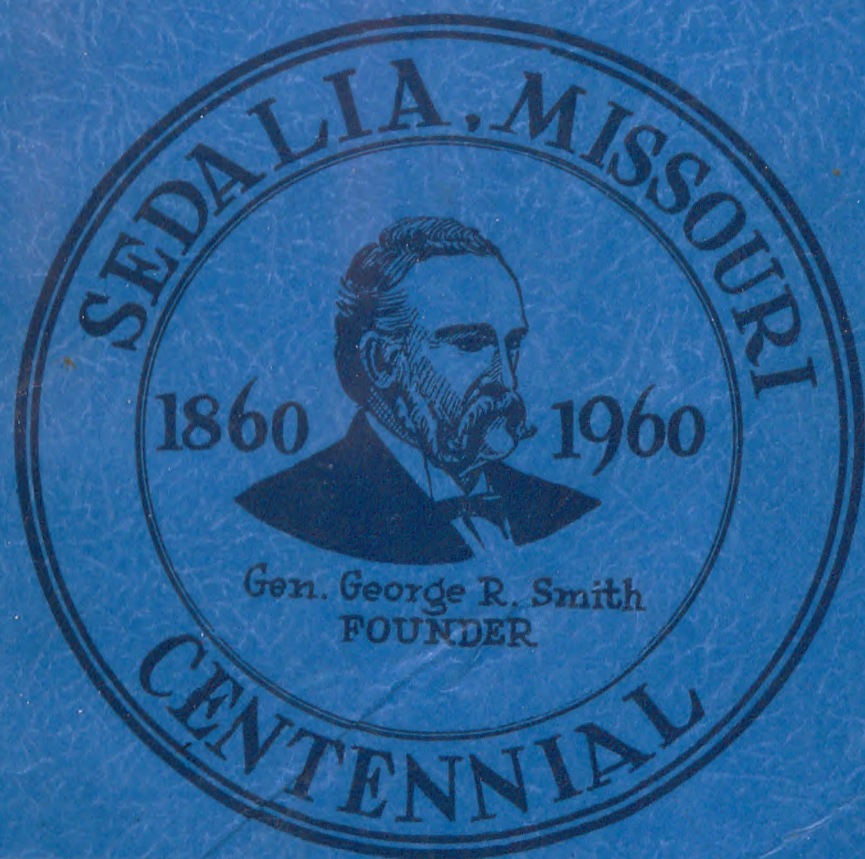


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The First One Hundred Years



A History of the City of Sedalia, Missouri
1860-1960

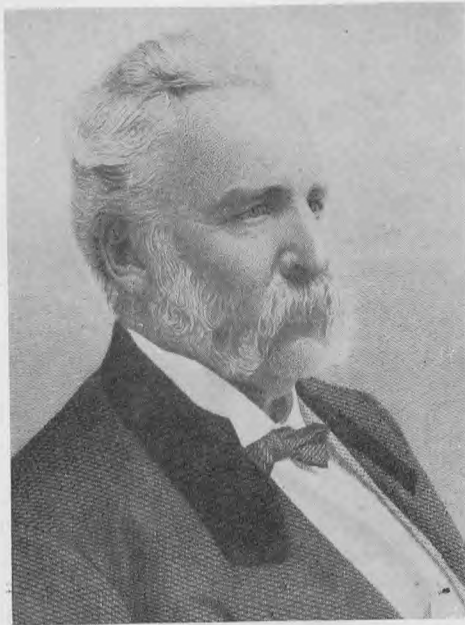
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The First One Hundred Years



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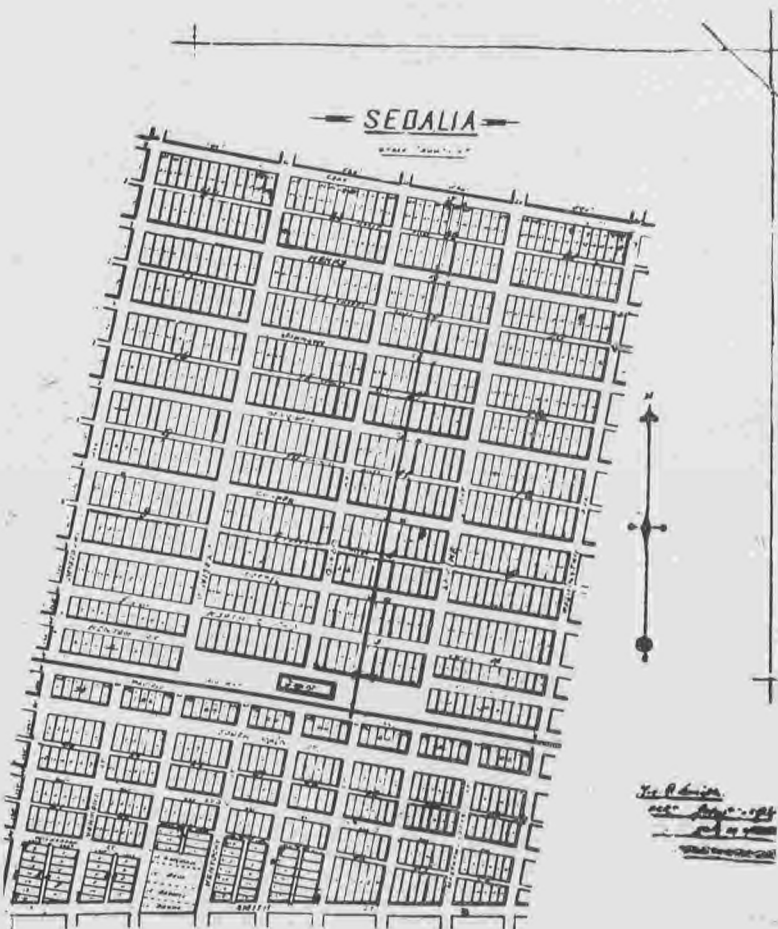
General George Rappeen Smith
Founder of Sedalia

A History of the City of Sedalia, Missouri
1860 - 1960

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Original plat of Sedalia filed October 16, 1860. The city extended from Clay on the north to Third Street (then Smith Street) on the south and from Missouri on the west to Washington on the east. The east and west streets were laid out parallel with the Missouri Pacific Railroad tracks, which accounts for the curve in Ohio Ave. Notice that the east and west alleys in the north part of the city were named. Some of the names of the alleys are indistinguishable but the alley between Henry and Johnson was named Cherry alley. Main Street was called South Main Street. It was anticipated the city would grow north but it grew south. Plat furnished by John W. Baker.

Foreword

It is said the dreams of yesterday shaped our today and the dreams of today will shape our tomorrow. It is our privilege to write of a golden century span during which Sedalia progressed from raw prairie to a well diversified mid-western city.

The problem was to find out what really happened and what happened in a given period must be understood from within that period, not from the vantage point of later times. For instance, it was our duty to tell some of the shocking stories of Civil War times and the great depression of 1929-32 because they happened and give us some concept of the feelings, emotions, failures and accomplishments of those periods. It should be remembered, however, that every time Sedalia has been knocked to the ground it has arisen stronger and more diversified. This fact augurs well for the future of the city.

Many people, in addition to the committee named below, contributed source material. Special recognition must be given to B. B. Ihrig for the vast amount of research and material furnished by him.

This history could not be published except for contributions of sponsors who have pride and faith in Sedalia. Their names appear on the bottom of pages. Several sponsors subscribed in memory of their loved departed. We have listed those in whose memory sponsors have subscribed on a separate page.

This book is a record of Promethian striving, along with tragic failures and moments of greatness and beauty as well as some foolishness — all of which is history.

Donald S. Lamm,
Centennial Chairman

Research necessary for the writing of this history has been no small task. Strange as it may seem, our most difficult problem has been to select, from the large amount of material available, that portion which would make the most valuable history of Sedalia and at the same time be confined within limits of space available. If funds available would permit, we would have written concerning many of Sedalia's well know families. Because of lack of space, much interest-

ing material had to be omitted. It was possible to include only some of the persons who were benefactors to the city as a whole.

Much credit is due older citizens who have contributed information concerning early unwritten history of Sedalia, script writers of special subjects and to the personnel of Carnegie Library for splendid cooperation given. I wish to extend my sincere thanks to the members of the history committee for help rendered in compiling this work.

B. B. Ihrig,
Chairman Centennial
History Committee

Centennial History Committee

John Allen, John W. Baker, Miss Jessie Blair, Miss Mary English, Miss Hazel Gray, Judge Dimmitt Hoffman, Miss Mamie J. McCormick, Gen. John C. McLaughlin, Milton Overstreet, Irwin Raut, Dr. C. Foster Scotten, Mrs. E. F. Yancey, Mrs. T. H. Yount, B. B. Ihrig, Chairman, George H. Scruton, Jr., Vice-Chairman

I

PRE-CIVIL WAR PERIOD

Authentic history tells us that the site of Sedalia, Missouri, was first occupied by the Osage Indians. Early settlers in Pettis County told of stray bands of Shawnees in this vicinity but the Osages actually occupied and in small groups returned to their ancestral grave yards in Bates County to howl over their ancestors' bones as late as 1833. Early writers speak of seeing Osages ride up and down Ohio Street in Sedalia. French missionaries were here (probably as late as 1800) but established no known settlements in this vicinity.

In an attempt to incite Indians against Americans in the War of 1812, the British operated in this vicinity. The following is an interesting bit of history:

"In the year 1818, Joseph Stephens, who died in 1836, Major Stephen Cole and William Ross started west on a hunting and exploring tour, and traveled as far as the present site of Knob Noster, Johnson County. At that time all the country west of the present boundary line of Cooper County was a wilderness, but few people lived in it. About six miles southeast of the present site of Sedalia, in Pettis County, on the farm then owned by a man named Warren, near Flat Creek they discovered what appeared to be a large high and peculiarly shaped Indian mound. They examined it closely and found on one side that the wolves had scratched an opening into it. After enlarging it so as to admit them, they beheld a remarkable sight. They found themselves in a room about eight feet square, with a ceiling of logs, just high enough to permit a tall man to stand erect. On the side opposite where they had entered, sat a British officer, dressed in full military uniform, with gold epaulettes upon his shoulders, gold lace fringing every seam of his coat, cocked military hat, knee breeches, lace stockings, and morocco slippers. As he sat erect upon a seat hewn out of a log, nothing but the ghastly hue and leathery appearance of his skin would have suggested that he was not alive. By his side stood a gold-headed cane. His features were complete, and his flesh free from decay, though dried to the consistency of leather. The place in which the body was found was very peculiar. A place about eight feet square and two feet deep had

been dug in the earth. The sides had been walled up with sod until it was high enough for the purpose, reaching several feet above the surface of the ground. The top was then covered with poles, which ran to a point at the center, like the roof of a house. Then the poles and the surrounding walls were covered with sod two or three feet deep, cut from the prairie near by, thus excluding entirely the rain and air. When they left the place William Ross, being the oldest man of the party, took the cane as a memento, but nothing else was touched."

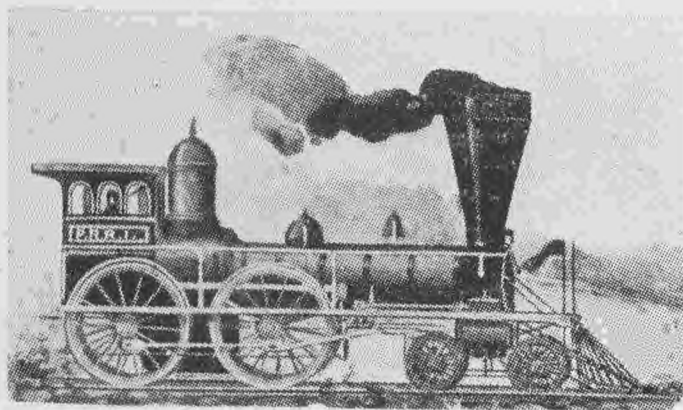
Certain it is that in those days, on the present site of Sedalia, greenheaded flies swarmed, a terror to man and beast. Certain it is that gay Carolina parakeets (now extinct) and passenger pigeons (now exterminated) descended in huge flocks on the then open prairie; that prairie grass grew waist high; that bass were caught in the creek (later known as Pearl River) which flowed westerly between what is now Second and Third Streets; that wild game was abundant. Those were the days (1818-1833) when the few white people here drank from gourds, raised medicinal herbs, wove and spun cotton, when wild bees furnished sweetening, when elections were held in August and men voted viva voce, and when many interpreted the love note of the panther as the cry of a lost child — a lure to death by its bloody jaws. The common belief that "corn won't grow where trees won't" (disproved in Saline County in 1826) caused most early settlers in this vicinity to shun the prairie on which Sedalia stands in favor of timbered creek bottoms. In addition to corn which settlers raised and ground in coffee mills for bread, game was plentiful, including black bear, wild turkey, prairie chicken, quail, rabbit, raccoon, opossum, deer and wildcat and wolf "now and then thrown in for a change."

Irrespective of lack of roads, bridges, churches and schools, "westward ho" was in the blood of a pioneer land-hungry race and with restless ardor it marched to the mighty impulse of the legend: "Westward the course of empire takes its way." Georgetown, settled mostly by Kentuckians and their slaves, became a city of almost 1500 people and the county seat — later to meet its doom when the Pacific Railroad (now Missouri Pacific) reached Sedalia in 1861 with the hurricane of civil war then blowing a gale.

To give our readers perspective, it is necessary to go back a little and pick up threads in the life of a most remarkable man and the

founder of Sedalia, Gen. George Rappeen Smith, born in 1804 in Powhatan County, Virginia. His father was a rugged, old-time Baptist preacher. The family came to Kentucky when Smith was a babe. He was educated in law, became a southerner instilled with anti-slavery sentiment, inherited at sixteen what was in that day a small fortune, \$6,000, was sheriff of his county at twenty-two, married at twenty-three. George R. Smith, after a business experience inclusive of a flat-boat trip down the Ohio and Mississippi in 1831, and much tribulation over a broken bank in which part of his fortune was lost, came to Pettis County, camping at Scott's ford on Muddy on November 12, 1833 — a day awful beyond words to our ancestors, laugh at it as we may today, the day "the stars fell." He came with his wife and two little daughters, his slaves, his household goods and household gods, with kinfolk, a caravan (the women in a heavy, lumbering, old fashioned coach) and rested after a weary journey over foundrous roads and across bridgeless streams.

This is a history of Sedalia and not of Gen. Smith. However, the story of Gen. Smith, the Pacific Railroad and Sedalia are so inextricably interwoven that the story must be told — in fact it may be said that if there had been no Gen. Smith there would have been no Sedalia. That story reads like romance. Beginning at St. Louis on July 4, 1851, slowly creeping westward, Washington, Missouri, in February, 1855, at Jefferson City in 1856, at Tipton in December, 1858, the railroad reached Sedalia in January, 1861 — almost ten years from start to Sedalia.



Believe it or not, an engine like this pulled the first train into Sedalia in January, 1861.

Gen. Smith had settled near Georgetown, and attempted sincerely to interest the town in the railroad then creeping westward, but to no avail. Georgetown was the county seat and was sure that the railroad would come to it. In one of the last meetings in the court house at Georgetown, Gen. Smith became disgusted and stated he would live to see the time when bats and owls would make their home in the court house. This prediction came true.

Naming the town in honor of his youngest daughter, Sarah E. Smith, whose pet name was "Sed", Gen. Smith filed a plat of Sedville for record on November 30, 1857. This plat consisted of approximately 160 acres of prairie lying north of the present line of the Missouri Pacific Railroad. From November 30, 1857, to October 16, 1860, Sedville existed only on paper. It is said that Gen. Smith purchased the land for \$13 per acre, and mid laughter and jeers stood one summer day in 1858 in the tall grass covering his purchase and offered the first lot in Sedville for sale. The only houses consisted of the homes of William Rutledge and that of Gen. Smith, then located near what is now Washington Avenue and Seventh Street, Sedalia.

On October 16, 1860, Gen. Smith and David W. Bouldin filed the plat of a city which they called Sedalia. This plat contained all of the original Sedville, and in addition land extending from the present Missouri Pacific Railroad south to Third Street. In October, 1860, the first public sale of lots in Sedalia was made and the real beginning of the city commenced. At that time most of the lots sold were north of the railroad tracks, with the exception of a few on Main Street.

At that time the Pacific Railroad had passed Tipton but was in trouble. Helped by state bonds issued over a veto of Gov. Sterling Price, but sustained by a decision of the Missouri Supreme Court (23 Mo. 353), beset by engineering difficulties and money disturbances incident to war, often stranded by lack of means, kept going slowly by county aid, town aid and individual subscriptions, it proceeded at a snail's pace westward. The rich and more heavily settled river counties bid for the railroad and the engineers favored that route as a line of less cost and less resistance. Against the river route was the "ridge route" going through the sparsely settled counties of Moniteau, Cooper, Pettis, Johnson and on west. First came a battle royal in the state legislature. There victory perched on the banner

of the ridge route but modified by a proviso, to-wit, provided that additional subscriptions could be obtained.

The hero of the struggle to obtain subscriptions was Gen. Smith. Throwing himself into the affair body and soul, baffled and discouraged, with hope vanishing more than once, he arose from every defeat stronger from touching the earth, and fought a running fight against heavy odds. First \$500,000 and then \$400,000 additional was demanded from the ridge counties. The share of Pettis County alone was \$170,000. The assessed valuation of the county at that time was approximately \$500,000. Think of it. A man burning with an idea, so set his neighbors aflame that they subscribed nearly \$2 for every \$5 they owned.

When it was evident the railroad would be completed to Sedalia, Gen. Smith and his daughters visited St. Louis and while there friends suggested they christen the new city Sedalia instead of Sedville. An early account, in the language of that day, is as follows: "It was then and there christened Sedalia by the General, family and friends, and as Sedalia 'Queen City of the Prairies' it has been known since, and by that name will the future great city of central Missouri be known in the history of Missouri and of the United States, to the hundred millions of sons and daughters of toil that will people them."

II

SEDALIA DURING THE CIVIL WAR

Sedalia was made a military post early in the war and remained such until its close in 1865. For this reason it was an active theatre of operations for military supplies and an objective point for capture by "the boys in grey." Confederate raids into Pettis County, and the offensive and defensive activities of Union troops against them, kept the inhabitants of Sedalia in high state of excitement and the progress of the city was retarded. Sentiment in the county was about evenly divided. An account of the times states: "But few substantial buildings were erected in the city during the time, and not until a few weeks before Gen. Jo. Selby's famous raid through central Missouri, did building revive with any vigor. That raid put an effectual stop to it, and nothing but temporary structures were erected during the years of 1862 and 1863. The soldiers' quarters, fine business houses and residences required by the stern necessities of the times, were all of the roughest and most temporary character, and no permanent improvements were made until the following spring (1864), when a few frame buildings and one or two brick ones were erected."

We are indebted to Mrs. G. L. Faulhaber, who came to Sedalia during the war, for a description of the local situation at that time: "Fleas, flies, cows, hogs and dogs seemed to have possession of the town." There was no shade, no sidewalks, houses were mostly one story and had unpainted board fences. It was impossible to find a house to rent and boarding houses were filled to overflowing because, at the close of the war, people were pouring into the town, it being then considered a good place to locate with good prospects. There were no churches and services were held in a store room. Money was scarce and those entrusted with it believed raiders would first turn their attention to safes and the post office. Accordingly, money and valuables were concealed. Mrs. Faulhaber relates that her husband was stage and express manager; that he, knowing he would be searched, turned \$6,000 in long envelopes over to her. She concealed all she could in her clothing and the rest in a traveling basket and covered it with clothing. She kept the basket with her night and day but became tired of dragging it around with her so she buried the money one night. Believing someone might have seen her bury it, she forth-

with dug it up and restored it to the former places of concealment. We quote from Mrs. Faulhaber:

"During the time when the town was hourly in dread of a raid, the men carried their guns everywhere with them, and frequently during church services the drum would sound and the men would shoulder their guns, march from church and distribute themselves behind the ramparts of earth thrown up in the outskirts of the town. Very little attention to the services would there be from the women after that, and when dismissed we would hurry home in fear and trembling, to find perhaps the men folks had preceded us, it being a false alarm. * * * When the raid really did happen and Gen Jeff Thompson's brigade captured the town, our men, most of them, proved true to their charge, and made gallant defense of the town, until owing to superior numbers they had to surrender. There was a little brick kitchen built on to the house of Mr. Bloess, and the only cellar, besides cave cellars, in town, was under that kitchen, so we, the women of our household, had received permission from Mrs. Bloess to take refuge in her cellar when things came to the worst. When the alarm was given that the Confederates were approaching we were at dinner. I waited only long enough to satisfy myself of the truth, actually seeing them dragging the cannon into place, and then with a good sized bundle of clothing, which I had prepared beforehand, and the aforesaid basket, started for the cellar. There were two fences between me and the place of my refuge, but from that day to this I have never solved the problem as to how I got over them, with bundle and basket. I have no recollection whatever of climbing them, but climb them I must have done, for when I came to my senses I was seated on a butter jar in that cellar, with my bundle on my lap, surrounded by a most anxious and terror stricken crowd of women. The cellar was packed with women and children, and in one corner were two tall able bodied men. They stood with their faces to the wall. I never saw the faces of those men, and I think very few of the other women did, for after all was over they sneaked out with hats drawn over their faces, and were seen no more. While in the cellar we could hear the whistle of the cannon balls, as the corner of a house very near to us was hit by a ball, and we could hear the spinters fly. The most of us were on our knees praying for the safety of our dear ones, out there in the fray."

Miss Jessie Blair's address before Sorosis (1948) gives an apt

description of the capture of Sedalia. The Federal forces had gone and there was only a small number of local militia, organized by Col. John D. Crawford. On October 14, 1864, the Confederates had cut telegraph wires and burned railroad bridges between St. Louis and Sedalia, thus severing all communications. Gen. Jeff Thompson, with about 1500 men, marched into the city with three pieces of artillery which were planted on the ridge near the cemetery. Sedalia militia were stationed on north Lamine Street. As the militia had no adequate means of returning the artillery fire, by three o'clock the Confederates had captured the city. One of the first things the soldiers wanted to do was to burn the Virginia house (afterwards Marvin house) then located about a block north of the railroad on Ohio Street. Fortunately, among the soldiers were some central Missourians who knew the handsome and spirited daughters of the hotelkeeper, Capt. Hewey. The house was actually on fire, but they persuaded the soldiers to extinguish the flames. They cleaned out a store room filled with government property, pillaged business houses, as was the then accepted custom of war, and took all the goods they could carry. They could have easily burned the city but did little damage, released their few prisoners and quietly left.

Sedalia had a population of about 300 in 1860, and a bona fide population of about 1,000 in 1865. From 1861 to 1864 Missouri was under martial law and Sedalia, as a military post, was governed by the post commander. There was no mayor, council or executive or legislative body except the military power.

In 1862 the county records were brought to Sedalia but Georgetown remained the county seat until February 15, 1864, when an act of the legislature established Sedalia as the county seat though court was not held until 1865.

One of the conditions upon which the county seat was moved to Sedalia was that it build a court house. The citizens arranged a 4th of July celebration to raise the money. An immense arbor was built of boughs of trees where Broadway is now located. Two military bands furnished music. An excursion train ran from Jefferson City. The governor and many state officials attended and made addresses. The sum of \$860 was realized, a sum in that day almost sufficient to build a frame court house which was erected in 1864 near Ohio Avenue between Main and Second.

In the early sixties Gen. Smith owned a tract of several hundred acres where downtown Sedalia is located. Absolem McVey owned a large tract east of that and Clifton Wood owned about a thousand acres west of what is now Grand Avenue. This land was then treeless. J. R. Barrett purchased and platted the Wood land, planted trees along Broadway and watered them regularly until they grew.

At the same time an act of the legislature established Sedalia as the county seat, the legislature granted Sedalia a city charter. Some of the matters covered in the charter concerned the erection of pumps in the streets for the convenience of inhabitants, the regulation and cleaning of chimneys, partition walls and fences, and night watches and patrols.

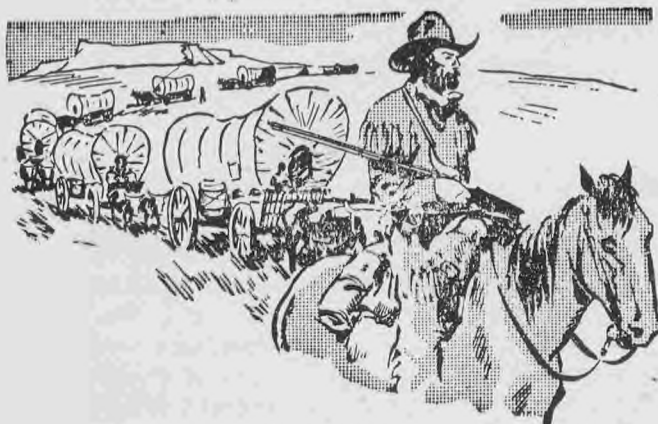
The war was both a misfortune and advantage. It delayed the building of the town for four years while the war continued. On the other hand it held Sedalia as the terminus of the railroad for nearly three years. Many thousands of Federal troops, stationed here for weeks or months, saw the possibilities of the vicinity with the result that some, after returning home, returned to Sedalia to reside.

The fact that Sedalia was the end of the railroad for nearly three years caused extensive development of the southwest trade. This trade increased steadily throughout the war in spite of numerous Confederate raids. At the close of the war wagon trains came not only from south and southwest Missouri but also from Indian Territory (now Oklahoma), southeastern Kansas, Arkansas and even from Texas bringing hides, furs and pelts, and immense numbers of cattle and Indian ponies were driven to the rail head at Sedalia to be shipped east or exchanged for supplies for those regions then untouched by railroads. Covered wagon trains a fourth a mile long were frequently seen in Sedalia waiting to load supplies. Prairies around Sedalia were dotted with camp fires and wagons of freighters. Those were the days when the "bullwhacker", the man who drove six yoke of oxen attached to an enormous wagon for the transportation of goods southwest, was in his glory. In this activity the broadrimmed, slouch hat was the popular head covering, bread and bacon the usual diet, and whiskey mixed with New Orleans molasses the drink of such men of mettle. A revolver was as sure to be found on a man's person as a pencil and memorandum book are today. On Flat Creek near fords and large pools there were camps at all seasons except in mid-winter. Astonishing as it may now appear, at

that time the entire city, except a few scattered shanties, lay inside an area bounded by Moniteau on the west, Massachusetts on the east, Jefferson on the north and Second Street on the south. The remainder of the area of the present Sedalia was open prairie. Although the area of the city was small, the southwest trade made it commercially active and large profits were realized by the few citizens engaged in that trade. Such profits were increased by the



First We Had This



Then This

Brown's Supply, Clinic and Machine Company



And during and right after the Civil War we had some
of this

fact that in those days rebates from railroads were legal. This trade increased greatly after the war until almost 1870 when the extension of the Missouri Pacific west and the building of the M. K. T. Railroad southwest and the Warsaw branch put an end to much of the traffic which so enriched Sedalia, although as late as 1897 an occasional ox team would come from the vicinity of the Osage River.

III

SEDALIA 'FIRSTS'

The ancestry of the early citizens of Sedalia is interesting and we would be remiss if we did not state it. Georgetown was settled largely by those possessing the chivalry and culture of Virginia-Kentucky. This contributed to what has been described as "the glory of Georgetown." It was a distinct mode of life, dependent in part upon slave labor, and disappeared when most of the white and colored population moved to Sedalia. Many hardy, aggressive immigrants from Ireland, following railroad construction, settled in Sedalia. A great movement of Germans was in progress which, in Missouri, centered in St. Louis, and soon spread across the state including Sedalia, thus adding a hard-working, thrifty group. Many immigrants came from Illinois, Indiana and Ohio and a few from New England. Accordingly, with the inter-marriage and fusion of these groups Sedalia became and has remained a typical mid-western American city.

There is considerable conflict concerning the "firsts" in Sedalia. The human interest element involved makes it advisable to state them as nearly as we can from sources available. According to one source, the first baby was born in 1860 and named Sedalia Skinner. According to another source, the first baby was born in May, 1860, and named Casper Yost. Casper Yost became a printer and later an editorial writer for the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. His father, Geo. Yost, instituted the first Masonic Lodge in Sedalia, January 25, 1864. The first death was that of a girl baby. Her marble slab contained the following: "This Bud to Bloom in Heaven. In Memory of Minnie E., daughter of John W. and H. E. Harding. Died July 19, 1860. Age one year, six months, and two days." She was buried at 112 Osage. The encroachment of the city has long since eradicated her grave and other early burial places. The second or third child, Frank S. Tesch, was born in Sedalia February 24, 1861. His father was one of the early mayors of Sedalia and owned a farm in the northeast part of the county on the Lamine River. According to legend a large number of Spaniards were ambushed and massacred on this farm. This has not been substantiated but it is definitely known fortifications were erected there at an early date and that

a large mound was exhumed and contained skeletons and bones of persons other than Indians.

The first hotel was reportedly opened in a house owned by Gen. Smith, located north of the railroad depot, operated by B. F. Offutt. Another hotel, the Sedalia House, was opened about 100 feet north of the passenger depot and was operated by a man named Maiden. It burned in 1866 and was replaced by the Marvin House, located in the block now occupied by Lamy Manufacturing Co.



The home of Gen. Smith, erected about 1861 in the vicinity of what is now Washington and 7th. Considered by many the first home in Sedalia. Research indicates the first house was erected by Jacob Skinner. Gen. Smith later erected an elaborate home on what is now the site of Smith-Cotton High School. The house depicted was used by the Melita Day Nursery for several years, then moved to north-east Sedalia.

The period for approximately ten years after 1861 was a period of numerous fires. There was no well-trained fire department and commentators report that those were the days when every man, woman and child big enough to toddle attended, day and night, numerous fires with which the city was then afflicted. Beginning in 1861 and continuing until 1872 (when fire fighting equipment

with steam engines became more efficient) fire loss exceeded \$320,000, at that time a staggering sum for such a small city. In November, 1867, a fire broke out on the south side of Main Street and burned five business houses and contents and two brick buildings on the north side, resulting in a loss of \$50,000. On April 1, 1870, a fire destroyed buildings on the northeast corner of Main and Ohio Streets resulting in a loss of \$60,000. On January 2, 1871, a fire on the corner of Main and Kentucky destroyed buildings at a loss of \$50,000.

The first post office was opened February 6, 1861, in a barn-appearing one story building located east of the Sedalia House hotel. Jacob Skinner reportedly erected the first house about one block west of Ohio Street and one block north of the Missouri Pacific Railroad tracks.

There is some conflict concerning the first newspaper. According to one source of information, the first paper in Sedalia was the Pacific Enterprise started in 1863 by W. P. Baker. According to another authority (History of Sedalia, 1882, DeMuth) the first newspaper was the Sedalia Advertiser started by Lingle Bros. about July, 1864, edited by Dr. Logan Clark and O. A. Crandall. The Pacific Enterprise was issued regularly only so long as legal advertisements supported it, after which it was issued occasionally until July, 1864, when it was discontinued and the press removed to Warrensburg. The Sedalia Advertiser was Democrat in politics and supported Gen. McClellan for president during the campaign of 1864. It was continued under the control of Lingle Bros. until 1865, when it was sold to Stafford and Magann, who continued it under the name of Sedalia Times. The Sedalia Weekly Times, a Republican newspaper, operated by P. G. Stafford and James Magann, commenced publication in 1865 and continued for quite a number of years under various ownerships. Space does not permit a detailed account of newspapers in Sedalia but two more should be mentioned, the Sedalia Democrat and the Sedalia Bazoo. The first issue of the Sedalia Democrat appeared on January 3, 1868, under the name of Democratic Press. In 1871 its name was changed to Sedalia Democrat. Dr. A. Y. Hull was editor and business manager. The Sedalia Bazoo, edited by the colorful and eccentric J. West Goodwin, was reportedly first published June 1, 1866, but there is doubt about this date.

Sedalia had its prophets of gloom. Witness the following from the Independent Press dated February 7, 1867, under the heading "Stagnation in Business":

"From all quarters—from the East and the West—the cry comes that there is stagnation in business. Is it strange that there should be stagnation in business? The currency is inflated, and yet the complaint is that collections are hard to make. Times are hard and likely to grow harder, is an impression that is gaining currency. Why this? There must be a cause for it. For over four years we



The second post office in Sedalia at approximately 117 East Main. One of the buildings shown later became the Maple Leaf Club in which Scott Joplin, founder of ragtime music, played. In 1959 all these buildings were razed to make room for a parking lot.

prosecuted a war that could have been averted had it not been for the obduracy of leaders in the Republican party — that laid waste a country that contributed largely to the prosperity of the West and East. The South was a most profitable customer to these two sections of the Union. While the work of carnage and desolation went on we did not miss their trade; but now that the war is over, our aforetime customers are as poor and lean as a miser's charity. In consequence of which we too become sufferers — a paralytic is seizing upon business; and so long as the Southern States shall be denied their co-equality in the Union, so long will the people thereof be without inducement to go forward in the works industry and enterprise that they otherwise would have. Meanwhile stagnation will sit as a nightmare upon business."

The advertising rates in the Independent Press in 1867 were a quarter column one year \$35., one column one year \$85. The same

newspaper contained some astonishing advertisements. Coe's dyspepsia cure was advertised as "the world's great remedy for dyspepsia, indigestion, constipation, general debility, flatulency, want of appetite, nausea, cholera morbus, pains or cramps in the stomach or bowels, and in fact for every disorder that has its origin in a disorderly state of the liver, stomach and bowels" and was guaranteed to cure "in every instance." The Forest Grove Institute, Georgetown, advertised that W. S. Deardoff, professor of classics, mathematics and phonography gave instruction in Latin, Greek, Hebrew and higher mathematics. Terms of tuition were: primary department, \$2 per month, advanced, \$3 per month, higher branches, \$4 per month. The Sedalia Institute, W. H. Allison, principal, advertised its motto: "Excelsior, but only step by step." Terms of tuition were 40 weeks for \$50. Under the heading "class of patrons desired" the Sedalia Institute advertised:

"We wish those, and those only, to send their children to our school, who have sufficient confidence in our judgment and ability to permit us to govern our school in our own way; who are willing to pay a fair equivalent for work, well and faithfully done; who regard a good education as the richest and best inheritance to leave a child, and who believe that the man who devotes his life and energies to the arduous and responsible duties of the teacher's profession, deserves, as in other professions, the hearty co-operation and liberal support of an intelligent community."

In 1865 Stafford and Magann built the first brick building in Sedalia, a one story building at the southeast corner of Ohio and Second, bringing the material from Washington, Mo. Also in 1865 Col. John F. Phillips built a brick residence at 4th and Washington, then in the suburbs. The first brick yard was established in 1866 by DeMuth and Adams and most of the business buildings were constructed from brick manufactured in Sedalia.

According to an early history, the first church in Sedalia was constructed in 1865. The material was purchased and brought from Syracuse and rebuilt as the Independent Presbyterian Church, with Dr. John Montgomery as the organizer and first pastor. Dr. Montgomery had been president of Westminster College during the war and later helped organize and became the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church. However, an investigation made in connection with the writing of this history reveals that the first church constructed

in Sedalia was a small frame structure erected near Lamine and Henry Streets in 1862 and known as St. Vincent's Catholic Church. It was the forerunner of the present St. Patrick's Church.

The first two additions to Sedalia were made in 1865 and extended almost to 6th Street. The establishing of what was probably the first (private) school and conditions existing in Sedalia at that time is depicted by Mrs. Cameron Garrett, who moved to Sedalia from Georgetown in 1865: "The mud in our streets was bottomless; our sidewalks made of planks, our crossings made of stones set up edgewise, no street lights and our cellars always full of water for there was no sewer system. There was no stock law to prevent cows from parading our streets * * * the cows opened the gates and helped themselves. There were no schools here then so Mr. Clifton Wood and my father had built a little wooden box of a house off in the midst of the prairie somewhere in the neighborhood of Second and Washington and hired a teacher, limiting her to sixteen pupils."

The problems involved in establishing the first public school in Sedalia are so intensely interesting and shed such light on the times that we quote them as published in J. West Goodwin's *Bazoo*:

"August 17, 1866. A call was made signed by several citizens requesting an election for the adoption or rejection of a free school in Sedalia. William Beck was chairman of the meeting, J. F. Antes, Assistant Chairman, and T. W. Moses was the Secretary.

"August 28. The election was held, at which time 196 votes were cast, viz: For free school 130, against 66. The same gentlemen were the judges of the election.

"August 31. Call was made for an election to be held at the council rooms to elect six school directors, to be held September 10. For some reason the election was postponed, and held Saturday, September 15.

"September 15. Election held and resulted in the election of the following named board of education: T. J. Montgomery, Florence Crandall, A. Ensel, Wm. Bloess, Wm. Beck and E. W. Washburn. Elected by board: E. W. Washburn, President, Wm. Beck, Treasurer, F. Crandall, Secretary.

"On the evening of August 27, the following hand-bill was circulated in Sedalia:

MORE TAXES

In the name of God! When will these radical leeches stop their efforts upon the pockets of the people? An election will be held to-morrow, Tuesday 28th, at 4 P. M. at the City Council Room, over the engine house to impose a law upon the citizens of this City which will tax them 2 per cent for the purpose of educating negro children. Let every man in the City vote against this enormous taxation which is \$20 on every \$1000.

Recollect, to-morrow at the City Council room. Let no man fail to vote against this infamous tax.
Sedalia, Mo., Aug. 27, 1866.

Many Citizens

"October 18. Florence Crandall, as secretary of the School Board gave notice that he had for sale \$5000 in City bonds that he would sell for school purposes.

"March 19, 1867. At a meeting of the board it was determined to issue bonds to the amount of \$25,000, which at a subsequent meeting was increased to \$30,000.

"No Date. The Broadway lot was purchased for \$2,250.

"April 25. William Beck, Chairman, offered for sale \$30,000 of 10 per cent school bonds to the highest bidder.

"May 16. Messrs T. W. Moses, Wm. Bloess and Florence Crandall were sent to Chicago as a committee to view the school buildings of that City and secure plans.

"May 22. The committee returned from Chicago and reported that they approved of the plan of the Elizabeth Street School building in Chicago.

"May 25. The school bonds found slow sale, so few people had any faith in Sedalia ever amounting to enough to justify the investment. Col. A. D. Jaynes finally in conjunction with Wm. Beck, sold the bonds to Brown of Athens, Ohio, the father-in-law of Col. Jaynes, for 90 cents on the dollar, Col. Jaynes receiving two and one half per cent for negotiating the sale.

"June 6. Florence Crandall and Wm. Bloess, the building com-

mittee, advertised for bids for a large first class brick school house, some 80 by near 70 feet and 30 feet high, the bids to be made on or before June 20th.

"July 10. The building committee did not get bids that suited them, too high price was asked, and it was resolved by the board of education that they would build by day's work, etc.

"August 8. The school building located on the corner of Broadway and Kentucky. The building is to be with four rooms on first floor, and four rooms on second floor, each room capable of accomodating 64 pupils 'with ease.' The board also commenced to talk about building a school building north of the railroad (Franklin School).

"August 27. The building committee is now composed of Florence Crandall and Richard Ritter, Mr. Bloess having retired. The building committee published a card justifying their course in rejecting the bids made by the contractors, and say that the building will cost two or three thousand less than if the lowest bid had been accepted.

"September 1. Wm. Bloess and A. Ensel being dissatisfied with the board rejecting the bids, tender their resignations. R. Ritter and A. C. Marvin were elected by the board to fill vacancies.

"September 12. Col. Richard Ritter publishes a card and offers to put up \$1000 if those who are displeased with the acts of the board will put another \$1000. Further, if the Broadway building does not cost \$2000 less than the bids made, his \$1000 to go towards fencing and ornamenting the school grounds. If the building costs more than the figure named by him, the kickers' \$1000 should be applied to the same purpose. Here are the bids: Cut Stone, Fristoe, \$2,100. Painting, W. J. Tucker, \$975. Rubble Stone, Tobin, \$1,466.25. Plastering, Slack, \$1,390.00. Carpenter work, Underwood, \$11,997.80. Setting cut stone, Wagonlander, \$400. Deafening, Stryker, \$124. Brickwork, Hubbard & Moses, \$5,000. Total \$23,353.45.

"September 14. The second election for three members of the school board was held in the council room over Dr. Beck's Drug Store on Main Street. The following was the vote cast: Maj. A. C. Marvin, 182 votes. Judge E. W. Washburn, 136 votes. Col. R. T. Ritter, 135 votes, A. Ensel, 45 votes. Richard Holland, 42 votes.

Messrs. Marvin, Washburn and Ritter were elected.

September 4, 1867. The Masonic Grand Lodge of Missouri laid the corner stone of Broadway School. Dr. S. H. Saunders of Otterville, past Grand Master, acted as Grand Master and Hon. John F. Phillips delivered an address appropriate to the occasion.

"Feb. 10, 1868. Broadway School was completed and school opened. The following named conducted the school when opened:

Geo. Brown, Superintendent. G. W. Ready, Principal High School. Miss Eva Griffin, Miss Jennie Bard, Miss C. Peabody, Intermediate Department. Miss Frank Tindall, Mrs. G. O. Brown, Secondary Department. Miss M. E. Groesbeck, Miss M. Adamson, Primary Department.

"The following shows the cost of the buildings, furniture, improvements and out-houses: Brick building, \$20,601.77. Furniture, etc., \$2,988.61. Out-houses, fencing and improvements, \$4,480.70. Salary of teachers, first year, \$3,128.25.

Attendance First Year

"Pupils enrolled, 554. Pupils male, 252. Pupils female, 302. Average daily attendance, 504.

Salaries Paid First Year

"G. O. Brown, per month, \$150. G. W. Ready, \$85. Miss M. E. Groesbeck, \$50. Miss Adamson, \$50. Miss Frank Tindall, \$50. Miss Eva Griffin, \$50. Miss C. Peabody, \$50. Miss Jenny Bard, \$50. Mrs. G. O. Brown, \$50.

"Total expenditure of the board was \$37,893.29, and the balance left in the treasury was \$353.98. The first school year closed June 26, 1868."

Cyrus Newkirk and A. D. Jaynes founded the first bank, the First National, capital \$100,000, in 1866. The bank was opened in a small frame building on Ohio Street.

The year 1866 was one of great activity, but with feeling engendered by the war still intense. On May 28, 1866, the first large political meeting since the war was held in Sedalia. The scene of the meeting was the Court House square, which was then an open prairie covered with a luxuriant growth of grass and in the southern suburbs of the city. It was a Democratic meeting addressed by Gen.

Frank P. Blair, Col. Thos. L. Price and Col. Thos. T. Crittenden. Gen. Blair was opposed to harsh measures against the recent Confederates. A large crowd was present and Maj. Bacon Montgomery, the first editor in the county, and a brave Union soldier, was present, with numerous soldiers who had fought on one side or the other. During Gen. Blair's speech he made some statement, regarding the past, that Maj. Montgomery considered utterly untrue. Montgomery arose in the crowd and interrupted Gen. Blair, questioned the correctness of the statement and asked him to answer several questions. Gen. Blair did not recognize the speaker and in the heat of a public speech hurled some bitter and scathing sarcasm at those who interrupted in which he referred insultingly to "home soldiers and militiamen". Montgomery was a volunteer and had a splendid army record. There was a stir and a murmur, an ominous movement of men feeling for their revolvers, a press of men trying to get close to their leaders and everyone expected a bloody conflict. Fortunately some cool headed man whispered into Gen. Blair's ear that he had made a mistake and he made a frank explanation and apology which settled the matter. The Times, a partisan Republican paper, said about the meeting: "All the Rebels in Pettis County were present at the Frank Blair meeting last Monday, just as we predicted." The editors of the partisan newspapers still spoke of each other as "damn Yankees" and "infernal Rebels."

We mention one more incident to illustrate the intense feeling of that time. On July 23, 1866, a large Republican meeting was held at Woolridge grove and on the Court House square, to offset the meeting Gen. Blair held in May. From a large flag pole on the square a large flag of the United States floated. Approximately 10,000 were represented to have been present. At the night meeting on the square someone on the outside fired at the flag. An early history states "the roughest and most violent elements were still in the ascending". In the fighting that followed Wick Woods was shot and killed. A newspaper account stated that Woods and some of his associates were yelling for Jeff Davis and Andy Johnson and that in the crowd curses upon the same individuals were interspersed; that later "a party of disorderly, drunken and disloyal persons marched up Ohio Street and fired on the flag floating over the square, where the multitude was assembled listening to the orators of the evening." The whistling of the bullets was heard by many

in the crowd and some of them started out to determine the meaning of the shooting. The opposing parties exchanged 21 shots on Ohio Street, resulting in the shooting of Woods. Discounting the newspaper account as partisan, it does not alter the essential fact that there was a shooting affray growing out of the still unsettled war feeling.

IV

INCIDENTS OF THE SIXTIES

To our readers accustomed to 1960 professional fees, the following excerpt, signed by 16 physicians and surgeons, published December 17, 1964, in the Sedalia Advertiser, is revealing:

"The high prices we are compelled to pay for everything we consume — especially medicine, and the great amount of practice we do for which we receive no pay, has forced upon us the necessity of either abandoning the profession or advancing our charges. The public well know that the fewer number of the most frugal can acquire more than a bare competency by their professional labors and under the pressure of the times few could support their families by their profession alone without better compensation. The public also know that most physicians after a few years of active practice find their health gone, constitution broken by the exposure and irregularities of life incidental to the profession. We propose for our motto, 'To Live and Let Live.' No one should ask more. The long credit system is death unto us, for as others, we have to pay cash for everything we buy and unless our labor is cash, how can it be done? In the future then, accounts are considered due and their payment demanded when services are rendered. Those who meet and settle these calls promptly may expect close and prompt attention from their physicians. This will save time to the profession, for often they have to neglect their practice to ride over the country to collect.

"We will be governed by the subjoined charges, subject to such modifications only as the times or circumstances warrant:

Visits in town	\$2.00
Visits in country 1 mile & under	\$1.50
Each additional mile	\$.75
Returning at night extra per mile	\$.50
Each hour detained over 2 hours	\$1.00 to \$2.00
Night visits always double	
Staying with patient all night	\$5.00 to \$10.00
Obstetric fee—ordinary case	\$10.00
(Mileage added)	

Earl T. Crawford

Obstetric fee—twins, extra charge	\$5.00 to \$10.00
In case arrive too late—mileage only	
Removing adherent placenta	\$15.00 to \$25.00
Ordinary prescription & medicine	\$1.50 to \$3.00
Special prescriptions	\$5.00 to \$15.00
Consultation fee	\$10.00
(Mileage to be added)	
Subsequent joint attendance with re- gular physician charged as above.	
Vaccination	\$2.00
Cupping & Bleeding	\$1.50
Extracting teeth	\$1.00
Injections	\$2.00
Lancing abscesses, felons, etc.	\$1.00 to \$5.00
Introduction of Catheter	\$5.00
Medicine will be charged for in addition to all visits—never less than	\$.50
Induction of an anesthetic	\$5.00

"Cases involving risk to the physician as in malignant and infectious diseases — cholera, small pox, etc., additional charge will be made according to circumstances — never less than double. Extra charges in cases involving extreme solicitude, responsibility, attendance and skill, as in uterine or other hemorrhage dangerous to life, threatened abortion, acute or chronic ophthalmia, threatened loss of vision, etc., at the discretion of the physician according to circumstances. Obstetrical operations as version, use of forceps, craniotomy, embotomy, etc., surgical operations, as reducing dislocations, adjusting fractures, amputations, excisions of tumors, etc., will be charged for in proportion to the foregoing rates according to the circumstances of the case."

War prices on certain commodities, as of August 20, 1864, as published in the Sedalia Advertiser were:

Sugar, per barrel	\$25 to \$27
Eggs, per dozen	10 cents
Bacon and hams, per pound	17 to 18 cents
Sides, per pound	15 to 16 cents
Shoulders, per pound	14 to 15 cents
Lard, per pound	15 to 16 cents
Corn, per bushel	\$1 to \$1.05
Oats, per bushel	50 to 55 cents

Other 1864 war prices, furnished by Cloney, Crawford and Co., reportedly the first very active Sedalia mercantile establishment, were: Washed wool \$1 per pound; salt \$5.50 to \$5.75 per barrel; wheat \$1.25 to \$1.50 per bushel; joists \$15 to \$50 per thousand board feet; scantling \$40 to \$47 per thousand; flooring \$60 to \$70; siding \$42.50; shingles \$6.50 to \$7; laths \$10 per thousand.

The largest mercantile house, Cloney and Crawford, sold \$270,000 worth of merchandise in 1863. According to a newspaper article published in March, 1866, Sedalia then had a population of about 1500 and had "four churches, one national bank, 18 dry-goods stores, six houses devoted to the sale of hardware, stoves, tinware, farming implements, machinery, etc., one newspaper, several hotels of various grades, a large number of restaurants and boarding houses (to accommodate the large floating population), three saddle and harness establishments, three drug stores, three wholesale houses, seven blacksmith and wagon shops (each engaged in the manufacture of wagons, plows, etc.)" and was the distributing point for central and southwest Missouri and southeast Kansas.

Broadway Avenue was laid out when the school was erected (1867-1868) and the first trees planted. Baptist, Methodist (North and South), Congregational, Christian and Episcopal Churches were erected in 1866 and 1867. According to an account of the period by Mrs. Garrett, "they were all filled every Sunday for there were giants in the pulpits in those days." Within four or five years after Broadway was laid out, Col. Jaynes erected a home on a square block bounded by Broadway, 9th, Ohio and Osage. Cyrus Newkirk erected a home on a square block bounded by Ohio, Lamine, Broadway and 9th. D. H. Smith erected a home on a half block bounded by Ohio, Osage and Broadway. These home were mansions in their day — all have now been razed.

Four more additions were made to the city in 1866 and there was an increasing demand for lots. Building was so active that the population of the city jumped from 1500 in 1866 to 6,000 in 1868. In 1865 six residence lots could have been purchased for \$100. By the end of 1866 lots cost \$100 each.

In 1867 Ohio Avenue was "macadamized" to 5th Street and the people and newspaper commenced to call for a city hall, jail, sewers, gas lighting, more sidewalks and the grading and macadamiz-



A. D. Jaynes



Cyrus Newkirk



Smith and Cotton



D. H. Smith

Dean Construction Company

ing of Osage and Kentucky. Late in the summer of 1867 Sedalia voted to take \$30,000 in bonds of the Tebo and Neosho Railroad which later became part of the M. K. T. The line was completed to Fort Scott by 1870 thus practically ending Sedalia's trade to the southwest.

By 1869 Sedalia was well established and progressing with rapidity and solidarity and in this year the gas works were completed and the city had gas lights. Miss Jessie Blair tells how she watched and waited for the gas lighter in her childhood and we are indebted to her for the following poem of the period:

"My tea is nearly ready,
And the sun has left the sky.
Its time to take the window
To see Leerie go by.

"For every night at tea time
And before you take your seat,
With lantern and with ladder
He comes posting up the street.

"For we are very lucky
With a lamp before the door,
And Leerie stops to light it
As he lights so many more.

"And O, before you hurry by
With ladder and with light,
O Leerie see a little child
And nod to him tonight."

Under the heading "Sedalia's Cast Iron Conundrum" a local newspaper in 1895 published the following:

"About the year of our Lord, 1867, the prevailing mania of

Gone with the wind. Mansions of the seventies. The Jaynes residence occupied the square block bounded by Ohio, Osage, Broadway and 9th. It became the Maywood Hospital which served the city until the erection of John H. Bothwell Memorial Hospital. The Newkirk residence occupied the square block bounded by Ohio, Lamine, Broadway and 9th. The Smith and Cotton residence, erected by Gen. Smith for his two daughters, was on the site of the present Smith-Cotton High School. The Smith residence was on the northwest corner of Ohio and Broadway. Those were the days when building costs, household help and taxes were low.

Dugan's Wallpaper, Paint and Glass

western towns was bridges — iron bridges. Quincy was building a bridge. St. Charles was building a bridge. Boonville wanted a bridge. . . . “Now Sedalia, though young, was just as ‘spunky’ as the rest of them, and was determined to have a bridge also — an iron bridge at that. True, we had no river here, but what of that? We had a railroad and it would be just as interesting to gaze down upon a railroad as it would be a river, besides the advantage of perfect immunity from drowning.

“So in the fall of 1867, Alderman S. S. Vinton suggested that Sedalia have an iron bridge and that the said bridge be located on Washington Avenue, across the Missouri Pacific railroad track. On April 6th, 1868, the street and alley committee announced that the gigantic enterprise was complete, and suspended in mid-air right over the railroad track, at the proper place . . . Owing to a slight deficiency between the roadway and the bridge — a matter of only some twenty or thirty feet — no wagons ever crossed over it, and we defy the files of the newspaper or the records of the coroner to show one case where a child was ever run over on it, or where any unfortunate ever jumped off from it and drowned. It wasn't that kind of a bridge.

“People who passed up and down the road used to look up when they passed under that bridge and wondered what it was for, and one scientific traveler actually brought up the subject in the State university for investigation. It not only puzzled strangers, but the object of its existence was a cast iron conundrum to most of our own people for some years. That bridge must have cost at least \$5,000, for it was a bridge of size and sighs, the latter uttered principally by the taxpayers . . .

“In February, 1873, the city sold the bridge to Tesch and Gledhill for \$110. They removed it, and some time afterward, when they dissolved partnership, Mr. Gledhill allowed Mr. Tesch \$250 for it . . . Piece by piece the iron disappeared until about one thousand pounds of it was missing. On the 24th day of May, 1876, Mr. Gledhill shipped the remainder to Leavenworth, where it was sold for old iron at 1½ cents a pound. And now you have the whole history of that stupendous humbug.”

The following account, in the writer's language of that time

James E. Durley

(1869-1870), is more interesting than it would be in language of the present:

"Sedalia made substantial progress in every direction. Many new and elegant brick business houses were erected on Main and Ohio Streets.

"In 1869 Charles Leshar completed the second elegant brick residence on Broadway (Judge Townsley's having been erected two years previous), the first in the city with a Mansard roof, at an expense of \$5,000. It was also during this season that Col. A. D. Jaynes, Cyrus Newkirk, Mayor Parker and Gen. George R. Smith commenced the erection of their splendid brick mansions, in their beautiful grounds, on the same street costing from \$20,000 to \$25,000 each, and fully equal in architectural elegance, beauty and modern conveniences to any in the more metropolitan cities of the East. Each is two stories high, with basement and attic rooms, and having 'lookouts', or observatories, which are both ornamental and useful. These residences and their magnificent grounds are among Sedalia's most attractive features to strangers visiting the city.

"Besides the palatial mansions of her solid men, a hundred frame cottages and more extensive dwellings were erected in various parts of the city during the year. It was during this year too, that the Tebo & Neosho Railway passed into the hands of the New York Railway and Trust Company. Its name was changed to the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railway, and arrangements were made for pushing the work forward as rapidly as possible, from Sedalia southward, and the shops and headquarters were established at this point. This infused new life and energy into the enterprising citizens of Sedalia, and improvements went forward more rapidly than ever as the road was completed southward. This year marked a new era in the history of this progressive young city, and various enterprises of public interest were agitated, and new vigor infused into all departments of business, and Sedalia seemed to be the coming city of central Missouri."

While Sedalia never experienced the travail the wild west did in establishing law and order, the social manners and customs of the sixties were still free and easy and, based on modern day standards, somewhat boisterous and dominated by ruffianism. The following incidents are illustrative:

George Evans (Buyer of Abandoned Railroads and Plants)

A man whom we will call John Doe belonged to a respectable family but while young became a drunkard. He was a man of violent temper, desperate resolution and very powerful. During the demoralizing times of the Civil War he became associated with a number of men who were as reckless as himself. He and his gang were the terror of the town. In March, 1867, Doe got on one of his regular sprees, went into the saloon of Joseph Gimer, knocked the bar keeper down and struck two strangers. Gimer met Doe on the sidewalk, spoke to him and in a conciliatory manner, told Doe they had always been on friendly terms and Doe should not go into his saloon and create disturbances. Gimer then walked east on Main Street and when he had taken a few steps Doe drew his revolver, shot Gimer in the back and killed him. Doe then went to the Leet Hotel, then at the corner of Main and Moniteau, and announced he would kill any man who attempted to arrest him. A man named Cantrell went to Doe's room, gun in hand and captured him. Doe was taken to the sheriff's office and then to "The Cooler", which was a two-story building built of heavy logs, used during the war as a guard house and city prison. The building was termed "The Cooler" from the fact the cool prairie winds swept through the logs and cooled off the angry passions of any one who was so unfortunate as to be placed in it. Maj. A. P. Morey was then deputy sheriff. A coroner's jury had been summoned and was holding a session in Gimer's saloon. By this time it was a dark and tempestuous night with mud ankle deep throughout the town. Exactly what happened after that was never known except to the actors, and never inquired into by the community. A published account follows:

"A body of men, not exceeding twelve, and all armed to the teeth, went about twelve o'clock to the cooler. They got in somehow in the darkness and silence. Doe was overpowered and his hands tied. There was evidence about the place that there had been a deadly struggle and a hard fight before he was overcome. It is believed that he was knocked senseless with revolver butts before he was overcome. One supposition is that a rope was put around his neck, tied to the axle of a buggy, and that he was dragged to the scene of his execution, the arch of the gateway over Wm. Bloss' lumber yard, northwest of the present Garrison House. At any rate, his dead body, bruised and scratched, and without a stitch of clothing on it, was found the next morning hanging from the arched gateway of the lumber yard. It froze hard that night, and in the

frozen mud could be traced the footsteps of the midnight avengers and a broad streak which looked as if the body of a man had been dragged through the soft mud the night previous. Some one who first saw the naked body in the morning had pinned a sheet around it. The coroner's jury decided that he came to his death by the hands of parties unknown."

The same published account stated that after this first (and last) lynching, the town was more quiet; that there were fewer deeds of violence and less disposition to carry or draw a deadly weapon.

An incident which illustrates the boisterousness of the times occurred on July 3, 1867. Three prominent city officers, a United States officer and two well known lawyers met in the back room of a saloon to perfect arrangements for the celebration of the 4th of July the next day. After they perfected arrangements, they called for sherry cobbles, the temperature being torrid. They continued to call for this seductive combination until all were in a joyous and mischievous humor. One of the party, a lawyer of gigantic stature, wore a long linen duster, the tails of which hung in flowing drapery over each side of the seat of his chair. Another member of the party got behind him, caught the sweeping tails of the coat, gave a mighty jerk and split the garment entirely up the back. The lawyer caught hold of his antagonist and after a hard struggle succeeded in tearing his friend's coat in shreds and tatters. By this time they all joined in the sport. They locked the doors of the room they were in and went at the work of retaliation with vengeance. They pulled and tugged at each other amidst shouts of laughter until there was not a man in the room who had a piece of clothes on him large enough to cover a three weeks old baby. By this time all were covered with perspiration and desisted from their fun. They sent to Smith's clothing store to have new suits sent down for each person. Within a few minutes a large dry goods box full of clothing was sent. Each man was soon arrayed in a new suit but the large lawyer could not find a shirt large enough and he had to content himself with a big standing collar and a brilliant cravat as a substitute. The account of this incident (written in 1882) stated that if such men now engaged in such a rollicking frolic, the press would assault them and articles of impeachment would be filed; that in those days it was considered a gigantic joke.

On December 1, 1868, a list of the principal business houses

and residences erected in that year was prepared. Brick business buildings costing \$286,000 were constructed, 200 private dwellings (averaging \$500 each) were constructed, \$78,000 was spent on street improvements and \$30,000 in erecting the gas works.

To the theater going public, the opening of Smith's Opera House on Main Street in 1869 was an event. It seated 800 on the main floor and in the gallery. The ceilings were frescoed and the curtain was "one of the finest pieces of painting in central Missouri." One lady said she didn't remember the ceiling or the curtain, but to her Smith's Opera House meant "Uncle Tom's Cabin" to which she was taken year after year until she became so tired of weeping over Uncle Tom and Little Eva she never went there any more.

Four new additions (Leshner Bros., McVey's, Woods and Meyers) were added in 1867. Up to 1868, 1409 warranty and quit-claim deeds had been recorded. Several firms were doing a gross yearly business of \$400,000. In 1868 the Ilgenfritz Opera House on Ohio Street was opened. The building of the Lexington and St. Louis Railroad (known to us as the Lexington Branch) was begun. A Young Mens' Christian Association was formed.

During the same year (1868) one of the city aldermen, a Mr. Jamison, employed a novel method of cleaning out one of the dens of infamy which had commenced to infest the city. A history published in 1882 states "the people of the present day may learn from this municipal law-maker how extremely prompt and practical the councilmen were in those days in performing what they conceived to be their duty to their fellow citizens." Mr. Jamison came down town one night about eleven and quietly ordered out the new \$6,000 steam fire engine and hose cart, with 1000 feet of new hose. The fire department followed their leader. He stationed the engine near a large well, had a long line of hose run out, and the conspirators at the nozzle approached the house in silence and darkness. In a few minutes more the sounds of revelry within were literally drowned beneath the magnificent flood of water poured into the house by the full force of the new engine. The house was cleaned out. A man who escaped cut the new hose in two places and Mr. Jamison got drenched. He had to pay for the repair of the hose. The writer concluded: "And thus it was that a great moral reformer

had cold water thrown upon his enthusiasm because he threw cold water on immorality."

During 1869 the county issued \$110,000 in bonds to aid what we know as the Lexington Branch. The beginning of construction of what we know as the M. K. T. Railroad commenced from Sedalia to Boonville and the county issued \$200,000 in county bonds to build the line through Pettis County. The post office was moved to the west side of Ohio Street between 2nd and 3rd. The St. Louis conference of the M. E. Church, the largest religious meeting held in central Missouri, was held in Sedalia. The gauge of the Missouri Pacific Railroad was changed and completed in 16 hours. The newspapers and people of the city commenced to agitate for a bond issue to build a market house and city hall. The year 1869 was remarkable for the large amount of real estate sold, both in Sedalia and the surrounding country. Two large monthly real estate papers were published here and scattered throughout the nation. The Missouri Land Company was chartered and organized with a capital of \$100,000. Vast tracts of land on the M. K. T. Railroad, both north and south of Sedalia, were sold.

The community was so active and the spirit of enterprise so high that Scribners Magazine sent a special delegation to report on the M. K. T. Railroad which it termed "the new route to the gulf." In its issue of July, 1873, appeared an extensive article containing an exaggerated but interesting account of Sedalia and its prospects and one of the luxury trains run over the railroad. At that time Sedalia was the headquarters of the M. K. T. In view of the fact that the M. K. T. ran its last passenger train through Sedalia in 1958, we quote from the article in Scribners:

"Sedalia, the present headquarters of the M. K. T. Railway, where the general offices are situated, already has an air of prosperity and thrift, which its less fortunate sisters in Missouri are painfully devoid of. Too many of the shire towns in the State are mere collections of unambitious buildings around a square, in which stands the shabby one story wooden or brick court house. Pigs and negro children monopolize each sunny corner, and often clear the plank walks of all serious pedestrians; and grog shops, filled with lean, incult, idle people offend the eye. But from Sedalia these disagreeable features are mainly banished; the streets devoted to residences are wide and beautiful; many private houses are furnished with ex-

quisite taste and luxury, and business establishments are springing up on every hand. No Eastern town could possibly manifest the same rapid increase in population; the census is never certain from week to week * * *. Our first evening at Sedalia was passed in the company of many of the gentlemen connected with the history of this great new Gulf Route. They had followed its fortunes from the first rail laying to the last, in the direction of its junction with the Texas Central; and are even now actively engaged in finishing the branch from Sedalia to Moberly, which will give them direct connection with Chicago, giving the renaissance city as good a chance as her rival, St. Louis, at the commerce of the great new lands below.

"Two days thereafter the SCRIBNER EXPEDITION embarked on this New Gulf Route. A large delegation of the Sedalia population watched its entree into a special train, in the rear of which was a magnificent hotel car, presided over by 'the pet conductor' known then to the world at large as Major James Doyle, and at present as Superintendent of the Holden division of the M. K. T. Railway. The luxury of travel was fully realized in the elegant appointments of the train; but the gentlemen who bade us goodby assured us that we should need everything provided for us, as we were going away from civilization."

V

1870 -1890

During the twenty years from 1870 to 1890 Sedalia experienced its greatest growth in population. The city grew from approximately



Ohio Street, 1870 looking south from Second. Businesses as identified by the late W. M. Johns: 1. Fleishmans Drug Store, S. E. corner 2nd and Ohio. 2. Peterfish Millinery Store. 3. Bazoo Bldg. on alley (Pearl River). 4. Ginter Restaurant and Bakery. 5. Whites Lumber Yard. 6. Hoffman's Grocery Store. 7. J. P. Leake and Co. Dry Goods Store. 8. Ilgenfritz Bakery. 9. Rollins Hotel (known as Goat House). 10. M. E. Church (upstairs entrance from 4th St., stores on ground floor.) 11. A. D. Jaynes residence (now Mo. Public Service Corp.) 12. Dr. Gondee, later Dr. Clark, later Brandt Grocery (now Scott Stores.) 13-Hathaway residence. (S. W. corner 5th and Ohio. 14. Congregational Church (N. W. corner 6th and Ohio). Picture courtesy of Mrs. Chas. E. Messerly, Jr.

8,000 to 15,000, although this later figure is dubious, it being contended that census figures of that day were padded. The period was

one of both great expansion and great adversity.

During 1871 twenty-two brick buildings were erected on Ohio Street. During this year the Sedalia Library Association was formed. According to an account of that day it had three large, well furnished rooms and a library of 1,000 volumes and the leading magazines and newspapers. This association was the most active in the city. It took the lead in agitating for a waterworks and in the fall a bond issue of \$100,000 was submitted and almost unanimously passed. The waterworks were completed in 1872 and in 1873 were in full operation.

In the fall of 1872 \$40,000 in bonds were voted to secure the location in Sedalia of Missouri Pacific machine shops "west of St. Louis" and construction commenced. The assessed valuation of Sedalia property in 1872 (exclusive of railroads and bank stock) was \$1,801,955.

The darkest days in the seventies were during 1874, following the national panic of 1873. We are not writing a history of that panic but it is advisable to place our readers in focus to understand what happened in Sedalia. The failure of the powerful banking firm of Jay Cooke and Co. in Philadelphia on September 18, 1873, precipitated that panic but the underlying causes were unbridled railroad speculation, notably in the field of construction, combined with overexpansion of industry and commerce and the contraction of European demand for farm products. Unemployment became substantial and as a palliative the government released \$26,000,000 in greenbacks. In the construction of waterworks and other improvements Sedalia had incurred a bonded indebtedness of \$265,000 at 10% interest. The Missouri constitution of 1875 limited the rate of assessment. Sedalia found itself with no more income than was necessary to pay the interest on the bonds. Nothing was left for city operating expenses. Default was made in the payment of interest and bondholders became insistent. After many consultations O. A. Crandall volunteered to go east, meet with bondholders and make what arrangements he could to save the credit of Sedalia. He arranged to refund the entire debt for 20 years at 5% interest and the credit of the city was re-established.

On October 23, 1874, the corner stone of the City Hall was laid and the building completed before the end of the year. In 1875

a street railroad company was organized but no work done. In 1879 the construction of the narrow guage railroad to Warsaw was commenced and Sedalia spent \$500,000 in general improvements. In 1881 the charter of the street railroad company, owing to inactivity, expired and a charter was granted to a new corporation. During the same year the right of way over streets was granted and in the fall of 1881 the first section of the road was completed on Third St. from Ohio St. west to Sicher's Park. The cars were drawn by mules. In 1882 the road was completed on Third St. from Ohio St. to Engineer Ave. and an account of that day states "two fine additions to the city, on the east and west ends, are now (1882) growing up because of its construction and completion."

It is interesting to note that from its organization in 1850, a number of Sedalia physicians took an active part in the activities of the Missouri State Medical Association. In 1874 the association met in Smith Hall, Sedalia, elected Dr. Thomas J. Montgomery of Sedalia vice-president and passed a resolution "that no physician should be compelled by the courts to testify as an expert without being allowed a proper fee." (Editor's note. We understand this



M. K. T. Railroad depot about 1873.

resolution is still in effect.) Dr. John W. Trader was elected president in 1876, Dr. Willis P. King in 1881. Other early Sedalians who held offices in the association were Dr. E. C. Evans, Dr. W. H. Evans, Dr. A. F. Dresel and Dr. W. C. Overstreet.

To the youngsters of 1960, Sicher's Park would be *passé*. To the young and old of the eighties Sicher's Park (long since merged into the city park system as part of Liberty Park) was a star attraction. A vivid picture is contained in an account written in 1882:

"Sicher's Park. This is one of the finest public or private enterprises in the city. It contains fifty acres of beautiful prairie land, a half mile west of Ohio Street, and is reached by the street railway. The grounds belonged to the Fair Association until 1880, when they were purchased by Messrs. Joseph D. and Frank E. Sicher, for the sum of \$10,000. When the ground was purchased, the improvements on it consisted of a board fence around the outside, a mile track around the amphitheatre, and one or two rough board buildings. In the past two years \$30,000 has been expended in improving and beautifying it, and it has been transformed. First a splendid hotel has been erected in the center of the park. It contains the most spacious hall in all central Missouri, and this is used for a dining room and an amusement hall. The Sedalia fair is also held on these grounds. Therefore all buildings necessary for such purposes have been constructed. There is a splendid mile track and a half mile track. The grand stand will seat 5,000 people. Five hundred people can be seated at dinner at one time in the dining room of the hotel. The floral hall, the agricultural implement and machinery pavilion, the farm products hall are all spacious and handsome buildings, erected for the express purpose of public exhibitions. There are numerous refreshment stands, band pagoda, directors' and secretary's buildings; in short, all the conveniences to be expected in a first class park or fair ground. The grounds contain also a beautiful lake of five acres, with an island containing one acre; several wind mills pump water from deep bored wells. There are two enormous ice houses on the banks of the lake. Besides the wells and wind mills, the grounds have a main pipe leading from the city through which an additional supply of water is received from the city water works. The grounds have been filled with shade trees, and around the hotel laid off in flower beds and covered with arbors and ornamental shrubbery. There are 250 sheep pens, 150 covered stalls, and 120 open stalls for cattle. The park hotel is lighted by gas, has hot and cold water, and all other modern improvements; a fine restaurant, and is now the popular resort. During all seasons of the year, there are public and private parties there; balls, school exhibitions, concerts, roller skating, base ball games, races, military

parades, and similar amusements. This is the only institution of the kind in central Missouri, and it is becoming more beautiful and more popular every day. It shows at once the metropolitan character which the city has begun to assume. In 1881, Cricket Still, of Kansas, and Nellie Archer, of Green Ridge, Pettis County, Mo., rode three twenty mile races at the park. These were the most remarkable contests ever witnessed in the city. All three were won by Miss Archer. Ten thousand people witnessed the first race."

- In the summer of 1880 T. B. Anderson procured the right to establish a telephone exchange in Sedalia and in August of that year the first telephone was placed in operation. Within 18 months the Sedalia Telephone Co. had constructed wires and poles throughout the city and 225 telephones were operating. In 1882 a sleet storm destroyed or damaged most of the wires and when repairs were completed Mr. Anderson sold to the Missouri Telephone Co.

On January 1, 1882, the paid up capital of banks in Sedalia was \$300,100 and deposits \$834,545.37. The banks were First National (hereinbefore mentioned as the first bank), Sedalia Savings Bank, Citizens National, Missouri Trust Co. and Pettis County Bank - all now extinct. The Sedalia Savings Bank was established in 1868 by Mentor Thomson and Elisha Brown. In 1872 Thos. W. Cloney became cashier and Richard T. Gentry became assistant. The third bank was the Citizens National established in 1872-73. Clifton Wood was president. He died in 1877 and John J. Yeater became president. The Missouri Trust Co. was organized in 1880 with O. A. Crandall, president, A. P. Morey, vice-president and P. C. Stafford, secretary. Its average rate of interest on farm loans was 7%. The Pettis County Bank was started in 1875 as the Pettis Loan and Savings Bank and was reorganized and incorporated in 1880.

The Third National was organized in 1883 with Albert Parker as its president. It is the only bank, organized at that time, now (1960) in existence in Sedalia. H. W. Harris, father of H. R. Harris, now president, served as president from 1898 to 1923.

Space will not permit a detailed account of building and loan associations in Sedalia. They were, however, instrumental in making it possible, through loans, for thousands of Sedalians to erect homes. In the eighties there were five active building and loan associations:

The Peoples, The Merchants and Mechanics', The Sedalia Association, The Fourth Association and the Sixth Association. At the present time (1960) there is only one such association, First State Savings Association, with assets, however, in excess of all former similar associations combined.

J. West Goodwin came to Sedalia in the sixties but it was in the eighties that he was in his heyday. He, his old beaver hat and his eccentricities were known over the country. We are indebted to Mrs. Frank Monroe for an illustration. Goodwin had a son, Mark, who formed the habit of taking money from his father's office as needed. J. West caught him in the act and, it is said, administered punishment with a cane. Mark left Sedalia and was not heard from for several years. One day J. West received this letter:

"Some skies are blue
And some are dark
Send me fifty

Your son,
Mark"

To this epistle, J. West replied:

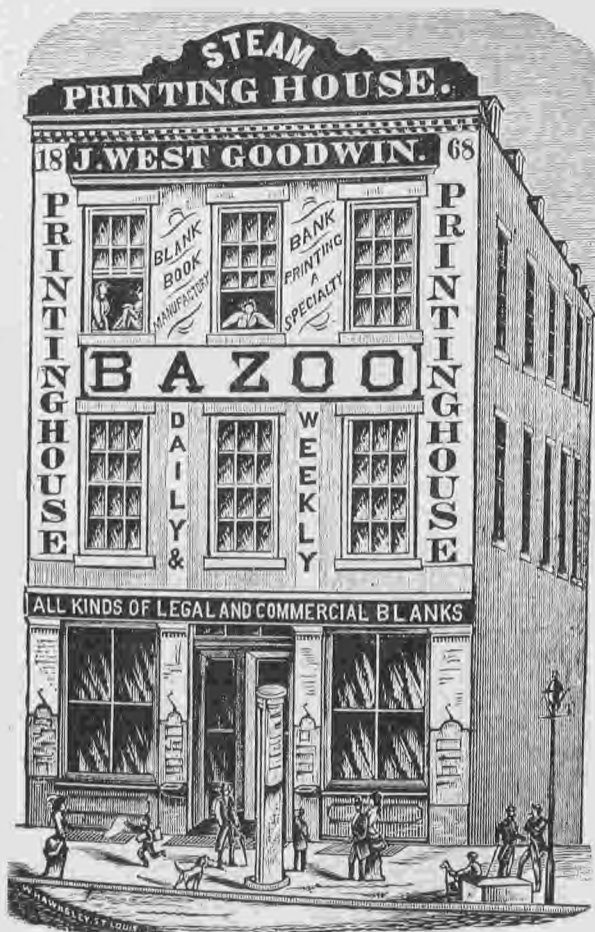
"Some skies are blue
And some are pink
I'll send you fifty
I don't think

J. West"

Goodwin's paper, *The Bazoo*, was first headed "Goodwin blows his horn" — and he certainly did. Later the motto read "Blow your own Bazoo" and still later "Who bloweth not his own Bazoo, the same shall not be blown."

Goodwin, as was the custom then, took advantage of his editorship to make highly personal and scathing remarks about citizens he did not like, resulting in several assaults and the loss of one leg. Goodwin himself told this story (*Daily Bazoo*, June 15, 1876): Nichols wanted a servant and inserted an advertisement in the *Bazoo*. He did not procure a servant immediately and came to the *Bazoo* office and ordered the advertisement discontinued, stating he did not believe in advertising. We now quote from the *Bazoo*: "We tried to show him his sinfulness. No use; couldn't convince him

that advertising did any good. Nobody read an advertisement. So we went to work and put this in. 'Any person having a dog to sell can find a purchaser by applying to M. C. Nichols, Train Dispatcher's Office, M. Pac. R.R.' About fifteen minutes after the paper was

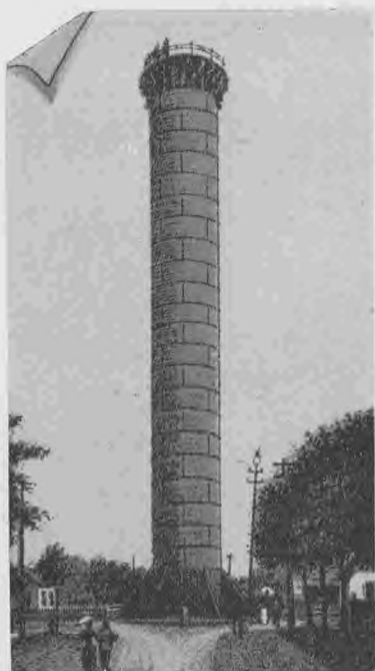


Who bloweth not his own bazoo, the same shall not be blown. The picture, like Goodwin, speaks for itself — rather loudly. Notice the bustles on the ladies.

published two small boys with three pups each appeared shouting: 'Mister, we fetched them dogs.' Nichols drove them away, explaining he did not want a dog and about that time a seedy appearing

man came with a pug-nosed bull dog. Just after Nichols assured the man he did not want a dog he caught sight of what he first thought was a torch light procession but soon discovered it was more people coming to sell him dogs. Nichols finally paid one man \$15 for his dog on condition that the man would change clothes with him and escaped to notify the police. Goodwin concluded: 'He is thoroughly convinced an advertisement is read'."

Goodwin was known for tart sayings some of which follow: A woman should put on her best clothes before going to ask a favor of a man and her poorest if she wants a favor of a woman. An awkward man in society is usually a thoroughbred in business. Our idea of a scrupulously honest man is one who borrows a book and returns it. Worse than a quitter is the organization afraid to begin.



Gone and forgotten. What is it? Nineteen out of twenty youngsters asked didn't know. Water standpipe at Broadway and Engineer. There was another at 18th and Ohio. Notice the wasp waist on the lady in the lower left corner.

As we shall see later in this history, Sedalia has been a city of

ups and downs. However, in the eighties the city was definitely up with optimism unbridled. Witness the following from a history written in 1882:

"Sedalia is now a city so well-known abroad and at home, so well established in character, growing so surely and swiftly, having now all the conditions and concomitants which guarantee that she will be a city of 30,000 people within the next ten years, that those who write in praise of the city can no longer be justly charged with exaggeration or misrepresentation." (Editor's note: Sedalia is about 60 years late, but hopes to be 30,000 by 1962.)

The period (1870-1890) was one of expansion not only in public schools but also in private schools — all of which (except Central Business College) have now become extinct. The period was one of academies, seminaries and ladies "finishing" schools. These charm schools for young ladies were made fun of by many educators but unquestionably taught etiquette, manners and a desire for culture. Many of the successful matrons of Sedalia were graduates.

The Sedalia Seminary was established in 1876 by Prof. Van Patten who combined it with one organized by Prof. Booth, former principal of the high school. This was later united with Prof. Ready's Academy. In 1879 a corporation purchased the Barrett Hotel, located at 20th and Grand, and founded the Sedalia University under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church. This lasted for several years. After the Sedalia University ceased, the Basitian Fathers attempted to establish a similar educational institution in Sedalia but failed to receive sufficient financial support. Mrs. Miller's Seminary operated for several years. The Ruth Ann School of Music and Art occupied the site of the present Heard Memorial Club House, 200 West Broadway. Here Mrs. W. D. Steele taught music and Prof. Chance taught piano.

The Sedalia Business College and Institute of Penmanship was established in 1881. In that day penmanship was considered one of the fine arts. This institution was the predecessor of Robbins Business College which, for many years, was a very active institution located at the northeast corner of 6th and Massachusetts. It brought students to Sedalia from a wide range of territory, including Mexico. Its successor, Central Business College, is the only remaining private educational institution in Sedalia.

About 1880 the M. K. T. Railroad established a hospital in the building then at 20th and Grand. Dr. Ed Small was chief surgeon and Dr. E. F. Yancey assistant. The nurses were from the order of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word. The building burned about 1890 and the railroad hospital was moved to a building at Broadway and Hancock (now the site of Washington Park.) Dr. Yancey became chief surgeon.



How times do change. M. K. T. Railroad Hospital, at Broadway and Hancock, served the northern part of the system. It was closed, demolished and is now the site of Washington Park. The lobby of the hospital contained the black bear, now in the Court House.

The period was one in which a sincere desire existed to educate colored people. Through the beneficence of Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Cotton, daughters of Gen. George R. Smith, George R. Smith College was established in Sedalia, west of Crown Hill Cemetery, in 1888. The building was completed in 1894. It was a recognized liberal arts college for colored people and brought students to Sedalia from many places. More than 2000 students received instruction within its walls. The college burned April 26, 1925. An effort was made through the Methodist Church to rebuild the college but was not successful.

In 1884 a beautiful French renaissance court house was con-

structed on the court house square. It was considered by many the finest court house for a city of similar size in Missouri. This structure burned in 1920 and was replaced by the present court house.



Missouri's finest, for a county of this size, when erected in 1884. Burned in 1920. The present Court House was erected in 1924.

In 1879 the Library Association, which had been very active in the community affairs of Sedalia, was reorganized by a group of ladies and 38 well known citizens obligated themselves to contribute regularly to its maintenance. It had rooms in the ground floor of the court house and gave inspiration to the establishing by Andrew Carnegie of the beautiful present library in Sedalia in 1901.

If one were interested in food and had a dollar, he could dine well in Sedalia in 1885. Here is the menu at Sichert's Hotel:

SICHER'S HOTEL

Sichert & Doyle, Props.

Sedalia, Missouri, Sunday, September 6th, 1885

DINNER

Soup

Consomme of Okra

Cream Barley

S. P. Johns Lumber Company

	Fish	
Baked Salmon—Lobster Sauce		Potato Croquettes
	Boiled	
	Ham—Champagne Sauce	
	Roasts	
Sirloin of Beef		Chicken with Dressing
Stuffed Young Pig a la Matria d'Hotel		
	Entrees	
Fillet of Beef a la Champignons		
Rice Fritters with Crab Apple Jelly		
	Scallops of Veal Demi Glace	
	Relishes	
Worcestershire Sauce	Tomato Catsup	Sliced Tomatoes
Chow Chow	Radishes	Small Pickles
	Celery	
	Vegetables	
Mashed Potatoes	String Beans	Succotash
Sweet Potatoes		Tomatoes
	Bread	
Plain Bread	Rye Bread	Graham Bread
	Pastry	
	Lemon Merangue Pie	
	Dessert	
Variegated Ice Cream	Almond Bars	Creamery Cheese
Chocolate Macaroons	Fruit Cake	Lady Fingers
Tea	Buttermilk	Coffee

An organization, which originated in Sedalia about 1885 and became one of the best known in the nation, was the Sedalia Flambeau Club. While political, it took many prizes for displays of fireworks and perfection in drilling and was selected to attend the inaugural ceremonies of President Harrison in 1888.

Sedalia had one of the first kite-shaped tracks in the country. It was located south of the west end of what is now Liberty Park. Upon this track some of the best known horses in the nation raced including "Nancy Hawks" and "John R. Gentry" named for one of our well known citizens who owned him. This horse held the record for pacing for sometime, was first sold for \$15,000, then purchased by A. H. Harriman of the Union Pacific R. R. for \$90,000.

Sedalia baseball players of that period played exhibition games

against the old St. Louis Browns and others. Several Sedalia ball players became professionals.

Sedalia from its early history has been interested in state militia (national guard.) During the seventies and early eighties there were two companies, the Queen City Guards and the Sedalia Rifles. In addition to military activities they contributed to social life with elaborate balls. About 1890 the Rifles were revived under Col. H. C. DeMuth. It became an exceptional company and was attached to the Second Regiment which volunteered in the Spanish American War (1898) but did not see active service. These organizations were the fore-runners of the national guard units which served actively and with great credit in World War I and II and now comprise part of the 35th Division of which a Sedalian, John C. McLaughlin, is now (1960) commanding general.



A comic opera soldier? No, sir. When the Sedalia Rifles were revived about 1890, they adopted this uniform. It was effective in fancy drills and fancy balls — in both of which they excelled. The picture is Charles E. Messerly, an active merchant of that period.

It would not do to leave the eighties without a choice excerpt from a history of Sedalia published in 1882: "Sedalia aspires to be the capital of the state. She asks the honor, not as a beggar, but as one that demands her just rights. Her geographical position, her

enterprise, wealth, beauty of location and accessibility by railroad, are all just and acknowledged facts in favor of this city, and the citizens seem inclined to continue to present their claims for removal of the capitol until the question is submitted by a vote to the people of the state. **** The building of a railroad north to connect with the C. and A. R. R. is a project to be carried out in the near future. The erection of a great institution of learning comes next in importance." (Editors' note: Sedalia got its railroad north, which flourished during a period when Hughesville was the state's second most active cattle shipping point and now (due to paved roads, automobile and trucks) runs one train a day. In the nineties the state voted on removing the capital resulting in the capital remaining in Jefferson City and a city rivalry which continues to manifest itself slightly in athletic events. With Central Missouri State College 30 miles west and Missouri Valley College 30 miles north, the great institution of learning is probably far in the future.)

VI

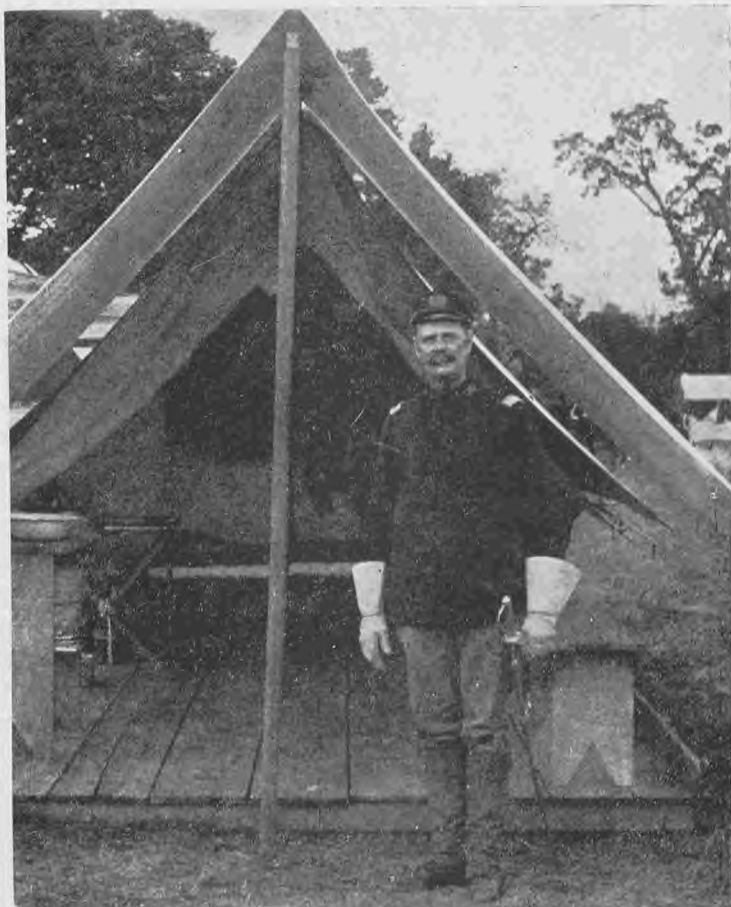
THE "GAY" NINETIES

A period 1890-1900 started with a prosperous Sedalia, soon to be affected by the panic of 1893. That the city started the period in a gay mood is evidenced by the contest between ladies who liked to dance and the ministers' organization. Such an incident would not occur in 1960, but it illustrates the divided feeling on the subject at that period. A special dispatch to the St. Louis Globe-Democrat under date of December 28, 1891, is as follows:

"The ladies having in charge the charity ball arranged for New Year's Eve have left nothing undone to bring about financial success for the undertaking, and up to to-night the ticket sales aggregated more than \$800. Last night Rev. J. S. Myers, President of the Ministers' Alliance, preached a red-hot sermon in opposition to the ball at the First Christian Church, and Rev. A. H. Stephens, who was the first minister to speak from the pulpit in opposition to the movement, preached a similar sermon at the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Both gentlemen spoke to unusually large congregations, but many of the auditors were known to be in sympathy with the ladies and were attracted to the churches out of curiosity to hear what the divines would have to say on a subject that has aroused considerable agitation throughout central Missouri. The leading livery firm of the city has placed an unlimited number of carriages and drivers at the disposal of the ladies' soliciting committee and attired in silks and diamonds they made the rounds of the business houses to-day, disposing of tickets for the ball in the name of sweet charity. Invitations have been extended to Gov. Francis and the other state officials, who are expected to be present, as well as delegations of ladies and gentlemen from all the neighboring towns who want to go on record as being opposed to the boycott placed upon the ball by the ministers."

It is our purpose to state facts, not to moralize, but it is a fact that the gay ladies who had a controversy with the ministers over a ball for "sweet charity" to be held on New Years, 1892, were sad ladies in 1893 when Sedalia became part of the worst money panic (except 1929-32) in its history, from which it did not recover until

1897. The failure of the Reading Railroad early in 1893 gave warning that the boom was over. Uncertainty over the status of the gold standard caused foreign investors, whose money had helped build the central west, to sell U. S. securities. The gold reserves of the country fell to one hundred million in April and to eighty million



The Second Regiment was the first regiment to volunteer from Missouri in the Spanish-American War. The picture shows Col. Harry C. DeMuth in camp at Chickamauga, Georgia.

in December, 1893. Before 1893 had ended, 491 banks and over 15,000 commercial institutions were reported to have failed. Before the turning point was reached in 1897, nearly one-third of the

total railroad mileage was in the hands of receivers. At that time Sedalia depended largely upon railroads and the effect upon the city was very severe. Unemployment became widespread and, according to the best information available, property values dropped fifty per cent.

By 1897 Sedalia was definitely on the way up again. The Spanish-American War broke out in 1898. Several hundred Sedalians, comprising two companies, volunteered (there being no "draft" at that time). They were mustered out in 1899 after suffering severely from typhoid fever in Georgia. The two companies which volunteered from Sedalia in 1898 had a history which dated back to the seventies when the "Queen City Guards" and "Sedalia Rifles" were formed as part of the state militia or national guard. Under the command of Capt. Harry C. DeMuth they became part of the Second Regiment. The Sedalia Military Band was formed and later became the Second Regiment Band. Capt. DeMuth later became a Colonel and commanded the Second Regiment. In addition to service in the war with Spain, the regiment and band participated in the opening of the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893.

According to the official census Sedalia's population was 14,068 in 1890 and 15,231 in 1900.

VII

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

Dr. A. H. Heaton in 1901 purchased the first automobile owned in Sedalia. He also brought the first model T. Ford to Sedalia and became a Ford enthusiast. Henry Ford, hearing of Dr. Heaton's promotion in behalf of Fords, in 1914 paid the expenses of Dr. Heaton and Emil Bichsel for a tour of Europe in the car "that gets you there and brings you back." They got back.

Considering the fact that Sedalia has made several unsuccessful attempts to change its form of government from the so-called aldermanic form to the commission or city manager form, it is interesting to notice that for several years the city elected its officials without regard to party politics. In 1904 Col. Geo. H. Scruton edited a book entitled "Sedalia of Today." With reference to municipal government Col. Scruton said: "The government of Sedalia is in accordance with the regulations set down by state authorities for governing cities of its class, and is in the hands of a mayor and eight councilmen (two from each ward). For four years the city has elected its officials without regard to party politics, or rather has chosen them equally from the members of the two predominating parties. The public spirited citizens, realizing that political issues, when brought into municipal contests, always have a more or less tendency to place mere politicians in office at the expense of the city's best interest, met together and devised a plan by which the strife and turmoil of partisan feeling could be obliterated and the city obtain only the best men to conduct its affairs. To this end the two parties met and decided to partition the offices off in an equitable manner between the Democrats and Republicans and to place only one ticket in the field. This action was endorsed by the two parties in their conventions and men were secured by these bodies to fill the positions. Every name was endorsed by the opposing party and when the ticket was completed it became a ticket of both organizations and its election followed, as a matter of course. This plan has been wonderfully successful and the two administrations that were secured in this manner have worked earnestly for the upbuilding of the city. They have during their administration reduced the bonded indebtedness by a very large amount, have improved the streets

of the city greatly and in every way shown an unselfish devotion to the interests of the municipality. It was through the efforts of Mayor Babcock, in conjunction with the aldermen, that the Missouri Pacific Shops were secured for Sedalia."

It must be remembered that at that time there were no paved highways, no truck line haulers and no airplanes. Transportation was by railroads and citizens generally then believed the future of Sedalia depended upon railroads, a belief modified during later years. Because of such belief the story of the procuring of the Missouri Pacific shops is intensely interesting. Also, the story of the initiative used by our forefathers and their sacrifices in that struggle constitute an inspiration to our young men to carry on in future efforts for Sedalia. Col. Scruton, writing in 1904, said: "It required two hundred thousand dollars and 125 acres of land to secure this great addition to Sedalia's industries, but Sedalia citizens with their characteristic energy never hesitated at the tremendous amount to be raised, but with a united effort, worked together regardless of the large sum and were able to pay the money over when the company was ready to receive it. The securing of these shops was a great triumph for Sedalia over such competitors as Kansas City, Independence, Atchison and Leavenworth."

When it was ascertained the Missouri Pacific had decided to consolidate its shops, a number of Sedalians with foresight recognized that Sedalia might have a chance. Approximately in 1903 Mayor Babcock made contact with Russell Harding, then vice president and general manager of the railroad, in an attempt to convince him that Sedalia was the right location. Mr. Harding was convinced and consistently argued in favor of Sedalia before the directors in New York. Eventually the board of directors was convinced. In deciding upon Sedalia they allowed a large sum of money to pass out of their hands, because Atchison, Kansas, had agreed to give \$300,000, 120 acres of land and an extensive coal mine already in operation, if the railroad would locate the shops there. Kansas City stood ready to raise any amount demanded. The citizens of Sedalia organized and made a united effort. The city realized that if the shops were located at a location other than Sedalia, it would cause the removal of most of the interests which the railroad already had here.

When the first concentrated action was decided upon, the raising of a bonus seemed hopeless. Sedalia had given so much and

so often that it appeared to be almost impossible to raise more. Mr. Harding at first thought that \$100,000 would be all that was necessary. After Sedalians told Mr. Harding they could raise \$100,000, Mr. Harding, to the citizens' consternation, reported that after consulting with higher officers in New York, he was instructed to say it would take \$200,000 and also the donation of the site. The site cost approximately \$25,000. This meant that Sedalians would be compelled to raise \$225,000 before they could procure the shops. Prominent Sedalians told Mr. Harding that it would be impossible to raise what at that time was such a vast sum, but upon assurance from him that that amount was required, the committee came home and commenced devising methods. With Hon. John T. Heard, congressman, as chairman, and 50 other loyal citizens, the committee procured quarters and commenced. Cards were sent to everyone in Sedalia asking for donations, and responses began coming in with a spontaneity truly remarkable. Nearly everyone contributed. "Only once in a while was it necessary for the committee to take some wealthy but backward citizen in hand and read the riot act to him to make him do his share in the matter." \$200,000 in cash and notes was raised and reported to Mr. Harding at St. Louis. Then came another blow when the committee was informed the railroad would not receive individual notes, no matter how good, but insisted on cash. Returning to Sedalia undaunted by this set-back, the committee commenced converting the notes into money. The railroad agreed to allow a six per cent discount if payment was made in cash. \$165,000 in cash was raised. The balance of the sum required was taken care of by the Citizens National, Third National and Sedalia National Bank and Sedalia Trust Company. After the sum was raised and delivered, a delay of several months occurred, with many trips by the committee to St. Louis, before the railroad officially announced the location of the shops at Sedalia. The news was immediately wired to Sedalia. Col. Scruton's account follows: "In less than ten minutes after the wire was received the city stopped all business and a celebration, which lasted until daylight the next morning, was begun. Cannon boomed, bells rang, whistles blew, bands played, and everyone from the youngest to the oldest inhabitant celebrated all night long. The city was a blaze of light, while the citizens made the welkin ring with music, shouts, cheers and fireworks."

It is difficult to appreciate the exuberance of that period from

the vantage point of 1960, but some concept can be procured when we remember that Sedalia had grown only a little over 1000 in population from 1890 to 1900 and citizens of foresight were looking for an opportunity to get the wheel of progress off of dead center. That enterprisers of 1905 had the proper concept of what industry would do for Sedalia is evidenced by the following account: "With an addition of 1800 wage-earners to the population of the city, there must necessarily be additional business to supply their wants, which means the renting of every vacant business house in the city and the erection of scores of new ones. It means the employment of carpenters, bricklayers, stonemasons, paperhangers, painters and plumbers. It means the additional consumption of gas, electric lights and water. And, of course, additional output of these plants means additional labor to furnish that output. It means more street car riding and consequently more street cars, more motormen, more conductors, more firemen, more engineers for the plant. It means the coming of more wage-earners — laborers and mechanics — for the erection of new residences and business houses and these additional houses mean the employment of additional servants, porters, clerks and help generally. Not only this, but always where large plants are located, smaller industries spring up, because the condition of things creates a natural market for products."

It has been debated that Sedalia would have been better off without the railroads. Those who so argue fail to take into consideration the conditions which existed when the Missouri Pacific shops and the MKT shops were established. The MKT shops are now discontinued and dismantled, but the payrolls of the railroad shops in Sedalia have been plowed back into the community many hundreds of times during their existence here. The Missouri Pacific continues to employ approximately 500 and is still Sedalia's leading industry. A tabulation made by Missouri Pacific employees in 1936 showed 1334 employees working in Sedalia, 5668 persons dependent upon the Missouri Pacific, 672 automobiles owned and driven by employees, 502 homes owned, 698 homes rented, 1200 homes maintained and \$33,764.42 property taxes paid by Missouri Pacific home owners in Sedalia. In 1934 the Missouri Pacific paid Pettis County \$35,687.55 in taxes. The changing industrial picture in Sedalia will be treated later in this book.

In 1900 Andrew Carnegie, philanthropist, gave \$50,000 for a

Carnegie Public Library building. The corner stone was laid in 1900 and the building completed in 1901. The library building is considered one of the most magnificent in the country for a city of this



Carnegie Public Library. Completed in 1901 at a cost of \$50,000. One of the finest in the state for a city of this size. The repairs made in 1958, including work on the foundation, cost more than the original building.

size. Supported by a city tax of ten cents on \$100 of assessed valuation the library has at this time (1960) approximately 35,950 volumes. The library maintains a motion picture film service on educational subjects, a music record service and has microfilms of all editions of the Sedalia Democrat. It also maintains a book service to hospitals and classroom book collections in four outlying schools within the city. Other activities include a weekly story hour and a summer reading club for children.

At the turn of the century Sedalia had no state institutions. There was considerable feeling on the subject and a group of citizens, under the leadership of Sen. Charles E. Yeater (later governor of the Phillipines) and Hon. John Homer Bothwell, made a united effort to

procure the Missouri State Fair at Sedalia and were successful. The first annual exhibition was in 1902. The state fair has been held annually since. The mile track is one of the fastest in the central west and during recent years has been the scene of grand circuit harness races, considered the best in the country in that class of racing. The buildings are of more substantial construction than most state fairs. The present value of the property is approximately \$3,000,000. The largest attendance was in 1957 when approximately 500,000 people attended.

Ragtime music was born in Sedalia during the gay nineties (about 1891) but came into full fruition during the present century. Since ragtime was the predecessor of jazz and swing music and since Scott Joplin, a Sedalia negro, became known nation-wide as the "King of Ragtime" the story is part of local history. Joplin was no accident. He attended Geo. R. Smith College where he studied composition, harmony and underwent intensive musical training.

Nocturnal Main Street during the late nineties and early years of the present century was the "sporting" belt for Sedalia and surrounding territory — now (1960) completely gone. During the day, its seed stores, harness shops, hardware stores and wholesale houses carried on as usual. When night came they were closed and from the open door of the Maple Leaf Club at 119 East Main came the tinkling and syncopated rhythms of a ragtime piano. Perhaps it was Scott Joplin himself sitting high on the red plush piano stool. As we wander nearer the music, jostling gamblers, sports, women of easy virtue and ordinary male citizens jam the sidewalk. In those days the city was wide open and a respectable woman was not seen north of Second Street after sun-down. From nearly every "club" the infectious ragtime music poured forth. It is very difficult to recapture a true picture of Main Street night life sixty years ago and the atmosphere in which Joplin composed. Some concept may be procured from the book by Blesh, "They All Played Ragtime." We quote: "The Maple Leaf Club was a large room dominated by a large victorian bar of carved walnut and filled with pool and gambling tables, around which negro and white stood or sat on old fashion tavern chairs. The gas chandeliers were like beacons in a fog, seeming to swing in the whirling tobacco smoke and noise. As the visitors eyes became accustomed to the half light he would perceive that the music he heard was coming from an upright piano standing

in a far corner. As the piano started playing a slow barber shop number a group of four young negroes gathered around the piano and began to sing a popular tune of the day. Without looking up from their games the men over the room joined in with singing of the refrain:

‘Oh Mr. Johnson turn me loose,
Got no money, but a good excuse,
Oh Mr. Johnson I’ll be good.’”

Scott Joplin was ragtime’s foremost pioneer and it is agreed among jazz experts that his *Maple Leaf Rag* is the finest piece of ragtime music ever written. Published about 1899 by John Stark and Son, Sedalia, it is still played by leading bands and orchestras. Joplin made a contract with John Stark and Son to write music only for them. They moved to St. Louis about 1900 and Joplin’s compositions made them the leading “rag” house in America. Joplin also wrote ragtime operas. He died in 1917.

In connection with Scott Joplin, it is interesting to know something about John Stark. Stark was both a piano dealer and publisher. He would haul a piano in his wagon to a home in the country and place it in the home. Money was tight. Stark would dicker with the farmer, stating he did not want to haul the piano back to town — “let’s make a deal.” Stark accepted corn, wheat, eggs and other products in payment for the piano, then sold them in Sedalia. Stark roamed into the *Maple Leaf Club* one night and heard Joplin playing the *Maple Leaf Rag*. Joplin told Stark it was his own composition but he had difficulty selling it. Stark recognized the composition as a masterpiece, published it and sold over a million copies in 1899.

It sounds fantastic but it is true, that the city of the dead (*Crown Hill Cemetery*) has a larger population than the city of the living. By 1930 approximately 24,000 were buried there, by 1958 about 30,000. The first burying ground in Sedalia was located near *Lamine* and *Washington*, the first interment being that of a Union soldier in 1861. These grounds were used for about five years. In 1866 the city purchased six acres in the central part of the present cemetery. Bodies were removed from their old resting places to the new city cemetery and the soldiers’ remains were taken to the *National Cemetery* at *Jefferson City*. Additions were made from time to time until 28 acres were acquired in what is frequently termed



The 1904 Ladies Musical Club. The lady in the middle of the front row is Helen G. Steele for whom the club was later named as explained in this book. Mrs. Steele's reputation in musical circles was nation wide. With a present membership of 250 and Mrs. Edwin Forrest Yancey life president, the club continues as one of the best influences for good music in Sedalia.



Gone but not forgotten. The Gentlemen's Music Club of 1903. If the reader is over fifty, he will recognize some of the faces. The successor to this club is the Men's Choral Club, under the able direction of Abe Rosenthal, which has been a joy to music lovers in Sedalia and vicinity.

the "old part" of the cemetery and in 1905 the city purchased 25 additional acres lying north of the old cemetery and several additional acres recently. The present cemetery consists of about 75 acres.

Fortunately, these grounds have been owned by the city and controlled by the city council. Originally lots and grave spaces were sold at a very low price and each lot owner was obliged to care for his own lot or make yearly payments for the upkeep. As time passed, many families left the city or had no heirs to care for the lots and the expense of such care had to be made by the city. In 1906 a feeling, which had long been suppressed, found expression in the asserted action of womens' clubs in Sedalia in a petition signed by the citizens to the city council for the formation of a board of trustees upon which should devolve the care and management of the cemetery owned by the city. As a result of the petition an ordinance was passed and a board of trustees was appointed on January 27, 1908. The trustees are appointed by the mayor and city council and serve without compensation.

The board selected the name Crown Hill to supplant the name city cemetery. Since the expense of the upkeep of the cemetery increased with its growth, it was decided to establish a perpetual care fund. This fund is raised by setting aside fifty per cent of the sale price of each lot. Some of the owners of lots in the old part made donations to the fund or made bequests in their wills. By July 1, 1941, the perpetual care fund amounted to \$21,514.06. At this time (1960) the fund is approximately \$60,000.

The problem confronting most cities, with reference to cemeteries, is maintenance. Sedalia acted wisely in establishing a perpetual care fund, the income of which is used for upkeep and maintenance. It also acted wisely in providing that the city shall own and operate the cemetery without profit and the city can, if necessary, appropriate money for the care of Crown Hill Cemetery. This arrangement assures that as long as there is a Sedalia, a cemetery will be maintained.

In addition to the city owned cemetery a well maintained Hebrew cemetery is located at 28th and Grand Ave. and two privately owned cemeteries, Memorial Park and Highland Memorial Gardens service Sedalia and vicinity. Highland Memorial Gardens, locat-

ed southeast of Sedalia, was established recently. Memorial Park, 32nd and Limit, was established in 1928. No above ground monuments are permitted, an idea new at that time. Originally 20 acres, Memorial Park now consists of 40 acres and between 2,000 and 2,500 are now buried there. Memorial Park is well maintained and has been made into a beauty spot.

To understand what happened in Sedalia during World War I, it is necessary to give some background. War started in Europe in 1914. The stated causes were many, but historians generally now agree that the underlying cause was perhaps the exceptional rise of Germany from its unification in 1871 to the place where it became a formidable competitor invading all markets of the British empire. This was due to superior scientific and technical knowledge resulting in Germany being able to produce and market goods, wares and merchandise for less than its competitors. An English ship captain told one of the writers of this history: "German shipping was running us off the seas." Our country remained neutral from 1914 to 1917 but during this period a heavy demand grew for our products and we attempted to maintain freedom of the seas but American commerce began to suffer from U-boat attacks. In 1916 President Wilson successfully ran on the slogan: "He kept us out of war." In November, 1916, the sentiment of this country was for neutrality but it changed very quickly. In April, 1917, 10,000 citizens assembled in St. Louis and passed a resolution in part as follows: "We stand for the honor of our flag, for the rights of Americans on sea and on land, and in full protection of every one of those rights, and to that end are in favor of immediate and compulsory universal military service and adequate means to secure, when the war shall end, lasting world peace."

War was declared on Germany April 6, 1917. It was during this period rumors commenced to be heard around Sedalia that certain persons (some of whom had lived here since childhood) were pro-German. Schmier kase became, and has since remained, cottage cheese. Rumors were heard concerning germs in the water, glass in the bread, German atrocities to Belgian babies. Reports were heard concerning Sedalians receiving letters from Germany and upon removing the stamp finding the words "we are starving." After the war many Sedalia soldiers marched through Belgium and into Germany. They then found there was plenty of food in Germany; that

a bar of soap could be traded for a dozen eggs; that the only food problem was lack of transportation to cities and that most of the stories concerning atrocities to children were fabricated. Such is the propaganda of war.

To the slogan, "war to end war — make the world safe for democracy" between 2000 and 2100 Sedalians marched. Like crusaders they marched, inspired by a great ideal, in the actual belief this was a war to end wars and make the world safe for democracy — only to see their dream perish less than twenty-five years later when the worst war in history broke out. They marched to stirring war songs and what is said to be one of the greatest war poems ever written:

In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields, where poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place, and in the sky
The larks still bravely singing, fly,
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the dead; short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields!

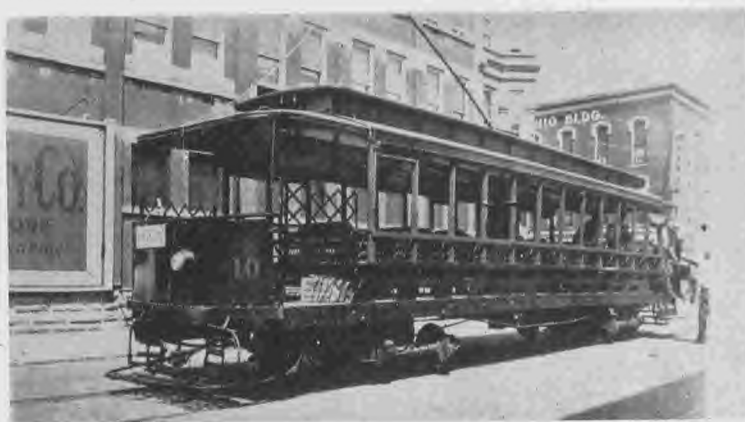
Take up our quarrel with the foe,
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch — be yours to hold it high!
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields!

The majority of Sedalians who participated in fighting were in the 35th and 89th divisions. Accordingly, a short record of these divisions is apropos. The 89th was organized August 25, 1917, at Camp Funston, Kansas and was originally commanded by Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood, who, however, did not command the division overseas. It fought at St. Mihiel in the first all-American drive on the western front, at Argonne-Meuse, the last battle of the war, and was part of the army of occupation in Germany. It was the first division to enter the fighting line without previously having been

brigaded with French or British, the first division to be continuously in the front line for more than eight weeks, the first national army division to participate in a major operation, and the first national army division to enter Germany. After the war Maj. Gen. Wm. M. Wright, before a large assembly in St. Louis, was requested to describe the activities of the 89th. Instead of delivering a panegyric, he bowed his head and said four words: "They fought like hell." The national guard of Missouri and Kansas comprised the 35th. It arrived in France on May 11, 1918 (a month and ten days before the 89th.) In casualties, the severest of all battle tests, it suffered more than the 89th. It was first stationed in the Vosges sector, participated in the St. Mihiel drive in September and led the American advance in the Argonne forest battle of September 26-29. Its casualties in this last battle were very severe. The armistice was signed November 11, 1918. On the base of the "dough" boy statue on the court house lawn in Sedalia, under the heading "In memory of our glorious dead, 1917-1918" appears 53 names.

Considering the very active part the Sedalia chapter (now Pettis County chapter) of the American Red Cross had in World War I and later, a short statement concerning its formation and services are part of local history. Mrs. Arthur Kahn, a native of Lorraine, France, was more aghast at the war waging in Europe in 1914 than any other Sedalian. She knew the war theatre and the temperaments and personalities of the people involved. She felt an immediate urge "to do something and do it now." It is fortunate she did, because through her leadership the local chapter of the Red Cross became so well organized that it served sandwiches, ice cream, coffee, etc. to 22,200 men in transit in the armed services in World War I. The Sedalia group of women first became an auxiliary and later on June 7, 1917, became recognized by the national organization as the Sedalia, Missouri Chapter, although the authority to form a chapter was dated April 17. The local chapter furnished over 31,000 gauze dressings and over 11,000 muslin bandages and rendered numerous other services. Lack of space makes it impossible to mention the numerous services rendered. During the early forties the Pettis County chapter again went into war action. Sewing rooms were opened, knitters offered their services, first aid and water safety training took on new impetus, more nurses aides, staff aides, welfare aides and motor service personnel were trained. The chapter

was functioning extremely well when the Japanese attacked at Pearl Harbor. First aid, nutrition and home nursing classes were organized throughout the county. The blood program was entered into. War fund campaigns were carried on, the largest amount raised by the Pettis County chapter being \$39,061.27 in 1945.



"Oh, how I like to ride the trolley." Old No. 10. This car and No. 11 were the longest trolley cars on the street railway in Sedalia. Were they fast? Speeds as high as 20 miles per hour — down hill — five or six uphill, but one could ride from Brown Springs to the Missouri Pacific Shops for a dime. With the coming of the bus and automobile, the entire street railway system was removed. Picture courtesy of Leslie Hale.

It is difficult to write objectively of labor relations in Sedalia because the pros and cons of labor difficulties and their effect on the city are a subject for two-sided debate. We shall not attempt to do so. However, it is a fact that several railroad strikes (including a severe one in the early twenties) caused not only extensive unemployment and ill feeling but also severe repercussions on the local economy. Some of the feelings engendered lasted for many years. Fortunately for workers and the city, employer-employee relations have been more favorable in Sedalia during recent years than in most large cities. Since an adequate pay roll is the life blood of our type of city, it may be advisable to tell how one factory, employing several hundred, was lost.

With little money but much initiative and high hope, the Brown-Evans Manufacturing Co. was established by local men. The firm made work clothes, prospered and incorporated for \$50,000. It was very active in World War I. We now quote from Chas. P.

Mike O'Connor Chevrolet-Buick Company

Brown's memoir sketches (1958):

"Our firm built a recreation room at the corner on the second floor, put in hardwood floors, cushioned seats all around, a victrola to furnish music if the girls wanted to dance during their noon hour and a large table with magazines for their entertainment.***

"In the war then with a huge contract, making breeches for the government, the employees wanted to form a union. We did not approve, so they went out on strike. We immediately contacted the quartermaster in St. Louis. They sent a man down who told the employees that President Wilson wanted all the factories that were union before the war to remain union and those that were not, to remain open shop. We were at war now and the government needed the uniforms we were making. He got them back to work but told us we were due for a lot of trouble, if we remained in Sedalia, and began to talk up his home town, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He said you will never have any union trouble there and you can get about anything you want in the way of a building and money.

"Mr. Evans, with my consent, decided to go there and look over the situation, where he received a warm welcome. They entertained him lavishly and offered to build us a building according to our specifications and subscribe to forty thousand dollars of preferred stock. He was enthusiastic over their generous offer and determined that that was the place for us to go.

"He came home and told me about it. I was skeptical. We had never done any business in Iowa. Our trade had always been in Missouri and states south and west of us. Besides, Sedalia was our home town, where we had lots of friends. Things had quieted down at the factory. The girls were working hard and we were turning out lots of garments for the government, as well as for our regular trade, on which we made a good profit.

"The war ended a few months later. I was called to St. Louis — our contract for two hundred thousand pair of breeches for the army was not completed and they wanted to cancel it.***

"Mr. Evans still had Cedar Rapids on his mind. He could visualize that new building they were going to build for us, a large force of operators not dominated by unions and continued prosperity, like we had enjoyed for the past five years.

"After the war ended, there were rumblings about what they would do to us, if we did not let them organize and they were encouraged by outside promoters. Sensing the feeling, we called them together and told them we would continue to run the factory on the basis it had been operating but there were a few who would have to leave and named them.

"They all walked out, which we expected them to do. I was not in favor of doing that. It was a direct invitation for them to strike but that was what Evans wanted. He was determined we take advantage of the offer the Cedar Rapids business men made us. He left right away for Cedar Rapids and contracts were soon let for the building that was to be the new home of the Brown-Evans Manufacturing Company.

"It was not long before the girls came back, begging for their jobs again. I felt sorry for them as they were a fine group of workers. Some had been with us from the time we started and a few had worked for me when I was with my Uncle. Work was scarce right after the war so it was hard for them to find employment elsewhere. We had already made up our minds to move out of town so there was nothing we could do about it.***

"We were able to sell our machinery and lease on the building to the Mogul Manufacturing Company of Kansas City, Missouri, so all we had to move was the small amount of stock we had left. They made a big event of it, with a torch-light parade headed by a band of music but they did not last long. The depression of 1920 got them, like it did so many others and they moved out of town."

It has been said that Sedalia has had only six "angels", Gen. Smith, his two daughters (Sarah E. Cotton and Martha E. Smith), John Homer Bothwell, May Hawkins Ilgenfritz and Jennie Jaynes Lewis. The term "angels" is used to designate those who have given generously for the benefit of the city and its inhabitants. The generosity of Gen. Smith's daughters consisted in substantial gifts of land. One such tract is now Hubbard Park, named for C. C. Hubbard, a colored educator of exceptional ability.

May Hawkins Ilgenfritz, who died in July, 1941, left a will in which she devised and bequeathed the residue of her estate to Elliot M. Stafford, as trustee, with wide discretionary powers. She directed that the net proceeds of the trust shall be used by the trustee "to



"A boy who blows a horn, won't blow a safe." So thought Dr. J. E. Cannaday and other Sedalians who sponsored a boy's band of 150 boys. Organized April, 1920. John De Young was conductor.

assist worthy and ambitious young persons of Sedalia, Missouri, in procuring higher education" and several other purposes. Mr. Stafford was a sagacious and able investor with the result the value of the corpus of the trust has grown to in excess of \$500,000. The income from this trust fund has helped more than 60 students in education beyond high school. The trust is perpetual.

Jennie Jaynes Lewis, daughter of A. D. Jaynes, although she lived in St. Louis, retained her affection for her home city of Sedalia. In her will she left the residue of her estate, approximately \$100,000, to trustees with broad powers. Part of her will is as follows: "I wish to suggest to the trustees the consideration that such funds as may be wise be used for the establishment in the City of Sedalia, Missouri, of a recreational or community center for the benefit of the people of that community." The trustees in 1950 formed a pro forma decree corporation and established the Jennie Jaynes Lewis Community Center in cooperation with the city. A recreational center including an excellent concrete stadium has been constructed.

Every Sedalian knows of the existence of Hotel Bothwell and John H. Bothwell Memorial Hospital but few of this generation have knowledge concerning how those institutions came into existence. The story is connected with the life of John Homer Bothwell, one of the greatest benefactors of Sedalia, and a conspicuous figure in Missouri industrial, financial and political life.

Born in Clay County, Illinois, November 20, 1849, of Scotch-Irish English ancestry, Mr. Bothwell was reared on a farm near Clay City, received a public school education, then matriculated at the University of Indiana where he received his bachelor degree in 1869. He read law in Springfield, Illinois, then attended a law school in Albany, New York, where he received his law degree in 1871. In November, 1871, he came to Sedalia. Mr. Bothwell's principal business interests were outside of Sedalia but he consistently kept his voting residence in Sedalia and maintained intense loyalty to the city. In 1902 he organized a water company in St. Louis County. He was a man of vision and pictured the time when St. Louis would expand west. After years of financial difficulties with the water company, St. Louis did expand westward and Mr. Bothwell became a wealthy man.

At the close of World War I land values in the vicinity of Sedalia were up. Sedalia then was more than half dependent upon

agriculture. One of the writers of this history saw a farm near Beaman sell for \$170 per acre in 1920. Twelve years later the same farm sold for \$30 per acre. It was the belief of many farmers immediately after the war that, due to food shortages in Europe, food prices would stay up and land would increase in value. However, within a few years the dislocations caused by World War I were corrected to the extent land and commodities commenced to fall



John Homer Bothwell. Outstanding citizen and benefactor to Sedalia. He made possible a hotel and city hospital, both of which bear his name.

and by 1926 Sedalia found its economy suffering. It was during this time the metropolitan press published articles criticizing Sedalia for inadequate facilities to house state fair visitors and many citizens commenced to agitate for a new hotel and larger city hospital. It was at this time that Mr. Bothwell came into the picture. Mr. Bothwell met with a group of citizens and informed them that while he had great affection for Sedalia, he did not care to place money in a sinking ship; that if the citizens themselves would take the initiative and demonstrate that they would help substantially, he would help. The ultimate result was that Sedalia responded. Bonds for a hospital

were voted. By a detailed instrument dated April 10, 1926, entitled "Trust Agreement for the John H. Bothwell Hospital Trust" Mr. Bothwell made \$150,000 available "for use in the construction and maintenance of a hospital in the City of Sedalia." The attitude and painstaking care shown by Mr. Bothwell, in making possible a hospital and new hotel, is illustrated in the trust agreement from which we quote:

"The above mentioned trust fund hereby given, assigned and transferred to the Trustees * * * and to be so held and known as 'The John H. Bothwell Hospital Trust', consists (a) of One Hundred Thousand (\$100,000) Dollars in United States Liberty Loan Bonds, and Certificates of Indebtedness, of various issues and dates, which have been registered in the name of John H. Bothwell, and which shall be transferred to and registered in the names of the said Trustees, and shall thereafter be held as funds of the said Hospital Trust, or so much thereof as shall produce or yield the sum of One Hundred Thousand (\$100,000) Dollars in money, (any excess of money or securities derived above the \$100,000 to be returned to John H. Bothwell), subject to the conditions and reservations in this Agreement written and set forth; and it is especially provided as one of the conditions that the interest, dividends and incomes from the said bonds and certificates above mentioned, and from all other bonds, stocks or other property in which the said fund of \$100,000, or any part thereof, may be reinvested shall be paid to the said John H. Bothwell during his life, or to his legal representatives, if accrued or earned during his life, but not collected or received until after his death; and (b) the aforementioned trust fund hereby given, assigned and transferred to the said Trustees or Second Parties, to be so held and known as 'The John H. Bothwell Hospital Trust', shall further consist of the amount of Fifty Thousand (\$50,000) Dollars in current money issued, circulated and used in the United States, or in part in such current money and part in U. S. Liberty Loan Bonds not registered with the privilege reserved to the First Party of withdrawing any such unregistered bonds, or any part thereof, at any time, or from time to time, and substituting current money for such bonds so withdrawn; and it is expressly provided as one of the conditions of this Agreement that the interest, dividends and other income from the said fund of \$50,000 last mentioned, or of any bonds, stocks or other properties in which the said \$50,000, or any part thereof, shall be invested, shall be paid by the said Trustees as

collected or received by them to the said John H. Bothwell during his life, or to his legal representative if accrued or earned during his life but not collected or received by the Trustees until after his death. It is expressly provided and the Trustees are hereby authorized and directed that the said trust fund last mentioned, in the amount of \$50,000, shall be invested in the first preferred, cumulative, six per cent stock of a Community Hotel Company of Sedalia, Missouri, which shares of stock may be subscribed by the Trustees for and as the property of 'The John H. Bothwell Hospital Trust' when the Trustees ascertain and are reasonably sure that the requirements and conditions set out by John H. Bothwell in his letter of February 15, 1926, to the Citizens Committee for the proposed Community Hotel Company have been met and complied with and the financial plans of the proposed company have been well laid out for carrying the enterprise to successful completion, and the Trustees shall then pay installments as due under such stock subscription contract from the said trust fund of \$50,000 until the full amount has been paid for said shares of first preferred cumulative six per cent stock, named and called Class B stock, in the proposed Community Hotel Company of Sedalia. The said shares of first preferred stock to be so subscribed and paid for by the Trustees of the John H. Bothwell Trust, together with common bonus stock, shall be issued and taken as the property of the said John H. Bothwell Trust, and the preferred stock shall be a cumulative stock at six per centum per annum, and during the life of John H. Bothwell the said \$50,000 of such preferred stock shall have priority over all other shares of stock of the hotel company for the amount of the cumulative six per cent annual dividends and all such dividends as and when received by the Trustees shall be paid over to John H. Bothwell so long as he shall live, with any and all earned or accrued dividends not collected before his death to be collected and paid by the Trustees to the legal representatives of John H. Bothwell after his death. After the death of John H. Bothwell and the payment to his legal representatives of the cumulative preferred six per cent of dividends due, earned or accrued at his death, it will be legal and proper for the Trustees to agree and arrange with the Community Hotel Company to exchange the said Class B shares of preferred stock for shares of Class A preferred stock so exchanged and substituted then and thereafter to belong to the Hospital Trust, * * *."

In the trust agreement Mr. Bothwell provided also that the

trustees shall act without compensation for their services and that no change in the investment "of any part of such funds be made without the concurrence and approval in writing of all the three trustees."

The meticulous care shown by Mr. Bothwell was criticized by some at the time, but the test of time has shown it to be wise. The \$100,000 given by him to help construct the hospital was soon made available. The hospital (including the addition completed in 1959) has developed into a large institution serving not only Sedalia but also surrounding territory. Viewed from either a humanitarian aspect or as a business, it is a real asset to the city. It functions every day in the year day and night, employs about 150 people, treats an average of 4500 cases a year and an average of 755 babies are born there annually.

The hotel company was incorporated in April, 1926. An intensive drive for subscriptions to the capital stock was undertaken in an effort to raise \$160,000 which, with the \$50,000 provided by Mr. Bothwell, would make \$210,000. More than 100 solicitors participated. Various slogans were used in the campaign including "Keep the Grass From Growing in the Main Streets of Sedalia." With the assistance of Hockenbury System, \$160,000, the sum necessary to be raised by the citizens of Sedalia, was subscribed within three months. The trustees of the John H. Bothwell hospital trust then purchased 500 shares of cumulative preferred stock, which upon the death of Mr. Bothwell, became non-cumulative preferred stock. \$200,000 was borrowed through Commerce Trust Company. The hotel (land and building) cost \$410,000. The hotel was completed and opened June 10, 1927. Since \$100,000 from Mr. Bothwell's hospital trust fund was made available for hospital construction, the remaining corpus of the hospital trust consists of 500 shares of preferred stock of the hotel company. After the death of Mr. Bothwell on August 4, 1929, the directors wisely decided not to pay any substantial dividends until the mortgage indebtedness was paid. The mortgage was paid off in 1943. It is interesting to notice that the hospital trust, which consists of 500 shares of preferred stock, original cost \$50,000, since the beginning of the payment of dividends in 1941, has to date (1960) collected and paid to the hospital board of the City of Sedalia (for use and benefit of John H. Bothwell Memorial Hospital) the sum of \$44,500, even though the hotel company, during the depression of

the thirties, had to grant a moratorium of rent to the lessee of the hotel to keep that institution going. In that approximately one-fourth of the dividends are paid to a city owned hospital, it may be said that indirectly the city is the beneficiary of approximately a one-fourth interest in the hotel. In making this provision for the trust fund to assist in the maintenance of the hospital, Mr. Bothwell demonstrated much wisdom and his name will be perpetuated as one of the true benefactors of the city.

Mr. Bothwell also provided in his will for the formation of the Bothwell Lodge Club. He provided that the occupancy of Bothwell Lodge by the club "shall continue so long as not less than five of the original parties" named by Mr. Bothwell in his will shall live, after which the property shall go to the State of Missouri, if the state wants it, "for use by the State for some state educational or charitable institution" under certain conditions. Mr. Bothwell also made provisions for a rural school know as Bothwell School.

VIII

THE GREAT DEPRESSION AND SEDALIA

In the early twenties Sedalia had a railroad strike, the repercussion from which affected its economy for several years, but by 1929 the city had recovered. During the twenties farm land prices in this vicinity had been softening some but most activities in the city were doing well. The Third National Bank in 1929 and Sedalia National Bank constructed new fire proof buildings. The Citizens National and Sedalia Trust Co. made extensive renovations. The new Smith-Cotton high school was completed in 1925. Hotel Bothwell was completed and opened in June, 1927. The new hospital was on the way. The city's credit was good. Many economists were lecturing and publishing articles predicting economic conditions were fundamentally sound and the boom would continue. However, speculation was widespread over the country, people were buying on margin, and credit was stretched. As an example of speculative fever, in 1929 American Telephone and Telegraph Co. shares sold as high as \$310 per share — to plunge to as low as \$70 in 1932, although the corporation continued to pay an annual dividend of \$9 per share each year. Anaconda Copper reached a high of \$174 in 1929, a low of \$3 in 1932. In October, 1929, the stock market crash came and the depression started, to become most severe in 1932.

For the benefit of our younger readers (and for the future) it is necessary to depict in some detail conditions which existed in Sedalia during the depression. In this locality corn went to fifteen cents per bushel (in some localities lower and was used for fuel). Wheat sold for thirty-two cents per bushel, fat hogs for \$2.80 per hundred pounds. The largest real estate loan company failed. As the depression deepened, bank depositors became apprehensive and commenced to draw out their deposits. Local bankers commenced to demand payment of notes from farmers and other borrowers in order to pay depositors. Because of low prices for their products many farmers were unable to pay their bank loans. A vicious circle existed. To procure money to pay depositors, it was necessary for banks to call loans at a time when borrowers were unable to pay.

Between January 1 and September 1, 1931, a large per-centage

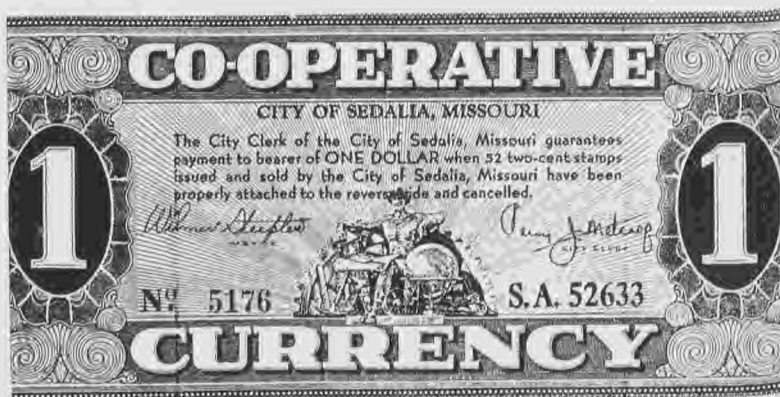
of the banks in the country were temporarily or permanently closed. On October 21, 1931, 20 bankers met in Sedalia and announced to the press that conditions are fundamentally sound. They also expressed a belief that an up-turn in business was near. On October 26 a delegation of several hundred "hunger" marchers, including a group which came through Sedalia, called upon the governor of Missouri and demanded the calling of a special session of the legislature to provide cash payments for winter relief for unemployed and unemployment insurance provisions, free text books and lunches for school children, no evictions from homes and a three year moratorium on farm mortgages. On November 2, 1931, the Citizens National Bank failed to open its doors and the worst bank run in the history of Sedalia was on. The same day the Sedalia Clearing House Association passed a rule limiting withdrawals to \$25 per day on all checking accounts, matured certificates of deposits and matured savings accounts. The local press did all it could to allay hysteria but (with banks failing all over the nation) apprehension grew and long lines of people formed daily at local banks withdrawing funds. The situation was not helped when the true status of the Citizens National Bank became known. Considered by many as the oldest and strongest bank in central Missouri, at the time of closing on November 2nd, its assets consisted of bills receivable, \$1,704,855.47, cash on hand \$67,390.42, all other assets \$604,600.73.

In December, 1931, a local relief fund was raised and work commenced on cleaning up Sedalia parks. As the depression deepened this work was merged into the W. P. A. which some local wits termed "We Piddle Around". During the days of the W. P. A. it is said that a Sedalia lady, with a front yard 40 by 40 telephoned to the W. P. A. for a man to cut her yard. Eight men came. The lady telephoned to the W. P. A. stating she had only a small yard and needed only one man. Back came the reply: "Lady, you don't understand our system. We have two coming, two going, two in the toilet and two mowing." Although many made fun of the W. P. A., it not only served a necessary purpose at the time but also did much constructive street and other work in the city.

On January 29, 1932, Sedalia Trust Company limited withdrawals to \$10 per day. On February 8, 1932, the Sedalia Trust Company closed its doors to be followed by the Sedalia National Bank on February 15, 1932. The Third National and Union Savings Bank

demonstrated great skill in keeping their banks open. Immediately upon the closing of the Sedalia National a limit of \$5 per day on withdrawals of old accounts was imposed by the remaining two banks. This limitation (which was soon removed) gave depositors an opportunity to cool off and probably saved the banks.

It is very difficult to describe the frustration and hysteria of 1932. In retrospect, it must be said that the officers and directors of Third National and Union Savings rendered a great service to the community in keeping their banks open because, as conditions improved, loans not good in 1932 became good and were paid later and the banks fully recovered and grew. On the other hand, the assets of the closed banks were sacrificed, although the Sedalia Na-



Mayor Steeples called this co-operative currency. Most people called it scrip. During the depth of the depression, it was issued in an effort to relieve the money shortage. When 52 two-cent stamps issued and sold by the city were placed on the back, it would be redeemed for one genuine dollar.

tional paid over 95% to its depositors and the Citizens National about 50%. As an example of what happened, the building and vault of Sedalia National, which cost over \$108,000 in 1929, sold for \$25,000 in the liquidation.

The organization of the Third National in 1883 has been previously described in this book. With a present capital stock of \$200,000 (1960) and surplus and undivided profits of over \$1,000,000, the resources of the Third National at this time (1960) exceed \$13,000,000. The Union Savings Bank was organized in 1913 with a capital stock of \$10,000 and opened in east Sedalia. It moved down

town February 22, 1932, and commenced a consistent growth. At the present time (1960) its capital stock is \$100,000, surplus and undivided profits \$375,000, and total resources over \$5,400,000.

In 1932 many people blamed bankers. However, as the facts commenced to unfold most people realized that the function of a bank is to serve its community. This means that loans must be made to local farmers, industries, businessmen and others to carry on their activities. While it is possible bankers of that period may have placed too much confidence in farmers, the true cause of the collapse was the extreme drop in market prices of farm products, corporate stocks and other assets which borrowers had to rely upon to pay their notes.

Soon after Sedalia National closed, plans were formed to organize a new bank. It was first thought that a new bank could purchase the assets of the closed banks but this idea was soon abandoned. On February 19, 1932, the local press published an article stating that John McGrath would subscribe \$75,000 for stock in a new bank. The Sedalia Bank and Trust Company, with a capital of \$100,000 paid in, was incorporated June 3, 1932, and opened its doors for business June 6, 1932. Its growth has been continuous. At the present time (1960) its capital is \$150,000, surplus, undivided profits and reserves over \$450,000 and total assets over \$7,000,000. Mr. McGrath will be remembered for the confidence he had in the community under the trying conditions existing in 1932.

A constructive effort to relieve conditions was made by several hundred farmers and other citizens who appeared before the taxing authorities in Jefferson City on March 23, 1932 and procured a reduction of 22% in the assessed valuation of property in Pettis County. At that time foreclosures of city and county properties were severe and this reduction helped relieve the strain. However, market values of real estate decreased as much as 50%, sometimes more, and properties in the business section which previously rented for \$150 commenced to rent for as low as \$50 per month. Money became extremely scarce. When Mayor Wilmer Steeples sensed the situation, with the cooperation of the city council, he initiated what was termed "cooperative currency", commonly known as scrip, which circulated in the community and could be redeemed for \$1 when 52 two cent stamps issued and sold by the city were attached to the reverse side and cancelled. This circulated in the community for about two years, when conditions had improved to the extent scrip

was abandoned. In February, 1932, a published article stated 750 worthy Sedalia families were receiving help from the welfare board and the local relief fund and that the welfare board had 1195 registrations for jobs. Thousands of men (and some women) rode through Sedalia in railroad box cars, wandering back and forth through the country looking for jobs. By 1937 the city was well on its way out of the depression.



Was this building ever in Sedalia? Yes it was, although few remember it. It was known as the Hoffman Building and was located at the Southwest corner of 5th and Ohio Streets. Taxes were so high and rent so low that the owner, during the depression, tore off the top three stories to save taxes.

With World War II raging in Europe and England under terrific strain, a representative of Life magazine visited Sedalia in 1940. In its issue of October 21, 1940, Life published the following under the title "Sedalia, Missouri. It is Taking Campaign Calmly":

"What Americans most admired about the British at this mo-

ment in history is the courage and confidence with which they are facing out the most frightening assault of all time. What Americans most deplore about the British is the complacency, the sureness that the worst would never happen, with which they dawdled away past months and years when they might have been preparing for that assault. Some of the same courage and complacency may now be found in an American town of 20,000 which LIFE visited to see how its people were feeling about the world and the election of 1940. Its name is Sedalia, Missouri and it differs from several thousand other American towns chiefly in that it lies at the crossroads of U. S. Route 65 (Minneapolis, Minn. to New Orleans, La.) and U. S. Route 50 (Annapolis, Md. to Sacramento, Calif.). Sedalia thinks of herself as the heart of America and it pretty well fills the bill. Here, if anywhere, is a working sample of Democracy.

"Sedalia is the county seat of Pettis County and marketing center for a farm area extended 60 or 70 miles south to the Lake of the Ozarks region. Its other distinctions include a large, newly built business area, fine schools and churches, one of the midland's most notorious red-light districts and a claim to having been the town 'second hardest hit by depression' (after Gary, Ind.) in the nation. Three of its four banks closed during the worst days and three leading bankers killed themselves in quick succession. Sedalians think the town is doing all right now.

"The depression-closed M. K. T. Railroad shops are still empty, and 8,000 of Pettis County's 33,000 citizens are getting public relief. But the Missouri Pacific shops, the town's leading industry, are making jobs for over 1,000 people. And business is pretty good again in Sedalia's 1,080 trade outlets.

"Sedalia voted for Roosevelt in 1932 and 1936, though it is traditionally one of the more Republican-inclined spots in Democratic Missouri. Now it appears to be about evenly divided between Roosevelt and Willkie. But except for an occasional thoughtful individual, Sedalians do not seem very much exercised about the campaign and its issues. When LIFE paid its visit, the leading topics of conversation, in approximate order, were: (1) Elliott Roosevelt's captaincy; (2) football prospects; (3) the World's Series; (4) the wastebasket that almost hit Willkie.

"Sedalians are calm because they believe in themselves. Their

Democratic organization gives them a good businesslike local government so nobody worries much about its link with the Pendergast machine. Sedalians believe in democracy and practice it, by liking and trusting each other, with due allowance for human failings. They are sure they can keep democracy working at home, and if it is attacked from outside nearly all of them are handy with guns. The great question for all the Sedalians of America is whether self-reliance and a steady trigger finger will make up at the test for the lack of imagination which put Great Britain in its present plight."

IX

WORLD WAR II AND SEDALIA

During the 1920's it looked like the "Sedalias" of the nation would enjoy a long term of peace. Readjustments from the first world war were being made. In 1928 fifteen nations signed the Kellogg-Briand pact outlawing war as an instrument of national policy, but in Germany an Austrian corporal, Adolph Hitler, was building up a party of so-called National Socialists (Nazis). In America little attention was given to Hitler at that time, but Hitler's fiery oratory was hypnotizing German audiences. A large number of men, women and youth hailed him as the leader (Fuehrer) who was appointed by Providence to restore the pride and power of Germany. In 1932 the Nazis got a majority of the seats in the German parliament (Reichstag) and on January 30, 1933, Hitler became chancellor. The United States was in the depression and few of our citizens realized what was happening, but the seeds for World War II were being sown. Hitler quickly became ruthless. All political parties except the Nazis were outlawed, trade unions were dissolved, the army was controlled by Hitler's special troops, many Jews were persecuted, and the secret police (Gestapo) created a reign of terror by delivering to torture citizens who criticized adversely.

The establishment of Hitler's dictatorship was only one of the dire events that led to the renewal of war. In 1931 Japan invaded Manchuria and set up an emperor under Japanese order. In 1935 Mussolini of Italy attacked and conquered helpless Ethiopia. In 1936 Hitler marched his troops into the Rhineland. In 1937 Japan launched war against China which continued until the defeat of Japan by the United States eight years later. In 1938 Hitler annexed Austria to the German Reich and by 1939 had Czechoslovakia. He then made a treaty with Russia for the division of Poland. He invaded Poland about September 1, 1939, and conquered it in three weeks. Great Britain and France, bound by treaty to defend Poland's independence, declared war on Germany and the second world war was on.

As early as 1937 our president had sensed the danger of war and on October 5, 1937, made a speech calling on the peace loving

nations to "quarantine" the aggressors. However, the American people, and particularly the central west, were not then very much concerned with what went on in Europe and were still very much peace-minded. All that Congress would do at that time was continue the Neutrality Act of 1935, which forbade the shipment of arms to belligerents. When war broke out in Europe, our president called Congress in extra session in September, 1939, and secured the repeal of arms embargo. This country commenced to give substantial aid to the European allies. In April, 1940, Hitler launched a Blitzkrieg (lightning war) against Denmark and rapidly overran Norway, Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg and France. This left Great Britain alone to withstand him in the West and tension in our country became intense. Our Congress acted quickly. 50 destroyers were transferred to Great Britain in exchange for naval bases. Congress passed an act for the conscription of men between the ages of 21 and 35, the first such act ever passed in this country when we were not at war. Windshield stickers appeared on automobiles in Sedalia containing the words: "There will always be an England." The attitude of the administration was for all out aid to the allies and the president said the United States must be the "arsenal of democracy." In March, 1941, Congress passed the lend-lease bill and voted an appropriation of seven billion dollars. German submarines attacked our merchant ships and fired on our war vessels which were patrolling the sea to protect our lend-lease deliveries. Our president gave orders (September 11) to shoot German submarines appearing in our defense waters "at sight." Congress had not declared war but we were then practically in a state of war with tension very high over the country including the mid-west.

It was not, however, the attacks of Hitler's submarines that brought our country to the actual state of war. Japan had enlarged its war against China in an attempt to get control of the southwestern Pacific and got its allies (Germany and Italy) to agree that if any great power (meaning the United States) should enter the war, they would all three combine against her. This was a clear warning of Japan's hostility against us but we continued to furnish Japan with war materials (including some scrap iron from Sedalia) which increased her war power and much of which was shot back at us later. Japan, in November, 1941, had a special envoy (Kusuru) in Washington to aid its ambassador in an attempt to lull our president and secretary of state into the belief Japan's intentions were peaceful.



Lt. George A. Whiteman was born October 12, 1919, was educated in Sedalia, attended the Missouri School of Mines at Rolla two years, entered the armed services as a member of the Coast Guard in 1939, entered the Air Corps and was the first member of the Air Corps killed in World War II. In the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, Lt. Whiteman was killed in attempting to get off of the ground in his plane. The Air Force Base 18 miles west of Sedalia was named Whiteman Air Force Base in honor of Lt. Whiteman. According to information received in 1959, the total value of this base and equipment is \$214,940,000., the annual payroll is \$14,000,000. and the personnel is between 3700 and 4000.

but in the midst of the special envoy's conversations with the secretary, Japan struck. Early on the morning of December 7, 1941, their planes rained bombs on our naval station at Pearl Harbor. Several vessels were sunk, including the battleship Arizona, and thousands of our planes were destroyed on the airfield. Lt. George A. Whiteman of Sedalia (for whom Whiteman Air Force Base is named) was killed in attempting to get off the ground in his plane. Between two and three thousand Americans were killed and wounded. Congress immediately declared war on Japan to be followed by a declaration of war on Germany and Italy three days later.

It was necessary to give our readers some of the background of World War II to determine its affect on Sedalia. We attempted to procure the number of Sedalians who entered the armed services but were informed by the Army that the records "are arranged alphabetically and not by geographical location" and the information could not be procured. It is definitely known, however, that more than 3,000 Sedalians were in the armed forces up to V-E Day (May 8, 1945) and V-J Day (August 14, 1945). A unique feature was the number of Sedalia women who participated, estimated as exceeding 500. With the immense drain on manpower, in addition to becoming Wacs, Waves and Spars these women entered airplane and other war factories. During the war period (1941-45) it was estimated that one-third of the women in Sedalia between the ages of 18 to 64 were engaged, directly or indirectly, in some sort of war work. "Blackout" practices were carried on in Sedalia. Food, fuel, oil, gasoline, tires, etc. were rationed and the local economy was geared for war. Labor gave a no-strike pledge. Controls were enforced far beyond what anyone had believed possible. There were "black markets" in Sedalia in tires, gasoline, meat and other articles, but the rank and file of Sedalians accepted the restrictions to help win the war and obeyed them. Sedalia conformed, but did not like it, and looked forward to the day when daily life as it once was could be restored.

In World War I a majority of Sedalians fought in the 35th and 89th divisions. In World War II they fought in all parts of the world where fighting was going on — in Africa, Asia, Europe and on the high seas. Sedalians were in the African-Italian campaign which drove the Italian and German armies from Africa and southern Italy resulting in the fall of Mussolini and the shift of Italy to

the allies. They were in the Normandy to the Elbe campaign which resulted in the fall of Germany, the suicide of Hitler and the surrender of Nazi armies. They were in the Pacific campaign, waged mostly by American armies and fleets, which finally cleared the Japanese out of a vast area in the Pacific and resulted in the fall of Japan.

Several thousand Sedalians who participated in World War II had become only partly readjusted when the Korean War (1950-1953), at first designated by some a "police" action, broke out. It became a major war costing the U. S. 33,000 killed, 103,000 wounded, with over one million troops involved and costing a financial outlay of fifteen billion dollars.

To procure some understanding of the Korean War it is necessary to give some background. Korea is a peninsula 600 miles long extending southward from Manchuria on the mainland of Asia. In 1910 it was annexed by Japan. During World War II the U. S., Britain and China promised that Korea at some future time should become independent, which promise was included in the Potsdam Declaration of 1945 to which the Soviet Union agreed. In 1945 Russia received the surrender of Japanese troops in that part of Korea north of the 38th parallel and the U. S. received the surrender of the part south. There was no intention on the part of the U. S. to divide Korea into two political parts but the Russians rapidly entrenched themselves in northern Korea and opposed every effort to establish a unified government. In 1947 the U. S. brought the matter before the United Nations, which ordered elections to be held throughout Korea. The Russians prevented the United Nations committee from entering northern Korea and the elections were held only in south Korea, resulting in the establishment of a government known as the Republic of Korea, which was accepted by the United Nations as the legal government of all Korea. On June 29, 1949, the U. S. withdrew the last of its occupation troops. A year later (June 25, 1950) a Communist army invaded the southern part of the peninsula without warning. This action brought the U. N. to the support of south Korea upon the premise that if all Korea were to become a puppet state of Russia, it would mean that the Soviet Union would extend its conquests to the land and islands southward.

By November U. N. troops, under Gen. MacArthur, had control of most of the peninsula when suddenly a great number of Chinese Communists crossed the Yalu River into north Korea and drove the U. N. forces (over 90 per cent American) well south of the 38th parallel. Differences between MacArthur and President Truman led to the dismissal of MacArthur in April, 1951. MacArthur desired to bomb bases in Manchuria. The President did not want to risk war with China, then allied with Russia. The retaking of south Korea involved intense fighting. In 1953 an armistice provided for a territorial dividing line near the 38th parallel. Allen Hawkins, a Sedalia marine, raised the first American flag in Seoul, Korea.

X

CLUBS, LODGES AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS

A book could be written on lodges, clubs and organizations in Sedalia. From 1880 to about 1910 the Germans and Irish had enthusiastic organizations which held annual festivities. About the time of World War I these organizations ceased. At one time lodges such as the Modern Woodmen and Maccabees flourished and filled a need for social fellowship and insurance protection. There were many instances where a clerk of a Woodmen camp from his own funds paid the dues of a member to assure insurance benefits to the widow of an ailing member. With changing conditions and the coming of social security and other benefits, such organizations have dwindled.

It has been said that Sedalia, during its one hundred years, has experienced every kind of organization from the Knights of Labor (based upon the lofty principle of the brotherhood of man and the Fatherhood of God) to the Ku Klux Klan. The Knights of Labor have long since ceased to exist but were succeeded by the more practical American Federation of Labor (organized in 1886) which has many affiliated and active unions in Sedalia. In general, the A. F. of L. accepted the free economic system, recognized the profit system, and aimed at the recognition by industry of the right of labor to organize, the acceptance of the principle of collective bargaining and the improvement of working conditions, hours of work and wages. The Missouri constitution adopted in 1945 (Art. I, Sec. 29) provides "that employees shall have the right to organize and to bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing."

The Ku Klux Klan, originally an after the civil war southern reconstruction period order, procured several hundred members in Sedalia shortly after World War I. A few meetings in white robes were held, but the organization appeared to most Sedalians to be based upon racial and religious intolerance. Intolerance has never thrived in Sedalia and within a few years the Ku Klux Klan died out in this community.

The Masons, Eastern Star, Elks and Knight of Columbus, all

national in scope, are so well known that comment is unnecessary. All of them are active in Sedalia. The Elks have a fine home completely paid for and the Masons (1960) are preparing to build a new temple. Loyal Order of Moose maintains an active lodge. Boy Scout and Girl Scout organizations are active and effective. The National Guard maintains an active military organization with social features in the armory. The American Legion and several other veterans organizations assist veterans. The Sedalia Country Club is not only a social center but also maintains one of the best golf courses in Missouri. The Sedalia Rod and Gun Club has over 350 members. Sedalia Knife and Fork Club is active.

Under the able leadership of Abe Rosenthal, Sedalia has a symphony orchestra which, for a city of this size, is recognized as one of the best in the nation. The men's choral club, also under Mr. Rosenthal's direction, is outstanding.



The Sedalia Symphony Orchestra is recognized as one of the best in the nation for a city of this size. Its concerts draw music lovers from surrounding territory. Under the able direction of Abe Rosenthal, who also directs the Men's Choral Club, the orchestra makes a valuable contribution to the cultural life of the city. The Men's Choral Club, composed of many of the best voices in the city, has given generously of its talent to surrounding communities.

The Sedalia Chamber of Commerce, with a building of its own which will soon be paid for (1960), has fourteen operating divisions: state and national affairs, transportation and traffic, recreation and education, membership and finance, public relations, wholesalers and manufacturers, business relations, agriculture, aviation and military affairs, retail, industrial development, farm marketing, conventions and tourists and civic affairs. During the last two years, it

has successfully cooperated with the city council in procuring much needed parking facilities in downtown Sedalia. Its efforts in procuring industrial expansion have resulted in the establishment of several factories.

In the early twenties there commenced to be organized in Sedalia a group of clubs known as civic or service clubs, the general objects of which were to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise, the development of acquaintance and friendship among business and professional men, high ethical standards and the advancement of international understanding.

The Rotary Club received its charter in 1921, Kiwanis in 1922, Lions in 1936 and Optimists in 1946. These clubs are active in Sedalia and have contributed to community life. They are typically American in that they recognize all worthy occupations and are not secret. They do not concern themselves with a member's politics or attempt to supplant or interfere with his religion. They expect a member to be faithful to his religion and a loyal citizen, active for good government, in civic affairs and have respect for law. They are international, have clubs over the world (outside the iron curtain) and promote interchange of college students among nations in an effort to develop better understanding. Several of these students have been in Sedalia.

Over the years these clubs locally have interpreted their objects into definite projects and, among other things, have spearheaded aid for crippled children, sponsored little league baseball, sponsored the back to school movement during the depression (in some instances providing books and clothing), gave aid to children with defective sight, purchased gilts to encourage deserving farm boys, for several years maintained educational funds, made awards to worthy high school graduates, worked direct with delinquent youth, made vocational guidance talks in high schools, erected a shelter house in the park, etc. For several years after World War II Rotary sponsored an institute of international understanding and world affairs.

It has been argued that service clubs should be abolished and that civic activities should be concentrated in the Chamber of Commerce. However, these clubs (so long as they follow their objects and do not become mere luncheon clubs), definitely educate and broaden their members on civic and world affairs and through

projects undertaken promote fellowship on a high plane. If they follow their objects and use vision, they will remain an integral part of community life.

The history committee is grateful to Mrs. William E. Hurlbut and those who assisted her in procuring the following historical data on women's clubs:

The Heard Memorial Club House is the home of Sorosis and the Helen G. Steele Music Club. It was built by the Hon. and Mrs. John T. Heard, and used as their home until Mr. Heard's death in 1926, and Mrs. Heard's death in 1934, at which time Mrs. Heard willed their home to these two clubs, with the stipulation that it be utilized as their club house. On November 2, 1936, after a few minor changes to meet the needs of the clubs, a reception was held to officially mark the opening. It was Mr. Heard's wish that their home should be given to Sorosis and the Helen G. Steele Music Club to which Mrs. Heard was a long devoted member.

Sorosis was founded in 1889 by Miss Ida Newkirk and a group of her friends, of whom Mrs. J. S. Bienneman is the only living charter member in Sedalia. Mrs. John C. Van Riper was the first president. During the first twelve years the aims of Sorosis were chiefly cultural. Mrs. John Montgomery, Jr. held the office of president for fourteen years. During that time the club membership was largely increased and its activities greatly broadened by the addition of its various departments. Many fine and useful women have since served Sorosis as president, and carry on the traditions established by its founders. Members of Sorosis are limited to two hundred and fifty, and its work is done through four departments: art and drama; civics; current topics and history and literature.

Helen G. Steele Music Club. The Helen G. Steele Music Club was founded in 1893 as the Ladies Musical Club through the leadership of Miss Helen Gallie, later Mrs. William D. Steele. Charter membership was limited to thirty musicians and the following officers were elected: President, Mrs. M. E. Donohoe, Vice-President, Mrs. F. H. Guenther, Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Maybelle Richardson, Chorus Director, Miss Helen Gallie, Librarian, Mrs. S. K. Bullard. It is the fourth oldest national federated music club in the U. S. Membership outgrew various meeting places, until it reached

its present number of 250 with the Heard Memorial Club House as its permanent home. In 1904 the Club elected Mrs. Helen Gallie Steele as life president and at her death it accorded her the honor of changing the name to the Helen G. Steele Music Club. In 1920 the Club elected Mrs. Edwin Forrest Yancey its life president. Through the years the Club was instrumental in bringing famous opera stars and symphonies to Sedalia. Among many women responsible for its growth are Sallië Potter Sneed, Anne Meitz Bard, Jessie Smith Sneed, Lillian Menefee MacGugin, Irma Collins Stambaugh, Leone Pehling Salveter, Annabel Ernest Duensing, Miss Jessie Blair and Anna Lupe Evans. Pettis County owes a debt of gratitude for the interest and cultural growth exemplified by these women and this Club.

Daughters of the American Revolution. On February 26, 1889, Osage Chapter D. A. R. was organized in Sedalia by Mrs. Thompson McCluney at her home with the required number of twelve for a charter. Mrs. McCluney was the first regent of Osage Chapter, a name selected because the Osage Indians had roamed this section of the country. She remained regent until 1907. Mrs. McCluney moved to Warrensburg the last few years of her office and attended chapter meetings once a year, with Mrs. D. T. Abell, first vice-regent, carrying on the work. The basic goals of D. A. R. are historical appreciation, patriotic service, and educational training. Osage Chapter began at once to give a medal to high school students each year, a project which they have continued to follow; also the chapter has participated in the State D. A. R. Student Loan Fund.

During the term of Susan Hurlbut Berry as regent, the Junior American Citizens Clubs were formed. Mrs. W. P. Tucker has brought national honors to Osage Chapter by her work on this project and has won eleven prizes at the National Congress in Washington, D. C. Mrs. C. C. Evans, regent in 1921, and Mrs. Frank S. Leach were pioneers in the Arrow Rock Tavern project and finally, in 1923, persuaded the state legislature to purchase the property. The state restored it and placed the management and furnishings of the tavern into the hands of the State D. A. R. Mrs. George Bichsel and her committee completed the furnishing of the Osage Chapter room in 1940.

Osage Chapter started the project for Memorial Drive, south of Crown Hill Cemetery in 1920 with Mrs. Henry Harris as chair-

man. This reached maturity in 1934. In 1913 the D. A. R. room at the public library was finished and through the records stored there, Osage Chapter has been responsible for much research on soldiers of the American Revolution. In 1917, when Miss Nettie Lamm was regent, Osage Chapter contributed many hours in making hospital supplies, and it was at this time that Osage Chapter erected the flagpole in Liberty Park.

P. E. O. Sisterhood. Chapter BB, P. E. O. Sisterhood was organized in Sedalia February 5, 1909, with 15 members at the home of Mrs. W. H. Barnett. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. W. H. Barnett, Vice-President, Miss Harriet Gold Recording Secretary, Mrs. R. C. Combs, Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. J. M. Johannes, Treasurer, Mrs. Damon Porter, Chaplain, Mrs. E. D. Bosserman, Guard, Mrs. Mabelle Bradley Loufborrow. Meetings are held in the home the first and third Wednesday of each month. The objects of P. E. O. are to seek growth in knowledge, and to promote education among young women. They own and operate Cottey College for women at Nevada, Missouri. Chapter B. B. has been a contributing factor in many charitable projects in Sedalia. For many years it supplied glasses and shoes for needy children in the schools.

On March 17, 1955, Chapter BB sponsored the organization of a night chapter which would make it possible for women who are employed to attend. Chapter IP was formed and on charter night the following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Marian Knight Wood, Vice-President, Miss Florence Hert, Recording Secretary, Miss Marguerite O'Connell, Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Polly Ann Sillers, Treasurer, Mrs. Lodelle Morris, Chaplain, Miss Wanda Singley, Guard, Mrs. Muriel Downs.

American Association of University Women. The local branch of the American Association of University Women was organized in 1922. At that time there were only four schools in Missouri whose graduates were eligible for national membership in the A. A. U. W. There were twenty members in the Sedalia branch and Miss Mattie Montgomery was the first president. The organization did not thrive too well locally, and in April, 1940, it was reorganized at the public library with the following officers elected: President, Mary Vance, Vice-President, Mrs. Dimmitt Hoffman, Treasurer, Ida Cruzan, Secretary, Mrs. R. M. Ryckman. This organization has sponsored

various national and international speakers through the years, but their efforts in fostering American Field Service Exchange students have been outstanding. At this writing they have sponsored four foreign students to Sedalia, who have lived in Sedalia homes and attended Smith-Cotton High School, as well as making it possible for two students from Sedalia to go abroad for summer sessions. These international relations in education are one of the many facets that the A. A. U. W. feels is their contribution to world peace.

Council of Sedalia Garden Clubs. Organized October 24, 1933, by Mrs. Fred Hoffman and eleven other women. Mrs. Hoffman was the first president and formed the ground work and constitution on which the present nine garden clubs now abide. In 1938 the first Junior Garden Club was organized, and in that year the first home and church Christmas lighting contest was held.

This organization has always helped in civic projects, sponsored junior canning and victory gardens, and "scrap" gardens during World War II; started a living memorial fund for those who served in World War II by planting trees at the public library; dedicated Blue Star Memorial at Bradford Roadside Park; planted magnolias on parkways; started memorial rose garden at Liberty Park; established the garden center at the Library; purchased required reading books on gardening and donated them to the library; organized a men's garden club; sponsored flower arrangements schools; erected "Welcome" signs on Highways 65 and 50; supervised planting of 1000 dogwood trees on Broadway; maintained bird sanctuary on state fair grounds and have held a yearly flower show and combined conservation meeting every year.

Business and Professional Women's Club. Sedalia BPW was organized March 14, 1923, with Mrs. Pearl (Wilson) Weeks its first president. The Sedalia club was the ninth club of the state federation and its charter was presented September 6, 1923. During the life of the club it has furnished two state president, Dr. Nancy Meek Hain and Hazel Palmer. In 1952 Miss Palmer was elected national second vice-president and in 1956 was elected national president without opposition. During the two years she served she made a definite contribution to the national federation and brought distinction to the Sedalia club.

In 1929, through the efforts of Mrs. Frieda Nelson, the club was responsible for the first BPW day at the Missouri State Fair — the first time any state had so honored any woman's organization.

The objectives are to elevate standards for women in the professions and in business; promote the interests of business and professional women; bring about a spirit of cooperation and extend the opportunities of business and professional women through education. Local activities include the organization of a club for foreign born women; establishment of a scholarship fund for worthy girls; working for many city bond issues; conducting vocational guidance groups for senior girls; conducting studies in parliamentary law, English and salesmanship; furnishing two hospital rooms; aiding the crippled children's center; loaning wheel chairs to persons who need them; furnishing milk to undernourished children and other worthy projects.

American Business Women's Association. Organized in Sedalia November 11, 1952, at the Hotel Bothwell with seventeen charter members, and the election of the following officers: President, Mrs. Alma Weikal; Vice-President, Mrs. Dorothy Hunter; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Martha Scott; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Ila Young; Treasurer, Mrs. Ann Wolfe.

ABWA is a non-secretarial, non-political, non-union organization founded to meet the needs of women in business for an association that will increase their efficiency and ability, their success and happiness. This organization, destined to fill a specific purpose, is neither a civic club, nor a sorority, yet includes the good points of both. ABWA is an educational association and stresses such objects through its speakers. They provide a scholarship each year to a worthy high school student, and contribute to the loan fund, through their National Headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri. They also sponsor, locally, the "make it yourself in wool" contest.

Altrusa International. Organized in Sedalia on May 17, 1958, with twenty-one charter members. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Genevieve Watson; Vice-President, Miss Roseanne Dugan; Recording Secretary, Miss Sandra Clough; Corresponding Secretary, Monta Welch; Treasurer, Beryl Heyer.

Altrusa International is a civic club for women with service to the community as its goal. The parent club was formed in Nash-

ville, Tenn. in 1917, and adopted two international projects: Grants in aid program for Latin American girls who want and need training in the United States, but are obligated to return to their own country; and the Founders Fund Vocational Guidance. Altrusa International is new locally, but its first project was a "galloping coffee" which resulted in raising \$666.87 for the Heart Fund in a very short time.

Beta Sigma Phi. Beta Sigma Phi was organized as chapter Beta Tau in Sedalia in January, 1942, with twenty-five charter members and the following elected officers: President, Lucille Brunkhorst; Vice-President, Mrs. Gordon Potter; Treasurer, Mrs. Geraldine Teufel Schrader; Recording Secretary, Mae Von Osdel; Sponsor, Mrs. Arthur Powers. Since Beta Sigma Phi, Beta Tau, was organized three additional chapters have been started: Epsilon Beta, Xi Omega and Phi Phi.

To the young woman who is a member, Beta Sigma Phi means a chance to put her dreams to work to make herself a better person through life, learning and friendship. It was founded in 1931 by Walter W. Ross of Kansas City, Missouri, and has developed into the world's largest non-academic sorority. Locally, the members have contributed to Sedalia's growth by helping at the crippled children's center; heart and polio funds; furnishing a room at Bothwell Hospital, to name just a few of their projects. Nationally they contribute to the International Endowment Fund for Cancer Research; Girlstown in Whiteface, Texas; and their own international loan fund.

XI**BUSINESSES 50 YEARS OR MORE IN SEDALIA**

It has been said that the population of Sedalia "turns over" every twenty years. Of course, this statement is an exaggeration. Many have lived their entire lives in Sedalia. However, it is true that a large number of Sedalians have moved to Kansas City and to western states, particularly California. Population movements westward have been pronounced during the last half century from all mid-western states. Because of changing methods of doing business, failures and deaths, very few of the firms in business 50 years ago remain. However, approximately thirty-three do. Through good and bad business conditions, prosperity and depression, these businesses have carried on. Some are being managed by the fourth generation. With the assistance of Mrs. Thomas H. Yount, the writers of this history procured information on businesses which have carried on continuously in Sedalia for 50 years or more.

Archias Seed Store. Founded in 1898 by Leon H. Archias, Sr., who moved to Sedalia from Fayetteville, Arkansas. His son, Leon H. Archias, Jr. was associated with him in the business and at the death of his father in 1944 assumed the management.

Archias Floral Company. Founded in 1910 by Leon H. Archias, Sr., founder of the Archias Seed Store. Since his death in 1944 Leon H. Archias, Jr. has managed the business.

Acme Printing and Stationery Company. Founded in 1877 by Fred L. Wensel. Chas. Botz (Sr.) became associated in 1882 and the firm became Schneider and Botz, later Botz and Sons, later Botz Printing and Stationery Co., later the present name. Mr. Botz' sons left Sedalia, except Chas. O. Botz, who managed the business until his death in 1954.

Adco, Inc. (American Disinfecting Company). Founded in 1908 by J. R. VanDyne and Vivian D. VanDyne. Upon the death of J. R. VanDyne in 1916, Vivian D. VanDyne, his wife, became president with her son, Clifford VanDyne as first vice president. Upon the death of Clifford VanDyne, his brother, Charles VanDyne became first vice president. Later his brothers, John VanDyne and Dick

VanDyne joined the firm and became vice presidents. The business of this organization has become international.

W. E. Bard Drug Company. Founded in 1860 by W. E. Bard. Upon Mr. Bard's death in 1929, Harry McNamara, his son-in-law, together with his mother and aunt, Mrs. Keck, continued the business. In 1936 it was purchased by W. D. Couhig.

Bichsel's Jewelry. Founded in 1865 by George Bichsel, Sr. Mr. Bichsel was brought to this country from Switzerland by Gruin Watch Company. Upon arriving in Sedalia he first had a watch maker's bench in the Bard Drug Store, then located on Main Street, and later added jewelry. His two sons, Emil Bichsel and George Bichsel, Jr. later conducted the business which, upon their decease, was purchased by George Chambers and Arbie Chambers. They retired from the business. It is now managed by John L. Heiss.

Callies Furniture Company. Founded in 1898 by Will Callies. It was first known as Callies Tent and Awning Company. Upon the death of Mr. Callies, Fred Callies, his nephew, managed the business and since his death in 1949 his daughters, Mrs. Lloyd Phillips and Mrs. Richard Trueman, own the business which is managed by Richard Trueman.

Central Business College. Founded in 1883 by C. W. Robbins. After the death of Mr. Robbins the college was owned by Dr. Fletcher Carter, Sr. and Dr. Fletcher Carter, Jr. It was later purchased by Dr. Carter's son-in-law, Atwell L. Bohling, who has continued to conduct the college.

Dean Construction Company. Founded in 1860 by F. G. Dean. F. G. Dean was later associated with Edward Hurley, Sr. Upon the death of Mr. Hurley, F. G. Dean associated his sons, Dan Dean and Rudolph Dean, and formed the Dean Brothers Construction Company. Dan Dean later formed the firm of Dean and Hancock. After the death of Mr. Hancock, Dan Dean and his son, Harold Dean, formed the Dean Construction Company. Upon the retirement of Dan Dean, Harold Dean and his son, Richard Dean, assumed active management of the business. Part of the management is now in the fourth generation.

Donnohue Loan and Investment Company. Founded in 1889 by J. D. Donnohue who conducted the business for many years at

309 South Ohio. The business was later purchased by Quincy A. Morgan and moved to its present location across from the Court House. Upon the death of Mr. Morgan, Mrs. Morgan became president and Clinton Muller vice president. Mr. Muller manages the business.

Dorn-Cloney Laundry and Dry Cleaning Company. Founded in 1900 by Emil Dorn and William Hughes Cloney. After the death of Mr. Dorn the business was conducted by William Hughes Cloney with whom his son, Thomas W. Cloney II, was associated. Since the death of William Hughes Cloney in 1956, Thomas W. Cloney conducted the business until 1959 when W. A. Bunce became manager.

Dugan's Wallpaper and Paint Company. Founded in 1871 by George E. Dugan, who died in 1907 and was succeeded by his son, Ernest W. Dugan, who died in 1946. He was succeeded by his son, George Dugan II who, with his two sons, George E. Dugan, Jr. and William W. Dugan, conduct the business. Part of the management of the business is now in the fourth generation.

Flower Department Store. Founded in 1904 by Courtney W. Flower who actively conducted the business until his death on March 29, 1930. His wife, Mrs. Lucy M. Flower conducted the business, associated with her daughter, Mrs. Virginia Flower. Since the death of Lucy M. Flower, Mrs. Virginia Flower, as president of the corporation, has conducted the business.

Gold Lumber Company. Founded in 1871 by Capt. Sam C. Gold. First located at 3rd and Lamine. George A. Gold, brother of founder, was associated with him. After the death of Capt. Gold, the business was moved to its present location, 300 East Main Street. After the death of George A. Gold, his son, Earl Gold, conducted the business. Upon the death of Earl Gold in 1927, the business was sold to the present owners.

Heynen Monument Company. Founded in 1879 by C. H. Heynen. Associated in the business with C. H. Heynen were his sons, William Heynen and Clyde Heynen. Upon the death of William Heynen, Clyde Heynen conducted the business. The business was located at Ohio and Pacific Streets for 69 years until 1948 when it moved to its present location on East 3rd Street. Upon the death

of Clyde Heynen in 1956, his son, Alvin Heynen took active charge of the business.

P. Hoffman Hardware Company. Founded in 1884 by Peter Hoffman and Frank Hoffman, brothers. The business was sold for a short time to J. M. Offield (father of Jack Oakie, actor) who conducted it for about a year when Peter Hoffman repurchased the business about 1895. The business was operated by Peter Hoffman and his two sons, Arthur M. Hoffman and Edward Hoffman, until the death of Peter Hoffman, when it continued to be operated by his two sons until 1956 when Edward Hoffman died. The business is now conducted by Arthur M. Hoffman and his son, Phillip Hoffman. The firm occupies a building erected about 1884 by Phillip Hoffman, grandfather of Arthur M. Hoffman.

Hurlbut Printing Company, Inc. Founded in 1900 by William E. Hurlbut, who purchased the Sedalia Printing Company, which was established in 1894. It was incorporated as the Hurlbut Printing Company in 1933. Since the death of Mrs. Susan Hurlbut Berry in 1952 and W. E. Hurlbut, Sr. in 1953 the business has been conducted by W. E. Hurlbut, Jr.

S. P. Johns Lumber Company. Founded in 1880 by S. P. Johns who conducted the business with his two sons, W. M. Johns and Robert M. Johns. Upon the death of W. M. Johns, Robert M. Johns conducting the business, associating with him his son, Robert M. Johns, Jr. and his daughter, Mrs. Frank M. Faxon, who now manage the business.

J. A. Lamy Manufacturing Company. Founded in 1866 by J. A. Lamy. Upon the retirement of Mr. Lamy, E. M. Stafford headed the business and upon his death was succeeded by E. M. Stafford, Jr., now president of the corporation. One of the first and largest factories manufacturing work clothing in Missouri.

Fred M. Lange, Feed. Founded as a grocery and feed store in 1887 by Fred G. Lange. Upon his death, Fred M. Lange, who had been associated in the business, continued to conduct the business.

Landmann Abstract and Title Company. Founded in 1891 by Frank Landmann and Emil Landmann, brothers. After the death of Frank Landmann in 1907, a corporation was formed under the management of Emil Landmann, with his nephew, John W. Baker,

and daughter, Miss Christine Landmann, associated. Since the death of Emil Landmann, Mr. Baker and Miss Landmann have conducted the business.

Looney and Bloess Lumber Company. Founded in 1879 by William Bloess, Otto Bloess and Theodore Bloess, brothers. In 1904 Leo Bloess, son of William Bloess, together with Lee Looney, purchased the Gallic Lumber Company and after the death of the founding brothers, conducted the business under its present name. Upon the death of Lee Looney, Herman Bloess, son of Leo Bloess, joined his father and since the death of Leo Bloess, Herman E. Bloess, together with his sons, Herman E. Bloess, Jr. and John A. Bloess, have conducted the business. Part of the management of the business is in the fourth generation.

McLaughlin Brothers Furniture Company. Founded in 1880 by George C. McLaughlin and John C. McLaughlin, brothers. Upon the death of both founders, John C. McLaughlin, Jr. conducted the business beginning in 1924. Since his death, his two sons, Gen. John C. McLaughlin and Philip M. McLaughlin has conducted the business.

O-K Optical Company. Founded in 1900 by Dr. F. D. Ormond, who was associated with Otto Klueber in the jewelry and optical business. The jewelry part of the business was disposed of in 1918 when Dr. George Lively become associated. In 1921 Dr. Lawrence S. Geiger, together with Herbert A. Seifert became associated and the organization was named O-K Optical Company. Upon the retirement of Dr. Lively in 1948, Dr. R. K. Drenon and Dr. D. H. Robinson joined the organization with Messrs. Stanfield and Wolf as assistants. The organization has been located for 45 years at one location.

A. W. Perry and Sons, Inc. Founded in 1856 when Sedalia was Sedville, by A. W. Perry. Associated with him were his two sons, Phillip B. Perry and Andrew J. Perry. Upon the death of A. W. Perry and Andrew G. Perry, Phillip B. Perry conducted the business and upon his death in 1944 his granddaughter, Virginia C. Helms, and his grandson, Warner A. Cory, Jr. conducted the business. Said to be the oldest business organization continuously in operation in Sedalia and one of the oldest music publishing houses in Missouri.

Pfeiffers. Founded in 1875 by Philip E. Pfeiffer as a green

house. His son, Charles Pfeiffer, was associated with him. Since the death of Charles Pfeiffer in 1940, his son, Philip E. Pfeiffer II has conducted the business.

Porter Real Estate Company. Founded in 1880 by W. L. Porter, one of the very active builders of early Sedalia. Mr. Porter had associated with him his son, Damon L. Porter, and Herbert L. Zoernig. Damon L. Porter died in 1937 and W. L. Porter in 1941. Mrs. Damon Porter heads the organization. Mr. Zoernig was executive vice president until his death in 1958. The firm was incorporated in 1882.

Queen City Electric Company. Founded in 1906 by Redfield and Schrader. Purchased by Thomas A. Hurley and Austin J. Hurley, brothers, in 1913. Since the death of Thomas A. Hurley in 1955 and Austin J. Hurley in 1956, Thomas W. Hurley, son of Thomas A. Hurley, and Mrs. Austin Hurley have conducted the business.

Sedalia Democrat Company. Publisher of Sedalia Democrat, evenings, Sedalia Capital, mornings, the Sedalia Democrat in combination with the Sedalia Capital, Sundays. The Weekly Democrat, founded in 1868, became the Daily Democrat in 1871. Dr. A. Y. Hull was first editor and business manager. Col. George H. Scruton, editor 1907-1925, is quoted extensively in this history. The Sedalia Sentinel merged with the Sedalia Democrat in 1907 and the Sedalia Capital was purchased by the Sedalia Democrat Company in 1919.

Solon's Market. Founded in 1909 by Charles M. Solon. Located for two years on Ohio Street, then 48 years at its present location 116 East 3rd. Since the death of Charles M. Solon in 1952, business has been conducted by his son, William T. Solon.

Stanley Coal Company. Founded in 1892 by R. A. Stanley, with whom was associated his son, W. O. Stanley. Since the death of R. A. Stanley, W. O. Stanley has headed the business.

Third National Bank. Founded in 1883, 23 years after Sedalia was platted. First opened at 205 South Ohio Street, later moved to present location, when H. W. Harris, father of the present president, H. R. Harris, became president. Recently celebrated its 75th anniversary. It is the oldest bank in continuous operation in this part of Missouri.

Watkins Heating and Plumbing Company. Founded in 1888

Thompson-Greer Motor Company

by J. T. Watkins, who in 1931 associated his son, James J. Watkins, in the firm. Since the death of J. T. Watkins in 1945, James J. Watkins has conducted the business.

The writers of this history desired to mention those in professional pursuits, who have practiced more than 50 years, but time and space prevented.

XII

SEDALIA PROCURES DIVERSITY

For approximately sixty years after 1870 Sedalia was known as a railroad city because the largest pay rolls came from the Missouri Pacific and M. K. T. railroads. However, with the widespread use of automobiles, freight hauling trucks and air travel, railroad activity decreased with dire results to Sedalia, although the Missouri Pacific continued to maintain the largest pay roll in the city. The M. K. T. shops discontinued operating and are now (1960) partly dismantled. With the depression and changing transportation came a condition in the thirties where some pessimistic citizens were predicting that grass would grow in the principal streets of Sedalia. Writers of the depression period proclaimed Sedalia the second hardest "hit" city in the country.

Great credit is due a group of approximately 200 citizens of vision who clearly saw that the city lacked diversity of industry and were determined to do something to correct the condition and get the city off of dead center. Many meetings were held at the Chamber of Commerce and elsewhere. All agreed the city needed more industries; that "pay rolls make the city." However, there was conflict of opinion concerning how additional industries should be procured. Many were opposed to paying the moving expenses or building factories for industries. Fortunately for Sedalia, those willing to contribute to pay moving expenses and build factories for industries prevailed. Although several failures occurred, enough citizens realized that risks were necessary to procure diversity.

For a few thousand dollars moving expenses, contributed by individuals, the city procured Acme Broom Co. which later became Zephyr Manufacturing Co. A manufacturer of brooms and mops, under the able management of Harry E. Lindstrom, it grew until it obtained nation wide distribution and now employs between 70 and 75 persons.

Every shareholder of Sedco Shoe Co. lost his money. The original company failed. However, it was only because twenty citizens built a factory building for Sedco that the city procured Town and Country Shoes. The shoes manufactured by this corpora-

Town and Country Shoes, Incorporated

tion have obtained national and international acceptance. The corporation employs between 500 and 550 in Sedalia and its annual payroll here averages \$1,900,000. While some pessimists still mention their loss in Sedco stock, all who have faith in Sedalia and do business realize that, through the location of Town and Country Shoes, the benefits to individuals and the city far outweigh such loss.

After World War II, a group of civic minded Sedalians, acting through the Chamber of Commerce, formed a post war industrial development fund. Approximately \$60,000 was contributed to this fund for the purpose of procuring additional industrial development. To meet the requirements of the Reconstruction Finance Corp., a local corporation known as the Sedalia Industrial Development Company was organized and the funds in the post war development fund were transferred to it. With the assistance of a loan from RFC, a factory building was constructed for the Home Building Corp. A lease was then executed with the Home Building Corp. under the terms of which Home Building Corp. was given the exclusive right and option to purchase the factory building at a price equivalent to the cost of land and improvements, plus interest and other expenses. From the total purchase price all rents paid were deducted. The arrangement was successful and Home Building Corp. acquired title. This company manufactures prefabricated houses and employs between 100 and 150 persons. A somewhat similar arrangement was followed in connection with the establishment of National Engineering and Manufacturing Co., now owned and operated by Steam-O-Matic Corp.

While some citizens termed these methods of procuring industrial expansion "operation bootstrap", the necessity for procuring diversity was such that time has proven the procedure was justified. As opportunities arise, similar procedures will probably be followed in the future.

The writers of this history have outlined some of the procedures used to procure industries to inform Sedalians concerning how payrolls (which constitute the life blood of the city) have been procured. It must be remembered, however, that industries have located in Sedalia without any help asked or given by local citizens. An example is Pittsburgh Corning Corp., employing between 300 and 400. Its distribution is international. Other industries, established by local citizens, have become large employers for a city of this size. Ex-

amples are Adco, Inc., Lamy Manufacturing Co. and Parkhurst Manufacturing Co. Sedalia Industrial Loan and Investment Co., organized in 1924 and locally owned, has capital stock of \$312,500, surplus of over \$200,000 and balance sheet totals over \$2,000,000. Several nationally known companies have branches here. Examples are Beatrice Foods and Swift and Co.

At one time the number of Socialists in Sedalia amounted to several hundred and they maintained a place on election ballots. The number of people in Sedalia who do not believe in the American system of individual enterprise is now negligible. Sedalians have two and a half times as much insurance and four times as much savings as they had thirty years ago. The percentage of home ownership has increased.

The number of Sedalians who understand and appreciate the American economic system is increasing. To those who do not, we communicate a few facts which may cause a change in attitude. In evaluating any economic system, four questions present themselves: Does it work? Does it produce the things men want. Does it satisfy human needs? Does it allow men to live in dignity? Americans are only one-sixteenth of the people in the world and the United States occupies only one-sixteenth of the land surface. Yet Americans own three-fifths of the automobiles, half of the telephones, half of the radios, and two-thirds of the television sets in the world. Americans consume three-fifths of the oil, half of the coffee, two-fifths of the electricity. American factories produce nearly half of the world's goods. To date the American system has worked better than any other system the world has known.

Considering Sedalia an average mid-western city, let us compare the productivity of a worker in our system with that of a worker in a similar city in Russia. The average Sedalia worker can buy several suits of clothes with a month's wages; a Russian can buy half a suit. Sedalia worker can buy several pairs of shoes with a week's wages; a Russian can buy about one-fourth of a pair. In housing, the average Sedalian occupies 370 square feet while the Russian occupies 79 square feet. Sedalians eat better. In Sedalia it takes about five minutes work of a skilled worker to earn enough to buy a pound loaf of bread; in Russia five minutes work buys only a third of a loaf. Here five minutes work will buy over a pint of milk; in Russia about one-fourth pint.

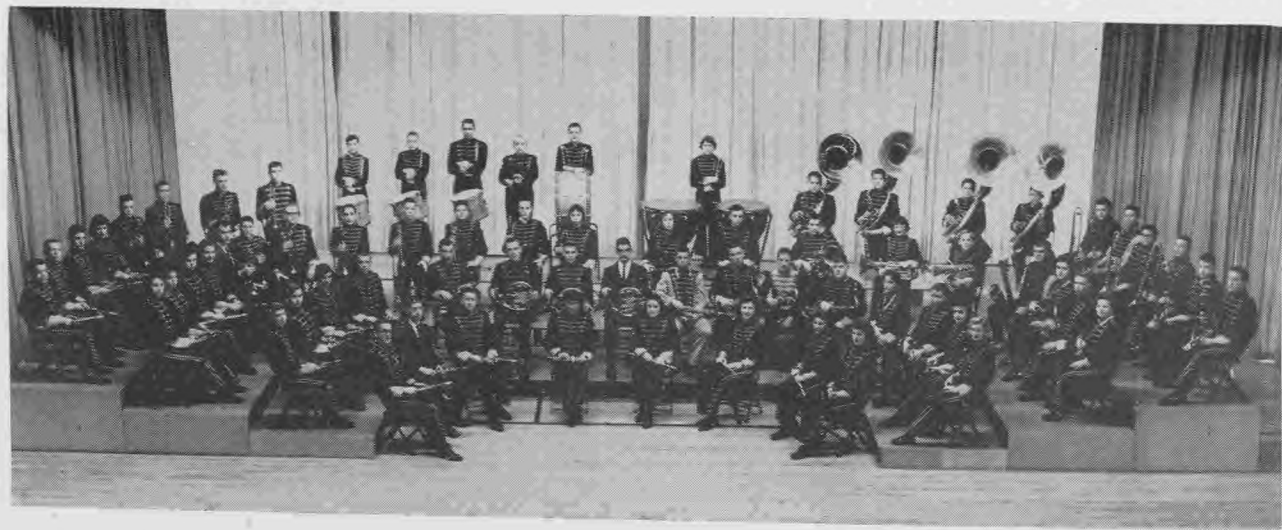
Fortunately, the Russian system is improving production to the extent the standard of living of the individual is being raised. However, in terms of human values as well as material goods, our system has produced for the average Sedalian results better than those enjoyed by individuals behind the iron curtain. A spot poll indicates the average Sedalian now is more apprehensive about inflation than he is about war.

Inflation has been stated to be a situation in which the individual pays \$15 to have an appliance repaired which cost \$5 new fifteen year ago. A dollar worth 100 cents in purchasing power in 1913 is now (1960) worth 34 cents. The 1939 dollar is now worth 48 cents in purchasing power. The result is several thousand Sedalians living off of retirement pensions, annuities and social security are now feeling the squeeze — some face hardship.

One of the causes of inflation is that we are not requiring that our government live within its income from federal taxes. Federal government non-defense spending per family has increased from \$86 in 1930 to \$548 in 1959, or more than 500%. Federal non-defense spending has increased from \$2.6 billion in 1930 to \$28.1 billion in 1959, or about 1000%. Exclusive of the armed services, the federal government now employs 2.1 million people compared to 644,000 in 1930, an increase of over 200%. The national debt has grown from \$540 per family in 1930 to \$5500 per family in 1959. By calling upon our government to do more and more of those things we formerly did for ourselves, the tendency is to go more into debt (meaning in effect we borrow from future generations to meet our present desires and also tend further to erode the purchasing power of the dollar).

Another cause of inflation is the fact that labor costs are rising faster than output per man hour. This situation has been met in part by the use of machinery of increased efficiency. One means of fighting inflation is increased production. But how can we produce more? We must make and invent better tools if, with our high standard of living, we are to continue to compete successfully with other countries. In our economy, nearly 98 per cent of all our work is done by machinery. Sedalia is 100 years of age. During that period more and better machines have cut the work week of the average Sedalia worker almost in half. An hours work today buys several times as much as it did 100 years ago. The more machinery a work-

Vivian E. and Ike L. Warren



The Smith-Cotton High School band, directed by Mrs. Carl G. Schrader. The community takes great pride in this band which participates in parades, football games, concerts and wherever stirring band music is needed.

er has at his disposal the more real income he can earn. This fact shows that Karl Marx was wrong. Marx thought that increased use of machinery would hurt the worker. The reverse has happened. The more machinery a worker has available, the more he can make and the more he can buy with that money. Diversified machine industry is the key to the future of Sedalia. The attitude of our citizens is important. For the future of Sedalia, we should continuously strive for increased diversified industry.

In our next chapter we shall discuss what Sedalia has to offer industry, some of Sedalia's needs and some ideas concerning the future of the city.

XII

PROS AND CONS AND SEDALIA'S FUTURE

Known for years as "The Queen City of the Prairies" and the State Fair City, in recent years Sedalia enthusiasts have advertised the city as the place "Where Folks Enjoy Life." Sedalia is a healthful spot, being 910 feet above sea level, with an average temperature of 54.4 degrees and average rainfall of 40.87 inches. The autumns are characterized by several months of ideal weather. Cold weather is rare before January and zero weather not often experienced.

Sedalia has had no integration problem and none is expected. More than 90% of the population is native born. Literacy is very high, making it possible to train workers quickly in a variety of skills. Employer-employee relations are better than in larger cities and better than in most cities of similar size.

The quality of the water, furnished by the city owned system, ranks among the best in Missouri. Natural gas and electric power are available. An abundance of natural gas, available for industrial users at a comparatively low rate, is assured by the fact that the supply system is tied in with other systems. This is also true of electric power. Industrial electric, gas and water rates compare favorably with other cities in the mid-west. The Missouri Public Service Company, which supplies natural gas and electricity to Sedalia, is an integrated, modern system serving much of western Missouri. This fact assures not only an adequate supply but also efficient service.

Sedalia is adequately churched, every denomination being represented. Its schools (both public and parochial) rank with the best in Missouri. With the addition of several motels recently, its hotels and motels are adequate with rates more reasonable than the average of the country. Adequate space has recently been made available for down-town parking. Ten modern paved and lighted parking lots supplement the on-street parking. Most parts of the Lake of the Ozarks, one of the central west's largest playgrounds, are within one hour's driving time.

Sedalia is fortunate in being located on a high level prairie (but

with good drainage), near the center of Missouri, with two national highways (U. S. 50 and U. S. 65) crossing here, two main line railroads (the Missouri Pacific and Missouri-Kansas-Texas) and far enough from Kansas City and St. Louis to have a trade territory of its own. This trade territory has a radius of approximately fifty miles and an estimated population of 250,000.

According to the best information available approximately 1900 new homes have been erected in Sedalia during the last ten years. The city has an adequate park system (with parks located in various parts of the city), adequate playgrounds, swimming pools and an exceptional athletic stadium. The streets are well marked. The city has garbage collection, free to citizens, paid for out of general revenue. The street lighting system is exceptionally good. With reference to police and fire protection, probably the most important functions of city government, the fire department is one of the most efficient in the state and the police department (through police schools) has steadily improved. Due to an alert police department, the automobile accident and crime rate is low. Those who have investigated realize the city government has procured good value for the tax dollar. The taxing authorities are conscious of the necessity of keeping taxes within a range which will not drive industry from the city. If readers interested in retirement will investigate, they will find that living costs in Sedalia are less than in most cities in Missouri.

The foregoing are some of the pros. We shall now state some of the cons and needs of the city. Sedalia at this time is suffering somewhat from growing pains, due to the expansion of the city westward. Within the next few years additional schools will have to be erected to take care of overcrowded conditions in some schools. Some citizens feel part of this condition could be relieved by reassigning pupils to other schools. Many feel it could not. The growth of the city has also created serious sewer problems which will require attention. The city needs an additional fire station located in the western part of the city and the east Sedalia station relocated. Executives who come to Sedalia complain both of an inadequate air field and the absence of scheduled air line service. Of the needs mentioned in this paragraph, citizens who have studied the problems feel that an adequate sewer system must come first and added school facilities second.

During recent years there has been considerable agitation for a new system of assessing property for taxation purposes in Sedalia. This is a very difficult and expensive problem because a scientific assessment requires consideration of age, income, location, nature of occupancy and many other elements. However, those who have studied assessed valuations in Sedalia feel that something should be done to correct inequalities. Because of shifts in values, it is realized that properties in certain parts of east Sedalia are overassessed based on market values; that some down town properties are over assessed based on market values and income; that many properties in the newer parts of the city are underassessed.

While the quality of water available in Sedalia is excellent, the quantity is not sufficient to make cheap water available to industries which require a large amount of water in processing. At the time this history is written, studies are being made which may eventually result in procuring a larger water supply for Sedalia.

Many citizens feel that the city should adopt the commission or city manager form of government as authorized by Chapter 78 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri, 1949. This is a debatable question. These forms of government are known as optional or alternative forms in the Statutes of Missouri and must be submitted to the voters upon petition of 25 per cent of those entitled to vote in the city. Some citizens feel that the adoption of the commission or city manager form of government would relieve the city of the partisan squabbles which sometimes prevail in the city administration. Upon two previous submissions of the question, the voters of the city have refused to adopt these alternative or optional forms. An investigation in other cities, made in connection with the writing of this history, indicates that the efficiency of a city government depends primarily upon the caliber of the men elected rather than the form of government. With the demand for additional services continuing, the management of the city affairs is business, in fact big business. More than a change in form of government, the problem in Sedalia is to procure men who have civic pride, vision and ability to run for key city offices, particularly for mayor and aldermen.

Early writers gazed into the crystal ball and envisioned a city of 100,000. Some of these dreams are mentioned in this book. The modern Sedalian has no such dreams but faces the advantages and handicaps of the city realistically. With changing time, the rural

population of Missouri has decreased but the cities have grown. The center of population of the nation is moving westward. This fact augurs well for Sedalia eventually. As the center of population moves, for advantageous distribution manufacturers tend to seek new locations. Assuming the attitude of our citizens toward industry remains as favorable as it now is, Sedalia will procure its share of industry. Sedalians of vision are thoroughly cognizant of the fact that pay rolls are the life blood of the city.

What will be the picture in Sedalia during what writers are calling the "sensational sixties". We predict the city will procure additional diversity resulting in an increase of population; that the percentage of home ownership will increase; that the educational qualifications of our youth will improve.

Most Sedalians realize that the support of churches, schools and cultural organizations rests upon a sound economy. As home ownership increases and payrolls increase, assessed valuations will increase. With the increase in wealth a tax base will exist which will better support the city's material and cultural needs.

Fortunately for its youth, Sedalia is located in what some writers term the "Sunday school belt" of the nation. Two centuries ago, a great Irish poet, Oliver Goldsmith, said:

"Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey,
Where wealth accumulates and men decay."

Sedalia is conscious of spiritual values. The churches are growing.

It has been said that some came to this continent seeking gold; that our ancestors came to America seeking God.

IN MEMORY

The publication of this book has been made possible by contributions of sponsors who loved Sedalia and have pride and faith in their city. A number of sponsors subscribed in memory of their loved departed. A list of those in whose memory sponsors have subscribed follows:

- In Memory of Emil Bichsel
- In Memory of George Bichsel
- In Memory of Jule E. Cannaday, M. D.
- In Memory of James Joseph Chipman
- In Memory of Thomas Warren Cloney
- In Memory of William Hughes Cloney
- In Memory of E. B. Farley
- In Memory of William Minton Johns
- In Memory of Judge Henry Lamm
- In Memory of Harry E. Lindstrom
- In Memory of Charles A. McNeil, M. D.
- In Memory of John Henry Mertz
- In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. John M. Minnier
- In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. George Suter
- In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph T. Watkins
- In Memory of George R. Wilkerson
- In Memory of Edwin F. Yancey, M. D.
- In Memory of Governor Charles E. Yeater
- In Memory of John Jamison Yeater
- In Memory of Merritt W. Yeater
- In Memory of Thomas H. Yount

SOME OF SEDALIA'S FAMOUS SONS

Sedalia has had many famous sons and it is a difficult task for the committee to select a few for the roll of honor. A partial list of Sedalians who have won state wide, national or international recognition, arranged alphabetically, follows:

Raymond Brandt, newspaper correspondent.

Walter H. Bohling, Commissioner Missouri Supreme Court.

Dale Carnegie, author and lecturer.

Walter E. Dandy, internationally known brain surgeon.

Lucille McVey Drew, actress.

A. P. Green, manufacturer.

John T. Heard, Congressman, Contributor Heard Memorial Club House.

John W. Hicks, president of Paramount International.

Wilson L. Hicks, executive editor Life Magazine.

Daniel C. Jackling, head of Kennecott Copper Corp.

Cyrus N. Johns, president of American Chain and Cable Co.

Henry Lamm, Justice Missouri Supreme Court.

Rufus E. Longan, Brigadier-General, World War I.

Bernarr McFadden, physical culturist.

John C. McLaughlin, Commanding General, 35th Division.

John Montgomery, ambassador to Hungary.

E. Virgil Neal, manufacturer.

Jack Oakie, internationally known actor.

Hazel Palmer, president National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs.

John H. Parker, "Gatling Gun Parker", inventor of machine gun.

John F. Philips, U. S. District Judge.

Walter Rautenstrauch, engineer, technologist, adviser to Mexico and other governments.

Arthur G. Salisbury, aviation ace, Col. World War II.

F. A. Sampson, Missouriiana collector.

George V. Vest, U. S. Senator, author of famous eulogy to the dog.

Charles E. Yeater, Governor of Phillipine Islands.

MAYORS OF SEDALIA

1864	Gen. George R. Smith, James G. Tesch
1865	E. W. Warsburn (resigned) F. L. Parker
1866	John F. Phillips
1867	Henry Suess
1868	Gen. Bacon Montgomery
1869	Albert Parker
1870	William P. Jackson
1871	Thomas J. Montgomery
1872	George W. Cummings
1873	Dr. R. T. Miller
1874	William H. H. Hill
1875	Norman Maltby
1876	David Blocher
1877	Logan Clark
1878-79	George L. Faulhaber
1880	E. C. Evans
1881	Frank Craycroft
1882	Charles E. Messerly
1884	John B. Rickman
1886	E. W. Stevens
1888	John D. Crawford
1890-92	E. W. Stevens
1894-98	P. D. Hastain
1898	W. C. Overstreet
1900	Samuel K. Crawford
1902-04	J. L. Babcock
1906	John A. Collins
1908-10	J. L. Babcock
1910	J. W. Mellor
1912	F. L. Ludemann
1914-16	J. L. Babcock
1918	A. L. Baumgartner
1920-22	F. F. Hatton
1924-26	J. L. Babcock
1928	O. B. Poundstone
1930	S. B. Kennon
1932	Wilmer Steeples
1934	O. B. Poundstone, Julian H. Bagby
1936-38	Julian H. Bagby
1942	Alonzo H. Wilks
1946	Julian H. Bagby
1950	Herbert E. Studer
1954	Julian H. Bagby
1958	Abe Silverman

SEDALIA SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

1867-1872	George O. Brown
1872-1876	G. W. Ready
1876-1884	D. R. Cully
1884-1888	Wm. Richardson
1888-1893	A. J. Smith
1893-1908	G. V. Buchanan
1908-1920	John P. Gass
1920-1924	C. A. Greene
1924-1927	John N. Crocker
1927-1958	Heber U. Hunt
1958-	T. J. Norris

PRESIDENTS OF SEDALIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Prior to 1918 the city had the Sedalia Boosters Club (1907 to 1918) of which R. H. Ramsey and Ned Spencer were presidents. In 1918 the Sedalia Chamber of Commerce was organized. Presidents since 1918, except unknown, follow:

1918-1919	William B. Malone
1919-1920	Mel T. Henderson
1921-1922	Robert M. Johns
1923-1924	Carl Harter
1924-1925	Courtney W. Flower
1925-1926	Clifford Van Dyne
1926-1928	Dr. Jule E. Cannaday
1928-1935	Charles O. Botz
1935-1936	Philip M. McLaughlin
1936-1937	Donald S. Lamm
1937-1939	Joseph L. Rosenthal
1939-1941	George H. Trader
1941-1943	Charles Van Dyne
1943-1946	I. H. Reed
1946-1947	Abe Silverman
1947-1949	Robert Overstreet
1949-1950	J. Harold Seaberg
1950-1951	Aaron W. Haller
1951-1952	Jack M. Cunningham
1952-1954	Claude L. Boul
1954-1955	Kenneth U. Love
1955-1956	Floyd H. Priddy
1956-1957	Vernon Rodick
1957-1958	Del Heckart
1958-1960	William C. Hopkins

ASSESSED VALUATIONS - CITY OF SEDALIA, MO.

1933	\$15,276,618.00
1934	\$15,743,622.00
1935	\$15,147,123.00
1936	\$15,305,237.00
1937	\$15,506,439.00
1938	\$15,724,004.00
1939	\$15,705,331.00
1940	\$15,493,003.00
1941	\$15,808,382.00
1942	\$16,014,293.00
1943	\$16,107,068.00
1944	\$16,042,683.03
1945	\$16,171,001.00
1946	\$16,223,764.00
1947	\$16,793,328.00
1948	\$16,978,918.00
1949	\$17,875,762.25
1950	\$18,286,481.39
1951	\$18,937,423.26
1952	\$18,999.321.26
1953	\$20,297,805.78
1954	\$20,486,813.00
1955	\$21,931,396.00
1956	\$26,111,900.00
1957	\$27,508,075.00
1958	\$27,926,122.00
1959	\$28,759,400.00

POPULATION OF SEDALIA

(Bureau of the Census Figures)

1870	4,560
1880	9,561
1890	14,068
1900	15,231
1910	17,822
1920	21,144
1930	20,806
1940	20,428
1950	20,354

There is considerable disagreement about the 1950 census, it being contended many people were missed. The Survey of Buying Power indicates an estimated population of 26,300 on January 1, 1958. The 1960 census had not been taken when this history was written, but it is believed the 1960 population of Sedalia is between 28,000 and 30,000.

CHURCHES IN SEDALIA

DATES OF ORGANIZATION

In The Sixties

St. Vincents Catholic, 1862, (forerunner of present St. Patricks Church).

First Christian, 1861.

First Baptist, 1865.

First Methodist, 1864.

First Congregational, 1865 (federated with Central Presbyterian in 1929).

Presbyterian, 1865.

Calvary Episcopal, 1865.

In The Seventies

Methodist Episcopal (later Fifth Street Methodist, now Wesley Methodist), 1870.

Evangelical and Reformed (now United Church of Christ), 1876.

Epworth Methodist, 1877.

In The Eighties

Sacred Heart, 1882.

St. Paul's Lutheran, 1882.

Quinn Chapel A. M. E., 1887.

The history committee attempted to procure the dates of organization of churches organized in Sedalia after 1890 but was unable to do so. Churches organized after 1890, with dates of organization, when known, are as follows:

East Broadway Christian, 1898.

Calvary Baptist, 1926.

East Sedalia Baptist

Bible Baptist

Trinity Lutheran, 1894.
Christian Methodist
Free Methodist
Taylor's Chapel Methodist.
Cumberland Presbyterian, 1911.
Church of God
Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Church of The Open Bible, 1937.
Church of the Nazarene
Gospel Tabernacle
Jehovah's Witnesses
Pentecostal Church of God
Sedalia Bible Church
Temple Beth El, 1931.
The Shrine of Jesus
The Salvation Army
Seventh Day Adventist
Holy Temple Church of God In Christ
First Church of Christ Scientist, 1925.
First United Pentecostal
First Assembly of God

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Sedalia, Missouri



"A boy who blows a horn, won't blow a safe." So thought Dr. J. E. Cannaday and other Sedalians who sponsored a boy's band of 150 boys. Organized April, 1920. John De Young was conductor.