



History of New Lebanon Cooper County Missouri

X

THE NEW LEBANON COMMUNITY

In this section we will consider those factors of New Lebanon life and history which have not been covered in the chapters on the church, on the school, and on the cemetery.

Specific examples of the early life of the pioneer which relate solely to New Lebanon are rare. Yet it is essential to appreciate the mode of living in these early days. Hence we shall quote several passages from the History of Howard and Cooper Counties Missouri (1883) to set the scene. Of course, these passages are of historical interest in and of themselves for they offer a glimpse of how the people of that time (1883) felt as they referred back to the era of their fathers and grand-fathers. Often it was with a feeling of reverent reflection upon better days, especially where personal and individual value and personal freedom were concerned. Were we reporting only upon the days of 1883, we might well feel remorse for the relatively debased condition, as an individual, in which man today finds himself. And perhaps both we and the chroniclers of 1883 would both be right.

"Gone is that free-hearted hospitality which made of every settler's cabin an inn, where the belated and weary traveler found entertainment without money and without price. Gone is that community of sentiment which made neighbors indeed neighbors; that era of kindly feeling which was marked by the almost entire absence of litigation.

"Gone, too, some say, is that simple, strong, up-right, honest integrity, which was so marked a characteristic of the pioneer. So rapid has been the improvement in machinery, and the progress in the arts and their application to the needs of man, that a study of the manner in which people lived and worked only fifty years ago, seems like the study of a remote age. It is important to remember that while a majority of settlers were poor, that poverty carried with it no crushing sense of degradation like that felt by the very poor of our age. They lived in a cabin, it is true, but it was their own, and had been reared by their hands. Their house, too, while inconvenient and far from water-proof, was built in the prevailing style of architecture, and would compare favorably with the homes of their neighbors. They were destitute of many of the conveniences of life, and some things that are now considered necessities; but they patiently endured their lot, and hopefully looked forward to brighter days. They had plenty to wear as a protection against the weather, and an abundance of wholesome food. They sat down to a rude table to eat from tin or pewter dishes; but the meat thereon spread--the flesh of the deer or bear, of the wild duck or turkey, of the quail or squirrel--was superior to that we eat, and had been won by the skill of the settler, or that of his vigorous sons. The bread they ate was made from corn or wheat of their own raising. They walked the green carpet of grand prairie or forest that surrounded them, not with the air of a beggar, but with the elastic step of a self-respected free man.

"The settler brought with him the keen axe, which was indispensable, and the equally necessary rifle--the first his weapon of offense against the forests that skirted the water courses, and near which he made his home, the second that of defense from the attacks of his foe, the cunning child of the forest and the prairie. His first labor was to fell trees and erect his unpretentious cabin, which was rudely made of logs, and in the raising of which he had the cheerful aid of his neighbors. It was usually from fourteen to sixteen feet square, and never larger than twenty feet, and very frequently, built entirely without glass, nails, hinges, or locks. The manner of building was as follows: First, large logs were laid in position as sills, on these were placed strong sleepers, and on the sleepers were laid the rough-hewed puncheons, which were to serve as floors. The logs were then built up till the proper height for the eaves was reached; then on the ends of the building were placed poles, longer than the other end logs, which projected some eighteen or more inches over the sides, and were called "butting pole sleepers;" on the projecting ends of these was placed the "butting pole," which served to give the line to the first row of clapboards. These were, as a matter of course, split, and as the gables of the cabin were built up, were so laid on as to lap a third of their length. They were often kept in place by the weight of a heavy pole, which was laid across the roof parallel to the ridge pole. The house was then chinked and daubed. A large fire place was built in at one end of the house, in which fire was kindled for cooking purposes (for the settlers generally were without stoves), and which furnished the needed warmth in the winter. The ceiling above was sometime covered with the pelts of the raccoon, opossum, and of the wolf, to add to the warmth of the dwelling. Sometimes the soft inner bark of the bass wood was used for the same purpose. The cabin was lighted by means of greased paper windows. A log would be left out along one side and sheets of strong paper, well greased with coon grease or bear oil, would be carefully tacked in.

"The above description only applies to the earliest times; before the buzzing of the saw mill was heard within our borders. The furniture comported admirably with the house itself, and hence, if not elegant, was in perfect taste. The table had four legs, and was rudely made from a puncheon. Their seats were stools, having three or four legs. The bedstead was in keeping with the rest, and was often so contrived as to permit it to be drawn up and fastened to the wall during the day, thus affording more room for the family. The entire furniture was simple, and was framed with no other tools than an axe and auger. Each was his own carpenter, and some displayed considerable ingenuity in the construction of implements of agriculture, and utensils and furniture for the kitchen and house. Knives and forks they sometimes had, and sometimes had not. The common table knife was the jack-knife, or butcher knife. Horse collars were sometimes made of the plaited husk of the maize, sewed together. They were easy on the neck of the horse, and if tug traces were used, would last a long time. Horses were not used very much, however, as oxen were almost exclusively used. In some instances, carts and wagons were constructed or repaired by the self-reliant settler, and the woeful creakings of the untarred axles could be heard at a great distance.

"The women corresponded well with the virtuous woman spoken of in the last chapter of Proverbs, for they "sought wool and flax, and worked willingly with their hands" They did not, it is true, make for themselves "coverings of tapestry," nor could it be said of them, that their "clothing was silk and purple;" but "they rose while it was yet night, and gave meat to their household," and they "girded their loins with strength, and strengthened their arms." They "looked well to the ways of their household, and ate not the bread of idleness." They laid "their hands to the spindle and to the distaff," and "strength and honor were in their clothing."

"In these days of furbelows and flounces, when from twenty to thirty yards are required by one fair damsel [or a dress, it is refreshing to know that the ladies of that ancient time considered eight yards an extravagant amount to put into one dress [and ever more refreshing to know that the miniskirt of the 1970's takes only one yard per garment!] The dress was usually made plain with four widths in the skirt and two front ones cut gored. The waist was made very short, and across the shoulders behind was a draw-string. The sleeves were enormously large and tapered from shoulder to wrist, and the most fashionable for fashion, like love, rules alike, the "court and grove"--were padded so as to resemble a bolster at the upper part, and were known as "mutton legs" or "sheep-shank sleeves." The sleeve was kept in shape often by a heavily starched lining. Those who could afford it used feathers, which gave the sleeve the appearance of an inflated balloon from elbow up, and were known as "pillow sleeves." Many bows and ribbons were worn, but scarcely any jewelry. The tow-dress was superseded by the cotton gown. Around the neck, instead of a lace collar or elegant ribbon, there was arranged a copperas colored neckerchief. In going to church or other public gathering, in summer weather, they sometimes walked barefooted, till near their destination, when they would put on their shoes or moccasins. They were contented and even happy without any of the elegant articles of apparel now used by ladies and considered necessary articles of 'dress, Ruffles, fine laces, silk hats, kid gloves, false curls, rings, combs and jewels, were nearly unknown, nor did the lack of them vex their souls. Many of them were grown before they ever saw the interior of any goods store. They were reared in simplicity, lived in simplicity, and were happy in simplicity. It may be interesting to speak more specifically regarding cookery and diet, Wild meat was plentiful. The settlers generally brought some food with them to last till a crop could be raised. Small patches of Indian corn were raised, which in the earliest days of the settlements was beaten in a mortar. The meal was made into a coarse but wholesome bread, on which the teeth could not be very tightly shut on account of the grit it contained. "Johnny-cake and pones were served up at dinner, while mush and milk was the favorite dish for supper. In the fire-place hung the crane, and the Dutch oven was used in baking. The streams abounded in fish, which formed a healthful article of food. Many kinds of greens, such as dock and poke, were eaten. The "truck patch" furnished roasting ears, pumpkins, beans, squashes and potatoes, and these were used by all. For reaping-bees, log-rollings and house-raising, the standard dish was pot-pie. Coffee and tea were used sparingly, as they were very dear, and the hardy pioneer thought them fit only for women and children. They said it would not "stick to the ribs." Maple sugar was much used, and honey was only five cents a pound. Butter was the same price, while eggs were only three cents a dozen. The utmost good feeling prevailed. If one killed hogs, all shared. Chickens were to be seen in great numbers around every doorway, and the gobble of the turkey and the quack of the duck were heard in the land. Nature contributed of her fruits. Wild grapes and plums were to be found in their seasons along the streams. The women manufactured nearly all the clothing worn by the family. In cool weather, gowns made of 'linsey-woolsey' were worn by the ladies. The chain was of cotton and the filling of wool. The fabric was usually plaid or in construction was called the side loom. The frame of it consisted of two pieces of scantling running obliquely from the floor to the wall. Later, the fame loom, which was a great improvement over the other, came into use. The men and boys wore jeans, [not much change for the boys in 1975 but now the girls wear jeans as often as not also] and linsey-woolsey hunting shirts. The jeans was colored either light blue or butternut. Many times when the men gathered to a log-rolling or a barn-raising, the women would assemble, bringing their spinning wheels with them. In this way sometimes as many as ten or twelve would gather in one room, and the pleasant voices of the fair spinners would mingle with the low hum of the spinning wheels. Oh! Golden, early days! Such articles as could not be manufactured were brought to them from the nearest store by the mail carrier. These were few, however. The men and boys in many instances wore pantaloons made of the dressed skin of the deer, which then swarmed the prairies in large herds. The young man who desired to look captivating in the eyes

of the maiden whom he loved, had his "bucks" fringed, which lent them not an unpleasing effect. Meal sacks were also made of buckskin. Caps were made of the skins of the fox or wolf, wildcat and muskrat, tanned with the fur on. The tail of the fox or the wolf often hung from the top of the cap, lending the wearer a jaunty air. Both sexes wore moccasins, which in dry weather were an excellent substitute for shoes. There were no shoemakers and each family made its own shoes.

"The settlers were separated from their neighbors often by miles. There were no church houses or regular services. Services might be irregular but there were a few organized congregations of any kind to call them together; hence, no doubt, the cheerfulness with which they accepted invitations to a house raising, or a log-rolling, or a corn husking, or a bee of any kind. To attend these gatherings they would sometimes go ten and sometimes more miles. Generally, with the invitation to the men, went one to the women, to come to a quilting. The good woman of the house where the festivities were to take place, would be busily engaged for a day or more in preparation for the coming guests. Great quantities of provisions were to be prepared, for dyspepsia was unknown to the pioneer, and good appetites were the rule and not the exception. "The bread used at these frolics was baked generally on johnny or journey cake boards, and is the best corn bread ever made. A board is made smooth, about two feet long and eight inches wide--the ends are generally rounded. The dough is spread out on this board and placed leaning before the fire. One side is baked and the dough is changed on the board, so the other side is presented, in its turn, to the fire. This is johnny cake, and is good, if the proper materials are put in the dough, and it is properly baked."

"At all the log rollings and house raisings it was customary to provide liquor. Excesses were not indulged in, however. The fiddle was never forgotten. After the day's work had been accomplished, outdoors and in, by men and women, the floor was cleared and the merry dance began. The handsome, stalwart young men, whose fine forms were the result of their manly outdoor life, clad in fringed buckskin trousers and gaudily colored hunting shirts, led forth the bright-eyed buxom damsels, attired in neatly-fitting linsey-woolsey garments, to the dance, their cheeks glowing with health and eyes speaking of enjoyment, and perhaps of a tenderer emotion. In pure pioneer times the crops were never husked on the stalk, as is done at this day, but were hauled home in the husk and thrown in a heap, generally by the side of the crib, so that the ears when husked could be thrown direct into the crib. The whole neighborhood, male and female, were invited to the "shucking," as it was called. The girls and many of the married ladies generally engaged in this amusing work.

"In the first place, two leading expert huskers were chosen as captains, and the heap of corn divided as near equal as possible. Rails were laid across the piles so as to designate the division; and then each captain chose alternately his corps of huskers, male and female. The whole number of working hands present were selected on one side or the other, and then each party commenced a contest to beat the other, which was in many cases truly exciting. One other rule was, whenever a male husked a red ear of corn he was entitled to a kiss from the girls.

"This frequently excited much fuss and scuffling, which was intended by both parties to end in a kiss. It was a universal practice that taffa, or Monongahela whiskey, was used at these husking frolics, which they drank out of a bottle; each one, male and female, taking the bottle and drinking out of it and then handing it to his or her neighbor without using any glass or cup. This custom was common and not considered rude. Almost always these corn shuckings ended in a dance. To prepare for this amusement, fiddles and fiddlers were in great demand, and it often required much fast riding to obtain them. One violin and a performer were all that was contemplated at these innocent rural games.

"Towards dark, and the supper half over, then it was that a bustle and confusion commenced. The confusion of the tongues at Babel would have been ashamed at the corn husking, the young ones hurrying off the table, and the old ones contending for time and order. It was the case in nine times out of ten, but one dwelling-house was on the premises, and that used for eating as well as dancing. But when the fiddler commenced tuning his instrument, the music always gained the victory for the young side. Then the victuals, dishes, table and all, disappeared in a few minutes and the room was cleared, the dogs driven out, and the floor swept off, ready for action. The floors of these houses were sometimes the natural earth, beat solid, sometimes the earth with puncheons in the middle over the potato hole, and at times the whole floor was made of puncheons. The music at these country dances made the young folks almost frantic, [1975 elders take note: some things change little] and sometimes much excitement was displayed to get on the floor first. Generally the fiddler on these occasions assumed an important bearing, and ordered, in true professional style, so and so to be done, as that was the way in North Carolina where he was raised. The decision ended the contest for the floor. In those days they danced jigs and four-handed reels, as they were called. Sometimes three-handed reels were danced. In these dances there was no standing still; all were moving at a rapid pace from beginning to end. In the jigs the bystanders cut one another out, so that this dance would last for hours.

"The bottle went around at these parties, as it did at the shuckings, and male and female took a dram out of it as it passed around. No sitting was indulged in, and the folks either stood or danced all night. The dress of these hardy pioneers was generally homespun. The hunting shirt was much worn at that time, which is a convenient working or dancing dress. In the morning all go home on horseback or on foot. No carriages, wagons or other vehicles were used on these occasions, for the best of reasons--because they had none. Dancing was a favorite amusement, and was participated in by all. [As we have seen, not by 'all'.]

"The amusements of that day were more athletic and rude than those of today. Among the settlers of a new country, from the nature of the case, a higher value is set upon physical than mental endowments [yet in 1975 the football player still strongly out-ranks the chess player.] Skill in woodcraft, superiority of muscular development, accuracy in shooting with the rifle, activity, and swiftness of foot, were qualifications that brought their possessors fame. Foot-racing was practiced, and often the boys and young men engaged in friendly contests with the Indians. Every man had a rifle, and kept it always in good order; his flints, bullets, bullet-moulds, screwdriver, awl, butcher-knife and tomahawk were fastened to the shot-pouch strap, or to the belt around the waist. Target-shooting was much practiced, and shots were made by the hunters and settlers, with flint-lock rifles, that cannot be excelled by their descendants with the improved breech-loaders of the present day. At all gatherings, jumping and wrestling were indulged, and those who excelled were thenceforth men of notoriety. At their shooting matches, which were usually for the prize of a turkey, or a gallon of whiskey, good feeling generally prevailed. If disputes arose, they were often settled by a square stand-up fight, and no one thought of using other weapons than fists. They held no grudges after their fights, for this was considered unmanly. It was the rule, if a fight occurred between two persons, the victor should pour water for the defeated as he washed away the traces of the fray, after which the latter was to perform the same service for the former.

"Among the first [pioneer mills] were the "band mills," a description of which will not prove uninteresting. The plan was cheap. The horsepower consisted of a large upright shaft, some ten or twelve feet high, with some eight or ten long arms let into the main shaft and extending out from it fifteen feet. Auger holes were bored into the arms on the upper side at the end into which wooden pins were driven. This was called the "big wheel" and was about twenty feet in diameter. The raw hide belt or tug was made of skins taken off of beef cattle, which were cut into strips three inches in width; these were twisted into a round cord or tug which was long enough to encircle the circumference of the big wheel. There it was held in place by the wooden pins, then to cross and pass under a shed to run around a drum, or what is called a "trunnel head," which was attached to the grinding apparatus. The horses or oxen were hitched to the arms by means of raw hide tugs; then walking in a circle, the machinery would be set in motion. To grind twelve bushels of corn was considered a day's work on a band mill.

"Before the country became supplied with mills which were of easy access, and even in some instances afterward, hominy-blocks were used. They exist now only in the memory of the oldest settlers, but as relics of the "long ago" a description of them will not be uninteresting:--

A tree of suitable size, say from eighteen inches to two feet in diameter, was selected in the forest and felled to the ground. If a cross-cut saw happened to be convenient, the tree was "buted," that is, the kerf end was sawed off so that it would stand steady when ready for use. If there were no cross-cut saw in the neighborhood, strong arms and sharp axes were ready to do the work. Then the proper length, from four to five feet, was measured off and sawed or cut square. When this was done the block was raised on end and the work of cutting out a hollow in one of the ends was commenced. This was generally done with a common chopping ax. Sometimes a smaller one was used. When the cavity was judged to be large enough, a fire was built in it and carefully watched till the ragged edges were burned away. When completed the hominy-block somewhat resembled a druggist's mortar. Then a pestle, or something to crush the corn, was necessary. This was usually made from a suitably sized piece of timber, with an iron wedge attached, the large end down. This completed the machinery, and the block was ready for use. Sometimes one hominy-block accommodated an entire neighborhood and was the means of staying the hunger of many mouths. "The most rude and primitive method of manufacturing meal was by the use of the grater. A plate of tin is pierced with many holes, so that one side is very rough. The tin is made oval and then nailed to a board. An ear of corn was rubbed hard on this grater, whereby the meal was forced through the holes and fell down in a vessel prepared to receive it. An improvement on this was the hand mill. The stones were smaller than those of the band mill, and were propelled by man or woman power. A hole is made in the upper stone and a staff of wood is put in it, and the other end of the staff is put through a hole in a plank above, so that the whole is free to act. One or two persons take hold of this staff and turn the upper stone as rapidly as possible. An eye is made in the upper stone, through which the corn is put into the mill with the hand in small quantities to suit the mill instead of a hopper. A mortar wherein corn was beaten into meal, is made out of a large round log three or four feet long. One end is cut or burnt out so as to hold a peck of corn, more or less, according to circumstances. This mortar is set one end on the ground and the other up to hold the corn. A sweep is prepared over the mortar, so that the spring of the pole raises the piston, and the hands at it force it so hard down on the corn, that after much beating meal is manufactured.

"Notwithstanding the fact that some of the early settlers were energetic millwrights, who employed all their energy, and what means they possessed, in erecting mills at a few of the many favorite mill sites which abound in the county; yet going to mill in those days, when there were no roads, no bridges, no ferry boats, and scarcely any conveniences for traveling, was no small task, where so many rivers and treacherous streams were to be crossed, and such a trip was often attended with great danger to the traveler when these streams were swollen beyond their banks. But even under these circumstances, some of the more adventurous and ingenious ones, in case of emergency, found the ways and means by which to cross the swollen streams, and succeed in making the trip. At other times again, all attempts failed them, and they were compelled to remain at home until the waters subsided, and depend on the generosity of their fortunate neighbors.

"[One] source of profitable recreation among the old settlers was that of hunting bees. The forests along the water courses were especially prolific of bee trees. They were found in great numbers on the Missouri River, and in fact, on all important streams in the county. Many of the early settlers, during the late summer, would go into camp for days at a time, for the purpose of hunting and securing the honey of the wild bees, which was not only extremely rich, and found in great abundance, but always commanded a good price in the home market.

"The Indians have ever regarded the honey bee as the forerunner of the white man, while it is a conceded fact the quail always follows the footprints of civilization.

[Honey Creek, which headed at New Lebanon and erupted in the Lamine River to the west, was so named from the large amount of wild honey found in hollow trees along its banks.]

"To one looking over the situation then, from the standpoint now, it certainly does not seem very cheering, and yet, from the testimony of some old pioneers, it was a most enjoyable time, and we of the present live in degenerate days.

"At that time it certainly would have been much more difficult for those old settlers to understand how it could be possible that sixty-five years hence, the citizens at the present age of the country's progress would be complaining of hard times and destitution, and that they themselves,

perhaps, would be among that number, than it is now for us to appreciate how they could feel so cheerful and contented with their meager means and humble lot of hardships and deprivations during those early pioneer days.

"The secret was, doubtless, that they lived within their means, however limited, not coveting more of luxury and comfort than their income would afford, and the natural result was prosperity and contentment " [Emphasis mine. If only the bicentennial government of the United States could learn this secret.]

About 1828 Benjamin Weeden and James Berry "established the first ox-saw-mill in [Lebanon] township. This proved the theme of conversation for months previous to and after its establishment. It proved a great convenience to the settlers, furnishing them, as it did, with sawed lumber. ..." (1877 Atlas). Also in the early days William Ruby had a tanyard on Honey Creek where he tanned hides out of which shoes and harness for the settlers were made. And, somewhat later, a Mr. Jolley had a water mill on this stream where meal was ground.

NEW LEBANON POST OFFICES

Prior to the Rev. Finis Ewing receiving his appointment as postmaster at "New Lebanon", he called the place Green Grove. He obtained his postmastership in 1821 and thereafter "New Lebanon" was named Ewingsville. This was the second post office to be opened in Cooper County (after that of Boonville) and at the time when Cooper County was many times larger than it is today. Finis Ewing remained postmaster through the year 1831 (until he left for Lafayette County in 1832).

Postage rates in 1820 were as follows. For single letters composed of one piece of paper:

	Miles	Cents
any distance not exceeding:	30	6
over 30 and not exceeding	80	10
over 80 and not exceeding	150	12 1/2
over 150 and not exceeding	400	18 1/2
over 400	25	

In 1828 there were still only the two above mentioned post offices in Cooper County. Between that time and 1831 there was one addition: Pisgah, where David Jones was postmaster in 1831.

Other postmasters at Ewingsville were: Alexander C. Sloan (1836); and Urban E. Ruby (1837-42). Ewingsville then disappears from the records. In 1846 there were twelve post offices in Cooper County: Boonville, Clark's Fork, Conner's Mills, Gooch's Mill, LaMine, Midway, Mount Carmel, Palestine, Pilot Grove, Pleasant Green, Round Hill, and Vermont. Since "New Lebanon's" next name, Fair Point, is not mentioned, it appears that for a period there was no post office present.

One of 1842's postal regulations stated: "Postmasters are required to preserve and use the wrappings and twine which come into their offices upon letters and packets received, as far as they can again be safely used; but if these be not sufficient, they may supply the deficiency by purchase, taking care that the quality shall be good and the price reasonable." One would wish that the current U.S. Postal Service would exercise similar restraint with the taxpayers' money!

In 1851 Fair Point (New Lebanon's new name) appears on the list of post offices with George L. Bell as postmaster. Other appointments included: Horace W. Ferguson (1855); George L. Bell (1857); and James B. Johnston (1859-1860). The Fair Point post office is not listed in 1862, nor thereafter; presumably it closed during the Civil War and did not reopen.

Nothing concerning the post office at New Lebanon (now officially so called) could be learned until 1891, at which time it received its "mail by special supply." In 1893 the New Lebanon postmaster was John W. Mann, general store owner, who, as customary, kept the post office in his store. John W. Mann continued to serve as postmaster at least through 1899 and possibly until he died in 1902. So far as is known he was the last person to

receive that appointment but records are elusive concerning this; it is possible that a post office was in operation a few more years.

The inauguration of rural delivery spelled the end of many small, village post offices. And with their passing, a focal point for community 'togetherness' died also; no longer would neighbors meet with such regularity. After the New Lebanon post office closed, the people received their mail via Rural Route #1 out of Pleasant Green. After the latter closed (and currently) residents of New Lebanon proper get their mail on Route No. 2 from Bunceton.

NEW LEBANON BUSINESSES in 1860

The 1860 Missouri State Gazetteer and Business Directory (a directory published for the benefit of salesmen and drummers) includes a listing for Fair Point which reads: "It contains one church (Cumberland Presbyterian), one carpenter, one blacksmith, one wagon maker, one coal dealer, one brick maker, one general store, one grocery store, one hotel, one painter, and two physicians. Population: 60."

The two physicians were Dr. William Burk and Dr. William Harper (Hooper?). Samuel Drinkwater was the brick maker and it was probably he who made the bricks for the New Lebanon Church building. John T. Drinkwater, Sr. (possibly a brother of Samuel) was proprietor of the hotel. One of his sons, John T. Drinkwater, Jr. was the local blacksmith. James B. Johnston was the postmaster and also a partner in the general store operated as Johnston, Ewing & Co. David Jones was the carpenter and A. McNorton the painter. Thomas Thomas dealt in coal and Leander Rickman built wagons. Mary J. Weeden was a dress maker and also had a millinery shop.

John T. Drinkwater, Sr. had five children: (1) Polly Drinkwater; (2) Margaret Drinkwater (married James Deckard); (3) William Drinkwater died Cooper Co. Mo.; (4) James Drinkwater (went to Texas); and (5) John T. Drinkwater, Jr. born Mar. 15, 1821 (married Nancy Deckard, while he was a blacksmith in New Lebanon, and had two children: (1) Fred Drinkwater; and (2) James Drinkwater. Nancy died about eight years later and John T. Drinkwater, Jr. married 2nd Mimena (Monemia) Bales daughter of Oliver Bales and eight more children: (3) infant; (4) Sarah Drinkwater (married Washington Hatter); (5) Brown Drinkwater (married 1st Junnie Hanna, married 2nd Willie Ramsey); (6) Margaret Drinkwater (married Lawrence Applegate); (7) William H. Drinkwater born July 29, 1863 New Lebanon, Mo. died 95 years old Knob Noster, Mo. (married Mar. 27, 1887 Annie Cruse born Dec. 18, 1870 died Jan. 16, 1944 daughter of Thomas A. Cruse and Emma Marshall and had eight children (not in order of birth): Emma Drinkwater; Edgar Drinkwater; Leonard W. Drinkwater; Harry Drinkwater; Leo Drinkwater; Grover Drinkwater; Mrs. W.P. Murray; and Mrs. O'Bannon Marshall); (8) Oliver Drinkwater (married Annie Geary); (9) Fannie Drinkwater (married William Fisher); and (10) Rosa Lelia Drinkwater).



This mill was owned and operated by a succession of men, most of whose names could not be ascertained with certainty. In 1900 it was managed by Thomas R. Kemp, and in 1915, at least, it was owned by J. E. Potter. In addition to all kinds of ground feed, it produced two grades of flour: "Liberty Bell" (first grade), and "Honey Creek" (second grade). It was powered by a steam engine which required 'mountains' of wood for fuel. It operated intermittently after 1910 and was torn down in the 1930s. This picture was taken in 1899.

SOME OTHER NEW LEBANON BUSINESSES

From early in its history, New Lebanon offered the opportunity for various businesses to operate there. Some flourished; some didn't. With the gradual decline in population after 1890, business possibilities also

degenerated. In 1934 there were only two shops open: a general store and a blacksmith shop. Since World War II there have not been any.

The businesses of 1860 have been covered above. In 1870 Morgan F. Kemp had a general store in which Phillip M. Reed was a clerk. In 1893 Milton Cash and W.H. Coffman had a blacksmith shop as "Cash & Coffman". William L. Favorite and Robert N. Robertson operated a general store under the name "Favorite & Robertson." Another general store was run by John W. Mann. William Harvey Steele (see DVKM) operated a grist mill. In the late 1890s Arthur "Bud" Cook (see DVKM) had a general store. By 1898 W.H. Coffman had his own blacksmith shop; James C. Fisher had another blacksmith shop. A general store was in operation under the name of "Abe Rothgeb & Co." In the fall of 1899 Robert N. Robertson opened a new store carrying general merchandise. In 1900 the New Lebanon Milling Company, offering "High Grade Flour, Meal, and All Kinds of Ground Feed," was managed by Thomas R. Kemp. In 1903 W.H. Coffman & Co. were dealers in "Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware and Notions." Thomas G. Lewis sold drugs, paints, and oils. W.F. Allen was a dealer in "General Merchandise, Wagons, Buggies, Wire and Salt." The Brumback Bros. (Hubert and Franklin) offered general blacksmithing. Mrs. James T. Woods had a millinery shop. For many years before his death in 1926, William

J. Thomas had a blacksmith shop. Charles Lester Thomas ran a general store for a few years until it burned about 1905. Mrs. Eugene Tomlinson ran a millinery shop for a few years until about 1919. During the second decade of this century, Eugene Tomlinson ran a general store in New Lebanon; he then (1915) moved to Sedalia, Mo. where he spent the remainder of this life. Eugene Tomlinson was the son of Jeremiah Tomlinson. Jeremiah Tomlinson was the son of Ambrose Tomlinson born 1787 Madison Co. Ky. died 1833 Madison Co. Ky. (married Frances White and had nine children: Mourning; Eliza; Lucy; Jeremiah; Nancy; Pauline; Margaret; George; and Sally Tomlinson). Jeremiah Tomlinson born Feb. 17, 1819 Madison Co. Ky. died May 25, 1897 [He went to northern Morgan Co. Mo. in December 1838 and settled about five miles south of Otterville. Tomlin Springs, located at this place, were named for Jeremiah. The springs were a noted and lovely spot in earlier days; camp meetings, in either fall or spring, frequently took place near them. Later they were a favored site for fish fries and picnics. The now defunct Harmony school and the still active Bethlehem Baptist Church were in the vicinity of the springs. In later years Tomlin Springs was uncared for and is now characterized by only a swampy spot. In 1866 Jeremiah Tomlinson moved to Lebanon Township in Cooper Co.] married 1st May 17, 1846 Frances "Fannie" Jane Ross (of Morgan Co. Mo.) d. Jan. 20, 1865 daughter of Lewis Ross and had five children: (1) John Lewis Tomlinson born Aug. 27, 1847 died Aug. 15, 1857; (2) Hugh Prince F. Tomlinson born Oct. 1, 1848 died Feb. 22, 1936 (married Nannie Solomon daughter of Hogan Solomon and Thursey Drinkwater); Eliza Frances Tomlinson born Mar. 20, 1853 died Nov. 15, 1942 (married Feb. 7, 1878 Morgan Co. Mo. W.C. Solomon); (4) Hanna Dosha Tomlinson born Sept. 2, 1855 died Sept. 11, 1859; and (5) Theodocia E. Tomlinson born May 30, 1860 d. Feb. 8, 1960 (married Mr. Woolery). Jeremiah Tomlinson In 2nd Oct. 9, 1866 Sarah Jane Woolery born Cooper Co. Mo. died Feb. 2, 1876 aged 26 years buried Mt. Nebo Cemetery Cooper Co. Mo. (she had first been married to Mr. Suttles) and had three more children: (6) George White Tomlinson born Jan. 27, 1868 d. Nov. 22, 1940; (7) Jeremiah Tomlinson, Jr. born Aug. 24, 1870 died June 30, 1968 buried Pisgah Christian Church Cemetery Cooper Co. Mo. (beside his wife, Mary F. Tomlinson born 1876 died 1928 and their infant daughter, Loueva Tomlinson born Feb. 13, 1907 died June 23, 1908); and (8) Eugene Tomlinson born Sept. 2, 1872 Cooper Co. Mo. died Sept. 12, 1962 Sedalia, Mo. buried Crown Hill Cemetery (married Dec. 23, 1896 Sedalia, Mo. Mamie Elizabeth Lewis born May 20, 1872 New Lebanon, Mo. died Aug. 8, 1953 Sedalia, Mo. buried (town Hill Cemetery daughter of Harvey W. Lewis and Elizabeth Ann Grizzelle and had: (a) Mamie Belle Tomlinson born Oct. 23, 1897 New Lebanon, Mo. died Sept. 30, 1954 Mt. Vernon, Mo. buried Sedalia, Mo. (never married); (b) Elizabeth Mildred Tomlinson born June 3, 1894 New Lebanon, Mo. (unmarried); and (c) Grace Tomlinson born July 3, 1908 New Lebanon, Mo. (married 1st Apr. 26, 1929 Ralph F. Hall and had: Robert Eugene Hall born July 14, 1930 Sedalia, Mo. (who married Phyllis Ann Fertig born Sept. 19, 1930 and had: Mark Eugene Hall born May 30, 1953 Ft. Sill, Okla.; John Robert Hall born May 20, 1954 Ft. Sill, Okla.; and Michael Douglas Hall born Aug. 23, 1958 Kansas City, Mo.). Grace Tomlinson married 2nd Mar. 19, 1952 Arthur J.P. Schwarz born Mar. 31, 1888 died Dec. 23, 1966 buried Crown Hill Cemetery, Sedalia, Mo. and had no children), Jeremiah Tomlinson married 3rd Louisa Bales born Sept. 15, 1849 died Apr. 16, 1925 daughter of Minor Bales and had three more children: (9) William Minor Tomlinson born Dec. 26, 1882 died Feb. 25, 1884 buried Mt. Nebo Cemetery Cooper Co. Mo.; (10) Lillie White Tomlinson born June 25, 1885 (married Mr. Clinger and living in 1975 in Carrollton, Mo.; and (11) Leona Tomlinson born July 13, 1887 died Apr. 21, 1964 (married Mr. Bell).



T. G. LEWIS

Left: Thomas Grizzelle Lewis owned and operated a Drug Store in New Lebanon for more than ten years prior to moving to Kansas City. "Big Tom" was also a pitcher for the unbeaten New Lebanon baseball team.



MRS. EUGENE TOMLINSON

Mrs. Eugene Tomlinson (nee Mamie Elizabeth Lewis) operated a millinery shop in New Lebanon for several years before 1913. She moved to Sedalia, Mo. in 1915.

MILLINERY

Before buying your Spring Bonnet or
Summer Hat be sure and consult

MRS. J. T. WOODS

NEW LEBANON, MO.

The only up-to-date milliner of New Lebanon.
The Cheapest and Best Bargains—lowest prices.

MILLINERY ADVERTISEMENT

Mrs. James Thomas Woods (nee Linzie Rowan Mann, see DVM) ran this advertisement in the "Premium List for Bunston (Mo.) Fair" in 1902.

TITLE HISTORY OF ONE LOT IN NEW LEBANON

The land in the New Lebanon area has changed hands many times and much data of historical and genealogical interest can be gleaned from the land records. As a sample, the title history of one lot in New Lebanon proper is given below. This lot, once part of larger parcels, is described as follows: Beginning in the middle of the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section seven) in township forty six of range eighteen, and running thence west 3.67 chains to a stone, thence south 1.50 chains to a stone, thence east 3.00 chains to a

stone in the middle of said road, thence with same north 22 degrees east 1.52 chains to the place of beginning, containing one-half acre, more or less.

<u>TITLE (FROM-TO)</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
United States to John Wear	12 31 1818	entered	Included SE 1/4 of Section 7, T-46-N R-18-W, 160 acres.
John Wear and wife Polly to Finis Ewing	12-22-1829	\$500.	For five acres whose description included a reference "to a stone in the old camp ground." Signed before John Miller, J.P.
Finis Ewing to James Fitten	183-	---	This transaction apparently was not recorded.
Catherine Fitten to Thomas D. Foster, Andrew A. Foster and Wilson C. Foster	2-23-1857	\$3000.	Included the five acres and other land. Signed before Anthony S. Walker, J.P.
Wilson C. Foster to Thomas D. Foster and Andrew A. Foster	5-1-1842	\$1442.	Included his interest in the five acres and other land. Signed before David Yancey, J.P.
Thomas D. Foster to Andrew A. Foster	5-22-1843	\$2163.	Included his half interest in the five acres and other land. Signed before William Steele, J.P.
Andrew A. Foster and wife Mary A. to Benjamin Needen	1-26 1846	\$2000.	Included the five acres and other land. Signed before John R. Elliott, J.P.
Benjamin Needen and wife Catherine A. to Andrew Koontz	5-6-1850	\$35.	The five acres. Signed before Andrew Munn, J.P.
Andrew Koontz and wife Eliza to John S. Sutcliffe	1-25-1850	\$4000.	The five acres and other land. Signed before John Thompson, J.P.

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<u>TITLE (FROM-TO)</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
John S. Sutcliffe and wife Mary Jane to James S. Arnold	1-12-1864	\$2000.	The five acres and other land. Signed before Henry Miller, Clerk of District Court of Monroe County Iowa.
James S. Arnold and wife Melvina to Robert Major	5-4-1868	\$5500.	The five acres and other land. Signed before John B. Condry, J.P.
Robert Major and wife Eleanor to Thomas Hyde	2-23-1876	\$150	For 3.56 acres (of the five acres) which lay "north of Clark Hooper's lot." Signed before Joseph Feland, Judge of the County Court.
Thomas Hyde to Thomas W. Hyde	1-22-1876	---	Thomas Hyde devised the 3.56 acres and other land to "his son, Thomas W. Hyde." Will probated 11-24-1884 in Guernsey County Ohio. Certified by Lot P. Hosick, Judge.
Thomas W. Hyde and wife Sue B. to Abram Rothgeb and James F. Rothgeb	1-31-1891	\$1010.	The 3.56 acres and other land. Signed before Jesse Thomas, N.P., Belmont County Ohio.
Abram Rothgeb and James F. Rothgeb and wife Belle to Elizabeth B. Rothgeb	2-14-1894	\$1010.	The 3.56 acres and other land. Abram Rothgeb signed before W. G. Pendleton N.P., Cooper County Missouri; James F. Rothgeb signed before Frank J. Cooper N.P., Los Angeles, California.
Elizabeth B. Rothgeb to A. E. Monroe	3-10-1896	\$30	One half acre lot of the 3.56 acres. Signed before E. C. Hutchison, J.P.
A. E. Monroe and wife Sarah to Abram Rothgeb	9-28-1901	\$900.	The half acre lot. Signed before E. C. Hutchison, J.P.
Abram Rothgeb and wife Sarahanna to J. L. Spillers	2-17-1902	\$1000.	The half acre lot. Signed before E. C. Hutchison, J.P.
J. L. Spillers and wife Pauline A. to Edward L. Rodgers	3-16-1905	\$1000	The half acre lot. Signed before R. W. Whitlow, N.P.
Edward L. Rodgers and wife Rosa B. to Ernest L. Hite	10-10-1904	\$1000.	The half acre lot. Signed before E. C. Hutchison, J.P.
Ernest L. Hite and wife Frances to C. Lester Thomas	3-15-1906	---	The half acre lot.



THE BRUMBACK BROTHERS

Franklin Hoffman Brumback (left) and his brother, Hubert Victor Brumback, were both born in Page Co., Va., sons of William Henry Brumback (nee DVKM). The above advertisement appeared in the "Premium List for Runeston, (Mo.) Fair" in 1903. Frank Brumback also practiced carpentry before purchasing a farm near New Lebanon in 1906. Hubert Brumback moved to Jefferson City, Mo.

BRUMBACK BROS.,
NEW LEBANON, MO.

❁ **General Blacksmithing** ❁

Wagonmakers. Horseshoeing a Specialty.
 Your Patronage Solicited.

NEW STORE

We have just opened a new store
consisting of a full stock of

GENERAL MERCHANDISE

AND IN ORDER TO SHOW THE PEOPLE OF THIS
COMMUNITY THAT WE ARE SELLING GOODS AS CHEAP
AS ELSEWHERE, WE HAND YOU THESE PRICES:

Ladies Shoes 75¢ and up	Corsets 25¢ and up
Gents Shoes \$1.00 and up	K.O. Corset \$1 goods 75¢
Gents 4-ply Linen Collar 10¢	Amoskeag Shirting \$1-3¢
Ladies 4-ply Linen Collar 10¢	Blue Denim 10 to 15¢
Laundried Shirts 25¢ and up	Chambra's 12 1-2¢ 10¢
Laundried White \$1 Shirts 75¢	Calicoes 4 cents and up

Beautiful line of Ladies' Handkerchiefs, Ribbons,
Laces, Embroideries, Union Suits, Etc.; Etc.
Also fine line of Gents Ties, Suspendeders and
Underwear at Lowest Possible Prices.
We also call especial attention to our stock of
Queensware, Glassware and Tinware, marked Very Low.
Best Fine Salt \$1.25 per barrel.

GROCERIES ARE EQUALLY AS CHEAP

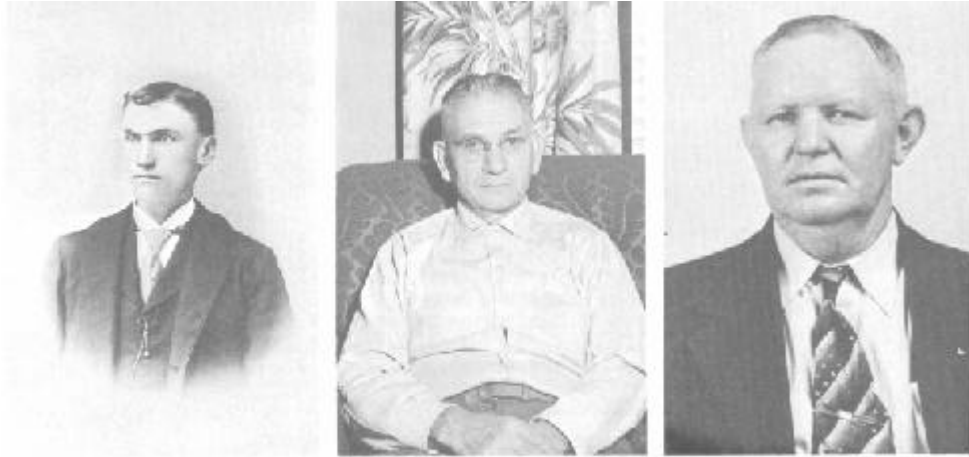
R. N. ROBERTSON & CO.

NEW LEBANON, MO.

ROBERT N. ROBERTSON ADVERTISEMENT

The above advertisement appeared on the front page of *The Otterville Mail* on September 22, 1899. Robert Nichols Robertson married at New Lebanon on Nov. 22. 1888 Emma Jane Favorite, see DVKM.

(Pictures of Three New Lebanon Store-keepers)



Eugene Tomlinson
(1879-1967)

Edward Ferdinand Hall
(1885-1971)

Harry William Needy
(1898-1979)

(Eugene Tomlinson, Edward Ferdinand Hall and Harry William Needy)

During World War I, Edward Ferdinand Hall owned a general store which he later sold to Ernest Lee Hite (see DVKM) who operated it for a short time. About 1926 Abram Rothgeb again opened a general store in New Lebanon (for a number of years he had had stores in Ionia and Odessa, Mo.). Also in the 1920s Harry William Needy built a general store in New Lebanon which was later run by William J. Thomas after Needy had moved to Bunceton to open a coffee shop. When the main road through New Lebanon was widened and straightened in the 1930s, this last mentioned store building was moved to the east side of the road where it remained until 1974 when it was torn down,

During the Civil War a coal mine was opened about one quarter mile south of New Lebanon, just east of the cemetery. The coal was recovered via a number of shafts. On this same site a saw mill was run by James Edward Maples in 1923-24; he obtained water from the old coal shafts. During 1934-36 Frank Schultz mined coal from this spot using the strip-mining method.

In the 1930s Frank Dick set up a saw mill in New Lebanon which he operated for two or three years. Frank Dick was born Feb. 2, 1885 and died July 3, 1971 and is buried at Tipton, Mo. His wife was Cordia May Taylor by whom he had two children: Alberta Myrl Dick (married Eugene Ellison, R. Speed, Mo.); and Virgil Leroy Dick who lives some two miles south of New Lebanon.

W. F. Allen,

Dealer in General Merchandise, Wag-
ons, Buggies, Wire and Salt in car
load lots.

HIGHEST MARKET PRICE
PAID FOR COUNTRY PRODUCE **NEW LEBANON, MO.**

T. G. LEWIS, DRUGGIST,
NEW LEBANON, MO.



DEALER IN DRUGS
PAINTS AND OILS.

PRESCRIPTIONS
A SPECIALTY.

W. H. COFFMAN & CO.,

DEALERS IN

**DRY GOODS, GROCERIES, HARD-
WARE AND NOTIONS.**

We carry a new line of good goods. Call and see us. Prices right.

NEW LEBANON, MO.

NEW LEBANON ADVERTISEMENTS

The above panel of advertisements were printed in the "Premium List for
Bancroft (Mo.) Fair" in 1903.

ABRAM ROTHGEB



"Abe" Rothgeb opened a general store in New Lebanon no later than 1898. Later he operated stores in Ionia and Odessa, Mo, returning to New Lebanon about 1926. His store remained open through World War II times and was the last in New Lebanon. The above picture was not taken at New Lebanon.

PHYSICIANS IN NEW LEBANON

The earliest physician of record in New Lebanon was Collin C. Stoneman who joined the New Lebanon Church in 1847. He was a practitioner of the Thompsonian school of medicine which insisted on the use of vegetable remedies only. In 1860 Drs. William Burk and William Harper were located in New Lebanon. [Note: it is probable that the written record for William Harper is a mistake and should read William Hooper; however there was a Harper family in Cooper Co. at this time which had physicians among its members.]

With two doctors for a village population of 60 in 1860, the doctor/patient ratio was probably the best the neighborhood ever had. After the Civil War, Dr. William Hooper continued as the area's doctor. Exactly when he came is not known but he appears on the church's roll in late 1859. He practiced in New Lebanon for over twenty years and is buried in the New Lebanon Cemetery although he died in Bates Co. Mo. In 1894 Dr. Alfred E. Monroe settled in New Lebanon and began the practice of his profession.

Dr. Alfred E. Monroe was born Apr. 10, 1870 in Moniteau Co. Mo. the son of Calvin Monroe and Mary Shadwick. He died June 30, 1954 in Sedalia, Mo. And is buried in Memorial Park Cemetery. He graduated from William Jewel College at Liberty, Mo. and obtained his medical degree from Marion Sims College of Medicine in St. Louis, Mo. on Mar. 23, 1893. He began the practice of medicine at Urich, Mo. After nine months there, he moved to New Lebanon. About 1903 Dr. Monroe moved to Otterville, Mo. and, in 1910, to Sedalia, Mo. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge at Otterville. Dr. Monroe married Sarah F. Hill (she died May 3, 1951 in Sedalia, Mo.) and had one daughter: Edith Lucille Monroe born Nov. 12, 1897 New Lebanon, Mo. died Nov. 15, 1961 (married June 18, 1921 William Dressel Cunningham born Oct. 16, 1898 and had one daughter: Billy Jean Cunningham born July 25, 1922 Sedalia, Mo. (married 1st Paul Alvin Nesselrood born Aug. 9, 1921 died Aug. 28, 1973 and had three children: Paul Edwin Nesselrood born Aug. 4, 1948; Paula Kay Nesselrood born Feb. 2, 1952 (married Feb. 7, 1972 Donald Ellis); and Nancy Anne Nesselrood born Oct. 7, 1955. Billy Jean Cunningham married 2nd Donald John Vinson born Feb. 29, 1920 and lives in Colorado Springs, Col.)).

For approximately the last year of Dr. Monroe's practice in New Lebanon, newly graduated Dr. Henry Ashby Hite (see DVKM) also resided there. He then moved to Green Ridge in Pettis Co. Mo. where he was the

local doctor for the remainder of his life. Also during the first decade of this century, Dr. Robert Lee Fogle (see DVKM) practiced in New Lebanon before moving to Otterville where he was that town's physician for 40 years.

THE GRANGE

The Grange, as it was commonly called, came to Lebanon Township in the 1870s, as it did to most of the Midwestern area. Originally designated as the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry (now officially the National Grange), this fraternal organization of farmers was founded in 1867 by Oliver Hudson Kelley, and six of his associates, in Washington, D.C. The unrest and dissatisfaction among the farmers in the early 1870s led to what is now known as the "Granger" movement. The discontent was stimulated by the corruption and monopolistic practices of the railroads and grain elevators; the Grange, via political action, helped bring about regulation of these essential adjuncts to agriculture. Local and state Granges also formed co-operative businesses in an attempt to thwart various monopolies. (For an example of a local co-operative, see the Otterville Joint Stock Association in DVKM.) These were generally unsuccessful, and their failure plus internal disputes, caused membership in the Grange to decline greatly in the latter half of the 1870s. Even so, the organization continued to have a strong influence.

In 1878 the National Grange caused to be published, in Louisville, Ky. A "Digest of the Laws and Enactments of the National Grange" which included a "Declaration of Purposes" and a copy of its Constitution together with the latter's Preamble. Part of these are quoted below:

DECLARATION OF PURPOSES.

PREAMBLE.

Profoundly impressed with the truth that the National Grange of the United States should definitely proclaim to the world its general objects, we hereby unanimously make this Declaration of Purposes of the Patrons of Husbandry:

GENERAL OBJECTS.

1. United by the strong and faithful tie of Agriculture, we mutually resolve to labor for the good of our Order, our country, and mankind.
2. We heartily endorse the motto, "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity."

SPECIFIC OBJECTS

3. We shall endeavor to advance our cause by laboring to accomplish the following objects:

To develop a better and higher manhood and womanhood among ourselves. To enhance the comforts and attractions of our homes, and strengthen our attachments to our pursuits. To foster mutual understanding and cooperation. To maintain inviolate our laws, and to emulate each other in labor, to hasten the good time coming. To reduce our expenses, both individual and corporate. To buy less and produce more, in order to make our farms self-sustaining. To diversify our crops, and crop no more than we can cultivate. To condense the weight of our exports, selling less in the bushel and more on hoof and in fleece; less in lint, and more in warp and woof. To systematize our work, and calculate intelligently on probabilities. To discountenance the credit system, the mortgage system, the fashion system, and every other system tending to prodigality and bankruptcy. We propose meeting together, talking together, working together, buying together, selling together, and, in general, acting together for our mutual protection and advancement, as occasion may require. We shall avoid litigation as much as possible by arbitration in the Grange. We shall constantly strive to secure entire harmony, good will, vital brotherhood among ourselves, and to make our Order perpetual. We shall earnestly endeavor to suppress personal, local, sectional, and national prejudices, all unhealthy rivalry, all selfish ambition. Faithful adherence to these principles will insure our mental, moral, social, and material advancement.

BUSINESS RELATIONS.

4. For our business interests, we desire to bring producers and consumers, farmers and manufacturers, into the most direct and friendly relations possible. Hence, we must dispense with a surplus of middlemen, not that we are unfriendly to them, but we do not need them. Their surplus and their exactions diminish our profits.

We wage no aggressive warfare against any other interests whatever. On the contrary, all our acts and all our efforts, so far as business is concerned, are not only for the benefit of the producer and consumer, but also for all other interests that tend to bring these two parties into speedy and economical contact. Hence we hold that transportation companies of every kind are necessary to our success, that their interests are intimately connected

with our interests, and harmonious action is mutually advantageous, keeping in view the first sentence in our declaration of principles of action, that "Individual happiness depends upon general prosperity,"

We shall, therefore, advocate for every State the increase in every practicable way, of all facilities for transporting cheaply to the seaboard, or between home producers and consumers, all the productions of our country. We adopt it as our fixed purpose to "open out the channels in nature's great arteries, that the life blood of commerce may flow freely."

We are not enemies of railroads, navigable and irrigating canals, nor of any corporation that will advance our industrial interests, nor of any laboring classes.

In our noble Order there is no communism, no agrarianism.

We are opposed to such spirit and management of any corporation or enterprise as tends to oppress the people and rob them of their just profits. We are not enemies to capital, but we oppose the tyranny of monopolies. We long to see the antagonism between capital and labor removed by common consent, and by an enlightened statesmanship worthy of the nineteenth century. We are opposed to excessive salaries, high rates of interest, and exorbitant per cent profits in trade. They greatly increase our burdens, and do not bear a proper proportion to the profits of producers. We desire only self-protection, and the protection of every true interest of our land, by legitimate transactions, legitimate trade, and legitimate profits.

EDUCATION.

We shall advance the cause of education among ourselves, and for our children, by all just means within our power. We especially advocate for our agricultural and industrial colleges, that practical agriculture, domestic science, and all the arts which adorn the home, be taught in their courses of study.

THE GRANGE NOT PARTISAN.

5. We emphatically and sincerely assert the oft-repeated truth taught in our organic law, that the Grange--National, State, or Subordinate--is not a political or party organization. No Grange, if true to its obligations, can discuss political or religious questions, nor call political conventions, nor nominate candidates, nor even discuss their merits in its meetings.

Yet the principles we teach underlie all true politics, all true statesmanship, and, if properly carried out, will tend to purify the whole political atmosphere of our country. For we seek the greatest good to the greatest number.

We must always bear in mind that no one, by becoming a Patron of Husbandry, gives up that inalienable right and duty which belongs to every American citizen, to take a proper interest in the politics of his country.

On the contrary, it is right for every member to do all in his power legitimately to influence for good the action of any political party to which he belongs. It is his duty to do all he can in his own party to put down bribery, corruption, and trickery; to see that none but competent, faithful, and honest men, who will unflinchingly stand by our industrial interests, are nominated for all positions of trust; and to have carried out the principle which should always characterize every Patron, that THE OFFICE SHOULD SEEK THE MAN, AND NOT THE MAN THE OFFICE.

We acknowledge the broad principle that difference of opinion is no crime, and hold that "progress toward truth is made by differences of opinion," while "the fault lies in bitterness of controversy."

We desire a proper equality, equity, and fairness; protection for the weak; restraint upon the strong; in short, justly distributed burdens and justly distributed power. These are American ideas, the very essence of American independence, and to advocate the contrary is unworthy of the sons and daughters of an American republic.

We cherish the belief that sectionalism is, and of right should be, dead and buried with the past. Our work is for the present and the future. In our agricultural brotherhood and its purposes we shall recognize no North, no South, no East, no West.

It is reserved by every Patron, as the right of a freeman, to affiliate with any party that will best carry out his principles.

OUTSIDE CO-OPERATION.

6. Ours being peculiarly a farmers' institution, we can not admit all to our ranks.

Many are excluded by the nature of our organization, not because they are professional men, or artisans, or laborers, but because they have not a sufficient direct interest in tilling the soil, or may have some interest in conflict with our purposes. But we appeal to all good citizens for their cordial cooperation to assist in our efforts toward reform, that we may eventually remove from our midst the last vestige of tyranny and corruption.

We hail the general desire for fraternal harmony, equitable compromises, and earnest co-operation, as an omen of our future success.

CONCLUSION.

7. It shall be an abiding principle with us to relieve any of our oppressed and suffering brotherhood by any means at our command.

Last, but not least, we proclaim it among our purposes to inculcate a proper appreciation of the abilities and sphere of woman, as is indicated by admitting her to membership and position in our Order.

Imploring the continued assistance of our Divine Master to guide us in our work, we here pledge ourselves to faithful and harmonious labor for all future time, to return by our united efforts to the wisdom, justice, fraternity, and political purity of our forefathers.

PREAMBLE.

Human happiness is the acme of earthly ambition.

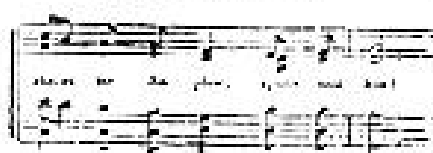
Individual happiness depends upon general prosperity. The prosperity of a nation is in proportion to the value of its productions.

The soil is the source from whence we derive all that constitutes wealth; without it we would have no agriculture, no manufactures, no commerce. Of all the material gifts of the Creator, the various productions of the vegetable world are of the first importance. The art of agriculture is the parent and precursor of all arts, and its products the foundation of all wealth.

The productions of the earth are subject to the influence of natural laws, invariable and indisputable; the amount produced will consequently be in proportion to the intelligence of the producer, and success will depend upon his knowledge of the action of these laws, and the proper application of their principles.

Hence, knowledge is the foundation of happiness. The ultimate object of this organization is for mutual instruction and protection, to lighten labor by diffusing a knowledge of its aims and purposes, expand the mind by tracing the beautiful laws the Great

SONGS OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE



- [illegible]

3. *pubescent* /dɪˈjuːsnt/



- [illegible]

The above two leaves were excerpted from the song book used by the New Lebanon and West Fork Granges in the 1870s.

Creator has established in the Universe, and to enlarge our views of creative wisdom and power.

To those who read aright, history proves that in all ages society is fragmentary, and successful results of general welfare can be secured only by general effort. Unity of action can not be acquired without discipline, and

discipline can not be enforced without significant organization; hence we have a ceremony of initiation which binds us in mutual fraternity as with a band of iron; but, although its influence is so powerful, its application is as gentle as that of the silken thread that binds a wreath of flowers.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I. -- ORGANIZATION.

SUBORDINATE GRANGES.

First Degree--Laborer (man), Maid (woman).

Second Degree--Cultivator (man), Shepherdess (woman).

Third Degree--Harvester (man), Gleaner (woman).

Fourth Degree--Husbandman (man), Matron (woman).

DISTRICT AND COUNTY GRANGES.

Fifth Degree--There may be established District or County Granges in the fifth degree, not to exceed one in each county, composed of Masters and Past Masters of Subordinate Granges, and their wives, who are Matrons, and such fourth degree members as may be elected thereto by the Subordinate Granges, under such regulations as may be established by State Granges. Such District or County Granges shall have charge of the education and business interests of the Order in their respective districts; and shall encourage, strengthen, and aid the Subordinate Granges represented therein. Dispensations for such District or County Granges shall issue from the State Grange, and under such regulations as the State Grange may adopt.

STATE GRANGE.

Sec. 1. Fifth Degree--Pomona (Hope). Composed of the Masters and Past Masters of Subordinate Granges, and their wives who are Matrons; provided that Past Masters and their wives, who are Matrons shall be honorary members, eligible to office, but not entitled to vote; and provided that when the number of Subordinate Granges in any State becomes so great as to render it necessary, the State Grange may, in such manner as it may determine, reduce its representatives by providing for the election of a certain proportion of those entitled to membership in the State Grange from each county, and the members so chosen shall constitute the voting members of the State Grange.

Sec. 2. The wives of the delegates elected to the State Grange, as provided for in the preceding section, if Matrons, shall be voting members of that body.

NATIONAL GRANGE

Sixth Degree. Flora (Charity). Composed of Masters and Past Masters of the State Granges, and their wives who have taken the degree of Pomona, and the officers and members of the Executive Committee of the National Grange. Provided that only those members of the National Grange who are Masters of State Granges, and their wives who are Matrons, shall be entitled to vote therein; and provided further, that Past Masters and their wives, who have taken the degree of Pomona, and all former members of the National Grange, shall be honorary members of the National Grange, eligible to office therein, but shall not be entitled to vote.

Seventh Degree--Deres (Faith). Members of the National Grange who have served one year therein may become members of this degree upon application and election. It has charge of the secret work of the order, and shall be a court of impeachment of all officers of the National Grange. Members of this degree are honorary members of the National Grange, and are eligible to office therein, but not entitled to vote.

An elaborate ritual was performed upon the admittance of a new member to the Grange, and upon a member's successful ascent to a higher degree of membership. Any person, male or female, fourteen years or older, was eligible for membership provided their work was in some way related to agriculture. A songbook was published which made available to the members a large variety of specially written songs: some for general use, some for use upon ritualistic occasions, one to be sung at funerals of members, etc. All appear to be designed to help cement a feeling of "togetherness" and to support morale. Two examples of the songs are given on adjoining pages.

The New Lebanon Grange (#514) was among the early granges in Cooper County; however, the exact date of its organization could not be ascertained. Nor could a list of its membership be located. We know, none-the-less, that the New Lebanon Grange surrendered its charter effective Aug. 12, 1878. When a Subordinate Grange could no longer maintain its organization, so-called Demit Cards were issued to remaining members still

in good standing so that they might join another group without losing their status with regard to degree or payment of dues. Such a Demit Card was issued to Mrs. Daniel R. (Fannie) Brubaker (see illustration).

The ubiquitous nature of the Patrons of Husbandry in the 1870s is illustrated in the New Lebanon area by the fact that not only was there a Subordinate Grange at New Lebanon but also another one only two miles away to the east in the West Fork community, The West Fork Grange (//492) was granted its charter on August 5, 1873. Thirty persons were charter members (see illustration).

Patrons of Husbandry.

—♦♦—

DEMIT CARD.

—♦♦—

To all Whom it may Concern:

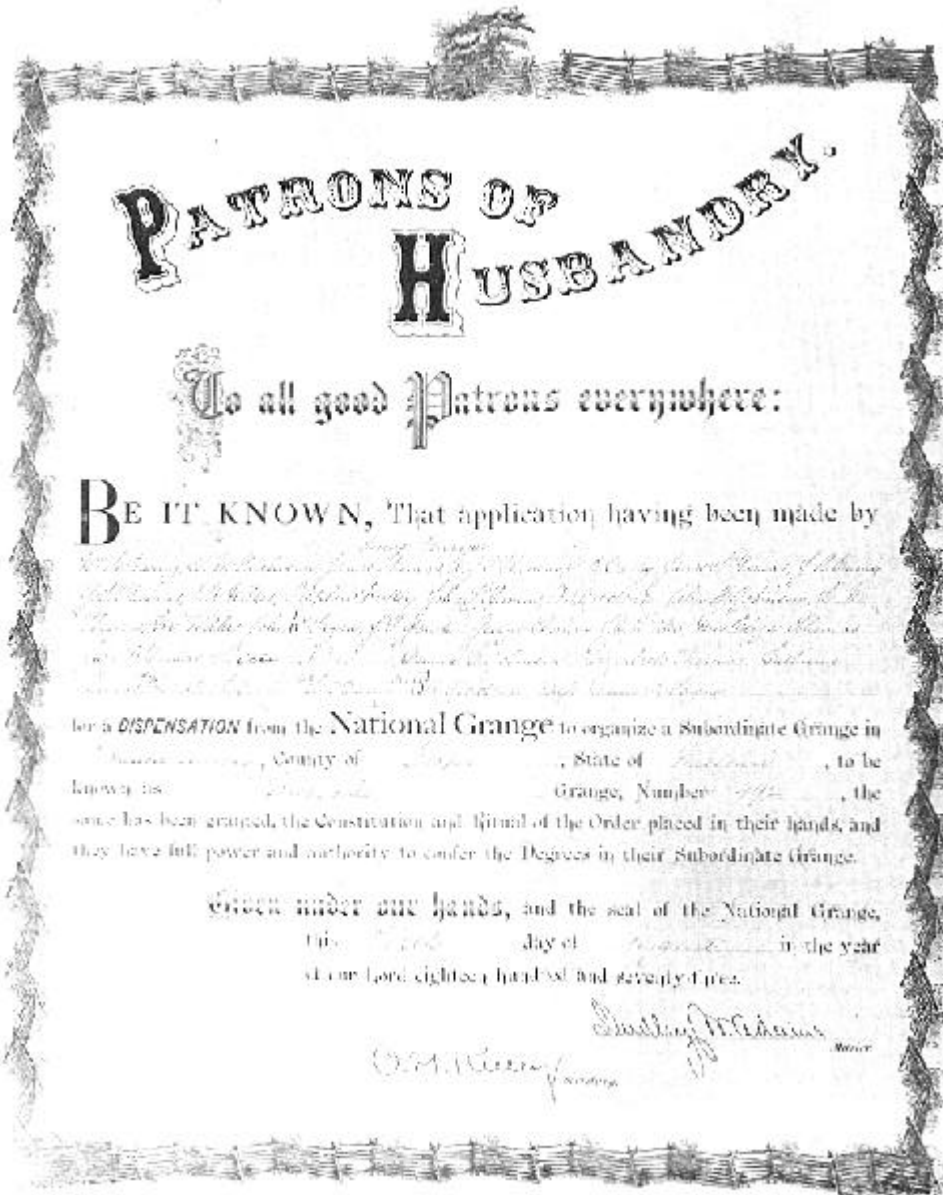
New Lebanon Grange, No. *514*
located in *Cooper* County, having surrendered its Charter, and *Mrs. Fannie Brubaker* a
Fourth Degree member of said Grange, in good standing and clear of the
books of said Grange, desirous of connecting *her* self with another
Grange, has applied to the Secretary of the State Grange for a Demit.
Said *F. Brubaker* is therefore recommended to
your fellowship and protection, and admission into any regular Grange of
Patrons of Husbandry to which *she*
may apply within three months from the date hereof.

This Card is granted by the Missouri State Grange.

Signed by *W. Leoffey* Sec'y.
This *12* day of *Aug* 187*8*

NEW LEBANON GRANGE DEMIT CARD

The New Lebanon Grange No, 514 surrendered its charter August 12, 1878 and issued Demit Cards to its members on that date, The card permitted a member to join another Grange without loss of rank or membership dues. The above Demit Card was issued to Mrs. Daniel Rothgeb (Fannie) Brubaker.



CHARTER OF THE WEST FORK GRANGE

The West Fork community was located two miles east of New Lebanon. The West Fork Grange No. 492 was organized August 5, 1873. There were thirty charter members.

NEW LEBANON BASEBALL TEAM

Baseball, America's favorite sport, was once alleged to have been invented by Abner Doubleday at Cooperstown, N.Y. in 1839. Later investigation proved that this myth was instigated by a few old-time players who could not stomach the thought that such an important institution had developed in fact from a English child's game, usually called 'rounders'. In this latter game the runner was 'put out' by throwing the ball at him and successfully striking him on any part of his body. About 1840 some American introduced the rule of tagging the batter by touching him with the ball. This permitted the use of a hard ball and baseball became a 'man's' game and its popularity surged.

Children still played at 'one cat' or two cat' or 'three cat' which did not demand many players (three persons could play 'one cat'); 'one cat' needed only one base, etc. No doubt the children at New Lebanon engaged in this form of baseball from early in its settlement. The earliest record of organized baseball, as we know it today, came to New Lebanon in the 1890s. This approximately coincided with New Lebanon's population peak and hence many young men were available for play.

New Lebanon's baseball teams reigned supreme at the turn of the century. In the approximate seven year period from 1896 to 1903 it is said that they never lost a game. The nearest they ever came to losing was a match

with Pilot Grove which ended with a final score of 34 to 33. That must have been a wild one! Games were played on Saturday afternoons from May to September. Their playing field was the pasture just north of Daniel R. Brubaker's house; this area, a scant half-mile north of New Lebanon, was kept well mowed all summer for the players. Crowds of 100 or more came to watch the games. Every fence post for over a quarter mile along the road, adjoining the playing field, often did double duty as a hitching post for the riding homes, and the buggies, spring wagons, and farm wagons which brought the spectators. There were no seats and the 'fans' stood throughout the games.

The New Lebanon uniforms were typical of the day for baseball players and consisted of knee-length pants and knee-high socks and a white outer shirt, upon the back were sewn bright red letters: "N.L." Among the other teams played were: Otterville, Bunceton, Pilot Grove, Smithton, Mt. Etna, etc. Besides glory, all that these baseball players received for their efforts was all the lemonade they could drink, usually served up by sisters of the ball players on the home team.

No roster of the players remains; however from various sources the list below has been compiled. It must be understood that not all of them played during any one season; as older ones dropped out, younger men took their place. Hence this list incomplete as it must be, is a composite of the heydays of the New Lebanon baseball team. Positions played are included in parentheses where known. Tom Eubank (captain and 1st base); T.G. "Big Tom" Lewis (pitcher and 3rd base); Emmett Reed (2nd base; one of the best batters and runners); Lester Thomas (3rd base); Charles Rothgeb (catcher); Minor Goode (field); Wick Goode (field); Reggie Neale (field); A.W. "Ash" Brubaker (alternate pitcher); Hubert Brubaker (alternate pitcher); Frank Spencer; George Bente (pitcher); F.H. Fairfax; Ira Thomas; Silas Laws; Charles Hixon; John Neale; Homer Brubaker; Leslie Reed; H.L. Hutchison; Orel Fritts; Jesse Favorite; and T.L. Fairfax. Presley Green Boulware umpired many of the games.

Other forms of recreation at the turn of the century (and after) included croquet. This was a favored game for Sunday afternoons as it could be played by young and old and by persons of varied skill. Many persons also played cards. Euchre was the favorite two-handed game and High Five the game most played by a table of four. Dancing, even though proscribed by the various church fathers, was indulged in by many of the younger set. Not everyone belonged to a church and those who did not, had no compunction about dancing. Those who did feel constrained by ecclesiastical edicts sometimes avoided strains on their consciences by resorting to various dodges. At some parties, the participants listened to the music and when it stopped, then they danced. Later when the musicians began anew, the dancers stopped and took up listening again. At other get-togethers, dancing would be done to the organ (saintly) but not to the fiddle (devilish). Determined youth are difficult to outmaneuver,

LIGHTING

The lighting 'systems' of New Lebanon homes followed familiar patterns although the timing of their utilization varied from that of other places. That is to say, New Lebanon was at first on the edge of the frontier and later was essentially by-passed; hence, lighting improvements were usually delayed beyond that of far away or even relatively near communities.

Homes first received daytime illumination via well greased paper panes, later replaced by glass. Nighttime light was provided by the fireplace and candles. Candlesticks ranged from a board with a nail driven through it on which to impale the base of the candle to a variety of more elaborate, metallic holders. Home, school and church early used the primitive but effective method of increasing the effectiveness of candlepower by putting a piece of reflective metal sheeting on the opposite side of the candle from where the greater light was desired,

With the advent of kerosene after 1850, and especially after the Civil War, coal-oil (as kerosene was commonly called) lamps became the standard for lighting. Later, Aladdin lamps became popular. The Aladdin lamp had a mantle-burner which permitted a bright, steady light adjustable from a mere glow up to the equivalent of a 100 watt bulb; it would produce about fifty hours of smokeless, odorless light on one gallon of kerosene. Coal-oil lamps continued in use until electricity was available in New Lebanon. Indeed even candles remained in use until that time, because, upon occasion, they were handier to use than a lamp, e.g. upon retiring at night.



NEW LEBANON BASEBALL CARTOON

During the years before and after 1900 the New Lebanon baseball team was in its heydays. Reputedly they never lost a game. This cartoon appeared in the Bunceton Weekly Eagle in about 1900.

The next stage in lighting in the New Lebanon area, as elsewhere, was the use of acetylene gas. In 1892 a really commercial method of manufacturing calcium carbide was discovered. Calcium carbide, when in contact with water, generates acetylene, which in turn, when mixed with the right amount of air and ignited, gives the 'purest' light known (closest to that of sunlight). Thus it was that acetylene generators appeared among the homesteads of that area from the early part of this century until the arrival of electricity and the incandescent bulb.

These acetylene generators (called 'gas plants') were a bit tricky to use since the wrong percentage of air in the final mixture and/or the incorrect pressure could easily cause an explosion. However, the vastly superior illumination plus the convenience of "snapping" on the light provided the necessary incentive for their installation. The 'plant' was sited some distance from the house and the gas then piped to the various rooms. Of course this lighting method was relatively expensive and not many homes were so equipped. Hence, kerosene lamps continued in use concurrently with the acetylene systems.

The first mention that electricity was indeed coming to the New Lebanon area is found in the minutes of the Church's session for Dec. 18, 1938 wherein it is recorded: "Motion made and carried that the church grant the Central Missouri Power and Light Co. to run their line along across the church property. Lights for the church discussed." Of course, prior to electricity 'online', some homes used wind chargers for limited and uncertain DC lighting; and a rare few utilized gasoline powered generators.

The first federal funds for rural electrification in Cooper County were made available in 1939. A telegram from W.L. Nelson (William Lester Nelson, U.S. Congressman, see DVKM, HEJM, and HCCJ) in Washington, D.C. dated May 3, 1939, to Paul N. Doll, County Agent, records this event: "Three hundred and forty two thousand dollars released by REA, Cooper County 235.6 miles, Moniteau [County] 80 miles, Morgan [County] 7.6 miles, Cole [County] 6.8 miles. Please notify others." Shortages of material and labor during World War II slowed construction of the lines somewhat and it was not until 1945 that electric power actually became available in New Lebanon. The first connection for current was completed July 5, 1945 (the Rothgeb place); therefore that date, a mere thirty years ago, may be taken as the date of the release of New Lebanon from the 'dark ages.' Co-Mo Electric Cooperative, Tipton, Mo. has been (and is) the company providing electricity to the area.

Nowadays, not only are the houses well lighted but the New Lebanon countryside is itself aglow. High-powered 'dusk to dawn' floodlights automatically come on as the sun disappears beyond the horizon and stay on until natural illumination returns again the next morning. A night time trip to the barn in a driving snow or rain storm is still no fun but the lavish use of electric light has at least made it palatable.

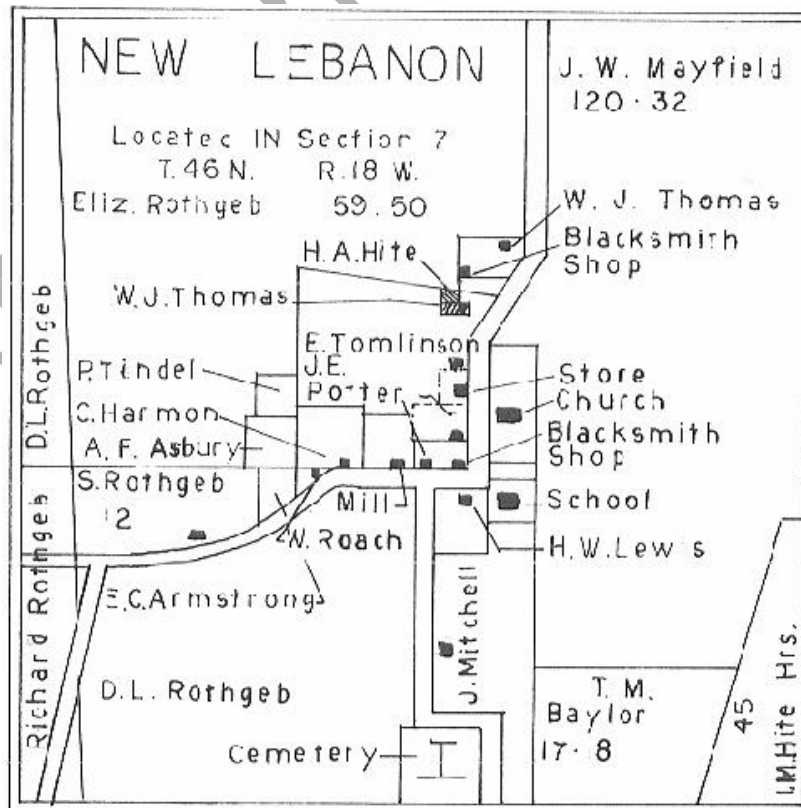
NEW LEBANON SPECIAL ROAD DISTRICT

Aside from churches and schools, the people of a local area had a collective and common interest in the roads of their area. In the 1890s the subject of roads was considered by the electorate of the community at the annual meeting of the patrons of the school district. At said meeting there would elect a "Road Overseer" to serve for the coming year. It was his duty to (try to) keep the roads in passable condition. The users of the roads contributed time (work) and/or materials to some specified amount. After the turn of the century, County Courts were authorized to establish "Special Road Districts" wherever such was agreeable to the residents of a definable area. As late as 1972 Cooper County had fifteen "Special Road Districts". All of these were consolidated in 1973 into a one county-wide district after the county electorate approved that proposition at the Nov. 2, 1972 election.

The Special Road District concept was highly successful because it kept the responsibility for the condition of the roads where the interest was: a quite local area. A "Special" was also authorized to issue bonds and levy taxes for capital improvements whereas previously roads were on a pay-as-you go basis which made it difficult, for example, to gather the funds for construction of a bridge. Originally voting was done at meetings of the "Specials" on a land-ownership basis, i.e., a man owning 250 acres in a district had 250 'votes' whereas a man who owned 100 acres had 100 'votes.' This was later changed in order that each resident landowner would have one vote. Three Commissioners were elected for staggered terms of three years and they ran the road business for the benefit of the landowners. A Commissioner had to reside within his district and also had to own land there, thus insuring a knowledge of, as well as an interest in, the condition of the roads.

The early records of the New Lebanon Special Road District have been lost. For records of an adjoining "Special" from the time of its inception in 1912, see "Bethlehem Special Road District" in DVKM. Records for the New Lebanon Special are available from 1938 and a selected portion of these will be given below,

FEBRUARY 4, 1938: The commissioners of Lebanon Special R.D. met on the above named date and transacted the following business. 1st. Decided to levy a 15 cents on the \$100.00 valuation tax for road purposes during this year. 2nd. Elected D.C. Grove [David Charles Grove, Sr., see DVKM] Sec. of the board to serve until the next annual meeting. 3rd. Authorized E.W. Hite to have the 1st bridge west of Clarence Hutchison's repaired and L.F. Warring to make three fills between D.C. Grove's and H.E. Lewis'. Adjourned to meet on call. D.C. Grove, Sec. E.W. Hite, H.E. Lewis, L.F. Watring, Com.



MAP OF NEW LEBANON

This map depicts New Lebanon during the second decade of this century. The main north south road was straightened in the 1930s and now passes through the village and past the cemetery without the elaborate corners shown here. The data for this map were taken from the 1915 Atlas.

MARCH 31, 1938: The Commissioners met on above named date. Minutes of last meeting read. 1st E.W. Hite reports the Bridge mentioned last meeting repaired and paid for. L.F. Watring reports nothing done on his work so is given more time. 2nd, A motion carried to require each man doing road work make an accurate report of time and place which such work is done, Adjourned to meet on call. D.C. Grove, Sec. E.W. Hite, H.E. Lewis, L.F. Watring, Com.

JANUARY 3, 1939: Annual Meeting. The meeting was called to order by E.W. Hire, president of the board. D.C. Grove was elected chairman of the meeting and D.L. Rothgeb was elected secretary. Minutes of last meeting read and approved. Report of the years business read by the Secretary of the Board. E.W. Hite and Sam Potter were nominated for commissioner. Hite received 27 votes, Potter received 38 votes. Sam Potter was declared elected commissioner for a term of three years. D.L. Rothgeb, Sec., D.C. Grove, Chman.

JANUARY 5, 1939: Board Meeting. The New Lebanon commissioners met and organized by electing the following officers: H.E. Lewis, Pres., L.F. Watring, Vice-pres., and D.C. Grove, Sec. Motion made and carried to pay 60 cents per mile or road dragging with a tractor. Motion made and carried to pay 25 cts per hour for road foreman. Motion made and carried that the road foremen collect all road tools.

Paid out - 1940 -

1 Jan 2	Thos. E Rogers	Wrag	1 83	
2 Mar 22	To R. L. Thomas	"	12 00	
3 " 23	" Bernard Thomas	"	18 00	
4 Apr 3	" L. J. Knipp	Grading	395 50	
5 " 15	" Sam Oster	Drugging	7 50	
6 " 15	" Herbert Brauer	"	8 60	
7 " 17	" Gus F. Watring	Truck &c	118 50	
8 " 20	" L. J. Knipp	Grading	165 00	728 90
9 May 1	" L. J. Knipp	"	148	
10 " 18	" Gus F. Watring	Truck	131 50	
11 " "	" L. J. Knipp	Flat Grading	175	
12 " "	" Jack Hays	Gravel	23	
13 " 29	" Ed Seal	Labor	7 00	-
14 " 31	" Elmer Dowald	"	6 00	-
15 June 10	" L. J. Knipp	East End Grading	130	-
16 " 14	" Neal Boro	Mini. Gravel	14 16	-
17 " 22	" Gus F. Watring	Truck	95 25	-
18 " 22	" Brownell	Advertiser	1 60	-
19 " 28	" Ernest Schupp	"	3 00	-
20 July 7	" L. J. Knipp	"	299 00	
21 Aug 5	" Gus F. Watring	"	194 75	-
22 " 7	" Hevils	Stone	6 17	-
23 Sep 28	" Gus F. Watring	"	122 60	-
24 Oct 1	" L. J. Knipp	"	80 25	-
25 " 1	" Art McBlure	"	17 55	2192
26 " 12	" Jas. Evans	"	5 00	
27 " 12	" Maryland and Windsor	"	15 90	
28 " "	" D. C. Hardy Ltr Co	"	58 50	
29 " 12	" Wm Smith	"	190 00	
Total warrants			3328 53	
Total Recd			2062 08	
Pre debt - - -			1266 45	

LEAF FROM ACCOUNT BOOK OF NEW LEBANON SPECIAL ROAD DISTRICT

JANUARY 2, 1940: Annual Meeting. The meeting was called to order by H.E. Lewis, chairman of the board. W.B. Downing was elected Chairman of the meeting, and D.C. Grove was elected secretary. The minutes

of last meeting were read and approved. The Secretary's report was read and approved. Then proceeded to elect a Commissioner. H.E. Lewis and E.W. Hire were nominated. There was 54 votes cast. E.W. Hite received 19 votes, H.E. Lewis 34 votes, therefore was declared elected Commissioner for a term of three years to succeed himself. D.C. Grove, Sec., W.B. Downing, Char.

SEPTEMBER 12, 1940: Board Meeting. The New Lebanon Commissioners met on the above named date. All members present. The following business was transacted. 1st. We agreed to pay Sam Potter and William Smith \$200 to gravel the one mile of road that passes their homes, they to pay for all gravel and labor used on said road. D.C. Grove, Sec. L.F. Watring Pres. Board. On Oct. 12 we paid L.J. Knipp \$21 for grading the Smith and Potter road and gave Wm. Smith a warrant for \$190. D.C. Grove Sec., L.F. Watring, Pres. Board. **JANUARY 7, 1941:** Annual Meeting. The meeting was called to order by president of the board H.E. Lewis. Organized by electing W.B. Downing Chairman and D.C. Grove Sec. The minute of the last meeting read and approved. The Secretary's report read and approved. O.L. Cordry/Oliver Langston Cordry, see DVKMJ, L.F. Watring and E.W. Hite were nominated for commissioner to succeed L.F. Watring. On final ballot O.L. Cordry received 28 votes and L.F. Watring received 18 votes therefore O.L. Cordry was declared commissioner for a term of three years. D.C. Grove, sec., W.B. Downing, Chin.

MARCH 21, 1941: Board Meeting. All members present. Elected Sam Potter Pres., and D.C. Grove Sec. 1st Agreed to pay 90 cts per hour for dragging with a tractor and grader and 60 cts per mile for dragging with drag. 2nd. to make a levy of 10 cts per \$100. valuation. 3rd. To pay the road overseer 20 cts per hour and hands 15 cts per hour. Sam Potter, O.L. Cordry, H.E. Lewis.

APRIL 10, 1941: Board Meeting. All Members present. The following business transacted. 1st. Decided by a 2 to 1 vote, Potter and Cordry voting for and Lewis against, to buy a W. Speed Patrole (road maintainer) on the following terms: Price of machine \$1685. plus tax \$33.70 = \$1718.70. The Co. takes three old graders @\$400. leaving \$329.68 to be paid Apr. 1, 1942, Apr. 1. 1943 and 1944. And signed warrants for said payments. 2nd. Employed Tom Rogers road boss @ 20 cts per hour. Sam Potter, H.E. Lewis, O.L. Cordry.

JANUARY 6, 1942: Annual Meeting. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Sam Potter. D.L. Rothgeb was chosen Chairman and D.C. Grove, Clerk. Minute of last meeting read and approved. The Clerk's report read and approved. L.F. Watring and W.S. Boulware were nominated for commissioner. On the 1st ballot W.S. Boulware recd. 56 votes, L.F. Watring recd. 33 votes. Therefore W.S. Boulware was declared elected commissioner for a term of three years. Adjourned. D.C. Grove, Clerk, D.L. Rothgeb, Chairman.

JANUARY 5, 1943: Annual Meeting. Meeting called to order by H.E. Lewis. D.L. Rothgeb was chosen Chairman and D.C. Grove, Sec. Minutes of last meeting read and approved. Clerk's report read and approved. Lawrence Geiser and Tom Rogers were nominated for commissioner. On the first ballot Lawrence Geiser received 26 votes and Rogers received 24 votes. Therefore Geiser was declared elected commissioner for a term of three years. D.C. Grove, Sec. D.L. Rothgeb, Ch.

JANUARY 21, 1943: Commissioners of New Lebanon Special Road District NO. 22 met at Rothgeb Store and organized by electing O.L. Cordry Pres., W.S. Boulware Vice-pres. and C.M. Brumback, clerk.

JANUARY 4, 1944: Annual Meeting O.L. Cordry nominated and no opposition or other nominations, so re-elected for a term of three years...

JANUARY 2, 1946: Annual Meeting. The meeting was called to order by the President O.L. Cordry. J.W. Mayfield was elected chair-man and E.L. Reed, Sec. Nominations were in order for a commissioner. Thomas E. Rogers received eleven votes, Frank Watring, four, and Harold Romig, four. T.E. Rogers elected for a term of three years. A motion to adjourn. J.W. Mayfield, chmn., E.L. Reed, Sec.

JANUARY 8, 1946: Annual Meeting. The meeting called to order by the president O.L. Cordry Nomination to vote by ballot for commissioner. Lawrence Geiser re-elected by 20 votes, Leonard Long 1 vote, Harold Romig 1 vote received. Vote for 25¢ levy: 21 for and 3 against. O.L. Cordry, Chrm., C.M. Brumback, Sec.

The following road commissioners were elected in the year which follows their name: O.L. Cordry (1947); Thomas Rogers (1948); Rudolph Schoen (1949); Robert L. Thomas (1949, to fill unexpired term of O.L. Cordry, deceased); Lawrence Geiser (1950); R.L. Thomas (1951); Orville Rothgeb (1952); Chester Potter (1953); R.L. Thomas (1954); Harold Romig (1955); Orville Rothgeb (1956); R.L. Thomas (1957); Harold Romig (1958); Forest Lewis (1959); Orville Rothgeb (1960); Harold Romig (1961) H.L. Thomas (1962); Harold Romig (1963); Orville Rothgeb (1964); R.L. Thomas (1965); Harold Romig (1966) Orville Rothgeb (1967); R.L. Thomas (1968); Orville Rothgeb (1969); Orville Rothgeb (1970). No minutes for the years 1971 and 1972 are recorded.

After the "King Bill" came into effect, the New Lebanon 'special' first took advantage of its provisions to help build rural roads in 1949, The minutes for the Mar. 22, 1949 meeting of the board read in part: "Proposition made by W.B. Layne, Bernard Thomas. and C.M. Brumback to try and get King Bill Road from Layne Farm to Cemetery, or 2 miles. District to pay one half of cost to District and balance to be paid by donations." This road was that which runs east from the New Lebanon Cemetery. The 'special' paid \$810. towards the cost of which patrons along the road paid half as follows: W.B. Layne, \$150.; Bernard Thomas, \$100.; C.M. Brumback, \$115.; Porter Wilson, \$25.; and Jim Moore, \$15. The King Bill method was also used to build several other roads in the New Lebanon area.

It would appear that the New Lebanon Special Road District "died" long before the 1972 county election which consolidated it and fourteen other 'specials' into a county-wide road district. Item: at the 1938 annual

meeting 65 persons attended and voted for their choice for commissioner. At the 1948 meeting, 31 votes were cast. The 1966 minutes read: "There was not enough attendance for an election so Harold Romig was retained as commissioner?" A similar notation was made for subsequent years. Declining population and apathy were apparently the reasons for this progressive lack of participation in the affairs of the road district.

NEW LEBANON HOME IMPROVEMENT CLUB

Among community groups in New Lebanon of the more recent years are the New Lebanon Home Improvement Club (an extension club), and the New Lebanon Jolly-Workers 4-H Club (which is sponsored by the Home Improvement Club). Mrs. C.M. Brumback has furnished the sketch of each of these two organizations which appears below.

Feeling the need of a community organization, the New Lebanon women were glad when Miss Margaret Van Orsdol (then home demonstration agent) came out and explained the work of extension clubs. On June 18, 1937 in the little country school house at New Lebanon a group of busy farm women met with Miss Van Orsdol and organized a club. Officers elected were: President, Mrs. Ernest Schupp, Vice President, Mrs. Verne Neale, Sec. and Treas., Mrs. Clarence M. Brumback, Reporter, Mrs. Clarence E. Hutchison, Game & Song Leader, Mrs. Edward W. Hite. It was decided that we meet in the homes of the members in alphabetical order, on the fourth Thursday of each month. This has been done through these past 38 years.

Charter members were--Mrs. Ernest Schupp, Mrs. Verne Neale, Mrs. E.W. Hire, Mrs. Lewis F. Schupp, Mrs. C.M. Brumback, Mrs. Clarence E. Hutchison, Mrs. Nina Schrader, Mrs. Pearl Hirst, Mrs. W.H. Coffman, Miss Grace Alma Coffman, and Miss Louise Coffman. By the end of that year there were 19 members. Three of these charter members are still members today; Mrs. Clarence E. Hutchison, Mrs. Lewis F. Schupp, and Mrs. Clarence M. Brumback. The first regular meeting was held at the home of Mrs. C.M. Brumback, when the name "Home Improvement" was chosen, submitted by Mrs. E.W. Hire. The motto selected was "Lets live while we work," club colors-blue and white.

Members paid one cent a month dues until 1939 when the dues were raised to 15¢ per year, 25¢--1944, 50¢--1950, 75¢--1959, \$1.00--1960, \$1.25--1970. This was one of the first extension clubs organized after Miss Margaret Van Orsdol came to Cooper County as County Home Agent in June 1937. Lone Elm Lively Ladies, County Line Homemakers, and Brick Extension Club had been organized in 1936. Six more clubs were organized in 1937, making a total of ten clubs. By the end of 1942, there were twenty-three extension clubs in Cooper County. Through the years seven other Home Agents have worked with the clubs in Cooper County. Mary Krumsick, Margaret Isenbart, Laura New, Jeannette Palmer, Mary Lou Vaughn, Kathryn Libbee, and Jennie D. Simpson all have been helpful and cooperative.

Projects during the years have included demonstrations of cooking, canning, food preservation, gardening, dress making, aluminum etching, glass etching, textile painting, yard improvement, remodeled kitchens, and community improvements with programs on health and first-aid and other interesting, beneficial and educational programs. The club's first delegate to 4-H Camp was Mary Elizabeth Cordry (Mrs. R.L. Thomas) in 1939. The Jolly Workers 4-H Club was organized in 1940. Home Improvement Club has sponsored and helped in many ways with the training of the youth of our community. Among the "highlights" through the years have been the annual family Thanksgiving supper, Ice Cream Socials, picnics, tours, Bridal showers, Baby showers and many other social events and trips have been enjoyed.

The Club has "Secret Pals" each year, which lends a little mystery to each meeting when someone receives a package from her secret pal. The club celebrated its 4th anniversary in 1941 with a garden party at the home of Mrs. Clarence Hutchison, Miss Dorothy Downing presented the program with 54 persons present. In 1947, the club celebrated its 10th anniversary at the home of Mrs. Clarence Hutchison when all the former members were invited. The theme "Through the Years" was carried out in the program. A medley of State Songs was played by Bonnie Brumback and Earlene Schupp.



NEW LEBANON SCENES IN 1974

Today there is very little stirring in the once bustling village of New Lebanon. There are no businesses in operation and the church and school are closed. However, its historically significant past continues, and will continue, to generate an interest in the site. Upper left: The New Lebanon Presbyterian Church. Upper right: The only general store building still standing; it was last owned and operated by Abram "Abe" Rothgeb. Lower left: Approaching New Lebanon from the south on Highway C, line first sees, on the right hand side, the school building. Lower right: Torn down in 1974, this one time store building was built by Harry W. Needy in about 1928. In the picture, it faces west; originally it was located on the west side of the road facing east.

In 1952, the 15th anniversary was at the home of Mrs. C.M. Brumback. Corsages were presented to past presidents, oldest members, one coming the longest distance, and to the County Home Agent, Miss Jeannette Palmer. A flower show was held and a memorial service to Mrs. E.W. Hite. The 20th anniversary was June 1957 at the home of Mrs. C.M. Brumback. Hats decorated with living flowers and fruits were worn. These were judged and pictures taken. In 1962, the 25th anniversary was observed at the home of Mrs. Karl Bergman. Miss Jeannette Palmer was guest speaker; Mrs. Clarence Hutchison gave the "highlights" of the past 25 years. The 30th anniversary was held at the home of Mrs. Karl Bergman. Decorated hats were worn and a time of reminiscing was enjoyed. The 35th anniversary was observed June 22, 1972 at the home of Mrs. Clarence Brumback. A corsage was presented to each one present. Boll call was answered with "My Most Enjoyable Experience in Club." The early history of the club was reviewed. Mrs. Lewis F. Schupp read a poem, "Our Club", that she had written in 1938 which told something of value to each member.

The deceased members are: Mrs. John Ross, Mrs. E.W. Hite, Mrs. J.W. Mayfield, Mrs. Woodrow Wolfe, Mrs. Belle Spence, Mrs. O.L. Cordry, Mrs. Ira Thomas, Mrs. James Kramer, Mrs. Nina Schrader, and Mrs. A.G. Wolfe. Fifty-four women have been members through the years with fifteen members at the present time. The officers and members are: President, Mrs. Oscar Schupp, Vice President, Mrs. C.M. Brumback, Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. Karl Bergman, Reporter, Mrs. Lewis F. Schupp, Mrs. Clarence E. Hutchison, Mrs. Herman Howard, Mrs. Ewing Hurt, Mrs. J.A. Mayfield, Mrs. R.L. Thomas, Mrs. Clarence Bergman, Mrs. Virgil Schupp, Mrs. Kenneth Brumback, Mrs. Wendell W. Wolfe, Mrs. Harry Simmons, and Mrs. Gene Grunick.

NEW LEBANON JOLLY-WORKERS 4-H CLUB

The 4-H Club of New Lebanon was organized in June 1940 with Mrs. Mary Lee Custer sewing leader, Home Improvement Club sponsoring. No record was kept concerning membership. It was disbanded in December 1942. On April 28th 1944, 4-H was reorganized at the Home Improvement Club meeting with their sponsorship continuing through the years. Miss Margaret Isenbart, Home Demonstration Agent helped in its

organization. Mrs. Woodrow Wolfe and Miss Mary Elizabeth Cordry were elected leaders. Lucy Kathryn Windsor [see DVKM] was elected President.

Mrs. C.M. Brumback was elected community leader in 1945 and served until 1950. In 1945 the club sponsored sending members to camp each year. Thereafter delegates were sent to State 4-H week at Columbia, Mo. and the American Royal Stock Show at Kansas City, Mo. Again, the club disbanded in 1951 and reorganized February 15, 1954 with Miss Jeannette Palmer directing. Since then the organization has continued through the years. Most all the girls and boys living near New Lebanon have been members of Jolly Workers 4-H Club. Other leaders assisting through the years were: Mrs. Clarence E. Hutchison, Mrs. E.W. Hite, Dalmer Clark, Waldo Speed Boulware, Mrs. Chatham Read, Mrs. Leonard Long, Mrs. Oscar Schupp, Mrs. Charles Elliott Stegner, Lawrence Lee, and Mr. and Mrs. Lewis F. Schupp. Mrs. Schupp served as community and Project leader 23 years and gave much of her time and talents. More recent leaders were Mrs. Virgil Schupp, Mrs. Clarence Bergman, Gilbert Schupp, Mrs. Leroy Stegner, Mrs. O.J. Phillips, Mrs. Kenneth Brumback, Mrs. Carlos Brewer, Mrs. Virgil Stegner, Mr. and Mrs. George Eichelberger, and Mrs. T.L. Gerke.

During the years there have been many projects; and members have been encouraged to attend citizenship short courses in Washington, D.C. Those attending the latter have been: Ron Brumback, William Betteridge, and Gene Eichelberger. 4-H Club work enables young people to acquire knowledge and skills, develop attitudes and ability to co-operate with others, develop leadership, appreciate the value and dignity of work, develop pleasant personalities and good sportsmanship and develop desirable ideals and standards for farming and homemaking.

NEW LEBANON COMMUNITY CENTER

On Sept. 11, 1948 the New Lebanon Community Center Association was formed. The then abandoned one room school house was purchased from the Pilot Grove School District (which had 'inherited' it upon consolidation of the New Lebanon District) for \$350. In October 1948 the Association bought (for \$15.) the stove from the Mt. Nebo School house (also then unused) and installed it at New Lebanon. A propane gas heater was purchased in November 1967. The Community Center is used as a meeting place by various groups, including the local 4-H Club. The Center is also used as a polling place during elections.

The first officers of the Community Center were: president: C.M. Brumback; vice-president: W.S. Boulware; secretary: Mrs. C.M. Brumback; and three additional board members: Richard Rothgeb; Woodrow Wolfe; and Mrs. Nina Jenkins [Mrs. Jenkins, who came from Pettis Co., had three children: Earlene; Thelma; and Marie Jenkins (who married Woodrow Wolfe and had: Wendell W. Wolfe; and Warren Bruce Wolfe. Mrs. Jenkins married secondly Marion Antoine "Tony" Schrader]. Officers in 1973 were: president: Virgil Schupp; vice-president: Lewis F. Schupp; secretary: Mrs. C.M. Brumback; plus board members: Leonard Long; C.M. Brumback; and Herman Howard (deceased). The Constitution and by-laws of the New Lebanon Community Center are reproduced below.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Article I

This organization shall be known as the New Lebanon Community Center Association and shall be composed of members by any individual or family group paying twenty-five cents (25c) per year.

Article II

The Location is in the village of New Lebanon nine miles north east of Otterville, Missouri and nine miles south of Pilot Grove, Missouri.

Article III

The Purposes for which this organization is formed

(a) To encourage the development and successful growth of rural, social and educational institutions. (b) To assist in safe guarding rural public health through community cooperation.

(c) To sponsor and encourage junior activities among farm boys and girls and otherwise train them to meet the responsibilities of rural life and to furnish a meeting place for 4-H groups and other farm youth organizations.

(d) To obtain and disseminate information concerning any matter affecting the welfare of the rural community.

(e) To buy, lease, hold and exercise all privileges of ownership over such real or personal property as may be necessary or convenient for the conduct and operation of the business of this association, or incidental thereto.

(f) To do each and everything suitable or proper for the accomplishment of any one of the purposes, or the attainment of any one or more of the objects enumerated herein, or conducive to or expedient accordingly and

in addition, to exercise and possess all the powers, rights and privileges necessary or incidental to the purposes herein set forth, or to the activities in which the association is engaged, or to any other right, power and privilege granted by the laws of this state to ordinary corporations, except such as are inconsistent with the express provisions of this Act.

Article IV

This organization shall consist of 6 (six) board members and it shall be the duty of the board to organize and elect a President, Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer.

After the first year of organization two board members will be elected each year to serve for a term of three (8) years.

Article V

All questions that come before the body shall be decided by a majority of the members present.

Article VI

This association shall hold one or more business meetings each year.

Article VII

Powers invested in the board:

- 1-To determine the use of the building.
- 2-Responsibility of care and maintenance of building.
- 3-Responsibility for care of funds.
- 4-Provide fuel and necessities.
- 5-Care of grounds.
- 6-The power to act in case of emergency when it is not possible to call the group together.

Article VIII

Powers invested in the group:

- 1-Responsibility to raise funds.
- 2-The approval of all reports.
- 3-The power to add to or amend the constitution and by-laws.