

STRAWN, KANSAS USA

1872-1963



91 YEARS
WORTH REMEMBERING

STRAWN, KANSAS
1872-1963

This booklet is the beginning and the end of a small town located near the banks of the Neosho River. The town was evacuated in 1963 to be replaced by the John Redmond Reservoir.

My personal thanks and appreciation to those who provided the pictures and the written material making the 91 years worth remembering.

Compiled by:
Verla I. Keith-1969

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ENOS STRAWN



Thomas W. Strawn



Enos Strawn



Tom Strawn



William E. Strawn



Tom Bill Strawn

Enos Strawn was born in Perry County, Ohio in 1812. He lived there 25 years, moving to Indiana and remaining there until 1855 when he located on a farm at Strawn, Kansas, where he engaged in farming and stock raising. He told of coming up the Missouri river to Leavenworth in a steamboat. The trip overland was made on horseback. He built the first log cabin in 1856 and filed on 160 acres at the site which later became Strawn. The town was begun in 1872 and was named for Enos Strawn. He was instrumental in getting the Missouri, Kansas & Texas railroad through the town. He built a house south of Strawn on the hill in 1872. It was destroyed by fire in 1962. By 1882 when he moved to California to make his home, he had amassed several thousand acres. He was probate judge of Coffey County one term and was one of the commissioners appointed to locate the county seat. He was a justice of the peace for 41 years.

Enos was first married to Mebethelan Dodd in Indiana. They had six children-Rebecca, James, Josenah, Martha, Thomas and Jane. He was married to his second wife Mary Farrell in 1860. They had two children-Kate and Sarah.

Thomas was born in Delaware County, Indiana in 1850. He was married to Eliza Smith. They had two children-William and Minnie.

William (Bill) was born in Coffey County, Kansas in 1884. He was married to Sadie Walker. They had six children-Tom, Jim, Jerry, Vivian, Imogean and Lura.

Tom was born in Coffey County, Kansas in 1906. He was married to Mary Bates. They had two children-Tom Bill and Sylvia.

Tom Bill was born in Coffey County, Kansas in 1943.

Enos had two brothers and all three were most successful. One brother went to Texas and built the town of Strawn, Texas. He was a banker. The third remained in Illinois and was successful in the cattle business.

STRAWN, KANSAS U. S. A.



Strawn, Kansas-Main street looking west.



Strawn, Kansas-Main street looking east.

The townsite of Strawn, Kansas was surveyed in 1871 and became a town in 1872. It was named Strawn for Enos Strawn. It was located on the south side of the Neosho River, nine miles northwest of Burlington, Kansas and eight miles southeast of Hartford, Kansas. The population of about 100 inhabitants and it never exceeded 200. The homesteaders and farmers came here in covered wagons drawn by oxen until about 1872, then horses were used more.

Some of the first merchants were Elisha H. Benedict and son, Walter F. Benedict, D. L. Wingard dry goods store, Mr. Fletcher grocery store, Frank Newkirk postmaster and railroad agent, Mr. Prather shoe shop and Robert Smith hotel. Some of the last merchants were Carl Williamson bank, Edgar Williamson garage, Mrs. Thelma Wheeler postoffice and grocery store, Howard Claycamp elevator and Mrs. Golda Kuhlman hotel. Goldie was in business longer than any merchant, for 50 years.

The first building was a log cabin where Enos Strawn lived. The first frame house built in California township was in 1866 by George Hoover. The lumber was sawed at Neosho Rapids and was nearly all walnut and was hand dressed. The carpenters were Morgan and Jothan Bowman. The first saw mill was owned by Harden McMan, one of the first settlers. The last one was owned by Burris and burned many acres of land to the south when it burned down.

Some of the first houses were moved in from Ottumwa. One of the last moved in was in about 1896. Many new houses were built when the lumber yard was established in 1912. The first sidewalk was laid in front of the Grant Harvey and later the Asa Meek house, it was a rock sidewalk. When Strawn was evacuated the buildings were salvaged and many houses were torn down, but some were moved out to new locations.

In about 1912-13, Elmer Eddlebrook had a home made street lighting system (local system) which was inefficient. In 1918 Strawn got the Delco system and in 1929-30, electricity came in by K.E.P. of Emporia, Kansas.

Some of the early settlers in the 1850's were: Enos Strawn, James Chestnut, Bill Slayton, Elisha H. Benedict and son, Walter F. Benedict, James and William Jacobs, James McGinnis, Jesse A. Kennedy, Harden McMahan, Josiah Leabo, Joseph Crail, Hiram Karr, Henry Stringham, Samuel West, Isaac Webster, T. L. Horrell, Sr., A. B. Moore, William Rhodes, Theopolis T. Dawson, John J. DeLong, Philip C. Heisinger, Herman, Jacob and Hiram Hoover, Tom, Sam and Jim Lane, the Evans and Williamsons.

The 1860's brought F. S. Mauck, James M. Pieratt, Emanuel Smith and son Conley F. Smith, the Housers, Lawrences, Peytons, Prices, Gilberts, Bowman brothers and others.

The 1870's brought F. M. Newkirk, D. L. Wingard, George Antrim, William and John F. Jones, John King, the Goodnights, Warrens, Hodges, Saunders, Theobalds, Hammans and many other families in years that followed.

The 6,000 acres of land (at low tide) taken by the Federal Government for the John Redmond Dam, leaves Strawn on the mud flats right at the edge of the water. At times it is covered with 20 to 30 feet of water.

We give thanks to Carl Williamson and Howard Claycamp, who were instrumental in relocating Strawn, and to the other people of this community for their loyalty and who could not give up the heritage of their town.

New Strawn was relocated in 1963, four miles north of Burlington, Kansas on Highway US75 and at the north end of the John Redmond Dam.

STRAWN, KANSAS

Once a thriving little town now becomes a part of the largest project in the history of Coffey County, the John Redmond Reservoir, with boats skimming over the streets and fish nibbling at the vegetation below. However in times past boats were running up and down the streets especially in the flood of 1951, when the water was in some of the houses and business places from 6 to 8 feet deep.

In the year 1912 Strawn begin to boom, when the A. L. Scott Lumber Co. and the S. A. Hutchinson & Sons Elevator were built and came to join with other businesses.

Many wagon loads of lumber were hauled in and out of the lumber yard and tons and tons of grain were handled through the elevator where it was loaded into freight cars and shipped to terminal markets. At harvest time, wagons loaded with grain would be lined up for blocks waiting to be weighed and the grain dumped where it was elevated into bins, or run directly into freight cars. Corn then was hauled to town in the ear direct from the field also in wagons, where it was shelled and elevated into bins or direct to the loading scales and run into freight cars. Long hours? Yes, many times we would be working at 9 and 10 o'clock at night.

The elevator stood about 50 feet high and was about 60 feet from the bottom of the basement where the corn sheller was located, and the legs as they were called, and carried the grain to the top floor, where the corn and cobs were seperated. The cobs going to the cob house and the grain into the bins. The elevator was powered by a 35 H.P. gasoline engine. On August 31, 1924 about 5 o'clock in the morning, lightning struck the elevator and it was burned to the ground. We managed to salvage some of the grain for chicken feed but we had quite a loss.

We then handled grain and loaded it into cars with a loader like some of the farmers use on their farms and used a Fordson tractor for power. In the fall of the year the farmers would haul the corn to town, where it would either be scooped into bins, or dumped into the loader and elevated into bins, and would later be shelled and loaded into cars.

In 1926 I took time off to get married. After a short honeymoon we returned to Strawn, where Dad and Mother and some friends of theirs had purchased a small grocery store later that same year Dad bought out the partners interest and ask me to close out the stock, as he felt they were getting too old for that kind of business. Instead of closing out the stock at that time, we built up the stock and added work clothes, work shoes, overshoes, dry goods, and made it into a general merchandise store. Here the farmers would bring their eggs, cream, poultry and produce and trade for groceries and merchandise. On rainy days, and in the winter they would gather round the old pot bellied stove and swap stories and talk over the trend of the times. Salesman or drummers as they were then known, called and got our order for goods. Then shipped them from the wholesale house by freight to the depot where they were hauled to the store for distribution. Some of the items such as sugar, beans, rice and such came in 100 pound bags and dumped into bins, sacked, weighed and tied with a string and placed on the shelf. Canned goods had to be unpacked and placed on shelves. Eggs were candled and put in cases. Cream tested and poured in 10 gallon cans and hauled to the depot. Coffee sold for 25¢ per pound, round beef steak 25¢ and bacon 20¢, navy beans 4 to 6 pounds for 25¢ and other items in comparison. Long hours? Yes, many times until 10 and 11 o'clock at night.

It was not quite all work and no play, we also had a lot of fun putting on home talent plays and other entertainment.

Old Strawn as it is now called wasn't so far behind the times, as we had a large swimming pool surrounded with trees, perhaps not as nice as some are today, but it answered the purpose. It was heated only by natural sourses and our diving facalities hung from the limb of a tree close to the edge of the pool. And we would swing way out over the water and dive in. The bathing suits were flesh color and very scant. So we had a lot of fun along with work.

In 1937 we had a public auction and sold out the goods at the store, closed the doors, so came the end of some of the businesses of good old STRAWN.

Remembering, Levi E. (Jum) Hutchinson

MK&T (KATY) DEPOT



Strawn MK&T (Katy) Depot-East side.



Strawn MK&T (Katy) Depot-West side.



Eagle Creek MK&T (Katy) bridge.



Inside MK&T (Katy) Depot.
Wm. (Bill) Hughes-Agent

Strawn, Kansas was on the original line of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas (Katy) railroad that was built from Junction City, Kansas down through Emporia to Parsons, Kansas around 1870. A portion of this track north of Pique to Junction City was abandoned in 1957 and the line of railroad was torn up. This included Strawn and by Nov. 1958 the track was torn up but the depot ceased operation in 1947.

When plans for Strawn were laid, it was intended to be a large railroad town. The land south of the track and depot was laid in lots for railroad business houses. Mr. Enos Strawn owned all this land at the time and he held out on a price beyond what the railroad would consider and the bid went to Parsons, Kansas. The town was then called Rockabye. As a result of these differences, the MK&T lines refused to put in a depot and would not stop unless the train was flagged. However, these differences were settled and the train made its first run out of Strawn, February 22, 1870, shortly after that the depot was built. The depot platform had several uses, dances were held there on Saturday night and church was held there on Sunday morning. It also was the center for the purchase of whiskey.

Depot agents known were: first, F. M. Newkirk, W. E. Hughes, Sim Hughes, Benny Hughes, Lon Hughes, S. T. Anderson, A. J. Bauer, Clarence Million, Mr. Finley, Guile Hardy, Grover Jones, Van Barber and George Donaldson was last.

Strawn had a stock yard by the depot and livestock were driven in by foot and taken to market by the railroad. The railroad lost to the trucks, but all the wheat, corn etc. still went by rail.

The Strawn depot was burglerized and robbed on Jan 29, 1901. Several packages were broken open and some bottles of whiskey taken. Some small articles belonging to the agent were taken. There were no arrests.

The MK&T railroad bridge that crossed Eagle Creek was northwest of town.

STRAWN STATE BANK



Strawn State Bank

The Strawn State Bank which received its charter in 1910, has had a steady growth through out the years. It has been a great benefit to the agricultural section surrounding Strawn.

The original board members were: H. L. Kennedy, president, A. E. Williamson, vice president and A. J. Baxter, cashier.

The original stockholders and their occupations were:

H. L. Kennedy, President	H. Y. Wood, farmer
A. E. Williamson, V. Pres.	F. S. Mauck, farmer
A. J. Baxter, Cashier	J. M. Pieratt, farmer
W. E. Hughes, MK&T Agent	H. P. Rosenburger, farmer
Dr. Jerry Farner, MD	J. T. Cochran, farmer
O. T. Kuhlman, grain elevator	A. German, farmer
Conrad Hamman, farmer	James Graybeal, farmer
Jacob Hamman, farmer	Wm. M. Johnson, farmer
J. Hamman, farmer	Jacob Haehn, farmer
O. M. Bowman, farmer	Nellie Haehn
W. H. A. Bowman, farmer	George Antrim
J. V. Bowman, farmer	John Sweet
J. T. Mayer, farmer	A. A. Griffith

Cashiers known were: A. J. Baxter, first, W. H. Slaughter, W. E. Hughes, T. T. Kelly, B. B. Bone, J. W. Dorney, L. Buehler, Wm. Pfaff, Mrs. Katherine Pfaff and M. Carl Williamson who moved to a new building and new location at New Strawn, Kansas on August 21, 1963.

In November 1921, when T. T. Kelly and Bill Hughes were the bankers, the bank was robbed at night. The robbers got some money and government bonds and were never caught. In 1927, when T. T. Kelly and B. B. Bone were the bankers, the bank was broken into, but the robbers did not get into the vault and took only some small change. They were never caught. Again in 1938, when Katherine Pfaff and Carl Williamson were the bankers, the bank was robbed. The robbers got about \$150 and about 30 days after that the two men involved were brought to justice. This was the last robbery.

STRAWN U. S. POST OFFICE

Prior to Strawn, the first post office was the little log house of Enos Strawn. They did not get their mail delivered to them, but one of the settlers would go to Lawrence once a month and get the mail and bring it to Enos Strawn's house and he would be the postman. Elisha Benedict had the contract to carry the mail in 1872 to Ottumwa.

When Strawn was started, the postoffice was in the MK&T depot, then in later years it was located with different merchants and at several locations.

The post office at Strawn, Kansas was established as Strawnburgh, March 10, 1870 and closed July 2, 1870. Mrs. Viva E. Moution was the first postmaster.

Changed to Sidney and established July 22, 1870 and closed September 21, 1871. James Jacobs was the first postmaster.

Changed to Strawn and established September 21, 1871 and remained Strawn. George S. Wilson was the first postmaster. Other postmasters known were: Frank M. Newkirk, Emanuel Smith, Bert Hamlin, A. J. Baxter, Mrs. Pearl Houser, Mrs. Golda Kuhlman, Nora Hefflin, Roy A. DeLong for 20 years, Howard Claycamp, Mrs. Bertha Claycamp, Donald Griffin and Mrs. Thelma Wheeler was the last and is now clerk at the post office at New Strawn, Kansas. The post office was moved to the new location at New Strawn in 1963, four miles north of Burlington, Kansas. It is a rural station from the Burlington post office.

SCOTT LUMBER YARD



Scott Lumber Yard

The lumber yard was established in 1912 by A. L. Scott, Topeka, Kansas and he brought a carpenter from Topeka to build the building and used local labor to help. As soon as the lumber yard was put in, nearly everyone in Strawn built new homes during the period between 1912 and 1915. Mr. W. H. Slaughter was the Strawn banker at the time and he was highly responsible for the development of the town and took a great interest in it. Roy DeLong bought the first lumber sold by the lumber yard. The first manager of the lumber yard was Walter Lutz and those who followed were: Mr. Loftus, George Hudson and Guy Spencer, H. L. Bobst, Wilbur Campbell, Nelson Steenback, C. C. Baxter, Erma Farmer, Donald Griffin and Howard Claycamp who was manager from 1953 to 1963 and he went to Sharpe to operate the elevator.

The south lumber shed was bought and moved to New Strawn, Kansas by Robert and Leo Rathke and is still being used at Rathke Lumber and Supply Co. The west shed and elevator were bought by Jim Wilson and moved to his farm southwest of Strawn. The office part was bought and razed by Laff Allen.

ELEVATORS



Kuhlman Elevator



Lined up to unload grain at the elevator.



Hutchinson & Sons Elevator



Inside Hutchinson Elevator.
Levi (Jum) Hutchinson



Carlson Elevator

The first elevator was owned by Oscar and Ed Kuhlman. It was built in 1905-06. It burned in 1908-10.

The second elevator was owned by Samuel A. Hutchinson, Sr. and Sons. It was built in 1912 by the Mauck Brothers and Wm. Brower. It stood 50 feet high above ground and a 10 feet basement. It was struck by lightning and burned in 1924.

The third elevator was built in 1938 by Bruce Carlson, Americus, Kansas. Ernest Construction Co., Topeka, Kansas was the contractor and used local labor. Lord Grain Co., Emporia, Kansas bought the elevator from Mr. Carlson and the first manager of the elevator was Wilbur Campbell. With this transaction the lumber yard and elevator were operated as one business until the government bought the buildings and ground in 1963. Later the Kansas Soybean Mills bought the Lord Grain Co. interest and operated the business until the company was re-organized under the name of Kansas Soya Products Co., Inc., Emporia, Kansas and still operates the elevator at Sharpe, Kansas.

CENTRAL OFFICE

The first telephone system was run by Liby Lanter in 1904-15. It was located on the second floor of the Jacobs & Harvey building. Lanter sold to A. J. Baxter about 1907. Watt Williams bought it in March of 1909 and was located in their home. Williams sold the exchange in 1927 to the Kansas Bell Telephone Company. This system was torn down in 1935. Telephone operators known were: Helen Drum, Florence St John, Amanda Traybor, Florence Williams, Pauline Heffron, Mrs. J. W. Williams, Pearl Baker, Alta Hall, Maxine Newkirk, Pearl Theobald, Eva Williams, Eva Hall, Lois Campbell and Dorothy Campbell.



Telephone Office

Occupants known were: Bruce Hoover, Sr., J. W. Williams, Irene Kimble, Ernest Williams, Katy Anderson, Lloyd Knoblock, Ike Fosnight, Bill Gilkison, Dick Knoblock, Murriel Siebuhr, Phillip Duncan, Marion Crouch, Wilbur Hamman, Lloyd Stone, J. L. Prewitt and Ralph Koppenhaver.

In 1927-28, the rates were \$1.00 per month. Sometimes food was taken as payment. People sometimes had more potatoes, eggs, fruit, meat, etc. and the family could use all of those products.

The hand ringer was powered by battery. Later, Strawn got electricity and a new electric board was installed. There were several on a line and we could each ring our neighbor. People had numbers and they rang the numbers by long or short rings. Some of the numbers were 9, which was long and short, long and short. Twenty two was two longs and two shorts, etc. My old number was 83-3.

Then, Central was weatherman, timekeeper, and distributor of general information. We would call Mr. Peter Rich at Hartford and to Soden's Mills at Emporia when there was a flood. Mr. Tib Horrell and other "Old Timers" could tell you just how many hours it would take for the water to reach Strawn from Emporia, Neosho Rapids or Hartford. We had a depot then and we could call for the correct railroad time, so people would call in and say, "Time, Please.". For a general alarm, we gave "Line Rings". It might be some disaster, or some medicine show that was coming to town, or even a sale. Everyone hurried to see what was being told. That was the way you kept up on the news of your neighbors. If the phone rang late at night, you were assured that all your neighbors got the news at the same time you did. How sad it must have been to be on a private party line in town.

Remember those telephone poles? Some were so small and weak, as they were just trees cut from the timber. The wire was not too strong, either, and each farmer was a repair man and tied the wire, after a high wind, or pulled it up tighter after a heavy fog or dew, as it would short out in the wet grass.

As an operator, you soon learned from whom you could expect a kind, friendly word and which one had the biting tongue! Most of the time, it was more like one big family, and you knew who called whom, at what time the mail carrier came, (No calls then, everyone was reading the mail), their aches and pains, the family doctor and when the new baby was arriving.

With the passing of the "Party Line", like with every other means of progress, we have lost a great deal of our neighborliness. We are more independent, be that good or bad, but personally, I'm looking forward to direct dialing every where and private lines.

Remembering, Dorothy (Campbell) Pieratt

STRAWN BUSINESS HOUSES



Old Hotel

This hotel was south of the rail-road tracks. It was one of the oldest buildings in Strawn. It fell down in the early 1900's. Merchants known were: J. E. Evans, Joe Skaggs, Mr. Woodson, Bert Hamman and Wm. A. Tomlinson. Dr. Jerry Farner had his office there at one time.



Restaurant-Bert Hamman

Jacob Hamman built this in about 1914. It burned when occupied by Tom Merkle. Merchants known were: Bert Hamman Restaurant and Barber Shop, Frank Harvey and Ed Kuhlman each Restaurant, DeLoice Means and Tom Merkle each Gen'l Mdse.



Antrim Building

L to r, Golda Kuhlman, Anna Keith, Mr. & Mrs. Wm. A. Tomlinson & Mae, Florence and Eva Williams.

D. L. Wingard built this in the 1870's. It was salvaged in about 1928. Merchants known were: D. L. Wingard Dry Goods. George Antrim & Son, Gibbon & Needham and Wm. A. Tomlinson each Gen'l Mdse. Farleigh Mauck Coal & Grain Business.

Doctors known were:

Dr. Carter-First

Dr. Lanter

Dr. William Dumbauld

Dr. E. E. Evans-1819

Dr. Wheeler

Dr. Dary

Dr. Jerry Farner

Dr. Zimri G. Houser-Last



Heflin Brothers Blacksmith

This was built about 1892 and was back of the Jacobs & Harvey Bldg. It was salvaged. It was run by John (Jack), William (Bill) and Lee Heflin. Other Blacksmiths were: (Old King) Cole and Neil Buckridge. John Henning had a butcher shop in the late 1930's. He did his own buying and butchering and sold delicious meat. John Bumgardner built the first blacksmith shop down the hill north of the rock house. Merchants known were: Mr. Fletcher & Wm. Angel blacksmith shop. Taylor Wheeler blacksmith and garage. Frank Pickett and Tony Brosmer garage. Carl Zink garage.



Hamlin & Houser Building

A. A. Hamlin, Bert Hamlin and John W. Houser built this building. The first building burned. Merchants known were: Hamlin & Houser Gen'l Mdse. & Postoffice. Frank Harvey, Charley Farmer and Bert Hamman each a business.



Kuhlman Hotel. Marian Higgins left and Golda Kuhlman right.

A Hartford man built the first floor in 1916 and Hayde Mauck built the second floor in 1918. It was salvaged by the U. S. Government in 1963. Mrs. Golda Kuhlman was the only merchant in this building.



Wm. E. Strawn Building

Wm. E. Strawn put up a tile building where the Hamlin & Houser building stood. It was salvaged by the U. S. Government. Merchants known were: Wm. E. Strawn Hdwe. Ed Reeves Grocery. Raymond Anderson Garage. Roy DeLong and Thelma Wheeler each Grocery and Postoffice.



Dr. Farner's Building-Roy A. DeLong

Jesse Harris built this for Dr. Jerry Farner in 1916. It was purchased by Carl Williamson and used for a green house and then sold to his brother Harvey who took it to his farm. Merchants known were: Dr. Jerry Farner Doctor's Office, Roscoe Emley, J. L. Prewitt, Mr. Drew and Lester Garrett each Barber Shop. Roy A. DeLong Skelly Filling Station and Post Office.



Garage

Ernest McKay was first to have a garage here. Others were: Walter McKay, Burleigh Hoover, Clarence Taylor, Oscar Anderson and Edgar Williamson was the last and the government took the building to New Strawn, Kansas and is still run by Edgar Williamson.

Druggist known were:
 Dr. Evans-1890
 Pete Baxter
 Harry Antrim
 Lee Mauck
 Dr. Zimri G. Houser



Jacobs & Harvey Building
Grant Harvey

Charles Jacobs and Grant Harvey built this in 1894. The back part was moved in from Ottumwa, Kansas. Silas Hoover and Grant Harvey had a business together in about 1911 and it was known as the Hoover & Harvey Store. It was salvaged by the U. S. Government. Merchants known were: Jacobs & Harvey, Orla & Al Hamman, Hoover & Harvey and Hoover & Smith each Gen'l Mdse. Harry Antrim, William Hughes, John Meek, Sr., Joe McClure, Kennedy, Roy Thompson & Kermit Meek and Koppenhaver each Grocery. A. J. Baxter Hdwe. & Postoffice. Bill & Earl Pennybaker Hdwe. & Undertakers. Tom Pennington Grocery & Cream Station. Bruce Hoover and Dude Traver each Cafe. Gerald Hamman Grocery & Garage. Later Wendell Hamman took over the Garage then Gene Hamman had the Grocery & Garage.



Inside the Hoover and Harvey Store-
l to r, Silas Hoover & Grant Harvey.



Hoover Building
Harry McCormick and Robert Spatz

Silas Hoover had this brick building built in about 1914. It was salvaged by the U. S. Government. Merchants known were: Hoover Gen'l Mdse. Dr. Zimri G. Houser Drug Store. Roy A. DeLong Postoffice-1930. Pennybaker Hdse. George Hamilton-1932. Allan Cummings, Tom Merkle, Wayne Heffron & Lewis Bowman each Garage. Everett Hale Auto Supplies & Garage. Oscar Mitchell Restaurant. Wilbur Hamman Garage, skating rink and then Appliance. Olaf & Shorty Arnold Pool Hall.



Inside the Hoover Store-Lillie Means, Silas Hoover and Harry McCormick behind the counter.

Barbers known were:
Jake Montgomery-First
Charles Meek
Ferne Hoover
Leonard Combs
Tom Burriel
Harry Duckett
Roscoe Emley
J. L. Prewitt
Lester Garrett

STRAWN CHURCHES

Before churches were built at Strawn, church rallies, Sunday school parties and picnics were held in the grove of trees just across the river to the northwest, better known as the Horrell grove. Around the 1870's after the railroad went through, church was held on the depot platform on Sunday.

Sunday school picnics were started around 1885. These were all-day affairs. The group would spend the day at some nice place along the river. The day was spent with various recreations and the lunch. There were always programs in the afternoon. The ford of the Neosho River and other places were used for baptism. Churches held socials from the beginning until about 1937 then other types of suppers were held. In the winter they would have oyster suppers and the summer ice cream suppers to raise money.

The male quartet that sang for so many funerals composed of Harry McCormick, Harry Henry, Hayward Theobald and Jesse Baxter. Others who helped at times were Elmer Theobald and John Houser. May McCormick accompanied them at the piano.

METHODIST CHURCH



Methodist Church



Methodist Church Parsonage



Church picnic in the Horrell Grove.

Enos Strawn donated this five acre track in the northeast part of town. The trustees of the Methodist Church had the parsonage built. It burned in about 1955. Occupants known were: Reverends-Jenkins, Monroe, Houchins, Rookstool, Mehl, Smith and Daly. Wm. Farrell, R. A. Baysinger, Bill Burd, Leslie McIntire and Albert Wheeler.

On the hill south of Strawn was a white frame Methodist Church built sometime shortly before 1883. A group known as the Board of Stewards took up donations for the building of the church. Conley Smith donated the ground where the church was erected. The purchasing agents of the MK&T railroad cooperated greatly in the building of the church as they furnished all the lumber at cost and shipped it into Strawn free. One of the first leaders was Griffith Baxter. The church was dis-united in about 1941 and was sold along with the parsonage in 1946. It was torn down in 1947 by Charles Hamman and Oscar Hamman. About the last use of the church was the funeral of James Cummins on March 16, 1942.

The last board members were: Harry Henry, Hayward Theobald and Jess Baxter.

Ministers known were: Reverends Thomas Leighty, Glenn Phipps, Ashley Rookstool, George Taylor, G. B. Mehl, L. H. Smith-1937, O. E. Brown-1933, Johnson, Houchins, Jenkins and Daly.

Organists known were: Roberta Hamlin, Geraldine Newkirk, Pauline Newkirk, Mrs. Lena (Schellenger) Newkirk, Mrs. Cora (Theobald) Cummins and Clara Atherly, last.



Methodist Church Sunday School Class.

Back Row-1 to r.	Second Row-1 to r.
Joe Heflin	Scott Hamman
Oscar Needem	William Hamman
John Houser	Clarence Fitch
Bert Hamman	James Cummins
Joe Mayer	

Third Row-1 to r.	Front Row-1 to r.
Clarence Baxter	Relna Kimble
Arthur Cummins	Carl Lucas
Harley Baxter	Bert Hamlin
Clarence Hamman	Bill Baxter

Ol Porter Mrs. Farrell-Teacher



Methodist Church Sunday School Class.

Left to right.	
Harry Antrim	Eddie Hoover
Lester Williamson	Ray Fitch
Walter Betterly	Robert Spatz
Irvin Atherly	Leslie Gould
Hayward Theobald	Walter Hunter
Orlin Atherly	Fern Meek
Amos Harvey	John Houser
Earl Hamman	Ray Shellinger
William Hamman	Charles Mayer
Ella Hamlin-Teacher	Merle Newkirk



Methodist Church Sunday School Class.

Back Row-1 to r.	Front Row-1 to r.
Harold Atherly	Pearl Dixon
Cordelia Smith	Minnie Knoblock
Violet Daley	Pauline Newkirk
Hattie Knoblock	Geraldine Newkirk
Clarine Knoblock	Cordelia Mauck
Dorman Theobald	Charles Mauck
Kenneth Meek	_____ Daley
Marion Newkirk	Merle Hamman
Kermit Meek	
Donald Harvey	

CHRISTIAN CHURCH



Holy Bible



First Christian Church



Third Christian Church

The Lord's Prayer

St. Matthew-Chapter 6, verses 9 thru 13.

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed by thy name.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. A-men.



Second Christian Church

At the east end of Strawn on a half block of ground was located the Christian Church and parsonage. The first church was built in 1896-97 and was a wood frame building. It was struck by lightning and burned in about 1918. The first leaders in the church were: James Jacobs, Conrad Hamman and James Pieratt.

The second church was built of stucco and costing about \$10,000. It was 36 by 55 feet and containing a full basement for furnace and kitchen and was used for socials, dinners and Bible school classes. The main auditorium seated about 250 and had a choir loft, baptistry, robing rooms and minister's study. It was lighted with acetylene gas. Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Hamman generously donated to the building of the church. It was dedicated on May 7, 1922. It burned because of an overheated furnace.

The third church, having all the facilities of the second church, and were all located in the same place, was built of red brick in 1927. It burned in Nov. 1953, after installing a propane gas furnace in the wall between the hall and the main room.

Church was then held in the high school auditorium for several years. The last board members were: Ray Griffin, W. I. Pieratt, Carl Williamson, Richard Baxter and Melvin Newkirk. In 1934, Mrs. Bertha Claycamp started giving musical recitals.

Ministers known were: Reverends Dudley Doolittle, J. K. Moore, A. B. Moore, Jack Barnes, Ray L. Boyer, M. D. Bryant, John Hamilton, G. Oliver, Hugh C. Gresham-1922, Willis Clark, Gail Peterson, Drexell Forrell, Preston Gregory, Duncan McPherson, Hugh Armstrong, Orlie Herman and W. Kratzer.

Organists known were: Mrs. Laura (Hamman) DeLong, first, Mrs. Daisey (Pieratt) Hamman, Mrs. Ruth (Betterly) Feltner, Mrs. May (Shobe) McCormick, Mrs. Wilma (Hughes) Link, Mrs. Kittie (Pieratt) Applegate, Mrs. T. T. Kelly, Mrs. Martha Wilcox and Mrs. Bertha (DeLong) Claycamp, last.



Christian Church Group 1896-97.

Back Row-1 to r.	Front Row-1 to r.
Elmer Eddlebrook	Kittie Pieratt
Nelson Eddlebrook	Lola Mayer
Relna Kimble	Edith Eddlebrook
Hattie Manley	Daisy Pieratt
Rosa Richards	Effie Hoover
Pearl Kimble	Nettie Bumbgardner
Mary Eddlebrook	Laura Hamman
Maude Mayer	
Fay Kimble	Lizzie Kennedy
Emory Hamman	



Christian Church Sunday School Class 1910-11.

Back Row-1 to r.	Front Row-1 to r.
Veda Shobe	Hazel Jones
Myrtle Barclay	Ina Allen <i>Dale's Sister</i>
Minnie Hughes	Onta Hughes
Rosa Hughes	Wayne Allen <i>Dale's Brother</i>
Dorothy Mauck	Lester Mauck
Amyee Applegate	Leo Applegate
Ruth Betterly	Monroe Pieratt <i>Dale's Cousin</i>
Ethel Jones	
Kittie Pieratt-Teacher	



Christian Church Group.

STRAWN GRADE SCHOOL DISTRICT #61



United States Flag of America

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.



First Strawn Grade School



Second Strawn Grade School
After it was remodeled.



Second Strawn Grade School

On the hill south of Strawn was located the Strawn Grade School District #61. It was organized July 27, 1876 and standardized May 16, 1921. The first was a large frame school house, 26 x 40 feet with a bell. This building was moved down on the main street of town, east of the Hutchinson store.

The second grade school was located in the same place and built of red brick in 1908 by the Mauck Brothers. It was later remodeled by closing in the front entrance and adding a room on the south. The last year to have school in the building was 1955 and then taking the grade school to the high school building until 1959. The brick grade school still stands. Alberta Newkirk taught for 9 years, longer than any other teacher. Salaries started with \$25.00 a month to \$4900.00 a year.

Strawn District #61, Ottumwa District #2, Martindale District #11, and Venard District #4 consolidated on March 13, 1961 to form New Strawn District #2. July 1, 1966 Strawn District #2 became a part of U.S.D. #244.

When the grade school first opened there was very little recreation connected with it. The game of blackman, racing and other similar games were played. Box suppers and pie suppers were popular with the school to raise money. The school was always active in sports of all types. In earlier days basketball was played upon the second floor of the Hamlin & Houser building. Many other activities were held there too. In 1938 the grade school presented a Tom Thumb Wedding. Starting in 1943 the grade school had given a carnival every year and some of their proceeds were used for skating parties.

STRAWN GRADE SCHOOL TEACHERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

Grade School Teachers

1878 J. H. Santer	1917 Nina Newkirk	1943 Frances Crook (2 mos)
1879 Earl Corder (16 wks)	1918 Gladys Allen	Elsie Danner (6 mos)
Nellie Rippey (12 wks)	1919 Vada Newkirk	1944 Nadine Newkirk
1880 J. M. Ruby (20 wks)	1920 Vada Newkirk	1945 Nadine Newkirk
1881 M. B. Wayde (13 wks)	1921 Bertha Markley	1946 Flora Lee McGee
R. C. Bell (6 wks)	1922 Grace Carman Allen	Alberta Mark
Lizzie Jacobs (12 wks)	1923 Isadore Jones	1947 Flora Lee McGee
1882 H. A. Wattles	Ruth Moore	Alberta Mark
1883 H. A. Wattles	1924 Isadore Jones	1948 Flora Lee McGee
1884 Belle Champe	1925 Helen Oliver	Virginia Keith
1885 C. E. Meyers	Mildred Pieratt	1949 Una Muller
1886 C. E. Meyers	1926 Lura Strawn	Virginia Keith
1887 E. L. Meyers	Mary Bates	1950 Una Muller
1888 D. R. Shields	1927 Lura Strawn	Mary Jene Gray (3 1/2 mos)
1889 Emma Hamlin	Mary Bates	Lenora Miller (5 1/2 mos)
1890 Grant Harvey	1928 Frances Wilson	1951 Una Muller
1891 H. B. Klieberger	Mary Bates	Ruth Scoggin
S. M. Coy	1929 Griffith Baxter	1952 Una Muller
1892 J. E. Hamlin	Dorothy Mitchell	Ina Mae Bingham
1893 Grant Harvey	1930 Griffith Baxter	1953 Una Muller
1894 Ivy Preston	Mary B. Strawn	Ina Mae Bingham
1895 Jennis B. Gillespie	1931 Howard Claycamp	1954 Una Muller
1896 Jennie B. Gillespie	Ethel Applegate	Ina Mae Bingham
1897 H. N. McCormick	1932 Howard Claycamp	1955 Rosa Ruckle
1898 H. N. McCormick	Ethel Applegate	Ida Mae Bingham
1899 H. N. McCormick	1933 Griffith Baxter	1956 Flora Pennybaker
1900 Ella E. Gibson	Ethel Applegate	Ida Mae Bingham
1901 C. W. Noell	1934 Alberta Newkirk	1957 Patsy J. Schmidt
1902 Effie E. Andrews	Ethel Applegate	Ida Mae Bingham
1903 R. E. Reed	1935 Alberta Newkirk	1958 Barbara Houston
1904 A. M. Lewis	Alberta Robe	Ida Mae Bingham
1905 Elizabeth Antrim	1936 Alberta Newkirk	1959 Sylvia Jean Rohrahn
1906 Elizabeth Antrim	Alberta Robe	Mary Strawn
1907 Mabel Curry	1937 Alberta Newkirk	1960 Sylvia Dean Robrahan
1908 Minnie Strawn	Ruth Ellis	Mary Strawn
1909 Minnie Strawn	1938 Alberta Newkirk	1961 Dorothy Becker
1910 Minnie Strawn	Ruth Ellis	Louie Alice Spencer
1911 Kate Van Nordstraw	1939 Alberta Newkirk	1962 Dorothy Becker
1912 Guy Webster	Fern Williamson	Louie Alice Spencer
1913 Guy Webster	1940 Alberta Newkirk	1963 Una Muller
Hazel Meek	Fern Williamson	Louie Alice Spencer
1914 A. M. Lewis	1941 Alberta Newkirk	1964 Una Muller
1915 Hazel Meek	Gladiola Bowman	Flora Lee Ryan
1916 Hazel Wagaman	1942 Alberta Newkirk	1965 Flora Lee Ryan
Nina Newkirk	Frances Crook	Margaret Hedrick

School Board Members

1878-82 E. Strawn D	1902-06 Ivy Allen T	1929-34 C. D. Fitch T
1878-82 T. J. Prather C	1904-09 R. M. Mauck C	1930-52 M. M. Baxter D
1878-87 T. L. Horrell T	1905-18 J. F. Mayer D	1933-35 Ray Griffin C
1881-83 George Hoover D	1906-11 T. W. Strawn T	1934-37 W. M. Pfaff T
1881-83 Frank Newkirk C	1907-09 A. E. Hughes C	1935-37 W. A. Tomlinson C
1883-84 J. V. Bowman C	1908-13 A. J. Baxter D	1937-51 Ray Griffin C
1883-84 William Hamlin D	1909-10 John Meek C	1937-40 C. D. Fitch T
1884-87 W. A. Dumbauld D	1910-12 Asa Meek C	1940-41 Kermit Meek T
1884-97 O. P. McClintock C	1911-13 J. W. Strawn T	1941-47 Katherine Pfaff T
1887-90 W. T. Carle D	1912-15 W. C. Pennybaker C	1947-56 Carl Williamson T
1888-95 P. T. Evans T	1913-21 W. E. Hughes D	1951-62 Norman Griffin C
1890-91 James Jacobs D	1913-14 H. W. Slaughter T	1952-55 Bertha Claycamp D
1891-92 T. W. Strawn D	1914-18 T. L. Horrell T	1955-58 Max Houser D
1892-94 E. L. Wingard D	1916-20 W. A. Smith C	1956-59 Paul Allen T
1894-99 J. E. Hill D	1918-19 J. W. Dorney T	1958-61 Roy Traw D
1895-1902 Grant Harvey T	1919-29 Pearl Houser T	1959-62 Thelma Wheeler T
1897-1900 Laura B. Evans C	1920-22 John Shobe C	1961-64 Carl Williamson D
1898-99 G. J. Baxter D	1921-23 Minnie Applegate D	1962- Frances Skillman C
1899-1901 Joseph Mayer D	1922-33 R. A. DeLong C	1962- Marjory Anderson T
1900-05 T. W. Strawn C	1923-24 Jessie Kelley D	1964- Norman Griffin D
1901-05 T. E. Ribbons D	1924-30 C. C. Baxter D	

STRAWN GRADE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



Grade School Tom Thumb Wedding-1938.

Left to right.	Roger Pfaff
Mayone Griffin	Elaine Griffin
Doris Ray	Donna May Claycamp
Ronny Newsome	Joan Garrett
Hazel DeLong	Mary Lou DeLong
Rosemary Meek	Doris Steenbock



Grade School Base Ball Team.

Back Row-1 to r.	Front Row-1 to r.
George Garrett	Roland Johnson
Roy Eugene Rogers	Wendall DeLong
Gene Pennington	Robert Ray
David Pfaff	
Kay Griffin	
Eugene Hamman	



Grade School Basket Ball Team.

Left to right.	
Gene Mitchell	Bill Newkirk
Gene Steenbock	David Pfaff
Leland McKay	Gene Pennington

STRAWN GRADE SCHOOL CLASSES



Class of 1903-04 Dick Reed-Teacher.

Back Row-1 to r.	Fred Jones
Bess Curry	Albert Dary
Lola Mayer	Harry Gibbons
Belle DeLong	Charles Hamman
Nora Stumph	Ruth Mauck
Lee Dary	
Bert Hamman	Front Row-1 to r.
Roy Hamman	Gene Allen
Grace Whittington	Pearley Hughes
Lela Hamman	Eva Evans
Maude Hamman	George Mehl
	Leona Jones
Middle Row-1 to r.	Ray Fitch
Hazel Meek	Earl Mauck
Mildred Mehl	Ray Mauck
Bertha Mayer	Fern Meek
Golda Mehl	Johnny Evans
Jessie Dary	Gladys Allen



Class of 1913-14 Guy Webster-Teacher.

Back Row-1 to r.	Front Row-1 to r.
Guy Webster-teacher	Robertta Hamlin
Amyee Applegate	Onta Hughes
Edwin Mauck	Ina Keith
Lorena Keith	Mary Palmer
Minnie Hughes	Leslie Gould
Charles Mayer	Harris Fry
Elsie Jackman	Amos Harvey
Lester Williamson	Leo Applegate
Eva Williamson	Grant Houchins
Earl Theobald	
Ross Hughes	
Alton Phillips	



Class of 1915-16 Hazel Meek-Teacher.

Back Row-1 to r.	Maude McCormick
Hazel Meek-teacher	Luella Betterly
Bessie Hughes	Kermit Meek
Enid Gould	
Harris Fry	Front Row-1 to r.
Delmar Hughes	Herbert Hughes
Wayne Horrell	Charles Mauck
Henry Kennedy	Delmos Hughes
Luther Knoblock	Kenneth Meek
Ernie Williams	Donald Harvey
	Cordelia Mauck
Middle Row-1 to r.	Cordelia Smith
Howard Horrell	Minnie Knoblock
Lena Harvey	

Class of 1918-19 Gladys Allen-Teacher.



Back Row-1 to r.
George Foley
Kermit Meek
Wayne Horrell
Dean Lucas
Chleo Hamman

Second Row-1 to r.
Iva Houser
Dorothy Campbell
Merle Hamman
Clair Taylor
Beulah Hamman
Bernice Jones

Third Row-1 to r.
Gladys Allen-teacher
Warren Foley
Wilbur Hughes
Leo Knoblock
Wren Bruce
Loren Taylor
Donald Rickman
Lyle Kelly
John Williamson
Cleo Hamman
Gerald Hamman
Roe Rickman

Wilma Hughes
Bertha DeLong
Front Row-1 to r.
Blanche Van Swearingen
Irene Foley
Geraldine Shobe
Clarence Knoblock
Minnie Knoblock
Edna Hamman
Dolly Smith
Margie Kelly

Class of 1927-28 Lura Strawn-Teacher.



Back Row-1 to r.
Ruth Williamson
Beulah Hamman
Richard Baxter
Bill Foley
Carl Williamson
Lura Strawn-teacher
Cecil O'Connor
Lester DeLong
Elmer Claycamp
Max Houser

Wilbur Hamman
Fannie Hoach
Bertha Farmer
Clyde Traw
James Traw
John Taylor

Middle Row-1 to r.
Leslie Claycamp
Clarence Anderson

Front Row-1 to r.
Gene Taylor
Pearl O'Connor
Bernice Hughes
Ruby Baxter
Paul Houser
Calvin Gitchel

Class of 1928-29 Mary Bates-Teacher.



Back Row-1 to r.
Mary Bates-teacher
Melvin Darbyshire
Elmer Farmer
Jack Hughes
Clyde Anderson
Avis Kuhlman
Beatrice Baxter
Alma Hamman

Joe Lake
Donald Griffin
Nadine Hamman
Nadine Hoover
Edith Baxter
Edith Farmer

Middle Row-1 to r.
Laura Belle DeLong

Front Row-1 to r.
Burkhart
William Anderson
Howard Hoover
Roy DeLong, Jr.



Class of 1940-41 Fern Williamson-Teacher.

Back Row-1 to r.	Middle Row-1 to r.	Front Row-1 to r.
Glen Newkirk	Fern Williamson-teacher	Connie Hamman
Cleo Hamman	Betty Hamman	Mary Jo Claycamp
Vivian Tracy	Lloyd Laws	Roger Pfaff
Hazel DeLong	Elaine Griffin	Marvin Pennington
Rosemary Meek	Dale Steenbock	Jimmy Strawn
Doris Steenbock	David Tracy	Jackie Garrett
	Dona May Claycamp	Eugene Johnson
	Joan Garrett	



Class of 1955-56 Mrs. Rosa Ruckle and Mrs. Ida May Bingham-Teachers.

Back Row-1 to r.	Third Row-1 to r.	Second Row-1 to r.	Front Row-1 to r.
Leon Hutchinson	Rosa Ruckle-teacher	Sherry Thomsen	Steven Allen
Cynthia Wheeler	Arthur Williamson	Carolyn DeLong	Nicki Claycamp
Anna Lee Claycamp	Dennis Traw	Alice DeLong	Maomi Coppedge
Billy Baysinger	Steven Traw	Sharon Thomsen	David Houser
Gary Griffin	Marvin Hutchinson	Patsy DeLong	Orville Hutchinson
Micheal Coppedge	Alberta Wheeler	Clifford Hutchinson	
	Ida May Bingham-teacher	Patty Griffin	

STRAWN RURAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT #1



Strawn Rural High School
Before the gymnasium was built.



Strawn Rural High School
After the gymnasium was built.

For two years in 1913-14 and 1914-15, high school was first held in the rear of the Strawn State Bank building. Rev. W. Kratzer was the teacher. W. H. Slaughter was sponsor of this and a large donater. A real man and a real booster. Students then continued on to Burlington High School until 1920 when high school was organized in the basement of the stucco Christian Church. Some of the students finished at Burlington and some returned to Strawn. A block south of the Katy railroad track the basement of the high school was started in 1921 and finished for the 1922 school term. The study hall and class rooms were finished for the 1924 school term. The gymnasium and dressing rooms were completed in 1930, just in time for the graduation exercises. The corner stone of this building had the following: School board, C. D. Fitch, J. J. Baxter, O. L. Porter. Architect Voigt, Contractor Yost, erected in 1932. The last year to have high school was the 1953-54 school term. The first graduating class was in 1923 and the last was in 1954. The peek of high school enrollment was in the 1930's. The largest graduating class was in 1932 with thirteen and the next largest was in 1934 with eleven. The smallest was in 1943 with three. David McCauley taught for 10 years, longer than any other teacher.

Each year the freshman and new teachers were initiated into Strawn High School, ending up through the paddle line. The high school's favorite game was basketball, which they had from the beginning. In 1928 was the only football team. Music played a great part in the school. There were the quartets and glee clubs that took part in music festivals. A musical festival was held in Strawn in 1940-41. In the 1930's some students took lessons on string instruments and in the 1940's a band was organized. Since 1929 the junior and senior classes presented class plays. For many years annual carnivals were presented and the school had Sadie Hawkin's, Valentine, Christmas, leap-year and other kinds of parties.

STRAWN RURAL HIGH SCHOOL

In 1920 the people in and around the little town of Strawn organized a Rural High School District No. 1.

Then plans were made to begin a high school class that year. A teacher was hired after a vague speculation as to whom would be best fitted to fill the position in a small town high school. Charles A. Dimon was the lucky man filling the position to the very best of his ability.

Before school began the students were enrolled, this taking place at the Strawn State Bank.

For the first few weeks school was held in the Christian Church parsonage. Having no equipment, desks etc. we just got along the best we could. The little folding chairs were about the only desks we knew for some time.

During the time the basement of the new Christian Church was being completed, great was the joy when we all moved in and had our equipment to work with. School became more enjoyable and less of a grind.

During vacation of 1921 the basement of the new high school building was begun and finished after a fashion in time for the students to start the new school year right under the allspices of the Genial Brother Mendell and T. J. Currie. Here school was held for two more years under the supervision of E. R. Arnt. He was an excellent teacher, beloved by all his students.

During the vacation period of 1924 the plans were made to complete the high school building. Immediately after school was out work was begun and as fast as material came the work was carried on. By the time September rolled around it was very nearly done.

Still the new class had a taste of basement school such as certain of us only had. Their joy was as great when they moved up stairs, as when we moved from the parsonage to the church basement.

Now Strawn had a high school to be proud of. Ample room to hold the crowds at their entertainments as well as being a place good to look at.

In spite of her enemies and knockers the Strawn Rural High School had at last come into her own to carry on the good work to the community.

Remembering, Mildred (Pieratt) Bobst



The first enrollment class of high school at the Christian Church in 1920.

Back Row-1 to r.	Second Row-1 to r.
Charles A. Demon-teacher	Irene Lundy
Delmar Hughes	Hazel Knoblock
	Mary Williamson
Third Row-1 to r.	Mildred Pieratt
Oral Utesler	Blanche Van Swearinger
Reginald Jones	
Harold Shobe	Front Row-1 to r.
Marion Newkirk	Ruth Wheeler
Willard Heacock	Dollie Smith
	Elsie Wheeler
	Lottie Dixon

Four of this group were the first graduating class from Strawn Rural High School in 1923.

STRAWN HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Strawn High School Boy's Basketball Team 1945-46.

Forward.	Center.
David Pfaff	Bob Burd
Roy Steele, Jr.	Bobby Allen
Back.	Back.
Donald Hutchinson	Wendell DeLong
Junior Hutchinson	George Janak
Center.	Forward.
Jack Haughn	Orville Gilkison
L. C. Haughn-Coach	Duane Atherly



The Strawn basketball team of 1944 to 1947 were the pride and joy of Strawn. The teams det a phenomenal record of winning seventy-seven games while only losing four. They lost no games during scheduled season play, winning 54. They won three Coffey County Championships, two district tournament championships, and two regional tournament championships. They scored a total of 4,834 points to their opponents 2,323. Their losses were as follows: the district tournament finals and first round in the state tournament in 1945, in 1946 first round in the state tournament and in 1947 finals of the regional tournaments.

The members of the team during these years were Wayne Applegate, Gene Pennington, Pete Traw, Dale Allen, David Pfaff, Bob Burd, Orville Gilkison, Duane Atherly, Wendell DeLong, Donald Hutchinson, George Janak, Bobby Allen, Junior Hutchinson, Roy Steele, Elmer Crouch and Gene Hamman.

The 1945-46 basketball team almost gained national prominence for Strawn. Life magazine sent their photograpser, Mark Kauffman, to take pictures of the team for publication in the Life Magazine, if they won the state tournament. They were beaten in the first round.

Strawn High School Girl's Basketball Team 1927-28.

Standing-1 to r.	Seated-1 to r.
Iva Houser	Wilma Hughes
Dorothy Mitchell	Marion Baxter
Kermit Meek-Coach	Dorothy Campbell
Alberta Newkirk	
Bertha DeLong	



The beginning of the first girls basketball team was in 1920. It was organized with Mr. Nuvel Newkirk as Coach. The suits for the girls were furnished by the high school, white middies and black bloomers. Two games were played during the year, both with Neosho Rapids. Strawn was defeated both times. The team members were: Mildred Pieratt-Center, Dollie Smith-Sub center, Blanche Van Swearingen-Forward, Hazel Knoblock-Forward, Mary Williamson-Guard and Ruth Wheeler-Guard.



Strawn's only football team in 1928.

Back Row-1 to r.	Front Row-1 to r.
Jim Strawn	Jerry Strawn
Richard Baxter	Maurice Wilson
Carl Williamson	Ralph Pieratt
Cecil O'Connor	Wilbur (Pete) Hughes
George Traw	Sam Hutchinson, Jr.
Orin Fry	Harvey Williamson



Strawn High School Girls Glee Club in 1935-36. The girls made their dresses.

Back Row-1 to r.
 Glenna Keith
 Nadine Hamman
 Kate Applegate
 Hazeltine Mayes-teacher
 Marjorie Theobald
 Verla Keith

Middle Row-1 to r.	Front Row-1 to r.
Nadine Newkirk	LaVerna Yates
Beatrice Baxter	Delores Yates
Laura Belle DeLong	Geraldine Carney
Mildred McCullough	Thelma Campbell
Jessie Williamson	Maxine Newkirk
Dorothy Prewitt	



Strawn High School Boys Basketball team-1935-36.

Back Row-1 to r.	Front Row-1 to r.
Freddie McCullough	Edgar Stevenson
Eugene Zink	Beryl McCullough
Jack Hughes	Victor McCullough
Nolan Cook	Elmo Haehn
Ben Bryant	Elmer Farmer
Donald Griffin	



Strawn High School Band-1945-46.

Back Row-1 to r.	Front Row-1 to r.
Edith Hetzel	Ina Mae Vesey
Wayne Applegate	Virginia Keith
Mary Lou DeLong	Christina Keith
Mayone Griffin	Loretta Traw
Louise Atherly	Kay Griffin
Wendell DeLong	
Donald Griffin	
Alice McCullough	
Orville Gilkison	



Strawn High School faculty-1935-36.

Left to right.
 J. B. Swartz, Principal.
 Hazeltine Mayes, Music & Home Ec.
 Inez Boy, English.
 David McCauley, Manual Training & Athletics.

STRAWN RURAL HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING CLASSES

Class of 1923
Hughes, Delmer
Jones, Reginald
Shobe, Harold
Van Swearinger, Blanche

Class of 1924
Baxter, Avis
Dixon, Lottie
Eisele, Ruth
Pieratt, Mildred
Wheeler, Elsie
Williamson, Mary

Class of 1925
Lundy, Irene
Newkirk, Geraldine
Newkirk, Pauline
Williamson, Edgar
Wilson, Geraldine

Class of 1926
None

Class of 1927
Baxter, Griffith
Baxter, Roena
Claycamp, Howard
Mitchell, Oscar

Class of 1928
Claycamp, Glen
Hiles, Edgar
Truelove, Alberta
Williamson, Naomi
Wilson, Francis

Class of 1929
Campbell, Dorothy
Houser, Iva
Hughes, Wilma
Mitchell, Dorothea
Pieratt, Ralph

Class of 1930
Brickey, Allen
DeLong, Bertha
Williamson, Harvey
Wilson, Maurice

Class of 1931
Heffron, Pauline
Baxter, Marian
Hutchinson, Samuel Jr.
Pieratt, Birdine
Traw, George
Wheeler, Irene

Class of 1932
Baxter, Richard
Baxter, Ruby
Campbell, Elza
Fry, Orin
Hamman, James
Hamman, LaVerne
Kimble, Bernice
Mark, Samuel J.
O'Connor, Cecil
Robertson, Elba
Traw, James
Williamson, Carl
Williamson, Ruth

Class of 1933
Applegate, Ruby
Campbell, Sybil
Cleaver, Pauline
Fry, Mildred
Houser, Max
Jones, Marion
Pieratt, James
Stevenson, Mary

Class of 1934
Boyer, Ray
Eberhart, Clarence
Eisele, Richard
Houser, Paul
Hughes, Bernice
Keith, Melvin
Keith, William
Laws, Floyd
Martin, Merle
Thomsen, Lucille
Traw, Clyde

Class of 1935
Applegate, Junior
Gitchell, Calvin
Hoach, Fannie
Lawler, Mamie
Mitchell, Jack
Williamson, Bessie

Class of 1936
Baxter, Beatrice
Campbell, Lillian
Carney, Geraldine
Haehn, Elmo
Theobald, Marjorie
Williamson, Jessie

Class of 1937
Applegate, Kate
Baxter, Edythe
Darbyshire, Melvin
Farmer, Elmer
Hughes, Jack
Keith, Glenna
Kuhlman, Avis
McCullough, Victor
Stevenson, Edgar
Zink, Eugene

Class of 1938
Childers, Lawrence
DeLong, Laura Belle
Edington, Rosalie
McCullough, Mildred
Newkirk, Axelma
Prewitt, Dorothy

Class of 1939
Campbell, Thelma
Farmer, Edith
Griffin, Donald
Hamman, Vera May
McCullough, Fred
Newkirk, Maxine
Newkirk, Nadine

Class of 1940
Achterberg, Catherine
Farmer, Delmar
Garrett, Shirley
Moon, Frances
Pfaff, Joe
Shelman, Dorothy
Williamson, Lena

Class of 1941
DeLong, Roy Jr.
Edington, Florence
Ray, Eugene
Wagaman, Eleanor

Class of 1942
Achterberg, Edward
Atherly, Kenneth
Campbell, Lyla
Gilkison, Floreine
Griffin, Norman
Janak, Charles
Moon, Roy
Richards, Jimmie
Williamson, Jean
Zink, Wilma

Class of 1943
DeLong, Merle
Laws, Roy
Williamson, Doris

Class of 1944
Atherly, Glen
Farmer, Irma
Mitchell, Gene
Kuhlman, Frances

Class of 1945
Allen, Dale
Applegate, Wayne
DeLong, Mary Lou
Griffin, Kay
Pennington, Gene

Class of 1946
Atherly, Duane
Keith, Virginia
Steele, Roy Jr.
Pfaff, David

Class of 1947
Griffin, Mayone
Gilkison, Orville
Burd, Bob
DeLong, Wendall
Hutchinson, Donald
Hamman, Gene
Janak, George
Mayer, Charles

Class of 1948
Keith, Christina
McCullough, Alice
Atherly, Louise
Crouch, Elmer
Hutchinson, Junior

Class of 1949
Griffin, Elaine
Janak, Anna
DeLong, Pearl
DeLong, Hazel
McCullough, Ileene

Class of 1950
Atherly, Colleen
Claycamp, Dona
Dalrymple, Hugh
Edington, Charles

Class of 1951
 Bell, Edgell
 Gilkison, Bill
 Hutchinson, Jack
 Laws, Laura
 McCullough, Lucille
 Stutesman, Roy Lee

Class of 1952
 Burd, Bill
 Carlton, Lyle Jr.
 Claycamp, Mary Jo
 Farris, Marie
 O'Connor, Pauline
 Pfaff, Roger
 Williams, Gene

Class of 1953
 Atherly, Marjory
 Haris, Cleo
 Henkle, Mildred
 Hodges, Glen
 Lendo, Lonnie
 O'Connor, Barbara
 Williamson, Donald

Class of 1954
 Hutchinson, Eleanor
 Henley, Ralph Jr.
 Atherly, Joan
 Mayer, Donna
 McCullough, Anna Lou



Graduating class of 1932

Top Row-1 to r.	Carl Williamson
Orin Fry	James Traw
Cecil O'Connor	Elba Robertson
Bernice Kimble	Sam Mark
LaVerne Hamman	
Ruth Williamson	Bottom Row-1 to r.
	Elza Campbell
Middle Row-1 to r.	James Hamman
Ruby Baxter	Richard Baxter



Graduating class of 1943

Left to right.
 Roy Laws
 Doris Williamson
 Merle DeLong

J. C. Hetzel-Principal



Graduating class of 1934

Top Row-1 to r.	Clarence Eberhart
Bernice Hughes	Paul Houser
William Keith	Floyd Laws
Clyde Traw	
Lucille Thomsen	Bottom Row-1 to r.
	Merle Martin
Middle Row-1 to r.	Melvin Keith
Ray Boyer	Richard Eisele

STRAWN RURAL HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

High School Teachers

1920 Charles A. Dimon
 1921 T. J. Currie
 I. S. Mendall
 1922 E. R. Arndt
 Melba Schoenlein
 1923 E. R. Arndt
 Esther Blackburn
 1924 E. R. Arndt
 Esther Blackburn
 1925 E. R. Arndt
 Esther Blackburn
 1926 J. K. Moore
 Ada Lake
 1927 J. K. Moore
 Ada Lake
 Charles Dimon
 1928 J. K. Moore
 Ada Lake
 Ray W. Johnson
 Mrs. T. T. Kelly
 1929 No record for this year
 1930 Ada Lake
 Charles Amos
 Mrs. Charles Amos
 Mrs. T. T. Kelly
 1931 Ray L. Boyer
 Inez Boy
 David McCauley
 Mrs. T. T. Kelly
 1932 Ray L. Boyer
 David McCauley
 Inez Boy
 Mrs. Margaret Cummins
 1933 Ray L. Boyer
 David McCauley
 Inez Boy
 Mrs. Margaret Cummins
 1934 Joseph Schwartz
 David McCauley
 Inez Boy
 Mrs. Carl Cummins
 1935 Joseph Schwartz
 David McCauley
 Inez Boy
 Hazeltine Mayes
 1936 Joseph B. Schwartz
 Emma Moore
 David McCauley
 Inez Boy
 1937 Ray V. Green
 Esther Thacker
 David McCauley
 Ella Jagnow

School Board Members

1938 David McCauley
 Edwin Reed
 Ella Jagnow
 Louise Mendenhall
 1939 David McCauley
 Edwin Reed
 Ella Jagnow
 Louise Mendenhall
 1940 David McCauley
 Louise M. Reed
 Edwin E. Reed
 Ella Jagnow
 1941 J. C. Hetzel
 Howard H. McGee
 Edith Ten Eyck
 Ella Jagnow
 1942 J. C. Hetzel
 Edith Hetzel
 Ella Jagnow
 A. M. Lewis
 1943 A. M. Lewis
 Ella Jagnow
 Mary Waggart
 1944 L. C. Haughn
 Edith Hetzel
 Ella Jagnow
 1945 L. C. Haughn
 Edith Hetzel
 Eva Loganhill
 1946 L. C. Haughn
 Lena Zanotti
 Elwood Morgan
 1947 C. R. Edwards
 Elwood Morgan
 Lena Zanotti
 1948 J. C. Sloan
 Freda F. Lee
 Mary E. Woolverton
 1949 George H. Shepperd
 Francis McCune
 Mary E. Woolverton
 1950 George H. Shepperd
 Marianne H. DeLaurenis
 Robert D. Stokes 1/2 yr.
 Morton L. Hartsook 1/2 yr.
 Jessie Kelly
 1951 George H. Shepperd
 Marianne DeLaurentis
 Norton Hartsook
 1952 H. E. Adell
 Fae Adell
 Kenneth Smith
 1953 H. E. Adell
 Fae Adell
 Dean Eklund

1920-22 Roy DeLong D
 1920-27 A. E. Williamson C
 1920-25 O. L. Porter T
 1922-31 Jesse Baxter D
 1925-29 John W. Houser T
 1927-40 Clarence Fitch C
 1929-35 S. A. Hutchinson T
 1931-43 A. E. Williamson D
 1935-37 William Pfaff T
 1937-41 Howard Claycamp T
 1940-48 Katherine Pfaff C
 1941-50 O. K. Atherly T
 1943-49 S. A. Hutchinson Jr. D
 1948-49 Mrs. Roy DeLong and
 Richard Baxter C
 1949-51 C. E. Carlton C
 1949-53 Lester DeLong D
 1950-53 Howard Claycamp T
 1951-53 C. D. Fitch C
 Richard Baxter
 1953-55 Donald Griffin D
 C. F. Siebuhr
 1953-55 Lester DeLong T
 1955-60 Tom Reed D
 H. R. Traw

WAR VETERANS



Spanish American War
Welcome Home Celebration

It has been told that the man holding the flag started to walk around the world and got as far as Lebo, Ks.



Civil War Veterans

Back Row-1 to r.	H. H. Klock
W. L. Graybeal	Farleigh S. Mauck
Albert Cummins	
Griffith J. Baxter	Front Row-1 to r.
	Harvey Y. Wood
Middle Row-1 to r.	Leo Applegate
Conrad (Coon) Hamman	Charlie Veach

Those known to have served during World War I were: Ray Griffin, Roy Williams, Fern Meek, Jim Cochran, Walter Lutz, Bob Smith, Chancey Keith, Glenn Keith, William Grant and Zackery Grant.

Those known to have served during World War II were: Allen Brickey, Jack Hughes, Fred McCullough, Donald Griffin, Lawrence Childers, Edgar Martin, Delmer Farmer, Eugene Ray, Elmer Farmer, Jimmie Richards, James Traw, Roy DeLong Jr., Griffith Baxter, Beryl McCullough, William Keith, Marion Jones, Wendell Hamman, Samuel Mark, Max Houser, Richard Eisele, George Traw, Orin Fry, Eugene Zink, Kenneth Atherly, Hugh Dalrymple, Calvin Gitchel, Edgar Stevenson, Vernon Rose, Gerald Green, Eugene Mayer, Ira Isenberger, Loris Green, Eugene Rogers, Leland McKay, Francis Newkirk, Duane Koppenhaver, Dale Allen, Virgil Vesey, Oscar Applegate Jr., Wayne Applegate, Gene Pennington and W. B. Baysinger.
Former school teachers were: Edwin Reed, J. C. Hetzel and David McCauley.
Girls were: Geraldine Carney and Verla Keith.

There were few cars and no radios or T.V. so anything along the entertainment or social life was looked forward to. When any special meetings were going on at either the Methodist or Christian churches everyone went. It was not only some place to go but you learned the community news.

Strawn in those days was quite straight laced. You never held a party after midnight on Saturday night. Young folks in the community would give a "play party" which was a hayrack ride. Everyone going to the party met and got on the hayrack. Not many of the youngsters dated and dating in those days was quite different from now. We sang, laughed and cut up. Some times a teacher went along.

In those days girls were very modest and easily embarrassed. Our mother let us give a Halloween party when I was in the eighth grade. We invited the children in school and our Sunday school class, which Miss Cora Theobald was the teacher. It was a masked affair. Most of us could identify nearly everyone there, or thought we could. One plump girl wore a real long dress and bonnet along with the mask. As the evening wore on, we girls were going around arm around waist and trying to disguise our voices or not talking at all. After the judges had decided on first prize for costumes, we unmasked. Horrors upon Horrors! The plump girl was our teacher, Guy Webster. Red Faces!! He was complete with girl's apparel and corset which was the correct apparel for eighth grade girls. We kids knew there were several "grown up" parties that night and we knew Guy had been invited to all of them. Who would have dreamed he would attend a kids party?

The Hamlins did much more for the community than many realized. Ella not only taught a large Sunday school class of young men but conceived the idea of a young people's choir. Roberta at the time, although not much more than in the seventh grade was church organist, she was always musical. The choir was an instantaneous success. We would meet at Hamlin's one night a week and after an hour of choir practice we would play games.

In front of Hamlin & Houser's store and also Hoover's store, these were general country stores, the Sit, Spit and Argue club met daily in the summer. In the winter they went inside. The perils of socialist party were assaulted. And most of the socialist party's platform is now part of our national program.

Christmas programs were favorites. To begin with, deciduous trees were wrapped in cotton to resemble snow. No one thought of buying an evergreen with all the trees on the river. As the people came in, somehow presents were sneaked in. These were never wrapped. Only a slip of paper on them saying "to--from--". How pretty they made the tree all ready decorated with cranberries and pop corn. How the children squealed when their name was called and they received a wagon or a beautiful flaxon haired doll that had been admired all evening. Fancy decorated packages were unknown. Besides, such wrappings would have cost money.

Special days on the church calendar meant special programs. We had recitations, songs and drills. I remember one program which include two young sisters with "pieces" to say as a part of a dialogue. About halfway through hers the younger one, who was about six, forgot her part and turning to her elder sister and said "Tell me, tell me or I'll tickle you" and right then the younger one started tickling the older one.

Box and pie suppers were popular methods of raising money for school projects, such as books for the library. Woe be to the boy dating a popular girl. A gang of men-usually married-pooled their money and had some single man, frequently a man who was shy at least one marble, bid on the girl's box or pie. That box or pie added considerably to the money raised.

Most folks getting married just went to the minister or the judge. Afterward, the whole community would have a charivari and a shower for them. Pennybaker's hardware kept a list of everything bought there. Many people in Strawn did not have horses and buggies, so as a group, they would walk a mile or so. That made the affair great.

A funeral in Strawn usually closed the school for the afternoon. There were usually too many in school who was related to the deceased. Black was the only color worn to a funeral by the adult members.

PUBLIC PARK



Chautauqua Tent with Frank Wagaman.



Bandstand



Grange Meeting in the Park.



G. I. Club-It took care of the park.



Band Members

Standing-1 to r.
 Mrs. Emma Klock
 Mrs. Silas Hoover
 Mrs. Florance Hamman
 Mrs. Earl Pennybaker
 Mrs. James Applegate
 Mrs. Sam A. Hutchinson
 Mrs. William E. Strawn

Roy DeLong, Jr.
 Laura Belle DeLong
 Bertha May DeLong

On the porch.
 Mrs. Harry McCormick
 Mrs. Guy Spencer
 Mrs. Pearl Houser
 Wayne McCormick
 Dale Kelly

Seated.
 Mrs. Roy A. DeLong

Back Row-1 to r.
 Harry McCormick
 Howard Rosenberger
 Dorsey Fox
 John Marlowe
 Charlie Mayer
 Ben Hughes

Walter Betterly
 Floyd Rosenberger
 Lloyd Rosenberger
 Karl Pieratt
 Carl Pennybaker
 Bert Hamman
 Wm. E. Hughes

Front Row-1 to r.
 Levi Hutchinson
 Ray Burger

Seated.
 DeLoice Means
 Robert Spatz

The park was located between the main street and the railroad track. The first commercial form of recreation which came to Strawn was the magic lantern show. A man would perform magic. These shows started in 1885. The next shows to come were the medicine shows. Some talented musicians got together around 1890 and organized a band. It had no sponsor, but was lead by Wm. E. Hughes and played only for enjoyment. They held concerts in the park and it lasted for many years. A bandstand was built in 1921 by Hayde Mauck. Strawns main attraction in 1916-17 was the chautauqua. In 1931-32 saw the lyceum come to town with six meetings during the winter. Silent picture shows were shown each summer from 1933-42 and sponsored by the merchants. Grange meetings and fourth of July celebrations were held in the park. In years that followed the bandstand was torn down.

NEOSHO RIVER

The Neosho River-July 11, 1919.

Dressed in a robe of spotless green,
Its borders fringed with foam,
The proud Neosho rambles on,
As a wanderer from his home.

Along its time-worn battered banks,
Placed there by nature's hands,
The elm and stately cottonwood,
Like ancient warriors stand.

And where its frath is fraved with stone,
It boldly ripples o'er,
While its bubbles burst in kisses,
To sweet flowers on either shore.

The drooping willow there is seen,
In clusters standing nigh,
Whose branches lask the billowed waves,
As they go gliding by.

And oft in years of long ago,
While tenting on its shore,
In murmuring tones I've whispered,
Could fair nature have done more.

For all blinding shades and all blushing tints,
As found in Sharon's rose,
Can be seen between those mossy banks,
Where the proud Neosho flows.

James R. Winton

Before the bridge was built, people forded the river. The first bridge was built in 1872. It was a wrought iron bridge, 300 feet long and costing \$13,000. Oxen teams were used to haul the rock in for the pellers.

The second and last bridge was the Throckmorton bridge by Ottumwa, Kansas and moved in and constructed in Oct. 1937. It was torn down in the fall of 1963.

Just west of the river bridge was the old swimming hole. There were grape vines reaching across the river for the swimmers to swing down into the water.

Just east of the river bridge was the head of the riffle, one of the prettiest spots on the Neosho River.

During the droughts many people drove their wagons and trucks down into the river just east of the bridge and filled their tanks or barrels with water for their livestock. It was a hard job as a lot of the water would splash out before they reached home. In 1860 there were thirteen months without a drop of rain.

Eagle Creek and Lebo Creek emptied into the Neosho River northwest of Strawn.

The Neosho River flooded at 21 feet in the ditches and 21 feet-8 inches flooded the area. Floods are well remembered. The flood of 1858 swept away the new dam constructed across the river. More floods in 1866, 1874 and 1884. The quickest flood in the history of Strawn was in 1883, when the river was nearly dry in the morning, and it never rained but at 2:00 a.m. the water was drowning everybody's cattle and hogs. A flood record was kept by Roy A. DeLong from 1895-1951.

Fishing in the Neosho River is good and well known for its catfish. Just west of where Strawn was located, now has a fishing area with boat ramps, camping space and a picnic area. On the hill is Jacob's boat landing.



First Neosho River bridge.



Second Neosho River bridge.



Lined up to haul water from the Neosho River-1936.

FLOOD RECORD

Sept. 8-9	1895	22 ft.	Storm & flood. Bethel church blown down.
June 7	1902	22.6 ft.	
May 31	1903	23 ft.	
June 4	1904	23.9 ft.	
July 7	1904	24.4 ft.	7 inches of rain.
May 30	1908	21.8 ft.	
July 2	1909	22.4 ft.	
May 23	1915	21.3 ft.	
May 29	1916	21.3 ft.	
April 9	1922	20.2 ft.	11 inches of rain at Burlington, Kansas.
June 11	1923	23.2 ft.	
Sept. 12	1926	22.6 ft.	
April 18	1927	20.7 ft.	River fell 5.7 feet when the second raise began.
April 21	1927	22.2 ft.	10 inches of rain.
Nov. 13	1928	23.8 ft.	
May 13	1929	21.0 ft.	
July 15	1929	21.9 ft.	
July 7	1932	23.0 ft. at 12 noon.	-8 inches of rain at Council Grove July 4.
June 5	1935	21.1 ft. at 9 a.m.	
May 23	1938	22.3 ft. at 6 p.m.	
June 4	1941	21.2 ft. at 8 a.m.	- 9 1/2 inches of rain at Strawn 5-31-41.
June 12	1941	22.1 ft. at 1 p.m.	- 16 inches of rain from May 31 noon to June 9th at 3 a.m.
Aug. 26	1941	20.6 ft.	
Sept. 9	1941	21.2 ft.	
Oct. 16	1941	21.8 ft.	
Oct. 21	1941	23.5 ft.	
April 12	1944	22.7 ft.	
April 24	1944	24.6 ft. at 2:30 a.m.	
Dec. 6	1944	23.6 ft. at 8:30 a.m.	-Five and three fourths inches of rain
April 17	1945	24.2 ft. at 7:00 a.m.	from Dec. 3 to Dec. 5th. Levy at Houser's
Oct. 3	1945	21.5 ft. at 2:00 a.m.	gave way.
June 21	1946	20.5 ft. at 11:00 p.m.	
July 21	1948	25.5 ft. at 2:30 p.m.	

Old Gauge.

The river gauge was changed by the Army Engineers and reads 2 feet more water than the old gauge.

May 3	1951	23.8 ft. at 2:00 a.m.
June 9	1951	21.3 ft. at 9:00 p.m.
July 1	1951	25.3 ft. at 3:00 p.m.
July 12	1951	30.2 ft. at 2:00 a.m.
Sept. 6	1951	23.6 ft. at 1:00 p.m.
May 11	1957	23.4 ft.
June 11	1957	21.0 ft.
May 21	1959	20.4 ft. at 4:00 p.m.
May 24	1961	24.6 ft. at 11:30 p.m.

Rainfall in July 1951.

July 9	1951	2.8 inches.
July 10	1951	7.5 inches.
July 11	1951	1.9 inches.
July 12	1951	2.6 inches.
July 13	1951	.3 inches.

Kept by Roy A. DeLong

FLOOD SCENES



Main street-1928, Jim Harris's Buick model 1924-25.



Neosho River bridge.



Dr. Jerry Farner's office.



Eagle Creek MK&T (Katy) bridge.



Strawn park-Maude Theobald & daughter Marjorie on the horse at right.



MK&T (Katy) railroad track-1904.



Edgar Williamson's garage-1951.



Looking east toward Main street.

FISHING



40 lb. Catfish
Sport Kennedy-left and
Robert Spatz-right.



48 1/2 lb. Yellow Catfish-1960.
Glenn Atherly-left and Hugh
Dalrymple-right and son David.



A good string of catfish.
Wm. Henry Keith

Albert Wheeler continually bragged of his fishing ability, which I doubted very much. He promised to take me fishing when the weather warmed up in late spring. He said that the big ones didn't bite until warm weather.

A few days after school was out in the spring of 1945 Albert saw me in the post office and asked me if I was ready to go fishing. I let him know that I was very anxious to catch some fish. He told me that we could go get bait about four o'clock that afternoon and go set some lines.

We took his boat to the river that morning and made up a trot line. He used eight ought hooks, which seemed rather large to me, on regular fifty pound test cotton chalk line. He made them about three feet long. The main line was heavy trotline cord. He borrowed his mother-in-law's trot line, so that made us a trot line apiece, which was legal. We waited until about four o'clock then went out to Ira Pieratt's pond to catch perch for bait.

Catching bait, as he called it, was a lot of fun. We dug a few worms to use for bait and cut slender sticks about six feet long from willow saplings growing below the pond dam; these we used for fishing rods. We tied a piece of string about four feet long; which had a small hook, a little piece of lead and a split cork attached to the end of each of our poles. We used small pieces of worms for bait. The corks were set about a foot from the hooks and were ready to catch perch. The perch were very hungry and we soon had fifty large perch in our minnow pails. We hurried to the river with the perch and set our trotlines. The perch would soon die with out fresh water.

We tied three heavy weights to each of the trotlines, one in the middle and one about ten feet from each end. We set the trotlines in the deepest water we could find. Albert said that the big yellow catfish stayed in deep water and didn't move out to feed. We tied the short lines to the main line with figure eight bow knots at intervals of about four feet. We then went home to wait until the next morning.

We ran our lines the next day about five o'clock in the morning. The first line we ran produced seven yellow catfish averaging ten pounds apiece. The next line was Albert's mother-in-law's line and it hadn't been taken care of properly. The line had been put up wet and they should be dried before storing. It was rotten. The line was broken in the middle and we managed to save only two yellows of about the same size as the other seven.

Albert took me fishing many more times and, as I remember, we usually caught fish but never as many as we caught the first time.

Remembering, L. C. Haughn

THOMAS L. HORRELL, JR.



Thomas L. Horrell, Jr.

Thomas L. Horrell, Jr.--Known to all as (Tib), was the son of Thomas L. Horrell, Sr. and Henrietta Finnan, and natives of Ohio. His father came to Strawn in 1857 and homesteaded 160 acres of land, engaging in farming and stock raising. Tib was married to Effie Hilbish and they had two sons, Wayne and Howard. Tib added to the farm and when it was sold it contained 240 acres. His favorite past time was fishing, which he was quite adept at. He was one of Strawn's best liked citizens. Both Mr. & Mrs. Horrell had many friends throughout the community.



George Rummell built this house for Thomas L. Horrell, Jr. in 1915 south of the Neosho River bridge. Occupants known were: Thomas L. Horrell, Jr. and Carl Williamson, who had the house moved to his farm southwest of Strawn, Kansas on R.R. #1, Hartford, Kansas.



T. L. Horrell, Sr. had this house built in 1878-80 north of the Neosho River bridge. It was purchased by the U. S. Government. Occupants known were: T. L. Horrell, Sr., Roy Hamman, Oscar Hamman, B. J. Mitchell, Oscar Mitchell and Everett Carlton.



Arthur Shumate

Arthur Shumate--Known to all as J. C. Jackson was born at Paducah, Kentucky in 1869 and died at the Golden Age Lodge, Burlington, Kansas in 1965 at the age of 96. He was buried in the Strawn Cemetery. He came to Strawn in 1932. He lived for many years in a dugout covered over with bridge planks, in the Horrell timber across the Strawn bridge. He spent most of his time fishing, hunting, trapping and raised some vegetables and strawberries. He also worked for different farmers at their busy times. He was a good worker and not a lazy bone in his body, as is so common with those who lived the kind of life he did. He was thoughtful enough that a few years before he passed away he purchased a lot in the Strawn Cemetery and a small stone. An act few of his kind would ever do. In late years he talked more of his life in young years, but in these stories it was thought his imagination ran very high, however no doubt he had many hair raising experiences.

STRAWN HOUSES



George Rummell built this house. It was moved to an oil lease southwest of Gridley, Kansas by Howell Oil Co. Occupants known were: Dude Trower, C. C. Claycamp, Mrs. Nora Traw, Lester Norris, Grover Jones and Mr. Clements, contractor for the Neosho river bridge in 1937.



Hayde Mauck built this house for Ed Kuhlman in 1913. Occupants know were: Lee Heflin, Clarence Baxter, Roscoe Emley, Tom Burrell barber shop, J. C. Jackson and Donald Hutchinson.



Pratt Williamson moved this house from Gas City, Kansas. It was cut in two parts and moved on the Katy railroad. It was purchased by Wm. Pickett. Occupants known were: Lee Baysinger, W. C. Pennybaker, Elsie Danner, Edgar Williamson and Frances Crooks.



Clarence Fitch had this house built in 1915. It was purchased by Carol Paxson and moved near Burlington, Kansas. Occupants known were: Mrs. B. J. Mitchell, Warren Woods, M. E. Newkirk, Mrs. Ada Lake, Leslie McIntire and Hugh Dalrymple.



Hayde Mauck built this house in 1913. It was moved southwest of Burlington, Kansas. Occupants known were: Hayde Mauck, DeLoice Means, David McCauley, Joe Swartz, George Hamilton, Lloyd Newcomb and Carl Williamson.



The Gitchell Brothers built this house and Norman Griffin salvaged it. Occupants known were: Odis Skinner restaurant, Mrs. Saddle Farmer and same when she was Mrs. Saddle Harris public library, and she was the librarian.



Abner Heflin had this house built and it was salvaged by the U. S. Government. Occupants known were: J. Heflin, Mrs. Nora Heflin, Frank Keith and Eddie Crouch.



Billy Bowman built this house. Occupants known were: Sim Hughes, George Sheppard, Dr. Z. G. Houser, Ernest McKay, John Henning, Clair Bell, Ernest Ray, Roy Rogers, Mr. Keller, J. C. Sloan, Warren Woods, H. B. McCormick and S. T. Anderson.



Reuben Hamman built this house for rental. It was purchased by George Wilcox and moved to his farm northwest of Burlington, Kansas for use as a tenant house. Occupants known were: John Houser, Harry Antrim, H. H. Klock, Ernest McKay, George Forbes, Harry McCormick, Bill Mays, Ralph Binns, Bill Gilkinson, Adell DeLauerentis and Norman Griffin.



Dudley Doolittle built this house for Conrad Hamman in 1911 for rental. It was remodeled by Howard Claycamp in 1947. It was purchased by Mr. Dunn and moved to Neosho Rapids, Kansas. Occupants known were: W. E. Hughes, S. T. Anderson, Joe Mayer, Charles Hamman, Alfred Farmer and Howard Claycamp, 1932-63.



This house was west of the Christian church. Occupants known were: Ike Fosnight and Mrs. B. J. Mitchell.



Mr. Reynold built this house for John Bumgardner in 1911. It was purchased by Norman Griffin and moved to his farm south of Strawn, Kansas. John Bumgardner was the only occupant.



Mrs. Susan Meek-This house was salvaged by the U. S. Government. Occupants known were: A. J. Wood, Levi Hutchinson, Mrs. Susan Meek, Wm. E. Strawn, Mrs. Rhudruff, Mrs. Bogardus, Mr. Drew, Frank Keith, Bill Burch and Wm. A. Tomlinson.



Jesse Harris built this house for Roy A. DeLong in 1916. It was purchased by Richard Wilson and moved to his farm south of Hartford, Kansas. Roy A. DeLong was the only occupant.



This house was moved to the Fred Schiff farm southwest of Burlington, Kansas. Occupants known were: Cleo Jasper, C. C. Taylor, Bert Hamman, Henry Kennedy and Frank Wagaman.



Jesse Harris built this house for Wm. Henry Keith in 1913. It was purchased by Harold Stockwell and moved northeast of Neosho Rapids, Kansas. Occupants known were: Wm. Henry Keith, Guy Spencer, Wm. Bell, S. T. Anderson, Burleigh L. Hoover, Ella Jagnow, A. J. Bauer, Ray Boyer and Frank Keith.



Hayde Mauck built this house for Samuel A. Hutchinson, Sr. in 1920. Occupants known were: Samuel A. Hutchinson, Sr. and Bob Hutchinson.



F. M. Newkirk had this house built in 1878. Mr. Johnson had it moved from the Silas Hoover lot to this location. It was salvaged by Howard Truelove and used at his farm. Occupants known were: F. M. Newkirk, Mr. Johnson, Frank Mauck, Lee Mauck, A. C. Newkirk, J. V. Eisele, Oliver Rickman, Dr. Dary, Neil Buckridge, Lester Garrett and Mr. Yost, contractor for the high school gym.



Mrs. Mattie Mayer-Jesse Harris built this house for Dr. Jerry Farner. It was salvaged by the U. S. Government. Occupants known were: Dr. Jerry Farner, Joe Mayer, Mrs. Winnie Beer, Merle DeLong and Mrs. Warren.



Jesse Harris built this house for Jim Harris. It was moved to Gridley, Kansas. Occupants known were: Jim Harris, Jess Baxter, Ernest Baysinger and Jim Clark.



Pratt Williamson and Charles Applegate built this house for William Smith. It was moved to J. C. Ackers farm west of Burlington, Kansas. Occupants known were: William Smith, Deloice Means, Hayde Mauck, Harold Bobst, Pete Beer and John Ackers.



Jesse Harris built this house. It was moved to Hartford, Kansas. Occupants known were: Jesse Harris, M. E. Newkirk, Cleo Hamman, Wayne Heffron, Wesley Burris, William Ray, Albert Wheeler and Donald Griffin.



Pratt Williamson and Charles Applegate built this house for Silas Hoover in 1915. It was purchased by Earl Bailey and moved to the Max Bailey farm near Delia, Kansas. Occupants known were: Silas Hoover, Wm. A. Tomlinson, Arthur L. Lewis, M. F. Burris, Wendell DeLong and Earl Bailey.



Reuben Hamman and son Lee Hamman built this house. It was purchased by Roy Traw and moved to New Strawn, Kansas. Occupants known were: M. E. Newkirk, Carson Loftus, Burleigh L. Hoover, Grover Jones, Oscar Hamman, B. B. Bone, Pete Beer and Roy Traw.



C. H. Cook built this house for W. H. Slaughter. It was purchased by Wm. E. Strawn and moved to the Strawn hill south of Strawn, Kansas. Occupants known were: William Pfaff, W. H. Slaughter, B. B. Bone, T. T. Kelly and Frank Ferris.



Wm. (Doc) Tomlinson. This was the Hardin McMahon house east of Strawn. Frame, trim and weather board were native walnut. John Houser moved it to Strawn. It fell apart when the U. S. Government tried to move it. Occupants known were: John Houser, Wm. A. Tomlinson, Harry Duckett, Mrs Lucy Pennybaker and Delmar Farmer.



D. L. Wingard had this house built in 1878. It was moved to Neosho Rapids, Kansas. Occupants known were: D. L. Wingard, Bert Hamlin, Mrs. Chester Williamson, Charles Hamman, M. E. Newkirk, Doc Bennett, Reuben Hamman, Oscar Hamman, H. F. Coppedige, Murriel Siebuhr, Ralph Binns and Robert Haas.



Jacob Hamman and son Bert Hamman built this house in 1914 on a three acre track. It was moved to Lebo, Kansas. Occupants known were: Jacob Hamman, Scott Hamman, Albert Lewis, Charles Coulson, George German, Wendell F. Hamman, Frank Keith and Eddie Crouch.



Charles Hamman built this house in 1914. It was moved to New Strawn, Kansas. Occupants known were: Chas. Hamman, Earl Pennybaker, Dr. Zimri Houser, A. J. Bauer, Harry Duckett, Roy Johnson and Clarence Baxter.



Mr. & Mrs. Henry & Mary (Chad) Lore. Virginia Lore and Mary Jane Palmer. George Hoover built this house for Dr. Carter in 1872-73. The brick was made from clay and fired on the Jacobs place. It was old and fell down. Occupants known were: Dr. Carter, Henry Lore and Charlie Hoach



Mr. & Mrs. Farleigh & Azelia Mauck. The Mauck Brothers built this house for Farleigh Mauck in 1906-08. It was salvaged and lumber used in the Albert Wheeler house in New Strawn, Kansas. Occupants known were: Farleigh Mauck, Roy Hamman, Arthur Lewis and Albert Wheeler.



George Foley left, Mike Foley right. This house was salvaged by the U.S. Government. Occupants known were: Parents of Wm. E. Hughes, DeLoice Means, William Bull and Mike Foley.



Mae Williamson and James Hamman. This house was salvaged by the U.S. Government. Occupants known were: Dr. Wm. A. Dumbald, Dr. Dary, Rev. Needham, Rev. Williams, Rev. Johns, Mrs. Albert Cummins, Wm. Hamman, Bert Hamman, Neil Buckridge, Jess Baxter, Wm. Ray and Charles Siebuhr.



This house was moved to Madison, Kansas. Occupants known were: Wm. E. Hughes, Minnie Pennington, R. A. Baysinger, Norton L. Hartsook, Sam Mark, Ed Reed, Leslie McIntire, Hugh Dalrymple and Norman Griffin.



Grant Harvey had this house built in about 1878. He built the second floor. It was salvaged for lumber. The house was remodeled by Asa Meek in 1916 and again by Lester DeLong. Occupants known were: Grant Harvey, A. J. Baxter, Griffith Baxter, Bert Hamlin, Asa Meek, Lester DeLong, Roy Johnson and Paul Traw.



Dudley Doolittle built this house for Leo Applegate, Sr. in 1911. It was moved to Neosho Rapids, Kansas. Occupants known were: Leo Applegate, Harold L. Bobst, Nelson Steenback, Harry B. McCormick, H. R. Traw, Mrs. James W. Pieratt, Emma Bentley and Gerald Hamman.

JAMES JACOBS



James Jacobs



Mr. & Mrs. James and Nancy Jacobs. Mabel and Bess Curry-Jacobs house on the hill was built in 1870 and torn down by Carl Williamson. Occupants known were: James Jacobs, R. C. Jackman, George Theobald-1916, James Cummins and Carl Williamson.

James Jacobs was born Feb. 11, 1833 in Allen County Ohio, near Lima, Ohio. He lived there twenty-two years and came to Kansas in 1855. He located in Coffey County, LeRoy Township, and he moved to Pleasant Township in 1857. He was married in Allen County, Kansas to Miss Nancy S. Hall on Oct. 1, 1863, a native of Georgia. They had four children: Mary Lizzie, Anna May, Chas. Clinton and Florence Alta. Mr. Jacobs was engaged in farming and stock raising. He was township treasurer, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and of the G.A.R. He enlisted in Co. F., Twelfth Kansas Volunteer Infantry in 1862 and served three years. Except for those three years he lived all his adult life in Strawn. On the hill south was Jacobs Creek, which was fed from a spring, and named for James Jacobs. Across the road north toward the Neosho River was his barn and his new house east of the barn. He loved to plant orchards and raise fruit. He was so proud of his first "Alberta" peach. He died March 19, 1911 at Hot Springs, South Dakota, Veteran's Hospital, where he went for surgery. He is buried in the Strawn Cemetery.

Although the town of Strawn is gone, the name Jacobs still remains, as there is Jacobs Creek and Jacobs boat landing on the hill.



Jacobs barn was built in 1886 of North Carolina pine. The stales were walnut and the barn was put together with wooden pegs. It was salvaged for lumber in the 1950's and in very good condition.



The Mauck Brothers built this house for James Jacobs in 1908. It was salvaged by the U. S. Government. Occupants known were: James Jacobs, John Shobe, Verna Cochran and Mrs. Josephine Baker and grandson Melvin Darbyshire.

FARMING

Strawn was a farming community from the very beginning. The land had plenty of black limestone of the best quality. The soil was productive and yield abundantly of every product adapted to it. In the early days, farmers raised their crops and animals more for their own use.

Wheat and corn have always been the main crops. Planting and harvesting was first done by hand then machinery drawn by oxen and horses. Soon the tractors took the place of horses. From the cradle to the binder and thrashing machine to the combine. And from shucking corn by hand and throwing it in a wagon pulled by horses along side, came the corn husker which picked, husked and threw the corn ear in a wagon. The grain was hauled by horses and wagon to the elevators and then came the trucks. Some farmers kept part of their grain for winter feeding. The wheat was stored in bins and often some of it was taken to a flour mill and ground into flour for their own use. Corn was stored in bins and some was put through a hand corn sheller and then a feed grinder pulled by a horse, and sacked for chicken feed. The corn cobs were often burned in the heating stove, as nothing was wasted. The corn sheller was also good for hulling black walnuts. Today that kind of feed is not a sufficient balanced diet for the animals so grain is sold and feed is purchased already mixed.

Horses were a pride and joy to every farmer. Everyone had good saddle horses for which he was proud and strong work horses and often mules. Horses were the power of the buggies, wagons and to ride horseback. In the fields the horse pulled a heavy load of farm implements. Progress made it easier for the horse as it has for man.

Farmers first had more dairy cattle. The milking was done by hand and put through a milk separator. Some of the cream was churned into butter and cream and butter were taken to town and sold. For the farmers own use it was hung in a well or put in a cool cellar for keeping. Ice boxes came in which ice was delivered once or twice a week from town and with the electricity came the refrigerator. The skim milk was often fed to the hogs. Then the separator went out and the farmers put their whole milk in cans and placed it at the roadside or in their yards and was picked up by milk trucks from the creameries in larger towns. The dairy barns with electric milking machines are now for any farmer interested in the dairy business. In the fall a farmer would butcher his own beef, hog and sometimes a sheep. Some beef was canned and the hams cured, home made sausage, headcheese and pork cracklings, lard and even home made soap from the pork grease. Beef cattle took the place of a lot of the dairy cattle. They are pastured by summer and fed by winter and taken to market in trucks which pick up right at the farm. Beef cattle were driven by foot to the nearest stockyard and shipped out by rail before the trucks took over.

Everyone had chickens for the young fryers in the spring to eat and the pullets during the fall and winter for laying. Some farmers had their own incubators and hatched their own eggs. The incubator was heated by kerosene and took 21 days for the eggs to hatch. The baby chicks were kept in a warm brooder house. Others got their chicks from the hatchery. The eggs were gathered by hand, cleaned and put in egg cases to take to town and sell. When they would get too old for laying purpose, they would be eaten as old hens and stewed for a Sunday dinner with noodles or dumplings and all the trimmings with home made bread and apple pie. The ducks, geese and turkeys were not uncommon and eaten for a holiday meal. Some of the people picked their geese and made downy pillows. Even the small time chicken raising disappeared, as the chicken business grew there were special buildings built for layers or for fryers.

The gardens and fruit trees were raised for their own use then. The hoe was an important part of the garden, for making the rows, covering the seed and hoeing the weeds. The fruit and vegetables were canned. The cellars were filled with potatoes, onions, squash and pumpkins. Corn and beans were dried and hominy and sour kraut was made. Popcorn and peanuts were grown and enjoyed during the winter while sitting with the family around a wood fire. Those watermellons! They were delicious. Time has changed the way of preserving food. Some farmers sell everything and buy from the stores. Some have deep freezers for meat and vegetables to take the place of canning. Some may still enjoy their own home grown and canned food.

The modern ways of farming soon replaced the small farmers as one farmer can take care of several times more land now, so the farms grew and the houses became fewer.

FARM EQUIPMENT



Asa Meek on his binder cutting wheat. His children Hazel and Fern.



Jacob Hamman ready to hoe his garden.



Tom Strawn demonstrating the first Farmall tractor sold in Coffey County.



Oscar Hamman's thrashing machine in action-1929.



Brice Newkirk standing in his good field of soya beans-1958.



W. Ira Pieratt feeding his chickens.



A. E. Williamson's good corn field, not many like this any more.



A. E. Williamson on his combine.

HORSES



Mr. & Mrs. Walker & Odessa (Hamman) Keith with Seneca pulling the buggy.



Frank Keith with Sunflame.



Mr. & Mrs. Oscar & Pearl (Coble) Hamman taking a buggy ride.



Mrs. Blanche (Watts) Keith with a favorite.



Roy Hamman & Charles St John with Old Tom & Prince pulling the wagon.



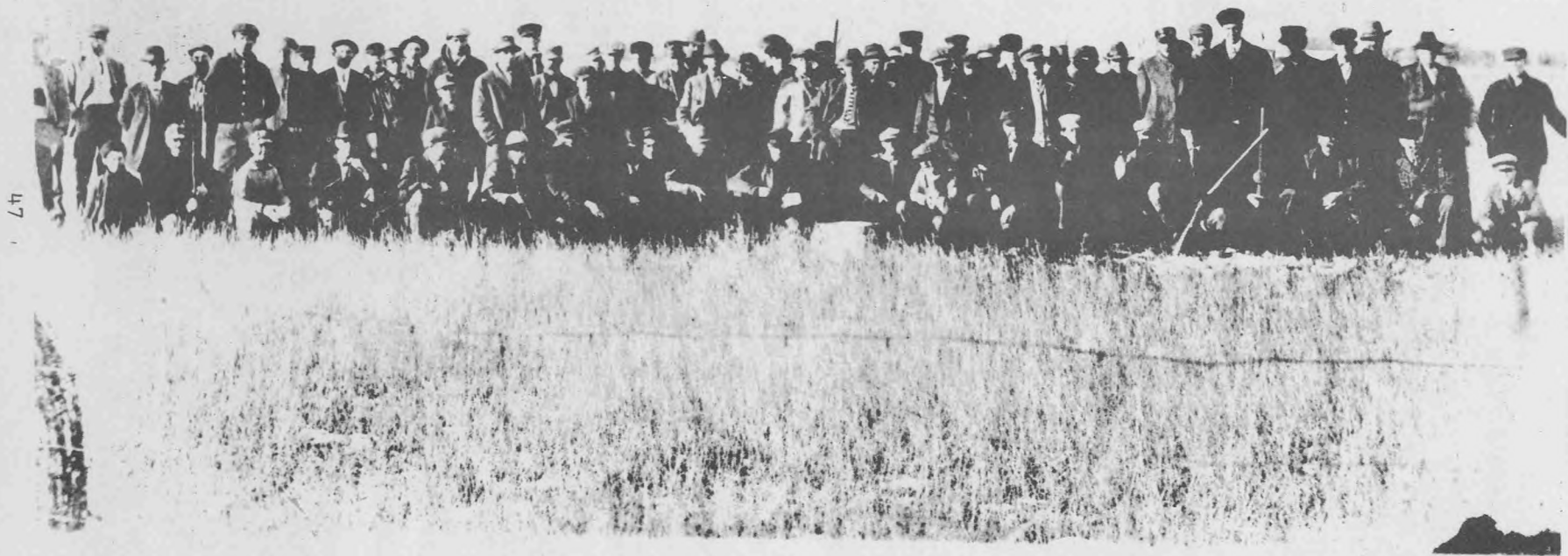
Mrs. Minnie (Strawn) Applegate riding Topsie.



Ralph Shobe riding Ginger.



John Shobe with his dapple gray stallion. His daughter Geraldine.



72 men on a coyote hunt at Strawn, Kansas in 1913.

STRAWN RURAL CHURCHES

BETHEL METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Shepherd's Psalm

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
he leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul:
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death,
I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the
presence of mine enemies:
thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord
for ever.



Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church

The Bethel Church was located four and half miles south of Strawn, Kansas. The word Bethel meaning "House of God" was erected in 1895. The land was donated by E. W. Barker (Mrs. Reno Harrington's father) and Tilman Hilbish (Mrs. Effie Horrell's and Mrs. Minnie Underwood's father). The pioneers of the community gave their time and money to help build the church and get it done early in the spring and summer. Rev. P. H. Monroe was the first pastor and he too helped build the church. In less than two months, on September 8, 1895 a tornado completely destroyed the new building and many homes and buildings were likewise destroyed. The Bethel friends and members again raised money and the insurance money of \$980 paid in full. The building was soon erected.

The native stone used for the foundation was quarried on the Sillix farm, later owned by Ralph Shobe.

The last service held in the church was the last Sunday in March, 1965. Bethel had been a landmark for nearly 70 years as it could be seen for miles to the east and south. The building still stands.

The first board of Trustees were composed of John Houch, Sr., W. D. McReynolds, E. R. Coy, T. S. Watts, Z. T. Grant, J. W. Kimball and J. T. Sillix.

CHURCH OF GOD

The Church of God was located three miles southwest of Strawn. The land was donated by Albert Cummins and the church was built. Brother Cooper helped to organize it and the board members were: Bert Hamman, Roy Hamman, Charles Hamman, Millard Rogers and Orville Haehn.

Ministers known were: Brothers Cooper, Mitchell, Hammer, Foster, Smith, Hood and Neden.



Church of God

STRAWN RURAL SCHOOLS
FAIRFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT #43

School Teachers

1877 David Roser (12 wks)
Mary E. Briton (12 wks)
1878 Mary E. Briton (28 wks)
1879 Mary E. Briton (12 wks)
Mary E. Niver (12 wks)
1880 W. R. Cone (16 wks)
Emma Means (12 wks)
1881 J. M. Ruby (20 wks)
1882 Fannie Niver (32 wks)
1883 Fannie Niver (12 wks)
O. W. Byrd (16 wks)
1884 O. W. Byrd (20 wks)
Ella Noell (12 wks)
1885 Ed Clark (fall)
Ella Noell (spring)
1886 Grant Harvey (16 wks)
Etta McConnel (12 wks)
1887 Emma Cole
1888 Thomas Carder
1889 O. E. Walter
1890 Ollie M. Casey
1891 Ollie M. Casey
1892 Maggie Gooch
1893 Alvin Chatterton
1894 Grant Harvey
1895 E. T. Sines
1896 Florence Bundy
1897 O. E. Walter
1898 E. R. Sines
1899 Edith Hollopeter
1900 J. C. Wallace
1901 Lizzie Heffron
1902 Lizzie Heffron
1903 Mary Throckmorton
1904 Elene Heffron
1905 Elene Heffron
1906 Etta Crow
1907 Mamie Booth
1908 Clarence Bowman
1909 Clarence Bowman
1910 Grace Striegh
1911 John M. Gordon
1912 Blanche Roberts
Florence Mazingo
1913 Bernice Grimsley
1914 Blanche Moore
1915 Blanche Moore
1916 Ella Huseman
1917 Ella Huseman
1918 Nina Newkirk
1919 Chancie Jones
1920 Alma Haehn
1921 Alma Haehn
1922 Elsie Reed
1923 Nannie Davis
1924 Nellie Moffit (3 mos)
Alberta Miller (5 mos)
1925 Josephine Casey
1926 Josephine Casey
1927 Pauline Ball
1928 Pauline Ball
1929 Pauline Ball
1930 Julia A. Mentzer
1931 Julia A. Mentzer
1932 Elizabeth Lowman
1933 Elizabeth Lowman
1934 Leta Fern Sergeant
1935 Nadine Combs
1936 Nadine Combs
1937 Frances Dalby
1938 Eloise Jones
1939 Eloise Jones
1940 Patricia Patrick
1941 Nadine Newkirk
1942 Nadine Newkirk
1943 Nadine Newkirk
1944 Margaret Danford
1945 Marjorie Kistner
1946 Gladys Green
1947 Achsah Carter

1948 Achsah Carter
1949 Achsah Carter
1950 Achsah Carter Schultz
1951 Marguerite Thompson
1952 Marguerite Thompson
1953 Flora Pennybaker
1954 Flora Pennybaker
1955 Flora Pennybaker

School Board Members

1877-82 L. H. Bellinger D
1877-88 A. J. Niver C
1877-83 Wm. H. Keith T
1883-85 Wm. H. Keith D
1883-90 H. G. Wood T
1885-89 W. H. Carney D
1888-1906 Z. T. Grant C
1889-95 T. C. Bailey D
1890-96 Jacob Haehn T
1895-98 I. C. Means D
1896-1905 H. Y. Wood T
1898-1904 Wm. H. Keith D
1904-19 Jacob Haehn D
1905-08 John Shobe T
1906-11 U. S. Grant C
1908-23 J. I. Walters T
1911-36 John Mazingo C
1919-52 S. H. Shoupe D
1923-29 J. W. Keith T
1929-34 L. T. Volland T
1934-55 C. R. Woods T
1936-38 Mrs. John Mazingo C
1938-43 J. W. Keith C
1943-45 Floyd Laws C
1945-55 Mrs. Mildred Schif C
Ralph Shobe
1952-55 Henry Ryan D
1955-55 Gerald Crooks T



Fairfield School District #43

Fairfield District #43 was located south of Strawn, Kansas. The land was set aside April 11, 1871. The first school building was moved about 1 and 1/2 miles northeast and made into a home, which still stands. Hayde Mauck built this one in 1921. The building still stands and is now the Fairfield Community Center. Salaries started from \$25.00 a month to \$2,720 a year. The district was disorganized July 1, 1959 and attached to Strawn District #61 and Burlington District #1.

School Teachers

1877 Mattie Winget
 1878 Willie King (12 wks)
 E. T. Macy (16 wks)
 1879 S. A. Stoutemyer
 1880 Cassie Wingett
 1881 C. P. Allen
 1882 Mary Morse
 1883 Mary Morse
 1884 Mary E. Cole
 1885 Mrs. Kate Markes
 1886 O. W. Byrd
 1887 Albert Gilkie
 Anna Symous
 1888 Emma Means
 1889 Emma Means
 1890 Emma Means
 1891 Ettie R. Hill
 1892 Ivy Preston
 1893 Ivy Preston
 1894 Edna Sister
 1895 Edna Sister
 1896 Edna Sister
 1897 Maud Leedy
 1898 Glick Fockele
 1899 Glick Fockele
 1900 Ida Morrison
 1901 May Wagner
 1902 Myrtie L. Wilcaxson
 1903 Cora Arnald
 1904 Grace Hamlin
 1905 Minnie Strawn
 1906 Daisy Pieratt
 1907 Addie Theobald
 1908 Addie Theobald
 1909 Ellene Heffron
 1910 Addie Theobald
 1911 Cloe Varvel
 1912 Addie Theobald
 1913 May Shobe
 1914 Addie Theobald
 1915 May Shobe
 1916 Addie Theobald
 1917 Frank Wagaman
 1918 Adna Porter
 1919 Adna Porter
 1920 Iva Hunt
 1921 Iva Hunt
 1922 Vada Shobe Newkirk
 1923 Vada Shobe Newkirk
 1924 Gladys Griffith
 1925 Jessie Wilson

1926 Mary Bates
 1927 Edna Meek
 1928 Armana Thimes
 1929 Armana Thimes
 1930 Armana Thimes
 1931 Armana Thimes
 1932 Imogene Strawn
 1933 Imogene Strawn
 1934 Dorothy Giesy
 1935 Dorothy Giesy
 1936 Dorothy Giesy
 1937 Ethel Applegate
 1938 Ethel Applegate
 1939 Pauline Rife
 1940 Pauline Rife
 1941 Pauline Rife
 1942 Ruth Conrad
 1943 Ruth Conrad
 1944 Axelma Newkirk
 1945 Anita Cochran

School Board Members

1877-1904 J. M. Pieratt D
 1877-84 H. T. King C
 1877-83 Charles King T
 1883-94 Dudley Fitch T
 1884-88 Charles Morse C
 1888-95 Mary F. Morse C
 1894-1905 J. W. Bumgardner T
 1895-1912 George Theobald C
 1904-07 A. M. Staats D
 1905-06 L. F. Curry T
 1906-11 J. M. Pieratt T
 1907-15 John Shobe D
 1911-17 O. L. Porter T
 1912-21 W. E. Strawn C
 1915-19 Oscar Applegate D
 1917-20 George Theobald T
 1919-23 S. A. Hutchinson D
 1920-25 P. J. Long T
 1921-22 H. D. Means C
 1922-23 Martha Pieratt C
 1923-26 Will Alderson C
 1923-24 Oscar Applegate D
 1924-28 William Pickett D
 1925-27 Harry McCormick
 1926-31 Maude Theobald C
 1927-30 Oscar Applegate T
 1928-29 W. E. Strawn D
 1929-32 Thomas Dixon D
 1930-34 O. L. Porter T
 1931-33 Mrs. Mildred Mark C
 1932-35 Charles Hamman D
 1933-39 Harry B. McCormick C
 1934-45 Maude Theobald T
 1935-40 Ira McCullough D
 1939-44 S. A. Hutchinson Jr. C
 1940-43 Jesse Theobald D
 1943-45 O. L. Porter D
 1944-45 Robert Mark C



Swamp College School District #21

Swamp College District #21 was located east of Strawn, Kansas. The school building was moved to Burlington, Kansas, near the Armory and used as a community center. Salaries started from \$25.00 a month to \$125.00 a month. There was no record of teachers until 1877 but there is a map and description of the district in 1872, J. S. Kline was County Superintendent then. There is no record of what became of the district, but is believed it became a part of Strawn District #61.

School Teachers

1883 Josie Conger
 1884 Josie Cowgill
 1885 Millie Reed
 Jennie Merritt
 1886 Lida Dumbauld
 1887 Lida Dumbauld
 1888 May Jacobs
 1889 J. M. Pieratt
 1890 C. C. Jacobs
 1891 Mabel Clark
 1892 Rosa Lyle
 1893 Willora Adams
 1894 L. M. Coy
 Pearl Traylor
 1895 Della Sisler
 1896 Lida Chatte*lon
 1897 LeRoy S. Weatherly
 1898 Ora W. Hamman
 1899 Ora W. Hamman
 1900 Elizabeth Heffron
 1901 Effie Newkirk
 1902 Clara Blar
 1903 Clara Blar
 1904 Clara Blar
 1905 Addie Theobald
 1906 J. J. Kimble
 1907 Mellie Kimball
 1908 Anna McDonald
 1909 Mabel Monypenny

1910 Katherine Cosgrave
 1911 Roy G. Fitch
 1912 G. R. Fitch
 1913 Rose Marlowe
 1914 Maude Laws
 1915 Minnie Hodges
 1916 Mary Lapsley
 1917 Mary Lapsley
 1918 Mary Lapsley Eaton
 Vera Gray Coulter
 1919 Edna Mazingo
 1920 Ethel Evans
 1921 Ethel Evans
 1922 Nellie Huffman
 1923 Mildred Sharr
 1924 Avis Baxter
 1925 Avis Baxter
 1926 Avis Baxter
 1927 Alice Noell
 1928 Alberta Newkirk
 1929 Alberta Newkirk
 1930 Alberta Newkirk
 1931 Dorothy Campbell
 1932 Wilma Hughes
 1933 Reva Edwards
 1934 Griffith Baxter
 1935 Margaret Garland
 1936 No school

School Board Members

1883-84 George Hamman D
 1883-85 Griffith Baxter C
 1883-88 B. T. Allen T
 1884-1900 Grand Kimball D
 1885-1908 Conrad Hamman C
 1888-98 P. G. Metzler T
 1898-99 W. M. Driggs T
 1899-1914 S. L. Barkley T
 1900-09 H. D. Means D
 1908-13 A. E. Williamson C
 1909-1911 Ivy Allen D
 1911-12 S. L. Barkley D
 1912-22 W. I. Pieratt D
 1913-16 Conrad Hamman C
 1914-35 A. E. Williamson T
 1916-18 C. C. Baxter C
 1918-24 R. R. Kimble C
 1922-26 A. C. Newkirk D
 1924-27 C. C. Claycamp C
 1926-28 Tom Turner D
 1927-35 J. C. Crail C
 1928-29 Alice Childears D
 1929-30 W. J. Pieratt D
 1930-35 W. I. Pieratt D



Hamman School District #83

Hamman School District #83 was located northwest of Strawn, Kansas. The school was named for George Hamman who owned the land at the time the school was organized. The land converted back to A. E. Williamson and the building was salvaged. Salaries started from \$30.00 a month to \$115.00 a month. The district was disorganized March 1, 1946 and the pupils were sent to Strawn District #61. Records do not show it was annexed to Strawn, but it may have been.

STRAWN RURAL HOUSES



Asa Meek. North of Strawn-This house was salvaged by the U. S. Government. Occupants known were: Asa Meek, Kermit Meek, C. Clarence Claycamp, Lyle Carlton, Mr. O'Mara, Fred Traw, Dick Traw and Ike Rhea.



Northeast of Strawn-Pratt Williamson and Charles Applegate built this house for Wm. E. Strawn in 1912. Wm. (Bill) Strawn had it moved to 1025 Neosho St., Burlington, Kansas. Occupants known were: Wm. E. Strawn, Wm. Pickett, Oscar Mitchell, Frank Mitchell, Ross Mark, Jerry Strawn and James Strawn.



North of Strawn-The Mauck Brothers built this house for Mid Mauck in 1909. It was salvaged. Occupants known were: A. Mid Mauck, Charles Campbell, L. M. Gould, Allen Gould, Ernest Williams, Charles Hamman and Hayde Mauck.



Northeast of Strawn-This house was moved west of Burlington, Kansas. Occupant known was: Harry McCormick.



North of Strawn-George Antrim built this house. Richard Baxter had it moved to Lebo, Kansas. Occupants known were: George Antrim, Charles Antrim, Harry Antrim and Richard Baxter.



East of Strawn-Samuel Hutchinson, Sr. had this house built. Samuel Hutchinson, Jr. had it moved to Lebo, Kansas. Occupants known were: Samuel Hutchinson, Sr., John Cochran and Samuel Hutchinson, Jr.



East of Strawn-This house was salvaged. Occupants known were: Frank Harvey, William Hamlin, Roy DeLong, George Hoover, Oscar Applegate and Lester DeLong.



Mr. & Mrs. John and Lola (Mayer) Houser. East of Strawn-J. W. Fugua built this house. It was salvaged. Occupants known were: J. W. Fugua, E. W. Barker, Leo Applegate, Elmer Heacock, Jim Applegate, John Houser and Max Houser.



East of Strawn-Carl Mayer had this house built. It was salvaged. Occupants known were: Carl Mayer, Joe Mayer, Charles Mayer and Elmer Eddlebrook.



East of Strawn-Jonathan and Morgan Bowman built this stone house for Arthur Veach. Arthur Veach traded 80 acres of farm land for the carpenter work. Inscribed on a stone was "In 1883 by I. R. Bond". It was salvaged by the U.S. Government. Occupants known were: Arthur Veach, Silas Hoover, DeLoice Means, Albert Fox, Rev. Mitchell, Marion Crouch, W. Pickett, Bert Hamman, Leslie McIntire, Earl Stevenson, Marion Crouch, Jr., H. F. Coppedige, Jack Burris, Ray Griffin and Bill Mark.



Mr. & Mrs. W. H. & Ella Betterly & children Walter, Ruth and Luella. East of Strawn-This house was salvaged for lumber. Occupants known were: W. H. Betterly, Earl Marks, John Meek, John W. Hamman, Charles Farmer, Joe Hamman, Charles Hamman, Oscar Hamman and Ray Griffin.



Southeast of Strawn-This house was salvaged by Hayward Theobald. Occupants known were: Ralph Shobe, George Theobald 1880-1915 and Elmer Theobald.



Southeast of Strawn-This house was first owned by Mr. Monroe and sold to Jacob Hamman. It was salvaged and parts moved to his farm on the hill. Occupants known were: Mr. Monroe, Jacob Hamman, Bert Hamman, Charles Hamman, Oscar Hamman, Frank Harvey, Olin Casey, Bob Montgomery, Tom Hunter, Mr. Thornsberry and Mr. Kibler.



South of Strawn on a hill-Enos Strawn had this house built in 1872. It was struck by lightning and burned in 1962. Occupants known were: Enos Strawn 1872-1882, Thomas W. Strawn, Wm. E. Strawn, Asa Meek, 1895, James Strawn, C. C. Claycamp, James Applegate, Wm. A. Tomlinson, Oscar Mitchell, Murriel Siebuhr, B. J. Mitchell, Dick Knoblock, Paul Traw and Ernest L. McKay.



Southeast of Strawn on a hill-This house was salvaged and Ray Griffin built a new house and later moved it to Hartford, Kansas. Occupants known were: Jacob Hamman 1898-1914, Reuben Hamman, Charles Hamman, Carl Lucas, Oscar Hamman, Fred Laudis, Charles Theobald, Scott Casey, Jim Lunday, John Meek, Lester Garrett, Chester Williamson, Bart Meek and Ray Griffin.



South of Strawn on a hill-Norman Griffin replaced this house with the Bumgardner house in Strawn. Occupants known were: Ivy Allen, W. H. Betterly 1913-15, Ray Griffin and Norman Griffin.



Southeast of Strawn-Wade Wilson had this house built in 1916. The house has been remodeled and still stands. The first house here was owned by Wm. Henry Keith. Occupants known were: Wade Wilson, Emmett Lynn, Leslie Gould and Harvey Williamson.



South of Strawn-Millard Rogers built this house. It still stands. Occupants known were: James Strawn, Millard Rogers and Charles Mayer.



South of Strawn-This house still stands. Wm. Henry Keith purchased it in 1912. Occupants known were: Relna R. Kimble, R. Livingston, Ben Moon and Clarence White.



South of Strawn-This house still stands. Occupants known were: Mrs. Alice Hollett and son Bert, Pete Corbin, Elmo Haehn and A. Krause.



South of Strawn-This house still stands. Occupants known were: DeLoice Means, Wilbur Campbell, Jim Hollett and Ira McCullough.



South of Strawn-Wm. Henry Keith had this house built in 1879. It was salvaged in 1965. Occupants known were: Wm. Henry Keith 1879-1913, Walker Keith 1890-1942, Pete Corbin and Clarence White.



South of Strawn-This house was the Roy Steele house and moved to this location. Lester DeLong remodeled it. Occupants known in the former house were: Miles Davidson, Robert Steele and Roy Steele. In the present house was Lester DeLong.



Southwest of Strawn-Wm. Henry Keith purchased this house in 1889. It was salvaged. Occupants known were Walker Arnold, Jim Bailey, George Knoblock, Wm. A. Tomlinson, Robert Mark, Melvin Keith and Myron Niver.



Southwest of Strawn-Ira Pieratt had this house built and parts of it was moved in and built on. It still stands. Ira Pieratt was the only occupant.



West of Strawn-G. L. Barkley had this house built in 1910. It was moved southwest of Strawn, Kansas. Occupants known were: G. L. Barkley, Mr. Roberts, Relna R. Kimble, A. C. Newkirk and Brice Newkirk 1928-1962.



West of Strawn-George Rummel built this house for Clarence Fitch in 1929. It still stands. Clarence Fitch was the only occupant.



West of Strawn-This house has been gone for many years. Occupants known were: Ben Allen, Jou Hughes, A. E. Holeman, A. A. Klitzing, Ivy Allen, Lester Garrett and Harvey Williamson.



West of Strawn-Frank Kimble had this house built in early days and more added on and remodeled in 1905. It was salvaged. Occupants known were: Frank Kimble, Relna R. Kimble and Pearl Kimble.



Northwest of Strawn-Wm. Newkirk built this house in 1880. It still stands. Occupants known were: Jess Baxter, Peter G. Metzler, Kenneth Hamman, Clarence Baxter, Silas Laws, Walter Laws, Carl Williamson, Hugh Dalrymple and Donald Williamson.



Northwest of Strawn-Jon Kennedy built this house for George Hamman in 1878 near Eagle Creek. It was salvaged. The only occupants were George Hamman and A. E. Williamson for 60 years.



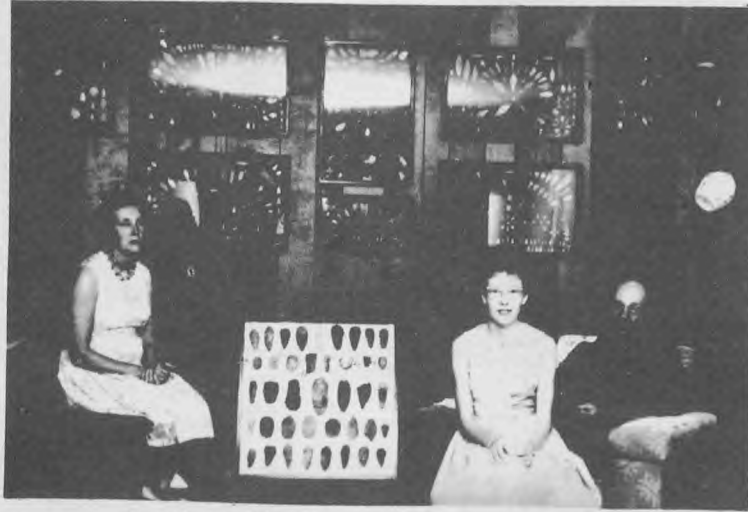
Mr. & Mrs. Conrad & Mary (Hoover) Hamman and daughter Laura. Northwest of Strawn-Conrad Hamman had this house built near Eagle Creek. It still stands. Conrad Hamman was the only occupant.



Eagle Creek bridge by A. E. Williamson's farm and the Williamson's sisters.



Saw Mill in the Conrad (Coon) Hamman timber in 1913. This log measured 6 ft. 2 in. at butt. On the log right to left:
 Oscar Hamman-team Standing
 Ellis Morrow-team George Gitchell
 Bill Birch-axe Mr. Morrow



Bertha, Nicki and Howard Claycamp

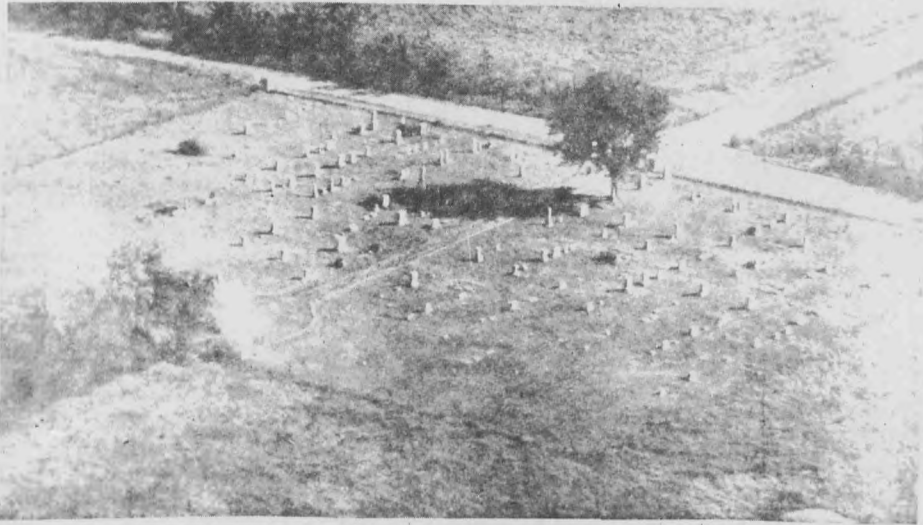
The Howard Claycamp family have a collection of Indian arrow heads. Part of the collection was collected in an area of about a 20 mile radius from Strawn.

When the early settlers started locating in the area of Strawn in the 1850's, the Indians still prevailed. The only white men before this were a few scattered squatters, gunsmiths, blacksmiths and missionaries, as some of the Indians could speak English if they wanted to.

Some of the Indian tribes were the Sac, Fox, Comanche, Osage, Kaws and many other tribes through out the state. They set up their villages or camps and hunted and fished up and down the Neosho River valley.

The Indians for the most part were friendly with the white settlers. But occasionally they went off and battled with other tribes. One known battle was in 1836 which was a great flood year and the battle of Indian Hill between Chief Soconut and his Sacs and the Comanches. The hill later became Indian Hill school district, located between Strawn and Hartford, Kansas. The Sacs attacked a Comanche camp, and when the Comanche hunters returned and found their camp destroyed and many killed, they located the Sacs on Indian Hill and the battle began. The valley was so flooded they had no choice but to stay on the hill and fight. On the fifth day, Soconut and his thirteen men left, forced their ponies into the raging flood and three of the thirteen got across safely, Soconut being one of the survivors. He finally landed on College Hill, on what was later to be Ottumwa, Kansas.

STRAWN CEMETERY



Strawn Cemetery

The Strawn Cemetery is located one half mile west of Strawn, Kansas. The deed was made August 22, 1884 between William Stump and Phebe Stump his wife of the first part to George Hoover, James Jacobs and Conrad Hamman, trustees of the Kite Cemetery, which is the official name. Some of the burials were never put down on record. Vandalism took place in the cemetery in September of 1967. Approximately 30 stones were damaged.

LOCATION	Boat Launching Ramp	Picnic Grounds	Camp Grounds	Drinking Water	Swimming	Commercial Services
1 Dam Site (North)	X	X	X	X	X	X
2 Dam Site (South)	X	X	X	X	X	X
3 Hickory Creek (East)	X	X	X	X	X	X
4 Hickory Creek (West)	X	X	X	X	X	X
5 Redmond Cove (North)	X	X	X	X	X	X
6 Redmond Cove (South)	X	X	X	X	X	X
7 Stream Ramp	X	X	X	X	X	X

OPERATING AGENCY
Corps of Engineers
Corps of Engineers
Corps of Engineers
Corps of Engineers
Corps of Engineers
Corps of Engineers
Corps of Engineers
Corps of Engineers
Corps of Engineers
Corps of Engineers

Please Obey
STATE AND FEDERAL
RULES AND REGULATIONS
Be Cautious - Be Safe

LEGEND	
	PAVED ROAD
	UNPAVED ROAD

RESERVATION MANAGEMENT AND USE REGULATIONS	
	NO MOTOR VEHICLES
	NO CAMPING
	NO FIRE
	NO ALCOHOL
	NO DRUGS
	NO WEAPONS
	NO GUNFIRE
	NO HUNTING
	NO BOWFISHING
	NO SKIING
	NO SNOWMOBILING
	NO ATVs
	NO ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES
	NO MOTORCYCLES
	NO SCOOTERS
	NO BICYCLES
	NO SKATEBOARDS
	NO IN-LAKE SWIMMING
	NO WADING
	NO FISHING
	NO BOATING
	NO WATER SKIING
	NO TUBING
	NO JET SKIING
	NO WAKEBOARDING
	NO SURFING
	NO KAYAKING
	NO CANOEING
	NO PADDLING
	NO ROWING
	NO SAILBOATING
	NO POWERBOATING
	NO SPEEDBOATING
	NO WATER SKIING
	NO TUBING
	NO JET SKIING
	NO WAKEBOARDING
	NO SURFING
	NO KAYAKING
	NO CANOEING
	NO PADDLING
	NO ROWING
	NO SAILBOATING
	NO POWERBOATING
	NO SPEEDBOATING



JOHN REDMOND LAKE

KANSAS
SCALE OF MILES

