

65 and the drainage area was about 1550 acres. The water capacity of the lake was about 125 million gallons, estimated at that time to supply the entire city with water for a year without further rainfall.

The lake at its deepest point was 24 feet. The land cost the city \$6,535, and the construction cost was about \$17,500, or an overall cost of about \$24,000. The rest of the cost was assumed by the government and their cost records are not available.

A second W.P.A. project was begun in 1941 when gravel driveways, culverts, shelter houses, picnic tables, spillway repairs, stone gateways, ground clearance of trees and sprouts, additional rip rap for the dam, golf course, stone ovens, tree planting, etc., were all included, largely under the supervision of the Park Board, which was appointed by the city council on June 4, 1940, and was composed of Wm. K. Lasley, chairman; J. C. Houck, B. F. Dobyns, Harry Libby, Jr., Dr. J. A. Daniel, David A. Hawkins, Gentry Crawford and Edgar Blanton. The city council was then composed of C. B. Board, mayor, and aldermen Elmer Ray, Ernest Key, J. T. Doyle and Tom Jackson. The total cost of the second project to the city was \$5,000, the work being interrupted and finally terminated by World War II.

Mayor Ford died in office and was succeeded by Wm. J. Dunagan as mayor, who was named at a special election held on Sept. 23, 1951. The Park Board was soon thereafter discontinued.

The problems arising in the construction and completion of the two projects seemed endless, only partly due to the "red tape" incident to government participation. An example of a minor disturbance was a report about town that each of the nine greens of the golf course would cost the city \$2,000, someone evidently having in mind the cost of bent grass greens. Actually sand greens were built, and the entire golf course project cost the city nothing. The government paid for practically all of the labor, and in addition allowed the city \$13 for 100 man-hours of labor (such as 50 men working 2 hours, or 25 men working 4 hours), the money to be applied on materials used elsewhere in the park project. The building of the golf course was almost entirely a labor project, and for every 100 hours the men worked on it, the city received \$13 from the government. There were many such rumors and criticisms, mostly based on misinformation, but in the main, both the lake and the park projects were approved and supported by the people of Shelbina.

The lake has clearly demonstrated its value to the city and community in providing an adequate water supply, and the park has been a source of pleasure and pride to the community for many years in providing the public with fishing, golfing, playground for children, picnic areas, and the scene of many celebrations and outdoor events. It represents the combined efforts of many people, and it could not have been built without the support of the public. It should long remain as a reminder of what can be accomplished by a community that will cooperate and work together for a civic project.

Sports

Baseball. The first organized Shelbina club, known as the Clippers, played the Shelbyville Lee club May 24, 1871 in Shelbina and won by a score of 31 to 29. Members of the Shelbina club were W. S. Easter, Chas. Colston, Walt Norris, James Colvert, H. D. White, H. A. Messinger, Frank Bishop, J. Hopkins and N. H. Messinger who did the pitching.

In the early 1900s Shelbina had many fine clubs, one known as the Proctor Knots.

The most outstanding baseball player in Shelbina, as related by old timers, was Roy "Trickle" Threlkeld, a fine lefthanded pitcher as well as being an excellent batter and outfielder. Other fine players of that era were "Hippy" Dewey, an excellent catcher and hitter; Earl Winans, a fine shortstop, good hitter and clever baserunner. Other good players were Ernest Jewett, George Grant, "Shiney" Bailey, Fitz Threlkeld, Earl Bates and Lynn Dickerson.

Among the players from Shelbina who went high in professional ranks were Chester Thomas, who caught for the great Boston Red Sox teams around 1912 to 1917, world champions several times; Carl Miles, son of "Doc" Miles, southpaw pitcher with the Philadelphia Athletics in the late 30s.

Football was played in Shelbina in the late 90s, but the first successful all high school teams started in 1910 when Coach Roland Lasley took charge. His fine clubs of 1911 and 1912 were undefeated.

Many fine teams with undefeated seasons have been turned out at Shelbina high. Outstanding players were Earl Raby, Francis "Tuffy" Corder, Lloyd "Sammy" Adams, Russell "Rick" Clapper, Harvey "Goody" Rash, Elston Dimmitt, Frank "Beanie" McHenry and "Bob" Doyle. Apologies to the many fine Shelbina football players who left high school and played for colleges and universities, doing outstanding jobs, but have not been mentioned by the writer of this section.

Track. Some very fine athletes have been in Shelbina high, and have won a state championship. Outstanding members of the state championship team, coached by Fred (now an Iowa Congressman) Schwengel, were LaRoy "Skinny" Garrison, Weldon "Punk" Ashford and "Bob" Coates.

Tennis. At one time a very popular sport in Shelbina. Fine Shelbina players were Marshall Cleek, Harvey Rash, Leeper Colburn, Ernest Jewett, Lynn Byars and Malcom Grant.

Basketball. Shelbina high school girls had one state basketball championship team, and many other fine boys and girls teams which won district and tournament championships

At least one of the nine girls who played in that game on the frigid Saturday night, February 9, 1929, can still recite from the lead story in the Democrat: "Shelbina Wins! Nine maroon suited girls and their coach fell upon each others shoulders on the floor of the William Woods College gym at Fulton and let loose all the enthusiasm of youth in victory. One hundred fans from Shelbina threw their hats into the air, slapped each other's backs and shouted . . ."

On that championship team, coached by Miss Clara Willis, were Doris Rogers, captain; Opal Sanders, Helen Threlkeld, Virginia Threlkeld, Anna Margaret Gamble, Essie Mae Wear, Margaret Buckman, Alma Veal, Geraldine Murnen.

Croquet. At one time this was a favorite sport in Shelbina and some fine inter-city matches were played with Shelbina proud of its records.

Horseshoes. Another popular sport at one time was this game. Shelbina boasts of one of the ranking players in the United States, Joseph Bennett, now 47 and living in Pekin, Ill. He is a son of Joe Bennett of Shelbina. "Josie" won the Illinois State Championship and other lesser championships.