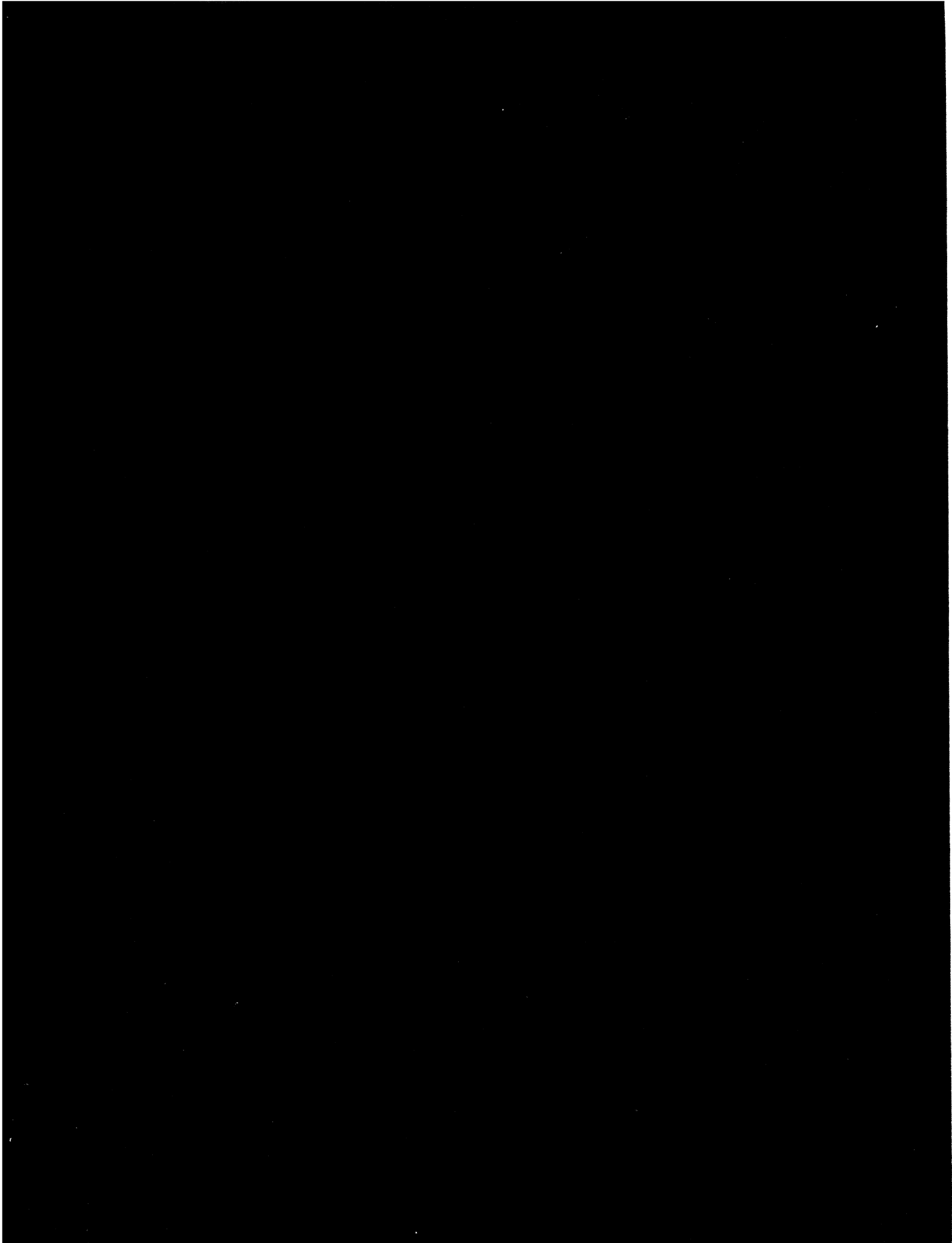




“Smarts” Learned at School

There were 21 boys from the LaMoille grade school in 1936-37 that remember well an episode that happened one noon. A lesson of respecting public property and especially school property.

It seems as if spring fever was pulling these boys to practice their throwing arms.

LaMoille school was located on top of a hill and what was an old horse barn was at the bottom. The land sloped to the west and a large grassy area was around the building. Gophers claimed the territory there which lent to gopher hills. After a rain, nice muddy mounds of soft dirt was a great temptation for these boys to make mud balls and throw. A line was established of which no one was to step on or go over no matter your age or size. It wasn't long before these athletic boys were throwing at the horse barn and, of course, broke a few windows.

The school superintendent, Mr. John Hayes, was looking out his office window (known as the “cupola” since it was the highest spot in the building) and saw all the commotion down by the barn. He waited until the bell rang and went to see all the rooms and asked the boys to come to the gym. Startled looks passed between the boys as they realized they had had too much fun.

Mr. Hayes met them all in the gym with a paddle in hand that was kept above the superintendent's door as a warning to all who might get ideas of misbehavior. In those days, discipline was strict and sometimes it took a firm hand to control things.

He entered the room talking—“Line up boys, according to grades, single file.” No questions were asked. “Now, boys, I want you to pull your pants tight over your rears. Tighter, bend down,” he said. He explained about respect of public property and especially school property. The tale goes he never stopped talking until he dismissed them to go to their respective rooms. The youngest boys received one swat with the paddle and each grade level higher 2 swats and the highest 3. “Pull the pants tighter,” he'd say if they looked the least bit loose.

The boys came back to the classrooms a little white or red faced. Several with a few tears but most had serious expressions.

Needless to say, some of the participants received added lectures and punishments when they reached home that evening.

Romayne Pansegrau lived in the LaMoille school district from 3rd grade to 9th grade (1934-40). In those days the farmers changed farms in March. He then moved to the Green Mountain area. He and his twin brother, Wayne, joined the military service. He recalls Ellis Bailey driving a school bus from his area on West Main Street. They rode in a passenger car. He also recalls his father Ed going to the General Store when Mr. Martin owned it to buy a Galloway steel elevator. He also bought a rubber tired running gears from Clifford Benson's store which was located north and west of the General Store in the Larsen blacksmith building. Mr. Benson also made wagon boxes until the second World War began. He had to quit as he couldn't get materials so he moved to San Francisco and joined the maritime service and built ships.

Romayne, after getting out of the service, decided to stop at the Green Mountain-Conrad area for a boys basketball game. Mr. Hayes was the superintendent of Conrad then and he asked if he remembered him. Mr. Hayes couldn't recall for sure until Romayne asked him about the mud ball incident and the spanking he had given. "Oh, yes, if you remember that you probably didn't deserve it." Romayne was one of the younger observers.

The horse barn also had a whitewash soon from these boys. The barn never looked so good!

They respected property and never got into trouble of that kind since. Well, maybe in high school they might have helped themselves to a watermelon on Halloween Eve!

*Material for this story was given by "the boys"
which include Romayne Pansegrau, Wendell Benson and Jim Benson.*

Compiled by Barbara Baltisberger

Nov. 22, 1935

Young Trappers Losing Traps and Catches

One Thief Caught and Given "Boot"

Found with 19 Rats in his Possession -
Worked 175 Traps Along Linn Creek from Marshalltown to Beyond Lamoille -
Ask Cooperation of Sportsmen

Lamoille, Nov. 22 (special) Farmer boys in the vicinity of LaMoille, who devote their spare time to trapping are asking for a square deal.

Cooperation of true sportsmen is asked in an effort to stop the trapping "hog" and the pilferer of traps, who has been much in evidence this fall.

Every fall, when the trapping season opens, boys who live on the farms, fortunate enough to be on a place intersected by a creek, set their traps and by catching a few rats provide themselves with a little spending money that does not have to come from Dad's purse.

If the young trapper does not get results in the first few days, especially when conditions along creek banks indicate the presence of many rats, he decides something unusual is going on and he keeps watch.

Prowler is Caught

This year trappers of the district failed to get rats and it was soon evident their traps were being visited by an intruder. The farm boys became vigilant and the prowler was caught taking both rats and traps.

The trap thief was a young fellow from Marshalltown, whose identity is known to the LaMoille boys. He said he had a string of 175 traps all the way up Linn Creek beyond LaMoille.

When caught, he had 19 rats and many traps, some of which belonged to the LaMoille boys, in his possession. He was not only working on the farms without permission of the owners, but he was doing his trapping on a \$1 license, which provides only for 10 traps on a trap line.

Is Given the Boot

When the prowler was caught by a LaMoille farmer the young man said he was looking for his traps. He was told by the farmer his traps had been found and taken to the house. After some questioning, the story of his ventures came out.

He was told to get off the farm at once and to stay off and he immediately crossed to the other side of the creek where another farmer was waiting for him and he was given the "boot."

The invader was permitted to go with a warning although he might have been prosecuted. Posting the land is said to mean nothing apparently as it does not keep the invaders away.

Cooperation is Asked

The farm boys now are asking for a new deal with respect to the rights of all. They say they have respected the rights of owners to whatever is on the banks of the creeks. They realize that there is no place for the resident of the city to hunt without permission but when a group of sportsmen rent a fishing or hunting preserve they protect their rights fully.

It is said there are many farms where permission is given to trap but owners desire to know who is working on the land and that there be some responsibility for damage which may be done.

The farmers ask cooperation from city sportsmen through some assumption of responsibility in protection of shelter and feed furnished for game on the farm.

Old days in Lamoille recalled

Editor, Times-Review:

Two recent articles in the T-R brings back memories of many years ago.

One was the effort of the Jaycees to provide some entertainment with a music and beer party in an uptown parking lot. The other article was on the good things going on in Lamoille.

Their school had some good athletes over the years and it was always fun to play at Lamoille. In the 30s, Mr. Martin moved to Lamoille and bought out some businesses and started some others. The town had a small boom.

We used to go to dances held on an outside floor east of a store. We also went to dances at Bear Grove, north of and close to Lamoille. We had to drive through a pasture area to a dance hall in the trees. One summer the beer distributors held a celebration there.

For a \$1 entry fee, you received free beer and could dance all night. The Highway Patrol helped control the bumper to bumper traffic. It is hard to believe that a short beer was a nickel and a picnic was 39 cents. This was in the days when you could have a celebration without liability insurance and porta potties.

There may have been a two-holder in the trees, but no provisions for a large crowd.

Another attraction to the community was the Benson Wild Game Farm. On Sunday afternoon, you would find a stream of cars going to see the pheasants, quail, etc. There was very little hunting except for rabbits and squirrels at that time. The farm provided eggs and chicks to help the state with stocking.

A few years later, Don MacLain set up a recreation area east of Lamoille a cross from the LaVern Landon

home. We had miniature golf, shuffleboard, etc. Lights provided night play. Later, a concession stand was added.

The people of the Lamoille community have always been good to work with and work for.

Lute
1930-40s

M. B. Gallentin
606 N. Fifth St

George Washington said:

"Reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principles.

In his farewell address (an important part of early textbooks which hasn't been seen in thirty years) Washington said:

"Do not let anyone claim to be a true American if he ever attempts to remove religion from politics."

John Quincy Adams said:

"The highest glory of the American Revolution was this; that it connected in one indissoluble bond the principles of Christianity with the principles of government."

Benjamin Franklin said:

"He who will introduce into public affairs the principles of Christianity will change the face of the world."

James Madison said:

"We have staked a whole future of American civilization not on the power of the government but on the capacity to govern ourselves according to the Ten Commandments."

PROGRESSION OF THE SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE

In 1844 - One school decided they could teach morality without the Bible. The Supreme Court ruled that you couldn't teach morality without Bible principles.

In 1854 - Another case where separation of church and state was wanted. The Supreme Court ruled that the country was founded on Christian principles and should remain that way and that Christian principles should never be separated from the government.

At that time the Supreme Court felt that teachings of Christ were most important and that our laws must be based on and must include the teachings of Jesus Christ.

In 1962 - Without an historical or legal base, prayer was removed from the schools.

In 1963 - Bible reading was removed from the schools.

EXPLANATION - The Bible caused psychological damage to the child.

The Supreme Court used no precedents in making these decisions. (Did not go back to decisions made in the past.)

FIRST AMENDMENT -

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.

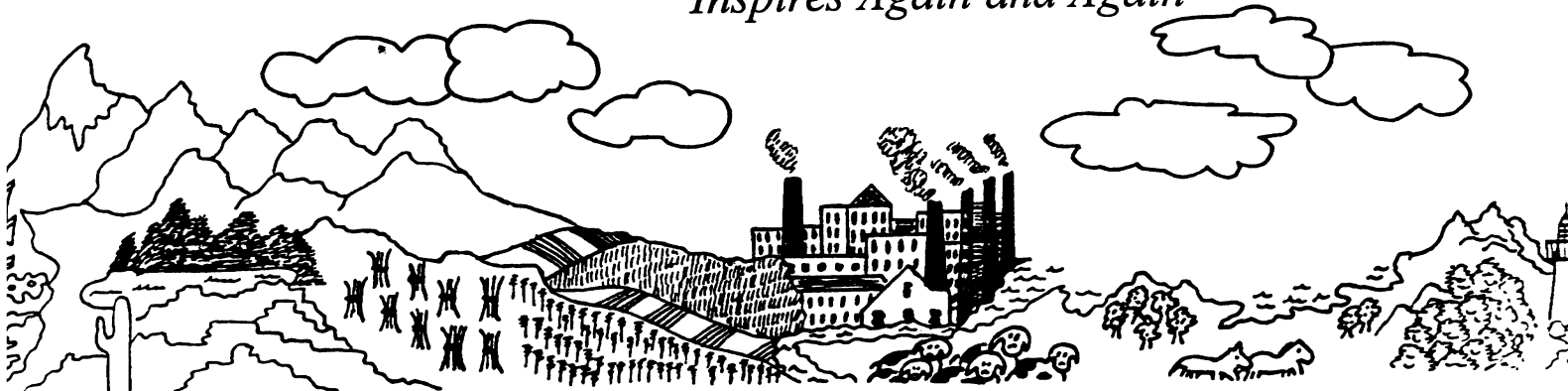
(Did not want one denomination running the nation)

Thomas Jefferson said:

The first amendment HAS erected a wall of separation between church and state BUT that wall is a one directional wall. It keeps the government from running the church but makes sure that Christian principles will always stay in the government."

'Oh Beautiful for Spacious Skies'

Inspires Again and Again



Congregationalist **Katharine Lee Bates** would undoubtedly be proud. Proud because her patriotic hymn, "America the Beautiful," has soared in popularity since September 11. But as a pacifist, she would probably be sobered by the events that contributed to her song's new popularity.

Her hymn first appeared in *The Congregationalist* on July 4, 1895. In recent weeks it has been sung at countless public events, appeared in magazines and newspapers, and become the subject of a book by **Lynn Sherr**, 59, *America the Beautiful: The Stirring True Story of America's Song*. It moved **Dan Rather** to tears when he heard the passage: "thine alabaster cities gleam *undimmed* by human tears" on the David Letterman Show.

Full page advertisements by MBNA, the credit card company,

carried all eight verses of the song beneath a painting by **James Browning Wyeth**. It showed New York firemen and policemen raising the American flag at Ground Zero in the same manner as U. S. Marines when they raised the flag at Iwo Jima in World War II.

The November 5, 2001 issue of *People* magazine told the story of "America the Beautiful," already familiar to many Congregationalists, in a two-page article that pictured Bates and **Samuel Ward**, the man who wrote "Materna," the music that was eventually coupled with the Bates lyrics.

Willie Nelson sang it at a fundraiser for September 11 victims to an audience that included **Brad Pitts** and **Julia Roberts**. Author Sherr, herself an ABC 20/20 correspondent, appeared on numerous talk shows, including Martha Stewart's.

The Congregationalist last told the story of "America the Beautiful" in the June/July 1993 issue, the 100th anniversary of its writing.

We repeat, in part, the story of how Katharine Lee Bates was moved to write the poem.

“America the Beautiful” was written by Katharine Lee Bates, a New Englander, while on a summer visit in 1893 to Colorado. As she was visiting the western expanses of our nation for the first time, the beauty and productivity of American overwhelmed her. On the day the poem was written, Bates sat in a grove of trees, sharing a picnic with friends, looking across the valley to majestic Pike’s Peak. Here the Rocky mountains rose above her in **purple majesty**. And for miles and miles beyond, the wheat fields of Col-

orado, Kansas, and Nebraska rippled in the winds in **amber waves**. "**Oh, beautiful for Pilgrim Feet**" were the feet of her own ancestors.

Bates felt as though the heavens had opened and the words were actually being given to her. She returned home to Massachusetts and prayed over what she had written, turning the second half of each stanza into a prayer.

As her father was the minister of the First Congregational Church of Falmouth, founded by their forbears in 1708, Bates submitted her completed poem to *The Congregationalist*, where it was published on July 4, 1895. After the poem's publication, Bates considered the many suggestions and criticisms the poem attracted and rewrote it—the new version appeared in *The Boston Evening Transcript* on November 9, 1904. "Later the opening quatrain of the third stanza was altered, and the poem in that form has remained the official version," to quote her biographer, Dorothy Burgess.

Much to Bates's surprise, several people wrote music for her poem and it was sung to as many as 60 different tunes before the tune we know as "Materna" became the accepted setting. Written by Samuel Augustus Ward in 1882 for the hymn "O Mother Dear, Jerusalem," "Materna" was first published in the *Protestant Episcopal Hymnal* in 1894. In 1912 Bates adapted the tune for her hymn. Since then, the text and tune have become inseparable. ■

Sources for this article include a 1985 newsletter of the Pacific Northwest Association, the biography of Katharine Lee Bates written by Dorothy Burgess, Dr. Harold F. Worthley of the Congregational Library, and Mary Head, Santa Rosa, Calif., who supplied the biographical information accompanying this article.



*Wellesley College Archives photo of "America, the Beautiful" author with friend Hamlet.
Photo courtesy Wellesley College Archives*

Katharine Lee Bates

Katharine Lee Bates, daughter and granddaughter of Congregational ministers, was born August 12, 1859, in Falmouth, Mass. She attended Falmouth village school until she was 12, when her family moved to Grantville, now Wellesley Hills. In later years she described herself as being afflicted with nearsightedness, extreme shyness, always hiding with a book.

She attended Wellesley High School three years and Newton High School two years, graduating in 1878, when she then entered Wellesley College. Though her older brother, Arthur, was a clerk with a minimal salary, he supported her while she attended college. She obtained her A.B. in 1880 and that fall began teaching in Natick High School. The next year she started teaching at Dana Hall, a preparatory school for Wellesley. After five years at Dana Hall, she became an English instructor at Wellesley and eventually became the head of Wellesley's English Department.

Bates was honored by doctorates from Middlebury, Oberlin, and Wellesley Colleges and was the author and editor of about two dozen books, but is primarily remembered today for her hymn, "America the Beautiful." ■

America, the Beautiful

Katharine Lee Bates 1893, 1859-1929

1. O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee
And crown thy good
With brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!
2. O beautiful for pilgrim feet
Whose stem impassioned - stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat
Across the wilderness!
America! America!
God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul
In self-control,
Thy liberty in law!
3. O beautiful for heroes proved
In liberating strife.
Who more than self the country
loved
And mercy more than life!
America! America!
May God thy gold refine
Till all success
Be nobleness
And every gain divine!
4. O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam
Undimmed by human tears!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee
And crown thy good
With brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!
5. O beautiful for halcyon skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the enameled plain!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee
Till souls wax fair
As earth and air
And music-hearted sea!
6. O beautiful for pilgrims feet,
Whose stem impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat
Across the wilderness!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee
Till paths be wrought
Through wilds of thought
By pilgrim foot and knee!
7. O beautiful for glory-tale
Of liberating strife
When once and twice, for man's
avail
Men lavished precious life!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee
Till selfish gain
No longer stain
The banner of the free!
8. O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam
Undimmed by human tears!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee
Till nobler men
Keep once again
Thy whiter jubilee!

The true meaning of the Stars and Stripes

June 14 was set aside by presidential proclamation in 1916 and by Act of Congress in 1949 as a day for celebrating our national emblem - the American flag.

The concept for Flag Day first originated in 1885 when B.J. Cigrand, a schoolteacher in Fredonia, Wis., arranged for pupils in his school to observe June 14 (the 108th anniversary of the official adoption of the Stars and Stripes) as "Flag Birthday." Then, in 1889, George Baich, a kindergarten teacher in New York planned appropriate ceremonies for the children of his school. His idea of observing flag Day was later adopted by the New York State board of Education.

In 1893, Col. Granville Leach (historian for the Pennsylvania Society of the Sons of the Revolution) and the Pennsylvania Society of Great Dames of America adopted a resolution requesting the mayor of Philadelphia and all others in authority and all private citizens to display the flag on June 14. Leach went on to recommend that the day be designated as "Flag Day" and on that day school children be assembled and each given a small American flag.

Inspired by three decades of state and local celebrations, Flag Day - the anniversary of the flag resolution of 1877 - was officially established by proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson on May 30, 1916.

While celebrated in various communities after Wilson's proclamation, it was not until Aug. 3, 1949 that President Harry S. Truman signed an Act of Congress designating June 14 of each year following as National Flag Day.

We should remember that our flag is a symbol that deserves to be respected.

It's etiquette requires that the flag should never touch the ground, or be displayed lower than the flags of other nation, state or organization. It should also be properly folded and cared for.

While attending the annual Tama County Government Day, sponsored by the legion posts and Auxiliary units in the county, I witnessed a flag folding ceremony. It was one that is used by the Legion, following the example that I share here which is used by the United States Air Force.

The flag folding ceremony is a dramatic and uplifting way to honor the flag on special days like Memorial Day, Flag Day

and Veterans Day. It is also used in flag retirement ceremonies.

To properly fold a flag, begin by holding it waist high with another person so that its surface is parallel with the ground. Fold the lower half of the stripe section lengthwise over the fold of stars, and then fold it again with the field on the outside. The flag is then folded into the shape of three-cornered hats, emblematic of the hats worn by colonial soldiers during the war for independence.

In the folding process, the red and white stripes are finely "wrapped" into the field of blue, as the light of day fades into the darkness of night.

The ceremony reads as follows:

"The first fold of our flag is a symbol of life. The second fold is a symbol of our belief in eternal life.

"The third fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veteran departing our ranks who gave a portion of his or her life for defense of our country to attain peace throughout the world.

"The fourth fold represents our weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace and in times of war for His divine guidance.

"The fifth fold is in tribute to our country, for in the words of Steven Decatur, 'Our country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it is still our country, right or wrong.

"The sixth fold is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that we pledge allegiance to the United States of America and to the Republic for which she stands, one nation, under god, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

"The seventh fold is a tribute to our Armed Forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that

we protect our country and our flag against all of its enemies, whether they be found within or without the borders of our republic.

"The eighth fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death that we might see the light of day, and to honor mother, for whom it flies on Mother's Day.

"The ninth fold is for womanhood; for it has been through their faith, love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women that made this country great have been molded.

"The tenth fold is a tribute to father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since they were first born.

"The eleventh fold, in the eyes of a Hebrew citizen, represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and king Solomon, and glorifies, in their eyes, the god of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

"The twelfth fold, in the eyes of a Christian citizen, represents the emblem of eternity and glorifies, in their eyes, God the Father, God the Son and God the holy ghost.

When the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost, reminding us of our national motto, 'In God We Trust.'

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington and the sailors and marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States, preserving for us the rights, privileges and freedoms we enjoy today."

Let us return to life's simple ways: May we always remember to give our flag the respect it so deserves.

The Closing To Our Book



Our Flag— Our Country's Symbol

It is a promise of our future and a reminder of our past.

A teacher or custodian raises the flag to let our children know the schoolyard is a place to come for a chance to learn. We stand together before an event starts and promise our allegiance with our hand or hat across our heart. Our patriots prayed that they would see their flag in the morning light. A cas-

ket draped with our flag brings mourners from towns and battlefields. Explorers would carry and place our flag at their journey end as did our people landing on the moon and in new territories. Children wave flags at parades as do spectators at athletic games, concerts and when ships land at home. A brilliant flag ends the fireworks on the 4th of July and we all wear a symbol, a tiny flag-shaped pin, as a reminder of where we've been and where we're going. Feel the pride that swells within our hearts as we see our flag. We have a special day set aside, June 14, to honor our national emblem, the American flag—inspired by five decades of state and local celebrations.

Flag Day—the anniversary of the flag resolution of 1877—was officially established by proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson on May 30, 1916. On August 3, 1949, President Harry S. Truman signed an Act of Congress designating June 14 of each year following as National Flag Day.

Its etiquette requires that it never touches the ground or be displayed lower than the flags of other nations, state or organizations. There is also a special way to fold the flag so that it ends up in a triangle with the stars on top reminding us of our nation's motto, "In God We Trust." May we always remember to display our flag, especially on Veterans Day, 4th of July, Memorial Day, Flag Day and other special days. Every day is appropriate.

May we always remember to give our flag the respect it deserves.

**LONG
MAY
IT
WAVE!**



We've had lots of fun and interesting experiences trying to make a Memory Book the LaMoille Alumni and friends would enjoy.

Many people have contributed to this book. High praise goes to the following:

*Karen's Mimeo
Minute Man
Sherry Benson*

who all had a part in
typing, copying and collating our book.
Even Karen's husband Chuck Colwell helped collate.

Sources of information and help included:

*Barbara Baltisberger
Bill Baltisberger
Ardis Benson
James Benson
Wendell Benson
Lois Bryant
Irene Bunting
Ray Coulter
Shirley Dixon
Shar Fricke
Ann Goecke
Marian Goecke
Hazel Hickman
Max Landon
Romaine Pansegrau
Dorothy Rider
Lois Rule
Barbara Scafferi
Fred Wyatt*

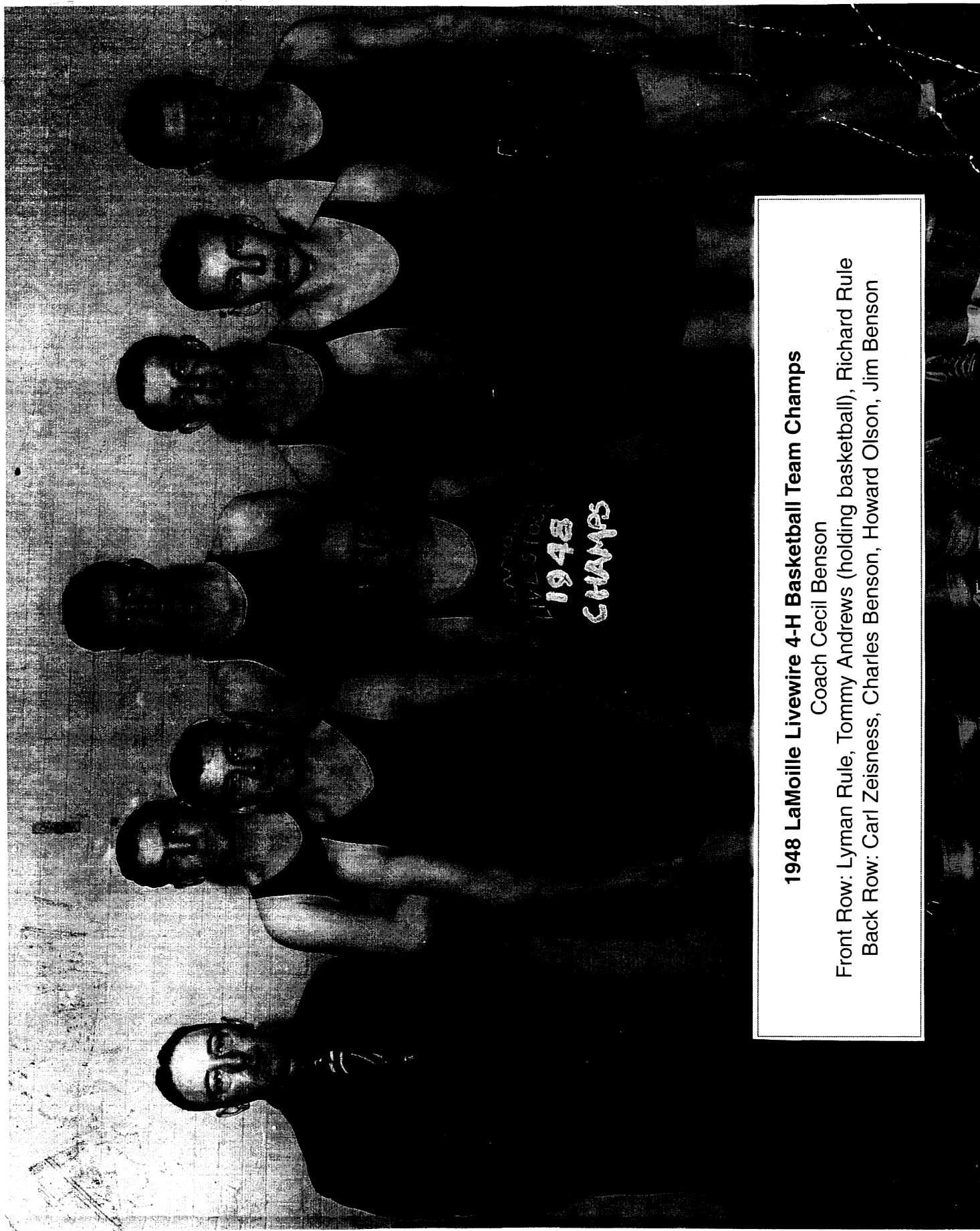
*LaMoille Congregational Community Church records
Marshalltown Library
State Center newspaper
Times-Republican newspaper*

Thanks to all who made this book possible by contributing photos and doing research. We hope we didn't leave anyone out. It was not intentional.

Enjoy the book and put your own memories and ideas in it.

LaMoille Alumni Committee

*Barbara Benson Baltisberger, Jim Benson,
Hazel Howard Hickman, Max Landon,
Lyman Rule, Barbara Wilcox Scafferi, Don Wills*



1948 LaMoille Livewire 4-H Basketball Team Champs

Coach Cecil Benson

Front Row: Lyman Rule, Tommy Andrews (holding basketball), Richard Rule

Back Row: Carl Zeisness, Charles Benson, Howard Olson, Jim Benson

1947 LaMoille Baseball Team of Independent Central Iowa League

Coach Albert Goecke

Front Row: Harlon Moody, Bob Goecke, Ray Goecke, Ralph Goecke

**Back Row: Elmer Benson, James Benson, Wendell Benson, Charles Benson, Louis Terlisner
Coach Frank Goecke, Coach Herbert Benson**





Contributed Photo

Jim Benson (left to right), Carolyn Bower, president of the Central Iowa Genealogical Society, Marshall County representatives Charlotte Sargent and Judith Camero and the Historical Society's Barbara Baltisberger are pictured as Jim and Barbara presented the La Moille Military, Church, School and Community historical book, detailing the history of the town and school.

La Moille Alumni sponsors memorial book

The La Moille Alumni have sponsored a Memorial Book entitled "Memory Book honoring La Moille Military, Church, School and Community." It has a history of the town and school.

The consolidated school was built in 1914 and graduated its first High School Class in 1918.

When schools further consolidated, the La Moille school joined West Marshall school. La Moille Church history includes a list of ministers and member.

The names of military personnel of the community are engraved on a granite stone from World War I, II, Korean and Vietnam Wars. The project was started by the Amvet Auxiliary in the 1940s.

The wooden billboard had

to be replaced and painted several times, so the La Moille Alumni decided to make a permanent memorial. This was dedicated June 3, 2000.

It stands beside the La Moille Community Congregational Church near the old school grounds.

The book has been placed in all the Marshall County libraries and The West Marshall Middle School and High School libraries.

The Marshall County Historical Society and the Central Iowa Genealogical Society have both purchased this book.

Compiling this book was

the special La Moille Alumni Committee of Max Landon, Lyman Rule, Don Wills, Hazel Hickman, Barbara Scafferi, Jim Benson and Barbara Baltisberger.

This committee raised the money for this project mostly from friends, alumni and the La Moille community. There were approximately 250 families and individuals making this project a reality.

A special flag from a deceased soldier flies over the stone on special patriotic days such as the 4th of July, Flag Day, Veterans Day, and others.

The committee has sold over 100 books for \$35.00 to contributors and Alumni.

It may not be the biggest community in the state, but it still has a rich history. LaMoille, the unincorporated community between State Center and Marshall, has captured its past in a new history book to remind the next generation about what happened here since it was settled.

LaMoille alumni Jim Benson and his sister Barbara Balisberger created the LaMoille History Book as a memory book to pass onto future generations. Copies of the book were presented to the West Marshall High School and the Gutekunst Public Library last week. It will also be sent to the West Marshall Middle School as well as other county libraries to serve as a research tool for students and interested members of the community.

One landmark in particular stands in LaMoille near the Congregational Church. Benson explained that his mother and sisters erected a sign in the 1940's to honor those from LaMoille who served in World War I and World War II. Over the course of many years the wooden sign deteriorated and the LaMoille Alumni Association decided to erect a more permanent

sign made of granite in its place. A fund-raiser was held and \$17,000 was raised for the stone. Balisberger said 250 families contributed to the fund.

Now the names of 225 veterans of the two World Wars as well as Korea and Vietnam have been etched in the stone. It was re-dedicated on June 3, 2000.

The LaMoille school was one of the first schools to close and consolidate with another district. It was closed in 1956 when there were 141 different schools in Marshall County. The Congregational Church in LaMoille was built in 1878 and by 1896 had 100 parishioners. A picture of the school and the church are also part of the granite marker. All of this is part of the history book.

The book also contains pieces of unique LaMoille history including newspaper clippings throughout the years. Benson said one article tells about famous professional baseball player Bob Feller playing for Van Metre High School in a basketball game against the LaMoille team.

The last chapter of the book is a Memories Section for students to add their thoughts and memories of the community as history continues to unfold.

Enterprise is a combination of the State Center Enterprise-Record and the Zeigler Reporter -- Call 641-483-2120 to subscribe.



Barbara Balisberger and James Benson made a presentation of LaMoille History Books to Gutekunst Public Library director Rowena Ryan and to West Marshall High School Principal Greg Herbst last week. The books will be used in the classroom on local history studies.

Connections. The sign erected in the early 1940 was put up by the LaMoille Area's residents. 141 schools in the County were back when one woman school district consolidated in late 1800 + early 1900's. These schools consolidated to make larger schools. Albion, Clemens, Liberty, Melbourne, Van Cleve, Rhodes & Havenhill around 1910-1914. LaMoille was the 4 schools in 1914 to consolidate.