



The Inkwell

45 E. Corydon Street, Bradford, PA 16701

814-362-3906

Welcome to this spring edition of The Inkwell. It's been a long winter, but spring is finally here. Our annual membership dinner is just around the corner and we invite all our members to come and share a delightful meal with us at Togi's Restaurant on April 23 at 6:00 PM (cocktails are at 5:30PM if you would like to come early). See the information included with this newsletter for all the particulars. We had a slow January and February, but as the weather grows warmer, so does the urge to do research! Family history researchers are starting to get into full swing - our visitors to the Herbig Bakery always start streaming in by April. Genealogy is the fastest growing hobby in the United States, and an especially favorite one here at the Landmark. We get such interesting telephone calls, too - a woman called from Scotland just the other day. Our older members will remember local doctor Dr. Maunz, and his heroic wartime parachute jump into Nova Scotia to save the life of a man who needed an emergency appendectomy in 1943. Well, it was her father! She had heard the story many times when she was a child, and wanted some further information. That same day we had a folk art historian who is attempting to trace the life of Anton Zeleznik, a Slovenian wood carver who died in Coudersport in 1957; another man interested in the history of his house; and several high school seniors working on their 'Senior Projects'. This year's senior projects cover such interesting topics as the history of the Penn Hills Club, famous people from Bradford, the Kinzua Bridge, the history of fires and the fire department, Tullah Hanley, and the Homestead Strike of 1892. Add this to all our regular work, and you can see why we are so busy. And in case you were wondering what exactly the Landmark really does here in Bradford, we have enclosed a brief description of our activities inside this newsletter. And before we forget, dues for 2003 are now "due" and payable to the Bradford Landmark Society. Thanks...and come stop in for a visit!

Baseball and Bradford

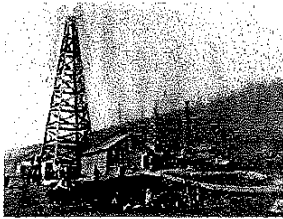
Everyone (well, almost everyone) knows that the famous Baseball Hall of Famer Rube Waddell was born right here in Bradford and got started in the game in our old "Iron and Oil League" of 1898. Roy Face, and Warren Spahn, both Hall of Famers, also played here in Bradford during the Bradford Bees and Bradford Phillie eras. Well, we recently discovered yet another Bradford man who made it to the national league. Harry Curtis, a member of Bradford's Interstate League, was traded to the New York Giants in 1907 for \$2000, but went on to play only one season with New York. Why? We hope to find out!



Inside this Edition of

The Inkwell

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 Bradford Ordinance Books
 Local Business Slogans



Bradford Landmark Society

45 East Corydon Street Bradford, PA 16701

814-362-3906 bradland@penn.com

Did you ever wonder exactly what the Bradford Landmark does?

- We record, through photographs and documentation, every building razed, every building built, and every building renovated. Buildings are important assets to the city, and need to be recognized and recorded.
- We assist the local city government agencies, the Main Street manager, the Office of Economic & Community Development, and City Hall with research, photographic inquiries, and help in any way that we can.
- We help local clubs, organizations, churches and businesses with identifying their past histories.
- We provide historic information on environmental concerns, especially locations and histories of industry, commercial, and residential areas.
- We help people trying to find their family roots through genealogical research, maps, directories, and photographs, both on the internet and in person.
- We collect and preserve written history as well as photographs. Currently, we have scanned and identified over 2000 photographs of the Bradford area and have extensive files on individuals, societies, local events, and historical happenings.
- We offer a living history school program to hundreds of children within a fifty mile radius each year in our Crook Farm School Program, giving each student a taste of what life was really like 120 years ago.
- We hold an annual Crook Farm Festival each August, with local craftsmen and artists, food, music, and games as well as other events throughout the year.

Did you know that we now have 345 members, most right here in the Bradford area, but also nearly a hundred scattered all across the country? Annual membership dues are now payable for 2003. We have once again managed to keep the cost of membership very reasonable. Please take a moment and fill out and send in the form below so that you can continue to receive this newsletter and help us preserve the history.

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Fax _____

Membership dues are:

Annual membership.....\$10.00

Senior citizen membership....\$5.00

Family membership.....\$15.00

Life Membership...\$100.00

The Bradford Landmark Society
Invites you to our
Annual Dinner Meeting

April 23rd, 2003

at Togi's Blue Room at 412 East Main Street
5:30 PM Cocktails 6:00 PM Dinner

Menu Choices:

Baked Stuffed Chicken Breast....\$10.95

Ma's Spaghetti & Meatballs.....\$9.95

Prime Rib.....\$14.95

Shrimp Scampi.....\$13.95



The annual meeting will review the year 2002, announce upcoming events, give recognition to our volunteers, and hear the Board of Director's report. Our own curator, Sally Costik, will be the featured speaker. All members are encouraged to attend this important meeting and become an active part of the Landmark Society.

Please join us.

Advance reservations are necessary by April 14.

Please Call

362-3906 or 362-5133 or 362-6362

A few weeks ago, I had the good fortune to buy an original ordinance book of Bradford, dated 1879 to 1895 off the Ebay Auction site. I was thrilled to find that this particular book belonged to none other than Rufus Barrett Stone, and has his name, written by Stone himself, on the cover. But what was inside is even more interesting. Ordinances helped to set up the rapid growing city of Bradford - this book is the first one ever written - and what is listed inside is a wonderful glimpse into the organization of the city we now know.

Early Ordinances of Bradford

It should come as no surprise, perhaps, that the very first ordinance written when forming the city government was to establish a City Clerk's office. Dated May 9, 1879, it sets forth the duties of the clerk (and there were many) who was responsible for the daily operation of the city. The ordinances which followed had more to do with the day to day activities of the Bradford citizens - and in many cases, setting limits as to their behavior, livelihoods, and residences in an effort to make Bradford a safe place to live. Ordinance No. 6, for example, prohibited "disreputable dances, commonly known as 'free and easy' dances, "where lewd women do congregate, in the City of Bradford, are hereby prohibited, and declared to be public nuisances". Any person found visiting a house of prostitution (where the lewd women gathered, apparently) were fined a sum "not less than one dollar or more than ten dollars" (May 12, 1879). Ordinance No. 9 restricted the operation of barbershops on Sunday - and any person violating this ordinance faced a fine of ten dollars and if the fine were not paid, then lockup in the city jail for forty-eight hours. (May 12, 1879).



R. B. Stone - Rufus Barrett Stone - was a remarkable man. Not only was he a prominent lawyer in early Bradford, but he also helped found the hospital, was a noted author (he wrote McKean the Governor's County in 1925) and was the founder of the first historical society in Bradford.

Ordinance No. 12 gave permission for citizens to erect a street gas light - at their expense - although the city would furnish the gas, *provided* "that said parties shall turn off the gas at sunrise in the morning and shall keep the lantern properly cleaned (May 12, 1879). Ordinance No. 18 prohibited gambling and gambling houses: "it shall be unlawful for any person or persons within the limits of said city, to play or assist in any game of chance with cards, dice, layouts, wheels, shuffleboards or any other instrument or thing whatsoever at which money or other valuable things shall be played for, staked, or bet upon" (June 5, 1879).

Dogs seemed to be a large threat especially at the end of summer, when it was believed that rabies was rampant and Ordinance No. 21 (passed on July 23, 1879) called for "all dogs, bitches or whelps within the City of Bradford shall be muzzled from the first day of July to the 20th day of September in each year". Furthermore, every owner thereof "shall put and keep on the neck of the dog, bitch, or whelp a collar made of

metal or metallic plate affixed thereto the name of the owner in plain letters". The fine was ten dollars for any offense. By 1893, a City Poundmaster was hired "to seize any dog found running at large" without a collar. The Poundmaster was obligated to keep these dogs impounded for twenty four hours, afterwhich "he shall kill such dog, bitch or whelp and bury the same." For this service, the Poundmaster could charge the dog owner 50 cents if the dog was claimed; or seventy-five cents for killing and burying each one, payable at the end of each month. (June 8, 1893).

Loafing, lounging, or congregating aimlessly was a problem addressed in Ordinance No. 290, enacted on January 29, 1890, which stated "it shall be unlawful for any person, or persons to idly sit, stand or lounge upon the stoop, area, sidewalk, or platform attached to or before any store; dwelling house, or other building, after the said owner of said store or building shall have closed said store or retired for the night in said dwelling". Enough said! The same law applied to "idly sitting, standing, or lounging at the entrance to or hallway of any church, theater, railroad depot or station, or public place or to congregate upon any of the sidewalks and streets of said city in such numbers as to obstruct passage of the same." Worse of all, though, was loafing about the post office. "It shall be unlawful for any person to loaf or lounge in the corridor or about the doors of the post office in the City of Bradford, except when waiting for mail to be distributed, while the windows of the office are closed, or to use any profane or obscene language about the said premises at any time." The fine for disobeying this ordinance was ten dollars or thirty days in the city lockup.

Health issues prompted Ordinance No. 292, which dealt with the "regulation of the throwing of rubbish of any kind in the streets". Dated January 29, 1890, this law stated "that no person shall cause, place, or throw any boards or sticks, shavings or boots, hats, caps or papers, paper from bill boards, or paper of any kind, decayed vegetables or fruit, or rubbish of any kind, or shall commit any nuisance in the streets, sidewalks, gutters, or alleys or any of them in the City of Bradford. It went on "it shall be unlawful to burn paper or other rubbish on any unpaved street, lane, alley, or gutter in the City of Bradford after 8 o'clock a.m". Fine? Ten dollars for each offence.

And then there was the delicate matter of offensive smells. With a sewage system just getting underway, most families had a private privy, and Ordinance No. 299, which set up the Board of Health, addressed a common complaint: "whenever any privy in the said city shall be kept in such condition that the smell arising thereon shall become offensive to any portion of the citizens, the same shall be declared a nuisance and the owner fined...a sum not exceeding fifty dollars...and ten dollars per day he shall suffer the nuisance to continue..." (February 5, 1890). Other possible sources of bad smells were limited, too: "no person or persons shall throw, place, or conduct, or suffer his or her servant, child, or family to throw, place, or conduct into any street, alley or lot any putrid or unsound meat, fish, hides or skin of any animal, or any filth, offal, dung, dead animal, vegetables, nor suffer any sound or offensive matter to be or remain upon his premises....." (One hundred dollar fine) Yikes! Don't take a deep breath in 1890!

Yes, early Bradford was a great place to live - at least *it would be* once these regulations were all in place and enforced.. And I haven't even mentioned the ordinances which prohibit guns and fireworks, public drunkenness, or throwing salt in the streets (yes, really). Still, you have to hand it to our early city government - they were organizing the city in the best way they knew how and we've turned out okay.

Bradford High School Football

1936

Reminences of Julian Ertz, a long time Bradford Landmark member and Bradford native, now living in Costa Mesa, CA.

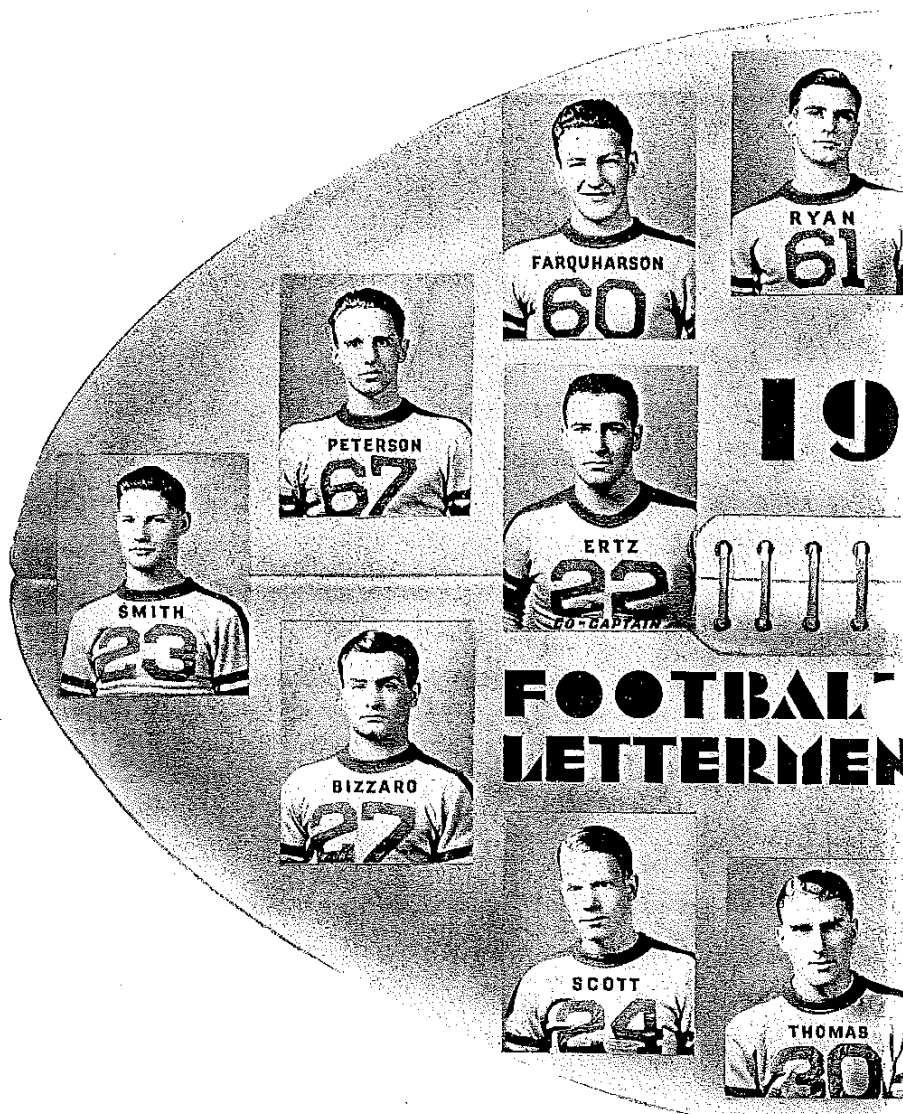
Thank you for your prompt response to my recent phone call concerning my wish to recall for the Landmark readers some of my memories of Bob Pflug. If I wrote all of my memories, it would be enough for an entire issue (or more) of the bulletin.

I was lucky enough to be in the same backfield as Joe Bizzaro, Larry Peace, and Homer August in 1935 when we were in a winning streak of over 30 games. Coach Bob was a stern taskmaster who ran us until we were exhausted, but he got us in such good condition

that we were not defeated or tied for 3 1/2 years. Finally, in 1936 we lost to Erie Tech. At the end of the 1936 season, Coach received an invitation for us to represent the North in a high school "bowl" football game in Danville, Virginia. He told the entire squad about this and said that the caller from Virginia had told him that no Negroes would be permitted to play in the game in Virginia.

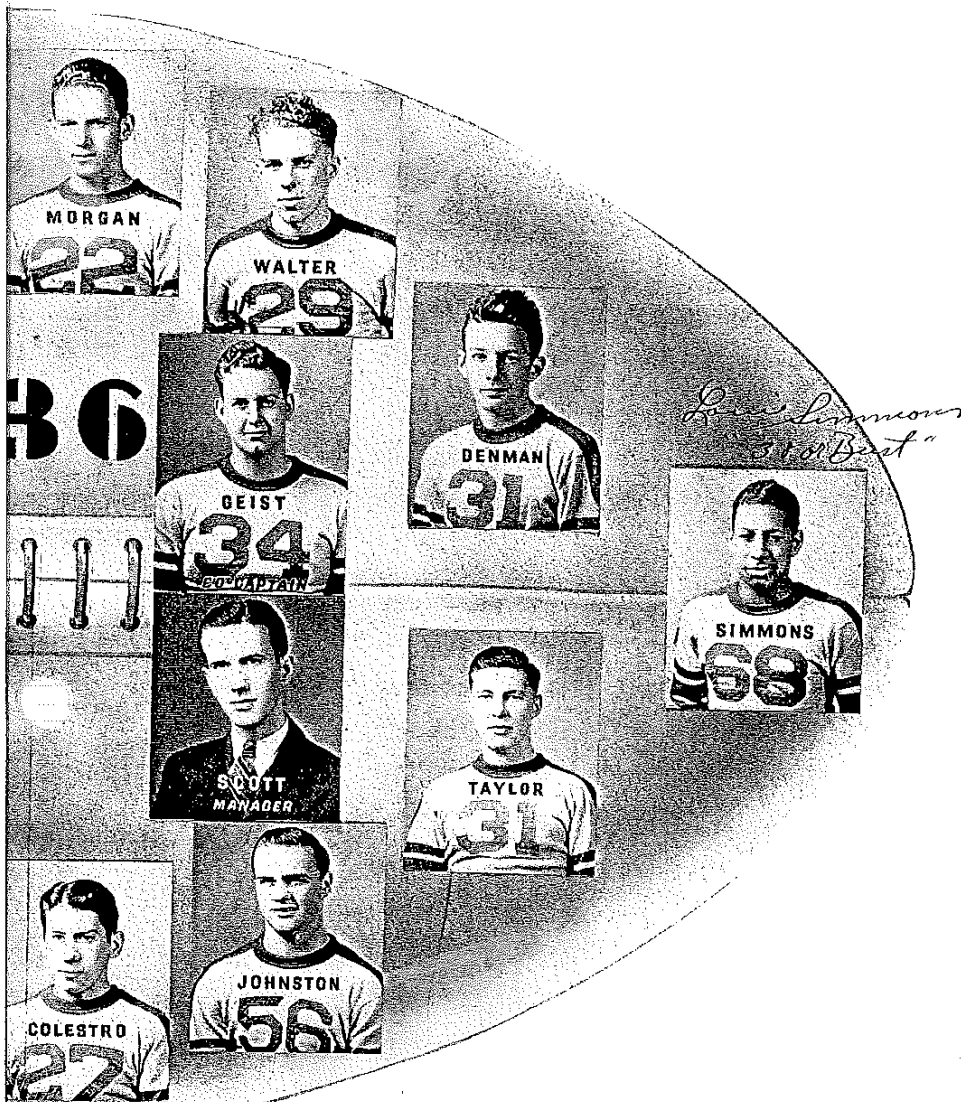
One of our best players was Louis Simmons, a black tackle. Coach asked us if we wanted to play the game if Louis were not permitted to go. We, as a group, yelled "NO". Coach said, "I'm glad to hear it because I have already said NO".

Bob Pflug was tough, but a gentleman. His strongest swear word that I ever heard was "damn". He was fair. He told us to hit our opponents so hard that they would remember us, but not to engage in any rules violating - "Hit 'em hard but fair".



Memories of Coach Bob Pflug

1936



Also, during the 1936 season, Jim Geist and I were co-captains, and as such, were entitled to ask the referee any question about penalties, etc. His instruction to us was "when you have occasion to question the referee, the first word out of your mouth will be "sir".

In later years after Bob had retired, my wife and I visited him in his retirement home in Virginia. I had told her that he was serious and intimidating. After she got to know him, she fell in love with him and said that she could not see how we could have been intimidated by such a wonderful, pleasant man.

In fact, on a Monday in November (approximately 1996) his son called me from

Virginia to tell me that his dad was being installed (posthumously) in the Massillon, Ohio High School "Hall of Champions" the following Friday. I said I wished I could be there but I had many commitments and didn't think I could arrange things so that I could get from California to Ohio in time for the ceremony in just a few days. I mentioned to my wife that evening that I wished I could be there. Her immediate response was "GO". So I went, and was so happy I did. In a word, Bob Pflug was the example that any parent would want his son to have as a coach.

I have other things about which I'd like to write for future issues if you would like me to. One is about Marilyn Horne....Very Truly Yours, Julian S. Ertz.

Indeed, Mr. Ertz, we welcome your memories and invite you and any of our readers with stories to share to please contact the Bradford Landmark Society.

Remember Olsens? That great department store, located where the Tops Market parking lot is now? Mary Ryan, a member of the Bradford Landmark Society and one of our volunteers, shares her memories of working as a novice sales clerk at this sales emporium.

Working At Olsens

by Mary Collins Ryan

I was a wide-eyed, scared high school kid, clutching my working papers, when I went to work Saturdays at Olsen Department Store. Olsen's sold everything the family could want. Anything - such as curtains for 88 cents, blouses for 49 cents, even coats for \$6.97.

The regular sales clerks worked upstairs in 'Better Dresses' but I was stuck behind the hosiery counter. This was the most undesirable job in the store because each and every pair of stockings had to be held against a tape measure to determine the length to suit each customer.

Nu Maid Hosiery was the cadillac of silk stockings, advertised in *The Bradford Era* for 69 cents a pair, and identified per thread count - "2 Thread" for the dance, "3 Thread" for dates, and "Long Wearing 3 Thread" for those long, tedious shopping hours'. The fussiest customers bought Nu Maid, and demanded that pair after pair be measured in order to get the longest length.

Every Saturday night, ten minutes before closing, one lady came to buy her Nu Maid. All the clerks moaned when they spied her coming, and guess who always got to wait on her each time? Yes, I measured and measured, long after the store closed until Mrs. Uppity was satisfied.

Meanwhile, the rest of the store counters were already put to bed for the night with their covers of white sheeting. Mr. Olsen, our boss, was a pudgy, balding little tyrant of a man who stood on the landing of the stairs, wildly clapping his hands and screaming "C'omn girlies, get busy, hurry up with those counters". Most of his ire was directed to the slowpoke at the hosiery counter who was frantically putting away the stacks of Nu Maid.

Working at Olsen's was never fun but the wages were good - \$2.00 a day!



Bradford's Best

Sometimes companies pay lots of money to advertising agencies to come up with just the right slogan for their business. Short, catchy, and easy to remember, a perfect slogan remains in the public's memories – sometimes for years! That's what we're betting on with this newsletter's little memory quiz. All of these slogans belong to Bradford businesses – some from the 1920s, some from the 1930s, 1940s, 1950s, or even the 1970s. See how many you remember – and if you get stuck, we've included the correct answers at the bottom of this page. Good Luck!

1	A Smile in Every Bite
2	Always on Top
3	Say it With Flowers
4	If You Don't Know Furs, Know Your Furrier
5	The Home of Bill Ding
6	Particular People Demand Better Milk
7	On the Square
8	Good Food Served Right
	Twenty Teams & Twenty Trucks All Pulling for Bradford
10	A Size For Every Job
11	Real Cheer & Real Beer
12	Bradford's Swankiest Nite Club
13	The Home of Good Food
14	Everything for the Woman
15	Symbol of Quality, Emblem of Fashion
16	Famous for Food
17	Live Better Electrically!
18	All Ways and Always
19	Bradford's Modern Restaurant
20	Where to Buy It
21	The High Grade Oil Metropolis of the World
22	We Like Lookers

A	Rose Kreinson
B	The Bradford Era
C	Park Cut Right
D	Texas Hot Lunch
E	Clark & Humphreys
F	Johnson's Restaurant
G	Butter Krust Bakery
H	James R. Evans
I	Graham Florist
J	Clearfield Furs
K	Option House
L	The Moulin Rouge
M	Taylor Roofing
N	Loblaws
O	Pascarella's
P	Harry Popiel Trucking
Q	Segall Furs
R	E.W.Bisett & Sons
S	Butter Krust Bakery
T	Tuna Manufacturing Co.
U	City Creamery
V	Pennsylvania Electric Co.

Got all of them? Good - now here's the answers!

1S or G, 2M, 3I, 4Q, 5T, 6U, 7C, 8D, 9R, 10P, 11O, 12L, 13N, 14A, 15J, 16K, 17V, 18G or S, 19F, 20E, 21B, 22H

Star Garage to be Demolished

Built in 1926, and formally opened on February 4th of that year, the huge parking garage on Barbour Street known as the Star Garage will be razed within the next few months. Bought by the Zippo Manufacturing Company last August, the area will be used as a parking lot for the Zippo building at 33 Barbour, with landscape added to make the site more visually attractive. In its heyday, the Star Garage held more than 600 cars - often those belonging to wealthy Bradfordians who would simply tell their drivers to "bring the car around" when needed. It sparked an interest in Cornell University in the fall of 2001, when a group of architectural students came to Bradford with their professor, to study the unusual architecture of this building that actually followed the curve of the Tuna Creek. Over the past several years, however, the building fell into disrepair, and was deemed beyond reasonable financial repair. In its memory, we are enclosing the article which appeared in the February 4, 1926 edition of the Bradford Era.

Modern Garage to Open Tonight to View of Public

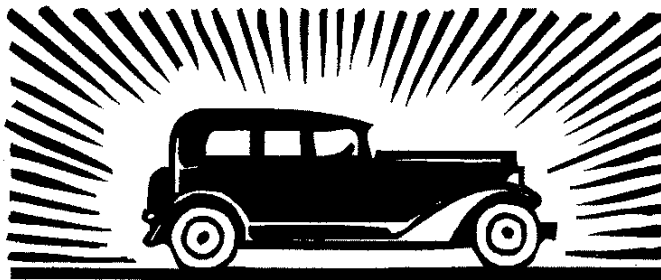
Tonight at 7 o'clock, the new Star Garage at 8-24 Barbour Street will be formally opened to the public. It is one of the finest and most up-to-date structures of its kind in the country, combining all the latest garage and automobile salesroom improvements.

Although there is a large storage space on the second floor of the building, the use of elevators has been abolished in this building. Instead, a concrete ramp rises at 12 degrees, enabling the car owners to drive from the main entrance to their parking space in high gear.

The salesrooms in the front part of the main floor are comparable to the finest in New York city. The plate glass windows are said to be the biggest in the city and the lighting effects are of the most modern.

A drive-in filling station is in front of the garage. An up-to-date ladies' retiring and rest room has been provided in the building. Repair shops for the cars include special tire racks and a full battery service station.

The general offices of the garage are on the mezzanine floor and extend across the right and front side of the structure. A stairway extends from the salesroom to the mezzanine.



Newspapers

Bradford:

Bradford Daily Era, 1875 to the present

Bradford Daily Record, 1891 to 1908.

Merged with the Bradford Evening Star to form the Bradford Evening Star and Daily Record.

Bradford Evening Star and Daily Record, 1878 to 1946.

Bradford Miner, 1858 to 1860

Moved to Smethport as the McKean County Miner 1860.

Bradford Morning Call, 1885 to 1887

Bradford New Era, 1875 to 1876

Bradford Sunday Herald, 1884 to 1942?

Bradford Weekly Era, 1879 to 1916?

Daily Blaze, April to July 1879

Daily Breeze, 1878 to 1879.

Merged with the Bradford Daily Era.

Daily Oil News, 1887 to 1888

Economist, 1893 to 1894?

Evening Call, 1885 to 1886?

Journal and McKean County Journal, 1940 to present

Penny Press, 1896 to 1898?

Populist, 1884 to 1886?

Record, 1903 to 1908?

Star, 1881 to 1882?

Star-Mail, 1879 to 1898?

Sunday Mail, 1881 to 1884

Sunday Morning, 1882

Sunday News, 1879 to 1895?

Sunday Post, 1895 to 1910?

Union, 1933 to 1941

"News of Labor and Industry from the Industrial Heart of America".

Eldred:

Eagle, 1876 to ?

Express, 1878 to 1879

Kane:

Blade, 1879 to 1882

Courier, 1902 to 1903

Kane Republican, 1892 to present

Leader, 1885 to 1899

Port Allegany:

Northern Tier Reporter, 1874 to 1880

Port Allegany Argus, 1902 to 1918

Merged with the Reporter to become the Reporter-Argus 1918.

Press, 1898 to 1901?

Reporter-Argus, 1918 to present

Smethport/McKean County:

Beacon and McKean Country Journal, 1837 to 1839

Forester and Smethport Register, 1832 to 1834

McKean Citizen, 1853 to 1861

McKean County Democrat, 1858 to ?

McKean Democrat, 1860 to 1963?

McKean County Journal, 1836

McKean County Miner, 1860 to 1862

McKean Miner, 1860 to 1870

McKean News, 1851 to 1854

McKean Orbit, 1849 to 1853

McKean Yeoman and Elk County Advertiser, 1848 to 1849

Settler and Pennon, 1989 to 1844

Tomahawk and Scalping Knife, 1840 to 1841

WHERE CASH SAVES CASH

NOW! FOR EASTER

Regular and Extra
Sizes

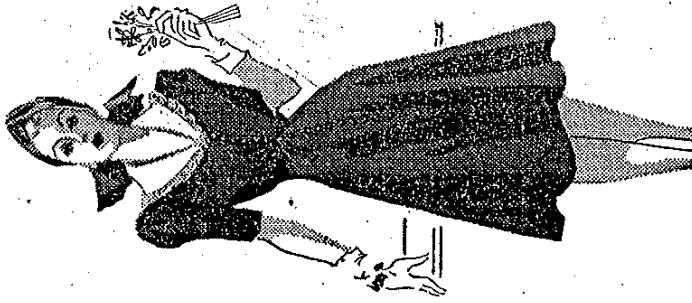
DRESSES

\$3.79

Sold Elsewhere
For As High
As \$5.98

SIZES . . . 9 to 20 . . . 38 to 52

Beautifully tailored and superb dressy styles with built-up shoulders in redingotes, fitted and bolero styles . . . princess, tailored in colorful prints of navy and black with pique and lingerie trim . . . light pastels included in this grand value . . . and don't forget WOMEN'S SIZES too up to 52.



Worth 69c Yard

WASHABLE

PRINTS

39c

- COLORFAST
- CLEAR PATTERNS
- ALL OVER DESIGNS
- SMALL FIGURES

Guaranteed washable and just the materials that you'll need to make that individually styled dress for your wardrobe . . . pastel shades with NAVY too . . . **SAVE ON THIS MATERIAL . . . IT'S A GRAND BUY.**

Worth \$1.09

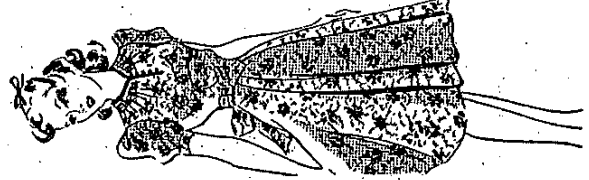
COLORFAST

COTTONS

88c

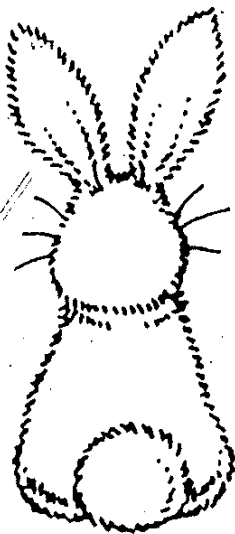
- SWING SKIRTS
- LARGE POCKETS
- WASHABLE
- FULL CUT SIZES

Exceedingly fine values in wash dresses that will wear and tub endlessly . . . guaranteed prints, scrolls, checks and stripes—just to your liking . . . you can afford several at this low-for-cash price . . . sizes 14 to 44 . . . **SAVE.**



The Bradford Landmark Society
45 East Corydon Street
Bradford, PA 16701

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THE BRADFORD LANDMARK SOCIETY



The Inkwell

45 E. Corydon Street, Bradford, PA 16701

814-362-3906

August 2003 edition

Farewell to Summer

The Bradford Landmark Society

Board of Directors

Officers

Harrijane Hannon, President

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Members

Rick Benton

Susan Oliphant

Pam Fredeen

Stephanie Packard

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Well, almost. I can almost hear my kids groaning that we still have another month, but it just seems that once July is over, summer is, well, over! We've had an unusual summer in Bradford this year. Lots of and lots of rain this spring - nine weekends in a row! and this past week has seen torrential downpours. Two of our landmarks are gone - one through the city's planned demolition, and the other through Nature's whim. The Star Garage is gone, or nearly so, by the reading of this newsletter. All that remains is rubble, which is being rapidly cleaned up. Zippo has bought the property, and will make a parking lot and green area to brighten up that whole part of the city. As you drive down West Washington Street, it does seem odd to look across the creek and see the Zippo headquarters instead of the back windows of the old Star Garage, but I have to admit its a huge improvement to that area. The other loss, of course, is the Kinzua Bridge. As everyone knows, a F1 tornado destroyed the middle eleven towers of the bridge last Monday, with that portion of the bridge crashing to the valley floor.

It seems doubtful that it will be rebuilt, so those that remember the Bridge as it was, keep those memories alive.

Inside this edition of The Inkwell:

To Nebraska by Rail - a Tale of

Bradford Colonists and the

Homestead Act

Time Was.....Baby Sitting

Herbig Bakery Become Landmark

Headquarters

A Tribute to the Kinzua Bridge

Do You Remember? City Limits

Magazine

and other interesting articles
concerning the history of the city, the
Landmark Society, and our
community.

Kinzua Bridge on Erie R.R. (highest bridge in U.S., 301 1/2 ft.), McKean County, Pa.



present intention is to locate there permanently, but time alone can tell. A number of men will build houses before bringing on their families. The result of the Nebraska experiment will be watched with interest".

It began to snow as the train pulled away. Fulton wrote *The very clouds seemed to weep a sad farewell in flakes of pure snow, emblematic of the pure love of true friends, which is indeed heaven-born...We were glad to see the snow as it seemed more befitting the departing hour than bright sunlight...Around and among the hills our train wound, and Bradford was quickly lost sight of.*

The train traveled west for two days, and finally reached Stuart, Nebraska at 11 o'clock, Thursday night. The colonists decided to sleep on the train that night, and greet their new land the next morning. *We felt refreshed after a night of quiet rest, and the salubrious air of the morning put us in fine spirits and we flocked from the car like birds out of a cage, and could have flown like free birds to their nests, some forty miles farther north-west, where the colonists expected to find their nests of home. Her first impression of the prairie: the country is almost dead level, without a tree or bush in sight. But when on a perfect level, the prairie seems to rise around you, forming a sort of dish with you in the center. Can see the sand hills fifteen miles to the southwest quite distinctly. Farm houses, mostly sod, dot the surrounding country".*

The colonists are anxious to claim their land, and on that Saturday, the men of the party get ready to leave. *All is bustle and stir to get the men started to the location, and at last, with oxen, horses, mules, and ponies, eight teams in all, attached to wagons and hacks, and loaded with the big tent and provisions, they were off. While the ladies who were disappointed at being left behind, merrily waved each load away. The women remained back in Stuart, visiting and learning about prairie life. The next Saturday, the men returned. They had found the land first thought of so taken that they had to go still farther northwest - some going as far west as Holt creek, and so scattered that but a few of them can be neighbors. This is a disappointment not looked for, they expected to be so located that the same church and school would serve them all...A few are discouraged, and think they will look for lands elsewhere...The test which was purchased with colony funds, and a few individual dollars, proved to be a poor bargain. When first pitched there was a small rent near the top, which the wind soon whipped into a disagreeably large opening. But the wind brought the tent to the ground, and it was rightly mended, and hoisted in a more sheltered spot. But alas! down came the tent again, and as many as could found shelter in the homes of the older settlers.*

Staking a claim proved harder than the men thought, as well, and many had stories to tell: *Some selected their claims, plowed a few furrows, and laid four poles in the shape of a pen, or made signs of improvements in some way, and then went east to Niobrara City, or west to Long Pine, to a land office and had the papers taken out for their claims. Others, thinking there was no need of such hurried precautions, returned to Stuart to spend the Sabbath, and lost their claims. One party selected a claim, hastened to the land office to secure it, and arrive just in time to see a stranger sign his name to the necessary documents, making it his.*

Early the next week a letter arrives for Fulton. Her father, citing his advanced years, has decided not to join the colonists in Nebraska, but will remain in his home in Smicksburg, Indiana County, PA. She is discouraged, and decides not to stake a claim, but to travel throughout the homestead region "for history's sake". *I wanted to go West as the majority go, and enter into the full meaning and spirit of it all; so, much to the surprise of many, I donned a broad brimmed sombrero, and left Stuart about one o'clock, perched on the*

spring seat of a double bed wagon, in company with Mrs. Gilman, who came from Bradford last week. She traveled through Nebraska for several months, visiting her brother Charley Fulton, who staked a claim in the Platte Valley, keeping a journal as she went. She returned to Bradford in July. One year later the book was completed. Her small novel, "To and Through Nebraska by a Pennsylvania Girl" is a 223 page chronicle of life on the prairie of 1883. A remarkable woman who weighed just 94 pounds (a sod house hotel once let her sleep on the table instead of the floor since she weighed so little), Frances Sims Fulton ended her book with a promise:

*And now, dear Reader, hoping that I may some day meet you in my "Diary of a Minister's Wife",
I bid you Good-Bye.*



But, you may ask, whatever did happen to the Nebraska colony? Did they make it? Did they learn to handle the wind, sun, rain, and unfamiliar land? Like a good book, it needs a good ending, and here is what we know to be true:

The colonists didn't settle in one district as had been originally planned. A number of them located on land just south of the South Dakota border in what was Brown County, Nebraska in 1883, with the nearest post office called Brewer at the time. It is now Burton, Nebraska, in the county of Keya Paha. Several other colonists bought land further south in the Platte Valley, Dawson county.

The Lincoln Land Company granted the colonists who settled in Dawson County Section 33, Twp. 9, Range 25. They filed papers for homesteads and bought enough to have a total of 40 sections of land in the area. In tribute to their home state, they called their new town "Keystone".

By 1886, the people of Keystone and the surrounding area realized that the town of Keystone could not exist without the railroad that was being built one mile south of them, with a new rail stop called Farnam designated two miles west. With regret, perhaps, but certainly with practicality, the town people of Keystone packed up lock, stock, and barrel, and moved the entire town to Farnam and set up business. Today their descendants remain in the area. Some colonists returned home, back to Pennsylvania, due to ill health, hardships, and the search for greener pastures. Frances Sims Fulton was originally from Smicksburg, down in the northwest corner of Indiana County, Pennsylvania and did indeed marry a minister, on May 15th, 1884. No doubt she lived happily ever after!

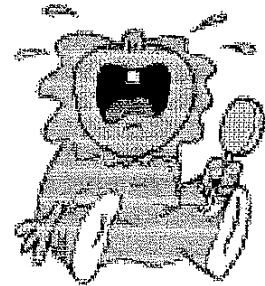
The Homestead Act of 1862 has been called one the most important pieces of Legislation in the history of the United States. Signed into law in 1862 by Abraham Lincoln after the secession of southern states, this Act turned over vast amounts of the public domain to private citizens. 270 millions acres, or 10% of the area of the United States was claimed and settled under this act. A homesteader had only to be the head of a household and at least 21 years of age to claim a 160 acre parcel of land. Settlers from all walks of life including newly arrived immigrants, farmers without land of their own from the East, single women and former slaves came to meet the challenge of "proving up" and keeping this "free land". Each homesteader had to live on the land, build a home, make improvements and farm for 5 years before they were eligible to "prove up". A total filing fee of \$18 was the only money required, but sacrifice and hard work exacted a different price from the hopeful settlers.

Time Was...by Patricia Connelly Schessler

Time was not so very long ago when it was deemed proper for a teen-age girl to stay at home and learn to cook and be a proper housewife but her brother who worked on the lease or as an usher was held in high regard as an ambitious and upcoming young man. Then came the depression followed closely by World War II and working outside the home became a necessity for girls as well as boys. Back in the thirties and early forties, the only job open to a teenage girl was a mother's helper, a baby sitter, or later, if you were real lucky, a soda jerk or clerking on Saturday's at the Five & Tens (Bradford had three) or one of the Main Street stores.

Thinking back over all the jobs that I have held...baby sitting has had to have been the worst. The work was hard, conditions for the most part deplorable, and the pay – well, there wasn't much of it. The hours were long and irregular, the job description was "do everything" and a sitter could be canceled without notice and with seldom an apology.

Some parents were considerate and would leave the house in proper order and the children ready for bed but many – too many – would rush out of the house as soon as the sitter arrived leaving orders to "pick up the house and do the dishes". The sitter would have to feed and bathe the kids, get them into their pajamas, and into bed. With babies this wasn't too hard, although babies were always prone to colic and crying, but getting the other two or three or more kids into bed and keeping them there was another matter.



Once the children were settled in bed, the sitter did the dishes (there were few dishwashers back then), picked up the house, changed and fed the baby, she was then free to listen to her favorite radio program, read TRUE STORY, or talk on the phone. A few of the more considerate parents left snacks for the sitter. Sometime after midnight the parents would return, pay the sitter (if she was lucky) the grand total of fifty cents. If the parents returned together usually the husband would either walk or take the sitter home, but if mother had gone out with women friends the sitter walked home alone unless some young man just "happened by" and then she had an escort.

It was a lot of work for little pay but it was enough to pay for a movie ticket and a bag of popcorn or if saved for a week or two, make up and other teenage necessities.



The Kinzua Bridge

1892-2003

First built in 1882; rebuilt in only four months in 1892, and destroyed by a tornado just last week, the Kinzua Bridge is on everyone's minds these days. When I opened the newspaper on July 22, I couldn't believe it. The Bradford Era headlines read "Viaduct Tumbles". I called to my husband - "John, wait until you read the paper - it's the story of the century, and you're not going to believe it!" And he, like so many of us, could hardly believe what we were reading.

But why couldn't we? After all, the Bridge was over one hundred years old. We all knew that it was badly in need of repair - in fact, a crew was working on the bridge right up to the storm that destroyed it. And they no longer let excursion trains travel across it, or people walk across it. It badly needed paint and repairs.

The bridge was almost sold for scrap, once, in 1959; and Bradford Mayor John A. Still even offered to buy it in 1961 along with 17 acres of land. Dick Robertson, our local railroad expert, warned us that the Bridge was deteriorating at a rapid rate. And of course, everyone has heard the famous story of the bank robber's treasure hidden in sight of the bridge (*that's going to be even harder to find now that the bridge is down*)

It seemed like the Bridge would always be there. I remember riding my bike across it when I was a kid (before it became a state park), coming in from the Mt. Alton side. (And visiting the ruins of Buttsville and Bond Vein on the way). My brother Mike proposed to his wife on the bridge. A few weeks ago, a man came in the Landmark and told us that he was one of the crewmen working on the Bridge. He was from Lancaster, PA and read about job openings for steelworkers last fall. "I told myself, I'll bet that's the big bridge up north. I'm going to get a job up there, and be a part of history". To prove himself to the other steelworkers, he climbed up the side of the bridge from the valley below, all the way to top. Halfway up, he said, he felt ill. "But it was easier to keep going up than to climb back down".

It was called the "Eighth Engineering Wonder of the World". (Don't ask me what the other seven are, though), and we all wondered at it, took our pictures on it, and dared to walk across.

General Ulysses S. Grant visited the bridge in 1883, shortly after the first iron bridge was built. Like so many other people who found the height of the bridge too daunting to dare, Grant was impressed yet cautious. The Bradford Era wrote: "when the car (railroad car) reached the big bridge, General Grant alighted and walked out on the elevation about 200 feet, ahead of the party and peeped over the railing into the yawning chasm. His comment was terse and strong. He said "Judas Priest, how high we are!"

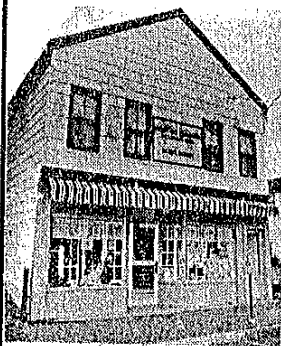
Yes, it's the story of the century, at least so far. The future of the bridge remains uncertain, but one thing is certain - there will never be another one quite like it.



Bradford Landmark Society **HERBIG BAKERY & CROOK FARM**

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August 22, 2003



THE BRADFORD LANDMARK SOCIETY

The Inkwell

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December 2003 edition

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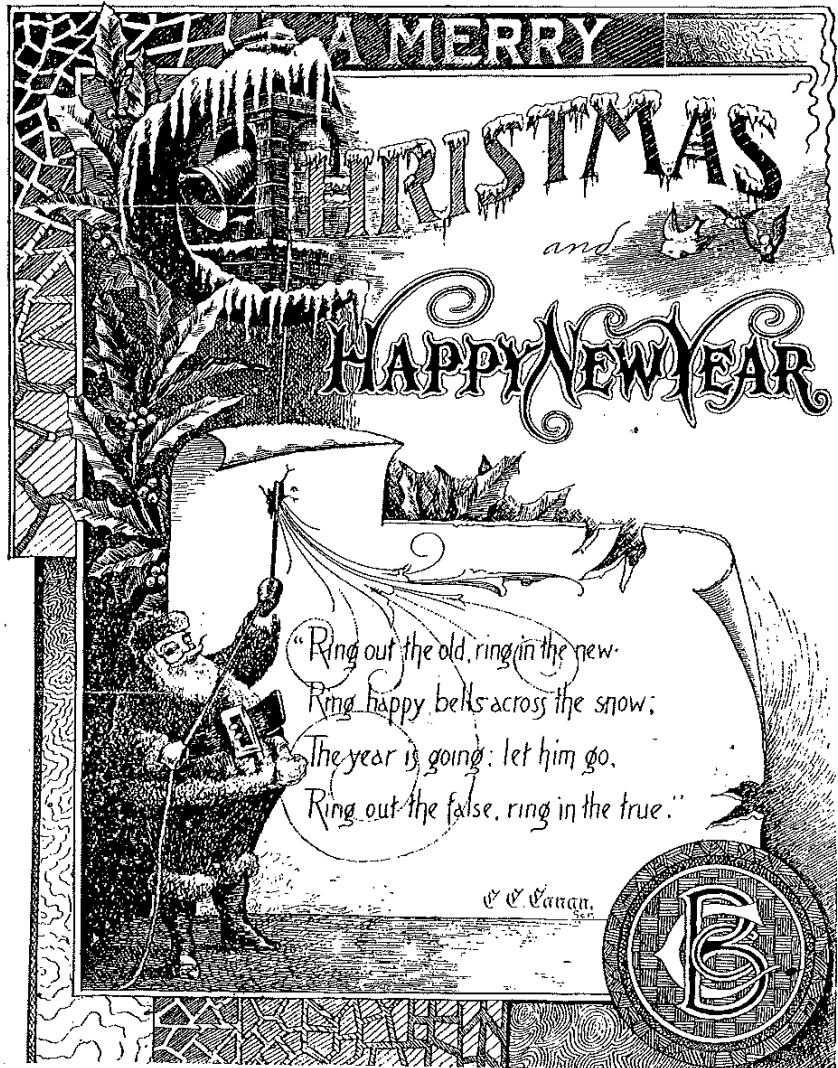
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The Inkwell Newsletter

Sally Costik, Editor

Contributing Writer - Patricia
Schessler



Calligraphy, or penmanship was a highly prized skill in "the old days" before computer keyboards! This wonderful example of penmanship was penned by Clinton C. Canan in 1900. Read this edition of The Inkwell and learn more about this intricate hobby.

Twelve Top Historic News Stories of 2003

The Bradford Landmark Society rates these twelve stories as "historic happenings" in 2003. See how many you remember (and these are in no particular order):

1. **The Kinzua Bridge is destroyed in a tornado.** Tragic, but perhaps a fitting end the "Engineering Wonder of the World" (remember, it was almost sold for salvage scrap in 1959), and Bradford Mayor John A. Still tried to buy it and seventeen surrounding acres in 1961, a sudden tornado brought down the famous structure in minutes.
2. **100th Anniversary of the Bradford Fire Department.** Although there had been several volunteer fire departments throughout Bradford's early history, it wasn't until 1903 that a paid department became a reality. Seven years later, they built the central fire station on the corner of Chestnut and Corydon streets.
3. **Jane Stack dies, September 3, 2003 at the age of 91.** Curator of the Bradford Landmark Society for 27 years, she retired from that position ten years ago, but remained the official city "historian" and was always ready to volunteer historic information.
4. **Tommy Cardamone dies August 11, 2003 age 93.** Known in his boxing career days as Tommy Darcy, "The Patent Leather Kid", Cardamone was well known in his barbershop on Mechanic Street for conversation, photographs on the walls, and a sense of history.
5. **Msrg. G. Carlton Ritchie dies, April 25, 2003 age 96.** Long time pastor of St. Francis Catholic Church on St. Francis Drive, he had retired from active service in 1982, but remained here in Bradford the rest of his life.
6. **University of Pittsburgh at Bradford announces new President.** Following the retirement of Richard McDowell, who had served as the Pitt/Bradford President for 27 years, school officials announced in August that the new president would be Dr. Livingston Alexander.
7. **Zippo sells 400th Million lighter.** That's quite an accomplishment and wonderful reflection on the quality of Bradford industry.
8. **East Main Street bridge replaced.** Well, it took almost all summer, but a brand new and safer bridge was finally completed over the Kendall Creek on East Main, near St. Francis Drive.
9. **Rte. 219 Extension finished.** Well, it took over *thirty* years, but Rte. 219 was finally extended past Owen's Way and now joins up with the old Rte. 219 about a mile down the road. Confusion over the new highway has caused several accidents since its grand opening, and officials are debating ways to make the highway safer.
10. **The Mexican Restaurant, La Herradura, opens.** Officially opening on March 12, 2003, this Mexican cuisine restaurant is located in the old Togi's Barn building on Main Street, following a short tenure by Teddy Z's restaurant at the same location.
11. **Warren Spahn dies, November 24th, 2003, age 82.** Fondly remembered in Bradford from his years here as a member of the Bradford Bees, Spahn was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1973 for winning more games than any other left-handed pitcher in baseball history.
12. **The Bradford Movie House reopens.** Without a movie theater for over a year, Bradfordians were overjoyed when a new, updated, and modernized theater opened in May 2003.

Note: The beautiful drawing on the front of this newsletter was hand-drawn by C.C. Canan, a "traveling" teacher of penmanship who taught here in 1900. Those of the Victorian Age highly prized a "neat hand" and spent many hours learning Spencerian methods of handwriting.

The Real Santa Claus

By Patricia Schessler

Christmas was coming. The lights were up on Main Street, a six foot chocolate Santa, with a red light bulb for a nose waved from the window of the Sugar Bowl, and Toyland opened in the Emery Hardware store. And, oh what a Toyland! Santa presided from a gold throne at the top of a grand stairway surrounded by every toy a girl or boy could wish for or imagine. Overhead, trains huffed and puffed and blew real smoke as they dashed past farms and through villages. While below, rooms overflowed with bicycles and skis, skates and scooters, BB guns, trucks and cars, Indians, soldiers, cowboys, and much, much more. Little girls had a room of their own, where dolls of every size, shape and color lolled on beds and cradles, rode in prams or strollers, or had tea at table. There were brooms and cupboards, sewing machines and stoves. On a raised platform stood a dollhouse, painted white with green shutters and flower boxes. There were curtains at windows made of real glass, furniture, rugs, and lamps that really worked. Best of all, there was a completely furnished kitchen with a big shiny black stove just like Grandma's. Upstairs, a bedroom joined the nursery, and a bedroom. I knew right away that this had to be my house.

When it came time to give Santa my list "all I want is that doll house with the big black stove" I said. In the days that followed, all I could think about, all I could dream and talk about was the wonderful dollhouse. It was 1931, a Depression year, and my dad was without a job. The B & O Railroad had taken over the B R & P, and Dad, being one of the younger men, was furloughed.

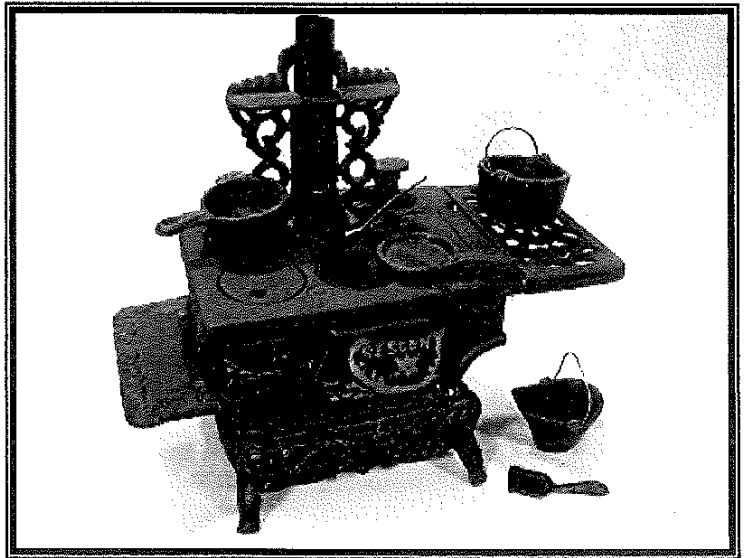
"Don't get your hopes up too high" Mom warned. "Santa has lots of little girls to visit", and the older kids teased "there is no Santa Claus", but I was six and I knew there was too, a Santa Claus, and that Santa Claus would bring me my house.

If December is the longest month in the year, then Christmas Eve has to be the longest day. It seemed that bedtime would never come. We played Christmas carols on the Victorola and sang *Up On the Housetops* around the piano. At last it was time to hang up our stockings, say our prayers, and go to be, not forgetting to leave milk and cookies for Santa and the reindeer.

It was not yet light when we awoke the next morning and neglecting to put on our shoes ran to the living room to see what Santa had brought. Mom switched on the tree lights, and there under the tree, just as I knew it would be, was the much dreamed of doll house, complete even to the stove just like grandma's.

"See." I cried, "I told you he'd come".

Years later I realized that the wonderful doll house was an orange crate that my parents and grandparents had spent many hours transforming with wall paper samples, thread spools, and bits and scraps of wood and cloth into the doll house of my dreams. That is, except for the stove. My grandfather saved his tobacco money to buy me the wanted stove at Emery Hardware. There truly is a Santa Claus and Santa Claus is love.



Having a Wonderful Time... Wish You Were Here

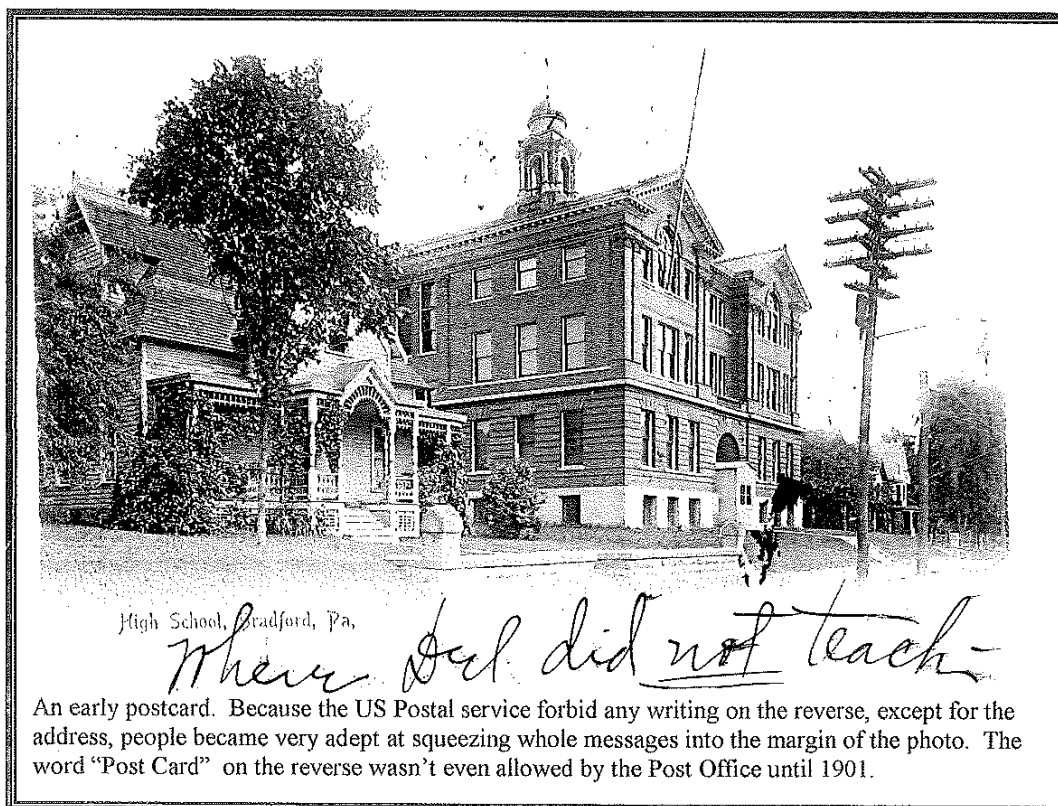
The Postcard Collection of the Bradford Landmark Society

Every now and then I get a brainstorm of an idea, which I admit, is sometimes met with groans from the dedicated volunteers at the Landmark. My latest gem of an idea is to scan and put our entire postcard collection on a CD and make it available for purchase, research, or just fun. You may say, "Well, how many postcards could there possibly be of Bradford?" Just in our collection alone, we have over 200 different, *yes different*, postcards, some dating back to the turn of the century.

Our collection is varied, with street scenes, churches, schools, buildings, railroads (including the Kinzua Bridge, of course!) and my favorite, the BEV, or 'Bird's Eye View' of the city. Some buildings seem to have been captured on postcards several times over – the Bradford Hospital, for example, has ten different versions of postcard views taken over time; BEVs of Main Street has over 25 different postcards, and old City Hall has postcards from several angles as well.

We are now in the process of busily sorting and scanning our postcards, and I thought that it would be interesting to examine the history of postcards. It's one of those things that people rarely think about, but postcards can be easy to find, and fun to collect.

Postcards date from the early 20th century, and were so common back then that even personal photographs were mounted on postcard paper. The types of views printed included major events, scenery, machinery, buildings, cityscapes, local landmarks, animals, and sporting events among others, and were created to provide a glimpse of contemporary life that could be shared with people far away. Many scenes on postcards exist only in that medium – we have been carefully scrutinizing our collection, and many of our postcards contain scenes that



were never recorded in any other way. For example, we have a wonderful postcard taken from above School Street – probably Pleasant Street – that shows the back of the Mallory House, part of Pearl Street, Mechanic Street, and far off in the distance, to the upper left of the postcard, the beginning of Main Street. This postcard dates from 1907; no other photograph of this scene exists.

Dating postcards can be somewhat of a

ST. BERNARD'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, BRADFORD, PA.



This is a white border card, postmarked 1927 on the back.

challenge, but not impossible. Some postcards may have been mailed years after they were printed, so the date of postal cancellation can be inaccurate. In general, though, there are several methods of pinning down the approximate date of the postcard. And of course, it helps to know the history of the postcard industry! The beginnings of the postcard media began in 1849, just before the invention of the photograph. Small, pocket sized engravings that could be a mailed became available at that time, and proved that the

idea was popular –and the United States issued official postcards in 1873. Most of these cards were trade cards often used for advertising; postcards as we think of them didn't exist yet. May 19, 1898, is considered the most important date in postcard history when private companies were permitted to issue their own cards that could go through the mail with a one cent rate. Postcards dating from 1898 to 1901 carry the inscription 'Private Mailing Card. Authorized by Act of Congress, May 19, 1898'. In 1901, the US government allowed private post card publishers to drop the 'Authorized by Act of Congress, May 19, 1898' inscription, and just put the words 'Post Card' on the reverse. These cards date from 1901 to 1907.

Up to this time, all postcards were printed with undivided backs; only the address was permitted on the reverse, or non-picture side. This led to some interesting handwriting on the front of the cards! The passage of legislation on March 1, 1907 led to a postcard explosion when the US Postal Service finally allowed the back of the postcards to be divided into two sections, with addresses on the right, and messages on the left. Large companies that published postcards formed almost overnight, and hundreds of local postcard publishers, photographers, newspapers, drug stores and even dry goods stores soon got into the business.

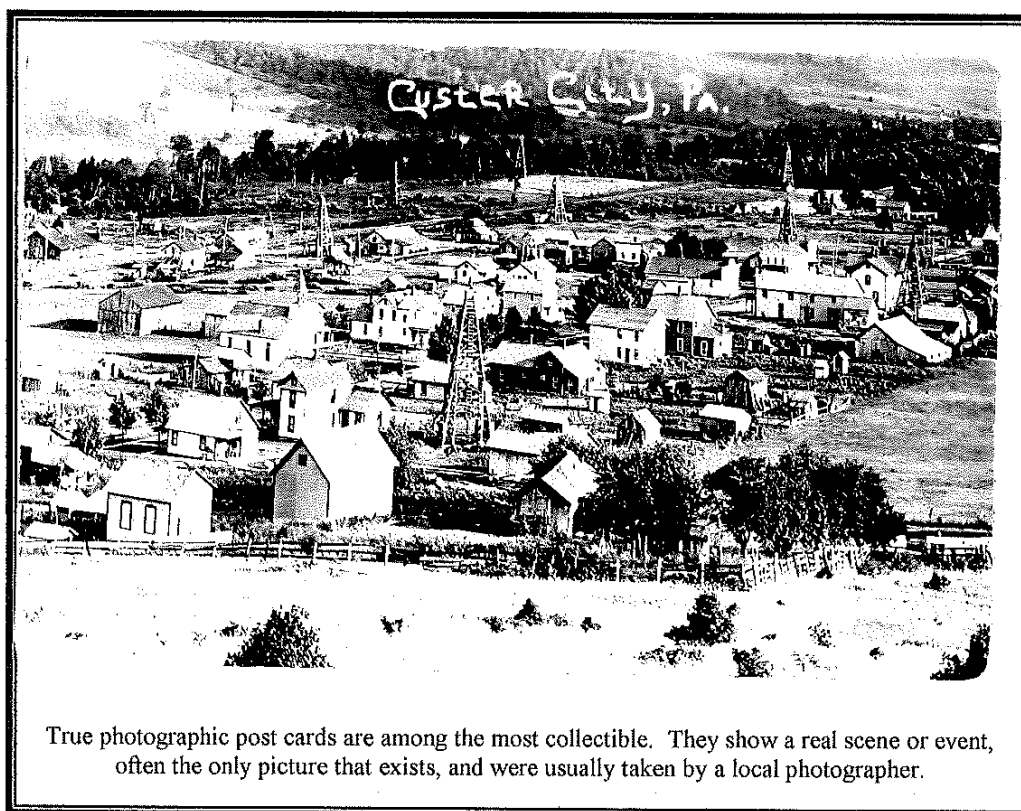
Many were printed in Germany, in color; some were tinted by hand. We have found that the hand tinted postcards (and many in our collection are hand tinted) vary from version to version. In one streetscape scene taken from the head of Main Street near the square, for example, the awnings of the buildings which face the street, vary from all blue striping, to red, blue and yellow striping, to all red and pink awnings – all depending on the year published. A view of the Dresser Mansion varies from being a white house, to a yellow one; and a house nearby, on Bellevue Avenue, changes from a red brick home on one postcard, to a yellow frame house on the next version. Same house, same buildings, just colored according to the whim of the hand colorist, who may never have actually even seen the original structures. The "Germany" period dates almost exclusively from 1907 to 1915. Germany was considered to have the best printing methods in the world, but rising tariffs, political strain, and the coming threat of World War I caused almost all importation of postcards to cease.

Cards printed between 1915 and 1930 can be further identified by the white margins on the sides of the front. These are called 'white border cards' and were printed that way to save on ink; after 1930, most cards were borderless or full bleed, meaning that the ink ran all the way to the edge. From 1930s to World War II, post

cards were often printed on fabric-textured paper, and were called linen cards. By looking closely at a linen card, you can see a 'weave' texture to the paper. Linen cards usually had vibrant but not too accurate colors. The Bradford Landmark has plenty of this type of postcard. Color photography was invented in 1935, and actual colored photographic cards 'photochromes' were available by 1939 and are still used today.

It might surprise you to hear that deltiology, the formal name in the U.S. for postcard collecting, is currently the third largest collectable hobby in the world. It is surpassed only by coin and stamp collecting (in the U.S. baseball card collecting is greater, but that is a national past time not worldwide). Its an inexpensive hobby, easy to store, fun to look at, and widely available.

So how does one start collecting postcards? Well, a start is at the local drugstore or newsstand for current ones, or up in the attic or closet for older postcards. Some have been saved in family albums, and there are always plenty to choose from at flea markets, auctions, antique stores, or of course Ebay on the Internet. There are post card clubs on the Internet that you can join – basically, you send cards out and get some back– from all over the world – in return. Just think – the postcard you send today, may be in someone's collection 100 years from now!



You may wonder what people have written on postcards over the years. Well, pretty much what you would expect! Postcards were never meant to be long, thought out letters, but rather short snippets of communication. The postcards at the Bradford Landmark Society usually refer to coming home, going to visit someone, asking someone to meet them at the train station, or thanking them for something. One woman wrote to the friends, asking her to come to Bradford to help can peaches, and another one refers to "visiting when this epidemic is over". For the most part, though, the messages have changed little over the years; I suppose that people have changed little over the years as well. Postcards are a wonderful way to stay in touch; send one to your grandchild, nephew or niece, grandmother or mother. Just as people have found for over 100 years, its nice to get something in the mail - and today's email is no substitute for a really great postcard and the inscription "Having a wonderful time, wish you were here..."

1898-1901

Carry inscription
:Private Mailing Card.
Authorized by Act of
Congress May 19, 1898.

1901-1907

Words 'Post Card'; still
undivided back.

1907

US Postal Service
allows divided backs,
with address on one
side, and message on
other.

1901-1915

Cards predominately
printed in Germany, but
threat of approaching
war drastically reduce
imports of postcards.

1916-1930

White borders
predominate.

1930-1945

Linen cards very
popular.

1939-present

Photochrome postcards.

A Necrology

Just as the Bradford Era newspaper publishes the list of those people who have died during the past year, the Bradford Landmark takes a moment to remember those historic buildings that in one way or the other, have passed into history in 2003:

- **The Star Garage.** Built in 1926, the Star Garage held the luxury cars of millionaires, and the horses of nitroglycerin wagons. Purchased by Zippo Manufacturing as a future site of parking lot, the building was demolished this past August. Today, a well designed and attractive parking lot fills the site of the former garage.
- **219 Main Street** – Few people noticed this small building at the very end of Main Street, but at the time of its destruction by fire in August, it held the distinction of being the last wooden building on Main Street. Built, we believe, in 1880, the structure was built as a tin shop in the early days of the oil boom.
- **3rd Ward School** – Built in 1898 as Bradford High School, the building became the Junior High School in 1925 when the present day high school was erected. Later it became a grade school for many years. It had fallen on hard times over the past years, and demolition last February seemed the kindest way to end the history of this well known and beloved school.
- **The Mansion House** – It was built by William Hanley of his famous Bradford Red brick, but even brick walls can't stop a fire. The Mansion House, built in 1896, was a successful hotel for many years, but had been vacant recently. A fire set by children on October 5, 2003 destroyed this historic structure.
- **The Leon Silk Mill** – Yes, we made silk fabric here at the turn of the last century, but economic times forced the closing of this plant on Leon Avenue, now called Pennsilco Way, in the 1920s. A score of businesses were located here over the past eighty or so years, including Corning Glass works, a roller skating rink, Pure-Sil, and others, but time could not stop the deterioration of this very large building, and it was razed in February 2003.
- **The Pennzoil Building** – even as we write this newsletter, the walls of the old Pennzoil building are being demolished. Originally the South Penn office building, then the Pennzoil building, the structure was purchased by the YMCA in 1999 as the further site of a needed parking lot. Part of the building, the original Solomon Dresser office building, directly adjacent to Old City Hall, has been spared, and will soon be undergoing restoration, along with the City Hall building itself. Demolition of the remaining 2/3 thirds of the Pennzoil building are currently underway.

Now they exist only photographs, maps, and memories.



Merry Christmas from the folks down at the Herbig Bakery and the Bradford Landmark Society. We hope that your New Year is happy, prosperous and well, and invite you to visit our Historic Bradford Time Line display on First Night at the First United Methodist Church.



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