Cass Aided Democrats

BY DOTTIE BREIDENBACH
Special Writer

The role of the Democrats in this predominantly Republican county has been a struggle for survival, but the work of the Democratic Party is hanging on with bulldog tenacity; and at this moment, one of Michigan’s senators in Washington is from the County of Oakland and City of Birmingham, Philip A. Hart.

An early eminent Demo- crat, Gov. Lewis Cass, pro- claimed the original boundaries of Oakland in January, 1835. In March, 1836, he established the county seat at Pontiac.

According to Mrs. Donald E. Adams, president of the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society, in the early history of the county, party strife was strongly drawn; but in 1829, with the election of Andrew Jackson, who appealed to the pioneers, party affiliation became more pronounced.

A BIRMINGHAM resident, Dr. Emmorey Haynes, Democrat, was elected to the 1838 constitutional convention and served two years as state senator. He again served in the 1850 constitutional convention.

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Spacious 17-Room House Built By Clark Vaughan

Mrs. Welsamiller buys occupied remodeled house since 1948

DRAPER ALLEN
Run for Congress.

Vaughan Cabin Dales Back to 1828

At the top of a hill on Lahser, close to the Vaughan road corner, stands a lovely stone home with massive white pillars. The oak that shad be there have been there for many years, the house itself since 1849.

When John Vaughan first settled here in 1829, he built a log cabin just south of the present home. His son Clark built the stone house, and it was here the late Perry Vaughan was born. When married the former Mabel lives in 1906, they bought 100 acres on Vaughan Road. Here they had a big dairy farm.

J. DAUGHTER, Mrs. John B. Hammonds lives close by. Mrs. Vaughan and another daughter, Mrs. W. A. Guthrie, live on Oak- hill, a part of the original land grant. Mrs. Donald E. Adams lives in Birmingham, and a son, Perry Jr., is a resident of Grand Rapids.

Mrs. Adolph J. Weismiller has lived in this 15-room stone house since 1948. The grounds are spacious, the rooms light and airy.

The chandelier in the dining room sparkles in the light, hinting of parties held here.

A grandfather clock that was brought from England by Mrs. Weismiller’s 10-year-old granddaughter 8 years ago stands in the parlor.

The house has been added to, the barn and smokehouse remodeled, the last time in 1956 by Mr. Welsamiller by the Vernors. It was then the west wing was torn down and a new one built. The smokehouse was added on the south side at this

Mrs. Weismiller has occupied remodeled house since 1948

WHEN he told them that due to long years of overwhelming Republicanism the Democratic Party had lost initiative.

It was at the Jefferson Club meeting in April, 1869, that Gen.

D. D. VanWagoner, who is June would announce his candidacy for governor, summarized the recent history of the Democratic Party in Oakland County.

He said, "This is the 51st consecutive banquet of the Oak- land County Jefferson Club. The mo- tive of this assembly has been to get the support of the Republican Party in the election of Andrew Jackson, who appealed to the pioneers, party affiliation became more pronounced.

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Scott Hersey
Ex-City commissioner.

and her husband, Hiram Chatfield, were Mrs. Hersey’s grandparents.

The original Beach homestead is now the home of Mrs. Harry Beach, 2406 Beach Road, Troy, and the original Chatfield homestead, of Hiram’s father, is now the home of Dr. Fred Gason, 4081 North Coolidge Road, also in Troy.

Hiram and Esther Chatfield built a second home on the property in 1906 and later moved to the house which still stands at 406 West Ma-

The Beaches raised sheep and the Chatsfieds raised cattle, and when Hiram moved into town after her husband died she brought his best cow with her.

At that time he paid $100 for two to three acres of property along the Rouge River for pasture for his cow. The Hersey family still own part of the property, which is located on Valley Lake Road, just south of Maple Road by the river. Mrs. Hersey and her son Bill sell their 1,500 stone pleasure trailer to 80 hand-picked Quads built by their sons, three of whom still own the farm.

With a hand-woven coverlet, part of Esther Beach’s dowry and made before 1860 from wool carded from their own sheep, sits on the wall of the home. Another hand-woven coverlet was recently made into draperies for their home.

Although some sources say there were no unlicensed distillers in this area when the first settlers came, Mrs. Hersey remembers her grand- parents telling her when she was a little girl that the great-great-grandparents always kept cookies on hand to give to the Indians who came along.

Mrs. D. K. ROOSEVELT
Sought House seat.

The pioneers were afraid of the Indians, even though they were not particularly warlike, the Indians seemed to be contented to leave them alone if they were fed.

The TWO DAUGHTERS of Esther and George Hersey are Emma and Carrie Louie, Emma married George Bowers of East Tawas, and they were the parents of Mrs. Mrs. Hersey’s oldest brother, Richard Bowers of Great Lakes (Winfred), also living in Birmingham, and Glen of California.

The Herseys have three children, all living in Birmingham: Mrs. Mrs. Hersey’s oldest brother, Richard Bowers of Great Lakes, (Winfred), also living in Birmingham, and Glen of California.

Mrs. Hersey was born in East Tawas, but the family came back to Michigan’s early days. The house, about 175 years old, was restored by Hersey when she acquired the property in 1956 from the estate of Anna R. dek, daughter of the original owner.

Mrs. Virginia Cook, 31057 Mary Lane, Beverly Hills, a descendent of the original owner, tells that these formerly was an inside room in the house where the early occupants hid when the Indians came near. When the house was restored, the hidden room became part of a bedroom.

In addition to their treasures of the old days, the Herseys also have an early Mogul’s reader and a black silk dress worn by a relative to Lincoln’s inaugural ball.

The Herseys are among the few families who have been here from the beginning. Mrs. Hersey’s family is one of the original settlers.

Hersey Descendants Among First B’ham-Troy Settlers

BY BARBARA UNDERWOOD
Special Writer

A framed map of the city of Bir-

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