

prosecuting attorney.

Democrats elected without general election opposition were George W. Gan as presiding commissioner, Harry L. Mitchell as sheriff, Robert T. Hendricks as assessor, Vivian M. Christeson as treasurer, W. H. Jones as coroner, and Clyde H. Colley as probate judge.

There must have been some momentous event, or series of events, that caused such an upheaval in 1922. Further evidence of this is suggested by the fact that six Democrat officeholders whose terms expired that year did not seek re-election.

As a footnote, neither Vasca Houk nor W. D. Johnson served a full term in office. Houk died from what was thought to be stomach cancer on August 7th, 1923, after little more than seven months in the county clerk's office. He, his wife Gertrude Mae, and two daughters had only moved to Waynesville from Dixon a few weeks earlier. Gertrude Mae was appointed to serve out her husband's term in office, but lost a re-election bid in 1924 to Herbert Still.

Johnson died suddenly November 23rd, 1924. His appointed successor was a man he had defeated two years earlier, Roy W. Reed. But Reed got to serve only a few weeks, as he had been defeated by Democrat Tom A. Shockley a few weeks earlier in the general election. Shockley took office in January, 1925.

Memories Of The Good Ole' Days

By Gary Knehans

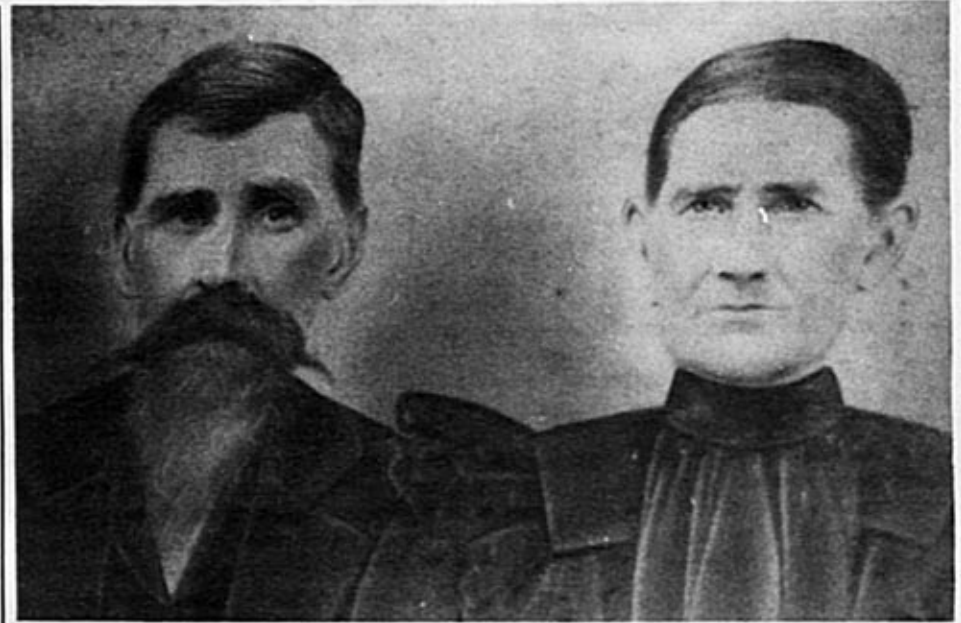
The next time you or someone in your family complains about the house being too cold in the winter, remember the bitter struggles of pioneer Pulaski County families who couldn't even imagine the creature comforts all of us enjoy today.

On her 97th birthday quite a few years ago, the late Maude Miller recalled the "good ole' days" when log cabins were so cold in the winter that ice froze on the table when it was washed after a meal.

According to Maude, it took all day to wash clothes. Water had to be carried all the way from a spring or creek and heated in a kettle. The elbow bending chore of scrubbing the clothes with lye soap on a scrub board just began the process. Each article was carefully handwashed, rinsed, handwring, and put out on a line to dry. The women also had to prepare three hearty meals a day for the men in the family, who were engaged in all day physical labor.

Maude recalled days when the Gasconade River was not spanned by bridges. The crossing was made by a cable-operated ferry boat.

Back in those days, well before modern refrigeration, families stored harvested food in a root cellar. Many of them had their own



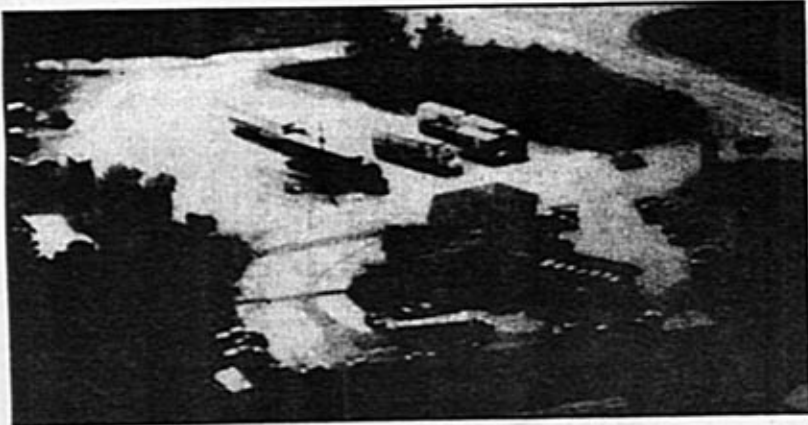
WARREN AND LOUISA HARRIS. Parents of Maude Miller, who was Willis Carroll's aunt. Courtesy of Willis Carroll.

apple trees, selling their surplus crop at 50 cents a bushel. Some families even sold the harvested fruit by the train carload to be transported to large cities.

Men spent long, hard, sweat-drenched hours cutting and hauling cord wood and selling it at 25 cents a cord!

According to Maude, the biggest impact on Pulaski County's Ozark way of life came with the arrival of Fort Leonard Wood.

"The people swarmed the area looking for work," she explained. "I can't describe the change. It was big business to provide room and



- Daily Breakfast
- Lunch Specials
- Dinner Specials
- Homemade Pies
- Specialty Rolls

Everything is made from scratch
We specialize in Real Home Cooking



RESTAURANT
Summer Hrs. 4:30am-10pm
Winter Hrs. 4:30am - 9pm

I-44 Exit 179
4 Miles west of the
Holiday Inn Express
Doolittle, MO



Our Employees Make Our Success

573-762-3111

For Reservation • Partys

Call **573-762-3116**



Celebrate "Oid Settler's Day" By Letting Us Help You With The Latest In Office Supplies And Services For A Totally Modern Approach

... All In A Neighborly Way

- Office Supplies • Computer Supplies
- Office Furniture And Accessories
- Color Copies Of Documents And Photos
- Fax Machines • Rubber Stamps
- Office Machines • Resume Service

LASER & INKJET SUPPLIES

Cartridges • Large Selection Of Papers, Cards, Labels and Transparencies

COMMERCIAL & PERSONAL PRINTING

Business Cards • Envelopes • Letterheads • Forms
Sale Flyers • Post Cards • Brochures • Invitations
Folding • Binding • Stitching • Plus Much More

HOURS: 8 to 5 Monday Thru Friday — Saturday 8 til Noon

Pulaski County

BUSINESS/GRAPHICS

"On The Square" — Downtown Waynesville
(573) 774-5460

board for the workers."

Maude's parents were Warren and Louisa Harris, the couple pictured in this article. The photo was supplied by a nephew, Willis Carroll. Maude and Willis' mother, Ollie Carroll, were sisters. The Harris family lived only a few miles from present day Independence Baptist Church.

Maude married Charlie Miller in 1894. They had ten children, but only four were still living at her 97th birthday.



LLOYD MITCHELL, formerly of Dixon and now residing in St. Robert, at about four years of age, leading two mules, Old Pink and Old Pack. Picture taken around 1927 probably in the Dixon area. Courtesy of Sandy Lutz.

Old Hitchrack Town

By Gary Knehans

They were old and ugly, these relics of the past. And citizens of this progressive community were tired of the nasty aroma rising up from the stinky deposits left by the horses and mules hitched to them. After all, it was 1922, and internal combustion engines had surely replaced infernal expulsion equines!

But no, the hitching posts in front of the newspaper office and beside one of the town's banks were still heavily used by the many farmers who rode horses and drove rigs into town to conduct business. Thus, despite the upturned noses of many residents in the community, town fathers positioned themselves upwind from the controversy, refusing all demands to remove the aromatic artifacts.

Thinking the power of the pen might be mightier than the strength of persuasion, a disgruntled denizen wrote the following:

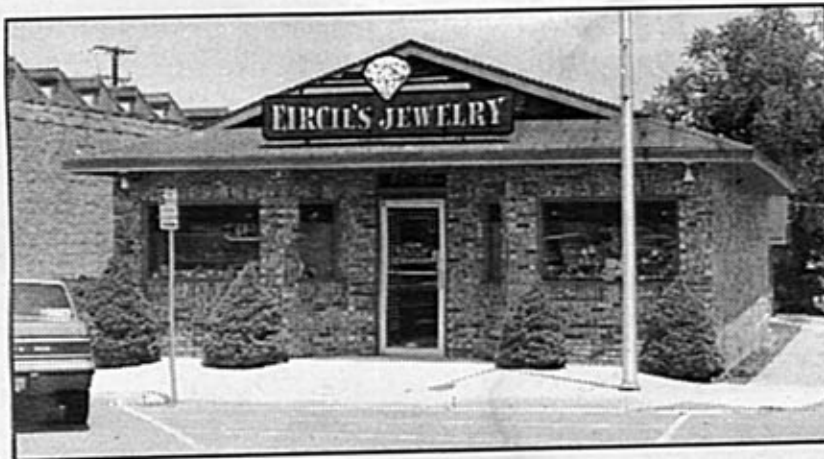
*How dear to our hearts are the scenes of our childhood,
When fond recollections present them to view;
But dearer still—and our feelings grow wild, would
Some town booster try to present something new.
The old town pagoda, the pump*

*that stood in it,
The fires in our streets and the sheds tumbling down,
The dogs and the hogs and the cows roaming freely,
An e'en the old hitchracks that grace our old town;
The ugly old hitchracks, the out-of-date hitchracks,
The unsightly hitchracks that grace our old town.
We're right up to date when it comes to improvements,
We hail with great pleasure most everything new;
We lag not behind in community movements,
And "old fogey" ideas are seemingly few.
We've lip stick and powder, bobbed hair and rook parties,
And shy glancing maidens with stockings rolled down;
We've up-to-date autos and lights in our houses,
But—still the old hitchracks that spoil our old town;
The ugly old hitchracks, the out-of-date hitchracks,
The "fo-de-wah" hitchracks which spoil our old town.
Let's all get together and beautify (with no trickin'),
The (lovely) town that all of us love;*

*There are many things which sadly need fixin'.
Get in line on this project and give it a shove.
Oh, Town Board, Oh, Wise Men, Oh, men of affairs.
Would you place on your brows a most wide-flaming crown?
Then hark to your townsmen—this trouble is theirs—
Remove the old hitchracks, the "back-number" hitchracks,
The decrepit old hitchracks which ruin our old town.
And, if the preceeding writer hadn't raised enough "stink" about the rotting remnants, a citizen who lived west of town waved his poetic pen at the issue.
It's right in front of the (paper) office,
And beside the (local) Bank,
The rack where they hitch their horses—
The smell is very rank.
The Modern also is in line
To catch the muss and litter
That blows from around the hitch rack
Of the horse and other "critter."
And all of the business people
Around the public square
Have probably taken notice
That the old hitch rack is there.
Horace butted down the shack*

Eircil's Jewelers

SINCE 1971



Large selection of fine jewelry & gifts

- WEDDING SETS
- GOLD CHAINS & BRACELETS
- RINGS & DIAMONDS
- RING SIZING

JEWELRY REPAIR

774-5211

Downtown Waynesville



**Come Visit Our Friendly Staff
At A Full Service Bank**

- Commercial Loans • Interest Paying Checking & Savings
 - VA Loans • Safe Deposit Boxes
- Mortgage Loans • Consumer Loans
 - 24 Hour ATM • IRAs & CDs

**MERCANTILE
BANK**

Member FDIC

Mercantile Bank
of South Central Missouri
St. Robert Office

Hidden Valley Shopping Center
St. Robert, MO 65583
573-336-3262

