

"Rough" Days Of 30's Recalled To Life

WPA TO BUILD PLAYGROUND-LAKE

(March 17, 1933)

Seventeen WPA workmen started work on the creation of a modern playground and lake in the southwest part of Mount Pulaski the first of the week.

The creating of a lake is to be part of a big WPA project and will be built at very little cost to the city. The location will be along the Illinois Central railroad, southwest of the Dan Blackford home in the southwest part of the city.

The city acquired 5½ acres of ground immediately adjacent to the railroad right-of-way. Most of this ground has been used as a city dump for a number of years and sewage water from the south half of the city has been running into the land creating a murky, unsanitary pond which is not only a health hazard but an eyesore.

The plans call for a drive around the circular lake, which will be a gravel roadway, gravel for which will be furnished. A row of fast-growing trees will also circle the body of water to offer shade in as quick time as possible.

In connection with the lake project, also, is included a playground arrangement with a baseball park in the west part of the area and the playground proper probably being created near the east entrance. City water would be available for drinking purposes at various points.

WPA Projects Didn't Turn Out As Glamorized

(Nov. 3, 1933)

WPA Writes New Project For One Started Last Year

Authorizing of the expenditure of \$17,863 more on Mount Pulaski's playground and lake project was received the first of the week by Mayor C. L. Frazier from the WPA authorities.

This project which had been previously authorized and something like \$10,000 allotted for the work, is located in the southwest part of the city, alongside the Illinois Central tracks. It is on the ground known as the old pond and formerly owned by the Vonderlieth estate.

Wading and Swimming

The project calls for the construction of a small lake with a wading pool for the children and also for swimming if enough clean fresh water can be provided. The lake will be rip-rapped all around and a sand bottom will be spread.

To Plant 200 Trees

200 trees will be set out around the lake and in the playground area some equipment will be erected in the park and cement walks will run from the gate back to the park proper. The entire tract will be six acres, fenced.

FARMERS TO GET \$175,000 TO LOWER ACREAGE

(July 27, 1933)

The government's cash allotment to Logan county wheat growers for retirement of wheat acreage this fall, will be approximately \$175,000, the third largest in Illinois according to J. H. Checkley, of Lincoln, farm adviser of the Logan County Farm Bureau, who completed checking up on the 1928-32 wheat yields in this county, on which the wheat compensation will be based under the wheat control plan of the Agricultural Adjustment Act.

W. H. CLEAR REAPPOINTED POSTMASTER SECOND TIME

W. H. Clear, one of Mount Pulaski's best known citizens, who served the city as Mayor, and conducted a general store here, and was appointed postmaster by President Woodrow Wilson in 1914, was again reappointed postmaster in 1918 for a term of four years according to a Weekly news items of that year.

MORE BANKS OPEN AFTER MORATORIUM

(March 30, 1933)

A bright ray of sunshine broke thru the clouds that have been hovering over Mount Pulaski the past two weeks, when word was received by the Farmers State Bank, yesterday, authorizing it to open for unrestricted business, and the Latham State Bank was also opened.

This gives Mt. Pulaski citizens and the people of the surrounding territory their banking facilities, nearly one hundred per cent, the State Bank of Cornland not yet having received an authorization.

The First National Bank opened two weeks ago yesterday, the Chestnut bank opened last week.

The Beason Bank was opened this week under a receivership. L. L. Whitnah.

The Atlanta National, Lincoln State and Lincoln National are the only other county banks open. None of the banks in the north part of the county have been opened.

REDUCE SALARY OF TEACHERS

(April 20, 1933)

Members of the Mt. Pulaski Township high school board of education, in their meeting Monday evening made another substantial reduction in the salaries of all teachers, who were tendered contracts for the coming year if they see fit to sign them at the new figure.

This reduction follows one of a year ago that was also quite a substantial one, and the members feel that their step again this year has been all that could be reasonably expected in meeting present-day conditions, and should meet with the approval of their constituents.

WPA To Employ 40 Workmen; \$9,000 Payroll

(Nov. 23, 1933)

Mayor George Millard and City Attorney George Smith were in Lincoln this morning completing arrangements for the employment of 40 men starting next week, on a 30-hour a week basis for the duration of the Civil Work Program. This will mean a payroll of approximately \$9,000 in Mount Pulaski during the next few months.

The unemployed of Mount Pulaski and surrounding territory were being given an opportunity today to sign up for work under the Civil Works Administration Program.

Numerous men have already been put to work in the county having been taken from the relief rolls as they are first on the list.

The county has been allotted 617 men, and 308 of these are to be taken from the relief rolls. After that the unemployed not on relief and if he is an ex-service man, will be next in line; then, the unemployed man who is not a home owner; and finally the man who is unemployed, but owns a home, will be hired if the allotment has not been exhausted.

The pay basis is 50 cents an hour for day labor and \$1.20 an hour for skilled labor. A 30-hour week will be given to men.

MERCHANTS AGREE ON STORE HOURS

(Aug. 3, 1933)

Local grocers and a meat marketer met last evening and set up a schedule of store hours to comply with the wishes of the National Recovery Act Administration.

Starting today, the new hours of stores listed below will be from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. excepting Saturdays, when they will open at 8 o'clock and remain open until 10 p.m.

CHURCHES SERVED MEALS AT SCHOOL TO UNDERPRIVILEGED

(Jan. 26, 1933)

Warm meals are being served at the Grade School at the noon hour as a result of the action of a number of public spirited citizens.

Responding to a call that some 26 or 27 children in the grade school were undernourished, 50 men and women gathered at the school and formulated plans to take care of the situation.

There being five school days a week and there being five churches, it was determined to have the ladies' organizations of these churches take charge of the preparation and serving of the noon-day meal on certain days.

Harry Downing, supervisor, who has charge of the distribution of township aid for Mount Pulaski Township, was present and upon request gave the names of those who have been receiving aid, but his funds, having been exhausted, was unable to proceed with the work.

Starting with about 23 little folks who were undernourished, the group has reached 32, and the second week of serving has seen a great amount of benefit to the kiddies. And by the way, the ladies who are doing the serving are getting a wonderful thrill out of the work they are doing.

The young guests are doing their part to make the meal serving a pleasure and worthwhile by helping in every way they can. The boys put up the chairs and do errand jobs, the girls wash and dry the dishes while the ladies are eating their dinner. Of course, there is nothing strange about this: but, the children seem to enjoy the dish washing. It has always been that way — that is, away from home.

BARBERS AGREE ON HOUR AND PRICE CODE

(Aug. 17, 1933)

A code in harmony with the N.R.A. program was adopted at a meeting here, Friday afternoon, by the barbers of the towns in this section, which will become effective Monday, Aug. 14.

It was also agreed at this meeting that the price on shaves be advanced to 20c, and haircuts, 35c. Other prices remained practically the same; massages and shampoos, 25c; tonics, 15c; singes, 25c.

(1960—Prices now are: haircuts \$1.25; shaves, \$1.00.)

Receive Grant Of \$25,000.00

(January 21, 1937)

Local WPA workers will be put on jobs soon as the result of local authorities receiving word that their \$25,000 project which had been approved last November had money now available.

The first work to be done will include the removal of old trees and an extensive tree trimming campaign while the weather conditions are unfit for street work.

The gravelling of practically all side streets not included in the projects submitted to the government last year for paving, will be undertaken this spring as soon as weather conditions are suitable.

In addition to this gravelling, the state aid road starting at the south end of Spring street will be gravelled as far north as the Rothwell lumber yard where it will stop as the paving project begins at that point. This work will not be undertaken, however, until weather conditions are favorable.

Henry Volle, a member of the city council, who has been quite active on street and alley work, informs us that the council has not given up hope of securing federal aid on both the city square paving and the 60 blocks of residential paving.

WPA Grant For \$10,120 Received By City In 1939

(Jan. 26, 1939)

The approval of a WPA grant of \$10,120.00 was received by Mayor C. L. Frazier, Saturday, in a message from Senator James Hamilton Lewis, who stated that the Works Project Administration had placed the recreational project, started last year, on the approved list.

The project approved is one which has been partially completed but was held up due to the lack of sufficient funds. The land which is being reclaimed as a recreational park lies alongside the north of the Illinois Central on the southwest edge of the city and comprises a tract of 8 acres.

This spot, known as the Van Hise pond, was part of a larger tract owned by the Vonderlieth estate, who made an agreement with the city to give them the eight acres next to the railroad right-of-way, if the city would abandon the street and alley plotting of the section, which would give them their land in one plot. The pond part of the land has been an eye-sore for a number of years, and had been used as a dumping ground.

It had been planned to flood the pond with water this winter to form an ice rink, but the condition of it made this impossible but by next winter a modern outdoor rink should be the mecca of all ice skaters in this section, if the weather conditions permit it.

SALES TAX WENT INTO EFFECT IN ILLINOIS IN 1933

(April 6, 1933)

The sales tax which went into effect in the State of Illinois last Saturday, has had almost a week of operation, and while no one is particularly in love with it, very little complaining has been done.

The merchants of Mt. Pulaski are adhering to their original plan of starting their tax at 10 cents, and making the three steps — 10c to 33c; 34c to 67c; and 68c to \$1.00.

This plan has worked out very nicely, and most of the merchants from what check they kept of the tax, found that it was running just about even, though most cases found them just a few cents short.

Some folks who have been buying more than one 5c cigar now find it more profitable to buy one at a time, although a little more inconvenient. It is the same way with bread — buy one loaf at a time and they save the tax.

Some are employing the dutch treat system on 5c drinks and avoid the penalty. Others pool their eatables when it runs over 10c and pay only a minimum tax.

Talk about watching their pennies — a lot of people are just beginning to realize how big a penny really is.

TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT

(July 13, 1933)

We see by the papers that Harry G. Wible of Mason City, died last Wednesday. That is the closest we want to come to reading our own obituary. No relationship was involved.

COMPLIMENTS AND BEST WISHES FOR A SUCCESSFUL SIL-TENNIAL CELEBRATION

CHARLOTTE'S BEAUTY SHOP

CHARLOTTE M. ST. PIERRE

A. J. ST. PIERRE
CHIROPRACTOR

GREETINGS . .

Our best wishes go to all our friends in Mount Pulaski and the surrounding area as they celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the founding of their town.

MAY YOUR CELEBRATION BE A GREAT SUCCESS!

FARM MACHINERY

International Harvester Dealer
Part and Service
Tractors — Trucks

LATHAM IMPLEMENT CO.

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OR 4-5661