

One hundred years ago the major news stories were about community improvement and local politics.

Crocker continued to have problems with its electric light plant, while Richland's electric service was more dependable. Bennett Skaggs from Iberia finally brought dependable electric service to Dixon. While the northern part of the county was often bathed in electric light at night, Waynesville, the county seat, still remained in the dark.

Road improvement continued to gain momentum as automobile ownership continued to grow. The stock law controversy, which had been dormant for several years, popped up again. There was a general feeling of prosperity. The towns were pouring concrete sidewalks and spiffing up appearances. Teetotalers were happy. Pulaski County entered the Roaring Twenties with something more like a purr.

## 1921

January 20  
*Crocker News*

At the charivari of Snowden Logan Friday night Frank Roam set off a dynamite cap which exploded entering the fleshy part of the leg of Scott Carver, who happened to be near, making a very ugly and painful wound. Dr. Talbot immediately proved for the shell, but was unable to locate the cap.

January 27

A few days ago Les Jarrett, of near Iberia, captured a large eagle near his home. The bird measured 7 feet 9 inches from tip to tip of its wings and was sold to the St. Louis Zoo to which place it was shipped Wednesday.

The bird had been caught in a steel trap some time ago, but had gotten away and when found was tangled in the top of a tree from which

place it was "rescued." But few of these great birds are ever seen in this section and their capture is indeed a rare occurrence.

A general reduction of 2 cents a gallon on gasoline and 3 cents a gallon coal oil was made today at the Standard Oil company filling stations. Gasoline, previous to this time, has been selling at 28.8 cents a gallon and coal oil has been selling at 18.5 cents a gallon.—*Springfield Leader*.

February 4  
*Dixon Pilot*

### Hotel Changes Hands

V. C. Henderson has sold the Frisco Hotel furniture and business to J. L. Eads of Rolla, who is to assume possession by the 15th of this month.

Missouri has one automobile for every fourteen persons. The United States runs the same

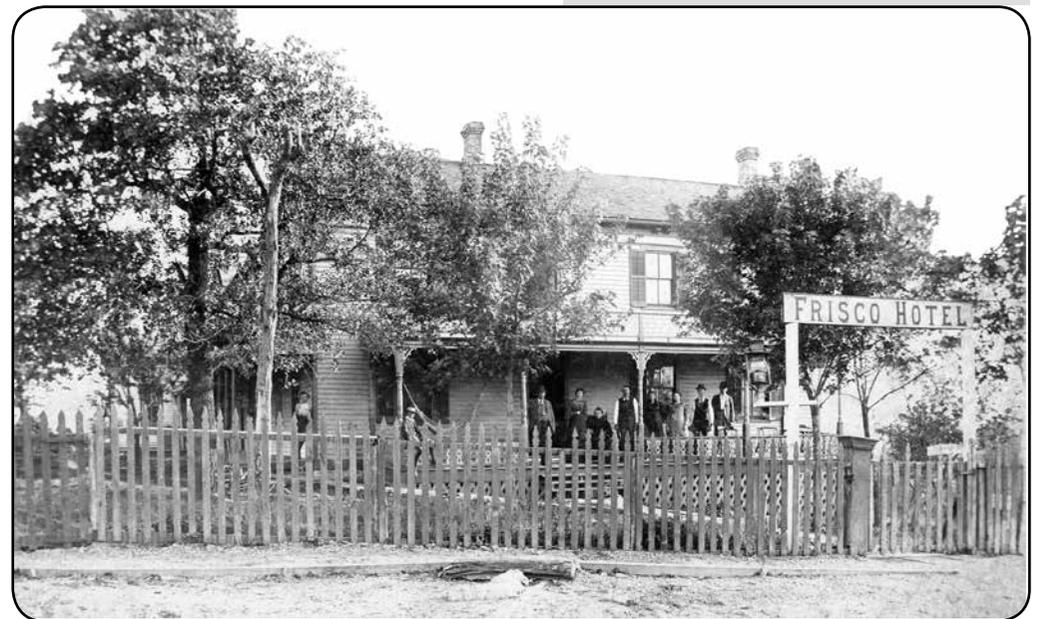
# Pulaski News



## News and Views of 100 Years Ago 75 Years Ago

The newspapers of Pulaski County had no changes in ownership from 1920. Charles Iden was Editor and Publisher and Josie M. Iden the Local Editor of the *Crocker News*. The *Dixon Pilot* continued in the capable hands of Arundel Goforth. To supplement his income, Editor Goforth was also selling Evinrude boat motors. In December of 1917, R. T. Lemons bought the *Richland Mirror* and became Proprietor and Publisher and remained so during 1921. V. V. Long, who took over the *Pulaski County Democrat* in 1914, continued at the helm of the county seat publication. However, a fire incinerated the newspapers from 1918 to late 1940 so none survive on microfilm.

News compilation by Terry Primas.



The Frisco Hotel in Dixon was built in 1876 by William H. Harris. Harris ran it until the round house was moved to Newburg in 1884. The hotel was operated then by each of the Imboden brothers (John, Tom, and Frank) at different times during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. In 1917, Waynesville attorney Fred L. Scott and wife, who had operated the Black Hotel (today known as the Old Stagecoach Stop) for just a few months, leased the Frisco Hotel. V. C. Henderson took over management of the hotel in February of 1919. Two years later, Henderson sold the business to J. L. Eads of Rolla, who recently sold his Rolla Meat Market on Eighth Street. The hotel was located on the south side of the railroad tracks near the depot. The image above is of the hotel circa 1910. The structure is now an apartment house. Courtesy of the Jessie McCully Library.

average of fourteen. Missouri is the 27th state in number of cars compared to population, South Dakota being first with one car to each six persons. Missouri had 296,919 automobiles licensed in 1920.

February 10  
*Crocker News*  
**No Lights**

A burnt out bearing in the dynamo at the light plant wrecked the dynamo so badly Sunday night that it was necessary to send it to St. Louis for repairs. The town will be in darkness until it is reinstalled.

February 17  
WAYNESVILLE—If you want anything done and right, let the women do it. This fact was demonstrated Friday when the ladies of the Civic League went in a body before the County Court

asking for certain improvements all of which sounded so reasonable to the court that their demands are at once agreed to and an order made to remove the hitch racks around the court house lawn from the east entrance along the south side to the west entrance. Walks will be built from each entrance to the court house and around the square where hitch racks are removed. The town will put in the crossings on the east and west side and bear half the expense of putting down sidewalks around the square. When this is done it will add much to the appearance of both town and county property.

Vernon Copp and Leo Teeple, of Crocker, were here [Waynesville] Monday and leased the hall over the produce store and as soon as it can be repaired will install a moving picture show, giving us two shows each week.

### The Telephone Girl

The telephone girl sits still in her chair,  
And listens to voices from every where.  
She knows all the gossip, she knows all the news,  
She knows who is happy and who has the blues.  
She knows all our sorrows, she knows all our joys,  
She knows all the girls who are chasing the boys.  
She knows all our troubles, she knows all our strife,  
She knows all the men who talk mean of their wife.  
She knows every time we are out with the boys,  
She knows the excuses that each fellow employs.  
If the telephone girl told all that she knows,  
She would turn all her friends into bitterest foes.  
She would sow a small wind that would soon be a gale,  
Engulf us all in trouble and land us in jail.  
She would start forth a story, which, gaining in force,  
Would cause half our wives to sue for divorce.  
She would get all our churches mixed up in a fight,  
And turn our bright days into sorrowing night.  
In fact, she could keep the whole town in a stew,  
If she told out one-tenth of the things that she knew.  
Say, kid, but doesn't it make your head whirl,  
When you think what you owe to the telephone girl?

from *Crocker News Exchange*, January 27, 1921



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Courtesy of the Licking Art and History Museum.

March 17  
Crocker News

Work preparatory to laying sidewalk around the court house square has been commenced. Tom Hedrick and Alex Logan are the contractors

Several young trees have been set out in the court house lawn which should be protected by the strict enforcement of the stock law. Gardeners would also like to see this law enforced.

Assessed valuation of selected school districts from county list of all schools: No. 26 Hooker, \$48,610; No. 31 Waynesville, \$237,710; No. 2 Dixon, \$396,610; No. 15 Crocker, \$275,3000; No. 35 Richland, \$380,080; No. 50 Cedar Hill, \$71,690; No. 54 Spring Creek, \$37,250; No. 55, Rolling Heath, 77,130; No. 60 Big Piney, \$74,130; C1 Bloodland (consolidated) \$267,370; No. 57 Maize, \$48,730; No. 27 Anderson, \$45.680; No 29 Gospel Ridge, \$38,070  
[The smallest assessed valuation for a school district was No. 41 Cedar Grove, 20,720; the largest was

Richland with \$380,080.]  
The total assessed valuation of Pulaski County, according to the above figures, was \$4,426,940.

March 18  
Dixon Pilot

**Why Can't Dixon Have Band?**

Dixon can have a cornet band if the instruments are collected and placed in the hands of those who would be glad to join a band and use them.

Why not organize a band among the Scouts? There are some in the Scout organization who could be taught to play and could furnish music on the Fourth of July and other occasions when a band is needed.

ONE WHO IS INTERESTED.

March 24  
Crocker News

The managers of the Crocker Movie Theatre planned to open a moving picture show at Waynesville Tuesday night, but owing to the fact that they were unable to obtain sufficient voltage to operate their

machine from the Delco lighting plant that they had planned to use, they had to wait until they could make other arrangements. [See next page.]

April 8  
Dixon Pilot

**Funke Sells Studio.**

F J. Funke, whose wife died a few months ago, sold his photo studio yesterday to E. W. Magill of Wisner, Nebr., and is retiring from business for a time and will take a long needed rest. He expects to leave Dixon within a few days.

Being a good citizen and excellent photographer, we regret that Mr. Funke is leaving Dixon, but hope his place will be ably filled by Mr. Magill, who seems to be made out of the right kind of stuff, and who is now with us.

April 21  
Crocker News

**E. G. Williams Dead**

Col. E. G. Williams, ex-county clerk and old citizen of Pulaski

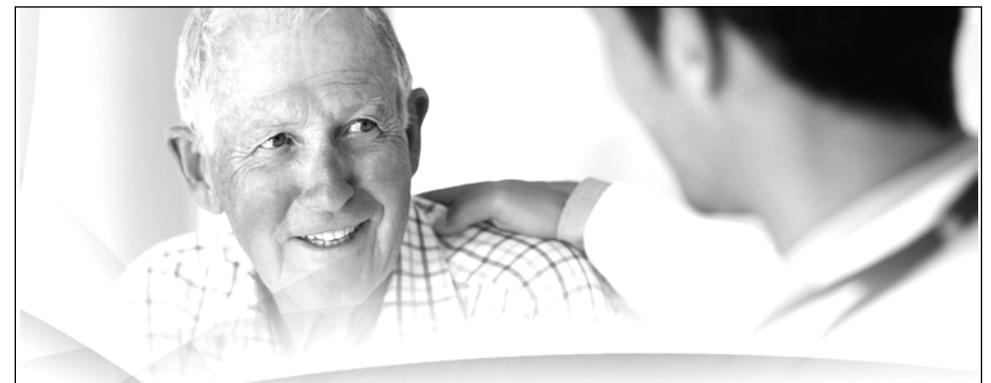
county, passed away Monday at the home of a nephew at Edgar Springs in the south part of Phelps Co. and was buried in the Smith cemetery near Edgar Springs Tuesday.

Mr. Williams was 78 years of age at the time of his death. He was a native of Virginia, but came to this county about 1875. He was a veteran of the Civil War and had lost a leg fighting for the Confederate cause. He was active in Pulaski County affairs for many years, having served in the office of county clerk for 40 years without interruption, first as a deputy and later as clerk and was succeeded in that office by the present incumbent, L. A. Carmack, who is now serving his second term.

Mr. Williams formed a wide acquaintance during his long years of service at the court house and leaves many friends to mourn his passing. [We published "A Tribute to Col. E. G. Williams" in the 2010 Old Settlers Gazette, pages 10-11, which highlighted Williams' dedication to



We publish this photograph for two reasons. The photo was taken by F. J. Funke, the photographer who was retiring and moving from Dixon. He previously had his studio in Rolla and has provided us with numerous postcard images from the early 1900s. Secondly, Dixon apparently had a band prior to the entreaty of "One Who Is Interested" to form a new one. This is the band, circa 1912, in the city park. The members were (l-r): Dick Stricklan, Charles Smith, ?, Guy Rhea, Ray Stevens, Eglin Lumpkin, Frank Schneider, Ray Harrison, Tom Schneider, W. S. Needles. Courtesy of the Jessie McCully Library.



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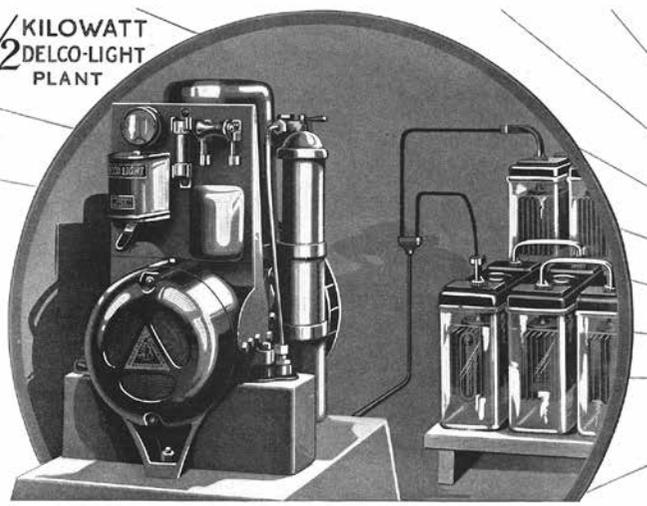
The safety of our patients and caregivers has been, and always will be, our priority. We follow strict standards for disinfecting, Personal Protective Equipment use and social distancing. Please do your part by following CDC guidelines for social distancing, masking and hand washing.



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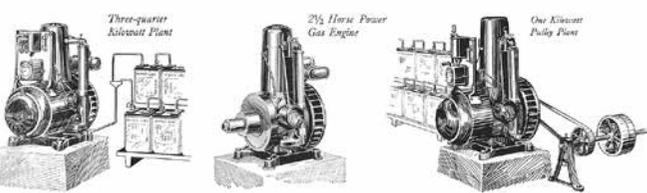
146 THE SATURDAY EVENING POST July 3, 1920

**1/2 KILOWATT DELCO-LIGHT PLANT**



**DELCO**

Three-quarter Kilowatt Plant    2 1/2 Horse Power Gas Engine    One Kilowatt Pulley Plant



**Over 100,000**

147 THE SATURDAY EVENING POST

**\$395**

A new model—the 1/2 Kilowatt—is now added to the family of Delco-Light products—making a line of farm light and power plants that meets varied needs, large or small.

And the price is \$395, f. o. b. Dayton, Ohio.

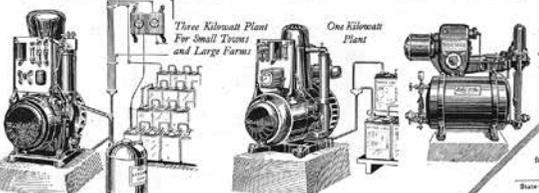
The 1/2 Kilowatt is a smaller size Delco-Light plant, designed for installation where the use of electric light and power is not too heavy, such as in farm homes, summer camps and motor boats. The 1/2 Kilowatt plant with a large battery can be used for pumping water, ironing clothes and operating churns, separators and other power devices.

Like the 3/4, 1 and 3 Kilowatt Delco Light plants—the 1/2 Kilowatt has the famous valve-in-the-head engine. It is air cooled, runs on kerosene, and is furnished with a thick plate long-lived Delco-Light battery.

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At left is a two-page ad for the Delco-Light power plant from the July 3, 1920, issue of *The Saturday Evening Post*. Inventor Charles F. Kettering of Ohio (he also invented the first electric cash register and the electric car starter) turned his attention to electrifying farms. Kettering and two partners founded the Dayton Engineering Laboratories Company (Delco) and in 1916 introduced their Delco-Light system. The system consisted of a kerosene engine and generator that charged large lead-acid batteries encased in clear glass. The batteries provided 32 volts of direct current. When the stored charge in the batteries fell below a preset limit, the engine/generator would automatically start and charge the batteries. By 1928, more than 350,000 Delco-Light plants had been sold. In 1921 Waynesville still did not have a city light plant. Citizens used a combination of Delco-Lights, acetylene gas light systems, or oil lamps.

**Pulaski County USA**  
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Located at 137 St. Robert Blvd. in St. Robert, the Pulaski County Visitors Center has everything you need to fully experience your trip to our county. Stop by for valuable visitor information including directions, suggestions and recommendations from trained and friendly staff.

We can provide brochures on area attractions, dining and lodging, outdoor recreation, community information, and shopping.

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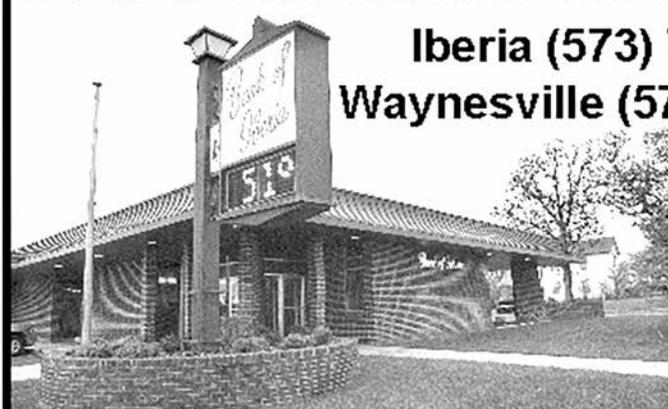
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his Pulaski County office and to the "Lost Cause." Williams also owned the Old Stagecoach Stop from 1888-1890. One of the many unique things about the Old Stagecoach Stop is that it was owned by a one-legged rebel.]

April 22  
Dixon Pilot

#### Enforce Stock Law.

The stock law enforcement proposition, which carried by a great majority at the November election and which a few "free rangers" endeavored to have knocked out through court action at the March term of Circuit Court, has been upheld by Judge Woodside, who took the matter under advisement and rendered his decision latter part of last week.

Attorneys J. R. Kirkham of this city and J. J. Crites of Rolla were on the winning side of the case and the antis were represented by Atty. F. H. Farris of Rolla. Thus, after several years hanging in the balance the stock law idea for Union township has become a settled quantity—and the free rangers are investing in fencing wire. [The stock law controversy had been raging for years, at least since 1904 when we began reading the county news. It began mostly in the towns where some citizens wanted to get the pigs and cows off the streets. Missouri law provided that the citizens of a county or township therein by vote could end the free range of stock. Dixon was in the forefront in passing an ordinance in 1906 that prohibited animals from roaming the city streets. Waynesville did likewise in 1911. A county-wide stock law was soundly defeated in 1906 and again in 1908. Phelps County began restriction with stock laws in eight townships. In 1910, Tavern Township in Pulaski passed a stock law. Liberty Township passed a stock law in 1916. After being defeated in 1910 and 1914, Union Township voted a stock law in 1920. However, the "free rangers" mounted court appeals.]

May 6

#### Stock Law Held Up.

The enforcement of the stock law in Union township has been held up again. Circuit Clerk Frank Manes received a letter from Judge L. B. Woodside Monday stating that he had held the stock law in Union Township to restrain stock from running at large valid as noted at the last general election. But the same could not be enforced owing to the fact that the plaintiffs had filed a bond and motion for an appeal which has been granted to the Springfield Court of Appeals.—*Pulaski County Democrat.*

May 12

Crocker News

#### Waynesville Mill Burned

The Waynesville Mill, owned by Will Trower, was destroyed by fire shortly before midnight Saturday night bringing heavy loss to the owner. Mr. Trower had just recently come into ownership of the mill, having bought out the others interested in the business. The mill was built and equipped with modern machinery about two years ago and we understand that Mr. Trower had about 3600 bushels of wheat in the mill when the fire occurred. Another small building near by, which was used as a store house for feed, was also destroyed. The origin of the fire is unknown, as the building was a mass of flames when the fire was discovered, but we are informed that it is thought the fire caught from an exhaust pipe. About two-thirds of the loss of some \$32,000 is said to have been covered by insurance.

June 16

Crocker News

#### Cannibals Once Lived in Missouri Caverns

Did the aboriginal American who inhabited the mounds and caves in the Missouri Ozarks feed upon his young or the young of his enemies? Or did this wild district once comprise the haunt of some lost cannibalistic race, exterminated

ere the white man pushed his way across the continent from the Atlantic seaboard colonies? Recent discoveries in this district point unmistakably to the practice of cannibalism in the past, but by whom remains unanswered.

Thousands of these mound houses and caves exist in the upper swamp region of Missouri, and no one now knows from whence they came. Groups of them have been located in Dent, Oregon, Phelps, Osage, Pulaski and Morgan counties, the latter along the Benton county line.

Their origin is unknown, and archaeologists have long been at a loss to account for them. Until recently, according to a bulletin of the Smithsonian Institution, it had been supposed that these mound and cave dwellings were confined to the southeastern portion of the state; later, through the explorations of Gerard Fowle [Fowke] of the bureau of American ethnology, it was found they extended to the north and the west as well.

In conducting his work of exploration, Mr. Fowke spent the greater part of his time in Missouri in the exploration of two large caves in Pulaski county. The first, known as Miller's cave, is located about three miles northeast of the Big Piney river postoffice. When he had cleared away the soft wood ash

that covered the floor of the cave, Mr. Fowke found more than twenty skeletons in various stages of decay. Two were of aged individuals—the remainder children's. Some of the human bones, in fact most of those of children, were charred and broken and mingled with the debris of animals and fish bones as if the flesh had been used as food and the bones tossed aside with the refuse. There was no indication or evidence whatever of the cremation of bodies, and the condition of the bones pointed unmistakably to the practice of cannibalism.

In the mound dwellings no evidence of this exists, at least none was uncovered in a less thorough examination, although some scientists contend the same race that dwelt in the caves of the Ozarks were the builders of the western and northern mounds. Another theory as to the mounds, however, treating them separately, is that they were left by the Pawnees, whose line of migration was through the area in which they occur. These mounds are similar to known Pawnee earth houses, and it is believed that when this tribe passed beyond the region in which suitable timber could be procured for supporting the weight of the earth and the earth adapted to that usage, they were compelled to substitute for them small poles



The large opening of Miller Cave, 64 feet wide, is halfway up a 200 foot tall bluff with a nearly vertical face. The cave is located in the southeastern corner of Fort Leonard Wood on the Big Piney River.

overlaid with grass. Such are the mounds of Missouri.

In the second cave explored in Pulaski county the same conditions were found. Here 14 skeletons were found, under circumstances similar to those in Miller's cave. The shape of the skulls in these caves seemed to add stress to the theory that the caves were inhabited by a now extinct cannibalistic race, although some skulls were found that vary but slightly from the modern Indian's. The majority were low, small and flat.

The opening to Miller's cave is in the vertical face of a high cliff fronting Big Piney river, with a steep slope beginning 30 feet below the floor of the cave and extending to the water edge. The perpendicular wall with projecting ledge above which forms the roof, prevents direct entrance. The interior can be approached only through another cave, which has an opening in a ravine near by. A narrow passage, barely large enough to admit a man in a crawling or crouching position, connects the two caves, and only through it can access be gained to the main cavern. The inmates were absolutely safe from molestation, as one man could defend this opening against a great number.

A bed of clean, pure ashes, whose depth ranged from three to six feet, covered the floor of the cave from wall to wall, an average distance of about sixty feet. In some places this was so loose as to be almost like a snowbank; in the main part it was as compact as tramped wet snow. All

the wood burned to make this ash had to be carried from either the top or the bottom of the hill, which rises 400 feet.

When it is considered that only a little fire is required by an Indian household, and that the small space within the cave would not provide room for more than half a dozen families at a time, the great amount of wood ash indicates a long occupancy. Even with continuous habitation, several centuries would be required for such a great amount to accumulate. If the residence was intermittent, as was the custom among the roving and hunting tribes, the period would have been longer.

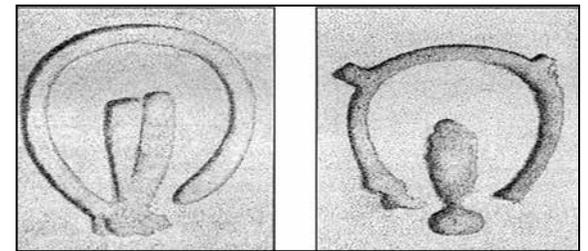
The fact that the remains of articles found in the ash were of the same character from top to bottom tends to show that one race held the cave throughout the centuries, and that practically no advancement in their civilization was made. The explorer found about 75 mortars, 200 pestles, hundreds of flints, flint knives or spear heads, numerous implements of bone, antler and shells; quantities of crude pottery fragments, a few tomahawks and several pipes. While the mortars and the pestles indicated use of grain, seeds and nuts by the occupants, the chief item of food was animal flesh, as indicated by the great number of bones.

In the country surrounding this haunt of cannibals, game was plentiful; the river abounded with fish, and the low fertile bottom lands supplied much corn and other

agricultural products.

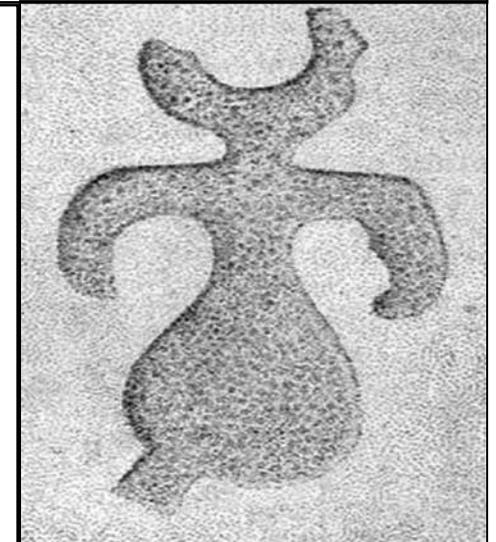
A ditch and embankment across an isthmus guarded a peninsula on the opposite side of the river, and on both sides low house mounds and abundant debris furnished the proof of two large village sites.—*Springfield Leader*.

[See more about Fowke's work on page 14.]

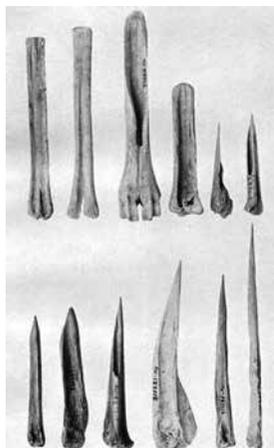


Above Two dozen bisected ovals, which are possibly fertility symbols, adorned the blocks. They were from 4 to 18 inches in length. Below Fowke measured the figure with "some resemblance to a flying bird" as 6½ by 30 inches.

All but one of these illustrations are from Fowke's report section about Miller's Cave. There were four plates showing skulls from the cave, along with several other assemblages of stone and bone tools. Alongside the upper trail were two large sandstone blocks pictured below. The "about 25" petroglyphs were incised into the stone with "a pointed flint instrument." We find the rock art particularly interesting, but Fowke offered only one paragraph of description.



These two large sandstone slabs were incised with "about 25 figures". Photo from the 1930s. Courtesy Missouri University Science and Technology Archive..



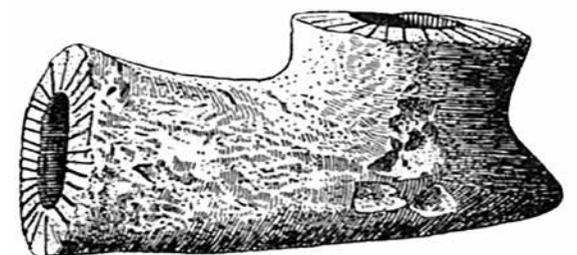
Bone implements



Axes and pestles



Chert projectile points and knives



Clay pipe

**DIXON CHAUTAUQUA**

**Five Great Evenings of Side-Splitting Comedy,  
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Five winsome, vivacious violin artists in charming melodies.

**EUGENE KNOX, Entertainer—**

The platforms foremost impersonator in a vivid evening of life's funniest, most interesting characters.

**NEW YORK GLEE CLUB—**

That renowned male quartet. Music's richest harmonies, four unusual voices.

**A PAIR OF SIXES—**

The screaming roaring American comedy-production, presented by an all-star cast of stage favorites.

**HON. W.E. WENNER—**

Prominent Educator and Legislator, in a stirring, rapid fire address. "The Land at the Nation's Throat," with a prelude by the Sterling Entertainers, those delightful joy artists.

**Sept. 12, 13, 14, 15, 16.**

June 23

**ANNOUNCEMENT!**

Owing to the light plant [*being closed down*] we were forced to return Episode 5 of "The Sky Ranger" unused. However, we will run this episode on Monday night, June 27. Remember, the entire Wednesday program of June 22 will be run next Monday night.

Watch for a special attraction for Saturday night.

Respectfully

Crocker Movie Theatre.

Missouri has 263,004 farms... the average value of land and farms \$11,646.00 and the average value of land and buildings per acre of farm land being \$88.08.

The 11 room house of T. H. Turpin became the Ozark Hotel near the depot operated by L. C. Faust.

July 15

**Rooster Still Remains.**

The old public well stand, which has been standing in the heart of

Dixon for 27 years was knocked to the ground this spring by the city dray truck owned by H. C. Brittain. Mr. Brittain had driven the truck in front of his office and left it standing and it seemed as if the brakes slipped and the truck, which was empty, started backing north when Mr. Brittain jumped into it trying to avoid the accident but to no avail. The stand was completely demolished but the "rooster," which

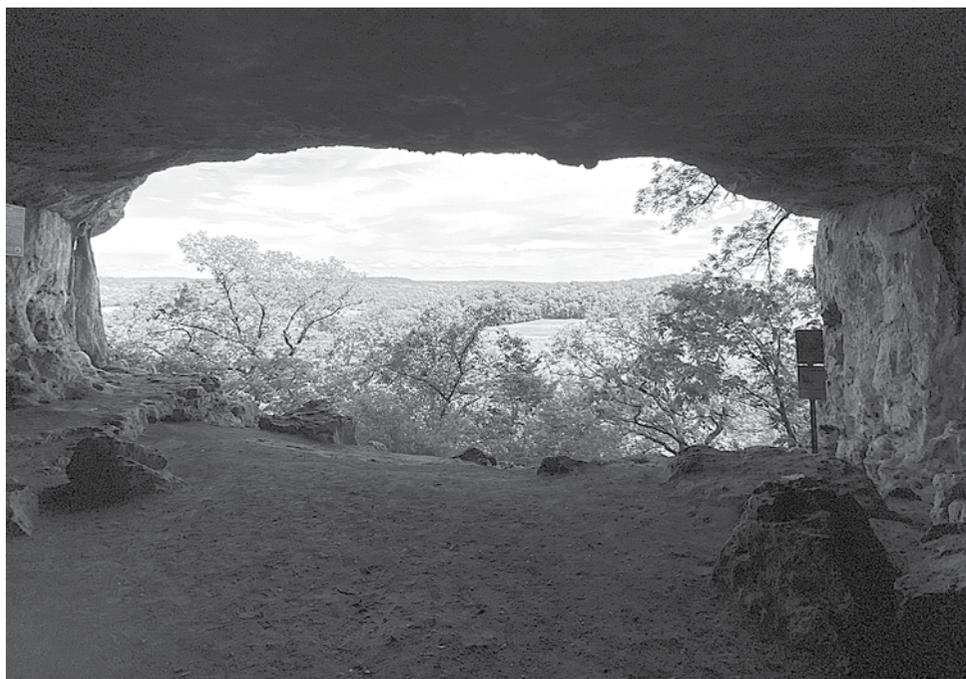
was erected to the top of the pole a few years ago, remaining "unhurt."

**Carnival Company Here**

The Crescent Amusement Co., an aggregation of shows and novelty concessions is showing here this week under canvas to good crowds. Geo. B. Myers, manager of the company, is a citizen of Rolla. Among other attractions they have a fine steam merry-go-round.



The city well with second-story bandstand, ca. 1908, at right center in the image. This was before a rooster was affixed to the top of the pole.



The view from the main room of Miller Cave above the 100 foot vertical drop to the Big Piney below, offers a vista of forest and a few cultivated fields. Fowke observed that, "It opens toward the southeast and thus secures protection from the cold winds of winter, receives the greatest amount of light through the day, and has the advantage of sunshine at the season when this is most needed."



The main cave was not only favorably positioned for weather, it offered protection from enemies. Fowke noted, "The only means of entrance is a small opening in the west wall...so restricted in size as to permit the passage of only one person at a time...consequently one man armed with a club or other weapon could easily guard it against any number who might attempt to enter."

If you are interested in the rich prehistoric legacy of Fort Leonard Wood, we suggest you read Dr. Richard Edging's article "From Dalton to Shamans: Ten Thousand Years of Pulaski County Prehistory" in the 2006 *Old Settlers Gazette*. It is available on our web site at [www.oldstagecoachstop.org](http://www.oldstagecoachstop.org).

The Bank of Waynesville, which had been closed since the cashier, Bert Bell, committed suicide more than two months ago, opened again last Thursday.

August 12  
*Dixon Pilot*

Photographer E. W. Magill is packing his immense stock of photographic paraphernalia for shipment to Earlham, Iowa, where he will open a studio. On account of having a deal on here recently for the sale of his outfit, he had made arrangements to go to Earlham, Iowa, and though the deal here fell through, he was obliged to go, hence Dixon is left without a photo gallery, and the building has been leased by Earl Craine for a barber shop.

August 19  
**King Fishermen.**

Rev. J. L. Winningham and Wm. Gardner, where among the best

fishermen in Pulaski County and perhaps in the State report catching 417 fish with bank hooks from the early part of July until the 1<sup>st</sup> of August besides having two fish fries in the mean-time which fish were not counted. The largest fish caught weighed 12 pounds. They were all caught in the Murphy's Eddy.

August 26

FOUND—Upper part of set of false teeth, near Hugh Harrison residence north-west of Dixon. Owner may have same by calling at Pilot office and paying for this ad.

September 9  
*Dixon Pilot*

The attendance at Circuit Court here this week has been the largest it has been for years. One other remarkable feature has been the number of drunks, which also compared well with the olden times.

November 3

**Sterling [Starling] Wants Out**

John J. Sterling [*Starling*], convicted some four or five years ago of participating in the robbery of the Bank of Waynesville and sentenced to twenty years in the state penitentiary, with three other convicts attempted to break out of the penitentiary early Monday morning, but the attempt failed. The men made their way into the yard from their cells by sawing locks from the doors and bars from a dormitory window. They then attempted to make their escape from the grounds through a sewer pipe under the wall but were discovered and captured. [See 2017 Old Settlers Gazette article "Cussed and Discussed—The 1917 Waynesville Bank Robbery" by Laura Huffman for a detailed account of the robbery and Starling's less than sterling criminal career.]

November 24

*Crocker News*

H. V. English purchased the hotel in Swedeberg, remodeled it and will call it the Travelers Hotel. He also owns Cave Lodge and the movie theater in town. He will continue to operate his summer house on the Gasconade.

November 25

*Dixon Pilot*

Attorney General Barrett stated today that in order to enforce prohibition in Missouri it would require 250,000 men. He added that it might require 125,000 men to watch the 250,000.—*Globe Democrat*.

December 9

Stock law now in force in Union Township. [The Springfield Court of Appeals upheld Judge Woodside's ruling that the law was valid. The free rangers had to pen up their frustrations.]

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*"To Whom Much is Given...Much is Required"*

## Gerard Fowke in the Ozarks

Gerard Fowke (1855-1933) was an early 20th century geologist and archaeologist, although it does not appear that he had a great deal of formal training in either field. He taught school (1876-1878) and was an elementary school principal (1879-1881) in Ohio but found teaching monotonous. He took a course at Ohio State University in geology and archaeology and found his life's interests.

Fowke began his Native American investigations in the eastern United States, particularly mounds in Ohio. His search for prehistoric cultural sites took him from Guatemala to Siberia. He worked for the Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of Ethnology, from 1885-1889. From 1911 to 1916, Fowke was employed by the Missouri Historical Society, where he studied the geology of the St Louis area and river basins. He curated the Society's first collection of Native American artifacts in 1913 in its quarters in the Jefferson Memorial.

Part of Fowke's methodology was to walk the region under study. He often walked 30 miles per day and is reputed to have walked 100,000 miles during his lifetime. He was described by a St. Louis Post-Dispatch reporter present at a lecture to the historical society in 1926 as "...a striking figure

on the platform. He wore a long black coat and, a habit of years in the field, leather boots, their tall tops concealed by his trouser legs. His tanned face peeped from a patriarchal thicket of silver hair and beard, keen and aristocratic. At 71, his eyes glitter, his voice rings and his stride is quick and sure."

The fieldwork for Fowke's report, titled "Cave Explorations in the Ozark Region of Central Missouri," occurred from 1917-1919. Exploration was done in 11 Ozark counties. He identified at least 98 sites worth examining for prehistoric occupation. Of these, 77 were caves. Of the 77 caves, 13 were in Phelps County and 32 caves were in Pulaski County. Quite a few of the caves named were dismissed with a sentence or two describing them as uninhabitable.

Using the rough metric of the number of pages devoted to the description of excavation and objects found as an indication of a productive habitation site, Gourd Creek Cave and Goat Bluff Cave in Phelps County received six and five pages of text respectively. The excavation in Sell Cave, just south of Waynesville, received a six page account. Miller's Cave (now known as Miller Cave) was afforded a 24 page long account.

Fowke sent artifacts from Miller

Cave to the Smithsonian. He reported that

*Without attempting to make a detailed list, there may be given a summary of the objects shipped to the National Museum:*

- 12 skulls
- 10 partial skeletons, most of them more or less broken
- 8 fragments of skulls from different individuals not included in the above
- 74 objects of shell
- 711 worked flint objects; knives, scrapers, cores, etc.
- 10 grooved axes, tomahawks, and flint hammers
- 10 mortars
- 40 pestles, stone hammers, rubbing stones, etc.
- 413 wrought objects of bone and stag horn
- 2 clay pipes
- 1 box of pottery fragments
- A number of small objects, not classified.

*...There were left in the cavern several hundred broken flints; more than 60 mortars; probably 200 stones used as pestles, hammers, etc., and several large wagonloads of shell, bone, and broken pottery.*

However, it was not the number of artifacts found or the length of prehistoric occupation that made news in 1921. It was a simple sentence written in reference to several bone fragments: "They plainly indicated cannibalism, as they were broken when thrown here." The article that we reprinted from the *Springfield Leader* on pages 10-11 was reprinted in our county newspapers.

We did not want to leave the notion that cannibals once roamed the Old Pulaski landscape. The *Gazette* contacted Stephanie Nutt, archaeologist at Fort Leonard Wood, where Miller Cave is located. Stephanie forwarded a modern perspective of Fowke's assertion written by office colleague Andrew Phillips, Archaeological Technician, Texas State University. Andrew informs us that

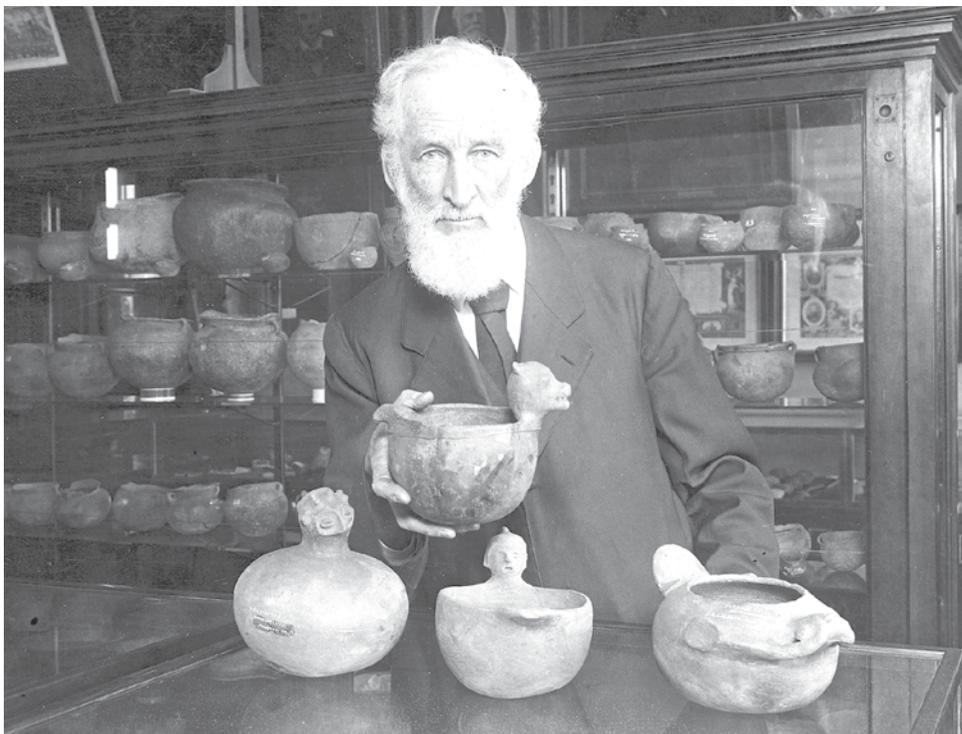
*Fowke's interpretation of the inhabitants of Miller Cave being cannibals does not hold up to modern archaeological viewpoints or science. During the early 20<sup>th</sup> century archaeologists and other scientists typically viewed*

*Native Americans as being less evolved or a more primitive people. This belief was prevalent even at the highest of levels of society at the time. For example, Native Americans did not become U.S. citizens until 1924, two years after Fowke completed his fieldwork at Miller Cave.*

*Fowke concluded the inhabitants of Miller Cave were cannibals for a couple different reasons. First, many of the human remains recovered from Miller Cave were found buried within an area of mixed materials such as mussel shell, burned animal bone, and charcoal deposits. Second, it appeared the mixed materials were buried at the same time. Fowke's conclusions would have been heavily influenced by the belief popular at the time of Native Americans being a "primitive culture".*

*Modern-day archaeologists would not support the idea of the inhabitants of Miller Cave being cannibals. Miller Cave has long periods of occupation dating back to the Early Archaic (7800-5000 B.C.) through the Late Woodland (A.D. 450-950). With the continued use of Miller Cave over such an extended period of time, the ground floor in the cave was constantly being disturbed. The continued ground disturbance would have caused artifacts and human remains to be moved and become out of context from their original settings. The continued use of Miller Cave during the prehistoric time period isn't the only cause of disturbance. Fowke noted the cave showed signs of looter pits even in the 1920s. It was common for looters to dig holes throughout the cave, remove the cultural materials, and discard the rest, often times burying the unwanted items in the same hole and covering it back up. By doing this, the context of the stratification of cultural materials is heavily impacted.*

*Thus, the modern-day interpretation of the placement of the human remains in Miller Cave would not support the theory that the inhabitants were cannibals. Rather, it would be that for thousands of years the ground in Miller Cave was constantly being disturbed and reused, causing the cultural materials, including human remains, to be mixed up.*



Gerard Fowke, 1931. Courtesy of the Missouri Historical Society, St. Louis.