

**My
Life Story
As I Have Seen
Weirton Grow**

By Louis C. Truax

Courtesy of Fort Vance Historical Society

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This book Dedicated to the memory of the Weir brothers, Ernest and David; and John Williams, and Ed Mudge, who on that great day in April 1909, made that wonderful decision in selecting the land for their steel plants, known as Crawford's Crossing.

Which was the future development of a great and fine city.

All of us will surely agree that not one of us would want a different name for our city than the name "Weirton".

Preface

THE AUTHOR:

A great many people have written their own autobiography or life story about themselves.

My life story that I am about to write started many years ago. Born 1902, on a farm on what is now Seneca Street, the youngest son of a family of mine, eight boys and one girl, born to Charles S. and Julia May Ralston Truax. A wonderful family born to wonderful parents.

My father was a great farmer and fruit grower. The Truax farm all of the area of north of 20th Street and Seneca Street, Lincoln Avenue, and there was plenty of help there to do it.

This story covers my entire life time of seventy years. My life on the farm, my life's work in the mill of 46 years. What took place in the farm home and in my own home, about all of my children and my retired life.

I thought about the 200th Anniversary of the City of Weirton which could add greatly to my life story as I only seven years old when the city Weirton began.

As Harmon Greathouse was the first settler here in 1771, next on record was Alexander Wells in 1780, but I believe the most famous settler was James Campbell Sr., who received a grant of land from Patrick Henry, Governor of Virginia, from the upper end of where Hollidays Cove was later built.

A grant of 400 acres of land and later buying a great deal more from the other settlers and adding them to his original tract.

What made him most famous was that he was spiritual minded, in less than five years, after he settled here he built the Log Church; that was built here in the area, more to say about all of this in my story.

One of James Campbell's direct descendants whose name was Charles L. Campbell, with which I was very well acquainted, wrote a wonderful History about the Campbell's and had it printed in the Weirton paper in 1956. A great many series of articles, I have here one newspaper clipping, the 31st, of the series concerning the Will left by James Campbell Sr., beginning of the Article, Early Panhandle History". (copy of Will made in 1797, of great interest). "The Editors Note. This is the thirty first in a series of articles written by Charles L. Campbell relating the History of the Weirton Vicinity information gained through Family records, from data handed down from one generation to another and from Early Panhandle History".

This is a copy of the original Will of settler James Campbell that I have here. It states how Mr. Campbell (Tomahawked) the claim for hundred acres in this area, and later acquired several hundred more, including the 188 acres to him by Alexander Edio, July 27th, 1786, and 509 acres of land conveyed to him by the same Honorary Governor of Virginia dated March 8th, 1785.

After stating what he wanted his wife, four sons and two daughters to have in his Will, I will quote the last few words.

“And lastly, I make, ordain, Constitute and Appoint, my three sons, James, Alex, and Robert, my executors of this my last Will, and trust for the intent and purposes in this Will, and trust the said James Campbell have set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above mentioned”.

His children’s names were: James, Robert, Alexander, Archibald, Margaret, and Ann, the children of James Jr. were Bartley, John C., James called (Wooly Jim) because of his long beard, and Archibald.

Alexander Campbell’s children were Patience, Robert, David, Daniel (twins), Archibald, Alexander, and a daughter who married a Mr. Morrison. The other Campbell children names are written in my poem in the back of the book.

My poem that I wrote about my life on the farm, and about the old red brick School House that stood on my father’s Farm, I tried to include all the names of all the children that attended that school, from the time that it was built, about 1855, to 1916, , the year that we moved from there to the now one that was built along Pennsylvania Avenue, As I attended the old Mt. Horob School for seven years, and the now for three years receiving all of my schooling there, not going to high school, but taking a job in the hot mill tin mill. If I would have went to high school I no doubt would have done better job at writing this book. With loss of words it would had a better meaning.

The second part of the book explains about my life story as I have seen Weirton grow, from a great country side to a very beautiful and wonderful city.

A million thanks to the Weir Brothers, Ed Mudge, and John Williams who on that day in April 1909, made that great decision in selecting a site for their Steel Plants that were to be built, as soon as they purchased the first land they started immediately to build the tin mill. After viewing many sites around Pittsburgh, and also where they decided on the Ferguson Group, known then s Crawfords Crossing.

Dear readers won’t you agree with me that we are glad that they selected this place to build their Plants? A great many places in this book I have mentioned the Weirton Steel Company, and what it has meant to everyone in

this area, this would have been a short story, if they would have selected another site.

When we think about how many people there we employed by the Weirton Steel Company, many times the number reached 13,000 or more, for that reason we owe a great deal of Honor and Respect to all the founders and other officials of the Weirton Steel Company.

A great many business places of various kinds in the past and at the present time have prospered greatly, Doctors, Lawyers, Real Estate Men and many other kinds of business offices have settled here. They owe their prosperity like all of us working men, to the Weirton Steel Company.

All the employees of the Company, I am sure made a very good living, speaking for myself after working 46 years in different departments and raising eight children which never went hungry in their life and buying a home and many appliances and cars, and paying the doctor bills and buying clothes for all those children and my wife, myself, over that period of time, and now over seven years with a good pension.

I am very happy and well pleased with the way things turned out. I cannot express my appreciation and gratitude enough for what the Weirton Steel Company has done for me. I think that everyone should think the same as I along that line.

Dear readers there may be some things written in this book that may be boring to you and there maybe some things that seem fantastic but I have proof for nearly everything that I am writing about,. Oh if I had only kept a diary of all the events and happenings in my life time I would have had the exact date and I would not of had to write "at this period of time."

All my life story is written from memory.

Louis C. Truax
124 Lincoln Avenue
Weirton, West Virginia

1971

Dear readers, let us start this part of my life story, as I have seen Weirton grow with the building of the tin mill. Mr. Weir stated that even before the ink was dry on the deed, for the 105 acres of land that they purchased, they had a tin mill and steel mill and other great plants in the making. That day in April 1909 as soon as they had the deed in their pocket they began to build the tin plate mill. Not having any power equipment they had to use many teams of horses to excavate for the foundation of the mill. Harold Conn who was one of my conductor's on the railroad told me he had two teams of horses at that time and used both of his teams on that job; a great many other teamster's used their teams also.

Can we picture in our minds the old dump wagon's with the hinged bottoms, the old drag scoops and the plows that they used to loosen up the ground with and a great many men with picks and shovels? It took a great many men in those days to do a large excavating job. They must of worked long hours and kept very busy to excavate for the tin mill because it was done so quickly. So, with all that excavating and surveying for all those building's, and bases for all those column's, all the concrete that went into those bases, the great fly wheel pits, for those two large engines: "(Many times I stood at the guard rail of those large engines, and marvelled at the size of them)". Number 1 engine ran the mills from one to eleven and number 2 engine ran mills from 12 to 21. Number 1 engine was a large Mesta engine, possibly about 3500 horse power. Number 2 engine was a Wisconsin engine 3500 horse power. Both engines had a large fly-wheel of 110 ton's each, at that time they were the tops when it came to power.

Dear readers, how did they do all of that work, mixing all of that concrete, no doubt by hand. In this modern day with those great mixer trucks it would of been a small job, just a matter of hours, but to mix all of that concrete at that time it was a tremendous job. Moving all of that large machinery, those huge housing's, rolls, engines, shears, barshears, roll turning machinery, cold rolls, pickling machinery, tin house machinery, boiler house and all that great machinery, and all of those hot mill furnaces, and over head cranes, all put in place and to begin operation before the end of that year. It sure was something for all of us to think about, in this day and age with the great modern machinery, power shovels, high lift's, and fast moving dozers they could not of done it very much faster.

As I said before, being only seven years old at that time, I could not remember at that age. I have here before me a "Weirton Steel Bulletin, June issue 1949" speaking of the great Chamber of Commerce annual dinner that was held at the William's Country Club, April 27th of that year. In the picture seated at the table were Gilbert Isgrigg, Weirton Plant Manager, of Hamilton Corporation; John S. Gorman, Vice President of Signode Corporation; Walter Miller, Controller, of Hamilton; James A. Henry, Vice President, Weirton Steel; John M. McGregor, Vice President of Signod Corp.; Martin Fahey, President of Chamber of Commerce; E. T. Weir, Chairman of the Board of National Steel Corporation; Thomas E. Millsop, Mayor of Weirton, and President of Weirton Steel Co.; H. K. Lorentzen, President, Lorentzen; Scott Bond, Vice President of Lorentzen; and S. N. Salomon, District Sales Manager of Signode. These highly honored guests and a great many others were there that day. (250) were at that great Chamber of Commerce dinner meeting. At that time, Mr. Weir gave a wonderful historic and dynamic address to that group that day. I will now quote part of that great address he gave. April 27, 1949 in his talk Mr. Weir traced the history of Weirton over the past 40 years from the time the valley was farms and orchards lands known then as Crawford's Crossing. Mr. Weir was introduced to his audience by Mr. Thomas E. Millsop, President of the Weirton Steel Company. In his opening remarks Mr. Millsop welcomed three new industries to Weirton.

The address that Mr. Weir gave at that time. "(Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: Happiness comes to us in many ways in life. One of the ways and one of the most

rewarding ways is through the accomplishment of something good and valuable--- particularly when many others share both in the accomplishing, and in the fruits of it---and when many more will share in it continuously through future years. This community of Weirton is that kind of an accomplishment, it has provided opportunity for many individuals and families; it has made remarkable progress, and best of all, it is not something that is finished and static, but is alive, strong, and growing. The only limits on Weirton's capacity to become increasingly finer and better for all of us are the limits imposed by our own vision, ambition, and determination. My part in the building of Weirton has given me some of my greatest happiness in life. So it is not just a form of courtesy from speaker to audience when I say that I am especially happy to be here tonight with you--who have all had a part in making the Weirton of today and on whom so much must depend in the making of the finer and better Weirton of tomorrow.

It is exactly forty years ago since my brother, David Weir, John Williams, Ed Mudge, and I walked over the vacant fields at the foot of the hill where the tin mill, coke plant, and steel works now stands--also along the top of the hill where the golf course is now located. We were looking over the land that we subsequently bought from a group of owners which included Cyrus Ferguson, an old resident of this district. If someone then could have opened a door to the future and made us see the panorama of mills, homes, churches, schools, stores, and everything else that goes to make up the weirton of 1949, naturally we would have been highly pleased--but I can not say honestly that we would have been greatly surprised, because when we came here, it was already a settled matter that we would build a completely integrated steel plant and the community necessary to support it. That decision was made in Clarksburg, as you know we started in Clarksburg by taking over a bankrupt tin plate plant in 1905. All of us who were active in starting the business were young men. We had some knowledge of business and we were very long on ambition--but just about as short in cash money. However, this was a difficulty that was not too hard to overcome in those days, because the spirit and conditions of the times were favorable to new ventures. We succeeded in persuading ten men--each a self-made man, each the builder of his own business to join us as original stockholders. We started at Clarksburg with an 8 tin mill plant. Soon it was unable to keep up with the orders, so we added four more mills. But the business kept on growing, and by 1909 we had to make the first move on a program I had had in mind always and that was the establishment of a completely integrated steel plant that would make us really independant. As it was then, we had to buy raw material--sheet bars--from large steel companies which also sold tinplate, so our very life depended then on our competitors.. If they had decided at any time to raise the price of sheet bars and reduce that of tinplate, we would have been put out of business. I always realized this weakness in our position and that with it, we could never have a growing future. From the time we felt sure Clarksburg was a success, my brother, David, John Williams, and myself used to sit together and plan our great future. It came true, and while my brother and John saw much of our progress and certainly enough to know that we had accomplished our aim of a solid, independent steel development, yet they did not live to see the great position we have today and this successful Weirton that they both loved so well and so fervently believed in.

The decision to expand our operations raised some big questions. The first was where to build. Clarksburg was unsuited for a large-scale expansion, because it was isolated and did not have a matter of additional capital for building. Our original stockholders and some other agreed to put up additional capital in the amount of 300,000 dollars. We then set out to solve the other problem by finding a properly located site which would have not only the physical requirements for our immediate needs, but also would allow for expansion into a fully integrated operation and the building of a town. We surveyed many sites, most of

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Mr. Weirs address continued: "(them were in the Pittsburgh area, but we went as far north and east as Buffalo, New York. We decided finally on the land of the Furguson group at what was then Crawford's Crossing. There were 105 acres in the first tract we bought. It extended from the river to the part of the present steel works opposite to the bank of Weirton and from the foot of the hill back of the tin mill to the County Road. This holding, of course, was enlarged from time to time as quickly as we were financially able to do it and finally amounted to about 1200 acres. Almost as soon as we had the deed in our pocket in 1909 we began to build the first 10 mill plant. If anyone had stood on the edge of the hill near the present no. 4 fairway and watched that plant going up, he probably would have thought that we were building it in the most illogical place on the property. He would have been right of course if a finishing plant was all that we had in mind, but we were thinking of the steel mills to come in the not distant future, so all of our original building was planned with that purpose in mind. As soon as the first 10 mills were in operation, we started the addition of the second 10, so that in a little more than a year after we came to Weirton, our plant here was more than half again as large as Clarksburg. In 1912, we bought the Steubenville plant and then added six more mills at Weirton. In those few years we became and have remained larger than any other producer of tin mill products in the world, with the single exception of the United States Steel Corporation. Also in the first years in Weirton we began to diversify our products to acquire coal and iron ore properties, and to carry on the construction which resulted in our becoming an intergrated steel producer in about 11 years after our start in Weirton. It is obvious that all of this could not have been done by just a few men alone. It has been a great cooperative enterprise requiring the thought and effort of first hundreds, then thousands of people working together in a spirit of harmony.

That is what we had in Weirton at the start, what we have had through the years, and what we have now. It is the real thing that has made Weirton possible. As you know well, there has never been a time when these mills and this community have not been growing and improving. I hope there never will be, and if we just keep that ambition to grow--not only bigger but better--that willingness to work hard, to work intelligently, and to work together, we can be sure that, in the next forty years, there will be progress surpassing that of our first forty years. When we came to Weirton, we could not confine either our entergies or our resources to the building of the plant alone. This was far from a settled community. A few farm houses constituted all of the dwellings in the entire upper end of the valley. So, while we were building the tin mill, we also had to build a town. The first houses were constructed on the hillside in the area near the present no. 1 gate. Since enough homes were not available immediately for the families of all employees, many went to live in Steubenville, we made arrangements with the railroad to run special trains which arrived and departed in time for the change of turns. Tin mill men came to Weirton from all parts of the country. And I am reminded that this new venture of ours--like most new ventures--created many opportunities all up and down the line. Many a rougher got his first chance to become a roller in Weirton; many a heater's helper first became a heater, and so on, in the hot mill and other departments of the plant. The keynote of this whole story is that Weirton really built itself. If grew out of its own labor.") This being part of that great address Mr. Weir gave that day April 27th 1949 to the Chamber of Commerce at that time.

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I took up a great amount of space quoting from Mr. Weir's Address, but I knew that he, being the founder of Weirton, could tell about the beginning of Weirton far greater than I could. You will have to agree with me that the Address that he gave at that time was wonderful, A Master-piece in itself.

As I said before, what if they would of built their steel plant somewhere else and maybe some Chemical plants would of been built here that small bit of air pollution that the boiler house and steel works put out is nothing compared to the choking effects of a chemical plant.

Then came 1910, my second year at school, Edythe Ramsay still my teacher, things around the farm was about the same as before.

Mother still cooking that good food. You may think that is all I think of is eating; Like I always said, some people eats to live, but I live only to eat.

All the evenings spent in a marvelous way, My brother and I playing checkers or a game of Fox and Geese, or Walter helping me with my school work, They were very happy evenings we had around the old fireplace.

There were changes outside the home, Brother Ted bought a steam traction engine, saw mill, threshing machine, bailer, and other machinery, from Edward Anderson who lived on the Ridge northeast of the Pleasant Valley Methodist Church; This took place in 1911, I cannot recall the month, He set up the saw mill and sawed a great amount of lumber which we really needed at that time, with a large food mill he ground feed for a great many farmers and threshed grain in the fall for a great many farmers, and bailed their hay.

I remember 1912 or 1913, he set up his saw mill for George Owings on the western part of his farm and sawed all the timber on that part of the farm. Our three cousins helped him at that time. They all stayed at the old log cabin that stood at the west end of Hillcrest St. Their names were Ulysses, Joss, and Clarence Truax.

I was over there once or twice to see them operating the mill, I thought it was a great thing how he brought up water from a pond below the mill with a jet pump, how it forced water up hill to his boiler, it took a lot of water to make steam, He fired the boiler with the slabs that was taken from the logs, Not a bad system at that time.

More about threshing Grain, the field that the oats was raised on was planted in wheat about the middle of sept. and harvested the next July, The oats were planted in April and harvested in August, All the grain stood in shocks for about two or three weeks to dry then it was hauled in and stacked in the barnyard, or in the barn if there was room, Then they set a day to thresh, On a great many farms, the farmers helped each other, it took about eight to ten men to operate the threshing machine, being so many men in our family, we never used but two or three of the neighbors.

Some of the wives of the men would prepare a great table that would seat ten or twelve men, Loaded with some of the finest food ever eaten, How we wished that our dinner plates had side boards on them, they really knew how to cook in those days.

We may just as well tell about the other farmers while on this subject, That is all the farmers in the city limits. Beginning with the John Tarr Farm, It took in all the territory of Weircrest where the hospital is located, A very good farm, a wonderful view of Ohio River and Toronto. They did good farming, raising cattle, hogs, and sheep.

His brother Wylie's farm took in all of the Kings Creek Bowl, their brother Mason's farm was where the Cove Valley Estates is now.

My brother Ted said many times that the yield of grain on those farms were great, all three Tarr brothers were very good farmers.

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The Tarr brothers that I spoke of were sons of Jackson Tarr, whose father was the afore mentioned Peter Tarr, who built and operated the first iron furnace west of the Alleghenies. I have a clipping from a newspaper in an old scrapbook, the obituary of Jackson Tarr.

"Jackson Tarr ago 79 years, one of the best known farmers residing on Kings Creek, W. Va., died March 1895, very suddenly, surrounded by his family and passed peacefully away into the great beyond.

His demise was not expected, he was a consistent and valued member of the U.-P. Church, known as the Oakland Church and leaves a family of six boys and three girls to mourn his loss. Mr. Tarr had been ailing for about fourteen weeks with Pleurisy. No arrangements have as yet been made for the funeral, as the family are awaiting the arrival of a son, the Rev. Tarr who lives in New York. Mr. Tarr was born in 1816. died 1895/11"

Four of his sons were; John, Mason, Wylie and Peter Tarr, Peter Tarr's children were: Mary, John, Anna, Parry, Grace, Floyd, Amy, Dora, and Howard. Mason Tarr's children were: Blanch, Mabel, Ina, Robert, and Earnest. Mason Tarr born 1853, died 1929.

Wylie Tarr born 1862, died 1919, Wylie Tarr married Emma Ramsey, March 17th, 1887, their children's names were: Harold, Alice, James, Robert, Paul, Edna, Emma Ruth, and Margaret who is the only one still living.

As I said before three of the Tarr brothers were very good farmers, John, Wylie, and Mason. I heard my brother Ted say many times, that the yield of grain there was great. Those three farms plays a very important part in the building of Weirton. Look at the John Tarr farm, almost a city within it-self. Where could they have found a better site for that hospital. And the Wylie Tarr farm, a great many homes and the Church of God, and the old farm house, has been kept in good repair, it looks as good as when I first saw it 53, years ago. Lee Ralich lived there for a great number of years.

The Tarr family that I am the best acquainted with is the James Tarr family. The second son of Wylie Tarr, James married Minta Hurd, a daughter of Stephen Hurd, to this union was born eight children, Edna, Raymond, Hilda, Grace, Robert, Henry, and Vera, and one died when young.

Raymond Tarr who works as custodian of Weirton High School, is also Sunday School Superintendent at the Free Methodist Church, where I attend Sunday school. The Pastor and him does great work in building up the attendance of the Sunday School.

Another very good farmer, was Frank Morrow, large dairy herds and raising of grain, and general farming. Kings View Estates are located there now. George Sharp, or now known as Frankovitch farm, William Logan or the Mankowski farm, Alex Ralston, or the Cronner Farm were very good farms, being bottom land the soil was very productive.

The James Brown farm, known in later years as Elo farm all built up with beautiful homes, also a great Trailer Court.

David Ralston's farm where the golf course is now located always raised a great amount of sheep, dairy herds, with a large amount of general farming. I talked to him many times. He was very faithful in attending the Pleasant Valley Methodist Church.

At the top of Culler hill, was the Frances Ralston farm and his brother William's, all the area of Woodard Estates, Pleasant View Dr. and National Road area. Jersel Culler bought the Frances Ralston farm in 1917. All the area of Barnhart Addition, Putnam Lane, and where the Liberty School is located.

The Jane White Farm covered all the area where the Shopping Plaza is now located, St. Joseph Church and the Chestnut Hills area.

Many people may not know the meaning of the Chestnut Hills area, when I was a boy, I would go there with my brothers to gather chestnuts, there were many large trees, stood where the Osteopathic Hospital is now located, many were three feet in diameter, A blight hit all the Chestnut trees around 1923 and killed them all.

James Bowers bought the Ed. Blou farm around 1923, I saw Mr. BLEU, many times, that farm covered all the area from the shopping plaza to the road leading into the now swimming pool, north of Penn. Ave., to Culler Road.

Joseph Miller had a very good farm, It covered all the land on both sides of the highway in the Bel-Air area, where the Broad-View school is at to the state line, all the land where Kathleen Way, Valley Way, Circle Drive, South Circle Drive, Scenery Drive, and the area around where the Christ Methodist Church now stands. A very productive farm.

Large dairy herds and a great amount of general farming.

Roy and Oscar Gardner, also had good farms, All that area on both sides of Colliers Way to where the New Highway is now. With all these Homes built there now, very few of us can remember what that area looked like fifty or more years ago. A wonderful farming area.

Clom Freshwater had a good farm, all the land where Mike Starvaggi now has his farm. Clifford Walker's farm took in all the land from the Christ Methodist Church to the Wesleyan Methodist Church on Gilson Ave.

William Rodd had a very good farm, It covered all the land from Gilson Ave., to Kusie St., back to where the new By-Pass is now, The Shipley farm, covered all the land where the K, of C, Memorial Baptist Church, and big Wheel Store is now located. Ross Hindman and John Berkheimer farms very good farms, took in all the area where the Weirton School Offices and Airport is now located.

The Patterson farm, also a very good farm covered all the area where Woodlawn Estates is now. Across the Cove Hill Road from the Woodlawn Estates, was where Robert Freshwater lived, the old white brick farmhouse is still standing. Back of the Freshwater Farm was the William Cable Farm, Hoss Jackson lived there a few years and Ralph Rust lived there a great number of years.

William Hill and Gideon Kooder, lived at the foot of Greenbrier road, and the two Campbell farms, George and Hiram Campbell, their farms was at the top of Greenbrier hill, very good farmers, raising sheep, cattle and hogs, and did a great deal of general farming.

They were sons of Robert Campbell. George married Alice Hammond, and Hiram married Kate Hammond, two sisters. All of their children I know very well, all went to school at the old Mt. Herob Schoolhouse.

The next farm was Hiram Patton farm it covered all the land where St. Paul Cemetery, and Bell View Addition is now, both sides of the highway, Allen St., area, about as much land on each side of the highway.

And the James Purdy farm covered the area from Clay St., to Park Ave, and all of the Powers Road area, and McHondry St., area.

The farmhouse stood where the Clark service station is now located. Hiram and George Campbell's Mother was the sister of James Purdy's Father, the life story of John Campbell explains it all very well.

James Purdy quit farming in 1909 and went into the Grocery Business, at Hollidays Cove, Richard Linton lived in the Purdy house until 1914, then bought some land along the Cove hill road, known now as the Linton Lane area, The Smith Miller Farm known now as Elias Simon Farm, covered all the area from Penn. Ave., to the Truax Farm and from north 20th St., to the Patton farm.

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The Truax Farm covered all the land from Smith Miller or Simon Farm on the south to Kings Creek on the North, Logan or Mankowski Farm on the east to George Sharp or Frankovitch Farm on the west.

John(Doc) Owings farm took in all the land from Truax Farm on the north to Hiram Campbell Farm on the south, Smith Miller or Simon Farm on the east to Martin Hindman Farm on the West.

Martin Hindman, Frank Hindman and Margaret Hagerty Farms took in a great amount of land, from the Williamson Farm on the north to the Cove Road on the South, John Owings and Hiram Campbell Farms on the east and George Owings Farm on the west. All of that land where the high school is at to the power station, Boll St., Church St., Cross St. area from 11th St., to south 16th St., North 13th St., 14th and 15th St and south 12th, 13th, and 14th and 16th St., area possibly 400 acres.

George Owings Farm took in all the land area from the Boll Farm on the north to Margaret Hagerty Farm on the South, Martin Hindman Farm on the east to Cyrus Ferguson Farm on the west. The William Boll Farm covered the area of 14th St., Ext. to the Frank Morrow Farm. And the Williamson Farm was at the end of North 15th St., All of these Farms that I have tried to describe were on Weirton Heights and Kings Creek.

As my brother Tod threshed for almost all of the ones that owned these farms, for about 13 years although a great many farmers quit farming about 1920.

Nearly all the farmers at that time raised a large amount of oats and wheat, because it took a large amount of oats to feed the horses as most of the farmers had two teams, 4 horses or more, That was the only kind of power in those days, and it took about two bushels a day for that many horses. They had to raise 10 or 20 acres of oats, and about 10 or more acres of wheat, 15 to 20 bushels of wheat to the acre and 40 OR MORE bushels of oats to the acre.

As the farmers always had a large flock of chickens, it took a great amount of wheat for them, many farmers had their own feed mill and did their own feed grinding.

When my brother Ted first bought his threshing Rig, Guy Campbell was in partnership with him for a few years, then Guy went in the machine shop at the tin mill. Myron, Guy's brother, was already working there from about the time the tin mill first started, after the Steel works began operation's a large machine shop was built there, and Myron was foreman there until he retired, Guy also worked there until he retired.

George and Frank, the two youngest sons of Hiram, also were machinests, George, being the master Mechanic, for years, and Frank was foreman at the Coke Plant machine shop for years. George and Frank and I attended school together, at the old Mt. Horeb school, while the older children of Hiram and George Campbell his brother attended school there with my older brothers and sister.

When Ted my brother first started to thresh, I believe he charged 4 cents a bushel for oats and 7 cents a bushel for wheat, About 1916, he raised it to 5¢, for oats and 9¢, for wheat. He threshed for 13 years and took sick and died Dec. 19, 1924. I heard him say many times, "That William Beck" whose farm was at Freedom Way, known then as Ferry road, his farm covered all the land from the Ohio river to the William Gullettes Farm, where the standard slag plant is now, the soil was highly productive, suitable for raising wheat no doubt the yield was about 25 bushels to the acre. Ted said " it took two full days to thresh, possibly 30 or 40 acres of wheat. the farm house stood where Morelli has his brick yard, the barn is still standing back of the brick yard.

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Two other farms north of William Becks farm, was the Speaker farm and the Half Moon Farm. The Weirton Steel Co., has a large warehouse there and some factories now occupy the Half MOON area.

William Gullette owned the farm near the Edgewood School, and part of the bottom land near the Creek. The farmhouse is still standing with a beautiful front lawn beside Gullette Lane. My Brother Tod threshed for him a great many times, and sawed lumber for him also. His saw mill was set up in the large ravine back of his house.

William Gullette's son, Lawrence, Manager of the Weirton Airport, now lives in the farmhouse III Gullette Lane. I believe Mr. Greenwood lived on the farm where the large round barn was. I cannot remember the name of the farmer that lived there before, but Mr. Greenwood lived there 1917- 1921. He Raised many acres of vegetables. Elby's Restaurant now occupies the same site. The farmhouse and barn removed about 1923.

You may wonder about the land that I speak of, but between 1915 and 1920, That was like a Garden of Eden. The creek flowed over by the railroad tracks. in 1914, I sat on my uncle's porch and looked over that valley, it was really beautiful: Becks, and Gulletts, and where the round barn was. Frank Ralston my uncle lived in the old house with the large porch, across the road from Weirton Jet., The Standard Slag Plant built about 1930, Any one remember the old Anderson homestead, built out of large cut sand stones? it stood above Sam Kusie's Garage Arkins had a motor supply store there, later removed to build a brick building.

On what is now Marland Heights, there was some more farms, I can only remember the Chapman farm, I heard my brother Jess speak of them.

Jess always went along with Tod on the threshing rig, and James or Bert, two other brothers went with them to haul water. I remember the old water wagon with it's large tank and hand pump. Usually they had to haul water from the River or Kings Creek depending on where they were threshing at.

Taking care of the machinery was a hard job. Many break downs, many nights Tod and Jess would have to stay up half the night to make repairs on the seperator or to roll the flues in the boiler, repair at night so they could thresh in the day time. Speaking of repairs, we could never forget the old blacksmith shop, It stood about where Ralph Corks home is now, on Lincoln Ave., An old building changed into a blacksmith shop, Many times I went there to watch Jess, Bert, Ted or Jim make repair parts for all kinds of farm machinery, using the drill press, forge, vise or anvil, To make the parts that was needed at that time. Many evenings were spent there so there would be more time in the day-light hours.

Cyrus Ferguson owned a great amount of land in the Weirton area and raised a large amount of grain, while my brother Tod was threshing for him, about the middle of Sept. in 1912, in the old stone barn, Howard Gardner who was the manager of the farm, told my brother Bert, who was hauling water, to put two canvas horse blankets on the horses when he went home, because it was raining. I was glad that he brought those blankets home with him, That night it rained so hard that the roof which never leaked before sure leaked that night. Two large storms came together in the Paris and Florence area. A great cloud burst, Father moved the bed that Walter and I were sleeping in three times, still the bed was getting wet, Father then took the canvas blankets from the perch and put them on the bed, we slept very little that night, I never saw it rain so hard since then, That was the night of the great Flood, water seemed to come down in buckets full at every drop.

Kings Creek and Harmons Creek were way out of their banks, nearly all the bridges were washed away. The only one left on Kings Creek was the one by the Eureka pump station. The high water flowed around it, all of the bottom land was covered with water. The Pleasant Valley Methodist Church had water all around it. The bridge beside it was washed away. The Church stood close to the creek not where it is now. It has been moved since that time some living at Colliers had to move that night.

It sure was bad at Hollidays Cove. The Knox family lived below the road near where Laposta has his service station. James Purdy and some others had to put a rope down to the house to hold on to while they took the family out, other families had to move out below the road. Up about where Police Lodge Road is it, was where Clyde Warwick lived. The flood waters took his house away. His wife and baby was killed but he escaped alive, there is no record that his wife and baby was ever found.

When I went to school the next morning, Leslie Campbell told me how the Cove was flooded out. After school we went down to see what it was like, would you believe it? How the Creek had been flowing down the Cove road, all these homes were flooded. Where the Weirton Lumber Co., Offices was before, Foster Hindman's home was there, the flood waters had broke over the banks there and flowed down the Cove Road, all that area was under water.

The Christian Church that stood there at the intersection of Colliers Road was washed off its foundation. If it had not been for some large trees, it would of been washed away. A small barber shop that stood across the street from where Toms Express is now was turned over in the middle of the road. Hardly anyone could believe that a thing like that could happen. I have some Weirton Steel Bulletins here with some pictures of that flood. I am so glad that I went down there that evening, because what I saw that day I have never forgotten. That was a sad night to remember. Let us hope and pray that a thing like that will never happen again. With all of those beautiful homes, Lumber yards, and trailer courts, it would be a terrible disaster.

Richard Hooker's farm was at the foot of where Marland Heights road is now to main St., possibly from Hudson Ave., to Mildron Ave., He had a machinery store in his barn. My brothers and I went there once to buy a washing machine. The barn stood across Main St., from Marland Heights Road, moved about 1930. Over by the Creek, dismantled about 1947 to build the Kroger Store. The old Hooker Homestead stood where the Gulf Filling Station is now facing Main St. It was moved over and turned around to face West St., Recently dismantled to make a parking lot.

James Purdy who left his farm about 1909 and went into the grocery business in the store building near where the Salvation Army Hall is now, we know it as the Moore Grocery Store, removed to make way for the now highway. James Purdy had that store about four years, then he built a new store at the corner of Purdy Lane and Main St.,

How do I know all of this? When I was a boy I would go with my brother to sell fruit for our father. We would go to all the stores to deliver the fruit. The first Lumber Yard started by Mont Buchanan, my father bought all his building material there. It is known now as Cove Walley Lumber Co. A livery stable was where Toms Express is now located. Andy Poe was a good blacksmith His shop was at the foot of Weir Ave., We went there to have shoes put on the horses, the same block building is still standing. Briscoe's Grocery store across Cove Road from Weir Avenue.

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The home of Richard Ferguson, a son of Cyrus, was built at Over Brook Drive, known in recent years as Police Lodge Club House removed to build the 9 story apartment building.

Alfred Mildren who started the Ford Garage about 1914, what is now known as Cabbrel Motor Co. I remember when he built it and started in business. His home is still standing at the corner of Mildren Ave., and Main St. He bought the oil from George Owings, the two wells located where Franklin Ave., and Oak St. are now, a small Refinery for making Gasoline. How many of us old timers remember the noise the gasoline machinery made? from about 1916 to about 1924, and the gas light that always burned to get rid of the refuse gas.

How many remembers when the road up Weirton Heights Hill was first built? There never was a road up there before, Grafton the County Surveyor staked that road off in 1913. It was started in 1913 and finished in 1914, from Weirton to the State Line, one lane brick one lane slag.

I watched the man that laid the bricks and marveled at how fast he could lay them.

How glad everyone was that the road was built. Before, everyone had to go down the Lee Hill, known now as South 11th St.

Cyrus Ferguson, who lived at the foot of Weirton Hill did very good farming, he had some men hired to do the farming for him. I know of four, three Robinson brothers and Howard Gardner. I remember the garage with the store room over head. His car was a Peerless, I only saw Mr. Ferguson a few times. His garage stood where the Present Bank Building is now. Harry Smogler made a grocery store out of it about 1918. and the old stone barn, built about 1860, used as the City Garage, until they built the one on Freedom way. Dis. antled 1964 or 1965.

Mr. Ferguson had many homes built about 1912, beside Virginia Ave., known as the Ferguson Addition, All of them facing West St. only two left now. As fast as the new homes were built, people moved into them.

Mr. Cabbrell went into the Lumber business and built many homes, many homes were built in upper Weirton at that period of time.

Avenues A, B, C, D, and E, with new homes on both sides of all those Avenues, up to the County Road, those all built up fast, with a great many stores on Main St. Lowmiller, and Robert and Jess Evans, the first grocery stores, started about 1910, with Sam Gaffner and Rabino-witch who had the first clothing store, on third St., Sam Levy had a clothing store on Ave., B, and Main St. The building that the People's Restaurant is in now, was where Robert and Jess Evans had their grocery Store, I went there in 1915 after school with James Raveira to buy some marbles, once I remember of.

What about the street cars at this time? The street cars must of started to run between Weirton and Stouboville, about 1912 or 1913, that was a great way to travel at that time. Many who lived in the lower Cove had to walk to and from work even after a hard days Labor, as all the jobs on the Mill were hard jobs. No doubt they were very happy when the Street Cars started to operate.

Many times I rode the street car to Stouboville old No. 39, a great many of us traveled that way, The street cars stopped running about 1937, The end of the car line at Ave., C, was a very busy place, A bowling alley was near by. William Kaufmann had a variety store there beside the Evans Brothers grocery store, Known now as Kaufmann Hardware and Steel Co., on lower Main St., A Drug Store on Ave., B, and Main St, William Murray was the Druggist. Colonial Theater on Ave., A, began about 1915, Zieglers Hardware Store Between Ave., B, and Ave., E.

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Barr's Drug Store on Ave. F., Henry's Restaurant between Ave. E. and Ave. F., Bank Bldg. on the corner of Ave. F., All of these buildings was facing Main St., The old school bldg. at the end of the car line, My sister Lillian Jordan taught school there for about three years, until the two story bldg. was built on Ave. F. and County road 1913. that bldg. was used until 1961, recently dismantled.

The First Baptist Church, built about 1914, on Ave. D. Across the Street from Barr's Drug Store was the Police Dept. (Big) Bill Morrison,

The first policeman, a good man to restore law and order.

The fire department, was there also and the little Ford Pumper that they use in the Parados, was bought at that time.

It seems strange in a way, how many things can happen in a life time. I saw nearly all of these buildings being built and soon nearly all of them removed and hauled away making way for parking lots.

I saw the old shoop bara many times, that stood along Main St., below where the main Lab. is now. And the large bottom land that was there, I saw some very good crops of corn and grain raised there.

James Bowers, one of Cyrus Ferguson's son-in-laws had a feed store there by Crawford's Crossing, many times we went there to buy feed for our hogs and horses.

In the year 1911 the Phelps Can Co., who had a can factory at Baltimore Md. bought property from Mr. Ferguson, and built a can factory about 200 yards from the Cove Road, North along the railroad track. after it was built, many people received work there. Three of my brothers worked there for awhile. It was so interesting to watch how the cans were made, I went there a few times to watch my brothers work, all the work done by hand, they sure had a busy job piling the cans, taking them off the lines and putting them in box cars, Many different sizes gallon size on down to baby size milk cans. There were 12 lines at first, then it increased to 17 lines later, Many times while I was working in the Tin Mill, I heard how that the Phelps Can Co., used what seven Hot Mills produced.

I had known a great many people who had worked there. My cousin Daisy's husband, John Jackson, and Harry Gardner, two watchman who worked there for a great many years. My brother Alvin who was there for a great many years, Violet Hisson and her son Earnest worked there for a great many years. Dismantled about 1963, after they built a new factory at the Half Moon area, they quit making cans about one year after that.

A building program was taking place about this time, in the lower Cove area, about 1913, known as Orchard Park, Harper Purviance was the contractor. I remember that my two brothers, James and George worked for him for awhile. George built a small house on Elmer Ave.,

One of the greatest men I was ever acquainted with was James Patterson, who lived in the Florence area, Moved down to the lower Cove, about 1913, worked for Mr. Cattrell for awhile then went into contracting business for himself, Building many homes all over Weirton and Cove area and on Weirton Heights, His daughter Violet married Garnet Hisson who passed away in 1931, Their children were Earnest, Ruth and James. His son Ralph married Ann Schmidt, their children; Eddie, Linda JoAnn, and Audrey Patterson. More about James Patterson Later on in this story.

Charles Hindman's grocery store where Cristios Produce Store is now I was in his store many times, Doctor Richmond whose home was on the corner of Walnut Ave., and Main St. Roscoe Morris who was the surveyor at that time, he was the son of Doc. Morris, who brought a great many babies into this world, including myself.

The Presbyterian Church at Main St., and Cove Road, built 1860, in that location first, then rebuilt in 1914, and a new Church added on in 1963, The Christian Church at Main St., and Lee Ave., first built 1913, I saw the corner stone many times, that is why I know that the flood was in 1912, because it destroyed the other one at Colliers Road.

What was the Weir Brothers doing at this time? Something wonderful, having purchased the Pope Tin Mill in Steubenville in 1912, and increasing the Weirton Tin Mill to 26 Hot Mills by 1915, Many more jobs for the people. Taken from the Sept. 1947, Bulletin, "a great disaster took place at the Tin Mill. Starting Jan. 1st, 1913, the hill south of the Mill started to slide toward the Boiler house, and by March 18th, they had to stop operations of the Mill, All departments of the Mill were forced to stop by the morning of the 19th, of March. Five Boilers in the Boiler House were upset and ruined. The Power House had fallen in, but in only 62 days a new six Boiler Steam Plant was built and the 20, Hot Mills were back in operation. The new Boiler House was not built in the same place but at the west end of the Hot Mill building.

It was marvelous the way the Weir brothers had things done so quickly. Some time during 1913, ground was broken for a new strip steel Plant, southeast of Crawfords Crossing.

As the automobile was now being built at a fast rate, the demand for strip steel was great. A cold rolled strip steel plant was built and by 1915 a 10 inch hot strip Mill was completed and by 1916, a 16 inch Hot Strip Mill was in operation. A large sign stood in front of the Strip Steel Dept. near the road. The sign read, "Phillips Sheet and Tin Plate Co. Strip Steel Dept."

During that time as my brother and I was going down Campbell Hill we saw Men building a great power line across fields, woodlands and ravines, we could not understand what it was for at first but later found out it was power for the new strip steel Plant being built at that time, while they were building the strip steel Mill we could hear the riveting hammers working on the frames of those large buildings, as the iron workers were putting them together, Not much noise in those days, You could hear sounds like that plainly, although it was two miles to where we lived on the farm on Seneca Street.

How about the first baseball team, I have a bulletin here, Sept, 1946, with pictures and names of our first team, outfitted by the late J. C. Williams in 1910, Hot Mill workers would play ball after a hard days work. This sign * denotes my wife's uncles, In the picture was Lloyd Ridgley, Dan Tinglor*, Jake Tinglor*, Cliff Bowers, William Bailey, Manager, Offie Myers, Patrick McKitrick, Carl Stead, Lloyd Elliot, Judd Davis, Mascot. Ike Postor, Dolph Smith, and William Bosworth. They sure had a good place to play because at that time there was all open fields where the Steel Works are now located. Many road shows and Circuses were held there also.

Before I start writing about what was taking place on Weirton Heights, I will make a list of the people that was working in the mill at this time, With the increase of more Hot Mills and the 10 inch Hot Strip Mill, there were many more employed by 1915, As I said before a great many people moved here from many places, Not only to work in the Mill, but they needed many carpenters, plasterers, brick masons, teamsters, to excavate basements, and many other kinds of businesses, Barbers, Doctors, Plumbers, Store clerks, Restaurant workers, no trouble then to find a job, you could choose about any job you wanted, any where you wanted to work.

I have a Weirton Steel Bulletin here, August 1947, telling all about the first Annual 25 year club picnic and reunion, I belong to the club at that time, but I was unable to attend. It was held July 12th, at the Cove Police Lodge, and was marked by a special event. There were new Gold Service Award Pins for every employoe who had worked for the company for more than 25 years. There were almost 1200 members in the 25 Year Club at the time with approximately 200 more to become eligable next year and another 200 the following year.

Frank Traskoma won first prize in a drawing of valuable gifts, Sam Goffner, Weirton's oldest Merchant, pulled lucky tickots out of a barrel, Guests of Honor at the picnic were the 64 oldest old timers who could point to service-records of from 40 to 45 years. Each of these men were presented with diamond-studded service pins by President Thomas E. Millsop.

"You are the men together with early management who really built this industry", Millsop said "We are all vory proud of you". In the picture on the cover of this bulletin, shows the two oldest employees of the Steubenville Plant receiving their 45 year pins, Fred Bray and William C. Paul. Another picture shows 12 more with Thomas E. Millsop, President. Their names taken from this bulletin are: Joe Renda, William Richards, Sam Bray, David Davies, George E. Ferguson, John T. Maddock, Norwal Welsh, Baptista Patty, William Jenkins, James Harries, John Parry; Mr. Davies passed away Aug. 8th, less then a month after the picnic.

These men started to work at the Old Pope Plant in Steubenville, back in 1902. Here is a list of some of the men that started in 1910: Mike Bahiak, James Cacace, Burt Crum, Abe E. Edwards, Sam Greco, Frank Hale, John Horner, Sam Lammi, Antonio Laquinto, George Mentzer, Michael Mavita, Alexander Pagur, These men had 37 years service at that time. The 36 year men were: Roy J. Black, Cliff Bowers, Myron Campbell, James Gimino, J. E. Collins, Gust Demas, A. W. Duncan, James C. Elliott, Sr, Albert Ferguson, David Ferguson, Cran Givens, Theodoro Glazowski, James Goldsmith, Angelo Guattoro, Elmer Hawkins, McKitrick, William McNeil, David Madigan, Pote Markovitz, Peter Markowicz, Nick Menedis, George Mentzor, George Moyers, Jeha Mikita, John Morlar, Frank Mosanski, Andy Palcich, Carl Pearce, Poutis Psaroudis, W. C. Reardon, Thomas Ross, Wallace Rowland, Apostalos Sfykas, Stanley Sparks, Charles Vine, E. G. Waltman, John Watz, Karel Zulkowski.

The 35 year men were: Anicoto Agostini, Joseph Andruszek, Mike Badilas, Urban Borok, Adam Corvi, John Colosanto, Thommaso Corso, Herman Fonske, Paul Grapa, Alex Grzeszczuk, John Grzeszczuk, John Doffinas, Walter Kuzner, Stanley Lamón, Mike Leonard, Guy Lyons, Victor Mazar, Steve Meader, John Messler, Onni Nurmi, Vincat Oleynick, Phillip Olivetti, Harry Peterson, J. T. Richard, Dominic Rotell, Virgil Ruksha, Michael Saanlon, Wito Serrano, Mike Sikora, Harry Thompson, Virginio Tosi, Hayes VanKirk, H. L. Willson, Menelaos Zagorianos, Stanley Zamojski,

The 34 year men were: Charles Badis, Halley Baker, Alfred Balon, Angelo Caritas, Vincat Czaplá, A. Drahme, J. E. Feeney, Paul Gennas, Benjamin H. Godwin, James Harries, Joseph Hertnik, F. M. Hesse, Richard Hughes, Lawrence Jones, Antoni Kazecki, Rossous Kladakis, John Kosch, Joseph Krzinek, Mary C. Lawrence, Thomas Lemsky, Victor Miltko, J. B. Owings, Michael Palumbo, Andy Pappas, Ray Paskowski, Mike Pliska, Paul Popp, John Przbysz, Thomas Rainey, F. C. Ralston, Mike Rohal, Rosus Dennis, Miss Amy Rowland, Gus Rybka, Constantine Spillianaki, Lawrence Sudoi, Thomas Tróla, Daniel Vincent, Francis Vogt, J. J. Watson, Charles Work, Andrew Zagula, Stanley Zagula; These names all taken from the Weirton Steel Bulletin August 1947.

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The list of 33 year men continued: Nick Konevitch, Rudolph Liebusbach, Emanuel Loucas, Harry McIntosh, Wm. Mander, John Maxwell, Jacob Parrish, Z. W. Risér, Lawrence Sagan, Charles Schubert, John Struzik, Michael Tarowski Jr., George Wamier Sr., Harry Virtuo, John Zajac, Miko Zumpano, .

These men all started between 1910 to 1915. C. Boulgarakis, John Catzolis, Nick Christodolou, Lawrence Disantis, Oreste DeVecchis, Luisi Di Rosario, Carl Dory, Joseph P. Fabianich, George Fotiós, James Gallo, Steve Gambal, John Gastgeb, Guy Gasia, Vincent Genise, A. R. Griffith, Charles Harito, Vern Hoilman, C. H. Hosso, John Homan, Frank Jagola, .

All of these names were taken from the Weirton Steel Bulletin June 15th, 1946, When we think of all these old timers, we wonder how many is left, probably only about 10%.

What was taking place on Weirton Heights at this time, with the new road from Weirton to the State Line, many things began to take place, Martin Hindman who had left his farm about 1912, and moved to the Cove, rented his farm to James Stephenson.

Another Historical event I would like for you dear readers to know about, Martin Hindman was a very good farmer. He and his brother Frank, raised a great amount of sheep. As did almost all the other farmers, A wild bear that lived down in Greubrier Hollow, known at that time as Bear Den Hollow, was killing many of the farmers sheep, but not for very long. One morning Mr. Hindman saw him in his pasture field and ran into the house and got his Muzzle loading rifle and shot the bear and killed it about where William Prosser lives now, My Father told me he killed it in the northwest corner of his pasture field, South 13th, St., the year 1885.

The first house built on Weirton Heights was James Stephenson, I believe the new road was not yet completed when Mr. Stephenson started his house in 1914, (that is the first house not counting the farm homes) He moved into it from where he lived at, the Martin Hindman farm.

Frank Heubler built shortly after him across the road, Robert Griffen, next beside Mr. Heubler, Robert Griffen and Frank Heubler were in the plastering trade together, many homes were plastered by those two men.

Thurman Owings built his house next I believe. Then Roy and Al Grimm next, Roys house on the corner of Penn. Ave., and 12th, St. and Al's home near where save way market is now. Thurman Owings home on the corner of Penn. Ave., and 11th St. James Stephenson's home beside the Sunoco Service Station. These six were the first I can remember.

Jess Hill moved into the (Doc) Owings homestead about 1912, after my cousin Don Truax moved away, That made four more children to go to School. Goldie, Guy, and FORD, were to old to go to school, so there was Viola, Carl, Paul and Mac, that went to School. In the old red brick School.

Sept. 13th, 1913, my sister Lillian married Glen Jordan and moved to Elwood Ind, after they returned here, they moved into the small home on Elmor Ave., in the lower Cove.

William Bell, who owned the farm north of George Owings farm, known now as Miko Wargacski Addition, North 10th, St. He moved away about 1912 or 1913, and Fred Pulver moved into that home. They had a great many children, Ralph and Raymond being the two oldest sons, worked in the Hot Mill, the rest of the children were: Elma, Theodore, Grace, and Mary, They all went to school in the old red brick building, Mt. Herob.

After James Purdy left his farm for the grocery business, Richard Linton lived there until 1914 then moved to his own place on Cove road, after he moved there Fred Pulver who was living on the Bell Farm, moved into the Purdy Home

A short time after Mr. Pulver moved into the Purdy House, His son Ralph came over to my father's house one evening and brought along a NEW disc type phonograph, we never saw one like that before, we were always used to the cylinder type kind, We really enjoyed those records that evening, being something different and new singers I guess that made a great difference. A few months after that, Ralph brought over his Camora and took many pictures and developed them there. It was really something, We have a great many of them left.

About 1911, my two oldest brothers George and Tod, put on a play at the school house, I can remember how they sold peanuts for five cents a bag, the children thought that was great,

George and Tod put on a play about Uncle Josh at the Dentist, A record that was made at that time, by Comedian Cal Stewart, Tod sang an Indian song about "ARRAH WANNA" about half way through the song, we were frightened a great deal, because he pulled out a revolver and shot toward the ceiling. Singing that (song) he may of thought he was fighting Indians with Custer, Virgil Jackson or Frank Poole was there with their Automobile, I remember him showing us how the head lights worked, A Presto-Lite gas tank on the running board, you turned them on with a key then light the burner in the headlamp. Only about three cars here then, Frank Poole owned a Ford, Virgil Jackson owned a Hupmobile, and Cyrus Ferguson owned a Peerless.

More about my school days, Very good teachers, Edythe Ramsey two terms, Tuckie Gilchrist one term, Alice McCrea two terms, Sadie Levy two terms, That puts us to 1916, when we moved to the new schoolhouse,

The teachers were very good teachers, having a great amount of patience. Like all children some of us were bad, no doubt we got on her nerves, looking back now those were the best days of our lives, not because we got on her nerves but the enjoyment of each other playing together, many games as Leap Frog, Run Shoopio Run, Baseball, Football, Marbles, if there was snow on the ground, we would sled ride down the hill where Harding St., is now. Flying kites in the spring. I never could make a kite that would fly, When Alice McCREA was our teacher, her brother Walter would visit there sometimes and he showed us how to make one that would fly, We were sure glad about that. Very few people bought anything like that in those days nearly every one made their own sleds and kites.

I remember when I was in about the second or third grade, us boys were making a Lean-to behind the log pile. A girl in the same grade gave me a hard slap on the face, I said what was that for, she said, "for that bad word you said," I guess I was cursing and didn't know it.

Fire! Fire! the old red brick school house is on fire, During the last term of Sadie Levy, some time in the winter of 1915, My brother Walter, who was the janitor that year, had went to the school at the regular time to heat up the building before the children would arrive,

With a good fire in the old (pot bolly) stove, he came back home, Charley Campbell's boys was usually the first ones to arrive at school, When they came that morning shortly after Walter came home, they found fire and smoke coming out through the roof near the chimney Leslie, George, and Harold, came down and told us about it, My brother George and some more of us went to the schoolhouse with picks and other tools and removed the shingles and boards from around the chimney and put out the fire with water, How pleased the children were then, Two weeks of a happy unexpected vacation, while we built a new chimney and repaired the roof, Built about 1850, it could of burned down very quickly. 27

A list of the children that went to Mt. Horeb school at this time, Leslie, George, Ruth, and Harold Campbell, Fred and Walter (Bus) Campbell, Theodore, Elma, Grace, and Mary Pulver, Harry Stephenson, John Owings, Carl, Paul, Viola, and Mae Hill, Eva and Florence Stetson,

Some time in the summer of 1915, James Raveira bought the Purdy Farm, Fred Pulver who lived there moved back to the Bell Homestead. That fall there were four more to go to school, Charles, Mary, James Jr., and Rose Raveira, about 20 or more children, that was the last term in the old building.

The next spring the school board bought two acres of land from Smith Miller, facing Penna. Ave., along what is now North 20th, St. more to say about this in the next chapter.

About this time 1914, my brothers built a road down into the deep ravine below the farmhouse, and set up the saw mill because there was a great amount of timber down there. Many times when I came home from school, I would run down to the mill and watch them saw lumber, I loved to see the saw going through the logs, and to watch how the men worked, Jess who done the carriage work and Tod who done the sawing, James who was the off bearer, that is moving the lumber away from the saw, and Bert who did the firing, by setting up the slabs and firing the boiler, with them, No easy job anywhere around a saw mill, as they were very strong men, they did a wonderful job with that saw mill, we will never forget what Mr. Ramsey said (the father of Edythe, Ethel, John and Robert) when he came over there one day to buy some lumber, He drove his horse and wagon down to the saw mill, as the road was very steep, He asked us how we got the steam engine out of there, one of my brothers said "the engine could pull until it would upset itself," He said "that is what you need down in here", He also said that one of his daughters, taught school in the Mt. Horeb school, She was my teacher for two terms.

Can anyone remember the old Turkey Foot Telephone Co.? About 1912, telephones were installed in nearly every farmhouse. The operator or known then as Central, was in the Frank Morrow residence. Jennie Morrow was the operator. A wonderful invention at the time, so many of the farm woman who went to school together either at Lick Run, Mt. Horeb, Jefferson or Liberty, when they were children, the telephone played a very important part in their conversation to one another, I thought it was wonderful that they could talk to one another, so many called it a party line, but if they had not of had that party line, maybe a great many would not of heard from one another for many years.

Many times I heard my Mother talking to some of her old friends, they helped each other out by giving new recipes or thoughts on knitting and many things that they wanted to know, A lot of time was saved by farmers, before they had the telephones, they had to go sometimes a great distance to talk over some business or other conversations, by horse back or buggy, now they could talk about their business'es and other matters and have a great more time to themselves.

Frank Lyons, Stanton Walters, and Joe Langfitt were the linesmen and they did a good job putting in the phones and putting up the lines and keeping them in working order.

About this time, 1913, sorrow struck Hiram Campbell's home, Kato Hammond Campbell, took a stroke and lived but a few short hours and passed away. A terrible thing to happen to this family, as they were so devoted to each other, I believe that they would of farmed several more years if that had not of happened, because Hiram really enjoyed farming. They moved down to Hollidays Cove about two years after that.

MY LIFE STORY AS I HAVE SEEN WEIRTON GROW, CHAPTER 2 1910- 1915

Sorrow struck our home about the same time, Mother's sister Amanda, Allison took a stroke and lived two or three days then passed away leaving a large family.

George my brother bought an automobile about this time, 1913, He made a truck out of it to deliver fruit to market, which was a great deal better then the horse and wagon that we had to use for many, many years, it was a 1909 Buick Right hand drive.

Dear Readers, can anyone remember the pic and box socials that were held in the school buildings?, I went to them many times, The auctioneer would hold the sale or bids on the teachers Pic or Box, I have seen the sale go to \$5.00 on a box and about \$3.00 on a Pic. That was a large amount of money in those days, although the money was raised that way to buy Library Books or other things needed for the school.

The old red brick school house, stood on my Father's farm, and the Liberty School was on Jane White's Farm, where the Steel Valley Bowling Lanes are now located, moved across the road when they built the new Cove Road, It is still standing across from the Steel Valley Lanes.

I will never forget the first automobile I ever saw, My Mother and I were over at the Three Springs Cemetery, putting flowers on her Father's Grave around 1910. An automobile went down the Cove Road Hill, I watched it until it went out of sight, I wondered what made it run I was only 8 years old then. I asked my brother that evening what made it go, He told me it had a motor in it, I could not at that time understand what that meant.

How many of us old timers remember Robert Freshwater our mailman of yesteryear? Many times I would go to the mail box for the mail, and see Robert making his rounds delivering the mail by horse and buggy, until 1918, then he used a car on the mail route. About 1922 he gave up the route, and Okey Redcliff delivered the mail until about 1948, Okey retired after that.

As that takes in about everything up to 1915, I would like to write about the musical instruments that was in nearly every home. Player Piano and Organs, A great many families would gather around them and sing Hymns and other songs, In the evening and on Sundays, many happy times were spent that way. The Family that Prays and Sings Together Stays Together. Let us not forget the old record "The Parlor is a Pleasant Place to Sit, on Sunday Night".

How marvellous was the old Edison Phonograph, invented in 1876, by Thomas A. Edison, of all the 1300 inventions, Mr. Edison said he liked the Phonograph the best of all. The people wondered about them at first, A machine that talks back to you. No wonder the people was surprised at them when they were first invented. They brought a great amount of happiness into every home. For 95 years now, many factories have built millions of record players, Millions of records have been sold and many thousands of people have made a life time career for themselves by Singing, and band playing, and other instrumental music.

They owe all their success and good fortune, to the first inventor, Thomas A. Edison.

How many people would be out of work if it had never been invented, no doubt millions make a very good living that way, The one my father bought about 1890, sure was a great amount of pleasure in our home.

All of us when we were children really enjoyed that old Edison Cylinder phonograph.

MY LIFE STORY AS I HAVE SEEN WEIRTON GROW, CHAPTER 3, 1915 TO 1920.

I could write a great book on these five years, because so many things had taken place. A very fast growing community, five wonderful years and also sorrowful years because of the war.

Moving to the new school in October was wonderful for all of us, the new building was not completed in time to begin the new term, so we had to go to the old building about six weeks until it was completed.

What a different building that one was then the old one, all of the windows on the north side nothing to interrupt our learning, the architect must of known that the scholar's would of looked toward the highway when a truck or car went by. The heating system a little better then the old one, the rest rooms the same, all single seats where the old one had double seats, two cloak rooms one each for the boys and girls. Charles Ravoira was our janitor and a very good one.

Minnie Wallace was our teacher that year, the children carried their own books and other belongings some of us older ones making 2 or 3 trips to move the charts and library books, all of us greatly enthused over the new school. Many times in the past 54 years while going down (memory lane) I love to think about those years I attended school there.

The outside surroundings were greatly different, The pasture field with the cows and horses, the spring in the pasture where we received our drinking water, the orchard above the school, the old apple tree by the fence where we crossed over to play ball or to sled ride when there was snow on the ground. No homes around there at that time all open fields and being farmed.

Many new scholars started that year, Roy and Al Grimm built new homes on the heights. Roys two daughters Fannie and Mildred and Al's daughter Florence Grimm. The other children's names were William Moore and some younger children of Frank Huebler, and Robert Griffen, Grace Weiners, John, James, and Anna and Nick Robinson, children of James Robinson, who was then living on the Sharp farm. Eugene McKitrick and his sister Audrey, children of Patrick McKitrick.

I have a picture here taken in the spring of 1917, by the Austin Photo Studio of Steubenville. In the picture was our teacher and the seventh grade scholars. Minnie Wallace the teacher standing in the center back row, with Harry Stephenson standing on her left and myself on her right. In the front row left to right was Elma Pulver, John Owings, and Florence Grimm. This picture was taken in the spring of 1917 about six months after we moved there.

Early that year Robinson's moved into the Smith Miller homestead, and Lee Swearingen moved into the Sharp homestead at the foot of where 12th St. is now. They had two more children to attend school Leone and Mildred. A great number of children now going to school about doubled the number of the old building. In the fall of 1917 or early 1918 Elias Simon bought the Smith Miller farm and there was three more children attended school there. Thomas James and Anna Simon. In 1918 Mr. Pearson moved into the Martin Hindman home and their three children Theodore and his two younger brothers also attended school there. Being in the eighth grade that year I took my examination, and failed, then I had to go one more year in eight grade. Taking my examination in May of 1919 I passed that time, they must of had easy tests on grammer that year, which was the one subject I always failed on. I went to school there about three years, Minnie Wallace the teacher the first year and Edna Tarr two years. Those three years went very fast. The best years of my life and I didn't know it. I can hardly believe it has been 54 years, it seems like 10 or 15 years.

Many more homes built on the heights at this time, Vern Heilman bought a tract of land from Ed Bleu and built a home, and his brother William bought a lot from George Sadd and built a home.

Auction: Auction: listen to the call of the auctioneer during the next four years 1916 to 1920. So many lot sales, nearly every one who owned land had a lot sale. The first one that I can recall was Sam Hudson. He bought the land that lies north of Penna. Ave. from what is now 12th St. north to the Hague line,

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below where Thurman St. meets North 12th St. and East to 15th St. and south to Penna. Ave., possibly 50 acres. That is why that part of Weirton is called Hudson Heights, both sides of Webster Ave., North 13, North 14, and North 15th St. I believe Mr. Hudson bought this land before Patrick McKittrick built his home, I am not certain. Can any one remember the great coal mine that Sam and his son Wilber Hudson had there? In 1916 he opened a large mine below what is now Vanhorn's Confectionery. My brothers Walter and Jess worked for him clearing the land from where Van Horn's is at to where 15th St. is now. So many vines and under brush was there. They cleared the land back from the highway about 500 ft. The miners used mules to haul the coal out of the mine and then they used a long cable and a winch with a large gas engine to pull the coal up to the tippa. Remember old timers, how many coal bins was there along the highway? I believe there was 8 or 10 and how the miners would dump the coal cars by using a large wheel that would pass over the coal cars? I hope who ever reads this will believe it is true as there is no evidence now that there was ever a coal mine there, but I saw all these things many times. The building that the winch was in was where the car wash is now. The coal was taken out in about a years time then the building was moved down on Webster Ave. and changed into a house, the same house is still standing. While all of this was going on, Wilber Hudson made streets, and surveyed the land off in lots and had a great lot sale. The way that I know this is because Wilber Hudson owned an automobile that he gave away, everyone who attended the lot sale received a ticket, the one who had the lucky number was Mrs. Al Grimm's sister. My brother George bought the car later, a large name plate on the front of the car said "Dixie Highway", I have a picture of the car here at home. Coal business was a very good business at that time. A great many people who owned teams of horses hauled coal during the winter months. Thurman Owings, Sam Aria, Frank Marino, Clarence Melvin, Mike Starvaggi, Morgan Ross, James Wright, (James Truax, My brother) and many more. As every farmer had teams of horses only some hauled coal. Everyone had coal furnaces in those days and it always took about 250 or more bushels of coal every winter for heat. A team of horses could only pull about 50 or 60 bushels at a load. Over two tons of coal, a large haul for a team of horses. A hard time going down the Weirton hill with a load like that. A great many of the teamsters would use rough locks. The first one I saw was Thurman Owings, how he would fasten a log chain on the wagon and one end was put around the wheel and it would tighten up on the bottom of the wheel. This was only done when there was ice or snow on the road. My two brothers Ted and Jess mined coal at the Hiram Campbell farm. Every winter after the threshing and bailing was done around the first of November, two good coal miners mining about two or three hundred bushels of coal a day. Nearly all of these teamsters hauled coal from his mine. We knew them all very well. Many times I would go in the mine and watch them work underneath what is now Helen St. and all of that area. One year my two brothers Bert and Jess leased a mine from Walter Campbell, where Ira Cline lives now. I remember being in that mine one time, underneath where Rachel Campbell's home is now located. Coal was very important in those days, about 20 cents a bu. at the mine and about 35 cents a bu. delivered.

Let me say right here how some of those teamsters kept their horses looking beautiful. I believe Sam Aria and Frank Marino kept their's looking the best. The fine looking harness and trappings, or ornaments, being a young man 14 or 15 years old, I may of been looking only at the fine trappings. Nearly every teamster had good looking teams in those days.

Henry Cooper and Roy Ledson also teamsters came here about 1919 or 1920. Mr. Buckingham purchased the John (Doc) Owings property about 1917 and laid it off in lots. All of the land south of Penna. Ave. both sides of South 17th St., Wayne Ave. all of that area between South 16th St., and Greenbrier Road, South 19th St., 20th St., and 22nd St., and Mineral Ave. and Wetzel Ave. area. All of

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this took place while I was going to school. There was a small office building, built along South 20th St. They had signs painted on it "Buckingham Heights Plan of Lots". All they did at that time was to plow a furrow on each side of where the street was to be and survey the lots off to what size they wanted them. Nearly all of the lots sold for 100 to 300 dollars each. No sidewalks or streets at that time, 1917 and 1918.

About this same time William Ledson bought the Martin Hindman farm and built his house across 12th St. from where you enter Church St. All of the property from South 11th St., to South 16th St., from the end of Bell St., to the Campbell line, and north to Penna Ave., 12th St., 13th St., 14th St., Pross St., Spruce St., Clara, and Cropper St. all of these streets to the southern end, both sides of Church St. to the end and Cross St. Between 100 and 150 acres, a very large amount of land. All of these lots surveyed in 1918. Many times I wish I had kept a diary so I would have known the exact date of every event that took place in my life because all of these things I am writing are from memory.

In 1918 John Matheny, a policeman in Weirton, bought a lot from Mr. Ledson and built a store where Van Horn's Confectionery is now. The first store on Weirton Heights. It was a great gathering place for all of the young men. We would gather there in the evening and on Saturday. Dear Reader's how many can remember the horse shoe pitching contest's that we had there? All open fields where Marsh's Hardware store is now located. The losing team had to set them up to the winning team of ice cream or candy bars. What a vast difference of the young people now. So many young people want to go to bar rooms or card parties, or places of amusement, far different then the youth of yesteryear. Around Halloween we would do some mischief. We were to big for trick or treat so we would do some tricks. Putting some poor old farmers farming tools up in trees, taking garbage and putting it on people's porches, upsetting a few out houses, sometimes a man inside with a shot gun waiting for us. We all liked to hear stories about Halloween. We would sit on benches in front of that store and some men would tell great stories, about different things. Jack Shepherd told about how some men put a farmers wagon up on the barn roof one Halloween and another man told about how some men that worked with him put a man in a box car and locked him in for a joke. The train crew had set it out with the load, almost a week later he was released some where in western Ohio. That long without food or water, no doubt he was in bad shape.

More about Mr. Ledson and the lots he sold my father-in-law Emery Tingler, and Albert Dinerstein, my wife's uncle asked Mr. Ledson if he would donate two of the lots for a church and parsonage. He agreed to do so and gave one lot on 12th St. and another on Church St. More to say about that later on. Albert Dinerstein and his wife's brother bought lots from Mr. Ledson and built homes on them at the lower end of S 11th Street. (Rubbel) Clair Tingler, my wife's uncle also built a home at the lower end of South 11th St. Walter Virtue, who lived on the Hagerty Farm had a home built along Penna. Ave. across from where Betty's Florist is now. Walter Virtue's children were Sheldon, Lawrence, Margret, Charles and Walter Jr. As I said before Jess Hill who lived on the John (Doc) Owings farm moved away and Uriah Brown, a veteran of the Civil War, moved there about 1915. Mr. Brown had a home built on Hudson Ave. and moved down there about 1917 and James Wright moved into the Owings property. His wife's two sons, Thomas and Don Ferrell, children by her first husband, and their four children, John, Clara, Carrie, and Maude Wright. I went to school with them all but Tom and Don Ferrell, being older they worked in the tin mill. Scrow struck their home in the winter of 1918 and 1919 when the terrible epidemic of the influenza swept over the country. John and Maude died with that disease. Edna Tarr who was the teacher at that time lost her father and mother the same time, Jan, 1919. So many people died at that time, being a new disease, the doctors did not know what to do for it.

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Some time in the summer of 1919 Jim Wright had a house built on North 12th Street and moved there, across 12th Street from Owings St. Fred Pulver, who lived on the Bell farm built a house on Franklin Ave., at this time, and James Tarr, who lived in the red brick house by the Pleasant Valley Methodist Church built a house near Fred Pulver on Franklin Ave., 1920 moved there in 1921. Elias Simon bought the Smith Miller farm in the spring of 1918 and James Robinson who lived there moved into a home he built on Webster Ave. After James Wright moved into his new home in 1919 James Robinson moved into the John (Doc) Owings, or Buckingham homestead, and Frank Hans who married James Robinson's oldest daughter, Isobel, lived there with him. Frank who moved here in 1917 worked in the hot mill. Talk about a man that was strong, I do not know of any one that could equal him. After a hard days work in the tin mill he would work about 8 hours in a coal mine. The mine was where My Florist Flower Shop is now, and the tippie was where the Continental Food Store is now.

The old road at that time was not as wide as it is now. How that man did mine coal, 200 or 300 bushel's of coal after a hard days work, in the hot mill, You may wonder how I know all of this, many times James Robinson or some other boy and I would go into the mine and watch him and another man work. He worked fast, not one or two hours but 8 or 10 hours. Shooting coal and loading it in cars, and wheeling it outside to the tippie. I marvelled at the speed he worked. Underneath where North 15th St. is now, that was where the boundry line passed through between the farms. James Robinson, who moved into the Buckingham home stead changed the barn ever by remodeling it so he could hold dances there. Remember how his wife played the piano and my brother George played the banjo, and some one playing the violin? They did a wonderful job of playing. Mrs. Robinson was very good playing chords on the piano. I attended the dances every Saturday night. There were great crowds that attended the dances, both square and round. A list of some of the recording's at that time: "Go Feather Your Nest", Alice Blue Gown, Margie, Down by the O-R-U-O, Whissering, Let the Rest of the World Go By, Alabama Bound, I'll Take You Home Again Kathleen, and many many others. Also a great many fiddle tunes like, Devil's Dream, Arkans as Traveler, Turkey in the Straw, Listen to the Mockingbird, Irish Washer Woman, and many more. There would be an orchestra some Saturday nights. Bear Old Timers, remember Nick Robinson. Many times we listened to his singing. He sang a great many of the latest hits, at that time around 1920. He had a very good voice, we enjoyed his singing greatly.

Remember old timers, the sled riding parties that the young people had at that time. It seems that there was more snow in those days and very little traffic so the Weirton Height's hill was a very good sled riding track. Some of the older men would sled ride with the young men at night, using large bob sled's, some sleds would hold 8 or 10 people. They would ride until 11 or 12 O'clock at night. Some one would take their car down to drag the sleds back. That was what made the "good old days" real enjoyment.

At this period of time a great many more people built on Weirton Heights. More and more children going to school. Tom Simon, Mary and James Simon, Lawrence, Charles and Margret Virtue. Although they went to school when they lived on the Hagerly farm, even to the old red brick school. I forgot to add them in the other list. Mr. Pearson moved into the Martin Hinchman home here in 1917. Theodore Pearson and the younger children went to school. I believe the William Board married the oldest daughter of Mr. Pearson. I remember he had a car repair shop in the old stone barn that stood back of the present city building. George, Ollie, James, and Dannie, and Theodore I know very well.

A wonderful group of young men, here on Weirton Heights, we all went to Joan Robinson's home one evening and organized a base ball team. In the spring of 1920, William Moore, Dan and James Pearson, Harry Stephenson, Lawrence and Charles Virtue, James and Nick Robinson, Albert Daugherty, John Owings, the ball

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Diamond was at the Bell farm. A very good place to play ball, no homes around there at that time. About 1918 the school board sold the old school house to my father because it was on his farm, and my oldest brother made a home out of it and Mr. Daugherty rented it. His children were Albert, Warren, Laura Daugherty.

About this time 1918 Morgan Ross who lived on the Sharp farm known now as Frankovitch Estates, moved into the James Brown homestead near the Pleasant Valley Church, and Lee Swearingen moved into the Sharp home. Lee's children were Donald, Leone, Mildred, and Kenneth Swearingen. About 10 or 15 more children going to school, since we moved into the new school house. It was a good thing that they built that school house. About 1920 they built a portable school, in back of the other one. Mr. Calander put on a show one night, a punch and Judy act. It was held in the portable building. Before I start writing about the things that was taking place downtown, I will write about the terrible war that was taking place in Europe at this time.

Wilhelm the Kaiser of Germany, prepared for war, starting about 1914. June 28, 1914 Franz Ferdinand, ruler of Austria, and his wife were killed in Sarajevo, both shot to death. That was the beginning of World War No. One. Wilhelm Hohenzolerns or in better known words, Kaiser Bill, who was the ruler of Germany, thought he could rule the world, so after the ruler of Austria was killed, Austria declared war on Serbia, July 28th., upon Russia Aug. 6th, Great Britain Aug. 13th, 1914, and on Belgium and France shortly afterwards. Germany backed Austria in all of her under takings, and declared war on Russia Aug. 1. Sent troops to French border Aug. 2, war declared on Germany by Great Britain, Aug. 4. Germans attacked Liege Aug. 5, fall of Leige, Aug. 7, destruction of Lorraine Aug. 19, surrender of Brussels Aug. 20, fall of Antwerp Oct. 9. In less then three months of murdering people, it looked like the Kaiser was going to rule the world, the way he was going. But like all satanic rulers, their time is short, but what all of those soldiers went through, we will never know. Fighting on all of those great battle fronts, thousand's upon thousand's killed or wounded, freezing to death in winter, suffering untold agony. Living in those trenches, many times going hungry, drinking polluted water, all of that year, all of 1915 and all of 1916. German u-boats sank a great many ships in 1916 including the U. S. ship Lusitania with a loss of 100 lives or more. Wilson, who was our President, warned Germany not to sink any of our ships, but Germany disregarded her promises to spare American vessels, and on April 5, 1917 United States declared war on Germany and all her allies. A sad time for all the young men of United States. It created a great amount of jobs for all of the people, making war material, building a great amount of ships of all kinds, building army camps, training all of those soldiers.

War makes a great amount of work, but what a terrible way to try to prosper, by others losing their lives. A great number of young men enlisted in the Army and Navy, and a great many more were drafted. I have an old scrap book here that has a list of the names of some of the men that enlisted or was drafted. In this list of Hancock County, I will write only the ones from Weirton." (57) young men of Hancock County will leave March 6, 1918 for Camp Greenleaf, located at Camp Oglethorpe, Georgia. And while all of these men will be missed by their friends, and loved ones, it will be remembered, that they go to defend the Stars and Stripes of the United States, and to help free the world of Kaiserism. And as the tear drops fall as you part with your husband or son, don't forget that the easiest way for the boys to leave is to see you smile, (so send them away with a smile), and they will go with good spirits, and a heart to take an interest in the work at training camp." Above are the words that I quoted from this newspaper clipping. The men from Weirton and Hollidays Cove, are: George Meniger, Weirton; Tscounakes, Weirton; Irwin Kelly, Weirton; Samuel Spratt, Weirton; Elmer Norman, Weirton; Tom Atsalis, Weirton; Alvin Bilderback, Hollidays Cove; Dennis R. Merryman, Weirton; George Campbell, Hollidays Cove; Floyd Tarr, Weirton; Dominick Miccetelly, Weirton; Frank Hale, Weirton; George R. Barr,

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Weirton; Carifalos Papouisis, Weirton; Felix C. Fowler, Hollidays Cove; Bluford
Burton, Hollidays Cove; John Eccleston, Weirton; Paul Kladas, Weirton; Foster
Evans, Hollidays Cove.) My two brothers Bert and Jess were drafted and went
about six months before this list and my brother Alvin enlisted about the same
time. Harry Green, who was boarding at his sisters home Mrs. Emory Tingler was
drafted in the spring of 1917. I also have a newspaper clipping, of Samuel
Owings, who enlisted in the Canadian forces, and was wounded in action after
one year in the service. He went to France in June 1917. He had been in the
thick of the fighting on the western front for more than a year, died Sept. 29,
1918 of wounds received in action. One of our other friends Don Ferrell left
for service early in the summer of 1917.

A great amount of activity took place here at that time, with all the
building of new homes, and the great lot sales going on, Teamsters working in
the summer excavating out basements, and other kinds of work, hauling coal in
winter, a great many working over time almost every day. My brother George
took one basement to excavate in 1918 for Mr. Buckingham. He built three homes
on that great plan of lots. One on Wetzel Ave, one on South 22nd and one on
Penna. Ave. We excavated the one on Penna. Ave., beside the Community Inn,
(dismantled to build the Weirton Heights Motor Supply Store. That took place
about May first of that year, April or May. My teacher took a picture of me
pushing a wheel barrow, I still have that picture. During the summer of 1918
George Owings decided to sell some of his farm off in lots and he built a road
up from Penna. Ave; where 10th Street is now, to about where Owings St. is at.
Thurman Owings, his oldest son, was foreman. He put a sign up at Penna. Ave.
Laborers wanted (60) cents an hour, a very good wage at that time. I hired
out to him, my first public job. I remember digging ditches at that time there
were two oil wells about where Oak St. is now and a small refinery for making
gasoline. There was a great amount of digging to do to bury all the pipe lines,
that led from the wells, and putting in a muffler for the exhaust of the gasoline
making machinery.

I remember working with Wilber Zurcher, starting late in the summer, I had
to quit and go to school, working only a few weeks. Not only the men were busy
working, but the women also did a great amount of work. A great many took it
upon them selves to knit socks and sweaters for the soldiers over seas, that
was very important at that time, because the boys over there needed every thing
they could get. My mother knitted several pair of wollen socks.

During the years of (1917) to (1919) a great many records were made about the
war. Nearly every one was singing (Johnny Get Your Gun) or (Good Mornins Mr.
Zip, Zip, Zip), (Oui, Oui, Wee, Wee, Marie), (We Don't Want The Bacon), (There A
Vacant Chair in Every Home To-Night), (The Dream of a Soldier Boy), (I'm Writing
to you Sammy Over Some Where In France), (You Keep Sending Them Over, and We'll
Keep Knocking them Down), (When Tony Goes Over the Top), (Some where in France
is a Lily), (My Sweet heart is some where in France), (Over Yonder Where the
Lilies Grow), (The Rose of No Mans Land), (Au, Revoir but not Good-by Soldier
Boy) (Tom, Dick, Harry, and Jack Hurry Back), (Long Boy! Good by Pa, Good by Ma,
Good by Mule with your old Hee' Haw!), (I don't Want to Get Well), (I Don't
know Where I'm Going But I Am On My Way), (We Are Going Over), (Good-by
Alexander), (When Uncle Joe Steps Into France). I have all of those records,
I have listed here. I do not have all that was made during the War, but I do
have these ones. Dear Readers, any one who would like to hear them come to my
house and I would be very glad to play them for you.

The first American troops to reach France, was June 26, 1917. A great many
battles were fought before our troops landed in France, Battle of Arras, (Vimy
Ridge) (Soissons) (Rhens) (Messines Ridge) and a great many more. The battles
after our troops arrived were (Flanders) (Lens) (Cambraia) (Soissons) (Chateau
Thierry) (Dornous) (St. Quentin) (Belleau Woods) (Cantigny), and many more

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battles, to break the power hungry mob of the enemy. The great allied offensive, July to November 1918, Germany and her allies surrenders November 11, 1918. Did any one win the war? This war which was fought to end all wars?

The United States lost heavily that summer, during that great offensive. The Germans were very close to Paris, France, but the British, French, American, and Canadian troops turned the tide and drove the Germans back. With a great loss of soldiers on all fronts, such suffering there no one will ever know. I heard many of the boys say they had many narrow escapes of how the great shells would explode close by them, killing many of their buddies, and wounding many more with shrapnel, some carrying their wounds the rest of their lives. But Oh! that day when we heard the bells ringing, and the whistles blowing, such rejoicing all over the country. Instead of every one singing "Johnny at Your Gun" now everyone was singing "When Johnny Comes Marching Home Again Hurrah! Hurrah!". I was in school at the time, when that took place. We wondered at first what it meant, but our teacher Edna Tarr, told us that she heard that morning that the Germans were about to surrender. We were very glad the war was over. A great day for everyone, but a great deal of sorrow in many homes. Many of the boys would not come back, a great many missing in action, many buried in Flanders Field, But Oh! How we thank God for the ones that did come home.

My three brothers came back without a scar. A great many others we know came home safe and were glad to get back. The ones that were over there the longest, and saw a great amount of service were brought back first. But Oh! how much we owe to those who lost their lives on the bloody battlefield amid great sorrow and suffering so that a satanic kaiser would not rule the world.

That winter was my last year in school, being very slow in my studies, two years in some grades. I did pass the eighth grade that year. I can remember that evening when we received our diplomas, at the Christian Church, some time in May 1919. Can anyone of the old timers remember the story that Mr. Johnson the principal told that night? About the little engine, that was pulling a heavy load, up a long hill, how the little engine kept saying to it self "I think I can, I think I can, and after it went over the hill, it said to it self "I knew I could, I knew I could". I remember that night like it was last year in May instead of 1919. When that meeting was over I rode the street car up to Penna. Ave. My brother Jess was on that car, he had been to Steubenville, and had bought a new suit of clothes, and was returning home. It was raining that night and we walked from Main St. home, his new suit was almost ruined by the rain. He had been home from France about 3 months. That summer I stayed close to home, helping out on the farm. That year we raised more corn then any time that I can remember. Where North 20th St. Ext. is at was the largest field that we had on the farm, 14 acres. It was in good red clover meadow for two years and we plowed it under that spring and planted corn there. What a crop we harvested that fall. (13) or (14) hundred bushels of ears. We had to build a larger corn crib to hold that crop, that fall. Plenty of corn that year to feed the four horses we had and the hogs. My father always raised a great many hogs. The year 1918 I believe there were 26 hogs that year. He sold a great many at that time. We always butchered about 7 large hogs every year for our own use. Talk about good meat, that was the best, Home cured hickory smoked meat and the sausage maybe 50 or 60 pounds, the best sausage anyone ever ate. What made it so good, was we put all of the tenderloin in the sausage. We can never buy that kind of sausage. As I write this about our own life at home, this is the way every farmer lived. Butchering day on the farm was a great day. A great amount of work, but everyone enjoyed living like that.

September of that year 1919 my brother Walter was working in the hot mill. I went down to the Weir High School to receive a list of what books I would need to attend high school. I took the list home, but that is as far as I went. Being 17 years old I asked my father if it would be all right if I went to work

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in the mill instead of going to school. He fully agreed so I started to work in the hot mill, Sept. 12, 1919. My first day in the hot mill seemed so strange. All of that noise from so many motors, and the shears and barshears, some mills roughing down and all of that back lash, cranes running over head. Frightened half to death I wanted to run home, but I thought to myself if all of those men and boys younger than myself could do it, why cannot I. So I stood there at the place called the race, where all the extra men stood at the changing of the turns. The foreman's at that time were Tom Jones, Jim McKenzie, John Rogers, (Daddy) Richards, (Daddy) Dave Jenkins, Emory Dunkell. Dave Jenkins came and took the men he needed to fill up the crews. He came to me and asked me what kind of work I could do. I told him I did not know, as that was my first day. So he took me to the catcher on # 10. I did not know what his name was, but the roller's name was John Crist. Not a hard job, but a great amount of heat on your face, as you shoved the packs over the rolls to the rougher or roller. That job was helping the catcher, working about 15 minutes and resting about the same time, while the catcher worked. Not so bad after you worked there awhile. All of the jobs on the crew were like that, working part time, that was enough in the summer time, because it was really hot in there. William Moore one of my old school buddies was catching on # 26 mill. He had been in the mill about two years and he wanted me to help him so I worked five days for John Crist, and went on # 26 to help William Moore, Morgan Jones was the roller. I worked with (Billie) about 3 weeks and my brother Walter who was working on # 21 for Ed Householder said his helper was going to quit, he wanted me to help him, so I worked the rest of the winter out with him. A great many of these men were young men like myself, many were my school mates. I fell right in line with them and really enjoyed working there. The names of a great many of the workers at that time: Howard Heilman, roller on # 20; William Price, roller on # 17; Emory Tingler, roller on # 18; Tom Hughes, roller on # 24; Staats roller on # 25; Abe Edwards, roller on Floating crew; James Elliot, roller on # 22; Dan Tingler, roller on # 11; Fenske, roller on # 12 and a great many more, Larry Lowe, George McCracken, Raymond Pulver, Theodore Pulver, Earl Dunlevy, James Ravoirra, Richard Nort, George Starkey, Bert Crum, Frank Hans, James Evans, Oscar Thomas, Dave Thomas, Steve Stock, Charles Price, Willis Ralston, Joe Hill, Floyd Tarr, Lon Gorrell, Henry Tingler, Joe Tingler, Arthur Tingler, Vern Hailman, John Robinson, and a great many more. I remember my first check at that time. They payed twice a month, I drew one week which was \$18.95. I had an account I payed \$15.00 on that time and the next pay I had 13 days and drew about \$70.00 and payed off my account. That was the first time I was ever in debt, but every thing worked out all right.

While all of this was being done, the great war being over and all these homes being built, construction work and all, what was the Weir brothers doing. As I said before a new 10 and 16 inch mill was built in 1916. With 26 hot mills at Weirton, 12 at Steubenville, and 12 at Clarksburg, a total of 50 mills. That took a great amount of men to operate that many hot mills and a great many more to operate the 10 and 16 inch hot and cold mills. But the greatest change of all was in 1918 when ground was broke for the construction of a great and mighty steel works, blast furnace, power house, open hearth, blooming mill, and soaking pits. Most of these departments were in operation by the fall of 1919 or early 1920. A 600 ton blast furnace, seven 100 tons open hearth furnaces, a 40 inch blooming mill, and 21 inch and 18 inch continuous rolling mills. While these departments were being built in 1918 the name was changed from Phillips Sheet and Tin Plate Co. to Weirton Steel Co. This name was given to the company on Mr. Weir's birthday, Aug. 8, 1918.

The construction of all the steel works were enormous. Hundreds of people working. Great excavating jobs, carpenters, iron workers, all kinds of labor jobs, surveying jobs, railroad men, track men, pipe fitters, concrete workers and

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many many more people doing all kinds of work. Many times while passing by there and seeing all of those men working I could not understand what it all meant, but after they started to operate, I knew then why they needed all of those buildings. When they started to operate they really needed a great many employees to operate all those departments. A boy that I went to school with we would go into the mill sometimes to watch how they made steel. What a thrill it was to watch them tap a furnace and look at the molten steel pouring into a ladle, and see them pouring the steel into ingots, and watching those cranes operate those high cranes, lifting those mighty ladles of steel and how they would lift those ladles of iron from the blast furnace and pour the iron into the high mixer. Watching them cast at the Blast furnace, and the ingots from the open hearth. How they would put them in the soaking pits, keeping them in uniform heat, to roll through the blooming mill. That was really exciting to a couple of boys our age to watch how those ingots were rolled back and forth until the ingot was very long, then they would shear it to the desired size for the finishing mills, tin mill and 10 and 16 inch mill at that time.

A great many of my friends started to work at that time in the steel works. I often thought if I would of started to work there in the steel works instead of going to the tin mill I may of worked my way up to a melter boss or some other important job, but my brother was working in the tin mill then so I went there to work instead.

If they would of worked 8 hours all over the plant, at each turn they probably would of had a hard time finding enough employees. But a great many of the jobs worked two turns, 11 hours on day turn, and 13 hours on night turn. To change turns you worked 24 hours every other Sunday. You may wonder how two boys like us could of gotten into the mill, but at that time there was no fence there. We could walk in any where.

What was taking place in Weirton, at this period of time, the building of homes was as great if not greater then I spoke of in the previous chapters. New store buildings being built all along Main Street. A new post office built near Ave. H and Main St. Greenburg built a variety store along Main St. between Ave. H and County Road. Cottrel Lumber Co. and Cove Valley Lumber Co. were very busy at this period of time. Many many homes were being built by them, West St., Elm St., Orchard St., all the way through to the Cove. East St. was where the 54 inch strip steel dept. is now. A great many homes were built there, an ice plant and a bakery.

One time while William Moore and I were downtown we saw a large building being built. We wondered what it was going to be so one day we asked a man what the building was for. He told us it was going to be a theater, the year was 1916. I remember the large round block that they put up on top in front it had 1916 marked on it. Many many times we went to that theater, the name of it was Rex and old timers remember the kind of movies we were watching at that time. Those old silent movies we really enjoyed them. We surely must of enjoyed them to walk four miles to see them. A list of some of those old silent type movies, comedy ones were Charles Chaplin, Fatty Arbuckle, Chester Conklin, Ben Turpin, Charley Chase, Charley Murry and a great many other comedy stars. And the other kind of movies were (An Arizona Wedding, starring Tom Mix) (Knight of the Trail, starring William S. Hart) (The Buse, starring William S. Hart) (The Unwelcome Guest, with Mary Pickford) (Lost in the Night, starring Pearl White with Chester Barnett) (Hearts of the World, D.W. Griffith with Lillian and Dorothy Gish) (The Disciple with William S. Hart) (William Duncan and Edith Johnson in Cliff Hanging Moments) (On the Night Stage, with William S. Hart), and a great many others. Many times we would see the one at the Rex, and then go the the Colonial Theater on Ave. A. I believe the best movie that I ever saw was (Charles Chaplin in the Kid) Jackie Coogan, a small boy that played with him at that time. Mickey Rooney, another small boy actor at that time

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also played comedy pictures.

Mary, many times we would go down town, and see the movies, and stop in at some of the stores. Frank Lincoff, who had a jewelry store on Ave. D. and Main St. sold records and a variety of merchandise. We would spend some time there, then we would stop at the Peoples Restaurant, at that time it was on the corner of Ave. H. and Main St. Sometimes we would stop in at Marantz's Clothing Store, across Ave. D. from Lincoff's. A great many times we went to Barr's Drug Store or Matt Sarri's Confectionary for ice cream or soft drinks. Barr's Drug Store was on the corner of Ave. F. and Main St. Matt Sarri's was on the corner of Ave. H. and Main St. Harry Loufakis had a small confectionary store beside the Rex Theater. Later he had a larger store and called it the Sun Novelty Shop.

Going into the pool room that was beside the Rex Theater, Billie Moore and I would shoot pool a great many times. There was a bowling alley there also. I believe a man by the name of Hayes had that bowling alley. The first barber shop I was ever at was Otis Skinner who had a shop between Ave. D. and Ave. E. Later he moved in the back of Matt Sarri's Confectionary. The first A&P Market was between Ave. G. and Ave. H. Davis had a clothing store there for a great number of years. The first undertaker was Marshall Steel & Son located on Ave. E. The dentist offices at that time were Dr. Davidson, located in the Levy Building, Dr. Bails between Ave. D. and E. The doctors at that time were Dr. Davis, Dr. Richmond, Dr. Malin, Dr. Whitaker.

Can anyone remember the first garage in Weirton? The first one I can recall was Martin Decker who built his garage about 1916 on the corner of Main St. and County Road. His two children that I knew were George and Rose Decker. My brother Walter and I bought gasoline there a great many times while we were driving our father's truck. The name of his garage was Valley Garage and Repair. The same building is still standing.

The St. Paul Church built about 1917. My brother and I were downtown at about that time. Rev. McSwigen was the priest at that time. He stopped us and wanted us to haul a few cases of pop to his house. We told him that was the first time we ever had the truck downtown. He said Quote "You should not of done that". We hauled the pop for him anyway.

We do not want to forget Mrs. George Owings. My, what a wonderful church worker she was. How she held Sunday School services every Sunday when the city first started. And for a great number of years having Sunday School in homes. At that time working with all of those children to keep them from going astray. If only some mothers were like that what a great country we would have. She started the Memorial Baptist Church downtown first then on North 13th St., Weirton Heights. And now they have a great new church on 121 Ivy St., near the Weirton Heights Shopping Plaza.

Down by Crawford's Crossing James Bowers had a feed store. Many times we went there to buy feed for our father's animals. James Bowers who married Miss Frances Ferguson, daughter of Cyrus Ferguson, Sept. 9th 1909. Three children born unto them named Elizabeth, Patricia Louise, and Nancy Rose Bowers. We bought feed there a great number of years. The field that was back and above the store, was where the ball field was, (before it was in the large field where the steel works was being built). It was not there very long for they had to use that space for a scrap yard. So they moved the ball park down where the 54 inch mill is now located.

About 1920 or 1922 William Jones built a garage on Main St., near where the strip steel office is now and sold Oldsmobile's for a great number of years. The same building is still standing.

About this same time or maybe two years earlier, Robert and Jess Evars moved their Grocery business down along Main St. Their new store was near where the Home Furniture Store is now.

A great many high class homes were built along Main St. As the city grew many of them were dismantled to make way for business places. Weirton Steel's

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main office building, corner of Penna. Ave., and Main St., started in 1919 and finished 1920.

Sometime in the spring of 1918, I remember that I was downtown with some fruit to sell for my father. The truck was broke down at that time, so I had the horse and spring wagon. I was going down Main St. about Crawford's Crossing when two men stopped me and wanted me to go to the freight station and pick up 6 dozen half bushel baskets for them. Not being in any hurry I said I would do the job for them. They were men from a carnival that was down where the 54 inch mill is now. The carnival grounds were always up where the steel works is located. Now that they were building the steel works they changed the carnival grounds down in back of East St. and when I pulled in there with my fruit the men paid me for delivering the baskets and the people that worked there bought all of my fruit, strawberries, 10 cents a quart or 3 quarts for a quarter.

Dear Readers, you may think that is cheap for strawberries, that is what they sold for at that time, labor wages then about 3.00 dollars a day. Now labor is near the 20 or 25 dollar mark, maybe easier now to pay 70¢ a quart then 10¢ at that time

That evening I went down to the carnival to see what it was like, that was the first carnival I believe I was ever at. The men that I hauled the baskets for were racket men. They had a great many baskets of groceries and you won them if you could throw three rings over three pins, three rings for a quarter, very few baskets were won. There was a great many side shows there, a wild man from Borneo, and a great many more freaks. When I had seen them that day they looked far different then they did that evening. You cannot beat a man at his own game.

Many, many times while I was delivering fruit for my father, with horse and wagon or by truck I saw another man with horse and wagon. He was hauling ice and delivering it to homes. I can still hear his call icy ice man! His name was Mike Starvaggi, who started to work in the mill in the year 1912 as water boy. Later he went into the grocery business and sold italian foods as a special side line. He left the grocery business later and went into the ice and coal business. His first office was on the corner of Main St. and Ave. F. As his business grew he replaced his horse and wagon with a truck and his teams of horses he replaced with large coal trucks. I remember the trucks that he had. About 1918 to 1920 Sam Aria and Frank Marino bought trucks also about the same time. His business increased so greatly, always known as Weirton Ice and Coal Supply Co. nearly every one knows him now as one of the greatest business men of Weirton.

A great amount of cement mixer trucks and a very very great amount of strip mining machinery, a great many bus lines and many other kinds of business, employing nearly 500 men. Mr Starvaggi and his wife lives at Green Lawn Estates.

Can anyone remember the first newspaper? James Weir, who was the first editor printed a weekly paper, the Weirton Leader News. Mr. Weir who married one of Cyrus Ferguson's daughters had his printing office south of where the over head bridge is now. Cattrell had his lumber yard there also. The car repair shop of the Weirton Steel Co. now occupys the same site.

Now dear readers, at the close of this chapter I will say once more what if the Weir brothers would of built in the Pittsburgh area, all of these great business men we never would fo met. No doubt this would of still been a quiet farming community, if some other firm had not of built here.

All of the business men and every one of us should be very glad that the Weir brothers built their plants here because of the prosperity it has achieved.

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I spent a great deal of time on the other chapter because so many things happened at that time. This will be another long chapter because of my courtship and marriage and starting of my family life.

I was still working in the hot mill and helping out on my father's farm. Everything on the farm was about the same as usual. Trimming the fruit trees, spraying the fruit trees, trimming the grape vines, building fences, doing farm work in general and keeping the machinery repaired.

My brother Ted who owned the steam traction engine decided to buy a tractor and bought a new rumley oil pull tractor and a new seperator. What a great chance that was. The farmers were well pleased, because they would not have to supply water any more, such as having their wells pumped dry, and no more danger from sparks like the old steamer put out, what a relief. Eddie Ralston, who owned the William Logan farm, because William Logan died in 1917, wanted Ted my brother to saw his timber that was there. So Ted set up his mill at the upper end of the farm across the creek from the ball park, and sawed all the timber that was on that part of the farm. After he set up down near the Serbian Lodge and sawed all that was on that end of the farm. That was about 1920 and 1921. The next year he set up down near where sun valley is now and did all the sawing for Fred Walker who owned the Charles Cable farm, the same farm is now owned by Donald Swearingen. After he finished sawing all of Fred Walker's timber he moved his mill down in the deep ravine where the slag pile is now below the road up Penna. Ave. and did all the sawing for Thurman Owings.

With the new tractor he could saw much faster and no danger of fires from sparks, because the old steamer was fired with the slabs from the logs and a great amount of sparks would come from the smoke stack. That was six times he set up his saw mill, two times on each farm. All of the sawing and threshing and bailing and working in the coal mine, looking back now I wonder how he ever stood all of that work.

What was taking place on Weirton Heights at this period of time, John Matheny who owned the grocery store where Van Horn's Confectionery is now, sold out to Mary Smith and she operated the store for seven or more years. After selling to Mrs. Smith, John Matheny built another store on the corner of Hudson Ave. and Main St., (a filling station now occupy's the same site.) About a year after he sold that one and built another store where Mickey's Market is now. Shortly after that he sold out again to Louis Forgash and his brother-in-law. That was in the year 1922, Louis Forgash was a young single man. About the same age as the rest of us young men. We would hang out there about as much as we would at Mary Smith's. Louis had a very wonderful personality about him. He would play with us and wrestle with us. We would always have great times together. Now when he says "The store that grew since twenty two" we know what he is talking about.

I didn't have very long to meet there with the boys, because I was courting a very lovely lady about that time and spent most of my time with her.

The winter of 1921 and 1922 Ted my brother wanted me to take care of his team of horses while he worked in the coal mine. Speaking of that team, they were very large, all I wanted to do to put the harness on them. I suppose that they would weigh about 1700 or 1800 each. He had bought them off of Mr. Johnson, who lived on the Hiran Campbell farm, about 1913. With the wagon and harness it sure was a great out fit. He sold them in 1923. Beside taking care of that team I did some trapping that winter for musrats and coons. I sold about \$85.00 worth of fur that winter. With what he gave me to take care of the horses and selling of fur I had enough for a young man to spend.

Very early in the spring of 1922, I took a job on the county roads only \$2.50 a day. I worked almost two months. Working about two months on the county roads, that spring at 60.00 dollars a month, I made enough to buy my first car. My brother James had a Saxon Roadster he sold me for \$85.00. My courtship car.

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Not much of a car, but it took us where we wanted to go. The men I worked with were Brown Logan, Floyd Swain, Sam Walker, Lee Freshour. A wonderful group of men. I had to quit so I could help out on the farm.

The Spring of 1922 was a very important time in my life, Roy Chambers, who lived back of where Van Horns Confectionery is now was giving a birthday party for his wife's brother, Robert Melott, Robert who was in our age group who always went skating with us in the winter, and played ball and other games with us, so we were invited to his party, sometime in May. I went in with some other young men and when I went in the door, and saw the other ones there, I saw a girl that really took my eye. I had never seen a girl like her before. I could not get her out of my mind, after the party I asked Charles Virtue who that girl was, he told me her name was Helen Tingler. If I had of gone to school one more year, I would of met her there. I quit in May 1919 and she started the next year.

James Havoids, who had bought the Purdy farm in 1915, had a lot sale in 1919, and Emory Tingler was one of the people that bought from him. He bought five acres at the end of Powers Road, his three brothers bought lots there also, and they all built homes there about 1920. Dr. Powers, built there about 1922, that is why they call it Powers Road. Paul Heaton, Douglas Freshour, and his father Lee Freshour, built there in 1924, it was called Tinglerville for a great number of years, because of the four Tingler brothers that built there, Emory Tingler, and Henry, and Dan, and Joseph Tingler, all built there about 1920 or 1921.

Then came the Fourth of July 1922, so I decided to go to Rock Springs Park. I walked down town to take the train to Chester. There I met Billie Moore, we went on board the train and as we went through the train we saw Helen Tingler and her aunt, there on the train, we went on into the smoking car, as I was smoking cigars at that time, having quit cigarettes two years before. I saw James and Paul Tarr on the train. We sat there and talked until the train stopped at Chester station. When we went in the park, there was Helen and her aunt there so we asked them to go with us on the merry-go-round. They agreed so that day Helen and I became acquainted and kept steady company together.

While we were at Rock Springs Park, a great accident happened on Kings Creek. As there was no parks here at the time, a small park was built about a quarter of a mile above Route 2 on Kings Creek. They built a dam across the creek, forming a small lake. Not so much pollution in those days, the creek was alright to swim in. They had installed a foot bridge, across the creek between two trees. A great many people were there that day, July 4, 1922. Picnic tables and benches were there and people sitting around enjoying them selves. Helen's father and mother and her brother Paul, and sister Violet were there. Late in the afternoon about four o'clock a great many people were on that foot bridge and one of the trees pulled out by the roots. A great many people were hurt by the branches of the tree, Helen's father had his back broke by the tree that fell on him. When Helen and I started keeping steady company, her father was in a cast then. He was in that cast I believe until about the last of Sept. It was a long time before he could go back to work.

On Labor Day that year, there was another large group of people there and the American Legion had a dedication ceremony at Peter Tarr's iron furnace, and installed a bronze plaque. I was there at the time that all happened, Sept. 2, 1922.

I must tell about the pipe line job that I had that year. Charles Godwin who lived in the Frank Heubler house near where the Baren Service Station is now was a brother-in-law to John Crissinger of New Cumberland. The Phelps Can Co. bought two gas wells along Kings Creek, one up where Hills Trailer Court is now, and one near the Pleasant Valley Trailer Court. These two gas wells that the can factory bought were about five miles from the factory. They ordered 2 inch line to pipe the gas to their factory. So they hired John Crissinger to

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be their forman for the job. So I asked Charles Godwin, his brother-in-law if he would hire me. Being I knew where all the farm boundaries were at Mr. Crissinger hired me that made five men on the crew to lay the pipe line to the factory. Beginning about August and finishing about the first of November I followed the pipe line men, digging ditches and burying the line, five dollars a day, not so bad at that time.

After the pipe line job was finished, I went back to work in the hot mill, catching turns. One day while I was waiting at the race for a turn, John Rogers, the foreman came to me and said he did not need any catcher that day, but he did need a pair heater. I told him that I had never worked that job before, he said "you go up on No. 2 mill and tell them I sent you up there to heat pairs". So I went on that job and did the best I could do, and I really did like the job. The doubler told me to stay on the job with him, as it was a steady job. Matt Maki was the doubler, and James Evans was the roller. I stayed on there about a month, Lon Gorrell, who was doubling on No. 3 mill, wanted me to work with him, so I went on with him about two months. All of this time from July 20th, Helen and I were keeping close company and thinking about getting married. So we set a day for the wedding, March 31, 1923. Finally the day arrived and we were married by Joel Lee Jones, Minister of the Christian Church, at the parsonage on West Street. Helen's mother and uncle Henry Tinglen were witnesses and my wife's aunt Ora and her husband were there. After we were married we all went to the movies at the Rex Theatre. I wished that I could of remembered what was playing that day. Many times I wished that I would of kept a diary of all of my experiences and the events that had taken place in my life. All of these that I am writing are from memory.

Now that I was married, my wife's parents gave us one furnished room to stay in for the summer months. One week after we were married, our friends came to serenade us. We both had a great many friends. There must of been 40 or 50 there that night. My father-in-law bought a five gallon container of ice cream and cakes and other kind of food and what a great reception we all had. Harold Smith, who was the delivery boy at his mother's store brought his delivery truck and he borrowed a buggy from someone, and tied the buggy behind the truck, and came early to take us for a ride. But when he came with some others, Helen and I hid in the clothes press, but they finally found us. They smelled the old pipe that I had, as I was smoking a pipe at that time. Helen and I rode in the buggy, it was a great thrill for Helen and I. He took us down town with a great many cars following us, with horns blowing, but when we went to turn at Ave. B. the left front wheel on the buggy broke. I stepped down and caught Helen before she fell. It was a good thing it didn't break when we were going down the hill, we may of got hurt. He parked the buggy, and we sat on the tail gate of the truck the rest of the trip.

When we came back to the party, a great many more people had come in. Four or five of my brothers, George, with his banjo, James with his violin, Ted and Walter. All the ones we played ball with and a great many of Helen's relatives, and many old school mates. Many times while going to school, Nick Robinson often said he would sing at my wedding, I told him I wonder when that time would be, now when we were at the party, he was there and we were well pleased to have him sing for us.

Many times I would think about that serenade, and reception, so many of my friends there. I am writing this March 24, 1971, 48 years have gone since then. I wonder where the years all went.

During the reception, Harold Smith asked me if I would go on with his crew working on No. 2 mill heating pairs. Being one of my best friends I said I would. So the next day I worked 3 to 11 turn and then 7 to 3 the day after. I worked for about two weeks with that crew. Richard Mort was the roller, Floyd Tarr was the doubler, Elmer Norman was one of the heater's. I forgot who the others were.

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I wanted to spend my honeymoon that summer without working night turn, so I quit the hot mill and went and hired out to a contractor, who was building the sheet mill. As I said before, at that time you could get a job anywhere. The foreman on that job put about five of us on the boiler house job cleaning brick. That same contractor that I worked for was increasing the size of the boiler house. I worked there about one month, then the foreman told us that he would not need us anymore until they had the pickler building up at the sheet mill. Then he said he would need some men to put the roof on that building. They were putting a wall around the steel works at that time. I tried to get a job there, but they were filled up right then. A new road was being built up through Hollidays Cove, so I went there and they hired me. I went to work there about the first of June. There were a great many teamsters there. Clarence Melvin, two teams; Ralph Rust, one team of mules; Sam Aria and Frank Marino had their teams there also and others there with their teams. A great many laborers to do pick and shovel work, filling the dump wagons took a great many men, using the drag scoops, grading off the high places and filling in the low places. Not much money about \$4.50 a day. I would buy my lunch at Briscoe's Store, a loaf of bread and a pound of cheese, and a big onion that was my usual lunch every day.

One day the foreman took about six of us laborers and two teams of horses to excavate a basement. It was the basement for Greenberg's Store, beside the store that Marantz built in 1926. I worked on the Cove Road about three months. I helped do the paving up to the Cove Valley Lumber Co. Something came up and I quit that job and walked up the railroad tracks at the Cove crossing and went into the strip steel carpenter shop. There I saw my old friend Lee Freshour, who worked with me on the county roads the year before. I asked him who the foreman was, he said Tom McCollough was the foreman, so I asked him for work and he put me on the car bracing crew. Eddie Fleming was the foreman of that crew. I really did enjoy that job, cutting lumber and driving nails, bracing steel in box cars, driving about two 100 pounds kegs of spikes a day. I stayed on that job about one and a half months, from the first of August until the middle of Sept.

Henry Tingler who was my wife's uncle, was doubling on No. 22 hot mill said his pair heater quit, and wanted me to heat pairs for him. As I was about over my honeymoon by staying off of night turn, I went back in the tin mill, there was more money there then any where else.

I liked that job very well. The hot mill men always were nice men to work with. James Elliott was the roller on 22 at that time. I stayed with the hot mill until it was finished, as hot mill work, 1928. Many times I thought about that year 1923. A great many jobs of all kinds, but I worked steady never took off very many days. That summer 1923 my father built a house for me on his farm, the part that was nearest the highway. After nearly 48 years of living here and remodeling many times, I have a very good home. I could have a better house but not a better home. I moved into the new home about the same time I went back into the mill. There is always a great amount of work to do around a new home, making the lawn, clearing the land, so much painting, and other kinds of work. I was really busy that fall, no time for sports then. Although they were still playing ball at the Bell farm, I only went there a few times after I was married.

As I stated before, I had a far different cut look on life now. Many people would gather there on Saturday or Sunday and form teams and play. I remember Leander Eloi, who had come that year, 1923, from McDonald, Pa. to work in the hot mill. I met him for the first time at the Bell farm ball park. When he got up to pitch ball, was everyone surprised; how that man could put a ball right where he wanted it to go and with such speed. Not very many of us ever saw a ball pitcher like Len. With Len pitching, and William Moore catching, a man had a hard time to hit the ball, if a man hit a foul Billy usually caught it. I thought they were very good ball players. The last time I was there Frank Gardner

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was the umpire.

Now that I had settled down to home life, things were different then when I was single. I would love to stay home with Helen and play checkers or flinch, and I never wanted to leave her alone. And another thing, I never would stop on my way home from work, but I would hurry home from the mill, and oh how I thank God that I never in all the 46 years that I worked there, I never stopped at any tavern or bar. About three years after I was married, my pal, Billy Moore said to me one day "how come you never play ball any more, when you got married you really settled down", I told him I liked married life better than ball playing.

About 1923 or 1924 Mr. Manus built a large theatre, between Ave. E. and Ave. F. and called it Manus Theatre, and then they built the State Theatre. They remodeled the old Henry Restaurant and made it twice as long, only an alley between them. My wife and I went there a few times. The strand Theatre was in the same building where the Weirton Savings and Loan Co. office is now located. The Lincoln Theatre, occupied the same building where the Weirton Market store is now.

About this time radio was a new thing out. Many of the young men would build crystal sets and they would tune in to K-D-K-A and could get fairly good reception. I didn't try to make any, but many of the young men did. Can anyone of the old timers remember Bert Agnew? He built a great many crystal sets at that time.

A great many of my school mates were being married, about this time also, and were having homes of their own. So many things happened in 1923 I cannot remember them all. A great many more people building on Weirton Heights, moving up from down town. It must of been 1922 or 1923 when they put electric power up on Weirton Heights.

My brother Walter married Doshie Harris May 28, 1923. Another brother Alvin married Winnafred Thomas 1923. The year 1924 was about the same as 1923, still working on No. 22 hot mill. The men were the same ones as when I first started, maybe some new ones. Paul Tingler started in 1921 on the hot mill. Sam Freshour's father was transferred about this time to the tin mill and worked as shearman helper. John Harris, Doshie and Lou Harris father also worked on the shears at about this time.

During this time, 1924, Weirton Steel Co. broke ground for a new coke plant and by-products plant, which made a great many more jobs for the people. The sheet mill was completed about this same time and that created a great amount of work for many new employees. As new plants were being built more and more people moved into the Weirton area. A great many more business places were built, most of them along Main St. A large building was built between Ave. G. and Ave. H called the constant block, it housed six stores. I believe that store was built about 1921 or 1922 some time later in the 1930's Murphy's 5 and 10¢ store moved into that building. After they made it all into one store. There was a great many business offices on the second floor, Davis Real Estate and Insurance, Dr. Swartz the dentist had offices there, and a great many others had offices there also.

Sorrow struck our family at this time, my brother Ted took sick about August and died Dec. 19, 1924. As I said before he worked too hard. All of that saw mill work and threshing and bailing in the fall for the farmers. A mans body can stand only so much.

Then came 1925, our first child was born. A girl, we named her Marion Louise. What a great change in our home now. Born Jan. 13. What would a home be like without children. They really make life worth living. They give us something to look forward to. How many times we read where someone who never gets married and lives an entire life time and dies and no one as survivors. They live and die alone. We wonder if the Lord is pleased with them, what is there in this life if we live alone.

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Jess another brother of mine, married Annazora Call April 16, 1925. That made four of us being married in two years. About May of that year 1925 I bought a new Ford car. A roadster for \$455.00. That was what they sold for at that time. The only new car I ever had in my life. As all the cars had small tires on them before this year, 30 z 3 or 30 z 3½. Now they came out with what they called baloon tires 29 z 4.50, that seems small now, but then that seemed very large. That Ford was a very good car for us, no more cranking the motor to get it started. The first cars with starters came out about 1914 or 1915. As a success, my brother Jess bought a Saxon roadster, with a starter, it was a 1914 or 1915 model.

What was the farmers doing at this time? Between 1920 and 1925, nearly all of the farmers quit farming, that is within the city limits. All of the younger men on the farms went to work in the mills. A great many sold their farms to real estate men. After the death of my brother Ted, in 1924, no one seem to be interested in farming on my father's farm anymore, as there was a great deal more money working in the mill then doing any thing else.

With a great many more people moving on Weirton Heights, many more children to go to school, as the two school houses were over crowded, the school board saw that something had to be done, about the school condition. So they bought two or more acres of land along South 12th Street and built a large brick building, having it completed by 1926. Many more things took place during this period of time, that I cannot remember. As I said before I wished that I would of kept a diary of all my experiences and events that took place in my life. No doubt I would of had a better story.

As I bring this chapter to a close, I will have to say the same as I said in the close of the last chapter, suppose the Weir brothers would of built their plants in the Pittsburgh area, I would not of had very much of a story to write, but so many people take it for what it is worth, that is it just so happened that way, so I suppose that I will have to go along with them and say, that was the way it happened, but I will say this much we owe a great deal of respect and honor to the Weir brothers for building their plants here and not some where else.

MY LIFE STORY AS I HAVE SEEN WEIRTON GROW, CHAPTER 5 (1925) to (1930)

What was taking place at this period of time? The new schoolhouse built on South 12th Street, what a great improvement over the old building. No more going outside to the little "white house". This building had flush toilets and a locker for each scholar and steam heat with a large furnace room and other great features and other facilities. Freedom from great difficulty like the old building, eight grades in one room. Now they had one grade for each room which was a great deal better.

The school board purchased a new school bus to take the children to school, picking up the children along Kings Creek and out the highway to Liberty School. There could of been about 100 or 200 children going to school at this time.

My Father-in-law, Emory Tingler, quit working in the mill at this time to become the first custodian at the Weirton Heights School. As I said before, Emory being one of the first Hot Mill men to move into weirton coming from Chester with a crew to operate one Hot Mill, the year being 1910. Not only was he the janitor, but the school bus driver also. It was this period of time that Emory sold his small farm at the end of Powers Road to a man named Joe Annolo and moved into the Martin Hindman Homestead so he could be close to his work. Living there about two years and then moving into a house on Church St., and living there nearly three years and then buying a house on Church Street beside Charles Ellison's home, he bought it in 1932 from Mr. Cain.

After Helen and I were married, four more children were born to my wife's parents as my wife was the oldest then Paul, and Violet. After we were married Thelma born 1924 in December Harold 1927, Milford 1930, and Emory Jr. 1932.

More and more people moved upon Weirton Heights. That meant more and more cars and a great deal more traffic. The road up Weirton Hill was not much better then it was when it was built in 1914. Half brick and half slag. The State Road Dept., began to build a new road up the hill very early in 1927 and closed the road for that summer and graded the road a great deal wider with a great amount of power shevels and grading equipment. They graded off more of the hill sides and when the grading was finished, they put down a concrete base for two lane traffic and then paved it with brick.

The reason that I know it was 1927, was that I traded cars that year. The Roadster that I had was to small now. I traded it for a sedan because my family was larger. Another baby girl born to us in December 1926, we named her Ethel Mae. That is why I had to get a larger car. That summer when the road was closed we always had to detour around by Kings Creek or down the Lee Hill Road, where 11th Street is now. That fall when the new road was completed, I was the first one there after they took the barracades down. We were going down town and they told us to wait about ten minutes until they took some loose bricks off of the pavement. My wife and I and two children were the first ones to travel the new road. what a great improvement over the old road because it was always so rough.

A great many things took place in the year 1927 in August of that year a Preacher from Follansbee named William Grafton set up a large tent on a vacant lot at the top of Weirton Heights Hill across from where the Sunoco Filling Station in now. My wife and I went to hear him and we really did enjoy his preaching. It was a great revival that he had. He was the Free Methodist Preacher in Follansbee.

There were many conversions at that time so they organized a church in September of that year. About 15 charter members, my wife and I joined the following year. At that time we were members of the Nazarinnes,

the church being in East Liverpool, Ohio. We were converted in a great revival in the Nazarine Church on St. Clair Avenue, John Fleming was the Evangelist and Freddie Thomas, his assistant.

Rev. O. L. Benedum was the Pastor, they sure were wonderful men of God. They were not afraid to Preach the Gospel in those days. But when the Free Methodist built their Church, we joined there September 1928. After 43 years, we still belong there having brought all of our children up in the Sabbath School at the Church.

One of the greatest men I ever met was James Patterson who was one of the Charter members. He built a church on one of the Church lots that William Ledson gave to Emory Tinzler and Albert Dinerstein for a Church when he had his lot sale, in 1918, one of the lots was on 12th Street and one on Church Street. They chose the one on Church Street to build the Church on. It was built during the summer of 1928, moving into it in September. We were holding our services in the old Presbyterian Church on Avenue F. and County Road from the time that we left the tent revival.

Anthony Jefferson was the first Pastor to be assigned to the new Church. I have seen a great many revivals take place there. Some very great and famous Evangelists preached in that church. I was elected teacher of the Bible Class in 1933. A position I held for over 32 years and holding many other offices in that church. I have seen a great many people converted to the Lord there. It always was a lighthouse on Weirton Heights, that is a place to point people to the Lord, for a great many souls at all times are being wrecked on a rocky and desolate shore.

During the summer months of 1927, a great development was taking place at Weirton Heights, called Weirmont Terrace. Many new homes were built there and many lots being sold. West School St., Pikeview St., Hillcrest Road, South 11th St., Beech Weed Road. There was a great crowd there on opening day. My wife and I were there at that time. Some time in the fall of 1927. Weirmont Terrace was part of the George Owings Farm originally. The following year, Mondennall, Arthur Cooper, and Barone, developed the Marland Heights area, the Charman Farm and many other farms being turned into city lots. Many more people wanted to move out of the valley and they couldn't find a nicer or better place than the Marland Heights area. A wonderful view of the Ohio River and the Half Moon area and Toronto. When they had open house, my wife and I went to see the model home that was there. Later Dr. Berridella bought that home. Many high class homes were built there and a great many of the business men and officials of the Weirton Steel Company built homes there or bought homes already built.

I remember the time that William Price, Homer McClain, and August Piolet, were riding to work one morning in the winter of 1929 or 1930. There was ice on the road and the car went into a skid and went through a guard rail and turned over a few times. All three were very critically hurt or injured. All three were rollers in the hot mill close to where I worked on the same turn. William Price was working on No. 17, as roller, Homer McClain was roller on No. 19, Hill and I believe August Piolet was Roller on No. 13. I knew them all very well as I was Hoating Pairs on No. 13, Hot Hill at that time. Homer McClain died as a result of the wreck a few short weeks after it happened.

A great many Hot Hill men moved upon Marland Heights because it was a great addition to the city of Weirton.

Sometime during the year 1926, I thought I would make a change and go to the Sheet Mill to work the Pair Heater that was working on No. 4, Sheet Mill, was going to quit so I went there and took the job as Pair Heater. What a surprise I had when I started to work there. So much different then the Tin Mill. I had a helper every day for four days. I told the foreman that I had enough of that kind of work and that I would go back to the Tin Mill.

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As I had quit working on No. 22 Hot Mill, Tin Mill when I went to the Sheet Mill, the Pair Heater on No. 18 went to work on 22. When I came back, the foreman told me to work on No. 18, the Rollers name was Guy Spencer. That was a very good crew so I stayed on there as Pair Heater until 1938, when they transferred me to the Strip Steel.

A list of the men that worked there in the Hot Mill at that time: Joe Hill, William Price, Jess Fetterman, Mike Zagula, Tony Munci, Paul Tingler, Frank Bialakowski, John Lewis, Matt Jolkai, Ode Fetty, Eddie Joseph, William Breene, Ralph Rust, James Gibson, Cal Lyons, Walter Smith, Mike Miller, Henry Pretzold, George Davies, Chris Gillette, Theodore Pulver and many more.

At this time they were putting Patent Doublers in the Hot Mill, and when they started operations again they could produce more Tin Plate with a three part system than they could with the old four part system.

About 1927 or 1928, two more men came to work there in the Hot Mill. John Ester Bohrer and Kenneth Timberlake. They became very good friends of mine. John worked as Pair Heater on No. 21 and Kenneth worked as Heater on No. 20 Hot Mill.

Jack Richards who was turn forman on the Hot Mill for a number of years was promoted to Hot Mill Superintendent in 1928. Some time during this period of time, Harold Dudley went from roller to turn foreman. He started to work in the Hot Mill in 1917 and then had to go to war. He came back to the Hot Mill when the war was ended in November 1918.

We owe a great deal to the Weir brothers and other officials of the Weirton Steel Company. They had very good salesmen to sell their products and to keep their plants working. In early 1927 ground was broken for a great new plant as the 16 inch Hot Mill could roll only 20 or 21 inches wide, there was a demand for wider steel so the new strip steel that was to be built, it could roll up to 40 or more inches wide. It was built below where the other strip steel plant was. Almost all the homes along East Street even the street itself had to be removed to make room for those large buildings. Everything had to be done with huge machinery. The Shipping Dept. Bldg., near the railroad tracks, across the tracks from the can factory, where it was at the time, next to the Shipping Dept., was the Annealing Bldg., then the great Hot Mill Building and beside the alley was the large cold mill building. All of the buildings reaching down to Lee Avenue.

What an amount of Steel that plant could produce. Where the 10 and 16 inch mills could produce hundreds of tons, the new 48 inch Mill could turn out many thousands of tons.

In the year 1927, James Jowers and another business man bought an airplane and made an air field where the shopping plaza is now. The land there was higher than it is now. In later years Mike Starvaggi bought the land and stripped the coal out and leveled the land, lowering the land probably about 25 or 30 feet. At that time when they made the landing field, they just leveled off the top of the ridge. I remember on Labor Day that year, they were taking up passengers. My father-in-law Emory Tingler and his son Paul went up for a ride. After they came back, I went up. The trip that the pilot took was over the Valley, Harland Heights, and the River. I enjoyed the ride alright. That was my first and last ride. No desire to fly what-so-ever. There was some stunt flying and parachute jumping there that day also. The year 1928 a new bridge was built across the Ohio River at Steubenville, the Eastern approach was Ferry Road, now Freedom way. They called it the Fort Steuben Bridge. On opening day, they put on a great celebration and the airport at Half Moon was putting on a great show. Many stunt flyers and parachute jumps there that day, but tragedy struck, one plane fell that day.

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The pilot must of misjudged the distance and came down about where Harmon Creek empties into the Ohio River. Killing the pilot and his passenger, when a terrible tragedy like that happens it puts a sad feeling on the celebration. I believe that airport at Half Moon was built about 1926 or 1927. They were taking up passengers that day and my wife who never was in an airplane before took a ride in the three motor Ford plane that was there that day.

How pleased everyone was about the new bridge before that time we always had to use the Market Street Bridge and it was always crowded.

A great depression was coming upon the Nation about this time. Many people that borrowed the money from the banks were out of work and couldn't pay back so many banks had to close their doors. Many thousands of people out of work. No one able to buy new cars with no cars being sold. That slowed down the parts factories and the tire factories had to go out of business and all other kinds of business came to a stand still. No one able to buy anything, only enough to live on. I was very fortunate to be working in the Tin Mill because I worked all through the depression. Many of the other departments worked only part time. The reason that the Tin Mill worked was that the company had good salesmen that could sell their products.

I almost forgot the new Ford car that was built in 1928. The Ford Motor Company had made the Model T Ford for over twenty years and quit making them in early 1927 and changed their factory over to the production of the Model A. It was far different then the Model T. The new car had a gear shift and the four cylinder motor was far better then the old type motor, that was in the Model T. Many other great features that the Model T did not have. Any of you old timers remember the new hit record, "How Henry Made a Lady Out of Lizzie?"

Anyone who had money during the depression would not invest it but held onto it which we can not blame them much. So much crime was taking place about this time. Many racket men was busy trying to swindle people in many various ways. Sneak easy was the word that was used for Saloon. Many moon shiners were working day and night making illegal alcohol drinks. Satan always has some one to work for him. As people will worship the almighty dollar as the Bible says "The Love of Money is the Root of all Evil". There were so many gangsters like, John Dillinger, Scar Face Al Capone, Baby Face Nelson, Pretty Boy Floyd, and other kinds of racketeers that cared nothing for the people, only for a few dollars.

In October of 1929, another daughter was born in our family. We named her Beatrice June. That made three girls born to us. We were always glad when a child was born because like I said before, what is there in life if we have no children regardless of how dignified we seem to be, if we care not for children, we are of all men most miserable I am sure the Lord is not pleased with childless couples. Another one of my brothers was married March 9, 1929, Bert Truax, married Hattie Coffman. That made five of us married in six years.

In the year 1930, my old Model T, 25 Ford was almost wore out so I decided to buy another car. I had heard that the Model A was a very good car so I bought a 1929 Model A for \$350.00 dollars being 10 months old it was in perfect shape. I really did like that car. A four door Sedan. I told my wife that now we could go places and see things. On the fourth of July that year I didn't have to work so we took the children and went to the Akron Airport and spent the day there. There was a great air show there that day.

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We enjoyed it very much as that was almost the first time we were away from home.

The great Zenplyn Hanger was there, built a short time before that what a massive building that was. The largest building in the United States with no center support. They were building the great Akron Zenplin at that time with about half of the fram work done.

The next year 1931, we heard that the Zenplin was about finished so on Labor Day we drove up there to see what it was like. My oh my what a beautiful airship that turned out to be. It looked far different at that time then it did the year before. About a month after that, they took it out for a trial flight and the report was it handled beautifully. Two years after that, they built the Macon, a Sister Ship to the Akron. The U. S. Navy bought both of them and after a few years, both were destroyed by storms killing a great many people.

Ever since the railroad was built to Chester around 1895 to 1900, the railroad crossing known as the Crawford Crossing was a very busy crossing after the beginning of weirton and after all of the Steel Co. Plants were built. Many times the traffic would be backed up for a great distance. Many times we would have to wait until an Ore Train went by about a hundred cars or more. So the city knew that something had to be done about it, although they knew it would be costly. So the Weirton Steel Co., and the Traction Co., which was the Street Car Co., and the highway department made plans to build an over head bridge. As it was started sometime in 1930 and finished in 1931, a sign on the bridge tells us it was built in 1931. What a wonderful help that was to traffic. No more stopping for trains, 1000 foot ramps were built 500 feet on each side of the tracks.

MY LIFE STORY AS I HAVE SEEN WEIRTON GROW, CHAPTER 6, (1930) to (1935)

As I stated before that the terrible depression was upon the whole Nation, it was now growing worse. Many more people being out of work. But the Tin Mill was still working full time, although the Pone Tin Mill at Steubenville shut down and the Hot Mill men that worked there were transferred to the Weirton Tin Mill and every one worked six hour turns which was an important thing to do, as we all should share and share alike. With times like that upon us, others had to live the same as we do. I could still receive about \$4.00 or \$4.50 a day which was very good at that time.

In 1932 ground was broken for a new stadium to be built near the high School. The old Griffith homestead that was settled by Alexander Wells being the first land grant in the city of Weirton had to be dismantled to make room for the new stadium.

About this time there was a great club-house built on Marland Heights and a wonderful golf course called the Williams Country Club. Where could they of built it at any better location over looking the beautiful Ohio River and the Ohio Valley and the people that played golf could have a wonderful view of all the Weirton Steel Plants, which was the making of nearly all business men and every working man that was hired by the company. Thousands of men and women that worked for the company made a great living and thousands who reached the retirement age received a wonderful pension.

During the year 1932, Louis Forgash, who had been in the grocery business for ten years, bought land across Penna. Ave., from his store and built a large brick building there. Far more room then he had before. Being in the grocery business, I bought all my groceries there for a great number of years. After he quit the grocery, a few years later, he went into the furniture business being a great businessman he is still in that business.

Harry Pittler went into the grocery business where Louis Forgash moved from in 1932 when Louis Forgash went out of the grocery business I bought groceries from Mr. Pittler.

On April 25, 1932, another daughter was born into our home. We named her Lois Mae. Now with four children in the home, our responsibility was far greater now then when we were married. It means something to try to raise children and to raise them right. The greatest and most important way is to be a perfect example, for the children to follow because the children think that there is no one like their parents. We thought that when we were children, I always wanted to do everything that I saw my father do, the same way he did them.

Sometime in early 1934, ground was broken for a beautiful swimming pool, and park near the Williams Country Club which the City of Weirton really needed as there were no swimming pool within the city limits.

The year 1934 was a very sad year for us. About April a son was born premature, six months baby. It lived but a few hours and died. Being our first son we felt very sad about it. About two months after we lost our baby, my Mother took sick and died, June 18, 1934 at the age of 74. What a change that made in the old farm home when our Mother was gone. It seemed like our enjoyment for the old home goes with her. We miss seeing her in the old rocking chair and sitting on the porch or by the old kitchen stove preparing a meal either dinner or supper. How often she called me when I was a boy in the morning for school and later to get ready for work. But there comes a time in everyones life when their mother has to pass on, to her well deserved home on the other shore. And there is nothing we can do about it, only be prepared to meet her in the skies.

MY LIFE STORY AS I HAVE SEEN WEIRTON GROW, CHAPTER 6 (1930) to (1935)

It sure is a wonderful time once a year, that we can celebrate Mothers Day. If anyone deserves a day for themselves, it is our mothers. The second Sunday in May, could we find a better time ~~of~~ the year than May? With spring in the air and flowers blooming everywhere, with summer not to far away, it is a good time to think of our dear old Mother. There is a song about Mother that we used to sing. It goes like this

M is for the million things she gave me
O is only that she's growing old
T is for the tears she shed to save me
H is for her heart that's pure as gold
E is for her eyes with love light shining
R means right and right she will always be
The word that means the world to me.

There is another old hymn about mother, the title "Meet Mother in the Skies"

Now the old home vacant
has no more charms for you
one dear for is absent
Mother kind and true
Now she ever dwells
where pleasure never dies
If you love your mother
Meet her in the skies.

During this year, 1934, the Weirton Steel Co. printed their first bulletin, a monthly paper, that printed all the news and everything that was taking place in all the departments. That meant a great deal to all the employees. They could find out that way what was taking place all over the Steel Plants, and the kind of work that their fellow employees were doing and the conditions in all the departments.

I almost forgot the strike of 1933, the only time that the Weirton Steel was shut down, because of a strike and we might call that strike a wild-cat strike. I believe it was all uncalled for because the Weir brothers and other officials would of done anything that the employees wanted done within reason, because they always did take care of the men that worked for them.

About this time something took place in Europe, you may say what does Europe have to do with Weirton. This thing that took place in Europe sure has a great deal to do with Weirton. One of Satans best helpers was Adolph Hitler, who rose to power over Germany by promising to the people all of the possessions or small countries that was taken from Germany when she surrendered to the Allies on Nov. 11, 1918, and the people of Germany believed him and worked hard to make him a didtator. Nearly all the Germans would cry "Hail Hitler hail Hitler" and many worshipped him as a God as he made great promises to the people. After what they went through in the first World War, you would think that they would of had enough of that kind of government and never would vote for a satanic dictator like Hitler.

Let us look at the life he lived before he became dictator. Born in 1889 in Austria to a customs officer who guarded the frontier. The father wanted his son to have a good education but Adolph didn't want anything to do with Austrain ideas and methods and refused the schooling that his father wanted him to have. So he went into the carpeneter trade for five years and then he took up painting both houses and pictures. He went to Munich in 1912 and gained distinction in the First World War, as a dispatch runner in 1923. He joined many others in a great revolt in a beer hall in Munich. Satans man picked a satanic place to have a revolution.

MY LIFE STORY AS I HAVE SEEN WEIRTON GROW, CHAPTER 6 (1930) to (1935)

By this time Adolph was flaming with zeal for what was called the National Socialistic German Labor Party. Because of the revolution at Munich, he was condemned to serve five years in prison but was out in one year and gaining more power every year as a great promising leader. In 1932, he opposed Von Hindenburg for the Presidency and his National Party became the largest in Germany. Now that he was Dictator of Germany, he plunged the whole nation into war preparation building new Muniton factories and all kind of war material factories. Thousands of airplanes of a great many kind and all the war factories worked day and night for the next five years. Just like Kaiser Bill in 1917, he thought he could win the world. More about Hitler in the next two chapters, of how Weirton and all the rest of the Nation suffered great untold sorrow because of all the young men that had to die over there. So many of the men that I was working with was drafted into the Army, and Navy and you wondered then if you would ever see them again.

Because they were developing a new type of Tin Plate, called Cold Reduction, large coils from the 48 inch Hot Mill, passing through the four High Cold Mill, they could make any gauge of Tin Plate they wanted, so they had to have room for the annealing of that kind of plate. So instead of paying out a large sum of money for repairs of the engine, they used the space for annealing furnaces. All of the hot mill men could see that the end of the old type of tin plate made by hand was near. Because nine men in a crew to operate one mill, could produce only about 6 or 7 tons of plate a turn, with the new system they could produce hundreds of tons during the same period of time.

It was during this time, that the men that worked on those mills, worked on the other mills, that was still operating, the men would work three weeks and be off a week, while the others were working in their place, as we always did share and share alike.

It was at this time that my turn came to be off in July, so my wife and I and four children took a vacation to Niagara Falls, being our first vacation we really did enjoy that trip.

In the first part of 1937, the mills were working full time, as the men that were working with us were transferred to other departments, and everything seem to be very prosperous. So many things we needed around the house, that we had neglected buying, now we were able to buy, including a new coal furnace, and other improvements, but our prosperity ended quickly, about the first of Sept. the bottom seem to drop out of everything. The mill started to slow down again, and by November they shut completely down, and didn't start back up until Feb. or March.

It was while the mill was down, that another daughter was born into our family, we named her Naomi Ruth, born Jan. 12, 1938. Now with five daughters in the family, the only difference between Eddie Cantor, and me was that he had more money to raise his children on, then I had.

If it was not for compensation, I do not know what would of happened we would sign up for compensation every week, and receive 15.00 dollars a week. That makes 60.00 a month, not very much money to raise five children on. But some how we made out. Those were very dark days, not only for me but for all the others also, when the mill did start back to work it only worked three days every other week.

Maybe I did fare a little better then some of the others, because I always raised a large garden, and did a great deal of canning.

All summer long the Hot Mill worked about half time, with that and unemployment compensation, we got along some how, always doing my own repair work on my car, and around the home, and the appliances in the home.

Then came October 1938, and all the men that was working the ten Hot Mills, 12 to 21 or no. 2 engine, had to be transferred so the foreman called us all in the office, and told us we would have to take other jobs as we had no choice, we went where they placed us. Some were transferred to the Coke Plant, others to the Steel Works, and some to the Sheet Mill and Strip Steel. The ones that I was transferred with went to the 10 and 16 inch Strip Steel. I was sure glad that Kenneth Timberlake was with the ones that went with us to the 10 and 16 inch mill, because we were always very good friends. Mr. Timberlake who did great work among the Boy Scouts, as Scout Master for a number of years, and Cub Scout Master for a great number of years.

Oh if only more people were like that, what a better city we would have because children 10 to 15 years old need great training at that age.

MY LIFE STORY AS I HAVE SEEN WEIRTON GROW, CHAPTER 7 (1935) to (1940)

In order to respect not only their parents, but to respect their elders as well, and their country and their flag. A great many teenagers that are now rioters probably never would of been like that if they would of had good training, like the Boy or Cub Scouts, and the Girl Scouts. we owe a great deal of respect, and honor to the leaders of such organization's.

The work at the 10 and 16 inch mill was far different then the Tin Mill work. now I was bundling coils, and lifts of steel, working extra on the Hot Mills, working on a breaker machine or normalizer, and various other kinds of work. Most of the jobs paid labor wage \$5.00 a day the labor wage at that time. Fifty dollars a pay, far better then before.

after about one year there, I took a job on the Railroad Spike Furnace, working there about two years. It was while I was working there that another child was born into our family, August 3, 1940. Boy! Oh Boy! a son at last, I had given up all hopes of having a son, born to us but the good Lord saw best that we should have a son. we named him Carl Allen.

Two years on the Spike Furnace, then back to bundling steel for awhile, then taking a job on the 16 inch Hot Mill.

With the bombing of Pearl Harbor Dec. 7, 1941, war was declared against Japan, Germany, and Italy. Shortly after that the automobile factories went into full time war production. As we were making automobile steel, the Strip Steel Mill slowed down in production during the great change over.

At this time with a great amount of work for the Steel Works Labor Crew, with the building of a new Blast Furnace, and Bessemer Furnace, I was transfered to the Steel Works Labor crew Feb. 1942. More to say about this in the next chapter.

As I bring this chapter to a close, let us see what has been taking place in Europe. Adolph Hitler the Dictator of Germany, and his Regime was marked by complete state domination of all human effort, anti-semitism, opposition to the Versailles Treaty, and an aggressive foreign policy. He annexed Austria, Czechoslovakia, and Memel, and in 1939 invaded Poland, bringing about war with England and France.

With a Blitzkrieg, or lightning attack on England and France, Hitler thought he could win the war in a few days, but the Royal Air Force kept pounding at his defences and his shipping, and stalled off the war for a period of time.

What a great blessing to us if the allies could of won that war the first three years, and the United States would not became involved, with thousands of our boys dying in terrible agony, such suffering no one can realize what it was really like, unless they were there, many falling to their death from airplanes, others cremated in burning tanks, many thousands wounded, some carrying their scars for life.

I have here a Bulletin dated August 1944, listing more than 4,100 Weirton Steel Employees, serving in the armed forces, and a great many more from the Weirton area.

Oh! the heart aches and sorrow that the mothers and wives of all those men had to face when they had to go to war. I read in one place where there was two hundred and ten from Weirton that was killed in that terrible war. We thank God for the ones who came back, but Oh! the sorrow and heart felt agony for the ones that paid the supreme sacrifice.

What was all this for? Like I said before, a demon possessed man like Hitler, that could cause such a terrible war, and bring about such destruction, to a great many Nations, and the people of those Nations.

I have a great deal more to say about what our Boys went through in the next chapter.

MY LIFE STORY AS I HAVE SEEN WEIRTON GROW . CHAPTER 8, 1940 TO 1945

As I stated in the last chapter, how the terrible war was started about 1938, with so much destruction. Germany bombing England and England bombing Germany. The United States were working on a great defense program. Building many thousands of airplanes, and many different kind of war material, and all the steel mills in this area were working full time to produce enough steel for the defense program, because there was fear in this country that the Germans may bring the war over here.

So with the war making great headlines, then came the sneak attack on Pearl Harbor by Japan Dec. 7, 1941. Shortly afterwards United States declared war on Japan, Germany, and Italy. Now we were into it again like I said in chapter three in 1937, how Kaiser Bill being demon possessed caused millions to suffer and die. Now we have another one demon possessed to fight, or shall we say three of them, full of the power of satan.

Dear Reader I know you will agree with me that any war lord, regardless of who he is must be full of satanic power to want to murder people.

Now that we were in it we had to make the best of it to overcome the agressor. Nearly all of the automobile factories in Michigan went into full time war production, building tanks, army jeeps, war planes, half tracks, along with all the other factories in the United States, full time war production of all kinds of war material. All the shipyards were building battle ships, air craft carriers, and smaller ship yards building landing craft L.S.T. Dravo in Pittsburgh built some small craft for the navy. These were built to land soldiers on the beachhead and for the transport of tanks, and war material. One of these small craft that they brought down from Pittsburgh was docked at the foot of Market Street in Steubenville for people to see. I went over to look at it and was really surprised to see what a fine boat it was. There was a very great many of these small craft built because the war in the Pacific was fought on islands, and these kind of vessels played a very important part in winning the war.

During world war two the United States built 61,046 ships of all types, purposes, and sizes, and of all of these 39,971 were still afloat and in use at the end of the hostilities. In the Pearl Harbor attack, the battle ship Arizona was damaged beyond repair. The Oklahoma and five others were put out of action but later were put back into service.

I remember the evening that the Japs bombed Pearl Harbor. I was working in the 10 and 16 inch mill on 3 to 11 turn. I had bought a car that year from Mr. Scott in Burgettstown, Pa. That was the first car that I ever had that had a radio in it. Some one came to work early that evening and told us that there was special news all evening about the bombing of Pearl Harbor. I ran out to my car when I had a break and turned on my car radio and listened to the news. It was terrible how so many of the crewmen on those ships and on land were being killed and with so much destruction. The final report on Pearl Harbor was, lost 117 planes, 2343 men with another 860 missing and also 396 wounded. The Japanese lost about 50 air craft and 3 small submarines. Because they seemed to have everything well timed. Oh: if only the United States had of known that they were coming. I am sure that it would of been a different story. They sure would of had a hot reception.

Now that all the automobile factories were changing over to war production the strip steel work slowed down because we were making steel for automobiles. It was during this period of time that I requested a transfer to the steel works labor crew. Having six children at that time, I had to have all the time I could get so I was transfered in January 1942, one month after the war began. The type of work that I was doing now on the steel works labor crew was far different then the work I was doing at the strip steel, there I was working on the 16 inch hot mill and bundling steel for shipment. Now I was unloading bricks from freight cars, doing pick and shovel work and other kinds of labor jobs, for about three weeks, then I put in an application for a car repair job. After about three weeks the supertendant of transportation called me and put me on firing loco-motives.

MY LIFE STORY AS I HAVE SEEN WEIRTON GROW, CHAPTER 8; 1940 TO 1945
as they still had the old steamers at that time, I thought to myself, how did I get into this working in the tin mill and then in the strip steel for nearly four years and now I was working on steam loco-motives, all in less than four years. But, everything was working out all right, now with plenty of overtime by working on the extra board, there was more money to buy the things I was doing without. Appliances in the home, and repairs on the house, and more money for food for the family.

I went to work as fireman on the steam loco-motives March 18, 1942 with men that I did not know, but it did not take very long to get acquainted. I will make a list of a great many of the men that I started to work with:

<u>Engine Men</u>	<u>Engine Men</u>	<u>Brakeman and Conductors</u>
Danny Porter *	Kenneth Timberlake	Tom Thompson
Ed. (Casey) Jones *	Walter Eckersberg	William Lewis *
Morris Jones *	Dannie Ryan	Abe Webster *
Chapman Jones *	Dannie Wolf	Sam Phillips *
Tom Rainey *	Kenneth McFann	Harry Martin *
Harry Yengst *	Archie Rollins	Ike Green *
Harry Cumberledge *	James Porter	Hugh Thompson *
Harry Ivory *	Eddie McPeek Jr.	Harold Conn *
William Reed *	Harvey Taylor	Bert Balsinger
Richard Koethe *	George Lawhead	Hendrickson *
Fred Ebert *	George McCracken	H. S. McGuire *
Clarence McCreight *	Howard Clowes	Eddie Seigel
Lester McCreight *	Charles Arbaugh	George McNeal
John McCreight *	Clair Repole	Kenneth Norman
James Bock *	Charles Kuninger	Nixdorf *
Abraham Evans *	Harry Pleasants	Bricker
William Skiles *	Robert Palmer	Palmer
John McKitrick *	Ralph Richter *	Yenke
Hugh Neptune *	Delbert Pettit *	Charles Singer
Virgil Duff *	Harry Frey	Hank Horn *
Eddie McPeek Sr. *	David Tyson	Hugh Burns
Earl Chambers *	Cleo Southall *	Harold Burnsides
Carl Campbell *	<u>Supt. and Yard Masters</u>	(Buz) Glessner
James Oliver *	Richard Rowley	Charles Crowley
Harry Calmbacher *	Ben Costello	William Roth
John Beard *	Harry Jarvis	Jack Fouts
Bucky Lawrence *	Charles Haynes	Don McFall
James Burd *	I.C. Burke	Walter Vorhees
John Hughes *	Louis Carte	Jim Taylor
Chalfant *	Ed. Wills	L. E. Dew
Richard Marshall *	Earl Craig	Jack Thompson
Bill Bland *	Bill Gribben	Charles Beard *
Wm. Miller *	Albert Orelli	Ralph Smith
Dave King	Andrew Rosso	William MacGregor
Eddie Simmons	Charles Giffear *	Low Cottrill
George Keiffer	Walter Schumacher	Lester Sadler
Jim Ritchie		Eddie Seckman *
Nelson Hinshee		
Eugene Tedrow		
George Brown		

All of these ones I marked in this list were ahead of me on the board, that is the engine men. By this sign * I have marked the ones that have gone to their eternal reward. Not very many of the old timers left!

MY LIFE STORY AS I HAVE SEEN WEIRTON GROW, CHAPTER 8, 1940 TO 1945

Some of these men that I wrote down here, were drafted in the service, soon after I started to work there, Eddie Dew, Kenneth Norman, George McNeal, Jack Thompson, James Porter, John McCreight, Louis Carte, Ben Costello, Clair Repole, and no doubt many more that I forgot. Being a new job and I was just beginning to get accustomed to that kind of work, and to know the ones I was working with, now after almost thirty years, I cannot think of any more.

That kind of work was far different then any that I had ever done, taking on coal, and filling the tank with water, shoveling coal in the fire box, (no doubt more then any other fireman), making sure that the lubricator was working properly using the injector to put water in the boiler when necessary, and taking signals, if the brakeman was working on the fireman's side. Kind of an exciting job, until you got accustomed to it, working on the extra board for a period of time, mostly that summer on Aug. 4th. Another daughter was born into our family, we named her Joyce Ann. Now with seven children I had no more worries about paying income tax.

Staying on the extra board for a great many months, then taking a job in the mould yard firing for George Brown, one old No. 84 steamer. I stayed there a while and then back on the extra board again. Things went on like that until 1945 then the company started to purchase diesel - electric locomotive's 200, 201, and 202. These three at first and more later. Some time in the early part of 1944 the company turned No. two ware house into a shell factory, making eighth inch shells for the government. Many of the men would work their regular jobs then work eight hours in the shell plant, a great many women worked in the shell plant also. My wife and sister Lillian Jordan, and a great many other women, not only worked in the shell plant, but worked at other jobs, operating cranes, burning scrap, clerks in offices that normally used men and labor jobs of various kinds. We owe a great deal of respect and honor to those women who wanted to do their part in winning the war because there was so many of the men in the service.

Between 1940 and 1945 were very exciting years, as nearly everyone was working six days a week and everyone was doing their part in putting out eight hours of work, no one slack in doing their part in helping to win the war. Everyone doing their best to put an end to all of that terrible slaughter that was taking place over there on all of the battle fronts.

Terrible things happening in Germany. Countless thousands being killed of men, women and children, in cruel agonizing ways. Cyanide poisoning of over six million Jews, and no doubt million's of others in retaliation for any harm done to any of the officers in the Nazi party.

What was the reason for all of this? No one on all the face of the earth could do such things, unless they are full of satanic power. Even Herod who had all the male children put to death at Christ's birth would be compared an angel to the devilish Adolph Hitler and all of his officers that would cause all of these atrocities; one of our soldiers lives worth more then all the Nazi party, war minded Hitlers, and war lords in the world. But, all of those satanic war lords did not have very long to do their terrible wicked deeds, but long enough to cause a great many more thousand's of horrible hideous deaths. Many pictures came out of Germany with bodies stacked high in large piles in a great many places, that had died in so many terrible ways, starvation killed a great many thousand people. In prison camps so many horrible things went on there that staggers the imagination, the hideous crimes that took place in the prison camps probably will never be revealed. Some had survived the torture chambers and testified to the terrible ordeal that they had to witness and the punishment that they had to take themselves. Many, many more of the people that were prisoners had to face the firing squad. Many more killed and burned in large furnaces and many more killed and buried in large mass burial graves. Many being tortured to death and some even buried alive.

If we only read about these things during the dark ages, between 500 A.D. and 1500 A.D. we may not think so much about it, but to see these things done in this

MY LIFE STORY AS I HAVE SEEN WEIRTON GROW, CHAPTER 8, 1940 TO 1945

day and age, what we call an enlightened and civilized age, it shakes us to the very depths of our soul. But the day of decision was near at hand, the doom of Hitler's forces was just a matter of time, American and British air power kept pounding away at the German army. Thousands of bombers took off from England every day and night on bombing missions over German territory. For twenty months these bombing missions were very active in destroying railroads, highways, supply lines, factories of all kinds, steel mills, air ports, ship yards, even the cities were bombed beyond description.

But the German army thought that they were secure. All of the shore line from southern France to Denmark were planted with mines, pill boxes and artillery. Planted every where, so many defences they felt safe from any invasion from England. In the late spring of 1944 the air power and other defences in Germany were weakened greatly. Invasion or (D) Day began on June 6, 1944. Thousands of ships loaded with men and supplies moved by night protected by many thousands of airplanes, which destroyed most of the German defences. Over 12,000 tons of shells dropped on the enemy defences by planes and warships. After two weeks of fighting and establishing beach heads the casualties of the allies were estimated at 40,500. General Omar Bradley estimated 3,082 killed and 13,121 wounded and 7,959 missing of the United States forces. And General Montgomery for the British estimated 156,000 German casualties with 60,000 prisoners, with those taken by the Americans.

Two months of hard fighting with a great many casualties the allies sealed off six German divisions, and captured 25,000 prisoners. The American first and third armies captured over 100,000 and had buried nearly 21,000 dead Nazis.

The allied air force and ground forces destroyed over 3000 planes in the air and over 500 on the ground, with a loss of more than 2,800 of their own planes. But the battle for Normandy was over, but for nine more months the slaughter of men, women, and children was not over. The American air force and the British air force during 1944 dropped nearly 30,000 tons of bombs on Berlin alone, with many other cities completely destroyed. But they sure did ask for it to allow a man like Hitler to rule their country.

With many more thousands of our service men dying during the winter and early spring in many terrible ways including the Belgium Bulge just before Christmas, almost complete destruction of Germany and other small countries. But the greatest day came on May 7, 1945, the day that Germany surrendered to the allies. The American, British, and Canadian armies on the west and the Russian army on the east all closing in caused the doom of Hitler's murdering hoards. Let us all hope and pray that something like that will never happen again that would cause all nations to become involved in such a senseless war.

Now that the war was over in Europe, United States could put more of their air planes, warships, and war material in the Pacific war zone to bring about the end of our war with Japan. More to say about that in the next chapter. Many people went in business for themselves during this period of time. A great many people went into the construction business. As people were making more money during the war nearly all that were living down town wanted new homes on the heights. About this time Len Eloi a wonderful friend of mine went into the heating business installing furnaces in homes. Ogle Taylor and Arlie Church started in the barber business about 1940. Arlie is still in the business but Ogle Taylor has passed on to his reward.

I have here a Weirton Steel Bulletin victory issue, printed in 1945. It tells about the shell factory and shows a great many pictures of the service men. And it gives a list of all the men of Weirton Steel that went to the service, also the ones that paid the supreme sacrifice, being killed and missing in action. I will make a list of the ones that paid with their lives. The bulletin speaks of 5000 of our boys that marched to war and 102 that gave their lives and ten that are missing with hundreds wounded.

MY LIFE STORY AS I HAVE SEEN WEIRTON GROW, CHAPTER 8, 1940 TO 1945

May we so live that these honored dead shall not have died in vain.

Aceto, Ralph A.	Kemp, Quentin B.	Sullivan, Raymond R.
Akers, Edwin	Kost, Albert	Tabor, Charles
Andriano, Eugene	Krukowski, Henry S.	Taylor, Robert L.
Archer, Dwight	Lesho, Joseph	Tennant, Edgar O.
Barlos, Joseph T.	Lonchar, Nick	Terzini, James A.
Baxter, John W.	Luerssen, Thomas S.	Toumazos, John
Bernert, John R.	Lutes, Robert G.	Tournay, Howard D.
Blackwell, Harold L.	Machnov, Joseph D.	Wern, Kenneth
Bogdonovich, John	McGrath, Robert W.	Wine, Kenneth
Bruno, Jerry	Mechling, W. T. Jr.	Wounaris Steve W.
Byers, Bernard A.	Medley, William J.	Yates, Frank J. Jr.
Bysarovich, Lawrence	Miller, Wilfred J.	Zaben, Robert C.
Campbell, Warren C.	Moses, Frank	Zgurski, Chester
Canei, Angelo	Hulheran, George	Zidzik, John
Carpenter, Melvin E.	Mull, Harold E.	
Carrick, John	Myers, Edward C.	<u>MISSING IN ACTION</u>
Chisholm, James E. Jr.	Nagy, Earnest E.	Boley, Charles E.
Clark, Harold H.	Newlan, Ernest E.	Deptula, Alexander E.
Cotherman, G. F.	Newman, Lewis	Fenske, William C.
Crawford, Carl E.	Nicholson, H. E.	Gaxia, Tony S.
Criner, John V.	Nicksic, Joseph M.	Hindman, Earl F.
Decker, Martin F.	Obrenski, Stanley	Lonchar, Mike
Delauder, Carl H.	Olphin, Floyd E.	Richmond, Lester D.
Dixon, John A.	Orr, Reuben O.	Sitarz, John J.
Donnelly, Leo F.	Ostrowski, Edward	walnoha, Sidney
Dunkle, Paul E.	Palovitch, Steve	Zaklo, Victor S.
Dunkle, Robert J.	Peterson, Howard G.	
Dunn, Claude H.	Pettinella, Sam A.	
Eafroti, Anthony	Powell, Richard A.	
Dziatkowicz, Walter	Price, Robert W.	
Gilmore, J. R.	Rakoski, Frank	
Gober, Charles B.	Revall, John F.	
Gristak, Henry T.	Robinson, Joseph J.	
Gronck, R. J.	Rujak, Albert M.	
Guio, Joseph Jr.	Saffel, William D.	
Guthrie, George L.	Sagan, Ted B.	
Haber, Frank	Salisbury, Delbert J.	
Hammock, James	Shay, James D.	
Hanlin, Orrin L.	Shumard, Richard	
Hickman, James G.	Sidell, Bruce W.	
Illig, Wilbert H.	Simpson, James F.	
Jackson, William J.	Stanton, Derwood P.	
Kaufmann, John C.	Stire, Willis B.	
Kazienko, Frederick J.	Sullivan, Charles R.	

All of these men in this list taken from the front page of the Weirton Steel Bulletin, victory issue 1945.

Dear Reader it is exactly 26 years since this bulletin was printed, and all of these men had to die on the battle fields, while we were enjoying good living on the home fronts. It is something for all of us to think about so let us never forget these men and what they had to go through to defeat the enemy so we could still have freedom and peace here in America.

Now as I bring this chapter to a close, I will repeat what I said before; these were very exciting five years, 1940 to 1945.

MY LIFE STORY AS I HAVE SEEN WEIRTON GROW, CHAPTER 9, 1945 TO 1950

Dear Reader, I spent a great deal of time on the other chapter by writing a great amount of history, which we could read from any history book. But, I was thinking about what all of our boys had to go through to keep freedom in our country. Oh! if we could see that war can any one picture in their minds what we would of had to suffer the past 26 years. Talk about slavery that would be a free peaceful word compared to what we would of suffered. No doubt there would be torture chambers everywhere, Nazi and Jap scilders standing guard over us and driving us like cattle to the slaughter house. It is something for all of us to praise God for that they did not win.

Now that the war was being fought in the Pacafic after Germany and Italy surrendered, Japan being bombed every day and night, hundred of their ships being sunk, countless thousands of their navy going to a watery grave and many more thousands dying on land, by the continual bombing of the B-29 bombing planes, but still they would not surrender until something dreadful happened to them. After such terrible destruction by our air force and our war ships firing shells day and night, it seems that there would not be any island of Japan left. How many killed no one will ever know. Japan's defenses broken down by heavy bombardment, the United States Fleet moved in close with their aircraft carriers and great warships with their aircraft covering them. President Truman warned the Japanese that their cities would be leveled one by one. The third fleet in ten weeks had destroyed or put out of action almost 3,000 Japanese planes, and sank or damaged nearly 1,600 merchants and warships and all kinds of ships of various sizes.

On July 9th Japan's Premier announced that "Japan would fight until the last", on July 27th the twentieth air force issued many warnings to certain cities that they would be bombed, so the bombing went on until nearly all of her industrial cities were destroyed. Then came the bombing of Hiroshima by an atomic bomb on August 6th. War declared by Russia against Japan Aug. 8th and the next day another Atomic Bomb dropped on Nagasaki. Japan surrenders August 10th. As I said they would not surrender until something dreadful happened. That dreadful thing was now happening to them, they could see what great destruction an atomic bomb could do to an entire city. Probable more then ten thousand regular bombs.

Now with all the destruction to a great many of her cities, and countless thousands of her people and many many thousands of her soldiers and sailors killed and millions wounded, Japan was paying a tremendous price for her sneak attack on Pearl Harbor.

The United States was also paying a great tremendous price in defeating them. Many thousands killed and a great many missing in action, and a great many thousands wounded, one of our soldiers lives worth more then all of the Japanese war lords and their entire nation.

A great many of my own people served in the second world war. Three of my sons-in-law, two of my brothers-in-law, six or seven of my nephews, in the service. A friend of mine told me when he was in the Navy that his landing craft made sixty trips back and forth across the English Channel during the (D) Day invasion.

The ending of that great war brought about many changes here in America. When the ones who survived the war came back home and went back to their old jobs. A great many of them were just teen agers when they went into the service, now they were wanting a home as a great many of them were married while they were in the service. This brought about a great building boom, prices started to soar on homes and construction. Many homes that were only worth 6,000 when the war started now jumped to 10,000 or 12,000 dollars. About 75 or 100 percent raise of all building material, along with all other kind of products. The first automobiles that were built after the war were a great deal higher then they were before the war, almost doubled in price.

Although nearly everything we bought almost doubled in price, yet there was a great demand for homes and automobiles and the 48 inch strip mill which had been in production for nearly twenty years, without any shut down's, many million's

MY LIFE STORY AS I HAVE SEEN WEIRTON GROW, CHAPTER 9, 1945 TO 1950.

of tons of steel were rolled through that large hot mill, but the time had come for a change as the demands for wider steel increased.

Back in 1927 when the 43 inch mill started to operate, many mill men went to see how the mill operated. I was not in the group that went, Homer McClain the roller on the hot mill next to the one I worked on told me he was there and he explained how the mill worked. The official report was that it would be up to date for twenty years, which was almost true except a few months.

In January 1947 the mill rolled it's last coil, and the great change over began in only 16 days the new 54 inch mill was in operation. How did they do that great job so quickly? Remember on page 13 what I said about how quickly the tin mill was built and in 1913 how the tin mill boiler house that was wrecked by a land slide was quickly replaced by a new one? The Weirton Steel Co. always had a good record of having things done quickly so there would not be costly lay offs. But, I think the change over to the 54 inch was done in marvelous record time.

There was a great expansion program going on in many parts of the mill at this time. \$100,000,000 being spent by the company in many departments, a new ore stock pile and ore bridge and a new blast furnace in the making which was built in 1950. Before the new blast furnace could be built along with the ore bridge a great many homes had to be removed from the Avenue A., and Avenue B., area. As the ones who lived there had to have a home, Mike Starvaggi who had stripped the coal off of several acres of land south of Weirton Terrace in the late thirties turned that area into a great home development for the ones whose homes had to be removed. A great many homes were built on Weirton Heights about this time. Many were built on my fathers farm, being called Trux Addition for a number of years. The real estate men were very busy meeting the demands of the people.

In March of 1945 I decided to move out on a farm in Ohio in the Springfield area. My daughter Marion who had married Harold Fletcher Sept 8, 1944 lived in my home while we were living on the farm. I raised some good crops of corn and potatoes but it sure was not worth it, that was a bad move I made that time. Being on steady afternoon turn working six hours on the farm and eight hours in the mill six days a week. When 12 o'clock came at night I sure was ready for bed. Looking back now I can see how foolish I was. Driving 40 miles a day and fixing a locomotive in the mould yard. It was a wonder I didn't have a physical breakdown. I moved back to my home in the fall.

Another child born into our family Feb. 10, 1946. We named him Darrell Eugene. Now with eight children my responsibility was very great, that is to raise them and raise them right. Many thanks to the Weirton Steel Co. for the 26 years that I worked there. No shut down's or slow times for the last 30 years that I worked for that company. Because I had steady work there was never any worry about supporting my family. None ever went hungry and they always had plenty of clothes to wear. Jan 10, 1947 my second daughter Ethel married Robert Carr. In 1948 they built a house near mine in which they are still living. My third daughter Beatrice married John Britton March 31, 1947. She is now living in Fairborn, Ohio.

One of the greatest undertakings of the Weirton Steel employees was the 25 year club. So many old timers that had worked for the company since it first started to operate in 1909, and a great many more that had more time than that who worked at the Clarksberg and Steubenville plant. So they organized the old timers 25 year club on March 23, 1946 with about 50 pioneer workers in attendance. I had 27 years service at that time having started to work in the tin mill in the year 1919. Three hundred signed up to join and at the first meeting 200 more joined making 500 and by February 1947 the club had 1,000 members. Just imagine the great times that all the old timers had when the 25 Year Club held their annual picnic at the Police Lodge, usually on the second Saturday of July. They have two other meetings a year also, one in December and one in the spring. It's marvelous that they can meet one another at those meetings. Having worked together for a great number of years. Many of the ones who have retired probably may not

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see each other if it were not for the picnic or the other meetings. The June, July bulletin shows us there are now 5,400 members making it the largest organization of its kind in the steel industry. I attended the picnic this year which was the 25th anniversary of the 25 Year Club. There was six men that were charter members that was well honored that day. Having completed fifty years service for their half century of loyal service they received a gold watch each. Their names are Frank Mankowski, George P. Carroll, Paul E. Tingler, Arthur J. Thompson, William A. Deilman, and Walter E. Kazienko. A great many other charter members were there that day and many others that had retired along with thousands of members. A great time was had by all.

On the first day of January 1944 the Weirton Steel Co. began a great pension plan. Anyone over 30 years of age eligible to sign up, I did not sign the first time. The membership was open but when it opened up again in 1950 I signed that time and it sure has been a great investment. Now after six years of retirement I have received many times over the amount I invested. It is called the retirement annuity plan, it has been a great blessing to a great many of us old timers.

As the city of Weirton kept growing larger every year there was a great need for a centrally located recreation center where people could go to enjoy themselves in the evening's or on Saturdays. So a great collection was taken up and a million dollars collected to build the center, so in the spring of 1950 ground was broken for the new center which was located beside the Presbyterian church. Now for nearly twenty one years. A great many wonderful events took place there, basket ball, swimming classes, roller skating, a great many wedding receptions, 25 year club meetings two times a year and a great many other kind of meetings. So dear readers we owe a great deal of respect and thanks to all the ones who donated to the community center.

For a number of years the people of Weirton wanted their city to be incorporated so on April 1st a group of citizens who had formed a community service council for civic development started a great campaign to consolidate and incorporate the four communities in the greater Weirton area under one municipal government. In a special election, April 1, 1947 the incorporation was approved by a landslide vote. On May 6th the primary election was held, less than a month later on June 3rd the citizens of Weirton went to the polls for the third time in four months and picked a mayor and five councilmen to run their city. From then on things began to move and move fast. Thomas E. Millsop, president of the Weirton Steel Co, elected mayor; George C. Schwerha, first ward councilman; George Roday, second ward; Henry W. Neals, Third ward; Charles E. Carr, fourth ward; Steve Kirkala, Fifth ward; Five councilmen, and Daniel B. Sweeney city manager. The rest of the city government officials were Roy Pilette, Chief of police; William T. Fahcy, Police Court Judge; Nelson Ross, City Clerk; Carl Frankovitch, City Solicitor; Lucien A Fugassi, City Engineer; John A Ferguson, Fire Chief; Earnest D. Rothrock, City Treasurer; Dr. R. L. Foder, City Physician;

As the new city officials took office, July 1, 1947 many many things had to be changed. Many streets had to be paved, water lines to be installed, street department, sanitation department, police dept, fire dept, and a great many other departments. Many people to be hired to fill all of these jobs.

Dear reader where could they of found a better Mayor than Mr. Millsop. A man that could be a president over a large steel co. like he was, sure would be in a good position to be our Mayor for the first few years. The new city progressed greatly under the leadership of Mayor Millsop and all the other city officials.

Now after 24 years and a great many changes in the city government many improvements have taken place. Fire station on Marland Heights, Weirton Hgts., Wilson Ave, and beside the Community Center, which furnishes great protection for everyone within the city limits. A great amount of snow removal machinery, and many trucks and other kind of equipment. The city building built in 1936 and for a great number of years they used the old historic stone barn for a garage and to house the equipment. With a new garage on Freedom way they removed the

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old barn to make a parking lot. As much as we regret to see the old landmarks go, yet we know that their usefulness was over. Built around 1850 and removed 1963 or 1964, and the old Crawford Homestead removed 1966 or 1967.

With all the great improvements and many wonderful benefits for the people of Weirton and no doubt every other city in the United States was doing the same thing. Improvements going on all over the country. There had to be something to mar the beauty of all the great progress that every one was having. That was the war in Korea. Why did we have to become involved in such a senseless war? Have to kill people that never did us any harm. That war began about 1947 or 1948. A great many more casualties added to all the others that was killed needlessly. And now the war in South Vietnam. They called these two wars cold wars because they were not declared but the only thing cold about them was the (cold blooded merciless) instigators which would cause such terrible conflicts. I have a list of all the casualties of the last four wars: World War No. 1, World War No. 2, Korean War, and South Vietnam.
World War No 1: 320,518 - killed and wounded.
World War No 2: 1,076,245 - killed and wounded.
Korean War: 157,530 - killed and wounded.
South Vietnam: 55,000 killed and about 230,000 wounded, as I have no last report on the casualties these numbers could be different now. But the war still goes on our soldiers, and service men still dying over there, how much longer we do not know. The high officials say "it is to protect our interest", why do our boys have to die to protect someones interest? What is more interesting to us than to see our boys coming back home!

During this period of time in the late forties television was invented and in its primary stages. It took about three years to build them so they would function properly. I saw it for the first time in December of 1949 and after one more year I bought my first one for Christmas 1950.

What was the transportation dept. of the Weirton Steel doing at this time? As I stated before that they had purchased three diesel-electric locomotives. During the years 1945 to 1950 the Co. bought about six more large ones and three or four smaller ones. Was the firemen pleased to see the old steamers going into the open hearth stock house to be cut up for scrap? On the diesels we would take signals and work to keep them clean and relieve the engineer some times. No more worry to keep up steam so the engineer could move the cars.

As I bring this chapter to a close, I believe these five years were very exciting like the last chapter was also.

MY LIFE STORY AS I HAVE SEEN WEIRTON GROW, CHAPTER 10, 1950 TO 1960.

Dear readers as I bring this story of my life to an end, as so many of us knows the happenings and the events that has taken place in recent years, I will try to write just the important things that I have seen come to pass and some things that has taken place in my family and home. I will make each chapter ten years instead of five.

As I said in the other chapter, how ground was broken for the new community center in 1950, which meant so much to the city of Weirton. A place for all youths to go for recreation instead of going to beer joints or gambling dens. And it was built to keep the teenagers from meeting in groups or committing some kind of crime or doing some sort of vandalism or becoming dope addicts or rioting. If there is no recreation or sports, it is hard to tell what people will do, because it is like I have always heard "an idle mind is the work-shop of the devil!"

It was during this period of time of 1950 that the members of the Nazarene church decided to finish building the new church that was started on West St. For a great number of years they worshipped in the Stucco building by the creek on Walnut St. Rev. Warwick, a wonderful man of God, for the up building of the church both spiritual and financially. I do not know of any other pastor that visited as much as Rev. Warwick. He was one of the great many Pastors that I have known over a period of forty four years that could join Heaven and earth together with their prayers. I attended the Nazarene church at this time being one of the members there.

The Kings Creek Union Chapel built in 1941 which was a wonderful blessing for that part of the city. Along Kings Creek Road at the foot of Twelveth St. Because there was a great many homes built there known as Sun Valley and Kings View Estates. The Pastor that is there now William Lowry, a wonderful man of God; and a great worker to create great interest in the upbuilding of the church and it's congregation. They celebrated their thirtieth anniversary this year.

With these two churches that I mentioned and fourteen other denominations no wonder the new city prospered greatly. A great many people all living together, but every one had great respect for each other.

The population at this time between twenty and twenty seven thousand. Most all of the people of Weirton were spiritual minded with many of us more so than others. If there is any thing in this world that will bring good friendship it is ones faith in God. Remember the old record that we used to play on our record player? "You Go To Your Church, And I'll Go To Mine, But Let Us Walk Along Together". And another one that is very good for all of us, the one we used to sing in Sunday School was "Jesus Loves The Little Children", all the children of the world, red, or yellow, black or white, we are precious in his sight, Jesus loves the little children of the world. And that goes for all of us adults also, providing we are right in his sight.

Between 1948 and 1950 plans were made for a hospital which the city needed and needed badly. Ground was broke in 1951 for a four story, 134 bed capacity with 38 additional beds for emergency use. And where did they build it, on 22 acres of land donated by the National Steel Corporation, situated in one of the best places of the Ohio Valley, high and dry on the northwest corner of John Tarr farm, the addition known as Weircrest. The first farm that I spoke of in the list of farms that I tried to describe on page 16. Over looking the Ohio River and the town of Toronto and Brown's Island. A wonderful view of all that area, they couldn't of found a more beautiful place then that for a hospital. It was built at a cost of over \$3,000,000.00.

My fourth daughter Lois married Darrell Swiger June 28, 1952. That made four of my children married and four still at home. One year after that in June of 1953 my wife and I took a vacation to New York City. We made that our 30th wedding anniversary or honeymoon as we never went any where when we were married. That sure was a great trip, leaving our car in the garage at home and travelling by greyhound bus. Arriving there on Monday and staying at the Taft Hotel for four days. We took in a great many sight seeing trips, Statue of Liberty, and

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snow up to their hips. They sure were all in when the day ended. A working crew worked day and night trying to keep the switches open. Not very many cars were moved at that time, but we did keep the furnaces going. There were a great many laborers working shovelling snow from the tracks and other important places. Many people will not forget that winter. The great snow lasted about a week, the first two days nearly everything was at a stand still.

The First Christian Church on Main St., built in 1913 was razed in 1957 and a new one built in 1958. A great and beautiful church built on the same site.

The Wesleyan Methodist Church held their services first in the old store building where Van Horn had his grocery store between 1940 and 1945. Later they built a church on Gilson Ave. Since that time it has been remodeled. It also is a beautiful church.

The Memorial Baptist Church built in 1958 and dedicated in 1959 on 121 Ivy Street. A very beautiful building also, moved there from the church they built in the late thirties on North 13th Street. Now they are in a very good location near the shopping center and the new highway. After they moved there the Christian and Missionary Alliance Congregation bought the old church and are still worshipping there.

The Presbyterian Church which was first built in 1884 and rebuilt in 1924 had to be enlarged because of the growth of the city so they built a new separate addition facing the Cove Road in 1963. A very marvelous building. All of these and a great many other fine churches in Weirton. Anyone moving here from out of town can just about pick any church of their choice.

As I have known a great many pastors over the past 46 years of my christian experience a great many of those I met at the community hymn sing that they have on the fourth Sunday of every month. About 25 or 30 churches on the list. I remember in 1963 while I was a patient in the hospital, I was there 13 days, a great many different pastors visited me one of them was Rev. Mansberger who went to the hospital every day to visit nearly all the patients. He sure will be remembered for his faithfulness as a visiting pastor.

The community hymn sing that I spoke of is sure a good place to spend a Sunday afternoon. I have attended nearly every one since 1957. That is if I am not on a vacation. So many people in our community that has great talent. Many fine pianist and other fine musician's and very good singers take part in bringing to us some wonderful hymn's and Christlike entertainment which the people of God really enjoy. I for one cannot afford to miss any of them.

The hymn sing started in 1951 by Rev. John Busch, now residing in Portland, Ohio. First hymn sing was held at the Kings Creek Union Chapel. Sam Livingston was elected the first president in 1953. Virginia Conrad was the first secretary, John Garrison was the next elected president. Followed by Ray King, then Shirley Rody was president for four years then George Gardner for the last ten years. George was song leader before he became president. A better president could not be found then George. I believe with Ed Conrad vice president all of the officers that were elected the past years, was wonderful people of God, doing a marvelous job in keeping the hymn sing going. Their personality means a great deal in the line of duty as servants of God.

At 2:30 P.M. on Sunday afternoon on the fourth Sunday of every month in different churches each time. If the same church wins the most Sundays by their attendance during the year they receive a beautiful trophy. We meet a great many wonderful people by attending the hymn sing.

About 1958 to 1960 a great shopping plaza was built near St. Joseph Church on what was originally the Jane White farm. They could not of found a better place for it then right there between two highways and a large amount of land for a parking lot. Goodyear Service Station, Sears Roebuck, Mens Clothing Store, Grants 5 and 10 cent store, Western Auto Store, A & P Market, a restaurant, Thrift drug store, Bakery, Barber Shop, Pet Shop, Shoe Store, Jewelry Store, Radio Repair and other kind of stores and shops. Now after more then ten years many more

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shopping places, including a bank, post office, kroger store, and bowling lanes. It is a great shopping center in the center of Weirton, between the Ohio River and state line.

The Bank of Weirton that was first started in 1911 or 1912 along Ave. F and Main St. and later built on Ave. G. in 1921 or 1922 built a beautiful new bank on the corner of Delaware St. and Penn. Ave. about 1960 or 1961.

The Mary H. Weir public library completed by 1957 now has over 50,000 volumes what a great blessing it is to this community. Any one can go there and find any kind of a book that they want. Also a great many films can be rented there also. Located beside the community center.

Before Thanksgiving 1957 my wife and I were sitting on the couch in the living room about seven o'clock she was struck by a slight heart attack. I rushed her to the hospital and X-Ray showed that she had a hernia of the diaphragm. The doctor said she would have to be operated on with no one around here to operate in the chest cavity we had to take her to the Allegheny Hospital in Pittsburgh. She was operated on Feb. 12th 1958. A very serious operation. Thirteen years have passed almost, she is still suffering from it.

Our fifth daughter Naomi married Darrell Lynch March 1, 1958. Then another year passed as usual. Then my son Carl married Regina Collo Aug. 22, 1959.

Now as I bring this chapter to a close these ten years were very exciting also.

MY LIFE STORY AS I HAVE SEEN WEIRTON GROW, CHAPTER II, 1960 TO 1971.

Dear Readers the first article that I want to write about in this chapter is the new offices of the Weirton Steel Co. Built along Three Springs Drive, which means so much to all the office employees because of parking facilities which became a great problem at the old office building on Main St. during heavy traffic when trying to leave the parking lot.

The old office building built in 1920 or 1921 was built in a very good location at that time, not very many cars and the office force was small at that period of time. They picked a good location for their new offices. Close to the airport and very near to the new highway and the Weirton Shopping Plaza. The land that the offices are built on was originally the Ross Hindman and John Berkheimer farms. I recall the time that I went there to husk corn. A man by the name of Braun lived on the Ross Hindman farm the year was 1921. Mr. Braun raised a great amount of corn that year. Walter Virtue had the contract to husk the corn and hired a few men to help him. I helped him about two weeks. Walking over there early in the morning and husking 25 or 30 shocks and walking back home was a good days work.

As I think about that and so many other kinds of work that I have done in so many places, and to look at those same spots now, homes built nearly every where, but that is what I am writing about; as I have seen Weirton grow, from a beautiful country side to a great and fine city.

At the end of the other chapter I wrote about my fifth daughter and my oldest son were married. Now my youngest daughter Joyce Ann married Gary Manteau May 27, 1961. That was seven of my children married and one more at home.

The old high school building that was built on the corner of Virginia Ave. and Elm St in 1917 and the other Weir High building built in 1923 became over crowded for a great number of years as the city progressed. The county officials saw that something had to be done so in the year 1962 they purchased 56 acres at the end of Heights St. and built a new high school having it completed by 1963. Instead of constructing a building with a great many floors they built eight buildings with one floor each. Three school buildings, 1 gymnasium, 1 little theater, music classrooms and the school television studio, 1 large building for administrative offices, home economics, business education and art room, 1 building is for basic sciences and houses the planetarium and library, 1 building is the maintenance plant, boiler room and has the central kitchen for city schools. What a wonderful school that is for the students to attend. They should be so thankful for a school like that. So many opportunities that the eighth grade pupils did not have when the city first started. Of course there was not so many students then.

As the Weirton Steel Co. always had need of high school graduates to fill many places because so many employees are retiring. Not only should the students be thankful but every one should be very thankful for a school like that and the opportunities that is in store for the graduates.

The galvation Army built a new building in 1964 along the Cove Road besides the one built a few years before. That was a great blessing for that part of the city because there are not many churches there for the people to attend.

The year 1963 was a very sorrowful year for us. My wifes father Emory Tingler passed away Feb. 16, 1963. Having worked for the Weirton Steel Co. for a great number of years being one of the first rollers to start rolling tin plate, early in 1910. And then he was the first custodian at Weirton Heights school for 1925 to 1959, retired for four years took sick and passed away at 78 years of age.

What was the Weirton Steel doing at this period of time? From the time that the steel works started in 1919 or 1920, the open hearth system was the only way that steel could be made. So the chief engineers of the company worked out a plan that it could be made by a different and faster method. The open hearth method took eight or ten hours to perfect one heat of steel, that is 400 to 600 tons of steel from each furnace. The new plan was that it could be done in 45 minutes to one hour for the same amount. But to make that change there was a

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great amount of work to be done there had to be new buildings erected. But first the land had to be cleared because there was a great number of buildings on that land. No. 2 ware house, diesel locomotive shop, welding shop, cinder yard, car repair shop, and a number of smaller shops all of those had to be removed. I was locomotive engineer for a great number of years and many, many times I switched the tracks that led to all of those buildings. That is to set out loads and put in empty cars or set in loads and set out empties. And the over head bridge that was built in 1931 had to be changed. The ramp on the north end had to be raised in order that the iron ladles from the blast furnaces could pass under it to the new steel plant. All of these changes cost the company many thousands of dollars to put things in order to build the new plant. Beginning in 1964 and having the new plant ready for operation by 1967 took a tremendous amount of work. But oh! the difference in the making of steel. Eight times faster with the basic oxygen furnace than with the old open hearth method.

During that great change over was when I retired. The clock office was under the overhead bridge for a great number of years, but it had to be removed and a new clock office built near the main laboratory. That was done a few weeks before I retired. They were working on the bridge ramp and removing the buildings at the time I took my pension.

I was thinking about retiring in 1964 at 62 years of age, I had been counting the days for two years, but a new contract came up which gave the employees 13 weeks vacation with pay every five years which was a wonderful thing for all the people. Being I was in the senior group my number on the roster list was 22. Only 21 older than me in the entire co. I was among the first to take my vacation. I took nine weeks for a great trip into Canada, in the Timmins area. The first vacation that I didn't have to hurry back to go to work. I think it is marvelous that the employees can look ahead to the time when the five years are up and can plan ahead to take a real vacation, even to California and do not have to hurry back home so soon. After my vacation was over I went back to work in October, working 8 more months and retiring June 30, 1965 at 63 years of age.

Now I was going to take a real vacation, being in the mill since I was 17 years old and working in many departments. I wanted to get away from it all while I was still in good health. With no lost time, accidents, and very few days off because of sickness I had a very good record of being faithful to the Weirton Steel Co.

Those 46 years that I worked in the mill I could write a great book on the eventful things that took place or happened to me while working there. I am happy for one thing, I never went to work one time with alcohol on my breath. I praise God for that, never said a cross word to any foreman. My first foreman was James McKenzie and my last one was Charles Haynes, Lewis Carte his assistant, my first job was catcher helper in the hot mill, the last job engineer on the ore job placing iron ore cars on ore dumper. Eddie Dew my conductor the last four years that I worked.

Now that I was retired, I started to plan for my vacation. I had always wanted to go to the Black Hills of South Dakota and the Yellowstone Park, and to see the wheat being harvested in Canada. So with what money I received I paid up nearly all of my bills and left for my western vacation, having purchased a tent and camping equipment the year before.

Starting July the ninth, visiting my daughter in Chicago for one week and stopping off in Wisconsin another two weeks and then traveling on through Minnesota and South Dakota on to the Black Hills, camping out there near Deadwood for three days and then another camp ground near Hill City, South Dakota for three more days, viewing Mt. Rushmore, Rushmore Cave, Needles, Crazy Horse Museum and statue. Going from there to Spearfish and attending the passion play and from there to General Custer's battlefield and then stopping off at a motel at Wycla, Montana.

While I was staying there at the motel, I attended a tent revival meeting that

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a preacher from Texas was holding there for the Indians because that was the Crow Indian Reservation. After the people came in which was about nine o'clock the preacher began his sermon. I was on the front seat. After a short time I thought I would look around, lo and behold the seats were all filled. Every one was an Indian, men, women, and children. I had just come from Custer's battle-field a few hours before, I thought about him and how all of his soldiers were killed about 90 years before, but Oh! what a vast difference then they were wild Indians but now they wanted to hear about the blessed prince of peace. After the sermon was ended many went to the front to claim Christ as their savior and prince of peace.

The next morning I drove through Wyoming to Cody, a small town at the foot of Big Horn Mountain. Buffalo Bill's Museum is there. After seeing all that was there, I took off for Yellowstone Park. After setting up my tent there at a campground I went for a bucket of water and lo! and behold! if I didn't see my old friend Kenneth Timberlake there. After three days and seeing many great sights together, my wife and I took off for Canada.

After travelling through Montana and Alberta and the towns of Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Moose Jaw, on to Swift Current Saskatchewan camping there three days and then going on to Yorkton and after viewing the old farm machinery that was in an old airplane hanger there. About 40 or more large steam engines. Many of them in perfect shape and about that many grain separators and a great many other farming implements that the farmers used in days gone by.

That trip through Canada was something I really enjoyed. I always wanted to see the wheat being harvested in Canada. Now I was seeing something I would never forget. You would have to see it to believe it. Wheat being harvested on both sides of the highway for over 600 miles and that is only along one highway. No matter where you would drive you could still see wheat fields, great combines harvesting wheat every where you look no wonder they call it the bread basket of the world. I stopped for gas at one service station and there was a great new combine there. I took a picture of it, it had a twelve foot cutting bar on it. I suppose that great machine could harvest fifty or more acres a day. What a difference now then when my brother Ted threshed grain when I was a boy. Then we had to use 10 or 12 men to operate one threshing machine. Now only one man on the combine and one man driving a truck to take the grain to the great grain elevators.

I stopped at Brandon, Manitoba to attend church over Sunday, and the preacher there use to be a great wheat farmer. I received a great amount of information from him. I asked him why they didn't raise wheat like they did in the past, in the olden days they would plow up a whole section, 640 acres. But he told me that they never raise wheat that way any more because of soil erosion and low production of continual use of the soil.

Possibly fifty or more acres in each field now and another fifty or more lying idle to be planted the next year, changing the fields year by year. Which was a more profitable way of raising wheat, producing much more wheat per acre that way.

Every year about the second or third Friday and Saturday of September we have refreshed our memory at the Fullerton farm, until this year, now they have the tri-state historical steam engine shows at the Hookstown, Pa. fair grounds. Fifteen steam engines, 13 gas tractors, and 12 other miscellaneous kind of equipment, including threshing machines, bailers, saw mill, feed grinder, shingle mill.

All of us old timers really enjoy those two days every year, watching them thresh grain and bailing straw, grinding feed, sawing lumber and various other kind of work. It brings back great thoughtful memories of the good old days.

After I came back from Canada and doing some work around my home I started to plan my Florida vacation. Leaving Feb. 1, 1966 I really enjoyed my self there. Seeing those beautiful sights for the first time was marvelous. Returning home about the first of April. A very wonderful trip.

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Sorrow struck our family again at this time, my brother James passed away at 81 years of age, May 1966. That made four of my brothers and Dad and Mother gone, three brothers and one sister left.

We never know when our time here on earth will end. From the time that we are born we are being pursued by the old grim reaper of death. We know not how, when, or where, the time may be when he will cut us down.

My youngest son Darrell Eugene married Carloyn Lee McCoy June 18, 1966. That made all of my children married at this time.

Well dear readers, that I believe is just about all the most eventful things that has happened in my life time, no doubt a great many smaller incidental happenings has taken place in my life some that I will have to keep to myself. I know that when I finish this book that there will be something that I have left out. Now that all of my eight children have grown to adult hood and married as I am writing this the first part of December 1971. What a great family group we have, eight children, twenty six grand children and thirteen great grand children, 47 descendents, a wonderful family.

People may think that I am very boastful or that I am very proud of my great family group. I sure do not have any complaints to make that I know of because the Lord has been so good to us in giving us the necessary things of life. My wife and I both are so well pleased with the way things turned out. So many children born without any deformities, what a great blessing that is to all of us to be able to put our faith and trust in a saviour that will see us through all the hardships of life. Dear readers won't you agree with me that I have a great deal to praise God for.

Looking back to page 43, when I first met Helen Tingle, we never thought about what the future held for us. I suppose that is the same as any couple during their courtship days. Would it do for any one of us to be able to see what the future held for us? If people could see that they were going to meet with some great disaster or some great calamity would befall them or meet some terrible death with a dreaded disease at an early age, no doubt many would commit suicide in order to keep from suffering. But we should be very thankful that we cannot see the future, but to take life as it comes day by day.

Dear readers I have tried to take a nostalgic look into the past, or as the Webster Dictionary explains it nostalgic relates to nostalgia, the latter means home sick for the old home or old country, and the former means things pertaining to the latter, all based on the "good old days".

A great many of us like to think about the gay nighties, or the roaring twenties. There is a magazine out now called "The Good Old Days". I enjoy it a great deal. Many wonderful stories of by gone days. Many good poems and many pictures of people and places of the past. It is for sale at nearly all news stands.

The history of Hancock Co. which was written during 1963 by Jack Welch of New Cumberland during the centennial of West Va. state hood gives us a wonderful amount of history of the pioneer's, some of which I wrote down in the first part of this book. But, there is still a great amount of out standing events and happenings that took place during the pioneer era that Jack explains in a marvelous way.

Memory is a very wonderful gift to all mankind. Without it we would be at a terrible loss. That is if we would hide our money somewhere and forget where we hid it, or if we forgot our wedding anniversary or even our own birthday. How terrible it would be if we forgot our own name, or when they called us to dinner, that would be a terrible calamity for me if I forgot when meal time was.

Oh how my memory gallops back over the years to my childhood days when my mother called me to come to dinner or supper, and to eat that good home cured ham and sausage that our father prepared or home fries, green beans, hams and cabbage and that good home made bread to go along with everything and even sweet potatoes which I relished greatly. Good wholesome food that only a farmer's wife can prepare. We did not know a thing then about calories or vitamins or having iron in our blood, or eating bread to build our bodies twelve ways. Some how our

MY LIFE STORY AS I HAVE SEEN WELBTON GROW, CHAPTER II, 1960 TO 1971.

bodies developed without that twelve way bread. How wonderful it is that we do not need to pay any attention to what we see or hear, but to enjoy the food of our choice, to build our body the right way. I suppose I do not need to worry about how to build my body, it should be built by this time at 69 years of age. I can hardly believe that I am that old but many many times I can hear the sound of insects like katydids or crickets in these old ringing ears of mine even in zero weather when I know that there is none at that time of year. So I suppose that is a sign of old age, and I had better take heed and pay more attention to my age as much as I regret to admit it.

That good food that I was speaking of or the kind of food that we all like is for our physical bodies; let us change the menu and speak about food for our spiritual body. Do we give it the right food? Such as careful study of the word of God, and attending the church of our choice and feasting on the heavenly manna, that our pastor serves to us Sunday morning and evening services and Sunday school also the prayer meeting which builds up our faith and knowledge in the Lord Jesus Christ. For there is no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we might be saved. The third chapter of the Gospel of John: 16th verse "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life". 17th verse "For God sent not his son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved".

Dear reader those two verses that I quoted along with many thousands of other verses has been the heavenly manna to my soul the past 47 years.

As I stated on page 49, how I joined up with the Free Methodist Church that we built on Church St., in 1928, which was the church of my choice. I believe it is the fellowship that we have one with another that makes us more determined to follow after righteousness and enjoy our salvation. No doubt everyone enjoys their salvation for the same reason by attending the church of their choice.

Maybe we can liken it to a restaurant if the food is good we keep going back, if the spiritual food is good at the church of our choice we can hardly wait to get back for more. That is the way it was with my wife and I, we very seldom missed any service when we were at home. All of the pastors that was appointed to that church were great men of God. I have listened to hundreds of good heaven inspired messages from these great workers of the Lord.

Rev. Darroll Garney who is our pastor now is a very wonderful man of God. A great worker among the young people for the upbuilding of their spirituality, and preaches the glorious gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Our youth director Kenneth Robinson a great worker for the Lord. All of the workers in the church are great inspired people of God. Raymond Tarr; our Sunday School Superintendent, Earnest Hissem Teacher of the Bible class, Sam Freshour teacher of No. 8, and Lois Finch teacher of class No. 7, all of these are very good teachers. They really know the Bible. That is what it takes to be able to teach the word properly. With workers like that in the church it gives us greater desire to want to attend the services.

Having purchased the Ward Ice property on the corner of School and 12th Street, all of us are working to increase the building fund which is very low at this time. Ground will be broken in the very near future for a new church which is greatly needed at this time.

For a great many years the Sunday School rooms were over crowded, and three classes in the main auditorium which creates a great amount of confusion. But that will all be changed when we move into our new church, which probably will be built in about a year. As the plans are now being studied by some contractor's.

Well dear readers I believe that is about all that I have to write about, and now that I bring this chapter and the entire book to an end, I will say with Apostle Paul of old the words that he spake before he died at Nero's chopping

MY LIFE STORY AS I HAVE SEEN MERTON BROWN, CHAPTER II, 1960 to 1971.

block; these were his last words, "I have fought a good fight, I have kept the faith, I have almost finished my course; henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing".

I will close with this one verse of that wonderful old hymn (In The Sweet By and By) "There's a land that is fairer than day, and by faith we can see it a-far; for the Father waits over the way, to prepare us a dwelling place there.

Chorus - In the sweet by and by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore;

In the sweet by and by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore.

The End.

This Poem that I am writing about my Life on the Farm, and about the old Mount Horeb Schoolhouse, that was built on my Father's Farm.

Down memory Lane, Down memory Lane,
Oh how I love to walk down memory lane.
Thinking of the things of yesteryear,
The things that I hold to my heart so dear.

Although this is just a figure of speech,
To try to gain what we may never reach.
But what we saw in days gone by
We will remember them until the day we die.

Many times while I lay awake at night,
In my past memory it is a wonderful sight.
How my brothers and I would work in the field,
To prepare the soil so it would give a good yield.

We would go to the stable in the early morn,
And give the horses their oats and corn.
With curry and brush we would smooth down their hair,
Then put on their harness with special care.

Much plowing to do in April and May,
(To plant oats and corn) which was a good way,
To make ready the soil for the planting of grain,
And Mother Nature to do the rest with sunshine and rain.

The old mother pig with its litter of ten,
The little baby chicks and the old mother hen,
Were very familiar scenes there on the old farm,
around the henhouse or around the barn.

In the stable and barn many things there took place,
I never never would try from my mind to erase.
The horses in the stalls that we know so well,
Their names were King, and Prince, Dick and Nell.

With the mowing and raking of hay in July,
We would put in the mow in the barn to keep dry.
So the horses could have feed when the winter wind blows,
When the pasture was gone, and the ground white with snow.

In the fall when the harvest was all brought in,
And the threshing was done and the grain in the Bin.
With the corn in the shock and the fall seeding all done,
My brothers and I would go hunting with our guns.

In the good old days the hunting was fine,
You could find rabbits and squirrels most any time,
My brothers at night would hunt for the coon,
with old Don the dog by the light of the moon.

All the life on the farm, is not on the outside,
But inside the home, Love and Joy abides.
We really enjoyed the good meals our Dear Mother prepared,
When she worked as a slave, with our great joys she shared.

A better girl was never born than our dear old Mother,
How glad we ought to be that Dad married no other.

With the nine children she raised, a wonderful job well done,
Through the winter's cold, and heat of the summer's sun.

Every one in the world, should think the same as I,
What our dear Mothers went through, should bring tears to every eye.

A Doctor, Nurse, Cook, and House-maid was she,
From morning till night she was busy as a bee.

Many evenings around the fire, while it was burning so bright,
Every time I think of it, my it was a wonderful sight.

Some talking about the things that happened that day,
But every one of us seemed very happy and gay.

Dear old Dad sitting in his favorite chair,
Reading the farm paper to see what was there.
The Rural-New-Yorker, the paper he liked best,
It told him more about farming than any of the rest.

From the farm to the highway called the Truax Lane,
Many things there we saw in our memory remains.
On both sides of the road was a fence made of rails,
We remember so well as we went for the mail.

An old berry shed, was across from the lane,
Where my cousin Don kept his berries away from the rain.
Two large Elm trees, with their branches so wide,
Stood in Millers pasture by the fence and roadside.

What a story could of been told if they could of only talked,
And told us about the children, that to school there had walked.
Over sixty years many children passed by
Even if the weather was wet, snowy, or dry.

To the old red brick school which stood on the hill,
Which had so many memories many books they would fill.
I will try to make a list of the children that went,
to the old Mt. Hersh School which their parents had sent.

About the first ones that went while the building was new,
Was (Woolly) Jim's Campbell's children and Robert Campbell's too.
And David Campbell's grand-children to school there did go
Who owned the farm where the large Elm trees grow.

Jim Campbell's children were Thomas, Bartley, John, and Archie,
Nancy, Maude, Sarah, Harriet, Eliza, and Hattie.

Ten children to bless the home, of this dear old Pioneer,
Whose Grand-Father was James Sr. the man who settled here.

Robert; James Jr's brother had a very large family that's true,
John, Jennie, Cyrus, Elizabeth, and William too.

Robert A., Julia, Margaret, Alice, and Susan,
James, Amanda, Earnest, George and Hiram.

John P. ; Robert's oldest son, owned the farm the school was on,
In that old log cabin home, to them seven children were born.

Colin, Lawrence, Olio, Earnest, Nancy, Margaret, and Amanda that's true,
Living there nineteen years the elder ones attended school there too.

Many descendants of Campbell's to school there did go,
But the descendants of Robert, was the best we did know.
The children and grand-children and great-grand-children too,
Many wonderful people of that dear Pioneer Robert to know.

The two sons of Robert, we know better than the others,
Were George and Hiram, John's two youngest brothers.

The two Hammond sisters, Alice and Katherine,
Alice became George's wife, and Katherine was Hiram's.

Those two wonderful couples whose children were eleven,
Four born to Alice and George, while Katherine and Hiram had seven.
Beginning with the youngest of the children of Hiram,
Frank, George, Alice, Bernice, Nettie, Guy and Myron.

George's children were, Charles, Walter, Elmer, and Jessie we know,
No doubt to school they had the farthest to go.

To get to school before the clock would strike nine,
They would have to leave at an earlier time.

The children of Charles were Leslie, George, Ruth, Alice, Harold and
Wayne,

And Walter's children were Fred, Walter (Bus), Virginia, and Pauline.

Robert Elmer's children were Robert, Kenneth C. and Mary.
And their sister Jossie Moore's children were Walter and Alice.

Dave Campbell's grand-children the number being fourteen,
Those born to Elizabeth Owings were Charles, Leonard, Bertha, Grace,
James, and Catherine.

Those born to Clara Shipley were (an adopted son) Annie, and James
is true.

While those born to Samantha Miller were Edger, Ina, Mary, Blanch and
Hugh,

While many of those went to Mt. Herob when I attended there,
Many others went to the Cove School and some went else where.

The elder ones went with my cousins and brothers,
But when the new school was built we all moved there with the others.

Bob, Threasa, and Tom, children of Hall Osbourne,
Who had to walk up hill from Kings Creek to learn.

William Ferrell, who lived at the end of Williamson Lane,
Their two daughters, Bessie and Eva was their children's names.

Dear old uncle Will, his children an even dozen,
Being my Dad's brother, that made us all cousins.

Lucy, Ann, Frank, and Ulysses, Clarence and Jess,
Thomas, Jennie, Fred, Daisy, Nellie and Maud was the rest.

The ones that means more to me than the others,
Were Dad's own children my sister and brothers.

George, Ted, James and Alvin, were the four oldest sons,
Lillian, Bert, Joss, and Walter, with myself the youngest one.

The children of Frank, and Martin Hindman, the number was seven,
Martin's children's names were Laura, Margaret, Mabel and Morris.

And Frank's children's names were Carrie, George, and Erwin,
With a long-distance to school, they had to leave early to be there
on time.

George Owing's children were, Thurman, Sam, Mary, and John,
Many memories of Mt. Horeb school, they have where they went to learn.
Much of their schooling along with all the others,
John and I attended together and the older ones with my brothers.

George: a brother of my Father, which was older than him,
In 1871 married Eliza Campbell, a daughter of (Wooly) Jim.
Four children were born to that dear couple is true,
Jane, James McDonald (Don), Sarah, and Jessie too.

Jane never was married but her eighty ninth year she lived to see,
(Don) and Josie Stringer were married in 1893 and 91 years he lived
to be.

Their two children Emma and George, along with all the others,
Went to the Mt. Horeb School just like their fathers and mothers.

Clarence and Albert, Mr. Keeders two sons,
And Winnie and Frena the children of John Williamson
Clarence Stetson and his two sisters Eva and Florence we did know,
Jess Hill's children Viola, Carl, Paul, and Mae attended Mt. Horeb too.

Walter Virtue's children Lawrence, Charley, and Margaret,
While the children of Mr. Raabe were Theodore, William, and Albert.
The children of Fred Pulver were Theodore, Grace, Elma, and Mary,
The son of James Stephenson, his name was Harry.

In 1915 the Purdy farm was bought by James Revoira Sr. is true,
Four of his children went to the old Mt. Horeb building too.

Charles, James Jr., Mary, and Rose, two sisters and two brothers,
They went to school there that year along with all the others.

That is the list of children, who to that old school did go,
A few more may of went to school there I am not so sure I know.

That old building on the hill was built mighty strong,
It weathered many a hard storm, to remain there so long.

(Nearly every child that went there sang this song)

School Days School Days, Dear old Golden Rule Days,
Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic, taught by the rule of the Hickory
Stick.

You were my Queen in Calico, I was your bashful barefoot beau,
You wrote on my slate I love you Joe, when we were a couple of kids.

Let us think about that old building that stood there on the hill,
The things that took place there remains in our memory still.

About all the children who went there with learning to do
Reading, Writing, Arithmetic and other studies too.

Remember the songs that we sang at that time,
When the school first started every day at nine.

And a small prayer the teacher said, to start the day off right,
If that prayer was said today, every ones life would be more bright.

The songs were: the Star Spangled Banner, and The Red, White, and
Blue,

Darling Nellie Gray, and Stephen Foster's songs too.

Annie Laurie, and Bring Back my Bonnie to Me,
My Country 'Tis of Thee, Sweet Land of Liberty.

The old oaken bucket that hung in the well,
And a hymn about the Little Brown Church in the vale.
The west Virginia Hills, How Majestic and how Grand,
And another one was Maryland my Maryland.

Remember old timers how the teacher would write,
On the old black board, the problems for us to get right.
Remember also the old coal stove, with its pipe to the ceiling,
How good that heat felt when the weather was freezing.

With eight Grades in one room, each other was better known that way,
As the older ones recited their lessons, the younger ^{heard} what the
older had to say.

I remember the old coal shed and the two other (important) buildings
too,

And how we held up our hand to be excused when we had (important)
business to do.

At recess and noon time as we went out to play,
Marbles was the great game and leap frog we played day by day.
We rode our sleds if there was snow on the ground,
And would fly our kites when the month of March came around.

Three generations of children to school there did go,
For about sixty years which was the horse and buggy days too.
I went for seven years to that old red brick school on the hill,
Now after sixty two years, the memories there remain with me still.

Five teachers taught me when to that old school I did go,
Their names were Edythe Ramsey, Tuokie Gilchrest, Alice McGree, Sadie
Levy and Minnie Wallace too.

And now that my poem is just about through,
The author of this poem is gad-a-bout rambling Lou.

Dear readers you may wonder why I wrote about the Mt. Horeb School
House, children attending there for sixty or more years. I have all
the deeds from nearly all the previous owners of the farm, A deed made
in 1850, when Robert Campbell bought the farm from Mr. Morhead,
there is no mention of the schoolhouse lot, but when John P. Campbell
bought the farm from his Father, in 1858, that Deed has the school lot
listed in the farm description, so let us agree on 1855 to 1867 when
the school was built.

During 1916 the school board built a new school, along Penn. Avenue,
and N. 20 th st. being in the sixth grade at that time, we moved all our
books and equipment out there when the building was completed some
time in October, Some of us older ones making two or more trips to
carry the Library books and Charts and other kind of equipment.

About a year after we moved to the new school, the school board sold
the old building to my Father, My oldest brother made a four room ho-
use out of it and rented it to Mr. Daugherty for about five years,
then sold it to Mr. Mirkovich with thirty acres of land.

Some time during 1940, Phillip Dimatteis bought it and lived there
a great number of years and sold it to a home developer about 1965.

It was demolished a while after that and bulldozers moved it over
the hill and covered it over, That was the end of the building as far
as our vision is concerned but in the memory of all us old timers, we
will never forget the old Mt. Horeb Schoolhouse. *** the end.

POEM ABOUT THE GREAT FLOOD AT LOGAN COUNTY WEST VIRGINIA FEB. 26, 1972.

FROM THE MOUNTAINS OF VIRGINIA TO THE DEAR OHIO SHORE,
FROM THE NORTH TO THE SOUTHERN BORDER, LIES A STATE WE ALL ADORE.
DEAR OLD WEST VIRGINIA, A NAME WE KNOW SO WELL
AND OF ALL ITS MAJESTIC GRANDEUR, NO WORDS CAN EVER TELL

MANY VALLEYS, RIVERS, WOODLANDS, HILLS, AND MOUNTAINS, ALL ARE THERE
SUCH WONDERFUL BEAUTIFUL SCENERY, THERE IS NONE THAT CAN COMPARE.
THIS IS A VERY SMALL DESCRIPTION, THAT I HAVE TRIED TO MAKE
OF THE MANY THINGS WE HAVE WITHIN THE BORDER OF OUR STATE.

COULD TRAGEDIES OCCUR AND BRING GREAT GRIEF TO OUR DEAR FRIENDS,
BY SOME UNSEEN DANGER THAT UPON MANY OF US DESCENDS.
YES! OH YES! DISASTER HAS COME OUR WAY THREE TIMES IN FIVE YEARS,
WITH GREAT DEATH AND DESTRUCTION, THAT BROUGHT GREAT SORROW AND TEARS.

IN THE YEAR 1967, THE FIFTEEN TH OF DECEMBER,
A TERRIBLE TRAGEDY TOOK PLACE, WE WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER,
THE GREAT BRIDGE DISASTER, AT POINT PLEASANT THAT DAY,
HAPPENED SO QUICKLY PEOPLE HARDLY HAD TIME TO PRAY.

BUT A GREATER TRAGEDY THEN THAT IN ONLY ELEVEN MONTHS TIME
TOOK PLACE NEAR FARMINGTON, AT NO. NINE COAL MINE.
SEVENTY EIGHT MEN DIED BY AN EXPLOSION THAT FATAL MORNING,
AND ALL OF THOSE MEN MET A TERRIBLE DEATH, WITHOUT ANY WARNING.

BUT THE GREATEST TRAGEDY OF ALL TO BRING GRIEF TO EVERYONE,
WAS THE GREAT DISASTEROUS FLOOD, IN THE COUNTY OF LOGAN.
ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTEEN KILLED, AND MANY MORE MISSING THEY SAY
WHY DID THEY MEET SUCH A TERRIBLE DEATH, IN SUCH A TRAGIC WAY.

DOWN IN THE VALLEY OF BUFFALO, IT'S LENGTH ABOUT 18 MILES OR SO,
AT IT'S UPPER END WAS A VERY LARGE LAKE, THE DAM ALMOST READY TO BREAK.
WITH MANY DAYS OF RAIN, AND THE MELTING OF MUCH SNOW,
THE LAKE BEING FULL WAS READY TO OVERFLOW.

THE MINE OFFICIALS SAID THAT THE DAM COULD BREAK
FROM THE PRESSURE OF THE EXTRA WATER IN THE LAKE.
THE LAST WEEK OF FEB. WITH THIS THOUGHT IN MIND
VERY LITTLE COULD BE DONE, WITH CONDITION'S OF THAT KIND.

TO HOPE AND TO PRAY, WAS ALL ANY ONE COULD DO
THAT THE DAM MIGHT HOLD, AND NOT BREAK THROUGH.
BELOW THAT LAKE WAS A VALLEY SO PEACEFUL,
WITH HUNDREDS OF HOMES, AND THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE.

WHEN THEY ALL WENT TO BED THAT FRIDAY NIGHT,
MOST OF THEM COULD SEE VERY LITTLE DANGER IN SIGHT.
THAT EVENING WHEN THE PARENTS, PUT THEIR DEAR CHILDREN TO BED
NEVER DREAMING THAT IN THE MORNING A GREAT MANY WOULD BE DEAD.

BUT THE DAM GREW WEAKER AS THE NIGHT WORE ON
AND THE PRESSURE BECAME GREATER TOWARD THE EARLY DAWN.
BUT THE DAM IT HELD UNTIL THE CLOCK STRUCK EIGHT
THEN IT LET GO WITH A SWIFT AND TERRIBLE BREAK

POEM ABOUT THE GREAT FLOOD AT LOGAN COUNTY WEST VIRGINIA FEB.26,1972.

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POEM ABOUT THE GREAT FLOOD AT LOGAN COUNTY WEST VIRGINIA FEB. 26, 1972.

EIGHTEEN ACRES OF WATER, RELEASED FROM THAT GREAT LAKE,
TO PLUNGE DOWN THAT PEACEFUL VALLEY, DESTROYING EVERY THING IN ITS WAKE.
THE SMALL VILLAGE OF LORADO, WAS THE FIRST TO BE WASHED AWAY
AS THAT GREAT WALL OF WATER WENT ROARING ON ITS WAY.

A GREAT MANY WERE ASLEEP THAT SATURDAY MORNING,
WITH NO SCHOOL OR WORK, MANY MET A TERRIBLE DEATH WITHOUT ANY WARNING.
WITH DEATH RIGHT UPON THEM THEY COULD NOT GET AWAY
BUT HAD TO SUFFER AND DIE, A MOST HORRIFYING WAY.

WITH SO MUCH DEATH AND DESTRUCTION, IN ONLY TWO HOURS TIME
MANY PEOPLE BURIED ALIVE, WITH THE MUD AND THE SLIME.
LINE CORKS IN A WHIRLPOOL, THOSE BUILDINGS SPUN AROUND
AS MANY OF THE PEOPLE FLED THEIR HOMES FOR HIGHER GROUND.

MANY A PARENT WHOSE OWN LIVES WERE BARELY SAVED,
SAW MANY OF THEIR LOVED ONES GOING TO A WATERY GRAVE.
AND A GREAT MANY WHO SPENT MOST OF THEIR LIVES IN A MINE,
SAW THEIR HOMES AND VALUABLE POSSESSIONS LOST IN ONLY MOMENTS OF TIME.

IN DISASTERS OF THIS KIND SO MANY HAS TO DIE,
ALL OF THEM WANTED TO LIVE THE SAME AS YOU AND I,
WE DO NOT KNOW THE REASON WHY THESE GREAT DISASTERS COME
BUT WE WILL ALL HAVE TO SAY THE WILL OF GOD BE DONE.

THE WORLD WILL SURELY HELP THEM, HELP PAY THE AWFUL COST,
BUT ALL THE HELP AND RELIEF THEY RECEIVE, CAN NEVER REPAY THE LOVED
ONES THEY LOST.

SO LET US ALL BE READY, FOR WE NEVER KNOW WHEN WE DIE,
BUT ABIDE UNDER THE SHADOW OF THE ALMIGHTY, AND DWELL IN THE SECRET
PLACE OF THE MOST HIGH.

ON THE EVIL AND ON THE GOOD, GOD HAS HIS SUN TO SHINE ON US ALL,
ON THE JUST AND UNJUST HE CAUSES THE HEAVENLY RAIN TO FALL,
THAT WE MAY BE THE CHILDREN OF OUR FATHER WHICH ART IN HEAVEN
THESE GREAT WORDS WROTE FOR US, IN THE GREAT BOOK HE HAS GIVEN.***

BY LOUIS C. TRUAX.