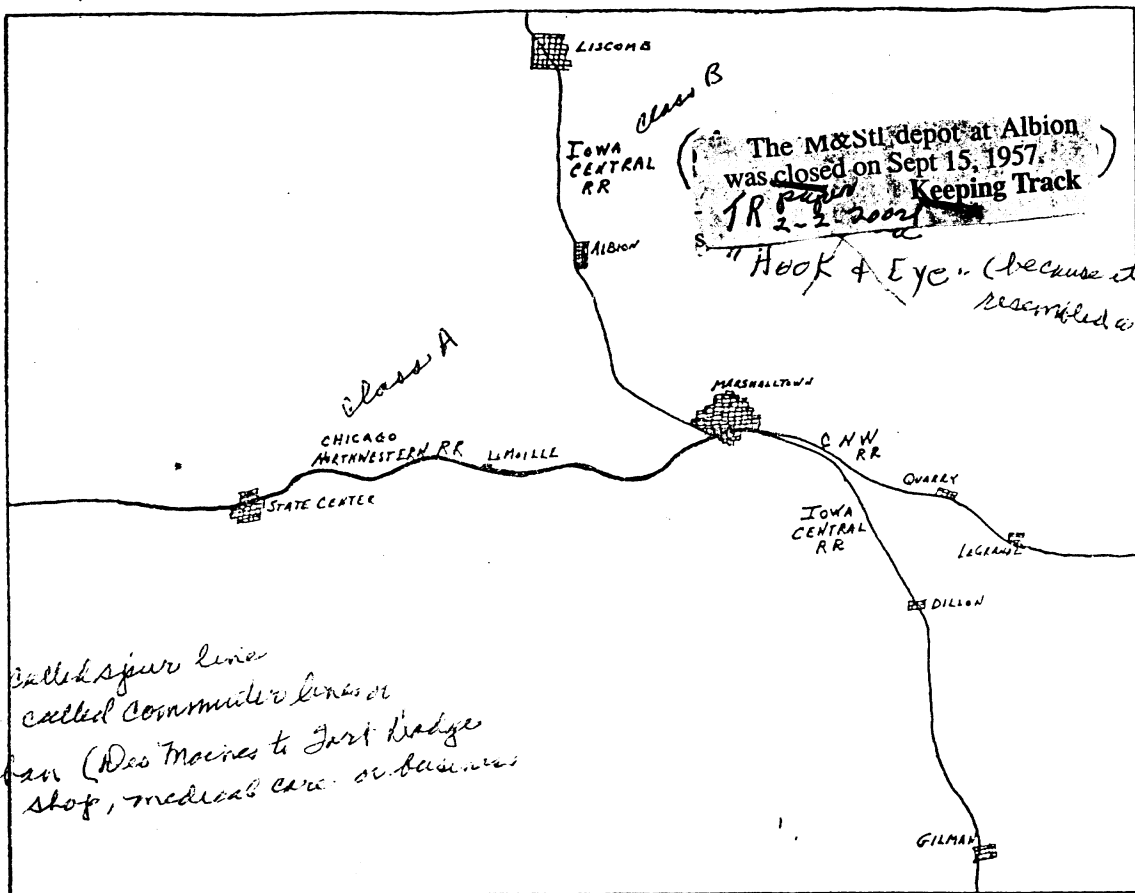
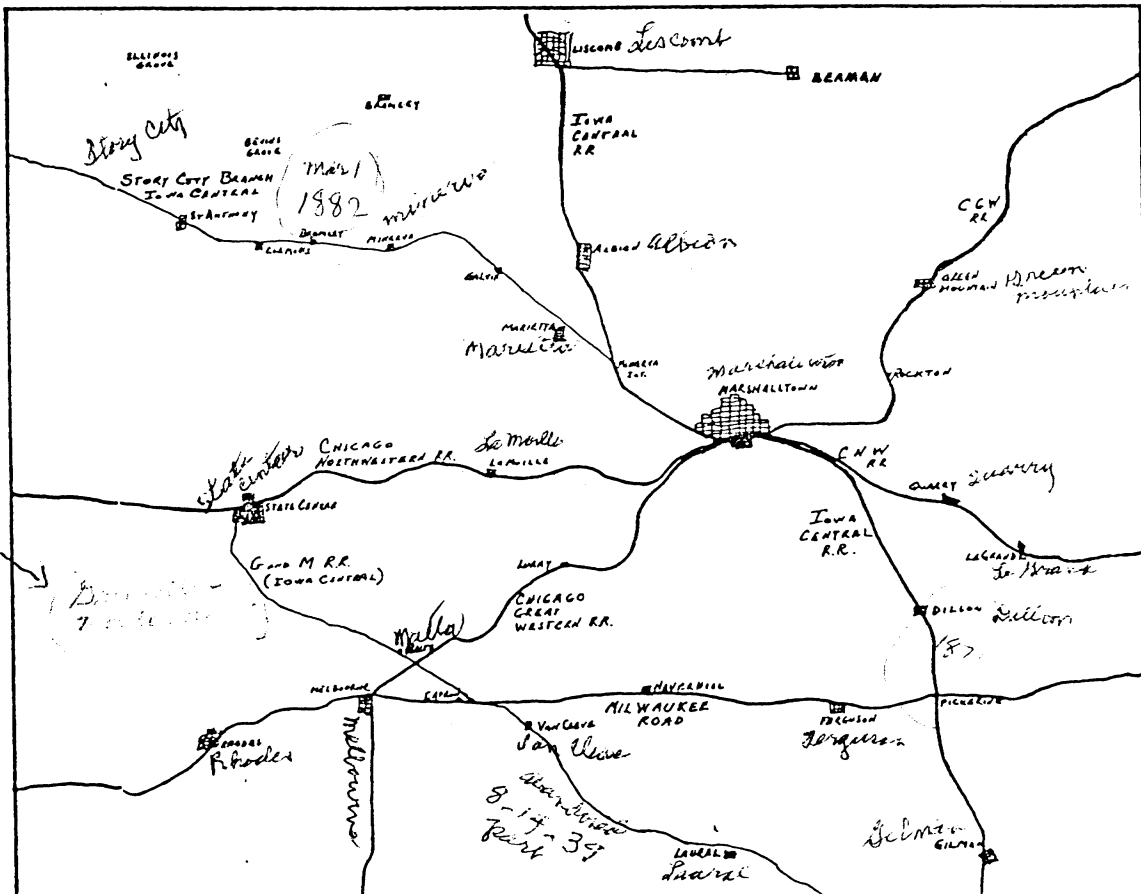


Appendix A



Short lines called spur lines
5. horter are called commuter lines or
interurban (Des Moines to Fort Dodge
shop, medical care or business

Railroads in Marshall County in 1870 (above) and in 1900 (below).



Taken from: Ups and Downs of Iowa's Railroads by William Nelson
Whitehill

State Center is not a plug town

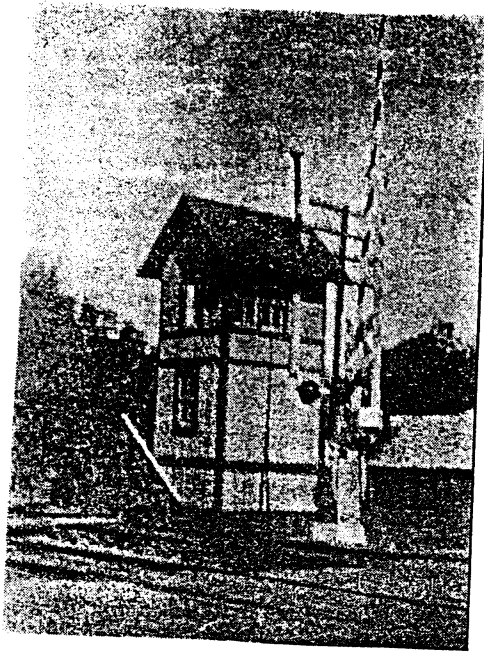
September 30, 1926 *State Center Enterprise*

"Drove through State Center for the first time—a clean attractive town. I had always thought of the place in terms of the State Center branch of the M. & St. L., which wasn't fair by a long shot. State Center is no plug town. Maybe the fine air, the good roads and companionship lent a tint of rose to my bi-focals, but it seemed to me there could be nothing finer than a drive across Iowa—thru these Iowa Towns in June." Chas. K. Needham, editor and publisher of the *Grinnell Register*

No one wants right of way

March 10, 1927 *State Center Enterprise*

Abandonment of that portion of the State Center branch line of the M. & St. L. from VanCleve to State Center, has brought about an unusual controversy as to the ownership of the old right-of-way and payment of taxes on the property. The owners of the abutting property have little desire for the land, which they contend, will add only to their tax cost. Included in these small tracts is the station grounds at State Center. The track was pulled up last summer.



Ties to the Railroad

This gate tower used to stand at the crossing just north of Eckhardt Enterprises. Bob Fisher worked at this tower for about 3 months in 1956. An air pump manually operated the crossing guards at all the gates. There was no gate at the east crossing on Third Avenue at that time. The gate tower was manned around the clock. There was a telegraph and telephone in the tower. Thanks to Bob and Joan for the picture and information.

*Joan where
they pumped
all gates*



Tower. Had 24 hr shifts
Vern Bodie - daytime
Bobby Kutzner
Harry Postal
Patrick (Patsy) Wilson
Bob Fisher did 3 mo.
midnight till 8:00

*Wag east crossing - Wig Wag
other 3 crossings*

*Pumped each crossing
separate*

*Buried Pipeline for
each crossing*

*Also - put out messages
(train orders)*

*Air water tank west
of tower. Train
stopped when
needed*

Section Gang

Joe Egger Sr.

Locomotive - Pad Wilkening

Ray Bower

*Jan 1, 1915 attention called
to dangerous rail road crossing
There were 8676 crossing in
the state, and
1 for every 12 miles of Hwy.
not counting within
incorp. cities & towns.*

Railway Board orders crossing east of town

Northwestern must install adequate, safe crossing replacing viaduct

July 30, 1931 State Center Enterprise

The state board of railroad commissioners late Saturday, at Des Moines, issued an order requiring the Chicago & Northwestern railway to construct an "adequate and safe" crossing over its tracks one mile east of State Center and to erect proper wigwag signals at the crossing. The work is to be finished by August 15.

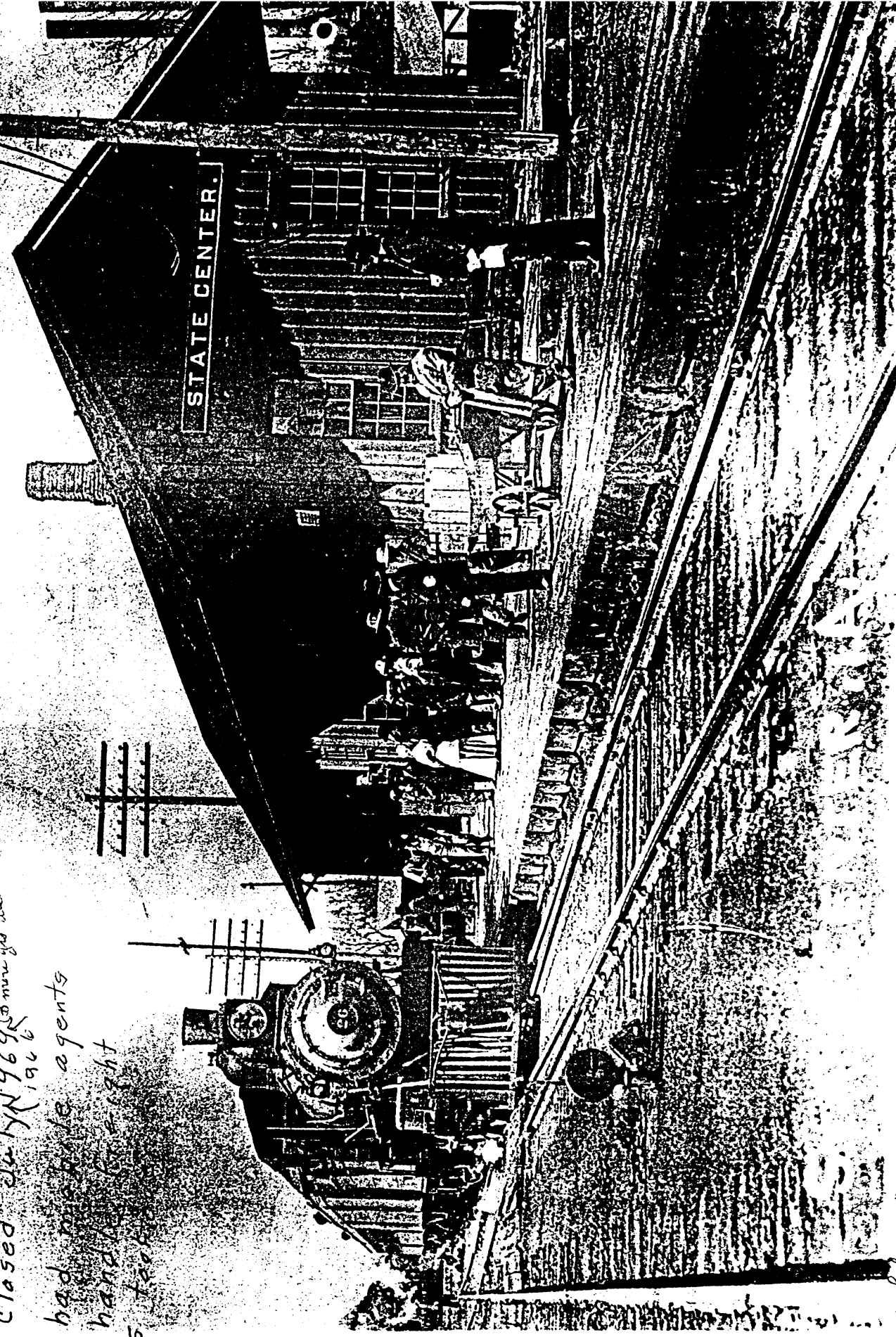
The Marshall County Board of Supervisors, and farmers in the vicinity who would use the crossing had asked for a viaduct, to replace the one which burned in March, 1930. A hearing on this matter was held at State Center on May 28, 1931, at which time the railway commissioners were here and inspected the crossing.

The entire expense of the proposed crossing roadway and signal protection is to be borne by the Chicago & Northwestern railway under the commission's order.

12 foot car
 Copied off of
 1884-1909
 removed in 1944

Wm Barnes 1863
 Wm Tate 1889
 1947
 1949
 1967

Depot Agent - Charles Pleshek
 Lewis Terlisner -
 Depot closed July 1969
 Then had mobile agents
 to handle freight
 UPS took



1864 part of the year became part of the year

Ten Years Ago - March 29, 1917

Ralph Watson has this week accepted a position on the C. & N.W. railroad as weighing clerk on their fast mail trains. He left on Sunday morning and went through State Center on his initial trip on No. 12 Tuesday noon. His run will take him through State Center every other day on No. 2 & No. 15 respectively.

Charles Pleshek retires as North Western Agent after long service

January 23, 1947 *State Center Enterprise*

Charles Pleshek who has served as station agent for the Chicago and North Western Railway at State Center for more than thirty-six years, retired from service January 1 of this year. "Charley", as he is familiarly known in this community, retired voluntarily and will receive an annuity from the government in the future.

The veteran State Center station agent started to work for the North Western December 1, 1903, as a crossing flagman at Chelsea. He worked at Chelsea for about a year, during which time he took up telegraphy. His first job as operator was at Grand Mound, a position he held for only a short time. In 1905 he went to Lowden as an operator, remaining there until the spring of 1907. He spent the summer of that year as an extra man at Belle Plaine.

Mr. Pleshek went to Nevada as an operator in October of 1907 and remained there until July 10, 1910 when he came here as agent. During his many years here, "Charley" has been a friend to all, accommodating those that he could along the way. This he did, however, without doing away with any of the rules of good railroading.

Mr. and Mrs. Pleshek expect to continue making State Center their home.

1932-1953



Diesel electric, light weight stream lined air conditioned, reclining seats, adj. foot rest, private sleeper, vista dome, buffet lounge, parlor car

Required less power of maintenance

As given by Lewis Jerlesner, Sr (3111 S. 1st St)
2319 Barker St

Clinton, Ia 52932-6957

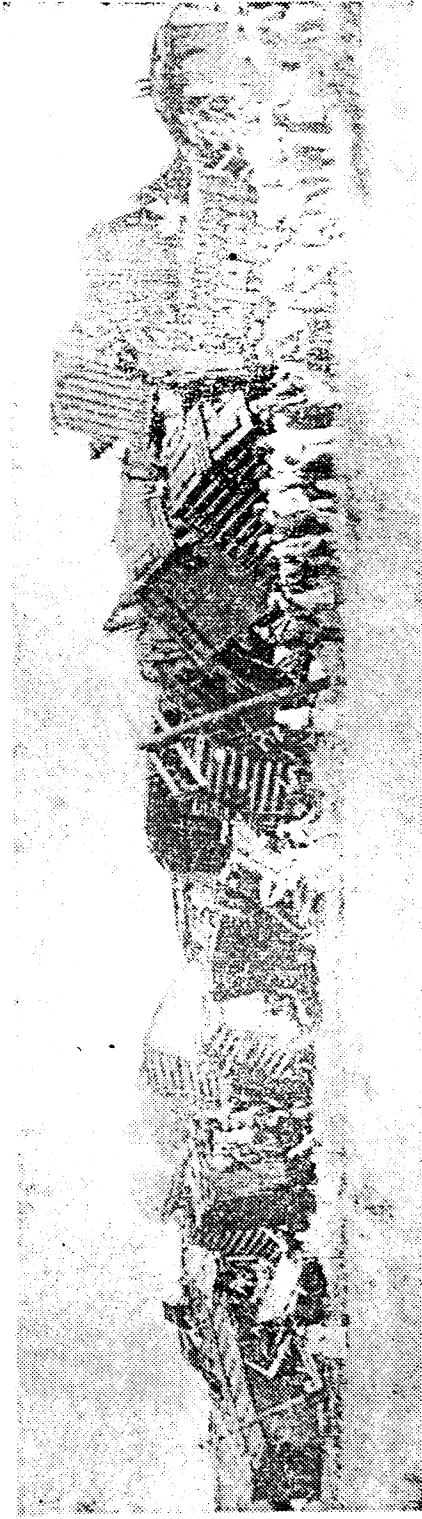
He said in 1958 had the streamliner fleet & had Kate Shelley '400' from Chicago to Omaha. They were No. 1 west bound & No. 2 East bound. Also, No. 5 & No. 6 mail & Express trains. Dale Jiggins worked on them. Dale transferred to RFD in 1953. He retired in 1978.

The local only runs between Chicago & Clinton. These trains were abandoned about 1965 & every thing went to freight trains. The passengers went to air planes & Amtrak.

Faster schedules were required & freight services so they could bid for lucrative mail contracts. Often reached 90 mph.

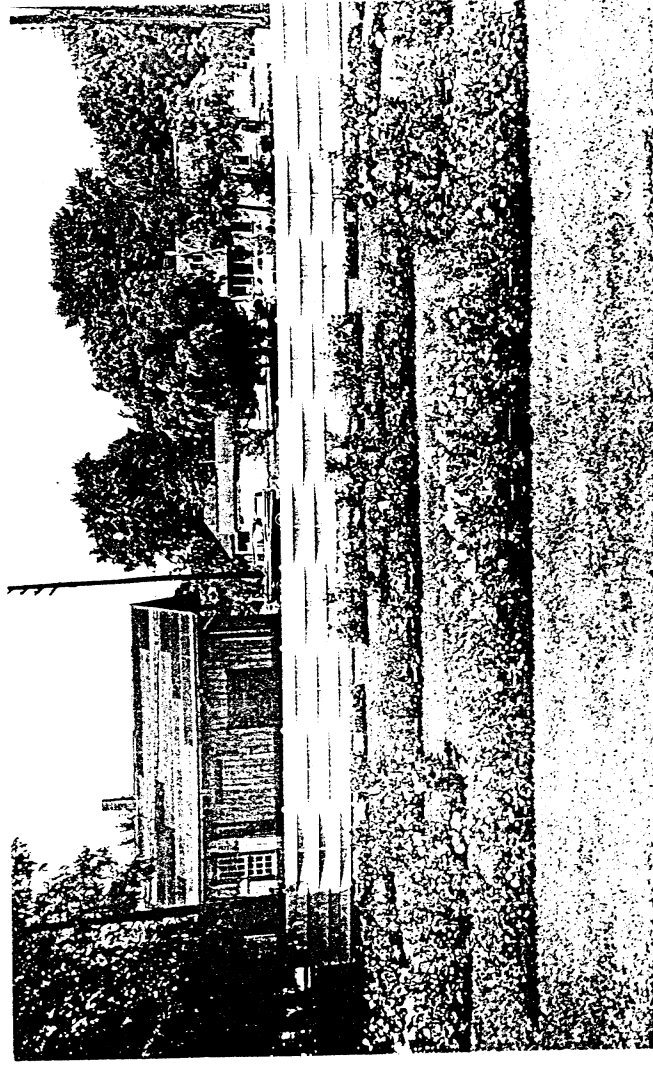
The C. R. W. had 1st rail road post office (sorted mail between stations). The streamliners took 1 day & 3 nights from Chicago to Los Angeles Calif.

es Up North Western Traffic In June

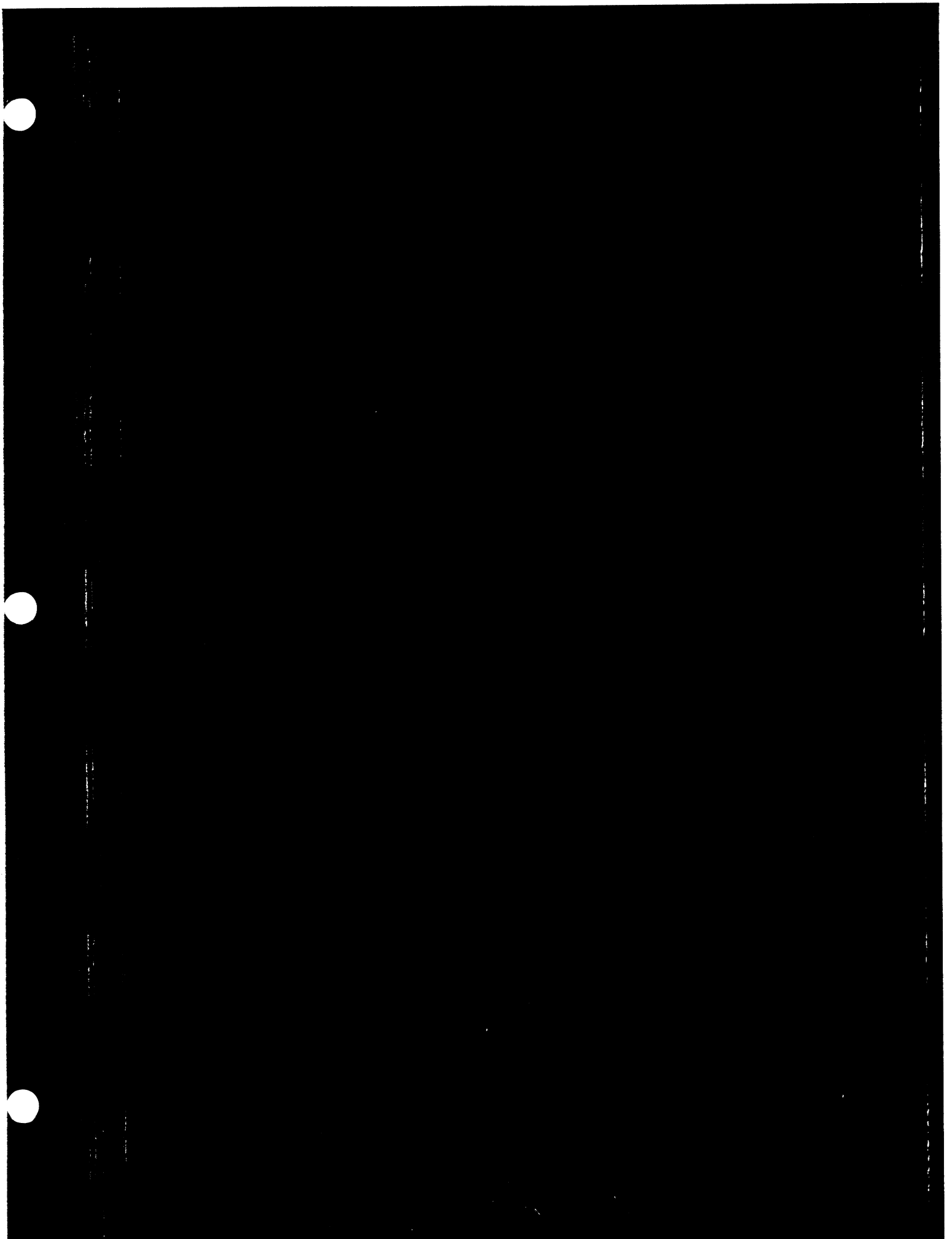


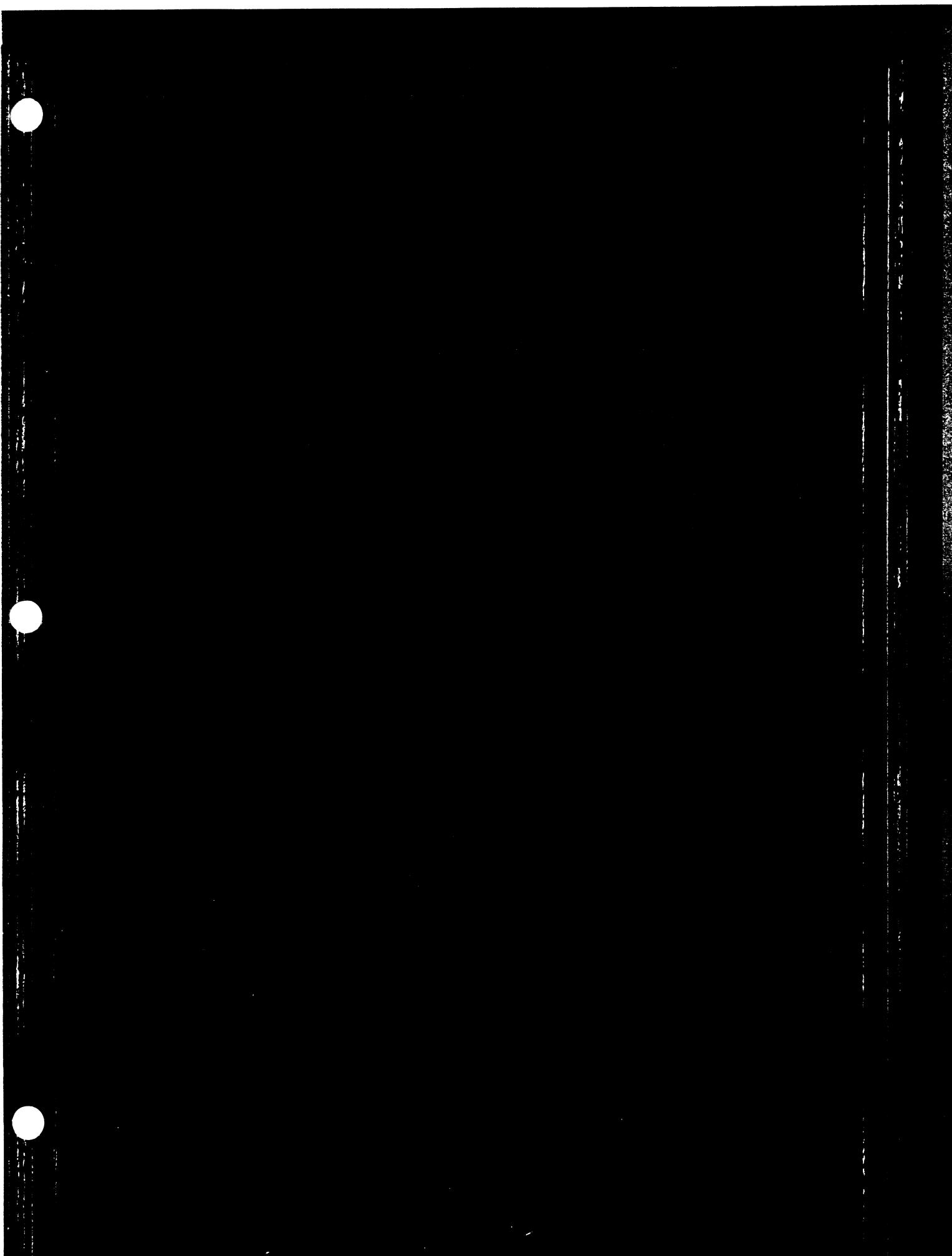
WORST IN YEARS — Described by veteran railroad men as the worst wreck they had seen in 40 years, 39 cars of a North Western thru freight, the majority carrying foodstuffs, some of it consigned to the army, piled up between State Center and Lamolite, June 16, tying up traffic on both tracks for three days. No one was injured but damage was estimated at quarter of a million dollars. Marshalltown company of state guard called out to guard wreckage.

#9440N/945



Central State Bank Rose Garden. State Center
Train Depot in back probably seen from





IOWA PRESS
CLIPPING BUREAU
Des Moines, Iowa '60

Times-Republican
Marshalltown, Iowa

APR 14 1964

State Center Libraries

This Is National Library Week

By EUGENE JACOB

(Staff Writer)

(Part of a series)

The first library at State Center was established about 1900 and was privately sponsored. From this early beginning the public library is now an institution with 8,323 volumes and a circulation of 12,524 books.

It was in the summer of 1900 that the library was moved to its present location in the Community Building. In 1901, Miss Bower, present librarian, was appointed to succeed Maude Evans, who died.

The State Center library is open 23 hours a week, being closed on Thursdays. Hours are from 12 noon to 5 p.m., Miss Bower, notes. "We serve all the West Marshall area," she pointed out.

LAST REPORT from the librarian shows that there are 143 borrowers. Miss Bower noted that children, who borrow books read according to what teachers read. At the present time mysteries and stories about nurses seem to be popular. The younger children are interested now in the Dr. Seuss books.

Book borrowers at the library are kept abreast of the latest and popular books through the medium of a bulletin board which is adorned with the covers of the books that are being read the most at a particular time. Available for reference at the library are four sets of encyclopedias. On the shelves, too, are bound volumes of the National Geographic magazine dating back to 1900.

History shows that in 1920 a branch of the Marshalltown Library was set up at the public building in State Center.

EUGENE WYNNONA BOWER, librarian at the public library in State Center, is shown looking at the bulletin board which is a medium for keeping patrons informed of the latest and newest books available at the library. There are book covers from books for all ages. (T-R Staff Photo.)

and patrons visiting the library are presented book marks.

Present library board is Mrs. Lee Hillemann, Mrs. Henry Dobbin, Mrs. Ben Wood, Mrs. Phyllis Hillemann and Helen Whiskill.

The Lincoln Community Library was opened Nov. 15, 1900, in the Lincoln Lodge building under the sponsorship of the

Auxiliary, Mother's Club, Mensons, Old Fellows and Rebekahs.

On Nov. 15, 1907, the library moved into a one-room building across the street from the Lincoln Hall. The building was festively adorned, put on a foundation and painted. Inside it was wired and electrified. A student built to help

DM Trib, 10/11/74
**New Library
In State Center**

(The Tribune's Iowa News Service)

STATE CENTER, IA. — An open house will be held from 1 to 6 p.m. Sunday at the new location of the Gutzkunst Public Library here.

The new location is in the former J. G. (Gifford) Gutzkunst home which was given to State Center as a library. Gutzkunst established a trust including his home and 200 acres of farmland. The income from the farmland goes to support the library.

The library board invested \$35,000 in the home to convert it to library purposes.



STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION OF IOWA
Historical Building
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319



State Center - Main Street - Southside -
(Presently Middleschool grounds)

Dr. L. H. Hays, 1900, (the first class), president of the first National Unit of State Teachers.

Dr. L. H. Hays, 1900, the same year was elected to the first National Unit of the American Association of State Teachers, president of the National A. S. T. E.

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James L. Thompson, 1901, member of the Iowa bar association and the Iowa County bar association; chairman of the Iowa State civil service commission.

Arthur H. Stine, 1901, lawyer; member of the Iowa bar association and the Iowa County bar association; chairman of the Iowa State civil service commission.

Walter Albertus Stueben, 1902, dairy expert; with the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Frank C. Brown, 1903, agriculturalist; member of the State Center board of education and secretary of the State Center Farmers' Grange Association.

R. J. Budge, 1903, member of the board of the Lincoln Highway Association; past third district commander of the American Legion.

Ray L. Noble, 1907, managing director of the national committee on boys' and girls' club work; high school superintendent at State Center, 1932.

R. B. Gilbert, 1908, president of the Central State Bank of State Center; former representative in the Iowa general assembly from Marshall county.

J. C. Gutschmidt, 1908, president of the State Center board of education and legal advisor during the period of reconstruction and construction of new buildings (1920-1932); elected mayor of State Center in 1935.

Henry A. Bohlen, 1911, agriculturalist; president of the State Center board of education; vice president of the Chicago Live Stock Producers' Association.

Wynona Sawyer, 1914; postmaster for State Center from 1920 to 1935.

Holmes

Raymond Wynona Howe, 1912; instructor in history in the Rock River high school, Cleveland, Ohio.

H. Dwight Hallenbeck, 1932; auditor for Armour & Co., Chicago packers.

Lyle C. Pischke, 1927; corporation lawyer; winner in the state spelling contest in 1928; rated second in the State Examinatory contest in 1929; admitted to the bar of New York May 11, 1930; admitted to Iowa bar Oct. 5, 1930; opened law office in Colwyn, Ia., in 1932.

John Bohlen, 1927; lawyer with practice in Kansas City, Mo.

Frank Lee Sawyer, 1931; chairman of the general assembly of the Iowa State Bar Association.

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Walter E. Brown, 1932 executive in the statistical department of the American Telegraph and Telephone Corp., Boston.

Don Woods, 1929; graduated from the law school of the State University of Iowa, 1937; elected judge of the superior court at Chicago, Ill., March 28, 1939.

Robert M. Liston, 1973, appointed postmaster of
State Center June 15, 1936, by Franklin Delano Roosevelt,
president of the United States.