

Chapter 4

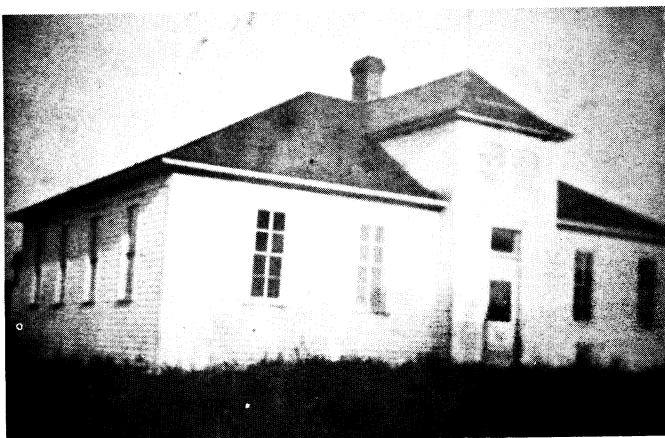
Schools Of Minerva Township

#10 CLEMONS SCHOOL

In 1895, a one room school was erected in Clemons just south of the present 1912 structure, and on the 1907 map of Marshall County it is listed as Minerva #10. In the early 1900's, another room was added, making four grades in each. The school employed 3 teachers.

Some of the early teachers were Effie Lee Pierce in 1905, in 1909 an Effie Marie Mareon, and in 1912, Ora K. Sabin.

About 1910 Burr Atkinson came from the Magee School to Clemons School District in which he belonged, although it was a longer distance from his home. A Charles Moore was his first teacher and Burr believes he had taught a couple years prior to Burr's attendance. "Charlie" taught the upper grades of the 2 room school that year, plus one month the following year, and went into medical school having earned his tuition from his teaching. He received his medical degree and was hired as the company doctor for a mining concern in Idaho. Charlie died a comparatively young man, having practiced his profession for only about 20 years. Burr held his teacher in high esteem regarding him as the best disciplinarian of all his instructors. Burr graduated from Clemons High School in 1918 in a class of 3, the other 2 members being Fred and Roy Davis. Burr and Roy became brothers-in-law when he married Roy's sister Neva in 1920. Neva died in 1929 from flu complicated by diabetes.



The Two-Room School in Clemons.
The early 1900's

The last year Clemons was a 2 room school was 1911 with 1 male teacher receiving \$75 a month and 2 women receiving \$54.41 a month.

The area schools were consolidated in 1912 and the present large brick building was built for a cost of \$11,000. The building housed the elementary and high school. This was the beginning of the graded system with two grades to a room. Albert Brackney was president of the Clemons school board at the time the school was erected.

In 1912-1913 a Mr. Ernst was superintendent at Clemons when Connie Flowers Lundin attended high school. Connie's father-in-law owned a butcher shop in Clemons.

In 1914 the superintendent was N. M. Mitchell and two teachers about this time were Bernice E. Stormes and Marie McClure. A beginning pupil at the age of 5 years was Donald Bartine (deceased), whose wife Hulda lives in the southeast part of Clemons in the home which Don's father Cyrus purchased about 1943, and which Hulda and Don purchased in 1971.

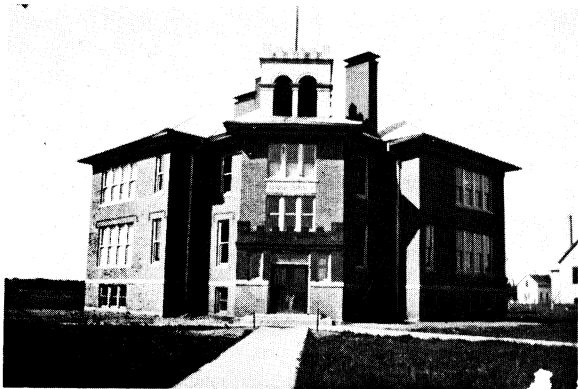
The following is a copy of a teachers daily schedule in 1914:

9:00	Opening exercises and music, all
9:15	E Phonics
9:30	D Phonics
9:45	C Phonics
10:00	E Reading
10:10	D Reading
10:20	C Reading
10:30	Recess
10:45	Sense Training, all
10:55	E Numbers
11:10	D Numbers
11:25	Dismissal of Classes E and D
11:30	C Numbers
11:45	Study Period
P.M.	Repeat of A.M.

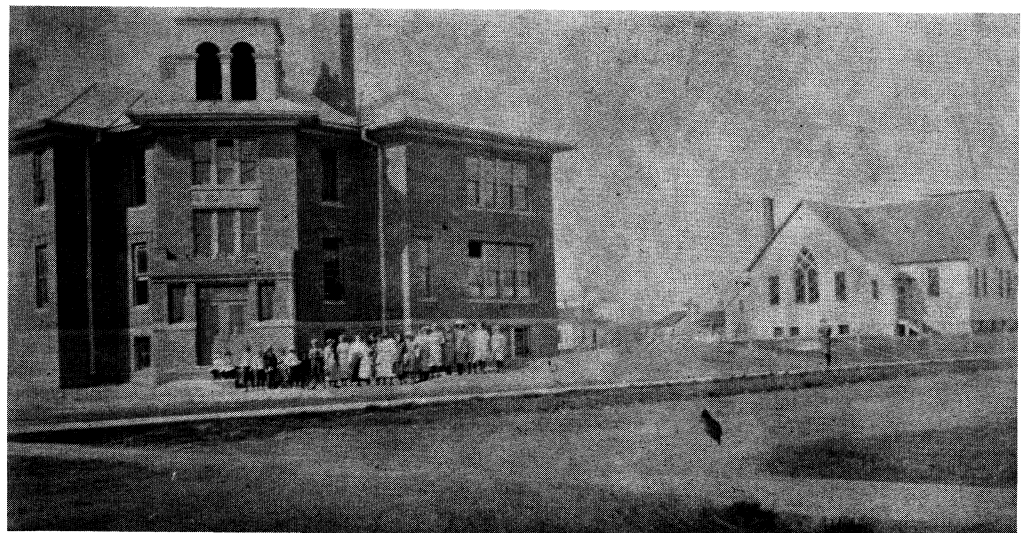
The Marshall County school records in 1915-1916 show N. W. Mitchell as superintendent and the following teachers: Edna Prine, Cora B. Han, Blanche Andrews, Marie McClure, Bernice Stormes and R. W. Wagner. In the past the teachers were required to follow more rigid rules than exist now. They had to live in



Clemons Two-Room School
1910
Charlie Moore Teacher



Clemons School with Bell Tower
1912



School and Church with children
1912



Students in the new Clemons School building in 1912.



CLEMONS HIGH SCHOOL 1915

Left to Right

Front; Earl Van Metre, Cliff Magee, Burton Gandrup, Ray Bryant, Earl Bryant

Second; Burr Atkinson, Eva Roseborough, Mable Levick, Edna Jones, Inez Jones, Florence Brackney, Lucy Ross, Fred Davis, Joe Hall, Carl Rosenborough

Third; Mrs. Brighting (teacher), Miss Prime, Gertie Ford, Wanda Helmcke, Martin Eley, Lena Nordyke, John Ross, Grace Brackney, Palmer Parsons, Igerna Parsons, Jack Clemons, Herbert Armbrecht, Supt. Mitchell.

Back; Thede Kaiser, Neva Davis, Howard Levick, Ruth Brackney, Raymond Lucas, Reba Kirk, Roy Davis, Hazel Woods

Clemons Consolidated School

request your presence
at the

Commencement Exercises

to be held

Thursday Evening, May 25, 1916

at the School Building
eight o'clock

Clemons, Iowa

First Commencement at Clemons
1919



Girls Basketball in 1918



C. H. S. CLASS 1917

Left to Right

Front: Herbert Armbrecht, Jack Clemons, Igerna Parsons, Grace Brackney

Back: Wanda Helmcke, Carl Roseburrough, Joe Hall



1922 CLEMONS ELEMENTRY



**CLEMONS FIRST AND SECOND GRADES
1925-1926**

Left to Right

Top: Tom Davis, Albert Butler, Max Smith, Louise Everist, Verle Shipley, Howard Eldridge, Gerald McConnell, Beryl Everist, Margaret Ann Liston, Lois Moore, Lucille Jay, Merle Shipley, Miss Agnes Sunner, Laverne Duffy, Winifred Nichols, Edith Moore, Lois McKelvey, ----- Adams, ----- Armbrecht, ----- Grinstead, Harold Ingledue, Paul Anderson, John King, Leo Clemons, Mahlon Beckwith

town in private homes, be unmarried, be in town on weekends, and attend church every Sunday.

The first graduate from the Clemons High School in 1916 was one lone student, Palmer Parsons, who became a real estate agent in Bolivar, Missouri, and died in 1981.

In 1919 the first alumni group was formed.

In 1920-1921 the superintendent was Charles B. Schorepel who received \$250 a month. The high school math and history teacher was Louise Kaiser and Caroline Adams was the English and Domestic Science teacher, each receiving \$133.33 a month. Bertha Hoffer taught 7th and 8th grade for \$120 a month. Bertha married Roy Davis who had graduated from Clemons in 1918. They farmed in Section 25 of Liberty Township now farmed by son Vinton. His sisters Lorraine and Mina Mae also went to Clemons school. In 1972 after Roy's death, Bertha moved to Clemons in the house built by Bob and Matie Smith in the southwest part of town. Thelma Heflin taught 5th and 6th grade for \$100, Lillian Andrew, who boarded at the Dr. E.H. Noble home, taught 3rd and 4th grade for \$100 and Jane Anderson taught 1st and 2nd grade for \$125 a month.

Mrs. Edith Thomasson, teaching 46 students in 1921, made a summary to her successor explaining that the students "were fine and wide awake - high sense of honor - as a whole truthful and honest - fighting spirit which has seemed predominate of school since anyone can remember. Careful supervision required on playground. Children easily disciplined." Clemons followed the course of study outlined for the schools of Marshall County. A teacher noted in 1922 is Miss Mary Fleager, and in 1923, Mrs. C.L. Kale.

In 1924, the school board was composed of the following directors: Dr. E. H. Noble, president, F. C. Davis, S.K. Eley, Leo Liston and Fred Nichols with H.H. Armbrecht as secretary, and A.A. Arney, treasurer. The Clemons Consolidated School was state approved for 12 grades and the district was composed of 16¼ sections.

During the 1925-1926 school year, R.C. Ringold who came in 1921, was superintendent receiving \$266 a month. The English and History high school teachers were Edna Collar receiving \$140 a month and Evelyn Ely teaching Home Ec. for \$125. Myrtle Golly was the music teacher, Velma Pike taught 7th and 8th grade for \$100, Effie Moser taught 5th and 6th grade for \$100, Lillian Andrew who was also teaching grades 3 and 4 in 1920-1921 was still receiving \$100 a month, and Agnes M. Sunner, grades 1 and 2, received \$125 a month.

Before the gym was built, Lloyd Davis, a 1926 Clemons graduate, remembers two courts built outdoors for boys and girls basketball east and south of the school. Basketball was played at recess and games were held with neighboring schools in the spring and fall of the year, but there were no tournaments in those days. Later on after the brick building was built south of the office of Clemons Grain and Supply Co. in 1919, the second floor was rented for basketball games, roller skating parties, etc.. Basketball players remember the low ceiling. The school colors were orange and black and the players were known as the "Clemons Comets".

The building was owned by the Farmers Coop and financed by the Union Bank. International Harvester held the mortgage and the first floor was used as an implement building. I. H. shipped in a tractor with an entire line of machinery on the railroad, the first to be



CHS BOYS BASKETBALL
1926

Left to Right

Front: Rueben Schaper, ---?---

2nd: Rolland Camp, Howard Noble, Supt. Ringold, Louis Nichols, Hub Christensen

Back: Delbert Lee, Lloyd Davis, John Goecke

delivered in this area. John R. Howard purchased the entire line, making it the first I. H. equipment to be sold in this area also.

The high school gym was built in 1927 for a cost of \$2,800. The Clemons Alumni Association raised the money for the stage curtain and equipment. An L. L. Bond from the school board for \$132.85 was first deposited into the alumni account and later on another \$75 was borrowed from the board. In March 1928 the Alumni Association paid the Universal Scenic Co. a \$100 down payment for the stage curtain plus scenery and a final payment of \$265.90 was made in the same year. To pay back the loans from the school board, the members put on a play and later on a carnival enabling them to make payments of \$154.75 and \$128.90 respectively. One and two dollar individual donations were also

contributed by members to help defray the cost. That velvet burgandy stage curtain with gold fringe donated by the Clemons Alumni Association hung in the gym from 1928 until the summer of 1981.

Marshall County school records for 1930-1931 still denote R. C. Ringold as superintendent being paid \$266.66 a month. This was his final year as the superintendent at Clemons. In 1931 Mr. Ringold became the Marshall County superindendent of schools, his predecessor, Mr. E. F. Shutt, having held the position for 24 years. E. Lucille Miller is shown teaching both elementary and high school music for \$125; Mildred Florence Lale, the Home Ec. and math teacher, for \$125; Blanche Thompson, teaching English and Latin for \$135; Raymond Plants, grades 7 and 8 for \$115; Safrona Davis, grades 5 and 6 for \$85; Lillian Andrew, teaching grades 3



C.H.S. 1926



C.H.S. BOYS BASKETBALL
1930

L-R

Front: Eugene Beckwith, Myer Enabnit, ?, Elmer Goecke

Back: Victor Clemons, Wallace Arney, Ray Plants, Clifford Nichols, E. W. Bartine

**C.H.S. CLASS OF 1931**

L-R
Front: Morris Wooten, Nettie Clemons, Ardis Darland, Lois Shipley, Clarice Ingledue
Back: E. W. Bartine, Victor Clemons, Clifford Nichols, Wallace Arney, Avanelle Smith, Lucille Bryant

Blanche Thompson, teaching English and Latin for \$135; Raymond Plants, grades 7 and 8 for \$115; Safrona Davis, grades 5 and 6 for \$85; Lillian Andrew, teaching grades 3 and 4 since our 1920 records was still receiving \$100 a month and Agnes Sunner who was teaching grades 1 and 2 in 1925 for \$125 was now receiving \$130 a month.

The year of our Centennial is the fiftieth year for the graduation class of 1932 from the Clemons High School. This class was composed of Nola Benson, Eugene Backwith, Charlie Davis and Eunice Smith. The superintendent was William Sturdavant. Charlie Davis and Eunice Smith Finkle are the only surviving members.

In 1935 members of the Clemons school board were L.F. Davis, W. A. Armbricht, T. H. McWilliams, John Ross and Frank Rowden. Those going off the board were C. R. Bartine, Leo Liston and J. K. Linn. A note was

**C.H.S. BASEBALL TEAM
1930-1931**

L-R
Front: Charlie Davis, Ronald Warner, Oliver Armbricht
Back: Myer Enabnit, Victor Clemons, Bill Clemons, Wallace Arney, Clifford Nichols, Ralph Davis, E. W. Bartine

also found by a distressed Marie VanMetre, secretary to the school board, in the minutes from board meetings indicating that some records from the early thirties had been destroyed.

The 1935-1936 school records indicate teachers wages drastically reduced. The 1925 to 1930 wages of \$266 for Superintendent Ringold plummeted to a mere \$101 a month for Superintendent A. D. Andre. The high school teachers were Margaret Woods and Ruth E. Moore (Mrs. Hubert Christensen) who received \$70 a month; Raymond Plants, grades 7 and 8 was reduced from \$115 in 1930 to \$75; Helen Moklestad taught grades 5 and 6 (salary not noted); Katherine Hiatt, now Mrs. Sherwood Noble, grades 3 and 4 for \$60 and Agnes Sunner who has been teaching grades 1 and 2 since the 1925 school records (salary not noted). "Sunny" as she was known, boarded at Clarence Kirkendall's, present home of Cozzie Settle. His wife was an invalid and after her death, "Sunny" eventually married Mr. Kirkendall.

The 1936 school board was composed of L. F. Davis, F. L. Rowden, John Ross, C. Kirkendall and A. W. Kaiser. Records indicate Raymond Plants still teaching 7th and 8th grade in 1938. One of his pupils was Dorothy Noble (Mrs. Arlind) Elder and he boarded at the Noble home. He now lives at the Iowa Veteran's Home in Marshalltown.

The 1940 records indicate L. E. Davis, A. W. Kaiser, R. G. Idso, John Ross and F. L. Rowden as school board members. Superintendent Tisdale received \$160 a month and M. C. Chance coached athletics and taught science for \$95 a month. Dorothy Noble Edler had Mr. Chance as her basketball coach and a generation later he was a math teacher for her children at Colo. Lois Hilleman, noted in our #7 Yingst School sketch, taught

**THIRD AND FOURTH GRADE GIRLS
1931-1932**

L-R
Front: ?, Donna Jean Levick, Geneva Perry, Mary Jay, Florestine Nichols, Mildred Sharp
Back: ?, ?, Floy Stewart, Doris Ely, Arlene Atkinson, ?



GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM
1931-1932

L-R

Front: Nola Benson, Bernice Goecke, Anna Clemons, Ruby Davis, Irene Nichols

Back: Beulah Bosch, Hazel Butler, Dorothy Males, Vivian Clemons, Elinor Eldridge, Cordelia Eldridge, Coach Ray Plants

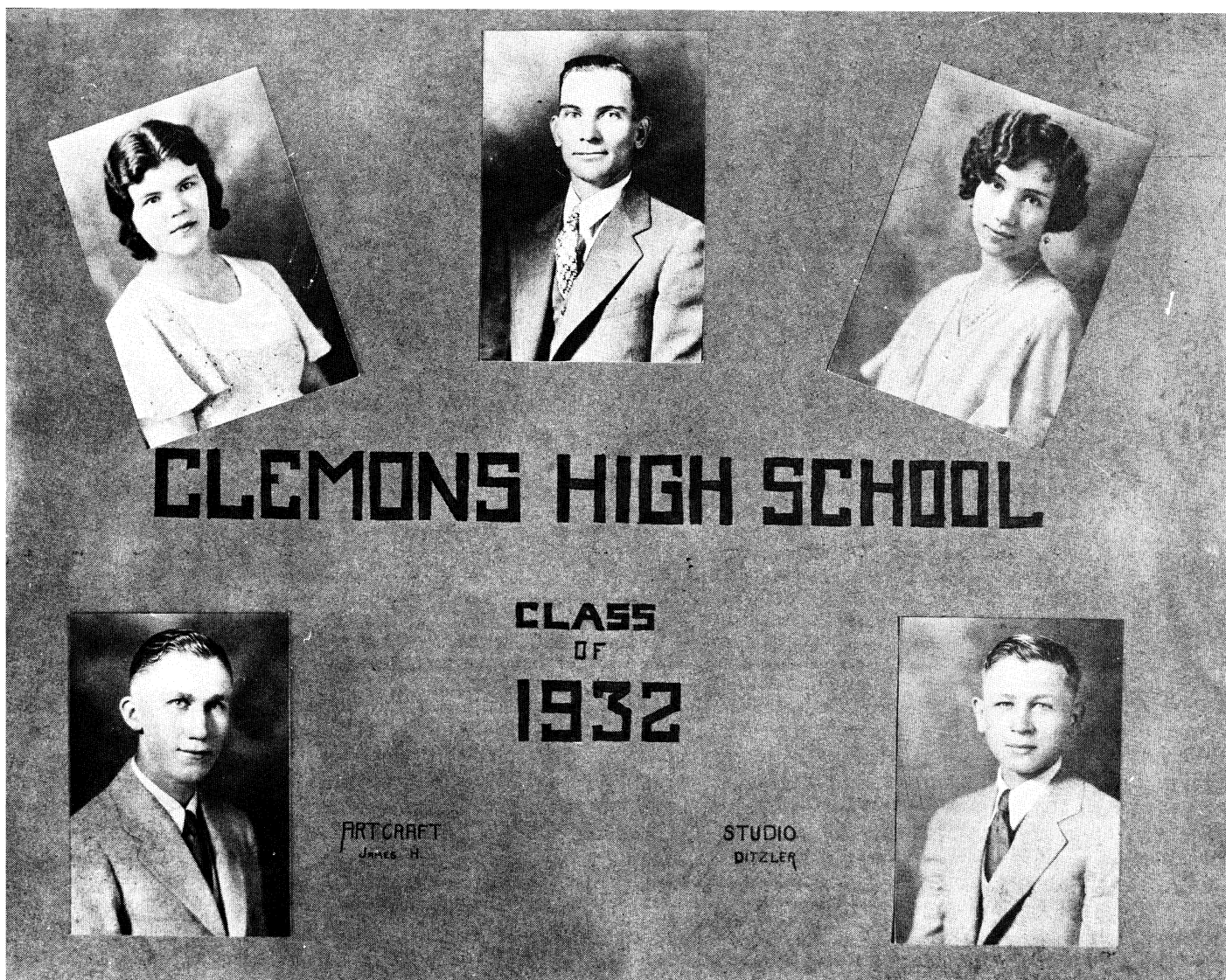


C.H.S. BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM
1931-1932

L-R

Front: Ronald Everist, Elmer Goecke, Wayne Van Metre, Gene Beckwith, Clarence Goecke

Back: Charlie Davis, Casper Clemons, Ronald Warner, Coach Paul Miller



THE 1932 C.H.S. CLASS
1982 is their 50th anniversary

L-R

Front: Gene Beckwith, Charles Davis

Back: Nola Benson, Supt. W. E. Sturdavant, Maxine Smith



CLEMONS HIGH SCHOOL
October, 1936

L-R

Front: Morris Fricke, Clyde Clemons, Joe Armbrrecht, Wendell Price, Cliffrd Veren, Duane King, Merrill Rhodes, Wayne McKelvey, Verne Bryant, Bud Bryant, Andy Tisler

2nd: Ernie Clemons, Cy Bartine, Bernadine Burkhead, Margarite McKelvey, Mildred Sharp, Venita Shimel, Lillian Hatcher, Arlene Atkinson, Margaret Shimel, Edith Moore, Joe Rowden

3rd: Teacher Ruth Moore Christensen, Arlene Herdklots, Geneva Perry, ? Tisler, Doris Eley, Betty Price, Clarabelle Butler, Mildred Rhodes, Virginia Potter, Farrell Stewart, Helen Dickover, Bernette Clemons, Bernice Eldridge, Marion Cole, Lois Moore, Margaret Reece, ? Chance, Kermit Shaw, H. K. Potter (Supt.)

4th: Billy Jay, Jack Dickover, ?, John King, Junior Wooten, Albert Butler, Paul Anderson, Wilbur Hatcher, Mahlon Beckwith, Kenneth Fricke, Harold Tisler, August Armbrrecht, Kenny Goecke, Beryl Everist, Junior Liston

Home Ec. and History from 1938-1941. Jane Carl taught Math, English, and Music, both high school teachers receiving \$100 a month. Katherine Hiatt, who taught grades 3 and 4 in 1935, is now teaching 7th and 8th grade, her wages are \$90 (a \$30 increase) and her successor in 1941 was Edith Geskin. Kathryn Comfort (eventually married to Isabelle Turner Gerke's brother) taught grades 5 and 6 for \$80; Bess Clark, grades 3 and 4 for \$80 and Lorene Miller, grades 1 and 2 for \$85. Bess Clark married Sherwood Noble, a 1925 Clemons graduate. Bess died from cancer and Sherwood eventually married Katherine Hiatt.

L. F. Davis, F. L. Rowden, A. W. Kaiser, H. M. Levick and Donald Bartine served on the 1942 school board.

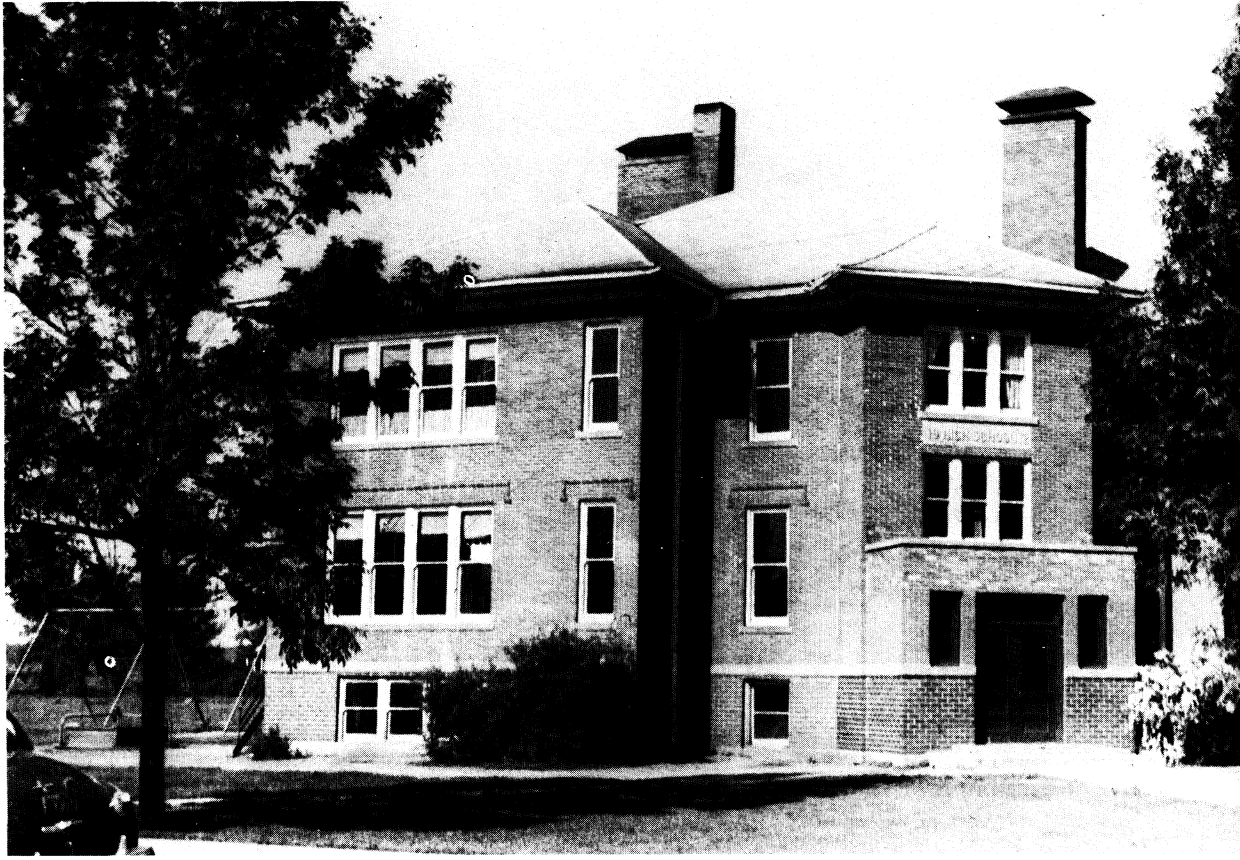
A member of our centennial book committee, Lois Bartine Shives, taught at Hazel Green School from 1938 through 1940 before her marriage to "Woody" in June 1940. She taught Clemons 5th and 6th grades in 1943 and 1944. Son Steve was born and she did not resume teaching until 1950. She then taught Clemons 3rd and 4th grades for 2½ years when daughter Melissa was born. Lois returned to teaching in 1960 and taught special ed students for 6 years. From 1966 through 1974, Lois taught 5th grade at Clemons and one year had a total of 36 students in her classroom.

The 1944-1945 Comet annual listed the faculty as follows: Superintendent J. G. Perisho (2 years at

Clemons), teaching physics, geometry, industrial arts, agriculture, mechanical drawing and boy's and girl's physical education; Mrs. Betty Everest, principal (4 years at Clemons), teaching English II, English literature, music and dramatics; Miss June Orr (3 years at Clemons) teaching English I, algebra I, typing, algebra II and business arithmetic; Mrs. Anna Lea Willits (1 year at Clemons) teaching general science, homemaking, biology and American history; Miss Etheleen Morey (1 year at Clemons) teaching 7th and 8th grades; Mrs. Mildred Lines (2 years at Clemons) teaching 5th and 6th grades; Miss Wilma Schultz (1 year at Clemons) teaching 3rd and 4th grades; Miss Irene Heckert (1 year at Clemons) teaching 1st and 2nd grades. The board of education was composed of Howard Levick, president; Mrs. Dorothy Duffy, secretary; Mrs. Bernice Gaunt, treasurer; Donald Bartine, Arnold Kaiser, Lewis Davis and Earl L. Bryant.

The 1945 Comet was dedicated to the memory of a former classmate of the senior class, Fred Humphreys (twin brother of Frank Humphreys), who died January 1944. Fred died from peritonitis following a ruptured appendix.

In 1945, Mr. K. K. Ackerman was hired as superintendent for a yearly salary of \$3,000 and remained through the 1960 school year. His wife, Marian, taught Home Ec. for \$1,800 a year and Betty (Mrs. Ronald) Everist taught music for the same salary. Other teachers denoted with yearly salaries were: June



CLEMONS SCHOOL - 1940

Orr, \$1,710; Mildred Lines, \$1,395; Frieda Haywood, \$1,358; Wilma Schultz, \$1,395 and Etheleen Morey, \$1,395, as copied from Marshall County school records.

The first elementary addition to the south of the gym was built in 1952 and was the first year for kindergarten in the school district. The second elementary addition extending west was built in 1958 providing a room for each grade.

The Clemons School District grew in size with the closing of several country schools. Hazel Green came in 1947, Moninger school in 1949, Minerva school in 1936, Liberty high school in 1948, and Liberty grade school in 1953. However a major change came about in 1962 as a Clemons, State Center, Melbourne and Rhodes merged to form the West Marshall School District. This was the last high school class to graduate from the Clemons building and the last superintendent was Irwin "Bucky" Van Fleet who held this position from 1960-1962.

The elementary and Jr. high were here until 1966 when the jr. high moved to the old high school building in State Center. The West Marshall High School moved to the new building in the northwest area of State Center in 1968. In 1978 the kindergarten and 6th grade were moved to State Center.

The year 1978-1979 was the last year of the Clemons school in existence with the West Marshall school system. Only 5 rooms were occupied with Mrs. Ruth Wolfe teaching 3rd grade, Mrs. Florence Koch and Mrs. "Barb" Pinkham teaching two 4th grade classes and Mrs. "Pat" McIntosh and Mr. David Carleton teaching two 5th grade classes. The librarian and secretary was Linda (Mrs. Jack) Mackin and the cook was Shirley Wilkening. Jim Cagwin was the custodian from August 1971 until the school was closed in 1979. The children who attended the Clemons school facility were very fortunate in that they had a marvelous head cook in the person of Doris Cagwin, Jim's wife, from 1953 through the spring of 1978 when she retired. Probably Doris' highest claim to fame in the memories of the children was her homemade hot dinner rolls and her mouth-watering cinnamon rolls. My own children, Jeanette, Jeanine, Bruce, Jeanelle, Jeanice and Jeananne Robins were among the fortunate recipients of Doris' culinary talents.

In 1979 the doors to the Clemons School were closed and the 9th grade was added to the high school. Sixth, 7th and 8th grades now occupied the old high school building and was called Middle School.



1940 BOYS BASKETBALL

L-R

Front: Gerald Ross, Gene Smith, Coach Virgil McCormack, Dale Duffy

Back: Merle Duffy, Dwayne Idso, Duane King, Merrill Rhodes, Morris Fricke, Lloyd Bartholomew



1945-1946 GIRLS BASKETBALL

L-R

Front: Ardis Bartine, Ruth Veren, Shirley Holmes, Charlotte Duffy, Shirley Nichols, Marion Ackerman

Back: K.K. Ackerman-Coach, Clarissa Easton, Doris Davis, Violet Bryant, Marianne Clemons, Betty Goecke, Imogene Speas, Bernadelle Duffy



1945-1946 BOYS BASKETBALL

L-R

Front: Bob Sanders, Stan Davis, Marvin Van Metre, Louis Ambrecht, Wayne Davis, Carroll Bryant

Back: Arthur Cooling, Norman Rhodes, Garol Cooling, Darol Cooling, Marvin Shimel, Robert Jay, Richard Liston

Far Right: Standing is Coach K.K. Ackerman

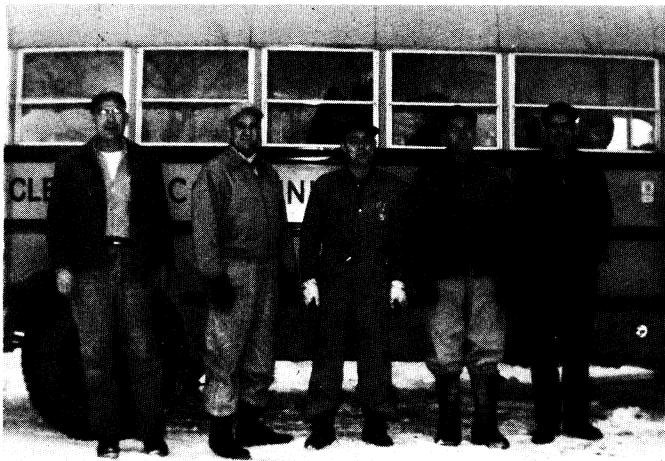


STATE RUNNER-UP 1949

L-R

Front: Norman Rhodes, Gerald Mehlich, Kenneth Ackerman-Coach, John Howard, Denzil Hoskins, Lowell Rhodes

Back: Donnie Nelson, Allan Lyons, Lloyd McDonald, Dick Lister, Jack Gaunt, Garol Cooling



CLEMONS SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS
1958

L-R
Warren Reisinger, Jess McLane, Ralph Kinzie, Elmer Mehlisch, Bob Otto



C.H.S. GIRLS BASKETBALL
1961-1962

L-R
Front: Phyllis Dunn, Judy Goecke, Nancy Bartine, Linda Goecke, Pam Sheldahl, Ruth Davis
Back: Coack Ray Becvar, Kay Lindquist, Debbie Bartine, Cheryl Funke, Linda Law, Jayanne Davis, Connie Roy, Mable Cox



KATHLEEN HALL



JERRY FUNKE



NANCY BARTINE



GILBERT BERREY



STEVE SHIVES



RUTH BARTON



JOHN VANNORDSTRAND



GARY HARDING



RUTH DAVIS



JUDI GOECKE



HAROLD HENNIS



MARLYS ARMBRECHT



KAYE LINDQUIST



MARSHA COLLINS



DON PETERS

Clemons



JOANN FARLAND



TOM NICHOLS



CARL LATHROP

Class of 1962

KENN'S STUDIO



MR. VAN FLEET

C.H.S. CLASS OF 1962
This was the last class to graduate from Clemons

Sale of the Clemons building was approved by the voters of the West Marshall School District during an election November 27, 1979, for a sum of \$12,150. That amount was the only bid received and had been submitted by Joe Armbrecht and John Maddick, members of St. John's Lutheran Church, north of State Center. Ralph Howe, school board president, pointed out that West Marshall had retained the bus barn located just south of the Clemons building and that the school grounds had been deeded to the town to be used as a playground. A five percent deposit had been made at the time of the bid.

Following the purchase of the building, future plans for operating a private Christian oriented elementary school possibly by the fall of 1980 was revealed to pastors of 6 area Lutheran churches. A meeting of interested persons from the various churches was held December 10, 1979, to outline organizational plans for a parochial school.

As of February 1980, preparations to open "Clemons Lutheran Church" by fall had advanced from the tentative to the concrete stage with a central committee composed of an enrollment and recruitment, a personnel and curriculum, and a finance and a building committee working on plans for a pre-school through 6th grade program with much input and guidance from Pastor Marvin Flanscha of St. John's.

The enrollment and recruitment committee, chaired by John Maddick, drew up a 5 page booklet outlining the goals, standards and admission policies and survey sheets were sent out to determine probable enrollment. In a "venture of faith", no tuition would be charged Kindergarten thru 6th grade for the first year

with the hope that the policy could be continued through the following years as well. The school was to be dedicated to the same principles as the earlier St. John's Parochial School with the added hope of enveloping more congregations and individuals. A 4 member public relations team scheduled presentations to area Missouri Synod Lutheran Churches which included slides showing the facilities of the Clemons building. Meanwhile, donations of several thousand dollars had been received in support of this new venture.

On February 29, 1980, the final payment on the \$12,150 bid and title transfers on the Clemons building were made by Joe Armbrecht and John Maddick, who in turn planned to transfer the title to St. John's Lutheran Church.

Meetings were also held with Mr. William Levenhagen, a highly qualified Christian educator, for guidance. He was presently serving his 10th year as principal of Central Lutheran School at Newhall in Benton County. He had taught in Lutheran parochial schools for 30 years. He was and is now on the Iowa District East Board of Directors and is Chairman of the District's Sub-Committee on parochial schools, as well as a board member for Parish Education. He is also president of the Non-Public School Administrators Association of Iowa. This association includes schools of all denominations throughout the state. Due to the apparent impressive knowledge and abilities of Mr. Levenhagen, the position of principal in the Clemons Lutheran Elementary School was offered in early April. Also about this time, the abstract for the Clemons school property, recently released by the West Marshall School District to Joe Armbrecht and John Maddick, was turned over to St. John's Lutheran Church of rural State Center.



Former Clemons Elementary building; now the Clemons Lutheran School

In late April, Mr. Levenhagen accepted the call to serve as the first principal and administrator of the newly organized Clemons Lutheran School, an accomplished educator of great faith who left a secure position to come to an empty building, rapidly deteriorating after only 1 year of closure, to begin a venture of Christian education by the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

The school's first newsletter was issued. On May 4, 1980, on a Sunday evening, Mr. Levenhagen met with prospective parents at an enrollment meeting in the gymnasium of the school. A meeting with Redeemer was also held on May 19, 1980. State forms were being completed to apply for state approval. Miss Laurel Frey, both a Lutheran elementary and high school graduate, and at the time still a student at Concordia College in St. Paul, Minnesota, was assigned as Pre-School and Kindergarten teacher by the Board of Assignments for the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Laurie is a native of West Allis, Wisconsin, near Milwaukee.

Operating costs for the first year were projected at \$60,000. Chair members of the original central steering committee working in their respective planning areas were: John Maddick, enrollment and recruitment; Karl Freiberg, building; Richard Hartwig, personnel and curriculum; Larry Westphal, finance. As the school was organized, a representative body of participating Missouri Synod congregations sending children to the school would also be formed.

Early representative at the board meetings besides the chairman and members of the Central Committee were Pastor Flansch, Mr. Levenhagen and St. John's Board of Education with Allen Armbrrecht as president, Kenneth Armbrrecht as vice-president, Howard Hennis as secretary, Karl Freiberg as treasurer and Arthur Duncan. Curt Galbreath represented Redeemer from Marshalltown and Trinity of State Center was represented by Dick Vaudt and Paul Hilleman.

Mr. Levenhagen was installed as principal of the new elementary Clemons Lutheran School at the June 8, 1980, worship service at St. John's and moved into the teacherage on the church premises. During the summer, a frenzy of remodeling, cleaning and painting took place in the kitchen, gym and 1952 addition to prepare for the August 25th opening of the fledgeling school. Windows of the old 1912 building were boarded up also.

As the summer progressed and enrollment sheets trickled in, it was evident that another teacher would be needed. In early August, a call was extended to and accepted by Miss Sandra Giertz, a native of Marengo, Illinois (between Rockford and Chicago). Sandy, who was an elementary parochial school student, attended Concordia College at River Forest, Illinois, and had taught 3rd grade for 2 years at a Lutheran school in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. She was interested in sports, particularly track, and was also an umpire.

On August 25, 1980, Clemons Lutheran School opened its doors to 52 students. Enrollment by grade was as follows: Pre-School 7, Kindergarten 3, Grade 1-7, Grade 2-8, Grade 3-5, Grade 4-9, Grade 5-5, Grade 6-6 and Grade 7-2. Grades 4 thru 7 were taught by Mr. Levenhagen, Miss Giertz had Grades 1, 2 and 3, and Miss Frey had Pre-School, Kindergarten and helped with 1st grade on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, since Pre-School was scheduled only on those mornings. Forty-four children belonged to the Missouri Synod Lutheran Churches: Trinity in State Center, Redeemer in Marshalltown, St. John's north of State Center. Eight were from other area denominations.

The dedication of the school building along with the installation of Miss Giertz and Miss Frey took place on Sunday afternoon, September 7, 1980. Pastor Domsch from Redeemer, Marshalltown, was the speaker.

Bonnie (Mrs. Gilbert) Berrey was in charge of the hot lunch program, Joanne Levenhagen was school secretary and Sharon (Mrs. Duane) Zobel was the school's first volunteer teacher's aide. Betty (Mrs. Dick) Oehlsen, librarian at the Gutekunst Public Library in State Center, donated many hours of her time to set up the classification system of the many books given to the school, assisted by volunteer help. Carrels were donated to make pleasant study areas in the library located in the old Clemons music room. Two buses were purchased, one by Redeemer and the other by St. John's to transport students outside the West Marshall School District.

In the January 1981 church elections, the organizational Central Committee of the school was phased out and St. John's elected the following men to the Board of Education: President, Richard Hartwig; Vice-President, Kenneth Armbrrecht; Secretary, Howard Hennis; Treasurer, Karl Freiberg; Trustees, Dan Freiberg and Joe Armbrrecht. Redeemer from Marshalltown was represented by Curt Galbreath and Howard Schuler and Trinity at State Center by Paul Hilleman and Dick Vaudt.

A summation of the 1980-1981 school year by Mr. Levenhagen was listed as follows:

1. Fifty children daily hear, learn and live God's Word.
2. Almost every child shows growth above the national average.
3. Nine 5th and 6th graders began or continued band instruction in State Center with Mr. Kenneth Nason, elementary band instructor at West Marshall.
4. Twenty six children participated and won awards at the Lutheran Schools Fine Arts Festival which consisted of vocal, instrumental and arts and crafts competition.
5. Upper grades began the athletic program in football, volleyball, basketball, track and softball.
6. The CLS choir aided worship at 7 church worship services.
7. Over 150 people visited and viewed the school program in action.
8. Over \$70,000 was contributed to support the program besides countless donated items.
9. Over 2,000 hours were donated as teacher aides, custodians, kitchen help, clerical help and maintenance work.
10. The school educational program was approved by the Iowa Department of Public Instruction.

The children also presented a Christmas program and operettas in the spring which included a very ambitious rendition of Mark Twain's "Tom Sawyer".

Meanwhile, enrollment and recruitment visits in the spring indicated the need for another teacher and a call was extended to Miss Lynne Riese, daughter of Howard and Marcella Riese of rural Colo. She was a 1980 graduate of Concordia Teachers College, Seward Nebraska, and had taught one year at Zion Lutheran School, in Pierce, Nebraska. Lynne married Larry Pfantz of State Center on August 1, 1981.

The big project for the summer of 1981 was the renovation of the gym. The local AAL Branch (a Lutheran Fraternal Life Insurance Company) raised \$2,500 which was matched by the AAL Home Office. Over \$5,000 worth of material was used including 40 gallons of paint, about 1,000 brick, 150 cement blocks, over 10 bags of cement, lumber, bolts, screws, along with 152 sq. ft. of protective wall mats that could also be used for tumbling, 110 yds. of carpet to cover the north wall, a new overhead door for the kitchen, new fiber glass

ceilings in the shower rooms, 32 glass blocks, a water heater, and a new stage curtain. The stage curtain was of kelly green velour with white fringe, the school colors, and cost \$1,415.17. It was hung on the same track used for the old burgandy and gold fringed curtain bought by the Clemons Alumni in 1928. All of the windows were either replaced or partially bricked up.

Over 2,300 hours of volunteer labor was used, led by over 240 hours EACH by Tip and Ildra Armbrrecht of Clemons, Ed and Esther Eller of Roland, Myrtle Westphal of State Center, Artie and Ellen Riese and "Shorty" (Duane) Riese of Colo.

The 1958 west addition was opened to include an art room and the original library room again reverted to a library. The room used as a library the year before was now utilized as a classroom by Mrs. Lynne Pfantz. Lynne's room was the original Clemons elementary music and band room. Parents joined forces to put the building in apple pie order for the opening day.

The 1981-1982 Clemons Lutheran School opened its doors tuition free with Miss Frey again teaching Pre-School and Kindergarten, Mrs. Lynne Pfantz is teaching Grades 1-3, and Miss Giertz is teaching Grades 4-5 this year. Mr. Levenhagen is teaching Grades 6-8.

The church elections of January 1982 were held with last year's officers to remain in office. They are as follows: Richard Hartwig, President; Kenneth Armbrrecht, Vice-President; Howard Hennis, Secretary; Karl Freiberg, Treasurer; Joe Armbrrecht and Dan Freiberg, Trustees. Trinity, State Center, is represented by Dick Vaudt and Paul Hilleman and Redeemer, Marshalltown, by Curt Galbreath and Howard Schuler.

The first year of 1980-1981 closed its doors with 51 pupils and in the second semester of the 1981-1982 school year 90 pupils are listed as follows:

Pre-School - 15 -

Richard Affeldt, State Center
Chantelle Axtell, Clemons
Michael Bethel, Marshalltown
Jodi Bratland, Clemons
Ian Buschbom, St. Anthony
Brian Davis, Clemons
Amanda Dee, State Center
Ranae Doser, Colo
Christina Freiberg, State Center
Michelle Haley, State Center
Ronald Hinders, Clemons
Aaron Humphreys, Albion
Nathan Jones, Clemons
Matthew Riese, Zeiring
Chad Woosley, St. Anthony

Kindergarten - 15 -

Betsy Berrey, Albion
Bryon Borchers, Marshalltown
Thomas Burg, St. Anthony
Kerry Hartwig, Colo
Regan Hennis, Marshalltown
Ryan Hennis, Marshalltown

Holle Hilleman, State Center
 Jason Mathison, Marshalltown
 Nicole Phipps, Albion
 Nathan Pierson, State Center
 Jeff Swenson, Clemons
 Rebecca Tollefson, Clemons
 Andrew Van Camp, State Center
 Trisha Vry, Marshalltown
 Christy Wiley, Marshalltown

Grade 1 -7-

Mark Bethel, Marshalltown
 Jennifer Keat, Marshalltown
 Natalie Martin, Union
 Jason Phipps, Albion
 Robert Tollefson, Clemons
 Jonathan Uzel, Marshalltown
 Kelly Voigt, Marshalltown

Grade 2 - 9 -

Chad Affeldt, State Center
 Christopher Borchers, Marshalltown
 Sharon Campbell, Marshalltown
 Carey Doser, Colo
 Leisha Hennis, Marshalltown
 Jodie Mathison, Marshalltown
 Jacquelyn Riese, Colo
 Brady Vaudt, State Center
 Trent Vry, Marshalltown

Grade 3 - 7 -

Patrick Baetsle, State Center
 Jeremy Clark, Marshalltown
 Jeffrey Domsch, Marshalltown
 Jeremy Domsch, Marshalltown
 Stefenie Hookie, Albion
 Renae Martin, Union
 Suzanne Taschner, Marshalltown

Grade 4 - 7 -

Troy Bangtson, Marshalltown
 Kellie Berrey, Albion
 Robin Freiberg, Marshalltown
 Terry Jordan, Marshalltown
 Mitchell Long, Marshalltown
 Douglas Riese, Zearing
 Jodi Stubbs, Clemons

Grade 5 - 10 -

Nicole Affeldt, State Center
 Christopher Baetsle, State Center
 Diana Barnard, Zearing
 Jennifer Burg, St. Anthony
 Jeanine Hilleman, State Center
 Christine Jordan, Marshalltown
 Anita Sanderson, Albion
 Kathleen Taschner, Marshalltown
 Vivian Van Horn, Marshalltown
 Brian Vaudt, State Center

Grade 6 - 10 -

Kristine Bangtson, Marshalltown
 Jacob Berrey, Albion
 Galen Davis, State Center
 Tracy Freiberg, Marshalltown
 Susan Gerke, State Center
 Brenda Hilleman, State Center
 Michele Long, Marshalltown
 Brian Martin, Union
 David Taschner, Marshalltown
 Randall Tollefson, Clemons

Grade 7 - 6 -

Steven Allen, Colo
 Mark Armbrecht, Clemons
 Annette Baetsle, State Center
 Lara Domsch, Marshalltown
 Charla Fay, Marshalltown
 Michael Olson, State Center

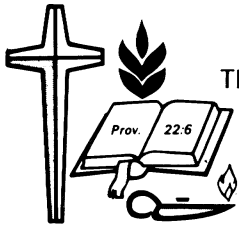
Grade 8 - 4 -

Rhoda Armbrecht, Clemons
 John Bethel, Marshalltown
 Kevin Cross, Liscomb
 Bruce Van Horn, Marshalltown

Mark and Rhoda Armbrecht, children of Edith and Sherwood Armbrecht, who just moved here from Dunkerton, are the first children to have transferred from another Missouri Synod parochial school, namely Community Lutheran School of Readlyn. They were members of a rural Lutheran Church at Klinger.

Other changes at CLS this year: a new cook, Jean Affeldt, and Bonnie Berrey who was cook last year is a fulltime teacher's aide and art aide. Other teacher's aides on a part-time basis are: Sharon Zobel, Helen Maddick, Gerry Barnard and Patricia Freiberg Bethel. Other aides are: kitchen - Nancy Davis, Mary Tollefson, Kathy Borchers, Gladys Olson, Marcella Riese; library - DeMaris Mathison, Mary Tollefson, DeAnn Swenson, Barb Martin, Marge Pierson; custodial aides - Gerry Barnard, Paula Clark, Wendy Voigt. Betty Nason, wife of the elementary band instructor at West Marshall and a highly qualified instructor in her own right, teaches instrumental music as well as Donna (Mrs. Jim) Riese of rural Zearing who teaches piano and guitar. In the 1981-1982 school year, the children also elected to call themselves the CLS "Crusaders". Basketball uniforms were purchased as well as maps and other needed items through the efforts of the PTF (Parents-Teachers-Friends) organization which held its first annual Fall Dinner with a \$1,200 profit. The older children also take turns at daily assigned duties of dish washing and sweeping the gym floor after the daily hot lunch.

Through church support and efforts and gifts of many individuals and families, plus memorial gifts, the Clemons Lutheran School is in its 2nd year of existence holding as its motto the Biblical verse on the school emblem - Proverbs 22:6 - (the text which is as follows) "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old he will not depart from it".



THE MOTTO OF THE CLEMONS LUTHERAN SCHOOL

The motto of CLS is found in Proverbs 22:6 where God speaks to the children of Israel (The CHURCH) and commands that they "Train up a child in the way that he should go". The logo of CLS as pictured carries out this idea expressing that in which the children are trained. The dominant message is suggested by the cross of Christ and the redemption from sin it purchased, making possible Christian education of the young. The norm for all education is the Bible. It provides an unchanging standard, the answers to life, and a guide for Christian living. While not a textbook, its infallibility makes it the only true authority. The lamp represents the imparting of knowledge, a necessity for all training. And lastly, the green twig represents the young child who is being trained, that is taught, guided and molded in the way he should go, the way to heaven while living the Christian life enroute.

Submitted by
William Levenhagen, Principal

CLEMONS P.T.A.

The Clemons Parent-Teacher Association was organized in 1921. Since there was no gymnasium at that time, the early meetings were held in the high school room. At first few parents responded, but after some local talent was used, more interest was aroused. If plays were produced, they were staged at the Clemons church auditorium. After the gymnasium was built, all meetings were held there. When children of the different grades were in the programs, parents became more interested in the organization. Then it was decided to serve coffee and a light lunch. Interesting speakers were used intermittently and were also enjoyed. It was during 1945-1946 that the lighting in the school rooms was discussed. At that time, one bulb was suspended in the middle of the room, thus on a dark day many students away from the light had reading disabilities. The school board could not afford to completely relight the school with fluorescent lighting, so the Parent-Teacher Organization raised a large amount of money to replace the lights. It was also a good way for parents to visit with the teachers socially and get better acquainted. The organization was active until the school joined West Marshall.

Some of the early Presidents were Mrs. Ringgold, Mrs. Fred Turner, Mrs. Fern Schuler, Mrs. Wilbur Jones, Mrs. Arnold Kaiser, Mrs. Harry Veren, Mrs. Charles Beckwith, Mrs. Erwin Holmes, Mrs. Ronald Warner, Mrs. Randall Davis, Mrs. Leo Liston, Mrs. Roy Davis, Mrs. John

Ross, Mrs. Walt Sanders, Mrs. E. T. VanMetre and many others who could not be listed as records were not available.

It was also during 1945 the Hot Lunch Program was begun full time. This is when the Agriculture Department of Washington announced surplus products were available and encouraged full time Hot Lunch Programs. Mrs. Ronald Warner, then President of the local P.T.A., went to Des Moines to sign up for the program. With a committee of the mothers and full cooperation of the teachers, hot lunches began in January 1946.

CLEMONS SCHOOL HOT LUNCH PROGRAM

In 1942, Mrs. Arnold Kaiser, Music Mothers Chairman, announced that the Music Mothers would begin serving a hot lunch to the students every Wednesday, which they continued for three years.

In the late fall, 1944, Mrs. Ronald Warner, then President of the Clemons P.T.A., went to Des Moines to sign with the Agriculture Department for the surplus agriculture products and with U. S. Hot Lunch program for a daily Hot Lunch Program. It took quite a lot of organization and several were not sure it would be successful.

The program began January, 1945. The first cooks were Cora Shimel and Mrs. Louis Sharp. Mrs. Fern Stewart assisted when needed. The cost was \$.15 per lunch. It continued until the closing of the Clemons Community School.

THE MUSIC MOTHERS

The Music Mothers was organized to promote a good musical programs for their children, educationally and financially. This group began in the late 30's. Projects were planned by the mothers to supplement the students' musical activities, books, and instruments.

Due to a lack of a hot lunch program in the school the Music Mothers began preparing and serving a hot lunch on Wednesdays to the students for 10¢ per lunch. Henrietta Kaiser also remembers serving pie and coffee at dances for 15¢ and sometimes something special for 25¢.

The Music Mothers paid the band instructor, Mr. Ridout, a supplemental fee for his services. This was \$25.00 per week.

After the hot lunch program began the Music Mothers assisted the head cook with serving the meals on Wednesdays. They also continued their various other projects to enrich the music program.

When West Marshall was organized, the Music Mothers used their money to build the tennis courts in Clemons.

STATE RUNNER—UP

The Clemons High School Baseball Team in 1949 was the State Runner-up. They lost to Davenport 8-0, in Mason City in May, 1949. This ended a season of all wins, except the tourney loss. The coach was K. K. Ackerman. Those playing on the team were Dick Lister and Lowell Rhodes, pitchers; Gerald Mehlich, Catcher; Densil Hoskins, first base; Donnie Nelson, second base; Allan Lyons and Jack Gaunt, short stops; Lloyd McDonald, third base; Norman Rhodes, John Howard, Lowell Rhodes, fielders and Garol Cooling, Darol Cooling.

1 WARNER SCHOOL

The 1871 site of the Warner School is shown on the southeast corner of 160 acres owned by Otis Witter Warner in Section 2. The following article is printed in the 1907 Marshall County Atlas concerning him: "O. W. WARNER, a retired farmer and highly-respected citizen of this county, is now resting from labor on his beautiful homestead in the midst of his many well-cultivated acres, called "Maple Hill Stock Farm" on Section 2, Minerva Township. Mr. Warner is one of the old settlers of Marshall County who so materially aided in its development and prosperity. He came here in the year 1866, having been born in the state of Ohio, Lake County, March 6, 1825. His father, Otis Warner, came from the state of Massachusetts, where he was born June 20, 1800. O. W. Warner, the subject of our sketch, in the year 1855,

took to his home, then Port Byron, Ill., as a bride Miss Martha Turner. Mrs. Warner was born a subject of Queen Victoria, October 28, 1835, in London, England, her father being John Turner, deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Warner's large family of twelve has been decreased by the loss of four children in death. Anson, born January 3, 1856 died September 30, 1857; Mary Ann, born September 5, 1861, died September 1, 1862; Anna I., born February 3, 1864, died July 31, 1900, and William, born July 17, 1874 died August 20, 1874. Those still living are: Rosalie E., born May 25, 1857; Sarah and Elizabeth, born January 15, 1860; Annettie, born October 15, 1865; Martha E., born September 14, 1870; Lina, born April 13, 1872; Thomas, born June 17, 1876, and Ernest, born March 23, 1878.

In 1868, land was deeded from the Warner farm to the District Township of Minerva for school purposes.

Both the 1885 and 1907 maps show O. W. Warner owning the farm. According to early school reports, the teacher in April 1891 was Anna Lundin, whose husband was a butcher in Clemons and the school director was J. W. Smith.

In 1912 the area schools were consolidated into Clemons School District when a large brick structure was erected in Clemons which housed both elementary and high school students.

The 1924 map shows the property where the Warner school had been located, owned by O.W.'s son, Thomas J. At the present time, this land belongs to Louis and Marie Nichols.



WARNER SCHOOL

L-R

Front: Delphia Boofer, Ada Bartlett, Edna Tucker, Vera Ingledue, Pearl Everist, John Clemons, Wesley Boofer, Earl Everist, Bill Bartlett, Martin Eley, Denver Ingledue
Back: Luella Lancaster, Amelia White, Earl Phelps

Early Christian meetings, prior to the building of the first church in the Clemons area community in 1867, were held variously at the Magee schoolhouse, the Samuel Mooney schoolhouse - north in Section 28 of Liberty Township - and sometimes the Warner schoolhouse.

2 THE MAGEE SCHOOL

The 1871 site of the Magee School is shown on the southwest corner of 247 acres of land owned by G. W. Magee in Section 3. Mr. Magee was born in Henry County, Kentucky, May 20, 1833, and came to this area in 1855. The farm is known as the "Old Homestead Farm". The northeast corner of the Magee property, kitty-cornered from the school, shows the location of the cemetery west of the present town of Clemons.

According to the 1907 Marshall County Atlas and the July 4, 1976, Bicentennial edition of the Clemons Bugle, the first schoolhouse built in the township was at the north end of Patterson's Grove in 1856 one mile southwest of the present town of Clemons on the creek. The 1871 map shows 160 acres of this creek area south of what is now Clemons also to be owned by G. W. Magee in Section 10 in addition to the 247 acres mentioned above in Section 3, so apparently the first school was built on Magee property. It was a one room structure built of logs and here was held the first township election.

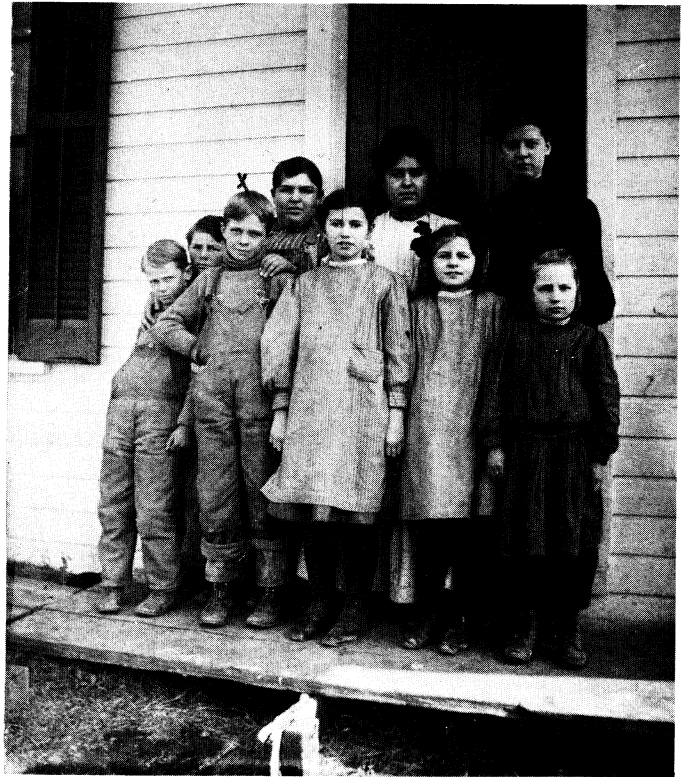
The late William H. Clemons was probably referring to this same school when he was relating recollections of his pioneer grandfather, William J. Clemons, who had come to Iowa by covered wagon in 1854 with his parents, William M. and Nancy Elder Clemons.

Quote "Bill" H. Clemons from his written contribution for the 125th anniversary of the Clemons Church, October 19, 1980: "I recall a day of squirrel hunting in the 'south timber' when he (Bill's grandfather, William J.) and I paused upon a knoll, and he showed me depressions on the timbered location where once had stood a log cabin and before the Magee school existed, he had first attended a family school. Today a small stand of trees still exists about ¼ mile west of the South bridge."

The first school teacher was George Magee, Jr., who came to the township in 1855 with his parents, his father, George Magee, Sr., being the first justice of the peace.

The first teacher who taught in the new traditional, white frame structure which was referred to as the Magee School at the begining of this article, was Anna Lundin whose husband was a butcher in Clemons Grove. Her oldest son, Wade, was born at Clemons

Grove September 26, 1881. Mrs. Lundin and the town children all walked to the Magee School where she taught for several years since Clemons did not have a school until 1895.



MAGEE SCHOOL

L-R

Front: Eva McCormack, Eva Ward, Pearl Ward, Burr Atkinson, Earl Atkinson

Back: Minnie Farber-teacher, Myrtle Ward, Bert Meier, Alfred McCormack

According to Inez Jones, the Magee School was sometimes called the Blackburn School since land south of it in Section 10 belonged to Thomas Blackburn. He was the grandfather of Inez Jones and Burr Atkinson. Inez's mother, Jennie (born December 5, 1871 - died November 21, 1919), both went to the Magee School. One of their teachers was Anna Lundin. From April 1891 Marshall County school reports, the teacher was Minnie Caren and the director was William Clemons. From the same reports, the following contract was obtained for the fall term of 1892:

Date September 12, 1892

To the Co. Supt.,

I have contracted to teach in Dist. 2 of Minerva Twp. for 8 wks. Term opening Sept. 5, 1892. Ending Oct. 20, 1892. Directors name George Magee. My pay is \$35 per month. No. enrolled 16. No. recitations each day 19. No. taught Phy. from book 12. No. taught Physiology orally 4. No. who study lessons at home 6. No. who habitually read books & newspapers

at home 3. Do you use a Classification Register? I do. Was it used last term? It was. Were all the items properly entered. Yes. What method do you use in teaching beginners to read? Synthetic
F. W. Armstrong, Teacher

P.O. Clemons Grove

The 1885 map shows all the afore mentioned land still belonging to G. W. Magee. However, on the 1907 map, a son, J. H. Magee (born May 7, 1875) now owns the southwest 160 acres of section 3 on which the school and cemetery are both located. The land south of Clemons - 80 acres in Section 3 - and the adjacent 160 acres in Section 10 - where the log school was located - are combined into the G. W. Magee estate.

Burr Atkinson (born May 14, 1898) son of John and Laura Blackburn Atkinson also went to the Magee School around 1905-1908. His first teacher was Minnie Farber. She married Joe Ward, son of G. W. Ward who owned land south and west of the Magee School. His second teacher was Ed Bartine (born 1874), an older brother of Cy Bartine who was the father of Lois (Mrs. Woody) Shives, father-in-law of Hulda (Mrs. Don) Bartine and grandfather to both Debbie Bartine (Mrs. Richard) Jones and Ed Bartine - all of whom live in and around Clemons and are very instrumental in putting together the Clemons Centennial Book. Burr's third teacher was Ada Ward (Mrs. Charles) Lindquist, sister to the above mentioned Joe Ward. Burr actually belonged to the Clemons District but the school was a greater distance from his home than the Magee. However, around 1909-1910, Burr came to the Clemons School and remembers being in the sixth grade. His teacher was a Charlie Moore - "one of the best teachers you ever saw" according to Burr. He was a strict disciplinarian but only taught the one year in order to earn enough money to pay his tuition into medical school.

In 1911, Marie Warner's mother, Mary Ethel Speas Hines, was hired to teach the "Ward" School, another family name given to the Magee School. The school was closed the following year when the Clemons High School was built and the area schools were consolidated.

The 1924 map shows the Magee and Blackburn property belonging to a Maude E. Matthews. Cade and Candace Everist rented and lived on the farm. Around 1928, the first brick home burned. The family was not at home when the fire occurred, but neighbors saved most of their belongings and these were stored in the Magee School while the new home was built.

Dr. John E. Sinning eventually purchased the original Magee-Blackburn land. Inez Jones related that "G. W. Magee and Thomas Blackburn were very dear friends and as close as brothers could be, so it seems only fitting that the two farms are now joined into one." The house is occupied by Delbert and Audrey Fields.

The "Magee, Blackburn, Ward" school was moved from its original site south and west of the crossroads onto the W. G. Ward land and was used as their summer home since they went to California in the winter time. Their son Bill, now deceased, moved the Magee School into Clemons three lots north of the church on the east side of the street (Bill's widow, Ruth, lives on the opposite side of the street). The school was remodeled with a second floor added in 1929 and was rented for eleven years.

One of the tenants was "Barney" Sweet who ran the elevator. Another tenant was a big Irishman by the name of Verni "Sonny" O'Connor who was a buttermaker.

In 1940, the Gordon Warren's, our Clemons barber for many years, purchased and still live in what was once the old Magee School and have kept it in an excellent state of repair.

3 STOUGH SCHOOL

The 1871 site of the Stough School is on the southwest corner of an 80 acre tract of land belonging to W. Stough in Section 5. Both the 1885 and 1907 maps show the upper half of the property owned by Minerva Stough and the lower half, on which the school house stood, owned by William Stough. The Stough School was 2 miles west of the Magee School at the crossroads, traditional location of most of the country schools so none would be more than 2 miles apart and within walking distance for smaller children. In an April, 1891 Marshall County school report, Sallie Van Metre was the teacher and the school board director was B. S. Hines. By 1924, Section 5 was now a part of the St. Anthony Consolidated School District and the land where the school had been now consists of a 60 acre tract owned by Ed Hines. This same land is now owned and farmed by Louis Doser.

#4 ALEXANDER OR DAMMAN SCHOOL

A country school district was comprised of 4 sections of land with the school site located every 2 miles, usually at the center crossroads so no child should need to walk over 2 mile. However, the #4 school is not shown on the 1871 map, but the land on the school site-to-be is owned by an R. L. T. Borland. The 1885 map shows School #4 located on the southwest corner of a 120 acre tract of land running lengthwise north and south owned by Hannah C. Alexander in Section 17. She also owns 80 acres south in Section 20 and another 120 west in Section 19.

On the 1907 map it shows the 120 acres in Section 17 belonging to George Alexander, and the farm is called the "Pleasant Hill Stock Farm". To the south, the land is owned by Amanda Damman, the family name by which the school was most commonly known. There is no family sketch of the Damman family in the 1907 Atlas

but the Alexander sketch is printed as follows: "GEORGE ALEXANDER is a successful and enterprising farmer located in Minerva Township, on Section 17, on a farm which is part of the original Alexander farm which his father, Warren D. Alexander, first located on in Marshall County. By perseverance and hard work the older Alexander, aided by his son, has made his many acres some of the most productive in the county. Mr. George Alexander was born in Dekalb County, Illinois, October 30, 1857. He came with his parents to Marshall County in 1865, and since that time has continued his residence here. On December 18, 1882, he brought as a bride to his home Miss Joanna Werner, who was a daughter of Wm. Werner. She was born in Lowville, Lewis County, New York, March 24, 1856. Mr. and Mrs. Alexander are the parents of three children: William W., Charles Warren and Margaretta. The latter named has been teaching school in the Alexander district for the last six terms."

The 1924 map still shows the 120 acres of Section 17 belonging to George Alexander and the Damman family still owners of the land to the south. The 1981 map shows the Alexander land belonging to Elaine E. Davis Robins and six children which was given to them by her uncle, Walter Davis. The land is being farmed by Lester Olson and is bordered on the south end by E-29. Caryl Kuhlman has ownership of the Damman land.

One of the very early teachers was Emma Armbrrecht who was born November 17, 1881. One of her pupils was older than she was by 3 years. Earnest Fischer was born April 27, 1878, in Volksen, Germany. He came to Marshall County as a young man and boarded with the George Davis family where Mildred Davis now lives on 120 acres of the southeast corner of Section 20. Since Emma could speak German, Ernie went to school during the winter term to learn the rudiments of the English language. Ernie later married a relative of Emma's - Ida Hilleman - and started a meat packing plant in Fort Collins, Colorado. He became a very successful business man and his plant was noted for its exceptional cleanliness.

The 1891 Marshall County school records show Carrie L. Haworth as the teacher and Louis Hartwig as the director. Gene Griffiths now lives on the Louis Hartwig farm. We know from the 1907 Alexander history that Margaretta or "Maggie" as she was known, taught several terms also.

School terms were divided into fall, winter and spring terms. Mildred Davis, who also had Maggie Alexander for a teacher, has her brother Harold's report card showing the following teachers: Cora Beckwith from September 4, 1911 to October 27, 1911; Mollie Elledge from November 27, 1911 to March (no date given) 1912; Stesia Dunn from April 1, 1912 to May 26, 1912. One puzzling aspect of this report card shows the District as #9, but Mildred said Harold only attended the #4 Damman School when she was also a pupil there. Harold Davis died in the fall of 1912 due to complications following an accident in a horse runaway.

MONTHLY REPORTS AND SUMMARIES													
Name <u>Harold Davis</u>		Class <u>4</u>		Grade <u>4</u>		Teacher <u>Stesia Dunn</u>		From <u>Sept 1</u>		To <u>Oct 5</u>		19 <u>11</u>	
1st <u>Sept 1</u>		From <u>Sept 1</u>		To <u>Oct 5</u>		19 <u>11</u>		2d <u>Sept 1</u>		From <u>Sept 1</u>		To <u>Oct 5</u>	
3d <u>Sept 1</u>		From <u>Sept 1</u>		To <u>Oct 5</u>		19 <u>11</u>		4th <u>Sept 1</u>		From <u>Sept 1</u>		To <u>Oct 5</u>	
ATTENDANCE, DEPARTMENT, STUDIES	Year of Course Entered	Month's Work Completed	STANDING FOR MONTH ENDING AS SHOWN BY DATE IN EACH COLUMN BY 15 IN FIRST IN RED IN LAST TWO COLUMNS OF EACH TERM										
DAYS TAUGHT	20	20											
DAYS PRESENT	19	17											
DAYS ABSENT	1	3											
TIMES TARDY	0	0											
INDUSTRY	88	84											
DEPARTMENT	89	89											
ORTHOGRAPHY	85	84											
READING	70	91											
WRITING	86	87											
ARITHMETIC	88	88											
LANG. or GRAM.	80	87											
GEOGRAPHY													
U. S. HISTORY													
PHYSIOLOGY													
CIVIL GOVT.													
MUSIC	85	85											
PAINTING													
GEN'L AVERAGE													
GRADES: Excellent 90 to 100; Good 85 to 95; Fair 75 to 85; Unsatisfactory 60 to 75; Poor Below 60. Required For Promotion: Average _____ Per Ct. Minimum _____ Per Ct.													

Children sometimes did not attend the school district to which they belonged due to the distance and their youth. My uncle Walter Davis was the oldest child in the family and since the Damman school was 2 miles from home, he was boarded with his Grandma Sophia Schaper and her daughter Aunt "Tillie" (Mrs. Otto) Elder in Section 24. Since they lived closer to #6, the Busse School was the first school he attended.

Mildred went to #9, the Wengert School when Viola German started to school. The Germans lived west of Davis' and belonged to #9 in Section 29, but due to the distance, Mildred changed schools so someone older could walk with the youngster. Meanwhile, her older brothers, my Uncle Walter and father Carl, continued to walk to the Damman School.

In September 1912, Mildred remembers Bessie Dunn as her teacher, a tall young woman who rode on a white horse, coming down the road from the north.

The spring term of 1913 was taught by Grace Abrams. Mildred has a picture of their school picnic showing the following pupils with their teacher:

1. Margaret Hartwig
2. Ralph Anselme
3. Herbert Anselme
4. Orville Hartwig
5. Earl Hartwig
6. Mildred Davis
7. Mildred Anselme (Mrs. Isaac) Berrey
8. Maggie Damman (Mrs. Frank) Grew

* The 1915-1916 school records show Anna Larson as the fall term teacher receiving a salary of \$46.75 with only 7 pupils in attendance. Ruth Ellis taught the winter term boarding with George Alexander. Hazel Gordon taught the spring term with only 5 pupils on her roster. She boarded with Carl Damman who was also the director. About 1919, a number of the schools were incorporated into the Minerva Consolidated School District which included Minerva Township schools numbers 4, 5, 6, 8 and 9.

The Damman School was closed for the fall term of 1920 but opened with 6 pupils for the winter term with Harriet Niece, boarding at the home of the director, Louis Hartwig. Florence Bence Wilson taught the spring term with 7 pupils.

From the fall of 1921 to the spring of 1923, Florence Dahlem, now Mrs. Ralph Pfantz, taught the Damman School. She relates how she had to go every 3 months to George Alexander, the president of the school board, to renew her contract for each new term. To get her monthly check she would first have to go to Chris Eggers, the Minerva District secretary, who wrote out the check. Chris lived on the northeast corner of Section 29 now owned by Donald Edler. She would then go to Louis Smith, the district treasurer, to get her check signed. Louis lived on the farm where his grandson Louis Smith and wife Janine now live in Section 33. Florence remembers her first paycheck -\$75- to her, an enormous sum in those days, received in its entirety - no tax deductions then.

According to Marshall County school records, Emma Cutler taught 1925-1930, her wages \$90 a month throughout this period. Emma had also taught at #8 in 1920-1921. In 1935, Margaret Riemenschneider was teaching 10 pupils for \$60 a month and Edgar Riese was the director. Edgar Riese lived on the southwest corner of Section 19 now owned by his wife Florence, whose son Darwin and wife, Hope Armbrrecht Riese, farm the home place. In 1940, Nellie Lyons was teaching for \$80 a month. A Mrs. Sharer also taught around 1943 to 1944. It was also about 1943 that #5 closed and the pupils moved to the Damman School. Ralph Pfantz, who belonged to #5 school district, was asked and consented to be director for the Damman School. The last teacher was Mrs. Ed Mead and the school was closed around 1945 being incorporated into the State Center Consolidated School District.

#5 THE FRENCH GROVE OR CENTER SCHOOL

The 1871 site of the French Grove School, later to be known as Center - obviously due to its central location among the 9 school districts in Minerva Township - is shown on the southeast corner of 43½ acres owned by George Wantz (born March 3, 1825 in France) in Section 16. George Wantz came to Marshall County to French Grove in 1854. He was married to Mary Ann (Anna Marie) Warner from Lowville, New York,

originally from Switzerland. Since our family history has varied spellings of her last name, I wonder if there may also have been a family connection to the Joanna Werner of Lowville, New York, who married George Alexander in the sketch of the #4 Damman School located 2 miles west.

George Wantz was my maternal great-great grandfather and the abstract shows ½ acre of the southeast corner of Section 16 deeded to the District Township of Minerva by George Wantz and wife December 3, 1863, and recorded January 4, 1864.

My paternal great grandparents, Louis and Sophia Busse Schaper, lived in the area of the present John Maddick home when they first came to Marshall County in 1865 after he was discharged from the Union Army.

St. John's Lutheran Church was organized April 17, 1865, by a circuit riding missionary by the name of Rev. F. Doescher and was also known as French Grove Lutheran Church. Church services were first held at this particular school since the church was not built until later.

Family records show my grandmother, Emma Schaper (Mrs. George) Davis born June 6, 1868, and baptized June 28, 1868, by a Pastor C. Wuensch at French Grove schoolhouse.

The 1885 map shows this land still belonging to George Wantz. The 1891 Marshall County school records show Nina V. Moore as the school teacher and Wm. Riemenschneider as director. William had married Mary Ann, one of George Wantz's four daughters, and they made their home with her parents. George died in 1910 and the land then belonged to another daughter, Josephine, who was married to Wm. Riemenschneider's brother, August. This land tract stayed in the Riemenschneider family until 1959 when it was purchased with other family property by Karl and Ivadell Freiberg, who presently live on the farm along E-29. The remodeled school still stands on the original site and is owned and occupied by the Dick Castell family.

Ralph Pfantz who was born December 4, 1898, remembers Emma Armbrrecht as his first teacher around 1904. Emma, a first cousin of Bill Armbrrecht (now deceased) of Clemons had previously taught at #4 as noted in the sketch for the Damman School. He also remembers a Lily Tucker and his last teacher, Ralph chuckled, saying, "And then it seems like I had Charlie Cowan for most of my life." And, indeed, many children did have Charlie Cowan for most or all of their elementary school lives. The 1915-1916 Marshall County records show Charles Cowan (brother to Dr. Cowan in State Center who practiced dentistry for many years) teaching for \$46.75 a month. He had 9 pupils for the fall and spring terms but 13 during the winter term. Sometimes, older children, usually boys, would go to school for the winter term only - dropping out during spring planting and fall harvesting - mainly corn picking.

It was not unheard of for a teacher to occasionally have young men in their early twenties as students. The director for the fall term was Carl Damman, who was also director at #4. For the next 2 terms, the director was H. F. Oehlsen, Jr., who owned Pleasant Home Farm where Rufus Conkin lives in Section 22 and also land in Section 21 where his grandson Dick Oehlsen, wife Betty and sons Eric and Marc now live. About 1919, a number of the schools were incorporated into the Minerva Consolidated School District which included Minerva Township schools numbers 4, 5, 6, 8 and 9.

Charles R. Cowan was still teaching at #5 in 1920 and 1921 and his salary had more than doubled since 1915. He now received \$100 per month and 10 pupils were in attendance. The school director for the early part of the year was H. L. Pfantz, Jr., who lived on the home farm known as the "French Grove Stock Farm," which involved the major portion of Section 21. A grandson, Ivan and wife, Janie, now own a portion of the original farm. They had 10 children and the 1907 Marshall County family sketch noted: "H. L. PFANTZ, a successful and prosperous agriculturist who has made his home in Marshall County since birth, is a son of Henry Pfantz, Sr., one of the pioneers of the county. Mr. Pfantz, Sr., followed the occupation of farming after he left his home in Germany up to the time of his death, March 10, 1906. The home farm, 'French Grove Stock Farm', is now occupied by H. L. Pfantz. On September 29, 1892, his marriage to Miss Emma Hilleman was celebrated. Miss Hillemann was also born in Marshall County, being the daughter of Frederick Hillemann. The eight children who came to bless the union of Mr. and Mrs. Pfantz are all living: Hilda, born August 24, 1893; Earl F. H., born June 7, 1895; Arther L., born December 6, 1896; Ralph, born December 4, 1898; Angeline W., born November 27, 1900; Harold H., born February 17, 1903; Raymond W., born February 22, 1905, and Margaret Christina, born 15, 1906. Mr. Pfantz has aided in the cause of education in all instances, having held the office of Director since 1902."

One of Mr. Pfantz's sons, Ralph, eventually married Florence Dahlem, who was a teacher noted in the sketch of the #4 Damman School.

Chris Schaper was school director for the latter part of the 1920-1921 school year and 13 children are on the roster. He owned 210 acres in Section 16 which juxtaposed part of the original George Wantz property. His daughter, Leona, married Arthur, another son of H. L. Pfantz, Jr..

The 1925 records do not have Center School listed. Both 1930 and 1935 show Ruth Koepke as teacher. Ruth was the daughter of Rev. H. C. Koepke who served St. John's Lutheran Church from 1924 until his death due to tuberculosis in the very early thirties. During the 1935-1936 term, Ruth received \$60 a month with 13 pupils in attendance and Ralph Pfantz was the director. Ralph was now living on the old home farm.

Bonnie Sheppler was the next teacher from 1935-

1937 and following her was Bessie Hilleman who taught from 1937 through 1942. When Bessie drove to school, she also brought some of the children from State Center who attended St. John's Parochial School and dropped them off at their attendance center before going on to her own. Bessie married Rufus Conkin and they live on the farm owned by his mother, Mary Eckhardt Conkin north of St. John's. All of the country school teachers were paid \$80 a month according to the 1940 records. The only schools reported were #4 Damman, #5 Center, #8 Eckhardt-Smith and #9 Wengert-Smith.

The last teacher at Center was Collette Wiffler for the school year 1942-1943 when it was closed due to a declining number of pupils and the children were moved to #4 Damman School.

6 THE BUSSE SCHOOL

The 1871 site of the Busse School is shown on the southeast corner of 160 acres in Section 14 owned by Ebenezer Wantz and the 1885 map shows no change in ownership. Ebenezer Wantz was my great, great, great uncle - a brother to George Wantz in the French Grove school sketch. The following information concerning this family and property was found in the 1907 Marshall County Atlas: "C. M. REHNBLOM. Among those who located within the borders of Marshall County in the last few years, and who belong to the younger generation of farmers, is C. M. Rehnblom, who resides on 'Pine Grove Farm', on Section 14, Minerva Township. Mr. Rehnblom first opened his eyes in Hamilton County, Iowa, May 15, 1880, his father being Oliver Rehnblom, also a native of Hamilton County. In 1902, on September 12, Mr. Rehnblom came to Marshall County and in 1905, October 26, at Springfield, Missouri, he took for his bride Miss Mable Wantz, and in the following year Mr. and Mrs. Rehnblom located on the old Ebenezer Wantz farm, now known as the 'Pine Grove Farm'. Mrs. Rehnblom was born in Marshall County, September 11, 1878, her father being Ebenezer Wantz. Mr. Wantz was born in Strassburg, France, May 5, 1832. His family numbers the following children: Rosa, Robert, Sherman, Maud and Mabel. The union of Miss Wantz with our subject has been blessed with one child, Marshall Wantz Rehnblom, born March 10, 1907."

The 1907 map shows an additional purchase of 40 acres adjacent to the original farm and the remaining 120 acres in the northwest corner of Section 14 belongs to August Armbrecht, father of Bill Armbrecht, now deceased, who lived in Clemons many years following retirement from farming. The following sketch is printed in the 1907 Atlas: "AUGUST ARMBRECHT. On August 26, 1855, August first opened his eyes in the little village of Wenzel, Providence of Braunschweig, Germany. His boyhood and early manhood were spent in the 'Fatherland', where in 1880, in Burgstemmen, Hanover, he was united in marriage to Miss Marie Schmull. On

January 9, 1883, the parental home was saddened by the loss of wife and mother, so young August decided to take his wife and aged parent away from the bereaved home in search of new scenes, and on June 15, 1883, August, with his wife and father, Ludwig Armbrecht, located in Marshall County. Here the subject, with the thrift and industry of the German race, applied himself to the occupation of farming, and is now one of the most prosperous farmers in the township. In May 1906, he visited the land of his birth, where the mother of his wife is still living. Mr Armbrecht entered into the spirit of the new country with zeal, as is shown by his election to the office of Township Trustee by the worthy people of Minerva Township, a position which he held for four years. To the home of Mr. and Mrs. Armbrecht have come eight children: Henry, now in Letcher, South Dakota; Louis, Frieda, William Irene, Estella, Hilda and Herbert, all of whom are still living with their parents."

All of the August Armbrecht children attended the Busse School. The 1924 map shows Ebenezer's property identical to the 1907 map except for an east and west line drawn through Section 14 placing the northern $\frac{3}{4}$ section into the Clemons Consolidated School District.

The 1981 Atlas shows the original Ebenezer Wantz southeast 160 acres of Section 14 belonging to Orville and Marian Elder and the northeast 160 acres belonging to Theobald Armbrecht and his wife, Ildra. "Tip" as he is known, is a grandson of August and son of Henry Armbrecht.

Across the road on the east side was 200 acres of farm land in Section 13 owned by Henry Busse, for whom the school was known. He came by covered wagon in 1868 from Illinois and was the grandfather of Elsie Eggers (Mrs. Bill) Armbrecht who now resides in Clemons.

Henry had 7 children who would have all attended the Busse School. They were: William, Julius, August, John, Henry, Louisa and Sophia. Sophia was about 2½ months old when the Busse's crossed the Mississippi on the ice. She married August Eggers and was the mother of Elsie Armbrecht. They made their home east of State Center.

The 1924 map shows the farm belonging to 3 of Henry's children - William, Julius and Louisa. The north half of the farm now lies in the Clemons Consolidated School District.

The 1981 map shows this land belonging to Clifford and Lucille Schaper, who have 4 children - Karla, Lynette, Michelle and "Ted". Clifford is the son of Fred and Garrah Schaper, the previous owners. Cliff is a great grandson of the Louis Schaper's mentioned in the following paragraph.

Just south of Henry Busse's farm in 1871 on the northwest acres of Section 24 was the home of his sister, Sophia Busse (Mrs. Louis) Schaper, my father's maternal grandparents. In 1981, the north half of this 160 acres belongs to Hilleman Farms, Inc., and a great granddaughter, Kathleen Bangtson (Mrs. Jim)



BUSSE SCHOOL #6 - 1902

L-R

Front: August Rittierodt, Earl Weuve, Ildra Hilleman, Hilda Armbrecht, Estella Armbrecht, Ildra Smith, Ildra Weuve, Laurretta Hilleman, Irene Armbrecht, Leona Hilleman, Ida Rittierodt
Back: Milt Hilleman, August Busse, Teacher-Florence Guelick

Montgomery and husband and family of David, Doug, Paula and Mike live on the farm. The south half is owned by another great grandchild, Ronald Papenberg and wife Donna and family of Frank, Karen, Daniel and Russell Knights.

Kitty cornered from the Schaper farm in 1871 on the southeast 160 acres of Section 24 was the home of Frederick Henry Hilleman II, my mother's paternal grandparents. Their son, Frederick III, married Emma Riemenschneider, granddaughter of George Wantz in the French Grove School sketch and this farm was where my mother was born. In 1981, this same 160 acres is owned by a great grandson of Frederick II - Kenneth Pfantz and wife Vera and family.

The 1891 Marshall County records show Jessie Brown as the teacher and Henry Busse was the director.

One of the early teachers around 1900 was Liz Wyatt. She was the first teacher of my aunts Lauretta Hilleman (Mrs. Oscar) Wehrman (born July 6, 1893) and Leona Hilleman (Mrs. Clyde) Ramsey (born August 8, 1894). Since the Busse School was nearly 2 miles from their home, my grandmother kept Lauretta home until Leona was also old enough to go to school and the 2 little girls could walk together. My mother and her other sister Ildra also went to the Busse School until they moved to a Haverhill farm in 1904.

Following Liz Wyatt was Florence Gulick who was teaching around 1902 and 1903. Florence graduated from State Center High School in 1900 in a class of 8 girls and 1 boy named Ed Moore. The January 18, 1982, edition of the Melbourne Record reprinted a photo of the graduation class referred to as "Eight Girls and One Moore".

Florence boarded with the Henry F. Smith family whose father, Henry L. Smith, owned the west half of Section 14. The north 160 acres was called "Highview and Table Ridge Farm" and is now owned by Bill (deceased) and Elsie Armbricht. The south 160 acres was called the "1864 Soldier's Farm" on which they resided and 80 acres of which is owned and lived on by Orville and Marian Edler. The land north of the 80 is divided into 2 parcels, the south 40 acres belonging to Lavonne Greiner and the north 40 acres to Joe and Irene Armbricht. Mr. Smith also owned 120 acres in Section 23 south across the road called "Prairie Valley Farm". Eighty acres of this tract now belongs to Arlind Edler.

The family sketch in the 1907 Atlas is printed as follows: "HENRY L. SMITH. As a representative of the heroic and brave hearted men who came to this country at an early day, who have witnessed its development, enduring toil and hardships without complaint and succeeding, and are enabled to pass the last of their lives in peace and quiet, enjoying the accumulations of a laborious and honorable past, is Henry L. Smith, who at present resides on Section 28, Minerva Township. He was born in Wenzel, Braunschweig, Germany, May 4, 1837, his father being Christian Smith. At an early day,

1856, he emigrated to America and on April 16, 1864, he located in Marshall County. He served his adopted country faithfully in the Civil War, being a member of the Thirty-sixth Volunteer Infantry of Illinois from 1861 to 1864, being discharged on account of a gunshot wound through fire at the battle of Chickamauga. After locating in this county he acted as township treasurer for twenty years. May 21, 1864, he was united in marriage to Miss Louise Bode, also of German nativity, being born in Olendorf, Hanover, Germany, July 7, 1841. Six children have come to their household: Louis, born February 9, 1865; Henry F., April 3, 1867; Mary, October 26, 1869; Minnie, November 28, 1871; Louise, born August 29, 1873 and died in 1874, and William, born October 19, 1877. On December 1, 1902, the home was saddened by the death of Henry F., who was killed by a railroad train at State Center, Iowa. The following is a song much prized by Mr. Smith and which he learned in camp at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, in the spring of 1863. It has been reported that the man who sang it later turned out to be a rebel spy:

The fortunes of war often change, boys,
And trifles will oft turn the scale,
And heavy the blows that we strike, boys,
We find that the truest may fall.
But when is the heart to despair, boys,
And who shall advise to turn back?
We just add a little more steam, boys,
To rush our good cause o'er the track.
CHORUS: O! we will not retreat any more, boys,
We will not retreat any more.

We number the match, the enemy we catch,
We will not retreat any more.
We battled thus long for the right, boys,
Regardless for ration or gold.
We have suffered from hunger and thirst, boys,
We have tramped through the heat and the cold
But let our brave leaders once call, boys,
We rush to the fray as before.
We are ready to fight and to die, boys,
But not to retreat any more. CHORUS

We often go home in our dreams, boys
And sit by the old kitchen fire,
And tell of the tales of our camps, boys,
For listeners never will tire,
But just at the moment of bliss, boys,
While thinking our hardships are o'er,
The order comes round to turn out, boys,
Fall in and tramp as before. CHORUS

Our comrades fill many graves, boys,
Our brothers are crippled and maimed,
And who of them as they fell, boys,
The country need not be ashamed.
We sigh for the blessings of peace, boys,
We live for the war bugle's blast,
We will conquer before we go home, boys,
We fight for our flag to the last. CHORUS"

Another song his granddaughter, Ildra Smith Oakes, remembers him singing to her was "Tenting Tonite". After her father was killed, he often stayed overnite to supervise the farming. Ildra also said that when he was shot at Chickamauga, the bullet went through one side of his nose which remained disfigured for life.

In the Korean War, Henry L. had a great grandson,

Ross Hartwig, who gave his life for his country. Ross was the son of Alvin and Lorraine Hartwig. Alvin's father, Henry Hartwig, was a son-in-law to Henry L. Smith, having married his daughter, Minnie. Henry Hartwig bought his father-in-law's "Walnut and Willow Grove Farm" in Section 28. This was the boyhood home of Ross.

Henry F. was married November 2, 1893, to Emma Buschbom (born October 19, 1868) and they lived with his parents in the now vacant house east of the Orville Edler residence until Henry L. built a new home on the "Walnut and Willow Grove Farm" in Section 28 now owned by Ervin and Doris McClure.

Henry F. and Emma were the parents of Ildra (Mrs. Sam) Oakes (born November 10, 1895), Oscar (born August 9, 1897), who married Gladys Tripp (first cousin to my father) and Harley (born October 29, 1898), whose wife Cordelia resides in State Center. Harley was county supervisor in the late 1950's, and all 3 children attended the Busse School. A brother, Herman, died in infancy.

Other Busse School teachers boarding with Emma Smith were Emma Armbrecht who had also taught at the #4 and 5 Minerva Schools, Blanche Evans and Carol Smith (no relation) whose homes were all in State Center.

Besides teachers, Emma Smith also boarded students who attended St. John's Parochial School until they moved in 1910.

The 1915-1916 Marshall County school records report Amanda Baker teaching all 3 terms with 11, 10 and 12 pupils enrolled respectively for each term. She received \$44 a month and boarded with the director, Ulysses Weuve, Jr., who lived east of Henry Busse on the 120 acre "Sunny Slope Stock Farm". About 1919, a number of the schools were incorporated into the Minerva Consolidated School District which included Minerva Township schools numbers 4, 5, 6, 8 and 9.

The 1920-1921 records first shows Henrietta Evans (Mrs. Arnold) Kaiser teaching 12 students at \$90 a month. In the 1907 Marshall County Atlas, her father-in-law owns 160 acres in Section 13 north of the Henry Busse farm known as the "Kaiser Homestead Farm". The family sketch states as follows: "W. C. KAISER, a resident of Minerva Township, and one of the most honored citizens, is an extensive farmer and stock raiser and lives on Section 13. He was born in Allamakee County, Iowa, October 2, 1863, and in 1869, when but a lad of six years came with his parents to Marshall County, where he has since resided. His father, George Kaiser, is a native of Germany, being born in Kiel, Holstein, November 13, 1835. September 27, 1893, saw the marriage of W. C. Kaiser and Ophie Smith celebrated. Mrs. Kaiser is a native of Alabama, where she was born in Franklin County. Her father, W. W. Smith, born in Atlanta, Georgia, died February 20, 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Kaiser have been blessed with five children, namely: Arnold W., born October 4, 1894; Iona E., born February 1, 1897; Thede D., born February 15, 1899; Wilbert J., born May

17, 1901, and Ophelia M., born June 22, 1904. Mr. Kaiser is an earnest worker for the schools of the county and the education of the young, being elected School Director of the township in March, 1906."

In later years, Henrietta worked in Helen and June Brackney's grocery store. Elsie Armbrecht remembers Arnold being their cream hauler when they lived on the farm where son Sherwood now lives. Arnold was also an employee at the creamery. Henrietta and Arnold Kaiser lived in Clemons where John and Juanita Reisinger Mason and sons Brian and Roger now reside.

Della Meier also taught the latter portion of the 1920-1921 school year boarding with Henry Schaper living on a portion of the land in Section 24 once belonging to his parents, Louis and Sophia Busse Schaper, calling it "Sunny Slope Farm". Louis C. Gerke was the director owning land in the southwest part of Section 23, a portion of which now belongs to Martin (deceased) Gerke and his sister, Laura. Elmer and Jane Lively Eggers and sons Brad and Eric operate the farm.

Ruth Moore (Mrs. M. True) Wolfe, daughter of Willett Moore from Clemons, taught about 1924-1925 followed by Irma Fricke in 1925-1926 for \$75 a month. The last teacher reported in the county records was Irene Smith in 1930-1931 who received \$85 a month. It was about this time that the Busse School was closed permanently.

The Busse School was purchased by Fred Fricke and moved to the southwest corner of Section 19 in Marietta Township. It was the remodeled home of Elmer and Dorothy Muschick Fricke and sons Carl, Steven and Charles, who lived in it for 22 years from April 1947 until February 1, 1969, when they moved to Marshalltown. It is now owned and occupied by Darwin Mast.

7 THE YINGST SCHOOL

The 1871 site of what would eventually be known as the Yingst School is shown on the northeast corner of 25 acres of land in Section 35 belonging to a D. Lemonier or Lemanier. The 1885 map shows 160 acres of the northeast corner belonging to Fred Hilleman II, who lived in the southeast corner of Section 24 mentioned in the Busse School sketch. His brother Henry, Sr., owned 400 acres in Section 26 on the north side of the road from the Yingst School but also lived on the original purchase of 160 acres in the southwest corner of Section 24 where Johnny Hilleman, a great grandson of Henry, Sr., now lives with his family.

The 1907 map of the school site property has not changed but east across the road, the school namesake is now entered - Wm. W. Yingst has ownership of 220 acres in Section 36 called the "Lindale Stock Farm". The following sketch is found in the 1907 Atlas: "WILLIAM

W. YINGST, a prominent and esteemed citizen of Minerva Township, and a general farmer and stock raiser, resides on his comfortable homestead, 'Lindale Farm', on Section 36. He came to Marshall County in the summer of 1880, where he located on the farm he now owns. The present condition of his property is an expressive witness of what energy, industry and good judgment may accomplish. Mr. Yingst is a production of the German race, whose representatives are scattered all over the United States, and have contributed so much to the progress and development of modern civilization. Mr. Yingst was born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, December 31, 1857, coming to Marshall County in 1880. Here on July 3, 1884, he married to Anna C. Hillemann. Miss Hillemann was born in Hagenbeck, Province of Braunschweig, Germany, March 28, 1863, coming to Marshall County with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Hillemann, in February of 1862. Mr. and Mrs. Yingst are the parents of the following six children: Bertha P., born January 14, 1887; Harvey A., deceased; Frederick W., born April 29, 1892; Leona C., born January 7, 1896; Wilbert, born February 20, 1885, and Elmer W., born September 25, 1897. Mr. Yingst has held the office of township trustee since 1893, with the exception of one year, and has been school treasurer since 1899."

(Bertha Yingst, my mother's, Ruby Hilleman Davis, first cousin, married Fred Weuve and his brother Albert married Aunt Mary Riemenschneider, my grandmother Emma Riemenschneider Hilleman Bohrisch's younger sister. Through marriage, one brother was my mother's cousin and the other brother her uncle.)

On the 1924 map the Yingst school district is now included in the State Center Consolidated School District and the land where the school site stood in Section 35 belongs to Anna Hilleman Yingst, William's wife, and is called "Linn Grove Farm". The 1981 map shows this property belonging to J. G. Gutekunst.

The 200 acres east across the road in Section 36 in 1924 is still owned by William Yingst but the spelling of the farm is shown as "Linn Dale Stock Farm". This land now belongs to Karl Bangtson, who married Esther Edler, granddaughter of Louis and Sophia Busse Schaper noted in the Busse School sketch. (In 1924 her parents Mathilda nee Schaper and Otto Edler owned a portion of Sophia's farm in Section 24 with Henry Schaper also owning a portion. "Tillie" and Henry were both children of Louis and Sophia Busse Schaper.)

In 1891 school records, the teacher was Ida McNary and the school director was William S. Thompson who owned 160 acres in the southwest corner of Section 36.

In the 1915-1916 school records, Ruth Van Pelt began the year with 14 pupils and finished with 11, receiving \$45 a month. Louis Hilleman was the director, now living on the home place of his father Henry, Sr., in the southwest 160 acres of Section 24. Louis and Marie

Leininger Hilleman had 4 children: Louis, Lois, LeRoy and Arnold and it is Arnold's son, Johnny, who now operates the home place.

Henry, Sr., had 12 children and another son William and wife Magdalena Leininger Hilleman lived in Section 26 where Monna and Earl Weuve, Jr., now live. They were the parents of Helen, Lucille, Francis, Ruth and Ildra.

Helen Hilleman (Mrs. Ronald) Morrison has written an excellent descriptive article about the Yingst school as follows: Minerva #7 (our school) was comprised of four sections of land, as most country schools in Iowa were. The school house was at the cross roads in the center. All the children living in those four sections attended this school. There could be pupils in all grades. Usually it did not work out that way and two or three about the same age were in the same class. It seems there were about twelve to fourteen attending our school, all under the tutelage of one teacher. I was the only one starting to school that year, so the only one in my class.

My parents were concerned over my having to go so far and alone, that first year. (Later I would have cousins attending the same school and walking with me for the last mile.) So along about October my Dad and Mother asked the teacher, then Ruth Van Pelt, to stay at our house. They would give her free board and room, plus provide a horse and buggy for her to drive to school, if she would take me back and forth with her. This she did until snow came. That winter was very severe and it seemed wise for her to board and room a quarter mile from the school. My parents kept me home until spring.

One room schools were all similar in those days. They were rectangular in shape, a white clapboard building with windows on the two longer sides and a door in the middle of one of the shorter sides. Inside the school house, a black board and a teacher's desk stood at the other end of the room facing the door.

The desks in our school were long and made for double occupancy. They were lined up by rows across the middle of the room. At the back of the room at one side of the door, stood a cast-iron heating stove with a black tin jacket circling the stove. I suppose this was to prevent accidental burns as it stood eight or ten inches from the stove. Perhaps it helped heat the room more evenly as it stood about 15 inches off the floor and was a little taller than the stove proper - thus causing the heat to circulate.

There were horizontal boards containing hooks on each side of the door in the back of the room and a bench on which to set our dinner buckets. At the side (rear) was also a shelf on which set a water bucket and a wash basin. There was a dipper in the bucket. We ALL drank from that one dipper and poured left-over water into the basin to wash our hands. Also there was one common towel. Our water was carried in a bucket from a

nearby farm each morning. This was a chore for one of the older pupils. One bucket seemed sufficient for one day, which seems hard to fathom now. I recall a cupboard in which books and supplies were kept, but there was no library as such. Behind the school were two privies, one marked "girls" and the other "boys". There was one more building on the grounds, a wood and coal shed - - - our fuel for the year.

The teachers of country schools at that time were usually young girls who had taken a "normal training" course in high school. Besides teaching, they took care of the school building, sweeping, building fires, etc. I have no idea what salary the teachers received, but it was very low. The taught all subjects for all the grades represented, as well as music and art work. One wonders how one teacher could do all this. Recitation periods had to be short. I recall the teacher sitting at her desk, and my going up to her desk and sitting on a chair near her, to read or recite. The rest of the pupils could either work on their lessons, or listen. One thing we had to do and that was to "be quiet!" I used to enjoy listening to the recitation of others, especially the older pupils - - - and probably learned much in this way. We progressed in our books at our own speed. Later, at age 9, when we moved to a farm nearer State Center, I was actually one or two grades ahead in many courses. My small stature and age kept me back, which was good. (At that, the pupils in my class were a year or more older than I, as they had all attended a kindergarten class.)

I recall a few country-school programs. One Christmas we had a playlet that required a black sateen curtain strung on a wire across the front of the room about six feet off the floor. And once I was in a recitation of "Three little kittens, They lost their mittens". Often we had Friday afternoon spelling bees. My mother used to laugh about the time I came home from school, very disgusted with myself, saying, "I just couldn't get enough!" Finally she understood my plight. I missed the word "enough" in the "spell-down".

"Spell-down" involved all ages in the school, the very young as well as the older pupils. The teacher would appoint two captains and they would choose the rest of the pupils, taking turns and of course picking carefully so their side would win. It was fun and educational."

Lois Hilleman, a first cousin to the author of the above article, recalls having Ruth Figgins for her first grade teacher in 1916-1917. About 1919 when the Minerva Consolidated School District was formed, Lois' father, Louis, opposed country consolidation and the Yingst school was incorporated into the State Center Consolidated District. The school was closed in 1920.

About 1924 Louis bought the Yingst school and moved it into State Center on the lot now owned by Louise Schaper at 407 4th Avenue, N.E. It burned to the ground in early 1982.

8 THE ECKHARDT OR SMITH SCHOOL

This school is not indicated on the 1871 map but the site-to-be is located on a 320 acre tract of land owned by R.H. Johnson in the west half of Section 34. A small 38 acre tract contiguous to the Johnson property in Section 34 belongs to August Eckhardt plus 160 acres in Section 27.

The 1885 map now indicates the school in the northwest corner of Section 34 and 99 acres of the former Johnson land with the school site now belonging to August Eckhardt plus 40 acres adjacent to the above mentioned 38 acres making a total of 177 acres stretching across the north end of Section 34 in addition to the 160 acres in Section 27.

The 1907 map calls the 177 acre end of Section 34 the "Eckhardt Homestead Farm" and the 160 acres in Section 27 belongs to Louis Eckhardt, August's son. The following sketch is printed in the 1907 Marshall County Atlas: "L. ECKHARDT, a prosperous farmer residing on Section 27, Minerva Township, born in Marshall County, Iowa, July 5, 1865, is the son of August Eckhardt. The elder Mr. Eckhardt was born in Hanover, Germany, in 1819, and came with his family to Marshall County in 1856. Here the subject of this sketch first saw light of day. He ably assisted his father in cultivating the farm and they have made it one of the most productive in the township. L. Eckhardt's marriage to Miss Minnie Fricke was celebrated October 20, 1887. Miss Fricke is the daughter of Christian Fricke, another of Germany's representatives in Minerva Township, who came to Marshall County in 1865. To this union were born ten children, namely: August, born October 27, 1888; Cora, October 6, 1889; Willie, May 6, 1891; Albert, February 24, 1893; Lydia, August 3, 1894; Mary, January 7, 1896; Clara, February 24, 1898; Elnora, December 29, 1899; Emma, January 14, 1904; and Roy, December 16, 1905. Mr. Eckhardt was elected to the office of trustee November 6, 1906, and is still filling the position in a manner satisfactory to all."

The 1924 map shows the entire Eckhardt holdings belonging to E. E. Cooper. The 1981 Atlas shows the 160 acres in Section 27 belonging to Mary Eckhardt Conkin and the east 78 acres of the former "Eckhardt Homestead Farm" belongs to Elnora Eckhardt, both daughters of Louis. The remaining 100 acres of the farm to the west belongs to Ross Weuve, a great grandson of August Eckhardt. Louis had a daughter Louise, born after the printing of the 1907 Atlas. She married George Weuve, son of my mother's Aunt Mary Riemanschneider Weuve and husband Albert noted in the # 7 Yingst School sketch. Louise died when Ross was born and her other son, Galen, died of cancer in early 1952 at Camp Carson, Colorado, after being drafted into the Korean War. Ross and wife Naomi and family live 3 miles west of his Eckhardt land on his home farm adjacent to the Marshall County line.

There is no road between Sections 33 and 34 - since a road runs through Section 34 which separated the "Eckhardt Homestead Farm" into east and west portions. The east half of Section 33 lying adjacent to the school site in Section 34 is owned by an R.L.T. Borland in 1871. He also owned land in Section 17 where the Damman School was located in # 4 sketch as well as in Sections 7, 18, 29, 32 and 35, a total of 1,400 acres.

The 1885 map now shows the school's other namesake, Henry L. Smith (also noted in the Busse School sketch) owning the north 160 acres of the former Borland property.

The 1907 map shows the south and west 80 acres of the former Borland property added to Mr. Smith's holdings and this property is called the "White Birch and Mixed Grove Farm". North across the road the 1907 map shows 160 acres running the entire length north and south through Section 28. This is where Mr. Smith and his family lived after building a new home on this property and he called it the "Walnut and Willow Grove Farm".

The 1924 map shows the entire east half of Section 33 plus an adjacent 220 acres in Section 34 to the east belonging to Louis Smith, eldest son of Henry L. It also shows the State Center Consolidated School District zig zagging through the lower portion of the Smith farm and through the former "Eckhardt Homestead Farm" but the # 8 school was incorporated into the Minerva Consolidated School District about 1919.

The 1981 map shows all but 40 acres of the east half of Section 33 belonging to the Albert and Rose Smith estate. Louis and Janine Smith now live on this farm and have 2 children, Greg and Jennifer. Louie and Greg are both active in operation of the farm and are fourth and fifth generation descendants of the former owner, Mr. Henry L. Smith.

The earliest teacher reported is Rubie Fitch in 1891 and the school director was Fred Bader. There is no Fred Bader shown on the maps but the 1907 family sketch notes that he is the son of Daniel Bader who owns the "Highview Farm" in Section 27. The Bader family sketch is written as follows: "GEORGE W. BADER. The subject



ECKHARDT-SMITH SCHOOL - 1900
Minerva Township#8

L-R

Front: Albert Smith, Lawrence Nolte, Gerald Nolte, Herman Probst, Elmer Goodman, Edna Smith Humbert, Freddie Probst
2nd: Leona Nolte Hamm, Elvira Smith Pfantz, Cora Eckhardt Weuve, Lydia Eckhardt Eldridge, Mary Goodman, Amanda Smith Hilleman, Clarence Nolte (partially hidden), Leona Bader Braddy, Harold Nolte, Mary Eckhardt Conkin, Julie Goodman Pille

Back

Ebna Probst Koppey, Bertha Probst Ficken, Harry Nolte (partially hidden), Willie Eckhardt, behind Willie - Teacher Minnie Keunecke, Albert "Bud" Eckhardt, behind "Bud" - Albert Nolte (partially hidden), Clement Goodman (partially hidden), behind Clement - Albert Nolte (partially hidden), Henry Probst, behind Henry - Bill Probst (partially hidden)

of this notice is pursuing the honorable and peaceful occupation of a farmer and stock raiser at "Highview Farm", on Section 27, Minerva Township. He was born in LaSalle County, Illinois, July 17, 1864, and is a descendant of a hardy German family. His father, Daniel Bader, was born in Wuerttemberg, Germany, February 1, 1833, and in 1850 he emigrated to Illinois, where he was married. In 1866, he brought his family to Marshall County and settled on the farm on which he still resides. Here George, our subject, together with one sister and two brothers, Mary, Fred and William, passed his boyhood days and on October 5, 1887, he was united in marriage to Mary Niedert, also a native of Illinois, at the German Lutheran Church, of which they are members. This union was blessed with two children, Laura being born July 8, 1888, and Leona, February 22, 1894."

In 1981, the "Highview Farm" is shown as belonging to George Bader's daughter, Mrs. Laura Bader Norell and son Carl with wife, Elizabeth.

A copy of a teaching contract for # 8 with Nina Moore has also been found as follows:

"Dec. 10, 1892

I have contracted to teach Dist. No. 8 of Minerva tp. for 12 weeks. Term opening Dec. 5, 1892, ending Feb. 24, 1892.

Director's name E. W. Buck. My pay is \$40 per month.

No. enrolled 16. No. recitations each day 24. No. taught Phys. from book 5. No. taught Physiology orally 6. No. who study lessons at home 4. No. who habitually read books and newspapers at home 4. Do you use a Classification Register? Yes Sir. Was it used last term? Yes Sir. Were all the term properly entered? Yes Sir. If not which omitted none.

What method do you use in teaching beginners to read? Combined.

Nina V. Moore, Teacher
State Center, Iowa"

Nina had been teaching at # 5, The French Grove School, in 1891.

In 1915-1916 Martha Nowlan taught the fall term with 12 children in attendance for \$40.50 a month, and Carl Damman of Sketch # 4 was director. Emma Armbrrecht, who had taught many years earlier at #4, #5 and #6 schools, now taught the winter and spring terms with 16 and 10 pupils respectively for \$48.45. Henry Hartwig (married to Henry L. Smith's daughter Minnie) was the director and now owned his father-in-law's "Walnut and Willow Grove Farm" in Section 28 which belongs to Ervin and Doris McClure on the 1981 map.

In 1920-1921, Mrs. Emma Cutler had ten pupils enrolled and August Eggers was the director. August had married Anna Riemenschneider whose father, Herman, owned the farm on which they lived. Phyllis Schuler now owns this farm located in the northwest corner of Section 33.

In 1925, Hilda Riemenschneider taught. She was a sister to Margaret who taught at the Damman School in 1935.

Elizabeth Cutler taught the 1930-1931 terms at \$75 a month. Then two more sisters of Ruth Koepke in our # 5 sketch taught #8 School. Paula taught first and helped put her sister Flora through college and then Flora taught at # 8. During 1935 and 1936. Nelle Corbett (Mrs. Harley) Riemenschneider taught 6 pupils for \$55 a month and Harold Nolte was the director, who lived on the farm where the Phil Affeldt home is now located in Section 28. Harold was married to Cordelia Hartwig, daughter of Henry and Minnie Smith Hartwig. His father, Aaron Nolte, had ownership of the farm. Nelle was still teaching through 1940-1941 for \$80 a month. Following Nelle Corbett, Mary Sheppler taught until the school was closed about 1945 and the children went to State Center.

9 THE WENGERT OR SMITH SCHOOL

No school is indicated on the 1871 map but the eventual site was on 360 acres of land in Section 29 owned by R. L. T. Borland, mentioned in the #5 and #8 Schools. In 1885, the school is shown on the southwest corner of Section 29 and Geo. S. Dobbins owns 280 acres of the former Borland property. In 1907, the southwest 160 acre corner of Section 29 belongs to Jacob S. Hurst and in 1924 the same acreage belongs to Fred Nolte. In 1981, this land is shown as the W. A. Miles estate with the house and farm buildings on 5 acres belonging to Rev. Marvin Flansch, pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church north of State Center. In 1871, the land for one of the school's namesakes, the Wengerts, in Section 31 southwest of the school was divided into several parcels including the W. H. Henderson Estate, land owned by J. B. Abell, the Iowa R.R. Land Co. and the largest portion of 360 acres belonging to W. H. Hager.

In 1885, a northeast 200 acre portion of Section 31 belongs to Michael Malloy. The 1907 and 1924 maps show 240 acres belonging to G. J. Wengert and is called "Cedar Lawn Stock Farms", and cedars are still standing on the farm today. Another 40 acres in the northwest corner of Section 32 south of the school, plus another 80 further south on the same side of the section, also belonged to G. J. Wengert. The family sketch however calls the farm the "Rosedale Stock Farm" and is printed as follows: "G. J. WENGERT. The subject of this sketch is one of Marshall County's esteemed citizens, farmers and stock raisers. He is a native of LaSalle County, Illinois, having been born there April 4, 1856, to Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Wengert. The parents both came from Germany, Mr. Wengert being born in Wuerttemberg. G. J. Wengert owns and operates the beautiful homestead "Rosedale Stock Farm", where he extensively raises thoroughbred stock. He first crossed the borders of Marshall County in 1869, coming with his parents from Illinois when but a

lad of 13 years. Here he grew to manhood and on May 21 in the little village of French Grove, Marshall County, was united in marriage to Miss Dorothea M. Gerbelmann. Miss Gerbelmann is a daughter of this county, having been born here February 6, 1864, her parents being Mr. and Mrs. August Gerblemann, Sr. Mr. Gerbelmann was a pioneer settler of the county, coming here as early as 1853. To Mr. and Mrs. Wengert have been born nine children, namely: Eugene F., born March 20, 1885; Esther M., born September 11, 1890; Clarence F., born March 15, 1887; Ruby P., born October 12, 1893; Orville G., born December 30, 1895; Velma M., born December 21, 1897; Leon H., born December 31, 1899; Rowland W., born July 3, 1902, and Elmyra D., born July 29, 1904."

The 1981 map shows the entire north one-half of Section 31 belonging to the Wengert family. A northeast 200 acre portion is owned by George's son, Roland (deceased) and wife Lillian. "Rollie" and Lillian Bernard Wengert were the parents of 4 sons: Roland Jr., Carroll, George and Dean.

Jr. and his mother live in the family home and he owns the remainder of the north one-half section. In the 1981 Marshall County Atlas sketch, Jr. is a member of St. John's Lutheran Church, was in the Army in W.W.II, belongs to American Legion, Farm Bureau and Pork Producers Association. The farm has been in the family since 1902 and is involved in general farming, grain and livestock production.

Jr.'s younger brother, George, also lives in a house moved on to the home place south of a row of cedars as one drives into the lane. He and his wife Marilyn nee Kuhlman (7/3/33 - 6/11/81) have five daughters: Janice, June, Jennifer, Jane, Jodie and a son, Thomas, the last 3 still at home. The fine family tradition of raising thoroughbred stock continues through Tom, a great grandson of George J. Daughter Jane is a veterinarian's assistant and is also very knowledgeable concerning the farm operation.

For the other school namesake, we return again to our old friend, Mr. H.L. Smith of the #6 and #8 school sketches. In 1871, the south half of Section 30 - west of the school - belonged to J. Randall and B. W. Field. In 1885, this same land belongs to Samuel Russell, John Fines and A. C. Babcock. In 1907, it belongs to Mr. Henry L. Smith, the west 160 acre portion called the "West and Marshall County Line Farm" and the east 160 acres called "Wild Duck and Pond Farm". He also owned 200 acres in the north part of Section 31 which presently belongs in the Wengert family. Just for fun, this writer has totalled Mr. Smith's holdings on the 1907 map and it amounted to 1,360 acres.

After the death of Henry L.'s son, Henry F., in December 1902, his daughter-in-law Emma and 3 children remained living in the now vacant house located east of Orville Edler's residence in Section 14 on the "1864 Soldier's Farm".

In the spring of 1910, Emma and children - Ildra 15, Oscar 12, and Harley 11 - moved to the "Wild Duck and Pond Farm" in Section 30. Ildra (Mrs. Sam) Oakes, now of Zearing, remembers going to the #9 school in the fall of 1910 and Maggie Alexander from our #4 Damman sketch taught all 3 terms of the 1910-1911 school years.

Ildra also tells how she started to high school the fall of 1911 driving a horse and buggy to State Center and leaving her horse at a Lynn livery barn located east of the high school (the present middle school). She also remembers boarding with a widow lady, a Mrs. Elmore, during the winter months. Ildra graduated from State Center in 1915.

Ildra's brother Oscar married Gladys Tripp about 1919. Her mother was Alice Davis (Mrs. Oscar) Tripp, sister to my grandfather, George Davis, who lived in Section 20. Oscar and Gladys made their home on the 160 acre "West and Marshall County Line Farm". They had no children. In 1925, Harley married Cordelia Voight, whose sister Lorna had married George J. Wengert's son, Orville (deceased), and Lorna owns the 40 and 80 acre portions of the former G. J. Wengert land in Section 32. Harley and Cardelia made their home on the "Wild Duck and Pond Farm". His mother, Emma and her sister "Aunt" Lena Buschbom, also made their home with Harley and Cordelia. They were the parents of 3 daughters: Dolores, Joan and Marion.

The 1924 map shows 280 acres of the south half of Section 30 as the Henry F. Smith estate except for approximately 40 plus acres in the southwest corner belonging to Mary Boehm. Mary (born October 26, 1869), daughter of Henry L. Smith, had married Rev. A. J. Boehm, pastor of St. John's - more commonly known as the German Lutheran Church. He was installed as pastor November 6, 1892 and remained until the close of 1911 when he accepted a call to the Lutheran congregation at Ogden, Iowa.

The 1981 map shows the former "Wild Duck and Pond Farm" owned by Vernon and Valborg McKinney and the "West and Marshall County Line Farm" is owned by Bill New.

The 1891 Marshall County school records indicate Myra Buck as the teacher and the director was C. C. Pfantz. The 1885 map shows Henry Pfantz owning the north half of Section 30 (Mr. H. L. Smith will be the future owner of the south half) and also owning another half section north across the road in Section 19-another large land owner of Minerva Township. No doubt C. C. Pfantz was a relative of Henry. We know Maggie Alexander taught the 1910-1911 school year and the 1915-1916 terms were taught by Gladys Meads with 9, 10 and 10 pupils respectively each term at \$40 a month. George J. Wengert was school director. About 1919, a number of the schools were incorporated into the Minerva Consolidated School District which included Minerva Township schools numbers 4, 5, 6, 8 and 9. The 1920-1921 school term was taught by Mary A. Latch with 15 pupils at \$75.15 a month and Chris Eggers was the director. Chris

lived on the northeast 160 acres of Section 32 on the August Nolte farm. He was married to August's daughter Mabel and that farm is now owned by Donald Edler.

In 1925 through 1931, Charlie Cowan again enters the picture, moving from #5 Center and his salary was apparently stabilized at \$90 a month throughout this period. An Edna Mahoney also taught in the intervening years and 1935-1936 records show Hope Biensen teaching 12 students. She quite possibly did not have the experience of a Charlie Cowan since her salary was only \$55 and the director was Harley Smith.

In 1940, Edith Frimml (Mrs. George) Alexander was teaching for \$80 a month.

As near as can be determined, one of the last teachers was Mildred Mahoney who was teaching in 1941-1942 and the school was closed a year or two thereafter.

OTHER TOWNSHIP AREA SCHOOLS THE LIBERTY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Other townships that contributed students to the Clemons Consolidated School District throughout the years were Liberty, Bangor and Marietta.

The largest school was the Liberty Consolidated School District, which was composed of 4 rural districts, #1, #2, #5 and #6. The 1871 site of the school-to-be was located in section 10 of Liberty Township. A north and south road divides the section in halves and a Hughie Dunn, Sr., owns 120 acres of the southwest quarter of Section 10 and a T. Dunn owns the remaining northeast 40 acres of this quarter plus 80 acres on the east side of the road in Section 10. In 1875, Hughie Dunn, Sr., donated one acre of land for the Dunn Settlement Church, known as St. John's, located in the northeast corner of his property along the road adjoining the Thomas Dunn property. The church was built by George Haues. The rock for the foundation was hauled from the Zenia Quarry in Hardin Co., later known as the Secer Quarry. The building material was hauled by the parishioners from the nearest railroad, located at State Center. The Dunn Settlement Church was used as a place of worship for the Catholic families in the area until about 1912. It was sold in 1926 and moved to the southeast corner of Mr. Dunn's property and served as the gymnasium for the Liberty Consolidated School District. This old 1878 landmark was destroyed by high winds in 1974.

In 1885, Charles Brennecke owns 119 acres of this same quarter section with the Catholic Church shown adjacent to Thomas Dunn's land to the north.

In 1907, Catherine Dunn owns the 40 acres where the church property is located and Thomas Dunn is still owner of the north 40 acres.



**LIBERTY SCHOOL
1914-1953**

The 1924 map indicates Cynthia A. Bryant owning this particular 40 acres with the church still in the northeast corner and the school in the southeast corner. The 1981 atlas shows Leo and Kathryn Dunn the present owners of both this 40 acres and the original Thomas Dunn property.

The Liberty School was built in 1914 and the Jim Howard family, a Mr. and Mrs. Ben Parsons and the C. W. Dunn family were very instrumental in the organization of this school. Only the C. W. Dunn family sketch was noted in the 1907 Marshall County Atlas which is as follows: "C.W.DUNN. One of the representative farmers who was born and raised in Marshall County is C. W. Dunn, the owner of 'Sunny Side Stock Farm'. Born in 1871, a son of Patrick Dunn, Mr. Dunn married Miss Catherine E. Dunn, who is a daughter of Henry E. Dunn, in 1898. They are the parents of four children: Benedict, Reba M., Mary K., and Annie W." A fifth child, Regina, was born after the printing of the 1907 atlas who was always known as "Babe". Benedict (deceased) is the father of Beverly (Mrs. Richard) Dunn Nelson of Clemons.

There were no other buildings on this property prior to the 54'x56' school structure built at a cost of \$12,000. It contained 4 classrooms, an assembly hall, a library and a classroom for science and agriculture.

After being sold in 1926, the former Dunn Settlement Church was moved northwest of the school building and remodeled to serve as a gymnasium.

The first Liberty Consolidated school board consisted of: President, J. R. Howard; Secretary, Mrs. Anna P. Howard; Treasurer, Miss Maria Dunn; Board Members, R. R. Ridgeway, C. D. Dunn, B. R. Parsons and Wm. Henry Dunn.

Marilyn (Mrs. Wilbur) Hall provided the following interesting information from her mother-in-law, Cecile (Mrs. Clinton) Andrews Hall, who was raised in this area concerning the Liberty School: "C. W. Dunn



LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL
1924-1925

L-R

Front: Supt.-Coach Beswick, Dan Dunn, Homer Reece, Ambrose Blayney, Clarence Hiatt

Back: Don Bartine, Charles Bartine, Wilbur Sickman, John Jordan, Klee Benbow



Liberty School won the County Girls' Basketball Championship on Jan. 1941. This was the first county title taken by the school.

L-R
Front: Thelma Norman, Martha Hendrick

2nd: Coach John W. Simpson, Pat Smith, Frances Hinshaw, Maxine Sparks, Rosemary Hall,
Sponsor: Margaret Campbell, Student Manager: Audrey Smith

3rd: Maurine Carl, Evelyn Blessing, Irma Norman, Donna Tucker

and Mrs. Ben Parsons had very much to do with the beginning of the Liberty Consolidated School. The first superintendent was a Dr. Bartrug. In the intermediate room (4,5,6) was Dollie Dunn, where she taught many years, except the second year of the school when she returned to Cedar Falls to upgrade her certificate. The second superintendent was a Mr. Clark. An outside basketball court was set up, and baseball was played between Clemons and/or St. Anthony schools. Spelling matches were held between the schools. Each of the first years at Liberty, a grade was added to the high school to accommodate upcoming classes. The first year of the school, the freshman class was larger than expected. Several young people who had finished 8th grade in district schools two and three years earlier were anxious to continue their education. Most were older and stayed only the first year. Some were: Cecile Andrews, Ida Dunn Drew, Gilbert Turner and Clay Smith. World War I involvement had begun by the third year. Many transferred to other schools or moved. Do not know when 12th grade was finally added."

Over the years, 137 students graduated from the Liberty Consolidated School District and probably 500 students attended at various times. According to the July 4, 1976, Clemons Bugle, the Liberty High School came to Clemons in 1947 and Grades 1 thru 8 came in 1953. On June 15, 1956, the school was sold at public auction and purchased by Leo Dunn.

The #1 school which was one of the 4 country schools comprising the Liberty School District was located on the southeast corner of Section 2 and is now owned by Robert Martin and Shirly Scott according to the 1981 Marshall County Atlas. The #2 school was located on the northeast corner of property now owned

by Lena Yocums in Section 9. The #5 school was located on the northwest corner of property now owned by Leo and Kathryn Dunn in Section 22. The #6 school was located on the southeast corner of Section 14. This property belonged to an Abner Raley through the 1871 to 1907 maps, to a T. A. Raley on the 1924 map and is now owned and lived on by Roger and Ina Mae Sparks and daughters Kathy and Rosa Lea.

One student that attended the #6 school many years ago was Candace Smith (Mrs. Cady) Everist, mother of Louise Everist (Mrs. Horace) Howard of Clemons. Candace's grandfather, Hayden Smith, Sr., built a brick house south of the present Marvin Willard home. Hayden, Sr.'s son, Henry Frank, married Hattie M. Perry and they owned land in Section 23 now owned by Laurence "Bud" Dunn and wife, Evelyn. Henry and Hattie were the parents of Bess, born October 10, 1884, Hayden, Jr., and twins Candace and Cady, born on Bess's birthday 3 years later on October 10, 1887 - 4 babies in 3 years. Other children were Byran "Bob", born July 25, 1890, who married Matie Van Metre, sister of Earl Van Metre, long time resident of Clemons and a twin, Ira, who died one month after birth. Another child, Kathryn, married Ray Van Metre, brother of Matie and Earl; Emma, who married Jess McLane and also lived in Clemons many years and Clay who was born in 1900. Harry Freeman, born March 29, 1898, died as a toddler when he choked to death on a button.

After Bess went to school at #6, she went to Normal College at Cedar Falls and taught in area schools. Liberty #7 Garber School being among them. Candace also went to Cedar Falls and studied music. Kathryn attended #6 school until 1907 and went to the Albion Seminary which had become the property of the



LIBERTY SCHOOL NO. 5
Center School

Methodist Episcopalians of the Upper Iowa Conference in 1872 and had become the leading denominational or independent educational institution in Marshall County according to the 1878 History of Marshall County. Emma also attended the Albion Seminary. A portion of the Seminary building was rented to students as lodging rooms in 1878. Kathryn Smith Van Metre graduated from the Albion Seminary in 1911 and she and Emma both boarded with families in the town of Albion as did many other students. The seminary building was no longer used for students lodging when they attended the Albion School.

The last teacher at the #6 school was Sicily Jones from 1913-1914. She boarded with the Robert R. Ridgeway family and does not remember having Clay, the youngest member of the Smith family, as a student. However, upon the Liberty Consolidation of #1, #2, #5 and #6 in 1914, Clay was among the pupils who returned to further his education in the new Liberty High School.

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP #7 THE GARBER SCHOOL

The 1871 site of the #7 Garber School is located in the southeast corner of 80 acres of property owned by Sam Mooney in Section 26. An east and west road cuts Section 26 into south $\frac{1}{4}$ and north $\frac{3}{4}$ portions. The school was probably built around 1870, as the land was deeded to Liberty Township at this time.

The 1885 map shows Joseph King owning the 80 acres of the school site and the school namesakes owning land in Section 25 adjoining the King 80 acres. An M. M. Garber owns a south 40 acres and J. Garber owns the north 40.

On the 1907 map, the school site property consists of 120 acres belonging to Wm. E. Ross and a C. A. Pierce owns the Garber property.

The 1924 map shows the 120 acres still belonging to Wm. E. Ross and the former Garber property owned by Hart C. and John F. Ross.

The 1981 atlas indicates Edwin and Allen Bartine owners of the 120 acres and the former Garber property belongs to the Hart C. Ross estate.

One of the early teachers was Grace Harris whose father, Eleazer, owned land in Section 1 in Liberty



GARBER SCHOOL IN 1893
Liberty Township No. 7

L-R

Guy Clemons, Lucy Van Metre, Addie Herriott, Ruth McCormack, Chloe Herriott, Dora Herriott, Elmer Herriott, Homer McCormack
Roxy Mooney on pony, Teacher on pony-Hattie Farber



1907 GARBER SCHOOL SOUVENIR

Township. She married Charles B. Howard and they are the parents of Horace Howard of Clemons who married Louise Everist, daughter of Cady and Candace Smith Everist. From December 1901 until June 13, 1902, Roxy Mooney, (daughter of Sam Mooney, noted in Liberty sketch #8) taught. She became the wife of Cyrus Bartine. In 1902 the teacher was Mary B. Gaunt and in 1903 Roxy Mooney returned to the Garber School for one term followed by Bertha Test and Nellie M. Smith for the other 2 terms. The 1904 terms were taught by Elsie Douglas and Bessie Smith, daughter of Henry and Hattie Perry Smith in the Liberty #6 sketch. Bess eventually married Bill Von Spreckelsen and both were long time residents of Clemons. Bess died December 31, 1981 at the age of 97 years. In 1905 Roy C. Helfinstein and Emma S. Stout were the teachers.

Albert Tone taught in 1906, and J. W. Gaunt was the school director. The 1907 map of Bangor Township shows property owned by Emma G. Gaunt in Section 25 and the 1907 J. W. Gaunt family sketch is printed as follows: "J. W. GAUNT, a successful and well-to-do farmer of Liberty Township, is pleasantly located on his fine farm called 'Willow Grove Stock Farm'. He is a son of John M. Gaunt and was born in 1857. In 1880, in Marshall County, Mr. Gaunt was united in marriage to Miss Emma

G. Garber, who was born in Indiana in 1862, a daughter of Jonathan Garber, a native of Pennsylvania, being born there in 1827. To Mr. and Mrs. Gaunt have come seven children: George G., Mary B., John R., Earl M., Ethel K., Frank W. and Margaret L." A couple students in attendance at this time were John Ross and Roy Van Metre. The Davis, Brace and Gaunt families also had children on the school roster.

Lily Tow and Lillian Redelman taught the 1907 terms and school officers were J. W. Gaunt, W. E. Ross and Frank McKelvey. The 1908 terms were taught by Lillian Redelman and Lillian Whinery. Lorancy A. Smith taught the 1909 term and the 1910 terms were taught by Gladys L. Gaunt and Bessie M. Smith, who had also taught in 1904. Bessie Smith Von Spreckelsen is the last teacher listed. The Garber School was closed becoming a part of the Clemons Consolidated School District in 1912. The school was moved and is now used as a machine shed on Ed Bartine's farm.

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP # 8 THE MOONEY SCHOOL

The #8 Mooney Liberty School appears to be a "wandering" school. The 1871 site is located on 70 acres of Samuel Mooney property in the southwest corner of Section 27. Prior to the building of the first church in the Clemons Grove area in 1870 southeast of the present Lonnie Bryant home, the "Samuel Mooney" schoolhouse intermittently served as a meeting place for worship services along with the #2 "Magee" and #1 "Warner" schools. The 1885 map indicates the school in the same location with Sam Mooney now owning 240 acres of the southwest portion of Section 27 plus 80 acres in the southeast corner of Section 28. The 1907 map shows the school having "wandered" to the middle of Section 27 in the southeast corner of 160 acres owned by Sam Mooney. Section 27 is cut into east and west halves by a road. The southern half of the east portion was a 200 acre J. E. Ford estate in 1971 and a 90 acre George Ford property in 1885 and 1907.

Cecile (Mrs. Clinton) Andrews Hall has provided the following information concerning the Mooney school: "No. 8 Liberty - a little more than ½ mile south, across the branch (assume this to mean the north branch of Minerva Creek which meanders through this property) past the old grove and the crab apple trees, on the hill south of the Ford home, now Leo Reece's. Teacher - Cary Hale - married Chella Ford - Louie Ford's sister." This article would appear to have the school "wandering" on to the old Ford property east across the road from the Samuel Mooney property now owned by Daniel L. and Ruth H. Turner. In 1912, Liberty #8 was consolidated into the Clemons School District along with other rural schools in the area.

RELOCATION OF LIBERTY NO. 8 SCHOOL

In preparing the history of Bevins Grove area, we have uncovered an old legend regarding a dispute in the location of Liberty School No. 8. We at first thought this was part of the School War, but now believe it to be a separate matter. Although there are no written records available regarding this, the stories indicate that in the 1880's or 1890's there was a contest as to whether Liberty No. 8, also known as the "Mooney School", was to be located on the east side of Minerva Creek about a half mile south of Bevins Grove Church or in the Southeast Corner of the Southwest Quarter of Section 27.

This controversy probably arose at the time the question of relocating the school from the Southwest Corner to the Southeast Corner of the Southwest Quarter of Section 27 arose. As the story goes, people strongly debated the issue with many hard feelings and occasional scuffles concerning the matter. Between 1885 and 1907 the location of the school was changed from the Southwest Corner to the Southeast Corner of the Southwest Quarter of Section 27.

BANGOR TOWNSHIP # 1 THE HAZEL GREEN SCHOOL

One of the largest rural schools to come to Clemons is the Hazel Green School in the Mormon Ridge area. On the 1871 map it is shown in Section 29 which is cut in halves by a north-south road and an east-west road divides it into south one quarter and north three quarter portions. The school is near the southwest corner of these crossroads located on 280 acres of land owned by J. McKinnon. This land is shown as the L. McKinnon Estate on the 1907 map. The following sketch is printed in the 1907 atlas concerning Mr. McKinnon's son: "C.P. McKINNON. The gentleman whose name heads this brief notice resides on his father's estate, which he has called 'Snowball Poultry Farm', on Section 29, Bangor Township. Mr. McKinnon's father was L. McKinnon, who was a native of Scotland, coming to Iowa in the spring of 1858. The subject of this sketch was born in Marshall County in 1859. He has for a number of years been making a specialty of breeding and shipping standard-bred White Wyandotte chickens, and the production of honey, having quite a large apiary. He has also performed the responsible duties of Assessor for his township for a number of years."

An R. N. Switzer owns this property in 1924 and in 1981 it belongs to Keith W. McDonald.

The following unusual report card was made available by Maxine Dickover White, daughter of the recipient: (See Following Page)

Some of the children who attended the Hazel Green School were:

Jess McLane, who married Emma Smith noted in our Liberty #6 school, "Hop" Harley Clemons and his brother Ralph, as well as Hazel Brandon;

The Frank and Lura Teager Davis children attended, namely: Lenna, Neva, Roy, Fred and Lloyd;

The Schouler Willard children: Elwood, Willard, Elmer, Lloyd, Ruth, Wendell, Carroll, Paul and Weldon. Elwood was killed in the Navy at the beginning of W. W. II;

The George (Clell) and Isabelle Weatherly Dickover children: Mabel, Robie and Boyce. Mable married Roy Bacon and were long time residents of the Clemons area. Their children were: Bill and Wanda Bacon Spurlin, wife of Don Spurlin of Clemons;

The Joe Stuckmyer children: Martha, David and Ruth;

The Fred ("High") and Elizabeth Halladay Davis children: Glen, Lola, Louis, and twins Lester and Lauretta. Fred's nickname was very apropos as he was an unusually tall person;

The Roy "Joker" Halladay children: Riley, Pearl, Sylvia, Ruth, Lottie, Jessie, Dottie, Mattie, Wilbur, Virgil, Margaret and Ruby. Three more younger children went to school at Bangor;

The Jess May children: Mabel, Genevieve and Cecil. Jess was a cousin to Herb Halladay's grandmother "Em";

The Frank Bumbarger children: Bertha, Clara, Charlie and Hattie, first cousins of Herb Halladay;

The Wendell Dutton, Sr. children: Mary, Vivian, Neva and Wendell, Jr.;

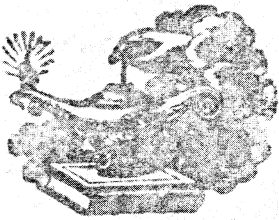
The Dick Switzer children: Glen, Gladys, Kent, plus some other Switzer children whose names are unable to be recalled;

The John Eurom children: Boyd, Nellie, Wilmer, Eva, Clifford and Leonard. John's parents were the only members of the Eurom family to come to the United States from Germany, so all Eurom's in this country are their descendants;

The Kester Fisher children: Gladys, Opal and Milo. Milo married Hattie Bumgarer, Herb Halladay's cousin;

The Delbert "Deb" V. Bryant children: Julius and Lucille. Deb also went to the Hazel Green School. His daughter, Lucille (deceased), married John Goecke.

One of the teachers about 1922 was a "little short cute" girl from California who came to visit her aunt at West Branch, Iowa and married one of her pupils,



"He who does his best does well;
Angels can do no more."

Hazel Green Public School

WINTER TERM 1901-2.

SCHOOL BOARD.

W. E. ROSS, Pres.
F. C. DAVIS,
J. E. MALES, Directors.
L. P. ARNEY, Sec'y.
O. P. McKINNON, Treas.
J. J. HOWARD, Teacher.

HAZEL GREEN SOUVENIR

Report of

Robie Dickover

Days Present

68 1/2

Days Absent

1 1/2

Times Tardy

0

Deportment

100

Arithmetic

Good

History

Good

Grammar

Good

Physiology

Good

Language

Good

Reading

Fair

Spelling

Fair

Writing

Fair

NAMES OF PUPILS.

Angus Arney
Neil Arney
Ira Arney
Sadie Arney
Ruby Arney
Dornie Arney
Delbert Bryant
Myrtie Carter
Homer Carter
Marion Clemens
Lenna Davis
Mabel Dickover
Robie Dickover
Boyce Dickover
Odean Eurom
Mollie Eurom
Kittie Forrestall
Glen Jay
Mabel Jay
Ralph Jay
Ruby Jay
Minnie Males
Mamie Males

Frank Males
Fred Middleton
Ralph Middleton
Eleanora Neff
Hamor Neff
Angus Neff
Winnie Neff
Rozzie Neff
Metha Robertson
Veva Ross
Hart Ross
Ruby Stanfield
Martha Stuckmyers
Ethel Tally
Willie Tally
Clarence Tally
Effie Tally
Lillie Tucker
Ethel Tucker
Hazel Tucker
Charley Williams
Clarence Williams

Charlie Bumbarger, a cousin of Herb Halladay of Clemons. Her name was Edith Tomlinson. Part of the following information was obtained from Clemons records at the West Marshall school. The 1923-1924 teacher was Dorothy Stackhouse Rittierodt Copeland, who made the following report to her successor: "This school is exceptionally large for a rural school. Worst problem has been the disagreement among children at recess."

Dorothy lives in Marshalltown. When she taught at Hazel Green, Mr. E.F. Shutt was county superintendent. She boarded with a Fred Middleton who owned land in Section 32 and 33 at that time. She remembers a graveyard at the end of the farm. Herb Halladay relates that Halladay family members are buried in this cemetery and is now owned by Carroll Snider. This is a very old cemetery and Herb doubts anyone has been buried there in this century. Many of the stones are gone and only the foundations are visible.

Dorothy had a Mesquakie Indian girl for one of her pupils, Pearl Leaf, who lived in a teepee with her family near Indian Bridge on the Iowa River. She was not very talkative but enjoyed playing and laughing with other children. Pearl was a proficient bead worker and at the end of the school year, she gave a bead necklace to every pupil in the school except one boy. He had tormented and teased her all year and Dorothy remembers his humiliation over this incident. Pearl later married another Mesquakie Indian from the Tama settlement and moved to Nebraska and later on to a reservation in Oklahoma.

Teachers during 1925 and 1926 were Alice M. Thompson, Margaret Jordan and Lawrence J. Whitehead. Lawrence's father was a doctor in the Albion and Bangor areas, first living in Albion and later on a farm in the Bangor area. His final practice was at the Iowa Soldier's Home where he remained until his retirement. Teachers from 1926 through 1934 were Harold E. Baker, Maxine M. Meyers, Esther Banghart, Ada Johnson and Mina M. Hargis. Ruth L. Maxfield and Elaine L. Bumsted taught the 1934-1935 year. The agenda for that year is as follows:

"1934 School Calendar"

Sept. 3 School began - 19 pupils - later 26

Sept. 4 First P.T.A. Mtg. - 37 present

Sept. 12 Our Fair Day

Sept. 24 Teachers mtg. in M'town

Oct. 2 2nd P.T.A. Mtg. - 58 present

Oct. 5 School pictures taken

Oct. 30 Halloween party

Nov. 1 Prog. & Box social - \$11.35 cleared

Nov. 6 3rd P.T.A. - Harmony 4 (Prog)

Nov. 29 - 30 Th. Vac

Dec. 8 P.T.A.

Dec. 23 Christmas Prog.

Mar. 22 Spelling contest

Mar. 5 P.T.A.

Apr. 2 "

May 11 Directors Elec.

May 17 last P.T.A. & picnic

Many visitors signed back of book from many towns."

Ruth Noren taught 1935-1936 and Bess Clark 1936-1938. Bess became the wife of Sherwood Noble, son of Dr. E. H. Noble of Clemons.

Lois R. Bartine taught 1938-1940 having all eight grades with 28 pupils. Lois married E. W. "Woody" Shives in June, 1940 and are longtime residents of Clemons. She is the daughter of Cyrus and Roxy Mooney Bartine. Louis Savage taught 1940-1941 and Mrs. Lauralee Silves Blake 1941-1942. Mr. R. C. Ringold was county superintendent at this time. Dorothy Coulter taught in 1943 and Frieda Peters taught in 1944. Her husband Laurence was the rural mail carrier at Ablion.

According to the bicentennial edition of the Clemons Bugle, the Hazel Green School was closed in 1947 and the children came to the Clemons School District. The school was remodeled into a home and is still at it's original site on one acre owned and occupied by Benjamin Frimmel.

MARIETTA TOWNSHIP # 1 THE MINERVA SCHOOL

The 1871 site of the Minerva School in Marietta Township is in the center of Section 5 east of a north-south road which cuts the section into east and west halves. It is slightly north of the southwest corner of 160 acres owned by Warren Nichols whose name is still on this property on the 1924 map. The following sketch is printed in the 1907 Marshall County Atlas: "WARREN NICHOLS. A prominent and highly esteemed citizen of Marietta Township is Mr. Warren Nichols who is vice-president of the Iowa Valley Mutual Insurance Company and vice-president of the Marshall County Fair Association. Mr. Nichol's home is the "Minerva Valley Stock Farm", located on Section 5, which he successfully farms. Born in Columbiana County, Ohio, August 20, 1846, a son of Stacy Nichols (who died July 14, 1902), Mr. Nichols came to Marshall County in the spring of 1854 and on October 29, 1868, was wedded to Miss Laura Dixon in Marietta Township. Mrs. Nichols is also a native of Columbiana County, Ohio, being born there May 6, 1844. She is the daughter of Newton Dixon. Unto this union of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Nichols have some eight children, namely: Paul, born November 15, 1869; Fred, born October 14, 1876; Stacy, born May 22, 1877; Charles, born November 2, 1884; Emma, born July 14, 1889; Ruth, born March 11, 1892, and John, born November 5, 1880, who died April 5, 1901."

Warren's daughter, Emma, married Iver Veren. This property is still in the family today with their son, Robert, wife Marilyn, and his family as Veren Farms, Inc., which also includes land in Sections 4, 8 and 9.

The school is located near a branch of the Minerva Creek and the main branch of the Minerva was

slightly north cutting through a northwest corner of the original 160 acres of the Warren Nichols property in 1871.

Herb Hallady and his wife, Edna Alexander, both attended the Minerva School. Herb went in 1914 and moved away in 1918.

Edna attended about 1915 and 1916. Her father died in 1915 and the following year moved the family to Conrad. Some of the students they remember attending the Minerva School are: Ernie, Wilbur and Merle Ankrum; Frank, Alice, Herb, Emil, Victor, Clarence and Alma Gustafson; Leland, Kathryn and Donald "Dutch" Hennis; John, Alice, Herb and Laura Halladay; Bert and Edna Alexander. Edna married Herb Halladay. There was a Daryl Wells who made his home with Gar Cameron where his mother was a housekeeper, and Emmett St. Clair, whose mother was housekeeper for Stacy Nichols on the "Fairview Stock Farm" in Sections 7 and 8. On the 1924 map, it is called the "Willow Brook Stock Farm" with a forked extension of the Minerva branch near the school running through this property. There were Archie, Ethel, George, and Clyde Bovee whose father worked for Warren Nichols. Clyde died as a youngster



MINERVA SCHOOL 1890's

from spinal meningitis. Herb also remembers Perry and Willie Hatcher and Willie catching a skunk with the expected devastating results. There was also Leland and Mabel Hof. An older Hof girl married Perry Hatcher and he worked on the Story City branch of the railroad for a time. Some Southard children also attended. Herb remembers their mother chewing tobacco. They had come from North Carolina. There was also Stacy and Roy Nichols and Lillian Charlier, granddaughter of Oliver Nichols. Oliver's daughter, Ethel, married John Charlier. She died of ptomaine poisoning from tainted steak eaten in a Marshalltown restaurant. Some other children who attended Minerva were the Fred Rittierodt children, Dorothy and Louise. The oldest son, Lawrence, never went to the Minerva School and eventually married Dorothy Stackhouse, teacher at Hazel Green in the

1923-1924 year. Dorothy's father, Bill Stackhouse, lived at Prairieville, another little village west of the Ottilie seed farms off of Highway 14, no longer in existence and Lawrence and Dorothy also lived on a farm in the Prairieville area until Lawrence's death. She presently makes her home in Marshalltown.

Herb remembers that Warren Nichols was the director and one of his teachers was a Miss McCrary. There was also a Miss Florence Lee. Some big boys only came during the winter months supposedly to study, but in reality were mischief makers. According to Herb, "the big boys ran her out of the school" and Sicily Jones was hired. Sicily handled "the big boys" very effectively and good discipline was maintained during her tenure. Herb remembers a coal and cob shed east of the school building, and it was the teacher's job to start the fire every morning.

Sicily Jones was born August 22, 1893, and graduated from Normal School in Marshalltown from the landmark known as "Old Main" which was razed 1980. Her first school was at Liberty #6 in the last year of its existence in 1913-1914. She taught in Marshalltown in 1914-1915 and then went to Minerva until 1918. While teaching at Minerva, she boarded with the Albert Chapman family in Section 8. She also attended 2 years of summer school at Ames and then went back to college for 1 year at Mt. Vernon, Iowa. Sicily eventually married D. G. Danielson and now resides in Marshalltown.

The children of Minerva school came to Clemons in 1936. The school was purchased by Alfred Binford and moved to the northwest corner of Section 18 onto his property about 1955. Mr. Binford remodeled the school into a home and it now serves as his residence.

MARIETTA TOWNSHIP # 2 THE MONINGER SCHOOL

The 1871 site of the Moninger School is located in Section 3 of Marietta Township on the south side of an east-west road that angles through the lower quarter of the section and the school would be a short distance north of the southeast corner of Section 3. Mr. D. M. Moninger owns 120 acres of the school site land in Section 3 and 75 acres adjacent to it in Section 2. He also owns 345 acres in Section 10, 160 acres in Section 11 and property in Section 12. The Little Minerva Creek meanders through this land in Section 3 and a road curves alongside the creek. Coming from the west, one would angle to the south, cross the creek bridge, turn south on the creek road and come upon a enormous beautiful home with approximately 9 bedrooms upstairs. This was the home of the D. M. Moninger family, a very wealthy and influential family in the Stanley Mills area. To the south of the home were rows of maple trees set in a large grassy area called the "Moninger Park". Mr. Moninger had a large family. Two of his sons drowned in the Little Minerva near their

home. Two known surviving sons were Harold W. Moninger and wife Lenora, whose children were Donald M., Howard, Mary, Louise, Frank R., and James A. The other son was William R. and wife Mary K., whose children were Margaret M., Dorothy K., Helen P., Louise R., and John H.. Their oldest daughter, Margaret, was a missionary in China. Their son, John, was sent away to the best of schools.

In 1881, the Story City Branch of the Iowa Central Railroad was built through the Moninger property and a loading and unloading area south and east of the school was known as the Moninger Station. On the 1907 map, much of the property in Section 3 and 10 is now owned by C. H. Reese. In the advertising section of the 1907 atlas, the picture of a large home in Section 3 belonging to the Reese family is called "The Staterton". Since part of the Reese property is called "The Staterton", this might possibly be a picture of the original D. M. Moninger home.

The 1924 map shows the original Moninger property in Section 3 owned by the Klaunberg Brothers. The 1981 map shows the Moninger School on one acre of property remodeled into a home, owned and occupied by Larry Lukehart.

The Moninger School is a very old school and was also used as a church. Herb Halladay's Grandfather "Wes" was born in 1847 and when he was a young man, in the early 1860's, he first saw his future wife "Em" on a Sunday morning coming out of the Moninger School after a church service. They were married in the year of 1865.

Two early teachers were a Mrs. Johnson, a widow from Des Moines, and Rachel Leonard Carpenter. Rachel's sister, Jessie, married Herbert Nichols, son of Tom Nichols and have a son, Clifford.

Vera Lacey Mantle, daughter of a farmer near Bangor, was born July 20, 1894, but spent all her grade school life at Moninger. She remembers having Mrs. Johnson in about 4th grade and Rachel Carpenter in about 6th grade. Vera is a relative of Herb Halladay's through the Lacey family. Following grade school, she went to high school at Albion and then to Normal School at "Old Main" in Marshalltown when she was 16 years old. She taught at Timber Creek and also at the school of her youth, the Moninger for the years 1917-1918 and 1918-1919. About 1917 and 1918, Vera went to school at Ames for 2 summer sessions which lasted 12 weeks at a time.

Vera Mantle is now 87 years old and resides at the Villa del Sol as well as her former teacher, Rachel Carpenter who is 95 years of age.

The school director was Ivan Allen. Occasionally she walked from her home in Albion, 2 miles from the school, but usually boarded in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Eurom. Some of the pupils she taught were Viola, Zetha, Vernon and Wayne, children of Ivan Allen;

also Alberta Reese; Winifred McBride; Walter and Inez Gull; Evelyn Keeler; Harold Eurom; Alvin and Gladys Davis; Herbert Bartlett; Glen and Dan Hayes; a set of twins, Inez and Ina Betts and Lillian Charlier. After the death of Lillian's mother noted in the #1 Minerva School sketch, Lillian's father moved to a farm south of the Moninger School located in the southwest corner of Section 11. Lillian eventually married John Wesley Halladay, brother of Herb. Both Lillian and John are deceased.

The Moninger School children came to the Clemons School in 1949.

Thus ends the often intermingled web of families, teachers and schools throughout the Minerva Township and surrounding areas relating to our little village of Clemons. Much of the tribute for this effort must be given to the older citizens whose virtual store houses of knowledge were gleaned from the past.

THE BROMLEY SCHOOL

The village of Bromley no longer exists, but was located in Section 1 and only a smattering of school information is available. It is uncertain that a Bromley School existed according to older local residents who have no memory of such a school. However a 1894 Teacher's school record book has been found with pupils listed on the "Bromley School" roster. We find Roxy Mooney as a 10 year old student in 1894 at the Bromley school and taught by Blanche Blackburn and Hattie Farber. The 1895 terms were taught by Charles H. VanMetre and Julia A. Dunn. M. Della Searle taught all of 1896 and part of 1897 with Nellie B. Pemberton finishing the last terms. Bertha L. Ross taught in 1898. In 1900, Florence Smith taught and the 1901 teachers were Alma Smith and Bertha Ross.

No other information is available and assume Bromley was closed in the early 1900's since the Bromley post office was closed in 1904 and many of the buildings were moved to Clemons.

SCHOOL WAR

About 1910, a movement began to form consolidated schools in Iowa. The desire for better and improved education was taking the form of consolidating small town schools and rural county schools into larger units providing the areas served with high schools. Until this time, about the only high schools were found in larger towns and cities. At this time this area was all one-room county schools and those people wanting to go to further than the eighth grade either

went to Marshalltown to high school or Albion "Normal school" for a quarter or semester or two, or went to a college where they were admitted without high school degrees or with entrance examinations.

As with all such major cultural changes, this was very controversial. Each area had its preference of where they thought the "new" high school should be and many also had dreams of having the facility located in their vicinity both for convenience and for the business and growth potential the presence of the school would provide.

During this period, the Liberty Consolidated School and Clemons Consolidated School were formed, but not without great rivalry and struggle. Many people in southern Liberty Township, Minerva Township, and Clemons desired a school near to them. The people in the Bevins Grove area also had hopes of having a new consolidated school near there. It is believed that C. S. Andrews offered land for the school in hopes the school would be located near him. This one acre lot was located on the southwest corner of Harold Funke's farm and to the east of Howard Cory's drive.

In April or May of 1911, a petition was signed by residents of the Independent School District of Clemons, the school in the town of Clemons then, the sub-districts No. 1 and No. 2 of the School Township of Minerva, and the Independent School Districts No. 7, and No. 8 of Liberty Township calling for an election to approve the formation of the Independent School District of Clemons, in Minerva Township, Marshall County, Iowa.

The election was held on May 15, 1911, and was approved by a majority of the voters and carried. The proposal was defeated by the voters of Sub-district No. 2 in Minerva Township, but the proposal was passed as a majority of all voters in all districts approved it. There were 69 voters outside the Clemons Independent District and the vote was 36 in favor and 24 opposed to the formation of the new district and there were 55 voters inside the old Clemons Independent District all voted in favor of the proposition.

On May 29, 1911, Fred Van Metre, Henry Phelps, H. O. Eldridge, C. S. Andrews, and Albert Brackney were elected directors of the new district.

About May 23, 1911, Independent School District No. 8 of Liberty Township, and C. S. Andrews, James Borton, T. B. Turner, L. K. Peterson, T. C. Andrews, V. R. Mooney, and W. L. Ingledue filed suit against the Independent School District of Clemons, in Minerva Township and Albert Brackney, President; Aaron Brackney, Secretary; F. B. Parsons, A. W. Gandrup, A. Christensen, and E. H. Noble, board members, alleging certain irregularities in the process of petitioning for the new district and holding the election. The suit asked that the election be declared invalid and that the defendants be enjoined from forming and organizing the new district. On August 28, 1911, the Marshall County District Court

denied the injunction.

The plaintiffs appealed the matter to the Iowa Supreme Court. (153 Iowa 598 and 134 NW 75) In an opinion handed down January 11, 1912, the Supreme Court affirmed the District Court decision clearing the way for the formation and organization of the Independent School District of Clemons. Until the controversy was finally resolved the matter was hotly debated loudly and creation of the new school district and new school building were stalled.

As you can see, school reorganization is not a new phenomena. The intensity of the matter only indicates the strong pride people have in their community and the high importance they place on education.

LOIS BARTINE SHIVES

One of the longest teaching careers in the Clemons area and the Clemons school system is the one of Lois Bartine Shives. Lois, a Clemons native and graduate of Clemons High School in 1933, taught school in Hazel Green County School, Clemons Consolidated School and the West Marshall Community School system for 21 years. She had the privilege of teaching 2 and 3 generations of the same family before her retirement in 1974. There are many residents of the area who recall being in her class and her dedication as a teacher.

In addition to her teaching career she has also been very active in community affairs and activities of the Clemons Church where she has served on the Church Board. She has contributed much time and effort to community projects.



LOIS BARTINE SHIVES