this week at the 37,000-acre Goodyear cotton plantation in Arizona, where approximately 5,500 bales are expected to be raised this year from the one plantation, the largest in the state.

Having a quality hatched even by that raised in the Nile Valley in Egypt, Arizona cotton is regarded as most desirable for the use in the highest grade passenger and pneumatic truck tires.

Few people realize how vital a part cotton plays in the manufacture of tires. Piles of fabric, impregnated with rubber, make up the carcass of a tire, needing only sidewall and tread for protection and resiliency. The rubber tire might almost as properly be called a cotton tire, since fabric has no more to do with its construction.

Used for Munitions  
In 1916 the tire industry was experiencing serious difficulty in getting long staple cotton, because Egyptian cotton being under the control of England, was being employed for munitions. Although the United States at that time had not become involved in the war, production of long staple cotton in the south was being curtailed by the boll weevil.

The United States Department of Agriculture for years has maintained that, given water, the Arizona desert could produce as fine a long staple cotton as could be grown. The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company decided to experiment with cotton in the southwest with a view to developing a

## Life's Little Laughs

"You Never Can Tell—Piggly-Wiggly—Is my face dirty, or is it my imagination?"

"Wiggly—Your face isn't! I don't know about your imagination."—Western Christian Advocate.

Mrs. Bait: And is your daughter happily married?

Mrs. Lett: Oh, yes. Her husband is scared to death of her answers.

Perhaps Professor Clark is correct in saying that college does not increase a man's income. On the other hand, it teaches him how to live without hats and garters.—The New Yorker.

"Did your watch stop when it dropped to the floor of the stock room?"

"Of course it did. Did you think it would go through?"

## Cleaning \$1 Pressing

Men's 3 piece Suit, Topcoat, or Overcoat... Ladies' plain wool dress, 2 piece suit, or spring coat carefully cleaned and correctly pressed for only \$1 on Dollar Day.

All orders phoned in on Friday, March 28th, will receive this Dollar Day price!

## J. A. DUGAS

Cleaning - Pressing - Tailoring  
Altering - Repairing  
290 S. WOODWARD PHONE 9080  
Open Tues., Thurs., and Sat. Evenings



BRIGGS BUILDING

145 SO. WOODWARD

# \$ DOLLAR DAY \$

# SPECIALS

Pass thru the turnstiles to economy  
See will buy a dollar will buy at Piggly Wiggly

THESE SPECIALS FOR DOLLAR DAY ONLY  
SPECIAL DOLLAR DAY COMBINATION OFFER

15 Pound Peck	Potatoes	\$1
1 Dozen	Fresh Eggs	All For
1 Strictly	Butter	
1 Pound		
1 Sunset Gold		

Bananas	Fancy Ripe Fruit	4 Lbs. 19c
Apples	Fancy Wine Saps	4 Lbs. 23c
Head Lettuce	Large Solid Heads	2 For 13c
Tomatoes	Fancy Red Ripe	Pound 15c

## Lux Toilet Soap

16 Bars \$1.00

## Tomatoes

Standard Pack No. 2 Cans 10 Cans \$1.00

## Maxwell House Coffee

Pound 37c

## Olives

Sunset Gold - 8 Oz. 23c  
Plain, 15c - Stuffed

## Lux Soap Flakes

Pkg. 23c

## Beef Roast

Choice Cut of Chuck 4 Lbs. \$1.00

## Round Steak

Prime Quality Beef 3 Lbs. \$1.00

## Bacon

Fancy Sugar Cured 4 Lbs. \$1.00

# PIGGLY WIGGLY

## \$1

## Dollar Day Savings

One lot of Ladies Pumps and Oxfords, Black and Brown at \$1 a shoe.

One Lot House SLIPPERS \$1 Pair

One Lot House SLIPPERS \$1 each

One lot of SIMPLEX CHILDREN'S SHOES \$1 off

A quality group of Ladies' shoes at \$1 savings.

WALK-OVERS at \$1 savings.

YOUNG'S Shoe Store

East Maple near Woodward

## BARGAINS

Pad & Cover for Ironing Board \$1  
Kitchen Garbage Pail \$1  
Roaster, reg. \$2 value \$1  
Door Mats, No. 2, reg. \$1.50 \$1  
Your Choice of Two of:  
Dish pan, coffee pot, kettle or pail (All in gray enamel) \$1  
Pyrex Casserole, reg. \$1.50 \$1  
Boys' Glove & Ball, reg. \$1.40 \$1  
China Bean Pot, reg. \$1.25 \$1  
Kitchen Clock, reg. \$3.00 \$1  
Liquid Veneer with polish, reg. \$1.30 \$1

Huston Hardware Co.  
N. WOODWARD PHONE 110-W

## Service for Autoists

Regular \$1.50 Car Wash  
Drive in \$1 Drive out Clean  
DOLLAR DAY ONLY

Greasing - Brake Work - Gasolines at low cost \$ Day and Every Day

## Ladue Auto Service

300 SOUTH WOODWARD AVE.  
Opp. Bus Station