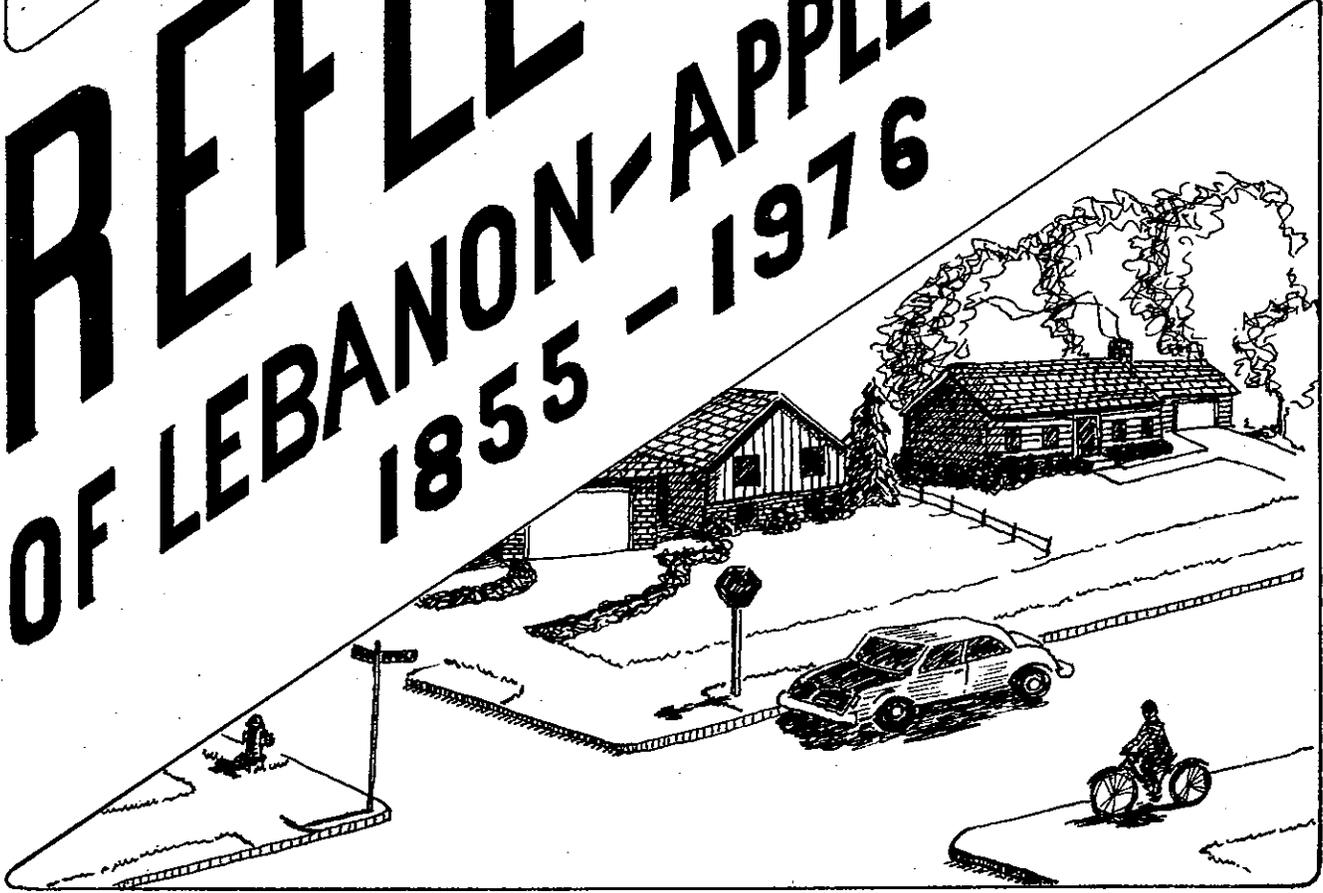


REFLECTIONS OF LEBANON-APPLE VALLEY 1855 - 1976



Reflections of Lebanon/Apple Valley

1855 - 1976

This book, started during America's 200th birthday as a Bicentennial project, is dedicated to the residents of Lebanon/Apple Valley, past, present and future. It was funded in part by a \$1,000 grant from the Minnesota Bicentennial Commission.

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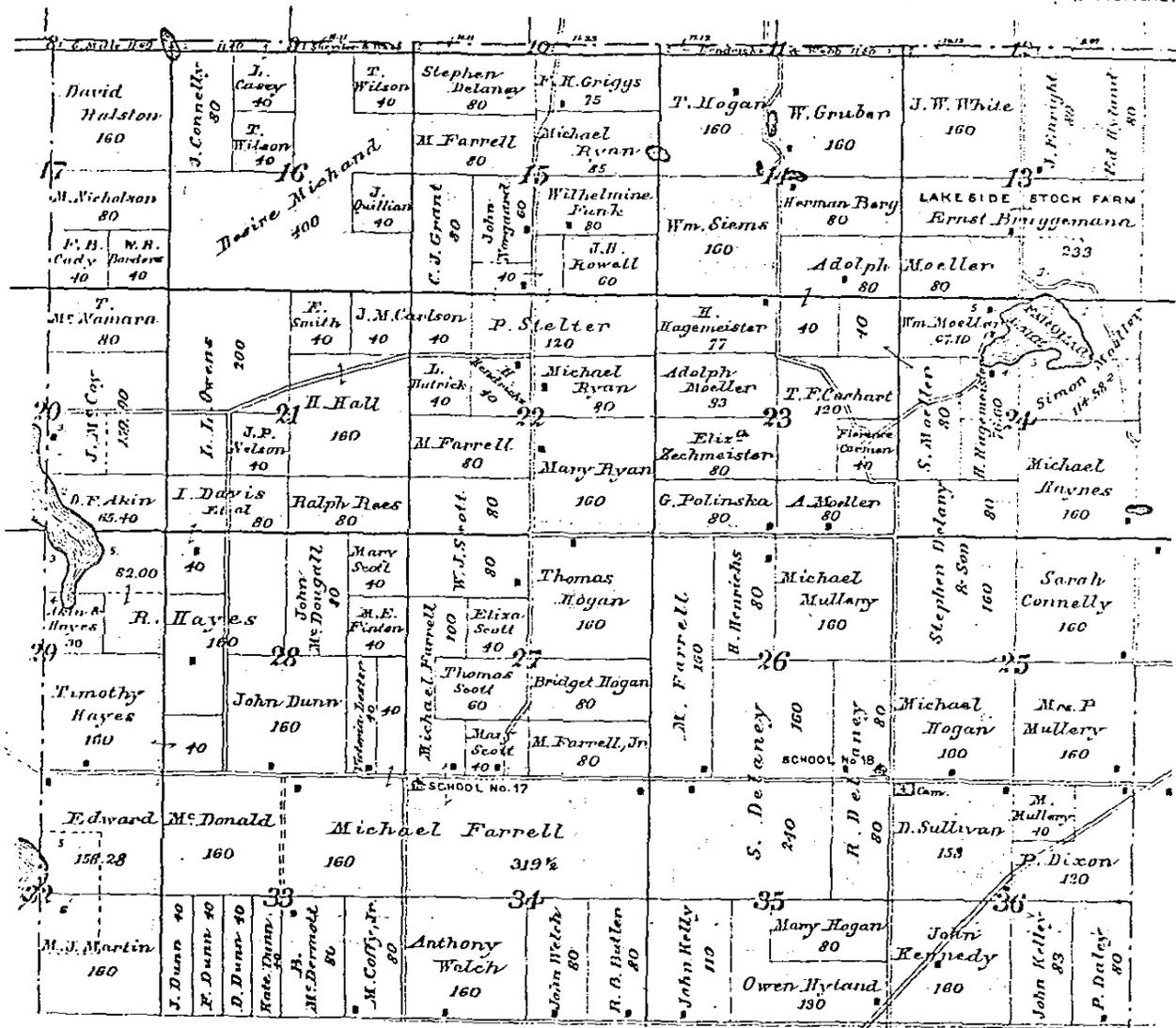
LEBANON 1896



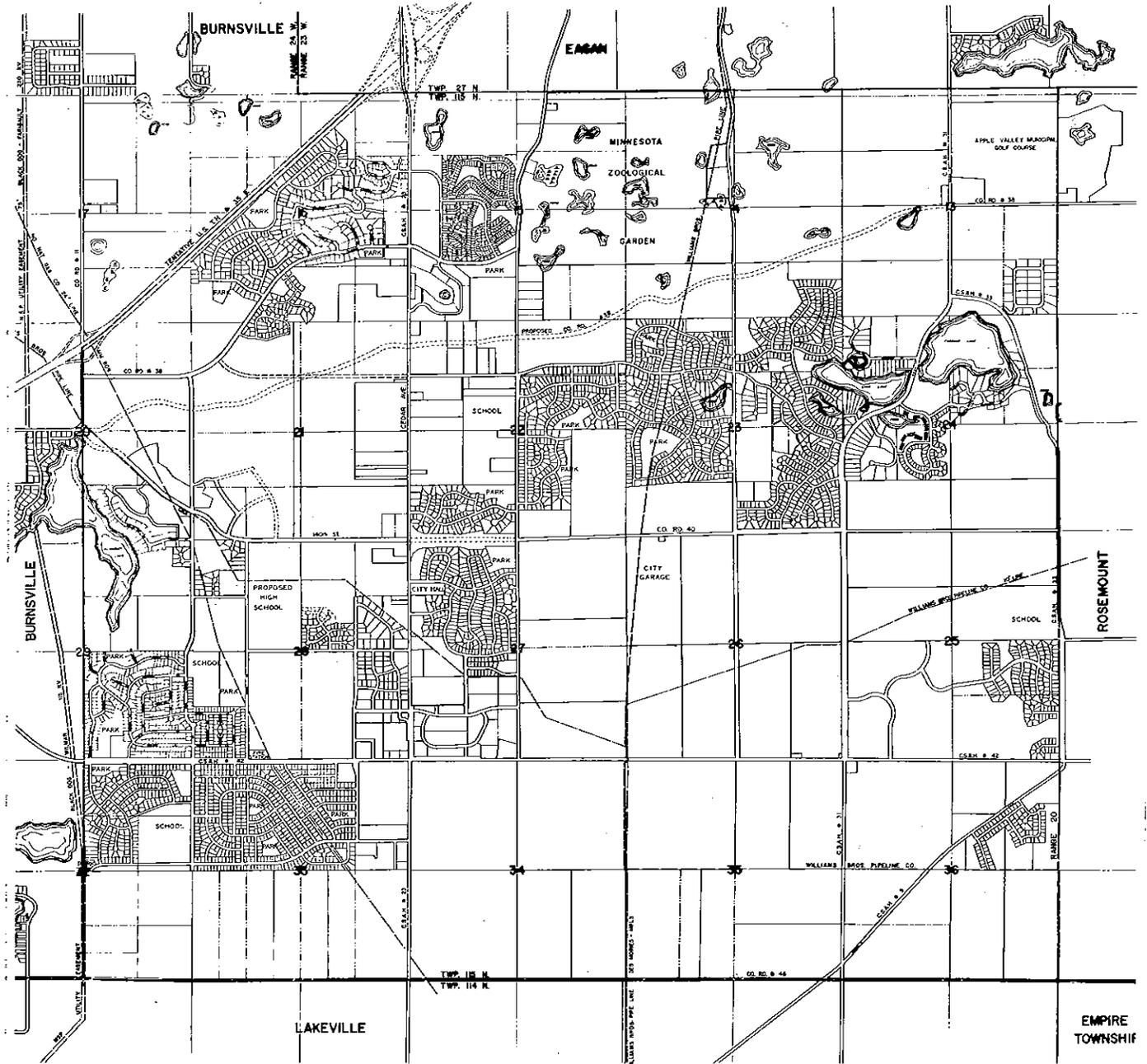
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APPLE VALLEY 1976



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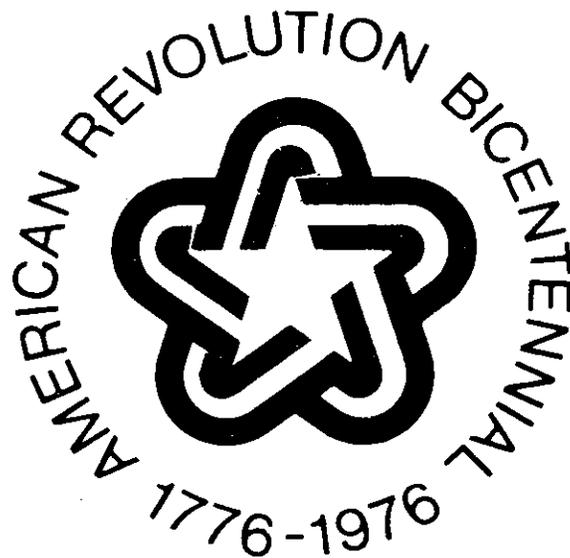
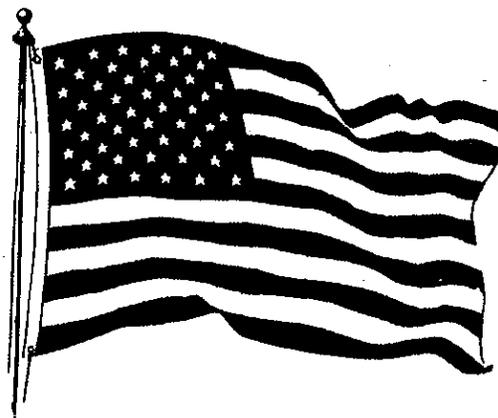


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LEBANON: The first Century

The community known as "Apple Valley" is just a baby as towns go. It officially became the Village of Apple Valley, Jan. 1, 1969, and most of Apple Valley as it is seen today, did not exist before the 1960s.

But the city is not really as young as it seems. Its youthfulness, in fact, rests only in its new look and new name. Apple Valley has a century-long heritage as the farming community of Lebanon Township.

The first settlers reportedly came to Lebanon from the east coast in 1855. Among the earliest were Henry J. and Charles Verrill, who, according to an early history of the county written in 1881, came from Lebanon, N.H.

The two Verrills and their wives arrived with a party of New Englanders in 1855. Each took a claim of 160 acres. Henry Verrill settled near the northwest quadrant of what is now Pilot Knob Road and County Road 42. He built a log shanty 12 feet by 14 feet and lived there until 1857, where he built the first frame house in Lebanon.

Charles Verrill made his claim in the timber west of what is now Johnny Cake Ridge Road around the present 132nd Street. He also built a log house and later a concrete house, where he lived until his death.

Other earlier settlers included James Ryan, who came to Eagan in 1853 or '54 and moved on to Lebanon in 1855. R. Farquhar came to Lebanon in the fall of 1855 and took a claim just north of Charles Verrill. When he went to St. Paul to find work for the winter, a group of 10 or 12 persons came and tried to "jump" Farquhar's claim, but Ryan and others drove them off.

John Farquhar arrived in 1856 and made his claim on the northwest shore of what is now Farquar Lake (the City of Apple Valley dropped the "h" in recent years).

Other new arrivals in 1856 were B. Verrill and George Verrill, who later returned to Massachusetts, and Thomas Scott, who came from northern Ireland and made a claim near what is now County Road 42 and Galaxie Avenue. His grandson, Frank Scott, owned the homesite until his death in late 1977.

As more and more people moved into the community, the time came for Dakota County to organize it as a town. However, for some reason that remains a mystery, Lebanon was very briefly part of a slightly larger town called Union.

According to an early history of Dakota County, the county board of commissioners met at Hastings April 6, 1858 and created Union Township. The board met again April 26, changed the boundaries of Union and created Lebanon Township out of most of it.

The citizens of the new town met May 11, 1858, at the home of William L. Hardick, who lived near what is now Westview Elementary School, for their first town meeting. Elections were held and B. Verrill (whose first name may have been Bainbridge) was named chairman; B. M. James and C. R. Clough, supervisors; F. C. Carpenter, clerk; Charles Verrill, treasurer; Henry Verrill, assessor and William Hardick and A. J. Elliott, constables.

Until its incorporation as a village almost 101 years later, Lebanon, like other townships, was governed by a board of three supervisors and had a town meeting each spring. At the town meeting in 1863, those attending voted to raise \$50 in real and personal property taxes (based on acreage) to "meet the expenses of the ensuing year."



THE THOMAS SCOTT residence, pictured during the late 1860s, was torn down in 1939 and replaced by a new structure that now stands on County Rd. 42 between Cedar and Galaxie. Family members are, left to right, Thomas and Mary Scott; their daughter, Mary; their son, James; and on the porch, Ellen, Lloyd and David Scott.

Minutes of the town meeting of April 5, 1864, give the first indication of the citizens of Lebanon deciding it was time for a few special rules. An ordinance was passed stating that all cattle, horses, mules, asses, sheep, goats and hogs would be prohibited from running at large between sundown and sunrise from April 1 to Dec. 1, and that sheep would be prohibited from running at-large at any time during the year. The owners of any animals found loose were to be fined 25 cents a head.

Between annual town meetings, the supervisors took care of such things as assessing taxes and building township roads. For the roads, men were taxed two days labor and each property owner was taxed anywhere from 20 cents to 40 cents on each \$100 worth of real estate or personal property.

Lebanon called a special town meeting Aug. 13, 1864, to decide whether the town was willing to be taxed to raise money to pay a bounty to Civil War volunteers "for its quota under the last call of the President." The meeting was declared illegal because it was called for 4 p.m., so it was rescheduled for 9 a.m. Aug. 27. The town voted in favor of \$600 in bonds to be paid by property taxes.

At a similar special meeting Jan. 7, 1865, the town voted another \$900 in bonds. A total of 75 men from Lebanon served in the Civil War.

Residents of the town founded Lebanon Cemetery and the Lebanon Cemetery Association in 1862. Located at Pilot Knob Road and County Road 42, the cemetery contains the graves of many early settlers and their families and is still active today.

Around the beginning of the twentieth century the Germans came into the northeast corner of Lebanon. This was the part of the township that had not been settled earlier because it was so difficult to clear of trees. The 1896 plat of Lebanon showed that the Moellers, Zechmeisters, Bergs, Stelters, Hendrichs, Hagemesters, Polenskas, Grubers, and Bruggers all owned land in the northern part of the town.

There are only five families who were here early in the twentieth century whose descendants still live in Apple Valley. Marlene Romain is a descendent of R. Hayes;



CHARLES VERRILL, one of the first settlers of Lebanon, is buried in Lebanon Cemetery at County Rd. 42 and Pilot Knob Rd. His stone has fallen to the ground and is nearly covered by weeds.



THREE GENERATIONS of the George Linkert family of Lebanon in front of their log house shortly after the turn of the century. Behind them is the summer kitchen. All cooking was done outside during the warm months.

William Lee Scött, a great grandson of Thomas Scott; John Delaney descends from Steve Delaney, his great grandfather, who in 1896 owned 800 acres of land in Lebanon. Another large landowner at that time was Michael Farrell who owned 1,000 acres mostly in the south half of the town. Several families live in Apple Valley whose ancestor was George Linkert who came to Lebanon in 1902. They are Reinhart Linkert, Robert Linkert and Esther Dahlberg. Lois Puckett is a granddaughter of H. Hagemester who lived here in 1898.

During the 1800s the Indians came through Lebanon on their way to Fort Snelling to get their rations. They camped in the hollow next to the woods where 139th Street and Cedar are now. They were often hungry and Mrs. Will Scott used to stir up the milk, which had been put in shallow pans so the cream could be skimmed off, and give it to them. If there was cornbread she gave them some of it too. The Indians never hurt anyone even when they found women and children alone.

Will Scott, a son of Thomas Scott, was a blacksmith and got his supplies in St. Paul. There was no bridge across the Minnesota River at Mendota so he went across by ferry. In the winter it was a long cold journey by bobsleigh. He had a thick slab of slate wrapped in paper under the covers on top of a thick layer of straw to keep his feet warm.

Steve Delaney remembered his father hauling grain to St. Paul by way of the High Bridge. The trip took all day starting at 6 a.m. On Saturdays his mother took eggs and home churned butter to sell.

The Delaney homestead was on the Rosemount Road, 150th Street, on both sides of Johnny Cake Ridge Road. Much of the farm has since been sold to North Star Concrete, but Delaney's son still lives in the farmstead at 42 and Johnny Cake and farms some of the land with the help of his sons.

All roads were dirt and gravel through about the first half of the 1900s. Cedar Avenue was not built north of County Road 42 until about 1920, when a better route to Minneapolis was needed. Galaxie Avenue, which started out as a path from the Scott farm to their hired man's home, was Old Cedar.

There were no churches or stores in Lebanon until recent years. The first church services were held in private homes and later residents worshipped in neighboring communities. An Episcopalian pastor had services at the Scott home, and a Catholic priest came by on horseback every two weeks to say Mass in the log house on the Delaney farm.

Around the turn of the century, farming was still being done by horses. At least one family in Lebanon was using a team of oxen as late as 1918. "Horses were the only power we had in 1900 and a long time after," said Frank Scott. Typical machinery was the plow and the binder which tied grain with twine, and has since been replaced by the combine. Horses and buggies were the only way to get any place unless you walked.

For about a century, Lebanon changed very little. In 1881, the town's population was 252. The 1910 census recorded 292 persons and the population was 361 in 1920 and 380 persons in 1930. By 1960, the town had grown to 585 residents. With the 60s however, came development. Apple Valley's population was 8,502 in 1970 and a special census in October, 1975 recorded more than 15,000 residents.

Some industrial development came to Lebanon ahead of the residential or commercial. The old Southport Airport started in the late 1930s and in its heyday housed about 100 planes. It closed down in 1974. The town had small gravel operations for years. Fischers started in the late 1950s. The first pipeline went through in the '40s and the first tanks at what is now Williams Brothers Pipeline were built in the '50s.

The first residential development of Lebanon began in Palomino Hills on what was Eaton's Ranch and in the Farquar Lake area. In 1963 Apple Valley started north of 150th Street on the Herman Strese farm. Growth was very rapid after that.

-- Agnes Scott

Town board representatives

B. Verrill 1858-59	Hugh Connoley 1877-1881
B. M. James 1858-1860	Michael Mallery 1881-1883
C. R. Clough 1858	Michael Hogan 1882-1890
J. Farquhar 1859-1863	Daniel Delaney 1891-1905
J. F. Converse 1859-1863	Edward Dunn 1897-1912
Thos. Stevenson 1860	Wm. J. Hogan 1906-1913
F. C. Carpenter ck 1858, 1859 s 1862-1866	A. T. Farrell ck 1906-1907 s 1915-1918
Daniel Haines 1861	Thos. Scott ck 1908-1932
Jas. Thompson ck 1860, 1861, 1865 s 1864	J. B. Farrell 1913-1914
A. R. Lester 1861	Albert Ratzlaff 1916-1932
James Elliott ck 1862	Joe P. Hogan 1917-1922
John Gilman ck 1863-1864 s 1867, 1868, 1871, 1876-1882	Wm. Kelly 1919-1929
H. Potter 1864	S. A. Moeller 1923-1941
L. Nason 1865-1866	C. G. Kohls 1930-1932 1939-1952
Wm. Poole 1865-1866	Matt. Fischer 1933-1946
C. Sullivan ck 1866	Albert Berg ck 1946-1951
Michael Farrell, Jr. ck 1878- 1905 s 1867-1871, 1873- 1876	Simon Hagemeister 1942- 1946
Patrick Finerty 1867, 1870	Geo. E. Fischer ck 1946- 1951
M. H. Sullivan ck 1867- 1876, 1872-1877	E. A. Tausignant 1947- 1959
Wm. S. Parisu 1868	Frank J. Scott 1947-1961
E. W. Gelton 1869-1870	R. J. Mahowald ck 1952 s 1953-1963
Thomas Hagan 1871	Emmet Carroll ck 1953- 1961 s 1962-1964
Elijah Lambert ck 1871	R. J. Tausignant 1954-1959
James Scott 1872, 1877, 1883-1896, 1902-1916	Stephen Delaney 1960- 1968
Albert Nason 1872	Cecelia Strunk ck 1962- 1968
A. B. Ives 1872	John D. Natwick 1964- 1968
John Butler 1873-1875	Arleigh H. Thorberg 1965- 1968
James Kennedy 1874-1875	
John Kelly 1876, 1878- 1880	

Change, Growth: APPLE VALLEY

In the spring of 1955, exactly a century after the founding of Lebanon Township, a new kind of community began to be born. Residential neighborhoods began to spring into being in place of rural fields.

The Knottywoods plat, was started in May, 1955. It was followed by the White Oak Ridge addition in 1957, development on Farquar Lake in 1959 and the first Palomino Hills plat in 1958.

But it was in 1963 that Orrin Thompson's Apple Valley development started the housing boom that destined Lebanon to become one of the fastest-growing communities in the Metropolitan area.

Thompson used the name "Apple Valley" for his plats on either side of County Rd. 42 on the southwest side of the city. He selected it because he knew of Apple Valley, Calif., and because the community is part of the Minnesota River Valley. Thompson had an apple tree planted at each home in his new development. The township itself, however, was still called Lebanon.

The new Apple Valley development, made up mainly of young families, had an average age of 27 and soon began to assert itself in the politics of the township. In 1965, a resident of the Apple Valley development, Arleigh Thorberg, was elected to the town board. The other

two town board members at the time Thorberg was elected were Steve Delaney, a third generation farmer in Lebanon, and John Natwick, a Palomino Hills resident for a few years before. Thorberg replaced Ray Mahowald who had served 20 years.

In addition, Mrs. Cecelia Strunk served as town clerk and performed all the duties of clerk, administrator and general representative of the township in a fulltime capacity. Prior to the construction of a new town hall, many of her duties were performed from her home on Pilot Knob Rd. The township treasurer was Charles Kohls, another lifetime resident who still serves the city in the public works department.

The township assessor was "Jake" O'Toole who later joined the county assessor's office. The elected constable was Gene Corrigan.

Town board meetings were held in a one-room former school house located on County Rd. 42 and Pilot Knob Rd. The building was without modern facilities and although this tended to shorten the meetings, it pointed to the need for larger and more modern quarters.

A sewage disposal plant was already under construction and a water system to serve the new areas had been installed by developers.

The volunteer fire department was organized and in the spring of 1966, a bond issue in the amount of \$110,000 was passed to purchase a new fire truck and to construct a new town hall and fire station. The bond election was contested by some residents, but due to the efforts of many citizens, it passed. The portion of the issue that related to the fire truck passed by a wider margin than the part that concerned the construction of the new building. Lebanon very nearly found itself with funds for a fire truck, but with no place to house it.

The new town hall was built within the budget, but only after many citizens were called upon to donate both labor and funds to adequately furnish the building. Much of the labor was donated by the newly-organized fire department.

The town board members pooled their personal funds to buy the carpeting in the council chambers. Orrin Thompson donated paneling for the walls and Matt Fischer supplied the original council table. An open house was held Nov. 6, 1966.

Lebanon Township continued its rapid growth with annual town meetings at Eaton's Ranch and later at the new Westview Elementary School. These meetings were well-attended by many residents and served the purpose of gaining input from all citizens who wished to be heard.

In 1968 Gordy Wolf was elected to serve as a township supervisor but by this time, Lebanon was large enough to qualify for incorporation as a village and come under the jurisdiction of the State Municipal Commission. The town petitioned the commission for village status.

Township officials believed that as a village, Lebanon would have more control over its own destiny. State law provides more avenues of control for an incorporated village than an unincorporated township. Also, officials believed the community had grown large enough to need a five-person council rather than a three-member town board.

The municipal commission gave permission for incorporation and a two-question ballot was put to the voters at the general election in November, 1968. They were asked, should the town of Lebanon be incorporated as a village, and if yes, should the name of the village be Lebanon or Apple Valley?

Incorporation was approved by a vote of 1,785 to 361. Older residents of the community strongly favored keeping the name "Lebanon", but most of those in the new additions preferred "Apple Valley". The vote was 1,376 in favor of the new name, and 757 wishing to retain the old.

Shortly after the general election, a special election was held Dec. 17, 1968, with three persons running for mayor and 16 seeking the four council seats.

Elected as mayor was Fred Largen and the first councilmen were Mike Garrison, Will Branning, Phil Pearsall and Bob Hollenbeck. The new council of the Village of Apple Valley took office Jan. 1, 1969.

Later that same year, a petition was filed with the municipal commission to form a new "city" which would have included Rosemount, Apple Valley, Valley Park and the northern portion of the Township of Empire into one municipality to be named the "City of Rosemount". This proposal met with much opposition and after several hearings conducted by the municipal commission, a referendum vote of the people involved caused the proposal to fail. Had it succeeded, it would have created one of the largest suburban communities in the metro area.



REV. FRED LARGEN takes the oath of office as Apple Valley's first mayor in January, 1969.



CITY CLERK Cecelia Strunk administers the oath of office to Apple Valley's first city councilmen, from left, Mike Garrison, Phil Pearsall, Bob Hollenbeck and Will Branning.

The first citizen committee appointed was the planning commission, established in 1962 by Lebanon Township. It was established primarily because far-sighted citizens and officials anticipated problems with gravel operations in the township. The planning commission has since functioned as the principal right arm of both town boards and councils.

The first chairman was Erwin Ulrich, who has served on the commission nearly continuously since the early 1960s. Other original planning commission members were William Carroll, Gene Corrigan, Ernie LaSalle, Ed Tousignant, Roy Trebil, Erwin Ulrich and Bev Dean, who was also secretary of the commission for many years.

An Urban Affairs Committee was formed in April of 1964. Since its beginnings, it has been responsible for many of the ordinances which govern the daily lives of Apple Valley citizens. Its first members were George Swank, Lewis Hanson, Bernard Austin, Joseph Licata, Joe Rollins, Edgar Fischer, Jackie DuBeau and John Schultz.

The park committee organized in October of 1967 and was then called the Lebanon Hills Park Committee. The first members were Harry Corning, Carl W. Ireland, Nick Wagner and Pat Wirtenan. The purpose of the park committee is to review park dedication for proposed subdivision plats and make recommendations concerning park development.

The completion of the sewage disposal plant and the addition of water facilities prompted the need for a utilities committee, which was succeeded by a public works committee. The city now has a fulltime public works department.

The Human Rights Commission was founded in 1972. The members of this commission monitor the city regarding problems in the area of human rights. They promote affirmative action, encourage the city to advertise in minority newspapers and discourage discrimination among builders. Carol Alexander, Elbert Clark and Sharon Bump were among the first appointments to the Human Rights Commission.

In the spring of 1975 the historical committee was appointed by the city council. Its first members were Jean Hecker, Agnes Scott, Marlene Romain, Anita Miller

and Jim Miller. Very soon it expanded into the Apple Valley Bicentennial Committee and prepared to meet the challenges of our nation's 200th birthday. As Bicentennial activities draw to a close, this committee will focus on the preservation, interpretation and promotion of the historical heritage of Apple Valley to the people of the Community.

The cable TV commission was established in 1975 to generally monitor and ensure compliance with the cable franchise issued to Metro Cable, Inc. An equally important function of the Commission is to investigate methods to promote local programming and encourage the use of the public access channels made available as part of Ordinance No. 150.

The access channels are made available as a public service to the citizens of Apple Valley for transmission of public interest items.

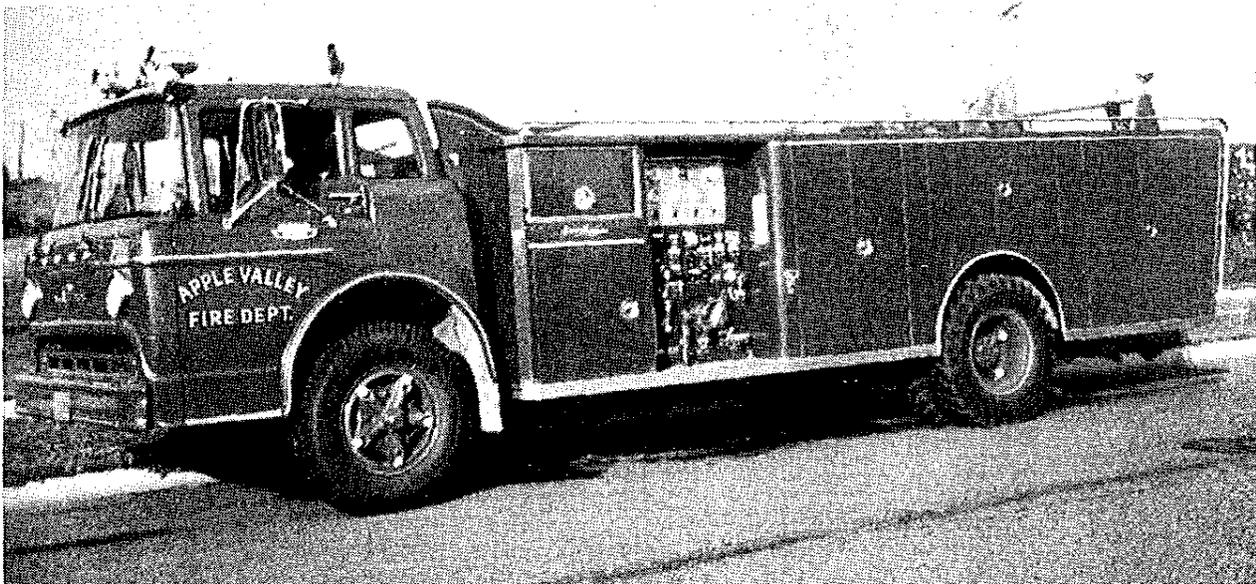
The first members on the Commission were D. J. Romain, Charles Booth, Donald Godfrey, Mary Ann Corrigan, David Engelsgerd, Ted Manahan and Robert Naegeli, who is a technical advisor.

Apple Valley became a statutory city Jan. 1, 1974. It presently has over 15,000 residents and the development of residential and commercial areas continues. The city has been one of the leading communities in the metropolitan area in the number of residential building permits issued for the past several years.

The second mayor of Apple Valley, Will Branning, was elected on Nov. 2, 1976. In that same election, Bill Holton was also elected to continue serving on the city council (he had been appointed in 1974) and Robinette Fitzsimmons and Barbara Savanick were newly-elected to the council. The fifth council member at the time was Andy Hayes.

Although the rural to urban growth in Apple Valley has been successfully accomplished to this date, there is still much of the 17 square mile area to be developed. Often referred to as a "bedroom community", it should better be known as a "people community". Many individuals have contributed to its present status as a fine place to live and the future dedication of many more people will be necessary if the city is to maintain its high standard of life.

-- Prepared with the help of Arleigh Thorberg



LEBANON'S first fire truck, purchased with funds raised through a bond issue in 1967.

LIFE on the prairie west of Rosemount

Dates, data and records are history, but to an even greater extent, memories of day-to-day life tell the story of a community. Life on the "prairie west of Rosemount" as Lebanon was often called, is shared here by the descendents of several "pioneer" families. Their stories are almost one -- a common background showing Lebanon in the late 19th century and early 20th century.

The families introduced here are included because descendents were still readily available in the area and volunteered to help. Their family roots are in the hilly wooded northern areas of Lebanon as well as the fertile prairie farms of the south. Their names are Scott, Strese, Berg, Auge, Hayes, Moeller, Hagemeister, and so on, but they could have been any Lebanon family. Life in those times treated all pretty much the same.

The first selection was written by Agnes Scott. The Scotts were among the first to homestead in Lebanon and the only family known to still hold its original property.

Scott

In 1856, the year of the first settlers, Thomas and Mary Scott came to Lebanon Township after making a long journey by ship from Northern Ireland. They pre-empted a quarter section in Section 35 and built a log cabin. At the time of Thomas Scott's death the farm was 320 acres. The land north of County Rd. 42 and east and west of Cedar Ave. was part of the property.

Two years after the arrival of the Scotts, on April 6, 1858, Union Township was formed. April 26 Lebanon Township was carved out of part of Union Township. In May of that year the first officers of Lebanon were elected.

The first of the Scotts to hold office in the new township was James Scott who was elected constable in 1866 and Justice of Peace in 1867. He held this office for two years and was elected supervisor in 1872.

That generation of Scotts were William, James, Marg, Elizabeth and David. William married Nettie Judd from Burnsville in 1880 and bought a 160 acre farm where Scott Highland's first, second and third additions of Lebanon are now. The Apple Valley government center is on land that was originally the Will Scott farm. Some of the farm buildings remain on Galaxie Ave..

Will Scott was an exceptional man. Besides being a farmer, he was also a blacksmith and had a tree nursery. All of his neighbors came to him for advice and information. He sold most of the apple trees in the early orchards around Lebanon.

As a blacksmith he had an apprentice, Joseph Stelter, who lived with his family one mile north of the Scotts. Stelter was the blacksmith in Rosemount village for many years.

The Will Scotts had seven daughters and one son, William David, always called Bill.

Bill Scott started helping his father in the blacksmith shop at the age of three. He was paid a nickel, dime or quarter depending on how much he helped, which he put in the bank and years later had a complete record of his early earnings.

Bill used to go hunting by horseback with his father in the School Section which was later called Eaton's Ranch. Ducks gathered in the many pot-holes there.

They took one shell with them and never failed to bring home enough game for the family. They also hunted deer at that time.

James, Thomas and William Scott all served on the Town Board and were officers of the District 17 school board. The school was at the corner of County Rd. 42 and Cedar Ave.

A story was told by Bill Scott about the early years of his father's life. Food was sometimes very scarce and Will would walk three miles to the Rodger Casey home (on County Rd. 46). Mrs. Casey knew he was hungry and would put some biscuit and an egg in the coals of the fireplace and cook them for him. He was the first member of his family to learn to hunt. After he learned to shoot, the family had plenty of wild game to eat.

The William Scotts still live in Apple Valley. Mrs. Bill Scott (Agnes) lives in the home built by Will and his bride, Nettie, and William Lee, Will's grandson, has the Scotties Camping Trailers business on Cedar Ave. on the northwest corner of the Will Scott farm.

The Scotts and Lebanon/Apple Valley have been a part of one another for one and a quarter centuries.

Agnes Scott recalls that her blacksmith father-in-law, Will Scott, used to go to St. Paul for blacksmith supplies and in the winter, that meant going up by sleigh. Under his feet would be a two-inch-thick slate rock heated in the stove and wrapped in cloth. They crossed the river by ferry until the Mendota Bridge was built, she said. Her family sold butter and eggs on Summit Ave.

She explained that the Irish farmed the plains section of town while the Germans lived in the wooded area. The wooded land was considered valueless because it couldn't be farmed (although it was), so there was controversy between the woods people and the plains people. "They didn't think the woods people rated because they didn't pay taxes," she said.



THE WILL SCOTT FAMILY. Will, a descendent of Thomas Scott, was for a long time the only blacksmith and nurseryman in Lebanon. His wife was Nettie Judd, one of the girls for whom Ali-magnet Lake was named.

Frank Scott, the cousin of Agnes Scott's husband and also a grandson of Thomas Scott, Sr., was born in 1892 on the family farm at the corner of County Rd. 42 and Galaxie Ave. He lived on that farm, originally settled by his grandfather in 1856 until a year or so ago. The Scotts still own it.

"Horses were the only power we had in 1900 and a long time after," said Frank Scott. Typical machinery was the plow and the binder, which tied grain with twine and has since been replaced by the combine, he said. "Hoses and buggies," he added, "were the only way to get anyplace unless you walked."

They knew their neighbors much more than people do now, Scott said. "If we didn't know everyone in Lebanon, we came pretty darn near, and a lot who weren't in Lebanon."

He described a peaceful community. "I don't remember anything that amounted to anything that wasn't settled by the town board," he said.

The first building on the Scott farmstead was a log cabin, he said. It was succeeded by several frame houses. The existing home was built in 1939, and according to Scott, is in as good a shape as ever. "I figure in the end, it will have to make way for progress."

-- Agnes Scott

Auge-Hayes

Back in the very early spring of 1920, my family and I moved to the Rosemount prairie. The township was Lebanon, now Apple Valley. My family consisted of my father, mother, three brothers and myself. In July of that year, a sister came. We moved on the farm then known as the John Farrell farm. It was, in part, a fulfillment of my father's dream to have a farm on the prairie (160 beautiful acres) just west of Cedar on County Road 42 where the shopping center containing Applebaums is built. Also, hundreds of homes and other buildings cover the farm. The only way I can identify it is by two cedar trees that once stood in our front yard.

We went to grade school (District 17), then some of us went on to the Rosemount High School. By the way, one of our teachers at District 17 was Agnes (Brown) Scott.



WILFRED AND Carroll Auge and Lorraine Auge Hanson on the Alfred Auge farm in the early 1930s. Today, the Apple Square Shopping Center stands on the farm.

Life was not easy on a large farm. We all worked hard from morning 'til late at night. Besides the regular farm crops, my father raised each year at least five acres of onions, which kept us very busy.

We also had cows, horses, pigs and chickens, turkeys and a lamb. Our home was not modern, but comfortable. When we moved from Mendota to Rosemount, it was not by moving van, but several teams of horses and sleighs. Neighbors and relatives helped. We came by way of old Cedar (now Galaxie) which came by the Scott farms. I do not remember how my father moved the animals (cows, etc.).

After graduating from Rosemount High School, I went to school to learn to be a country school teacher. My first school was District 18 (County Road 42 and 31) where I taught all eight grades for three years, walking from my home. Wages in those days did not allow for a young person to have a car in their early working years.

Believe me, there was no carpeting, electric lights or indoor plumbing. A pot bellied stove was used for heat. I would come an hour early in the winter to start a wood fire. If the bigger boys were in a good mood they would haul in enough wood for the day from the woodshed. On very stormy nights in the winter some of the close neighbors would put me up for the night. After a day of teaching, I would have to sweep the wood floor. The rows of school desks made the job difficult. Then I would walk home and prepare my work for the next day, besides help at home.

Two things stand out as highlights for the year, the Christmas program in which all the children took part. Just before Christmas we would have the program. Parents and smaller children would come usually at night. After all the recitations, a couple of the men would light the tree and watch it. It was lit by candles. Presents were exchanged, not expensive ones but whatever we could get together. The curtains on the stage were two white sheets strung on a wire.

The second big event was the school picnic held either in the school yard, or if we were lucky, once at Antlers Park. All the parents who could would attend.

In later years my husband was Joseph Hayes from the neighboring Hayes farm. The Westview School now stands on part of the farm.

Progress has destroyed these beautiful farms. Very little is left of the past. It is difficult to identify with the area.

About the school -- the week before it started I would go and clean the school and put up curtains which I would make during the summer. Snow shoveling was done by the big boys and the teacher. Sometimes the boys were taller than me.

If I could but have one wish, it would be to re-live and capture just a few days of the life we had in those years on the farm on County Road 42. Life was difficult, but beautiful.

-- Genevieve Auge Hayes

Hagemeister-Moeller

Both the Hagemeister and the Moeller families originated in Lippi Ditmold, Germany, but ironically, they never met until they moved to neighboring farms on Johnny Cake Ridge Rd. in Lebanon.

Eventually, Herman Hagemeister and Louise Moeller married and continued to farm Herman's place during their 41 years of marriage. Two of their daughters, Minnie Hagemeister Geffert and Caroline Hagemeister Ratzlaff, as well as Mrs. Geffert's daughter, Lois Puckett of Apple Valley, shared their families' memories.

Adolph and Louise Moeller, both born in Lippi Ditmold, came to the United States to Waterloo, Wisconsin in 1872. With them were their six children, including five-year-old Louise. That same year, the family moved to Rosemount. Seven years later, in 1879, they bought the farm in Lebanon.

Herman Hagemeister, also born in Lippi Ditmold, was 18 in 1882 when he came to the United States with his sister Augusta and brothers Henry and Simon. They were on their way to St. Paul from New York by train, when Simon got off during a stop somewhere in between. When the train started up again, Simon had been left behind. He wasn't missed right away, so his brothers and sister did not even know in which town he was lost. Herman's children say he never spoke of any communication with his brother Simon after the disappearance.

Herman worked for the Eisenminger Meat Market in St. Paul until 1890, when he purchased 160 acres in Lebanon across the road from the farm the Moellers had settled 11 years before. He cleared a portion of the wooded land and built a small log house. The next year, Herman, then 30, married 24-year-old Louise Moeller.

At the time of their marriage, the young couple had one horse, a cow and enough land cleared for a garden, their daughters recalled. Every year more trees were cleared or grubbed and they were able to purchase a team of horses, several cows and a few hogs. The farm was just north of what is now Ellice Tr. and 130th St.

Every two weeks the Hagemeisters would go by horse and buggy or bobsled, depending on the weather, to St. Paul to sell their produce of eggs, butter, veal and poultry to the regular customers on their route, and to purchase groceries. They left at 4 a.m. and didn't get back until 9 or 10 p.m. Their route was a gravel road to Mendota where they crossed the cobblestone High Bridge to get to St. Paul. The children took turns going along with the parents.

Mrs. Hagemeister did her own grocery shopping and bought groceries for six neighboring families as well, remembering everything they wanted without making a list. She was also midwife to the whole area for many years, delivering most of the babies in the neighborhood.

Mrs. Geffert recalled that her mother used to knit stockings for the family back then, using dark, black yarn. They all wore long underwear, then the black stockings over it to their thighs. They were held up with garters. The boys' stockings only went to their knees. "We didn't think of any other color but black."



ADOLPH and Louise Hagemeister and family in 1907.

Mrs. Geffert and Mrs. Ratzlaff said the family used kerosene lamps when they were girls. They also raised sheep, so in the spring, everyone was involved in cutting the wool then washing, cording and spinning it. "That was a job, that washing," Mrs. Geffert said. "The wool was oily and full of burrs."

Their brothers cut cord wood, and in the winter, cut ice from Farquar and Crystal Lakes for near-by butchers, hotels, inns, and the County poor farm in Farmington. Out walking in the winter, they went right across Farquar Lake as a short cut.

Mrs. Hagemeister made her own all-wool quilts. "They were light and warm," Mrs. Geffert said. "She sold them in later years. Folks from the city would come out and buy them." There were also neighborhood quilting bees in the winter, and the young people would sometimes skate on Long or Farquar Lake at night.

"We spent the winter sorting Navy beans," Mrs. Geffert said, "sitting around the dining room table until it was cleaned up. Then we could have an apple or something before we went to bed."

Families at that time had a variety of alternatives to modern conveniences. Irons for doing clothes were heated on the wood stove, but that meant they had to have it hot, even in the summer. So they baked at the same time. The parents never had electricity, but after their son took over the farm, he put in electricity when it became available in the 1930s.

"Uncle Adolph Moeller was the first one in the neighborhood to have a car," Mrs. Ratzlaff said. "I was very small, but I sure remember when we got our first car," Mrs. Geffert added. That was a 7-passenger Studebaker bought in 1916.

The Hagemeisters had an ingenious system of running water for many years. A deep cistern in the hill allowed the water to flow by gravity. A windmill actually pumped the water into the house.

About the same time Herman bought his farm in Lebanon, his brother Henry, also settled here for a short time. He then moved to Rosemount, where he ran the meat market. His oldest daughter, Mamie, born in 1887, was the first telephone operator in Rosemount.

-- Carol Braun

Kohls

Charles G. Kohls and Mary Brennan Kohls came to Lebanon in 1919 shortly after they were married. They settled on 157 acres on the corner of Pilot Knob Road and 150th Street W. (County Road 42).

Charles was born in Cottage Grove, MN and was of German nationality. In 1900 he came to Burnsville with his parents. He was twenty years old at that time.

Mary Brennan Kohls was Irish in nationality and was born and raised in Lakeville Township. They farmed in Lebanon-Apple Valley for 33 years. In that time they raised three children. Charles served on the Lebanon Town Board for many years and also was active in many other organizations. In 1952 they retired and moved to Farmington, where they remained until their deaths.

In 1952 their son, Charles, took over operation of the farm. The farm is still being run by the family at the present time. Charles and his wife, Alyce have six children, Alan, Ron, Kris, Karen, Rick and Brad.

Linkert

Pete, Andrew and Jacob Linkert, three brothers, came to the United States from Austria in 1895 and settled in the Rich Valley area just east of Rosemount because it was near the railroad. In 1898 they were joined by a fourth brother, George Linkert. They all worked for farmers in the Rich Valley area. About 1900 Pete and Jacob Linkert each purchased 160 acres of land in Section 14 of Lebanon Township. This was hilly wooded land and had to be cleared to be used for farming.

In 1902, George Linkert bought 80 acres from his brother Pete Linkert in Section 14 of Lebanon and began farming for himself. Of the 80 acres only 12 acres were cleared for cultivation. He began clearing more of the land and also built himself a log house to live in. His first barn was built in the ground. A more conventional wooden barn was built in 1906. This barn was later destroyed by lightning.

George Linkert married Anna Schindeldecker of Inver Grove in 1904 and they set up housekeeping in the log house. They raised a family of ten boys and five daughters, some of whom still live in the area.

Their first well was a hand dug open well. Later a well was drilled and a log building built over it. This building still stands today.

For entertainment the entire neighborhood went swimming in the small lake that is on the farm. It still is a popular swimming hole in the summer time. In the winter the hills were well used for sledding or skiing, and the lake for skating. In fact every year a post was frozen into the ice and a long pole fastened to the post. The sleds were fastened to the pole and then propelled around the solid post in a "crack-the-whip" style. Another popular fun time was the sleigh rides pulled by a big team of white horses that George Linkert raised.

Pete and Jacob Linkert soon left the Lebanon area. Pete moved to the White Bear area about 1905 and Jacob moved to California in 1921.





POSSIBLY THE OLDEST remaining home in Lebanon is this one, originally a Farquhar residence on Pilot Knob Rd. It is now owned by Clarence Petter.

Farquhar Home

Possibly the oldest home still standing in the community was built by John Farquhar, one of the earliest settlers of Lebanon Township. Located on the west side of Pilot Knob Rd. across from Farquar Hills Park, the home is now occupied by Clarence Petter.

Farquhar came to Lebanon in 1856 and settled a claim on the northwest shore of Farquar Lake (the "h" was dropped in recent years). After living in a shelter near the lakeshore when he was first married, he later built the frame home for his Indian bride. Petter said he found old German newspapers in the walls of the home when he insulated a few years ago.

The property later belonged to Henry Hagemester. Joe Kreitz purchased it in the late 1880s. George E. (Emil) Petter, the father of Clarence Petter, bought the land from Kreitz in the early 1920s.



THE MATT FISCHER FAMILY in 1926. From left to right are Matt, Jr.; Marie; Matt, Sr.; his wife, Mary; George; Alfred; Eugene; Arthur; Raymond; Clarence; and Frances.

Kelly

My grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John Kelly, came to Lebanon in 1868 and they lived in section 36 where they built their home about 1880. They spent their remaining years in Lebanon and died around 1900.

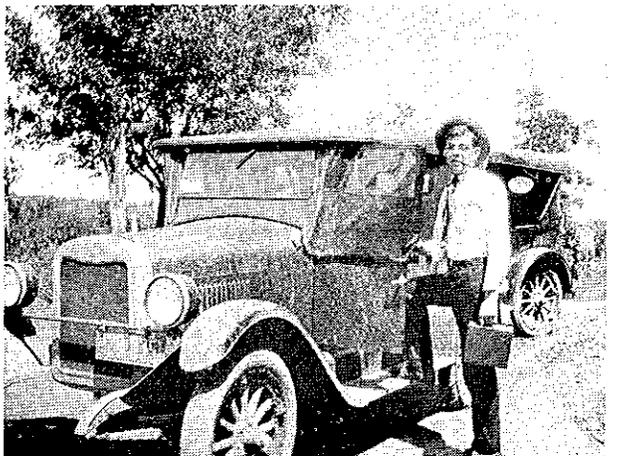
My father, William Kelly, also lived in section 36. He built his home in 1901 and lived there until he died in 1942.

I lived in the same home until 1973 when the home burned. We had sold the farm to Nordic Square in 1970.

-- John Kelly, Rosemount



WILRED AUGE operated a traveling feed mill and went from farm to farm grinding grain.



PHIL LINKERT going to work in about 1927.



HENRY HAGEMASTER had the first butcher shop in the area. Located in Rosemount, it also served surrounding communities such as Lebanon, which had no shopping district.



FRANK AND Martha (Glewwe) Scott on their wedding day in 1914.



HENRY HAGEMASTER and family in 1903.



ANNA BERG was married in 1906 and as was the custom, family, friends and neighbors who attended the wedding posed for a picture with the bridal couple in front of the house. The location was the Berg farm. Now occupied by a different family, the farm is still on Johnny Cake Ridge Rd. just south of the main entrance of the Minnesota Zoological Garden.



WALTER GERHARDT and Mary Linkert were married about the same year. Among the neighbors present at the wedding and shown here were the Jeskes, the Schlehs, the Bergs, the Hagemeisters, the Polenskis and the Rechtzigels.



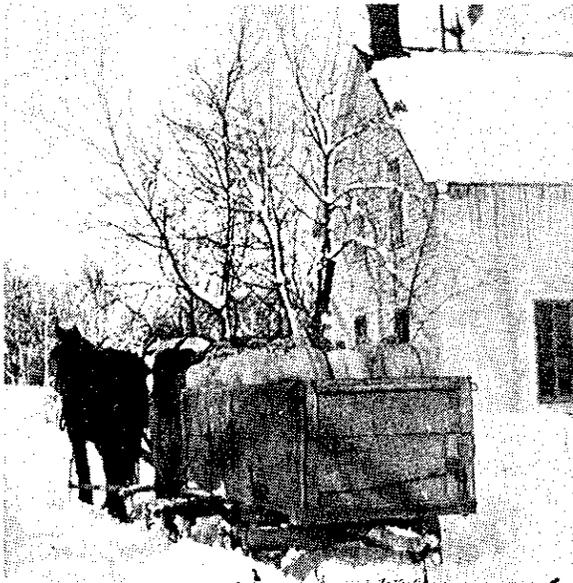
CHARLES G. Kohls, Sr. and Adolph Moeller.



SIMON MOELLER and August Strese with horse and buggy.



LOUISE MOELLER HAGEMEISTER stands next to the horse and buggy occupied by her son Adolph and his future bride, Clara Gehardt. The time was during the couple's courtship, about 1916 or 17.



ELAINE BERG STRESE recalled using the horse and sleigh to spend Thanksgiving with the Al Berg family in 1935. That wasn't the usual mode of transportation by that time, but the roads were blocked with snow. They kept warm with fresh hay, blankets, and flatirons heated on the stove.



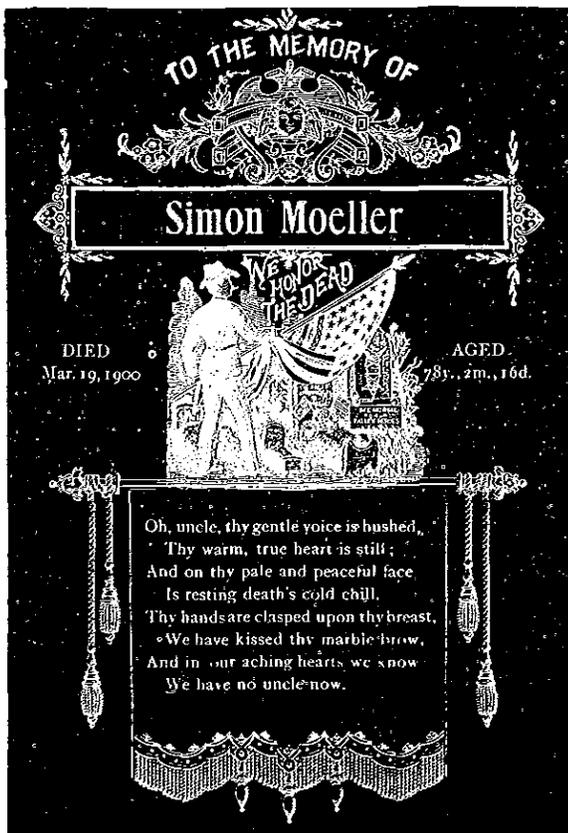
IN MARCH of 1920 the Auges moved from Mendota to Lebanon by horse and sleigh with the help of neighbors.



REO SCOTT, at 11 months. He died at the age of 20 months in December, 1916.



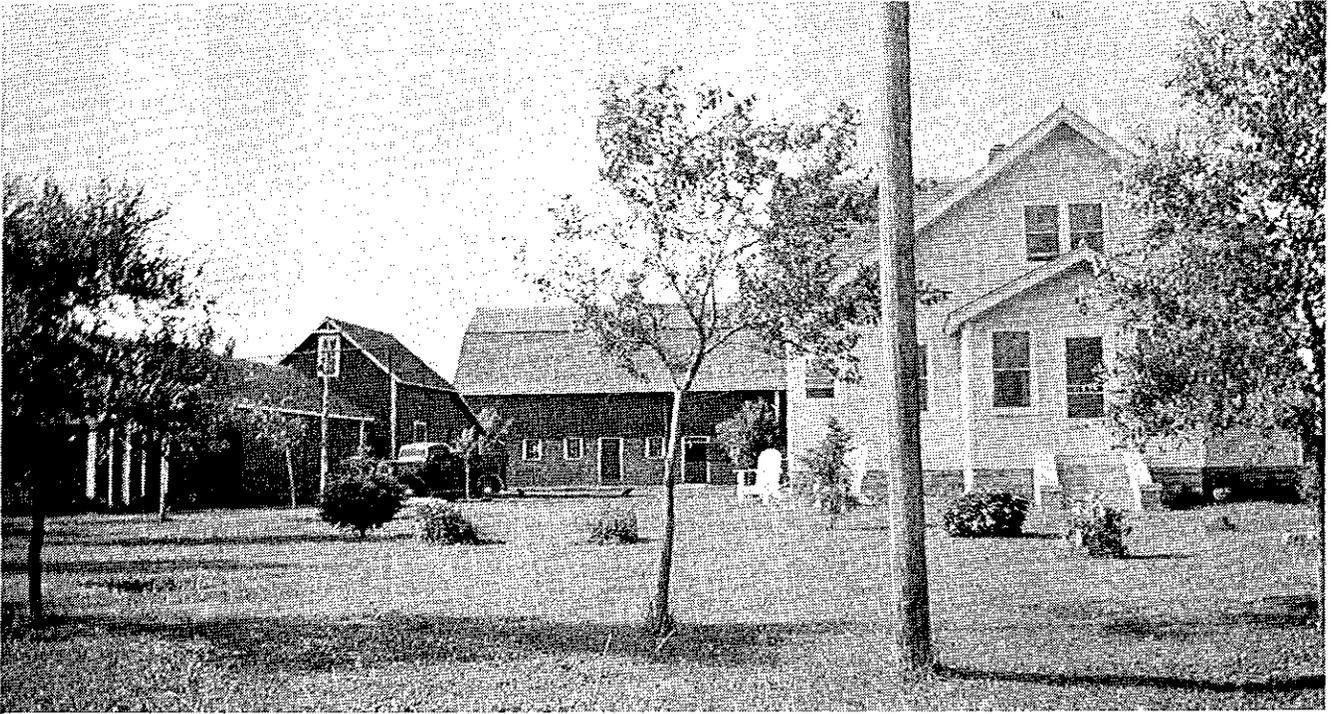
MAMIE HAGEMEISTER Warweg was the first telephone operator in Rosemount. The phone system also served Lebanon. The time was shortly after the turn of the century before Mamie was married.



A PRAYER card from the funeral of Simon Moeller in 1900. He was a Civil War veteran.



LOUIE AND Augusta Holman and family about 1885. They were cousins of the Hagemeister and their farm was located at Cedar Ave. and Cliff Rd. in Eagan.



THE FRANK SCOTT home in 1940. It still stands on the land settled by early Lebanon resident **Thomas Scott** in the 1850s.



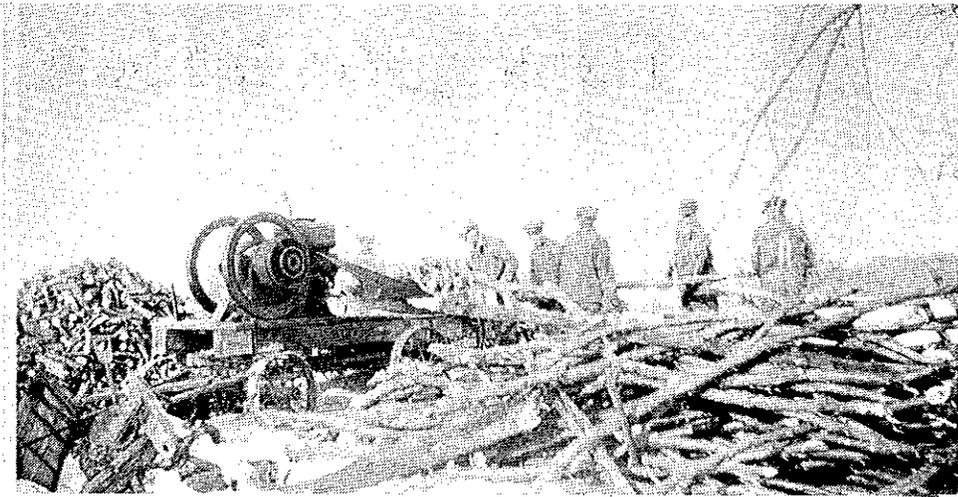
AN AFTERNOON of winter skiing at the **George Linkert** farm.



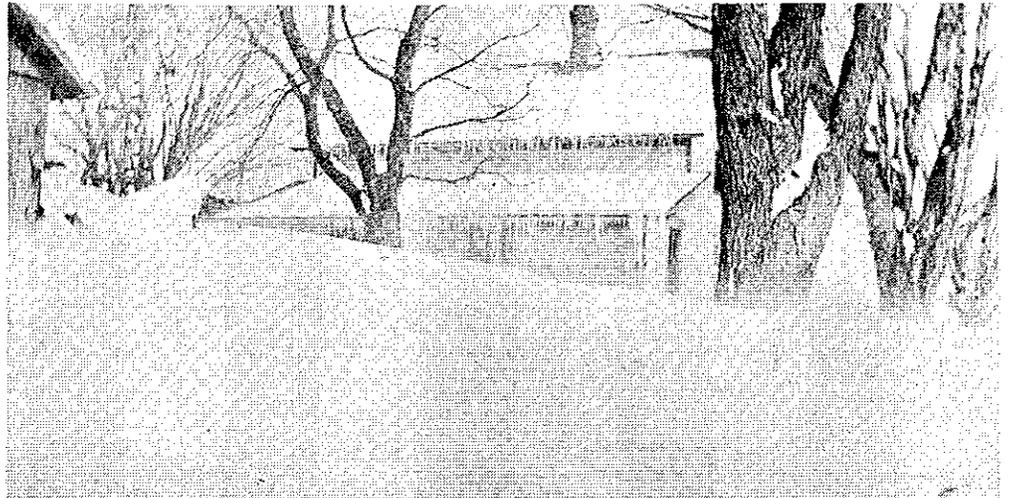
WINTER FUN. A pole was frozen in the ice on a pond at the **George Linkert** farm and a sled was pulled around the lake by turning the pole.



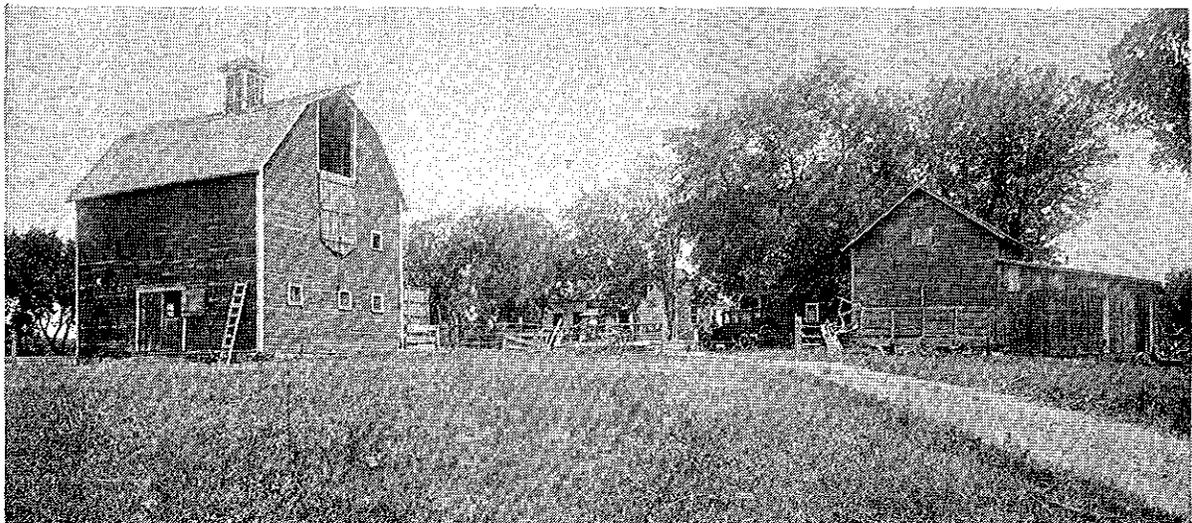
HOWARD SCOTT



NEIGHBORS GOT together and helped each other cut wood for winter fuel.

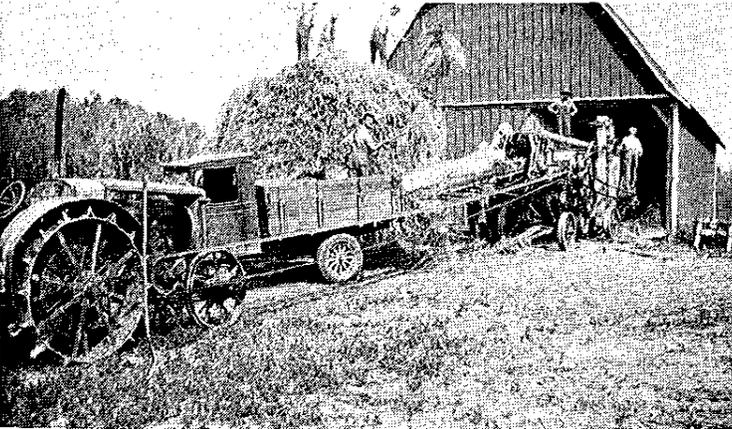
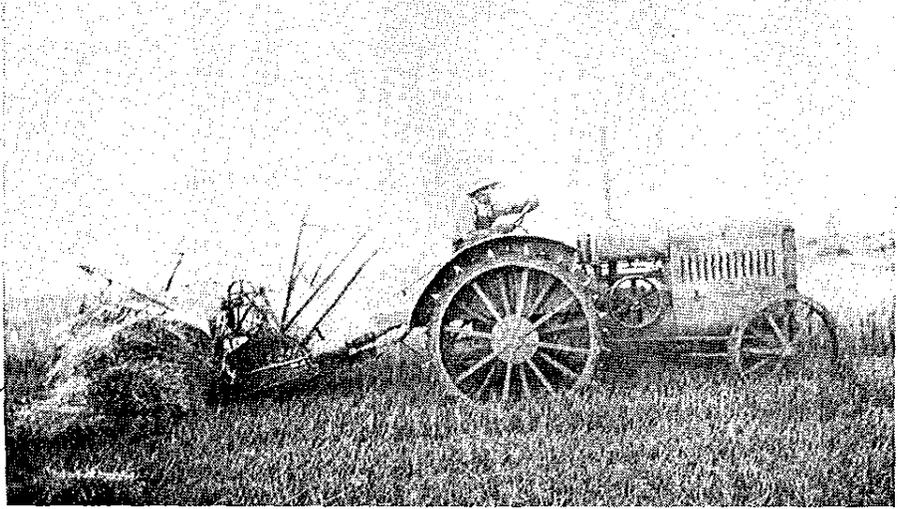
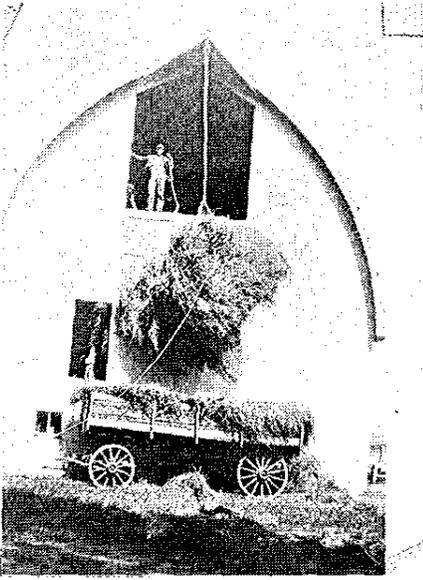


SNOW DRIFTS behind the Scott home after a blizzard in 1918.

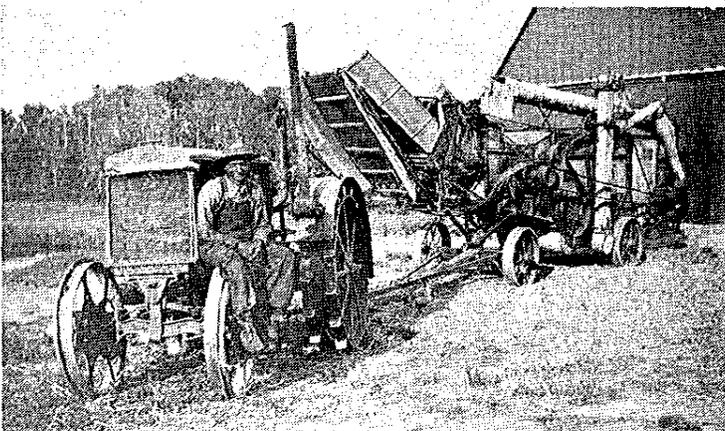


THE FORMER S. A. Moeller farm is now occupied by Chuck Doyle.

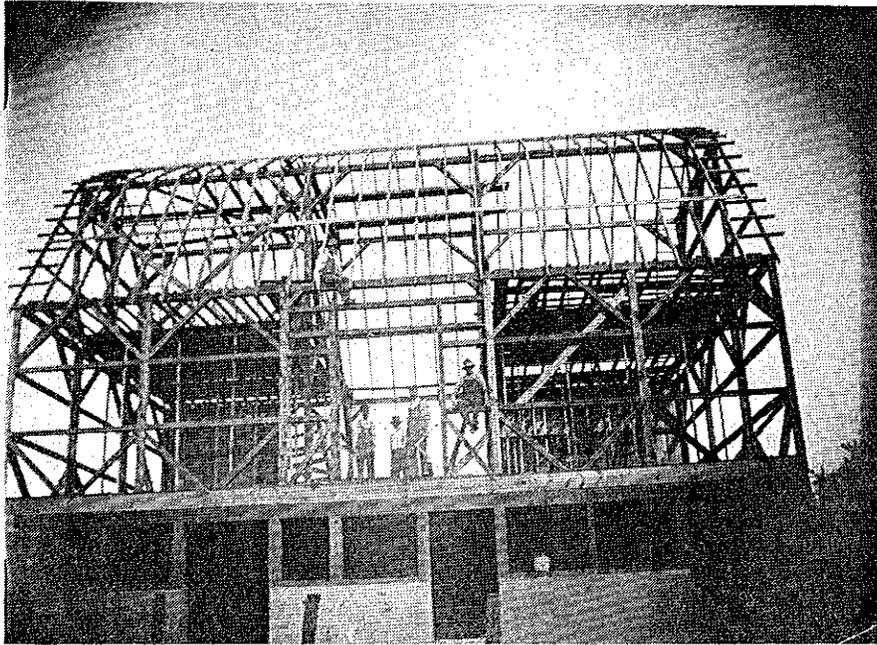
Farming was the heart



FARMING WAS the mainstay of Lebanon years ago. The work was hard, and neighbors pitched in together working in the fields and raising barns, but with time out for refreshments. **UPPER LEFT CORNER:** Bill Scott of Lebanon putting up hay in a barn using a hay sling. **UPPER RIGHT:** Alfred Fischer cutting grain with a grain binder on the Matt Fischer farm in 1928. The bundles were dropped in the field and then six bundles made a shock to be threshed. **MIDDLE LEFT:** Threshing grain on the George Linkert farm in Lebanon. The threshing machine belonged to George Ohmann. **LOWER LEFT:** George Ohmann and his tractor and threshing machine just resting after a hard day. The picture was taken at the George Linkert farm in Lebanon.



of life in Lebanon



GETTING TOGETHER for a barn raising at the George Linkert farm.



THE FIRST shipment of manure spreaders to the Rosemount area happened in 1913 and everyone turned out on the main street of Rosemount. Among the Lebanon people who welcomed the New Idea spreader shipment were Herman Strese, Albert Berg, Charles Kohls, Bill and Frank Scott, and no doubt, many others.

A FARMING COMMUNITY:



TIME OUT for refreshments after a hard day of threshing grain at the Matt Fischer farm in 1929.

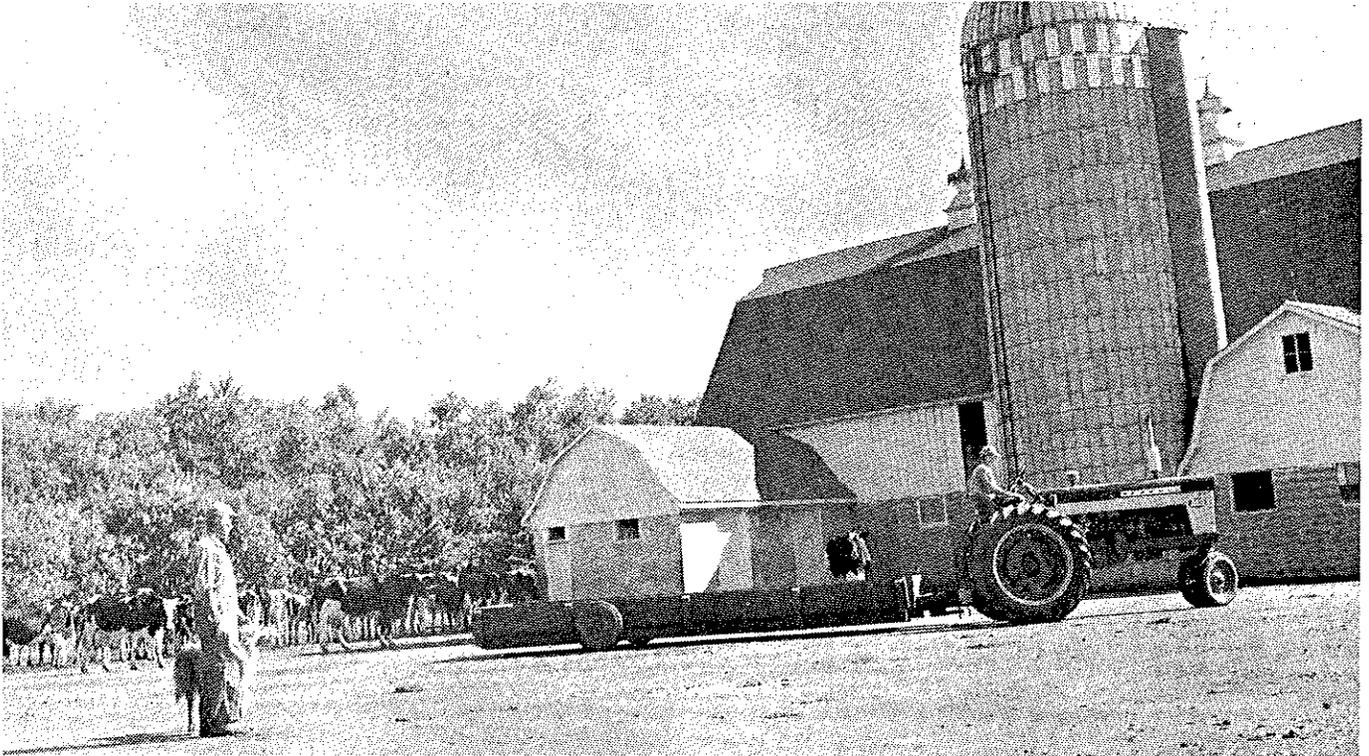


A MID-DAY LUNCH about 1905 on the Berg farm, which is now part of the new zoo. From left to right are Otto Berg, Frank Schlegel, Al Berg, Caroline Berg, and on the end, Herman Berg. The girls were cousins from town.

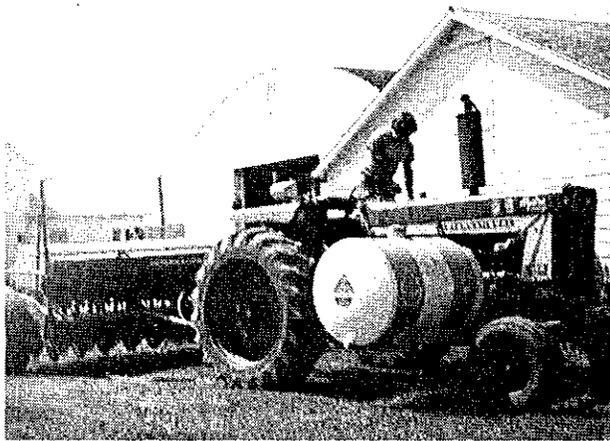
**Neighbors
worked,
played
together**



A THRESHING crew resting after a day's work in 1913 at a farm in Lebanon.



A TYPICAL active day on the William Carroll farm.

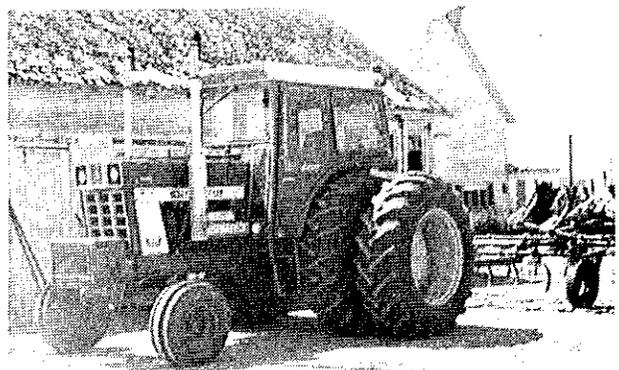


AN EXAMPLE of modern farming machinery is the Fischer's tractor with drill.

One of the biggest changes in Apple Valley in the past 100 years has been farming. It was once the mainstay of the town's economy and almost the sole use of the land. But now there are only a few active farms left in the community. Among them are the William Carroll and Arthur Fischer farms pictured on this page. Methods of farming have also changed greatly. Once most of the work was done by hand, with or without the aid of a horse. Now farming is a highly-sophisticated and mechanized business.



IT'S DAKOTA COUNTY FAIR time, 1948, and the Carroll's cows are on their way. From left, they're Piebe, Linda, Nika, Brenda, Queen and Nettie.



IT TAKES A LOT of machinery to run a modern farm. This is Fischer's newest and largest tractor.

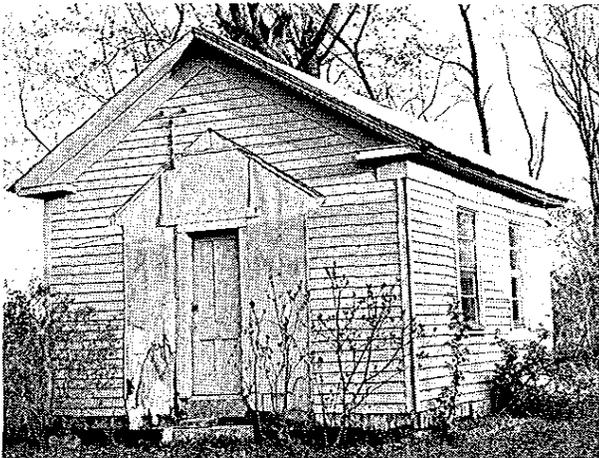
Reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic -- the 3 Rs

In Lebanon, as in other fledgling prairie communities, schools quickly followed the homesteaders.

At first, school was conducted in small log buildings scattered around the community. But in very short time, the rural one-room school districts with their frame schoolhouses began to be formed. Most of these districts remained in operation until Rosemount District 196 was consolidated in 1950.

One of the most long-lived rural districts in Lebanon was District 17. Its last school building still stands on the corner of Cedar Avenue and County Road 42. Two other buildings preceded it -- another frame structure that burned in 1933 and the old school that stood there the entire last half of the 19th century, before being moved to the Scott farm in 1904.

Agnes Scott, who was a teacher in that district and whose family produced several school board members over the years, presents a view of the one-room school that is taken from the written records kept.



Esther McDonald writes from the teacher's point of view in her account of the District 94 school. The District 94 building was located on County Road 11, the Burnsville-Lebanon line, and served youngsters from both communities.

Former one-room school students tell the story of District 110, whose school stood on the Hagemeister farm on Johnny Cake Ridge Road.

Lebanon's other school was District 18, located at the corner of County Road 42 and Pilot Knob Road. Although the Old Town Hall building now on the site is a former one-room school, it has been established that it is not the original District 18 school that once stood there. Genevieve Auge Hayes whose parents' farm was at Cedar Avenue and County Road 42 where the Apple Valley Square Shopping Center is now located, taught three terms in District 18 beginning in the fall of 1926. She later married Joseph Hayes, whose family farmed the present Westfield field area on what is now Hayes Road.

After the consolidation of the three Lebanon schools in District 5 in Rosemount (later school District 196), school was held for a time on the corner of Cedar Avenue and Highway 42 in the old District 18 schoolhouse. The other Lebanon school houses were moved to Rosemount and used as portable classrooms.

By 1964 the new housing developments of Palomino Hills and Apple Valley had so many children that Westview elementary school had to be built on Garden View Drive north of Highway 42. In 1967 Southview was opened south of Highway 42 on Garden View Drive. They were followed by Diamond Path Elementary in 1971, Valley Middle School in 1972, Greenleaf School in 1974 and Apple Valley High which was opened in 1976.

In the Bicentennial year of 1976, 3,235 elementary pupils went to school in Apple Valley schools. Valley Middle School had 1,300 students and Apple Valley High School which had just opened that fall had about the same number.

There is probably nothing that demonstrates the growth of the Lebanon-Apple Valley community as vividly as the change in the schools within its boundaries.

District 17's records tell story

"An early school was taught in a small log house on the southwest corner of Section 28. During this term, which lasted three months, the number attending frequently reached thirty-five pupils. In 1857, lumber was procured from Hastings for the purpose of building a house. One-half acre of ground was purchased in the northeast quarter of Section 32. Money was procured and a frame structure was erected which did duty until 1865 when it was destroyed by fire.

"Another school was taught in the log house of Henry J. Verill in the southeast quarter of Section 26. Miss Converse was the first teacher, her school lasting three months. In 1859 one-half acre of land was donated by Charles Verill, lumber was bought by the citizens from Nininger, money and work donated by the citizens and a house 16 X 24 feet was erected."

This is the way McNiels History of Dakota County described the first schools of Lebanon Township. The school whose history I am writing was possibly this building. Lebanon had three elementary schools.

The first recorded entry of District 17 available to me was made April 3, 1869 which showed receipt from the County Treasurer on the account of the General Special School House Fund of \$66.60. The next entry dated April 7, 1869 showed a balance carried over from the previous term of \$12.45. Two more entries of \$48.60 on July 15 and \$67.60 later were the entire receipts for the year of 1869.

The treasurer that year was William Pool.

School was held for several fall months, then the spring term began in April. Mary McDevitt taught in the fall and Alice Semen in Spring.

Some interesting items of expense were \$24 paid to John Lester who lived about where Sunnyside Chrysler now stands, for boarding the teacher. Silvester Foresy was paid \$245 for building the school.

In 1871, the school clerk was Michael Farrel, Edward Dunn was director and Michael McDonald was elected treasurer. These family names were all familiar to Lebanon residents in the 1920's.

In 1872, the first man teacher was hired and was paid \$30 per month. Edward Dunn was paid \$30 for boarding him. In that year, also, a map and globe were bought: By the next year, the board went up to \$50 a month.

The records from 1881 until the last entry in 1942 show the gradual growth in the district. Marg Ried taught both the spring and fall term. She was paid \$84 for the spring term and \$105 for the August term. Wood for heating was bought from Andy Davis - 3/4 cords for \$9.75.

For the 1882 to 1883 school year the total costs were \$414.43 and Marg Casserly received \$140 for the spring term and \$90 for the summer term. Cord wood had increased in price and two cords cost \$7 delivered to the school.

In 1884 a wood house was built.

In 1885, school receipts were \$232.31. Fred Kent taught the winter term and Alice McQuillen the summer term. This pattern of a man teaching in winter and a woman in summer continued for several years. The reason for that arrangement might be because the big boys went to school in the winter as the field work was finished.

Among the 1886 expenditures was the cost of glass and putty. Almost every year there was such an item. Another frequent item was banking the school house in the fall. The school house was set on rocks about a foot above the ground and the wind blew under it. Chilblains were common in winter because of cold floors.

The years from 1876 to 1897 were missing from the records. In that year James Scott was elected clerk for three years and they voted to build a wood house with lumber costing \$27.98.

In 1903, a special school meeting was held to determine the building of a new school house. At the meeting, they voted to borrow \$850 from the state, to examine the Eagan town school and advertise for bids and to sell the old school house to Anthony Welsh for \$50.

However, in 1904 there was an entry of \$35 received from William Scott for the school house. This is the building at 7026 - 142nd Street, Apple Valley, which was moved by eight teams of horses over the hill about a mile to the Will Scott farm which still is a Scott property. This building was used as a granary for many years. Since the farm was sold, it has been a storage building and a playhouse. It has been given to the City of Apple Valley for a historical monument.

Through the years the receipts and expenditures changed little between 1857 and 1908. I thought it would be interesting to give the whole record of that year.

District 17 ----- Lebanon ----- Dakota County

Receipts		1 Mill Tax		Special
School Fund		July 2	41.68	186.15
Nov. 25	67.50	Nov. 25	19.34	90.67
Mar. 15	45.00		45.26	205.27
			6.38	31.08
Expenses:				
Tom Scott (father)		Attending Meetings	.....	\$ 4.25
Frank Scott		Sawing wood	.....	2.50
Maud Hoff		Teaching	.....	35.00
Tom Scott		Wood	.....	11.00
Maud Hoff		Teaching	.....	35.00
A. Sorenson		Plastering School	.....	3.50
Gilbert Whittier		Painting School	.....	25.00
James Scott (Uncle)		Clerk	.....	6.50



SERVING HOT LUNCH at the District 17 school in about 1943. The servers are Alice Glewwe and Barbara Scott. Mary Alice Tousignant has been served. Shirley King, Clara Lehmann and Arthur Lehmann are waiting for lunch.



SCHOOL-PREPARED hot soup with bag lunches being eaten by students in District 17. In the first row are Betty Tousignant, Edward Wenzel, Bob Biese, Virginia Scott and Barbara Scott, in the second row, Wilfred Wagner, Audrie King, Luella Wagner and Gene Reisinger, and in the third row, Alice Glewwe, Kenneth Strese and Bill Barnes. Miss Elizabeth Mullery was the teacher.

Maud Hoff	Teaching	35.00
Frank Scott (son)	Sawing wood	2.00
Maud Hoff	Teaching	35.00
Maud Hoff	Teaching	35.00
Herman Holman	Wood	8.00
Frank Scott	Sawing Wood	2.00
Maud Hoff	Teaching	35.00
Maud Hoff	Teaching	35.00
American Book	Schools Books	33.60
Tom Roberts	For Stove & Freight	113.57
		<u>\$406.17</u>

Amount on hand ---- \$370.57

This was the first year the new school house was used that replaced the original frame school house.

In 1915, the state required a different record book. The receipts were no longer broken down into different levys and came in one payment. Different expenditures were now in different columns.

In 1916 Effie Diebler was the teacher. She was one of the two first graduates of Lakeville High School. Many of the previous teachers were from Farmington where there had been a high school for many years. Wages for teaching were now \$50 per month.

In 1920 disbursements were \$698.14 and the teacher received \$70 monthly.

In 1919 there is record of the first time interest had to be paid on orders made out the previous year.

In 1925 and 1926 I taught at District 17.

In 1933 they again used a new record book. (They were never full.) The record doesn't say so but the school

burned that summer and several of the expense items were for a new school house. The cost of the school expenses, ½ acre of land, and the building itself were \$6,108.54. John Dunn, E. V. Johnson and F. J. Scott were on the school board. Marg Connelly taught for five years.

The expense items for 1937 were different from the early entries.

Toy Money -- \$.40

Children's Readers - Third Grade \$.75

Clock Dial - \$.25

1 ream Penmanship paper -- \$.44

Mother Hubbard Scat Workbooks -- \$.16 a pkg.

In 1938 the first entry for transportation was made for High School pupils.

In 1943 Helen Ostriem taught and received \$107.10 a month. Now they burned coal and used wood only for kindling.

The district was consolidated in 1950 with other districts in Independent School District No. 196.

Apple Valley now has six schools with an enrollment of 5,682 pupils. They are Westview Elementary built in 1964, Southview Elementary built in 1967, Diamond Path Elementary School built in 1971, Valley Middle School built in 1972, Greenleaf School in 1975 and Apple Valley High School opened the Fall of 1976. Cedar Park Elementary will open during 1977.

People tell me that our schools are the most advanced schools in our area. Five of these schools are in the area that was served by the 16 X 20 foot school building which will, I hope, be saved for future children to enjoy.

-- Agnes Scott

A one-room school marm remembers

My introduction to the community was back in 1914. The Superintendent of Schools referred me to make application for country school Dist. #94. One room with eight grades began Oct. 1 and ended in June. The School Board of three members hired me. I had to find a place for room and board, so was referred to Mrs. Edward McDonald. Mr. McDonald was consulted and I was accepted for which I was grateful. It was one-half mile to school.

The first day of school was quite an experience. A few of the children were first graders, there were four boys in the 8th grade and the rest were intermediate grades. They were a pleasing group. In time I found their backgrounds were different nationalities - industrious, hard working families on their own farms.

I remained in this school three years. It was quite a challenge for me to watch the growth of those children and I found we worked well together and progressed. The families were always interested and loyal.

I remember the entertainment, community participation Basket Social and dance at the school. (The orchestra was a violinist, flute and organ.) The ladies prepared the food for the fancy homemade baskets, which were auctioned to the highest bidder. Yes, it was exciting! Whoever got your basket you favored as partner for the rest of the evening. Surprising what those boys paid for their baskets. The proceeds went into the school treasurer to buy library books and supplies for the school.

At Christmas the teacher prepared a program in which the children had special parts. They could sing lovely. A soloist, Marie Kohls, sang "Jerusalem", a classic at that time. The night of the program families came and put gifts under the trimmed tree for Santa Claus to distribute. All enjoyed a joyous time.

Beginning after the holidays you had to prepare for the State Spelling Contest. First you had to compete

with four schools of the District, then County spell-down. It proved successful. Three of my students won at the County in Hastings and two went for the State Contest and one won the written test. The school year ended with State Board examination. We would have a picnic the last day at Crystal Lake.

About this time, the Farm Bureau was organized in the community. Projects were started and meetings for a day would be held in homes. They learned to preserve meat by canning. Another project was to raise chickens and have certified flocks. Then 4-H for the boys and girls became popular. The boys took up raising cattle. A young lad purchased an "Angus Calf" and took it to the Fair with honors -- that was Wilfred Auge.

Farming at this time consisted of wheat, flax, rye and oats, and raising beef cattle.

A few years later a change took place - the community started to have dairy cattle. The milk truck would pick milk up early in the morning and take it to the creamery in the city before noon.

One of the great blessings coming into our homes was "rural electric." It was wonderful for the farmers and so many places it made work easier.

It was in October of 1920 that I married James McDonald and lived on the farm for 25 years. Our three children are Herbert of Hastings, Mary Catherine Furlong of West St. Paul and William of Stevens Point, Wisconsin. We have 13 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren. James's father and mother lived in and built up the farm of 320 acres forty-five years ago when they built their home in Rosemount and moved in 1920.

I hope the folks in Apple Valley always appreciate the beautiful spot they live in. I do enjoy the peace and quiet. Once I heard an officer of the Prudential Insurance Co. say "This is the Garden Spot of the United States."

-- Esther Herbert McDonald

Two students recall early school days

Some of the most vivid memories of the rural one-room school house days belong to the students themselves -- the children, now grown, who carried the water and tin lunch pails, huddled around the wood stoves and studied with youngsters of seven other grade levels.

Such is the story of a third Lebanon school, the District 110 building or "Hagemeister School", so-called because it was located on the Hagemeister farm on Johnny Cake Ridge Rd. The story was told by three of its former students. Caroline Hagemeister Ratzlaff and Minnie Hagemeister Geffert attended the old school soon after it opened in the early 1900s. Elaine Berg Strese went there in the 1930s until the school closed in 1937 or '38.

It was a time in Lebanon's history when a person's neighborhood was his community and that community centered on its school. Township-wide identification, apparently, was not as strong and few events during the year brought all of Lebanon together. The schools were the beehive of social activities, as well as the "three Rs."

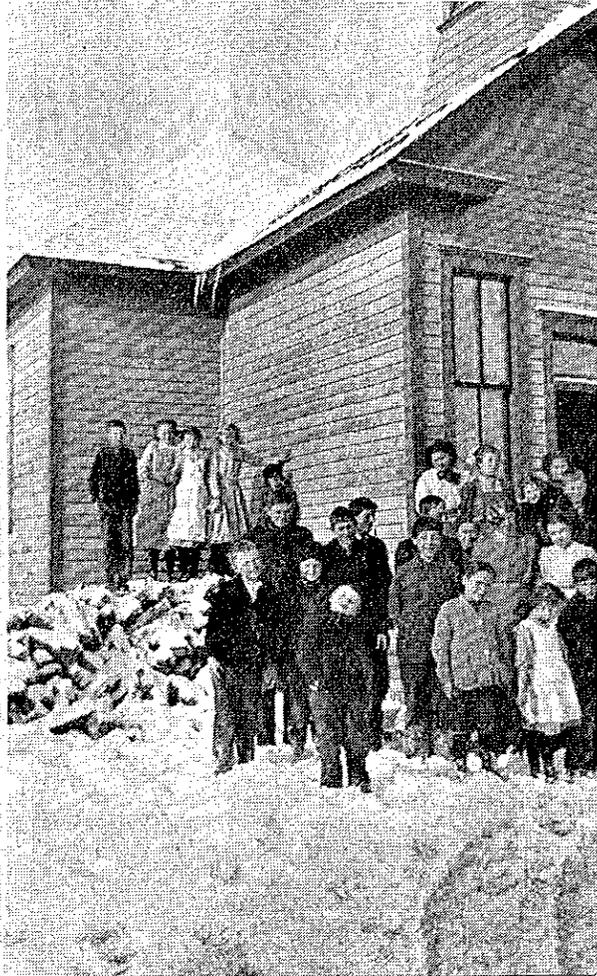
Mrs. Geffert said the District 110 school was about a block away from their farmhouse. The teacher often



CHRISTMAS WAS a very special time in one-room schools and there was always a program of some kind. This one took place in the Hagemeister School in about 1912. Caroline Hagemeister Ratzlaff is in the upper left.

boarded with them, or at one of the Moeller places nearby. The Moellers were her maternal grandparents and uncles.

There often weren't enough desks to go around, Mrs. Ratzlaff recalled, and the students had to double up. The teachers had problems disciplining the "big boys"



PICTURED IS the outside of the Hagemeister School built in 1906. This picture was taken in 1914. The little girl at the right of the front row wearing the apron is Minnie Hagemeister Geffert.

at times. Once one of the older boys fought with the teacher and was sent home. His brother came back with a shotgun.

Annie McDonald of Burnsville was Mrs. Ratzlaff's first teacher. She lived with Grandfather Moeller and walked to and from school each day. She also had to do all the cleaning at school and start the fire every morning.

The school term was eight months, from October to May, for the eight grades. The children were called up to the front of the room to work with the teacher one grade at a time and the rest had to study. It was hard to concentrate, however, they said.

Water was carried from the Hagemeister farm to the school. Two children were assigned to the task each week. At first, the students drank from a pail, everyone using the same dipper. Later, they had a tank with a faucet and each child had his own folding cup. During the time the Hagemeister boys were taking care of the school, they would go back on very cold nights and start the stove, so there would be coals and some warmth left in the morning.

The children did their farm chores before going to school in the morning. "Lots of times we had to turn that old churn before we went to school," Mrs. Geffert said. The cows had to be milked and fed and the other animals also fed. "That old school smelled like a farm after we all sat in there an hour."

Most of the students at District 110 brought their lunches. "The big boys would have those old gallon syrup pails chock full," Mrs. Geffert recalled. The Hagemeister children, however, came home for their big meal at noon. "The folks made us come home. We thought that was so terrible."

School programs were big events, they remembered. Once the adults also put on a play at school, with a dance afterward, and it was packed.

And then there were the basket socials -- dances where the women packed picnic baskets, which were then auctioned off to the men and the money used for keeping up the school. The woman who made the basket and the man who bid highest for it were then partners for the evening. "Married folks did it too," Mrs. Geffert recalled, "and usually a husband would buy his wife's, but the other guys bid it up higher." Once, before they were married, Mrs. Ratzlaff's husband, Charles, bought one of her baskets.

Mrs. Strese remembers District 110's school picnics most of all. There were chocolate cream pie eating contests ("We tried to get the meringue two or three inches high"). The school students, lots of Linkerts, Hagemisters, Shlehs and Jeskes among them, Mrs. Strese said, would stand at a table outside with their hands tied behind their backs and the contest was on. "It was such a messy operation," she said.

One year Mrs. Strese and a girlfriend practiced very hard to "get the 3-legged race down" so they could win at the picnic.

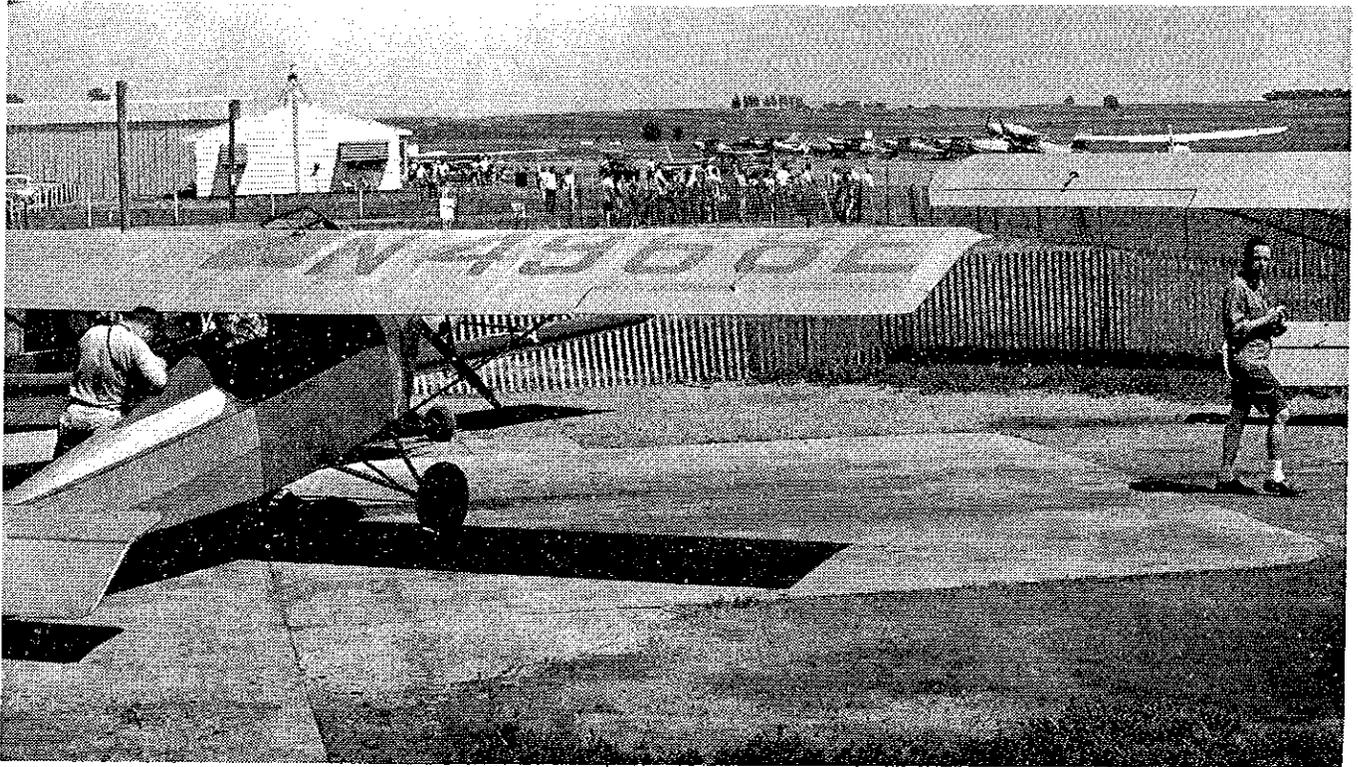
"Christmas plays were so much fun in a small school," Mrs. Strese said. Sheets were hung up for curtains and everyone would come early to get desks -- the little ones in front, then the mothers, and the men standing in back. They sat with bricks heated in the wood stove under their feet because the floor was so cold. "Many classes were held around that big old stove, too."

The last year Mrs. Strese attended District 110, there were only eight students in eight grades. The next year, 1937 or '38, the students transferred to Rosemount schools, paying tuition to go, she said. Several years later, the building was also moved to Rosemount near the railroad tracks. Mrs. Geffert and Mrs. Ratzlaff said it is still standing, but is now used as a house.

-- Carol Braun



ANOTHER PART OF the Hagemeister School Christmas program. Spelling the name of the holiday are Billy Moeller, Emma Kreitze, Walter Strese, Eddie Bruggemann, Herman Hagemeister, Louise Schleh, Henry Linkert, Fred Schleh and Minnie Hagemeister.



COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES known as Fly-in Drive-ins used to be regular events at Southport Airport. They would include such attractions as aviation display, airplane rides and dinners.

SOUTHPORT AIRPORT

From farm to airport to farm

Like many civilian buildings and facilities, Southport Airport had its inception as a military facility.

Although the field had been used occasionally by barnstormers and by flight schools based at Twin Cities airports, it had never been accepted as an "airport" until about 1942.

During this early World War II period, there was a vast increase in military pilot and technician training. The Naval Air Station at Wold-Chamberlain Field suddenly was expanded from a relatively minor base, mainly used by Reservists, into a full-fledged primary and advanced training base.

Primary pilot training was given on open-cockpit Stearman trainers, affectionately called "Yellow Perils". Very soon it became evident that Wold-Chamberlain was overcrowded by these very active aircraft, plus the normal civilian traffic, and numerous itinerant military flights.

The Naval officers responsible for operations sought to relieve this congestion by establishing several, (five, I believe) auxiliary fields in nearby areas. These included the present South St. Paul Airport, Flying Cloud Airport and the field later named Southport.

The arrangement was to lease suitable farm fields, do a bit of leveling and use them as daytime bases for Primary training on the "Yellow Perils".

The land at the southeast corner of County Rd. 42 and Cedar Ave., the Jack Hogan farm, was found to be flat and ideal for an airport site. Jack Kipp, a Marine Corps officer assigned to the Twin Cities Naval Base, became the first owner of Southport as an airport. He bought the property and for a time leased it to the Navy as an airport.

It was during the winter of 1944-45 that Kipp applied to the State Aeronautics Department for a license to operate a public airport. It was the policy of Aeronautics Commissioner Schroeder, before issuing a Public Airport License, to consult with the governing body of the community in which the facility was located as to any conditions or objections they might have.

Accordingly, an informal meeting was arranged with members of the Lebanon Township Board held in a temporary office in an old barn on the Southport premises. This writer attended the meeting along with the Commissioner and the Department attorney. (This writer was at that time the only Airport Inspector employed by the State).

The Township officials, Kipp and the three from the State met in the barn office, heated by a wood stove, and after introductions the Commissioner asked the officials if there was likely to be any objection to the establishment of a commercial airport in the community.

The members of the Board, all farmers, each offered some comment in reply. One said that in his potato field adjoining the Southport field the first six or seven rows of potatoes were damaged by propeller blast so that they produced very few potatoes.

Another said that he was a dairyman and that he had a herd of very neurotic cows who refused to give any milk after being disturbed by passing airplanes.

A third said that he had a hired man who habitually set down the milk pails to watch passing aircraft, resulting in a slowdown in the dairy operation.

About this time Commissioner Schroeder recognized that his leg was being pulled and asked the Board members if they wished to submit any formal objections to the licensing. They answered "Of course not" and added that they wished Kipp success in his operation.

The meeting broke up and, subsequently, a Public Airport License was issued.

Kipp operated the field from about 1945 to about 1955, during which time he built a number of multi-unit hangars, a small shop and a substantial two-story house.

An incident occurred during the earlier part of this period which puzzled many. The Defense Plant Corporation, a federal agency, had a tremendous stock of aircraft parts and instruments which they sought to dispose of after the war was over.

Kipp was appointed one of the agents for the sale of this material and had a large amount of it stored in the barn. One night the barn burned to the ground, presumably destroying the defense plant stock. A visit to the site the next day showed very little trace of the damaged parts, other than a few pieces of exhaust tubing.

During this period the field was used pretty much as an all-way field although Kipp did grade a couple of sod landing strips.

The hangars soon filled up with small private aircraft in addition to those used by Kipp in his operation. Airport space was in short supply as the Metropolitan Airports Commission was just developing a group of "secondary" airports to accommodate the rapidly growing fleet of personal and business aircraft that would have overwhelmed the principal airports at Minneapolis and St. Paul.

In 1955 Kipp sold the property to George Ellis, who moved into the house, bought a couple of airplanes and carried on a rather limited commercial operation. During his ownership he built a NW by SE bituminous runway, an office building, a rather large hangar and a substantial addition to the shop.

It was in 1959 that Ellis sold the property to the "Southport Airport, Inc." headed by Peter Rasmussen. This corporation owned the airport until 1969, when Rasmussen died. The property was again sold, this time to "Southport Industries, Inc.", who did not conduct an aircraft operation, but were landlords to a succession of operators, including Orville Brede, who had operated during the Rasmussen period of ownership. He operated a general aircraft operation, especially repair and maintenance, from about 1959 to sometime in the early 1960s. Other tenants were Lakeline Helicopters, Inc., Mid-Continent Airways, Inc. and from 1961 to June 1974, Willard Steichen, who conducted a conventional flight school and also the only commercial sailplane school in Minnesota.

It was during the period of ownership of Rasmussen that two bituminous taxiways and four large multi-unit hangars were built.

Lakeline Helicopters operated several small helicopters, engaged chiefly in agricultural spraying, mosquito-control application, some training operations, aerial advertising and a variety of operations for which helicopters are particularly suited. They moved their operation to Flying Cloud Airport when it became evident that Southport would eventually close.

At its peak in the sixties, Southport was the scene of Fly Ins, Drive Ins and Fun Days all geared to area-wide activities for all ages. The most spectacular event each summer was the annual appearance of the precision flying teams, the Blue Angels of the Navy or the Air Force Thunderbirds. Many thousands of people watched these events each year.

Meanwhile, the community of Apple Valley developed around the airport vicinity and Southport became the victim of the fate that has befallen so many privately-owned airports. Land values soared, and with them taxes. The owners were obliged to charge the operator, now only Steichen, rental that would cover the high taxes as well as a reasonable return on their investment, based on 159 acres of land that would bring \$10,000 per acre and up for commercial building sites.

Despite the fact that the airport had much activity and that more than 100 aircraft were based there paying rent and buying fuel, the operation could not generate sufficient revenue to pay the ever-rising rental and tax costs.

The beginning of the end came in 1973, when a promoter from California persuaded the owners that the site was ideal for a shopping center. This promotional effort was aided by Apple Valley city officials who predicted progress for the community, despite the fact that a considerable mercantile district had already developed immediately northwest of Southport and that a multi-million dollar shopping center was under development about three miles west in Burnsville.

Despite the crying need for airport facilities suitable for the use of private owners of small aircraft, the economics of land use and the obvious inability of airport owners and operators to compete financially with other commercial enterprises that require much less land to accommodate much more profitable business, airports like Southport are doomed to close.

The final act came on June 1, 1974. The field was officially closed that day and a sad parade of homeless aircraft left to try to find new quarters. Some moved to South St. Paul, some to other Twin City airports, a fair number to Faribault and a few to scattered private landing fields.

The shopping center bubble burst and the premises remain about as they were on June 1, 1974. Steichen still remains on the site and farms what was once a busy airport.

-- Roy Brown, Webster, Minn.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Brown was a state aircraft inspector. He lived on Cedar Ave. in Apple Valley for about 20 years.

Mining gravel is a leading Apple Valley industry

The geographical area that encompasses the community of Apple Valley was the southern terminus of glaciation. Glacial activity ended in the upper half to one third of the town depositing rich areas of gravel and sand. Lighter and finer glacial particles were deposited into the valley areas in a southerly direction toward Lakeville.

Gravel and sand deposits run at least forty to fifty feet deep or more in the northern half of the town. Currently, four companies mine sand and gravel from five areas within the city limits. They are McNamara-Vivant Contracting Company, Fischer Sand and Aggregate Inc., North West Gravel Company, and Shakopee Sand and Gravel Company.

A fore-runner of the modern-day gravel operations was operated by Frank Scott in the 1920s. The gravel it produced was used in many local building projects. This pit eventually became a part of the Fischer operation.

Eatons bring the west to Lebanon

Arthur Eaton Sr., a rancher and lawyer raised in Iowa and a graduate of South Dakota Law School, had interests in ranches in Montana and South Dakota. In 1928 he bought 520 acres of wooded land in Lebanon known as the School Section by old timers. Later 160 acres were added to the holdings.

Here, ten miles south of Minneapolis, a real western style ranch was started. Western style cattle from the eight ranches in which Eaton had interests were imported to be fattened and wait for favorable markets. The advantage of being several miles instead of several days from the South St. Paul Livestock Market; the available cheap, wild, wooded hilly land; and Eaton's experience as a rancher made Eaton's Ranch a natural.

There were rail fence corrals, squeeze pens, cattle chutes, holding pens and two real western cowboys, Slim Brown from Miles City, Mont., and Jerry Agard from McIntosh, S.D.

They broke wild horses and rounded up wild cattle. There were from 120 to 300 head of cattle and 92 horses on the ranch at times.

Later the ranch promoted many horse shows and had many national and regional show winners.

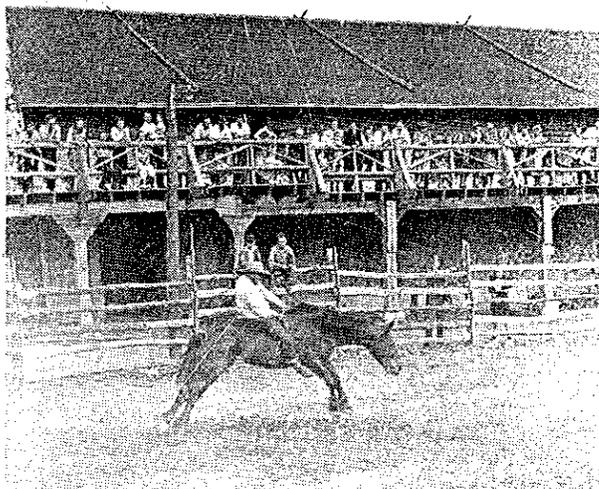
The distinctive stone work in the earliest ranch building was done by a local stone mason Silas Luecke.

Eaton's Ranch was first broken up by the platting of Palomino Hills in November of 1958, and later Eaton's Trailer Court took more of the land.

Horses were still kept in the pasture near the ranch buildings and there were horse shows, sleigh rides and hay rides. In 1969 Eaton's opened a restaurant on the second floor of the lodge called the Maverick. They also opened three party rooms for parties and also offered dancing with live music and entertainment.

In 1972, a western wear store was opened in one of the smaller ranch buildings. Now it is in the main lodge, a beautiful 7500 square foot building with huge log

walls and a magnificent stone fireplace. It is managed by Sue Hartman, granddaughter of Arthur Eaton, Sr., and daughter of Arthur Eaton, Jr. She had grown up on the ranch and had won numerous honors at horse shows and at rodeos.



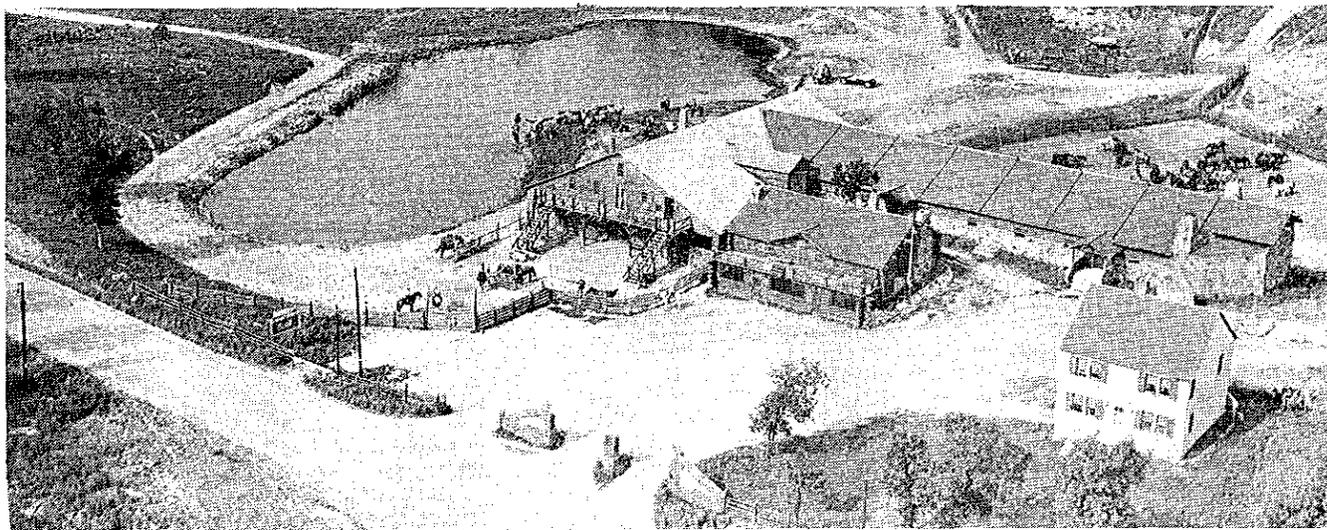
RODEOS WERE important events at Eaton's Ranch at one time. This one is taking place behind the present-day new store.

On one wall of the store are photographs of the early ranch, many horse show winners and a full page article on the ranch's beginnings in the late 1920's.

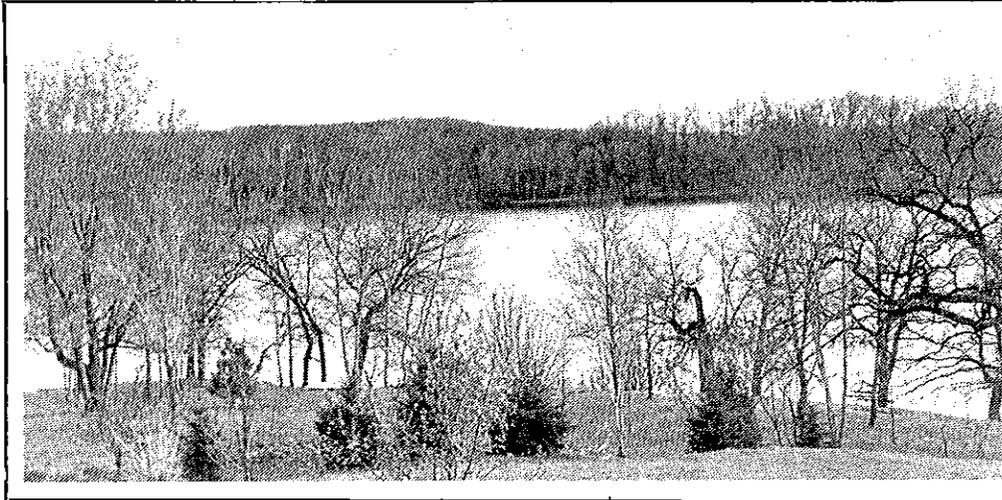
The store sells true western clothing, hats, boots, saddles, jackets, belts, buckles and turquoise jewelry, along with numerous other items.

This real western ranch, started in the farming country within a stone's throw of Minneapolis, is now an integral part of the wider suburban area. Again we see the great contrast between early Lebanon and today's modern Apple Valley.

-- Agnes Scott



CEDAR AVE. was just a dirt road when this aerial photo of Eaton's ranch was taken. The white house is now brown and the rest of the ranch buildings are office and commercial space.



quet Club now is, and Margaret (Maggie) Davis, who lived just east of the lake across from what is now Apple Valley High School, were playing one day on the shores of the as yet unnamed Alimagnet Lake.

Surveyors were surveying there and asked the girls what their names were. From part of each of their first names, they formed the name "Alimagnet" -- the first syllable from Alice, the middle from Maggie and the last from Nettie.

This story was told to me by Mrs. Scott, my mother-in-law, shortly after I came to live in Lebanon.

-- Agnes Scott

1947 was a year of storms

A tornado came to the community shortly after midnight Friday, June 26, 1947. According to Mrs. Agnes Scott remembering the tornado, apparently it started over in the direction of the area of the city hall building.

She stated there were three tornadoes going into three different directions, one going northeast, the second one going east towards the Will Scott homestead. Mrs. Scott remembers that their barn was moved by the tornado about 18 inches off the foundation. She noted that the barn was full of hay at the time, and mentioned that if it wasn't, it would have blown over.

The third tornado was the one that did the most damage. That one went to the southeast that went near the Southport Airport, tipped over airplanes, and hangars were ripped into the air. The damage was estimated at \$19,000, according to the Dakota County Tribune dated July 4, 1947. Also the article noted that one airplane at Southport was picked up by the wind and was carried about one mile, and dropped down and was a total loss. It then went further east on the Rosemount Road (County Rd. 42), then it hit the Charles G. Kohls farm (father of Charles J. Kohls and grandfather of Alan C. Kohls). It leveled the barn, two silos and a hay loader, which was a total loss. The headline in the Tribune read WIND STORM WRECKS 36 BARNs IN COMMUNITY (Dakota County).

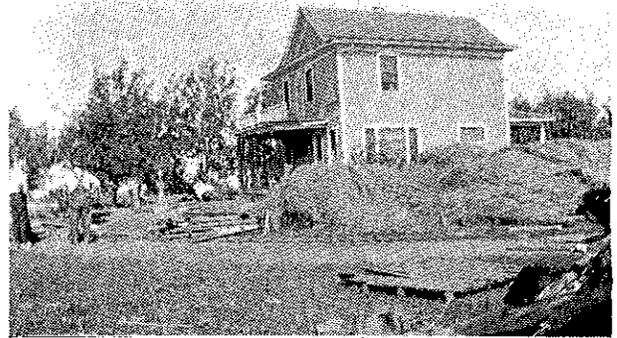
-- Alan Kohls



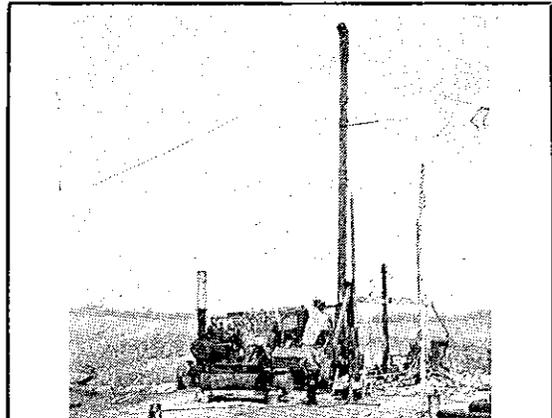
DAMAGE TO THE Charles Kohls farm after a violent tornado churned through Lebanon in 1947.

When Mrs. Will Scott was a girl, her name was Nettie Judd and she lived north of Crystal Lake.

She and two little friends, Alice McQuillen, who lived where the Pool and Rac-



AFTER THE SAME 1947 storm, the barn on the James O'Leary farm was gone and only a pile of hay remained.



A GROUP OF "entrepreneurs" in the 1930s obtained (for a price) permission to drill for oil on Lebanon farms, but no one knows of any oil being discovered. This rig drilled a well 1,800 feet deep near Farquhar Lake.

Lebanon Cemetery dates to mid-1800s

Lebanon Cemetery is located at County Rd. 42 and 31 (150th St. W. & Pilot Knob Rd.)

This well-kept three acre-site had its first burial, according to a grave stone marker, in 1859. This is about four years after the area was first settled. The name on the headstone is Elizabeth Watson. Later, in 1865, her husband, a civil war veteran, was buried in the plot. There were many civil war soldiers from this area who found their final resting place at Lebanon.

The cemetery continues to be in use, with approximately 260 graves there at the present time. Unlike old cemeteries, this one has been taken care of, but there was a period when it had begun to deteriorate. Family members took action to keep the grounds up, until a perpetual care arrangement was set up in 1966. It continues at this time.

The minutes of the first cemetery board meeting are dated December 5, 1863. Since that time, some records of interments have been kept. The inhabitants of the neighborhood met at the schoolhouse for their organizational meeting.

Names of those attending are familiar historically, as they were listed in early accounts of old Lebanon Township as officers or members of the community.

Present at the first meeting were C. S. Verrill, Lot Nason, A. B. Ives, H. J. Verrill, E. W. Felton, E. C. Knight, A. Atherton, Bery Verrill, Thomas Scott and James Farquhar. James Farquhar was named acting chairman. Trustees elected were John Gilman, H. J. Verrill, H. Potter and E. C. Knight.

The following week the group met again to pick the present site of the Lebanon Cemetery. They purchased two acres of land for \$17.50 an acre. This was on the northwest corner of the E. W. Felton claim. Felton was also one of the first cemetery board members.

Even before the year 1900, lot purchases were many, and 34 original purchasers listed. Over the years, most of those buried in the cemetery were related either by birth or through marriage, making it family-oriented. No one religious background dominates Lebanon Cemetery, as many denominations are listed in the records.

Most of the babies' graves were not well-marked, but there are many infant deaths recorded in the early history of the burial ground. In the John Gilman family (one of the originators) there were five small children buried in the family plot.



ONE OF THE first institutions created by the early settlers was the Lebanon Cemetery Association. Many Lebanon pioneers are buried in the still-active cemetery at Pilot Knob Rd. and County Rd. 42.

George Gilman died in 1863 at the age of three. Nellie died in 1866 at four, Lester and Gertie in 1877 at the ages of one and two. Bertie died in 1882 at the age of four and the mother of all of these children died that same year.

The tombstones tell the story of many epidemics that swept through the early-day community, and how vulnerable infants and youngsters were to illness when medical help was also non-existent.

As in other cemeteries of long ago, there are some unknown graves at Lebanon, too. These appear to be grouped together in the southeast part of the original cemetery.

Alan Kohls, whose parents and grandparents have owned the farm east of Lebanon cemetery for many years, served as caretaker from 1967 to 1974. During that time he researched the history of the graves and compiled an account of lot holders and their descendants who were buried in Lebanon.

Some of the names mentioned are Share, Sanger, Harper, Stephens, Ratzlaff, Steinkamp, Chennaux, Moeller, Hagemester, Gramsey, Kukusky, Dannens, Lloyd, Thompson, Scott, Strese, Berg and Hinrichs.

Current officers are Fred Uitenbogerd, president, Rosemount; Floyd Berg, secretary-treasurer, Rosemount; and director Ed Fisher, Burnsville.

-- Alan Kohls

Churches

Apple Valley Alliance

In September of 1973, two families organized the Apple Valley Alliance Church. Rev. Lloyd Edwards was called to be the first pastor. The congregation now numbers 18 families and worships in Westview Elementary School. Rev. Vivian Laird is the present pastor.

Apple Valley Baptist

The congregation of the Apple Valley Baptist Church was organized on Feb. 20, 1972 with a membership of 57 persons. Rev. Jake Leverette was the first pastor. In 1974, a church building was erected at 964 Gardenview Dr., with the dedication of the building on June 9, 1974. The second unit of the church has been built and was dedicated May 1, 1977, to accommodate the growth of the congregation to 150 members. Rev. Donald Decker is the present pastor and he is assisted by lay officers.

Christus Victor Lutheran (LCA)

May 28, 1967 approximately 100 persons met and organized Christus Victor Lutheran Church. Rev. Roger Eigenfeld was called to be the first pastor. In 1968 the congregation built its present church building near the intersection of Cedar Ave. and Palomino Dr. The congregation now numbers 600 members. Rev. Charles E. Tindell is the present pastor.

Church of the Risen Savior

In October of 1970, 550 families formed the Church of the Risen Savior. Rev. Frederick T. Cussler was the first priest and is the present priest. This congregation just completed its new church building in February, 1977, on County Rd. 42 near the Apple Valley-Burnsville city limits. The congregation now numbers 750 families. The church is Roman Catholic.

Grace Lutheran (ALG)

The Grace Lutheran Church congregation was organized Jan. 24, 1965 by the American Lutheran Church. Rev. Gerhard Knutson was the first pastor. The initial membership was 101 families, 378 baptized members. A church building has been built at 7800 W. County Rd. 42. The congregation now numbers 445 family units, 2,044 baptized members or 1,088 confirmed members. Rev. Jim Voelker and Rev. Dennis Nelson are the present pastors.

Heritage Lutheran (ELS)

Palm Sunday, 1971, 35 persons met at the James Hall residence, 905 Whitney Dr., Apple Valley, and founded the Heritage Lutheran Church. Rev. Erling T. Teigen was the first and present pastor. The congregation met in Metcalf Junior High School in Burnsville until August, 1973, when a sanctuary was built at 13401 Johnny Cake Ridge Rd. in Apple Valley. The new building was dedicated in October, 1973. The congregation is a mission congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and now numbers 200 persons.

Mount Olivet Assembly of God

In the Fall of 1963, approximately 15 people met and organized the congregation of Mount Olivet Assembly

of God Church. Rev. Kenneth Hadaway was the first pastor. At first the congregation met in the parsonage. In 1965, the church was built at 14232 Cedar Ave. In October of 1976, an addition to that building was made to accommodate the needs of the fast-growing congregation that now numbers 182 members. Rev. Wesley W. Wold is the present pastor of this active church.

Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

The Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints - Apple Valley Branch met at the YMCA at Blaisdell and 34th Street in Minneapolis in 1964 and formed a congregation with a membership of 43 members. The first pastor was Glen Gilmore. The congregation now numbers 97 members and worships in the Greenleaf Elementary School. The congregation owns a lot at the corner of Johnny Cake Ridge Rd. and 134th St. Ct. and has plans to build a church in the Fall of 1977 or the Spring of 1978. Gary N. McLean is the present lay pastor. Each program has a director. A notable event in their congregation's history has been the La Paz and Harambee experiments in Christian Community living.

Valley Christian Church

The Valley Christian Church was formed when nine families met in October, 1975. There were approximately 40 members. Paul Leavens was the first and present pastor. The congregation now numbers 20 families and meets for worship at the Apple Valley Pool and Racquet Club on County Rd. 42. The congregation has three Elders, four Deacons, and three Trustees as lay officers. This congregation was one of many new congregations formed during the Bicentennial Year among the Christian churches.

Valley Community Church

Valley Community Church was formed when five families met and formally organized in September, 1966. Rev. Fredrick J. Largen was the congregation's first pastor and is also the present pastor. The Church Sanctuary was built in 1970 at 1800 E. County Road 42 at the Apple Valley - Burnsville city limits. This building was expanded in 1973. The congregation now numbers 106 families.

-- Barb Linkert

Civic organizations

Apple Valley Jaycees

The Apple Valley Jaycees were organized in 1967 to develop young men through community-related projects. The charter officers were president, Joe Milbauer; internal vice president, Don Bennett; external vice president, Larry Dodge; treasurer, Jim Fitzpatrick; secretary, Will Branning, and state director, Chuck Johnson. Some of the activities sponsored by the Jaycees are the Junior Miss Pageant, Christmas tree sales, socials, carnivals, softball and broomball teams, park development, youth involvement, Help the Handicapped, 200 Committee and others. The Jaycees donated the flag pole that is at the City Hall.

American Legion Post 1776

The American Legion of Apple Valley Post 1776 was organized May 19, 1976, to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America and to foster and perpetuate a 100 percent Americanism. The charter officers were: Bernard Fink, commander; Robert Lebens, finance officer; Dan Myers, first vice-commander, and Merlen Olsen, second vice-commander. The main activities of the American Legion are service to Veterans, Youth activities such as Boy's State, social activities, and the School Patrols.

Apple Valley Lions Club

The Apple Valley Lions Club was chartered Jan. 30, 1973 to take an active interest in the civic, cultural, social, and moral welfare of the community. The charter officers were president, Bill Hennigan, vice president, Don Johnson; treasurer, Mal Grantham; tail twister, Jerry Kitzman. Activities sponsored by the Lions Club are the eye and ear screening and also two Boy Scout troops and one Girl Scout troop in Apple Valley. They run Bingo games at the Community Center from early Fall through late Spring. They conduct a light bulb sale for their annual Sight and Hearing Conservation Month. Money from this sale is used for sight and hearing needs in Apple Valley. Glasses and hearing aids are given out during the year for school children that have an extreme need.

Apple Valley Lioness Club

The Apple Valley Lioness Club was chartered Dec. 1, 1975 as a service to others. Working side by side with other women and men who share the same ideals, a woman has a chance to express her concern for human need through structured, productive service activities that benefit communities both near and far. The charter officers were: Louise Fahey, president; Evelyn Waters, vice president; Joanne Kitzman, secretary; Judy Shirk, treasurer, and Mary Ehalt, tail twister. Their main activities include selling refreshments each week at the Lions Bingo night. Along with the A.V. Lions Club they hold a Pancake Breakfast each year and sell Italian Sausage Sandwiches at the Dakota County Fair. They join other Lioness Clubs of their 5M District in the Glaucoma screening at the Minnesota State Fair, and assist with the Lioness Flea Market held in May. They also assist with the pre-school Eye and Ear Screening which is sponsored by the A.V. Lions Club. They host a Style Show-Luncheon each Spring and the proceeds from this are used for hearing and eye needs of the local community as well as other community needs that may arise from time to time. On April 26, 1976 the A.V. Lioness Club was one of the groups honored by the International Lions. In August, the Lion and Lioness club of A.V. sponsored a world record-breaking event for Muscular Dystrophy. Mr. Sam Emond played the organ for 205 hours, breaking the Guinness Book of World Records. Over \$4,000 was raised for M.D.

Apple Valley Mrs. Jaycees

The Apple Valley Mrs. Jaycees were organized in October, 1968, to assist the Jaycees organization through the efforts of young women of the community in the promotion of the welfare of the community and its citizens through active and constructive projects and to provide the women constituting its membership, training in leadership and to instill civic awareness to better their usefulness as citizens. The first officers were president, Jeanne Milbauer; vice president, Bev Phillips; secretary, Judy Branning, and treasurer, Norine Cozine. This group received its charter in May, 1970. The charter officers were president, Kay Trittin; vice president, Donna Vollmers; secretary, Joanne Humphrey; treasurer, Ginny Sterling; state delegate, Dodie Bock and Roberta Brunberg. The Mrs. Jaycees provide funds for Sunshine Day Camp for the retarded, sponsor babysitting clinics, assist the Jaycees with the Junior Miss Pageant, conduct eye and ear screening, provide Christmas and Easter baskets

for needy or shut-ins, sponsor Pap Clinics, the bloodmobile and immunization clinics. The Apple Valley Mrs. Jaycees have received awards from the state organization in various fields every year since 1972. Other awards have come from the Minnesota Kidney Foundation, Minnesota Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, and the Minnesota Association for Retarded Citizens.

Apple Valley Optimist Club

The Optimist Club was organized in November, 1974, as a civic organization with their primary objective as "friends of youth". The charter officers were William Ahlberg, president; John Gott, secretary-treasurer; Kurt Lowinski, vice president; and Jerry Beach, vice president. The main activities of the Optimists are an annual oratorical contest, Respect for Law Week and Youth Appreciation Week.

Camp Fire Girls

Camp Fire is an organization of girls from first grade through Senior High school age and they strive to make the girls more conscious of their community and also other people's individuality. Their motto is Wo-he-lo which means work, health, and love. Camp Fire was organized in Apple Valley in 1971. Today there are 45 groups that involve 500 girls. The District Chairman is Kathy Park and the Area Chairman is Lois Taylor. The School Coordinators are Westview, Pat Jensen; Parkview, Paula Reese; and Greenleaf, Judie Wilson. Camp Fire girls planted gardens at Greenleaf School and planned and planted Bicentennial gardens at City Hall. Other major civic projects have been planting 1,000 seedlings at a park in Apple Valley and just helping where ever there is a special need such as at nursing homes or at school.

4-H Groups

The 4-H Program in Dakota County is an informal, practical, "learning by doing" educational program administered by the Extension Office in Farmington. The program is open to all youth, urban and rural, between the ages of 9 and 19 through organized 4-H clubs, as participants in special interest groups or as enrollees in short term projects. Activities are conducted in the members' homes, in schools or other public buildings wherever volunteer leaders assist with the program. There are three 4-H clubs in Apple Valley; the Hilltoppers, the Dakota Do'ers, and the Apple Corps.

The Hilltoppers were organized approximately 27 years ago. The first leaders were Ray Wilson and Fern McCormick. This club was made up of members from the Rosemount-Lebanon Township areas. This club is a very active club and participated in the Apple Valley Bicentennial celebration. They have also participated in the BB gun training program, Share the Fun and the County Fair. The present leaders are Mrs. Sandra Melby and Mrs. Louise Leidner.

The Dakota Do'ers were organized in 1965 as a neighborhood club in the Eaton Park area. Mrs. Marglys Black and Mrs. Priscilla Webber were the first leaders. This club has also been very active in local and county 4-H activities. The present leaders are Lavonne Claude, Darline Lehmann, and Judy Nelson.

The Apple Corps 4-H Club was organized in September 1972 when a group of families who had been members of the Hilltoppers Club decided to organize their own

club because the Hilltoppers had become so large. Mrs. Janice Anderson was the first leader of the new group. One of the activities of this club is an annual club camping trip. This club has helped with the Zoo Open Houses and also helped plant and care for the Bicentennial flower garden at the Apple Valley City Hall. They have also participated in many local and county events. Mrs. Sharon Grinager is the present leader.

Fun and Friendship Club

The Fun and Friendship Club was organized in June, 1975, with approximately 20 members. They organized to promote activities and associations for the betterment of Senior Citizens. The charter officers were president, J. Ross Campbell; vice president, Mabel Sawinski; secretary, Freda Campbell; and treasurer, Thelma Luthanen. They have pot luck dinners, card parties, take trips and have other entertainment. This active group now numbers over 100 members.

Gardenettes

The Gardenettes were organized in March 1965 to encourage all forms of horticulture, home and community gardening and to increase the pleasure derived from these. The charter officers were president, Fran Copeland; vice president, Lorraine Peterson, and secretary-treasurer, Judy Wolf. The clubs activities include planting a tree every Arbor Day and beautifying the Apple Valley Parks. The Gardenettes took a very active part in the Apple Valley Bicentennial year by participation in the Bicentennial Flag raising and the 1976 Arbor Day tree is registered as a State Historical tree.

Greater Apple Valley Area Federated Women's Club

The Women's Club was organized in November, 1975, for the betterment of the community, members as individuals and society in general. Charter officers of the club were president, Barb Wangen; first vice president, Colleen Anderson; second vice president, Marlis Overgard; third vice president, Isabelle Finney; treasurer, Peggy Bushee; recording secretary, Diane Hayes; corresponding secretary, Marnie Howe; publicist, Carol Hein, and historian, Karen Ochetti. Some of the main activities of the Women's Club are the financial support to the AFS program in Apple Valley, the Red Cross Bloodmobile, American Cancer Society Pap Clinic, the Swine Flu Clinic, Apple Valley July Fourth celebration, and fund raisers. The money raised also is used towards the club's community improvement project and they sponsored a family through the Armful of Love Program. This very active group won the state membership award from the Minnesota Federated Women's Clubs for the most new members in their first year, of all the clubs in the state. Lou Stoffel of Hastings, formerly Louella Wagner, who was raised in Lebanon Township, helped to organize and charter the club.

Home Nursing Group

The Lebanon Home Nursing Group is the successor of the Northwest branch of the Dakota County Nursing Board. It was appointed during World War II by the County Commissioners to help and advise their new county nurse, Lila Watson. Esther McDonald and Agnes Scott were the members from Lebanon.

This group met with Mrs. Watson several times a year, at first in homes in Eagan, Lebanon and Mendota Townships and later at District 17 School.

Leaders in health education gave lectures for the members. Courses in Red Cross First Aid were held.

During the war a need arose for dressings for victims of cancer. The group, now mostly women from Lebanon, met monthly to make dressings which were sent to the Minnesota Cancer Society to be distributed to Dakota County Hospitals.

When the need for dressings in local hospitals was satisfied, the group donated them to the hospital for terminal cancer patients, operated by the Little Sisters Of The Poor in St. Paul.

The Lebanon Home Nursing Group meet monthly in the members homes to work, visit and share a delicious lunch. We have been a service organization for over thirty years and hope to carry on our project for many more years.

La Leche League

The La Leche League is an International group that is non-profit and the purpose of the group is to provide educational materials and encouragement to women who want to nurse their babies. They also offer telephone counseling to anyone who needs it. The group meets monthly and has an educational program at each meeting. The International League was organized in 1956 and the Apple Valley League was organized approximately 10 years ago. The main activities of the group are to provide printed matter to their members. Each Fall this group sponsors a Fall Boutique with the proceeds going to support the State organization.

League of Women Voters

The League of Women Voters West Dakota County was organized on April 26, 1966 to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to act on selected government issues. The charter officers were president, Marlene Roth; first vice president, Jean Leer; secretary, Joan Growe; treasurer, Mrs. Harlan Erlandson; Laurel Mueller; Jeri Knutson, and Vicki Oshiro. The League traditionally puts on candidate rallies for local elections, registers voters, sponsored the Presidential debates and takes action on items they have studied. This organization was originally called the League of Women Voters of Burnsville. They have published city surveys of Apple Valley, Lakeville and Burnsville and at present are working on a school survey for School District 196 of Rosemount.

Lebanon Homemakers

The Lebanon Homemakers were organized in 1954 as a group of homemakers interested in sharing education and fellowship in an informal setting, to develop leadership and personal growth and the ultimate goal in the development of citizens who are aware of their responsibilities to the family unit, the community and the nation. Prior to 1954, a group called the Food Utilization Group had been organized since 1944 on a township basis and served the community until the Farm Bureau and the Extension Service separated in 1953 and the first Home Council of Dakota County was organized on a township basis. Today the groups are organized on a neighborhood basis. The major part of the homemakers program is carried out through leader training methods. Local

leaders attend a training meeting and then conduct a similar meeting for their group in their own community. Other programs are carried out by special meetings, open to the public and workshops on a registration basis. Currently there are five homemaker groups in Apple Valley, of which the Lebanon Homemakers is just one. The first Leader was Mrs. John Kelley and the Township Home Counsellors were Mrs. Steve Delaney and Mrs. Lee Scott.

Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life

Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life (MCCL) is a nonprofit public service organization dedicated to protecting and fostering value of life. The Apple Valley chapter is one of 160 throughout Minnesota. There are more than 16,500 members statewide. The Apple Valley chapter said, "We advocate positive action to improve and protect human life and oppose whatever is destructive or detrimental to human life at any stage of development, age or condition. We are especially mindful of the unborn, the aged, the impaired and the impoverished."

New Sociables

New Sociables is a group for women who have lived in the area less than a year. Its purpose is designed to help newcomers in the Burnsville, Apple Valley and Eagan areas make new friends by participating in a variety of activities. The group was founded in 1968 by Marty Krout, Bea Felton, Dot Moore, Joy Potter and Maxine Smith. It began as a bridge group. All were newcomers in the area. They could see the need for an organization that could help other new residents make their transition more smoothly. In the beginning the group was represented through the St. Paul New Neighbors, members attended their luncheons in St. Paul in addition to holding their own meetings. In July, 1973, the St. Paul Chapter lost its New Neighbor Charter thus a new constitution was written and the New Sociables came into being. Green and yellow were adopted as the club colors; the daisy became the club flower. New Sociables has continued to grow and perform a valuable service to newcomers. At present there are 200 active members. The main activities are the monthly coffees held the first Monday of each month at 9 a.m. at the Lutheran Church of the Ascension, Cliff Rd. and County Rd. 11. Speakers on various topics are presented. A monthly Newsletter is printed; the first was printed in July 1974. There are eleven interest groups encompassing everything from antiques to athletics.

Valley Athletic Association

In 1965 the Lebanon Recreation Association was formed to provide the young people of the area with recreational activities. A baseball program was initiated with approximately 110 boys between the ages of 8 and 15 participating in our league composed of 7 teams.

The Lebanon Recreation Association was dissolved in 1967 and the Lebanon Baseball Committee was organized to continue the baseball program. In 1968, 250 boys participated in the summer program.

Due to a variety of interests, the Lebanon Baseball Committee was reorganized in 1969 and the Valley Athletic Association Incorporated was formed. In a single year, girl's softball, football, boys' and girls' basketball, hockey and archery were added to the existing program. Approximately 500 youngsters participated in the various programs in 1969. Archery has since been dropped. However, wrestling and a spring track program have been added.

The hockey program separated from VAA in 1974 to a new organization, the Valley Region Hockey Association. Summer and fall soccer programs were added in 1976. Participation in all sports was over 3,500 children in 1976.

Valley Trail Blazers

The Valley Trail Blazers were incorporated Dec. 14, 1970, when a group of people interested in snowmobiling met and formally organized to promote a safe sport through youth training and a well-marked trail system. Charter officers were Fred Gergen, Jr., Robert D. Shoop, Paige Tanko and Bruce Sandberg. The Directors were Wallace Ullrich, Kenneth Ganske and Robert Brademan. The main activities of the organization are youth safety training and family picnics. This group has raised over \$26,800 in the past five years from March of Dimes rides.

Weed and Seed

The Weed And Seed Garden Club was organized on March 19, 1959, with Mrs. Ray Brown being elected president of the club. The purpose of the club was to stimulate interest in gardening, arranging plant material, appreciation of nature and to encourage conservation.

This club held its first flower show in Rosemount in June of 1963. Later several joint flower shows were held with two other garden clubs in the area.

Its most notable event was the landscaping of the Rosemount Post Office in 1965. This project was entered in a nationwide beautification contest held for Federated Garden Clubs. Later that fall the club received \$125 prize money from Sears for its efforts.

Some of their other projects have been making centerpieces for school functions and several nursing homes in the area, sponsoring a free nature film for the public. Their annual plant sale and decorating the evergreen trees in the business area for Christmas are also projects.

Two of the charter members are still active. They meet monthly in homes in the Eagan, Rosemount, Apple Valley and Lakeville area.

Welcome Wagon Club

The Welcome Wagon Club is a civic and social organization for women new to Apple Valley, Rosemount and Valley Park and was organized in November, 1971. The charter officers were president, Pat Naples; vice president, Pat Hughes; hospitality, Letty Allen; recording secretary, Shirley Anlauf; corresponding secretary, Jean Hoover; treasurer, Terry Otey, and historian, Jan Davis. Some of the main activities of the club are civic donation of time and money, special interest groups for members to take part in and social events for members and spouses. Welcome Wagon was in charge of publicity and decorations for Apple Valley's 1976 Town Meeting and helped hostess the event.

-- Barb Linkert

Law enforcement: From constable to modern force

When Lebanon Township was settled in the Spring of 1855 there was no form of police protection. Not until May 11, 1858, when the township was formally organized, was a constabulary form of police protection established. W. Hardick and A. J. Elliott were the township's first constables. This form of law enforcement continued for more than 100 years.

Not long after the Apple Valley development started in 1963 it became clear that the increase in traffic volume and population concentration required police concentration that was not available under the existing constabulary form of law enforcement. At the 1964 annual Town Meeting, residents formed an Urban Affairs Committee to study these and similar problems.

The Urban Affairs Committee was instrumental in getting the State Highway Department to reduce the traffic speeds along highways 42 and 36 and also recommended that a second constable be added to help enforce these laws. In July 1964 Ken Rowley was selected to serve as deputy constable with Gene Corrigan having been elected constable in March of 1964.

Because under law constables can only be paid service fees on warrants and summons and mileage costs, the Urban Affairs Committee recommended that a Police Department be created. This would enable the constables to be appointed as salaried police officers and allowed service fees to be returned to the township.

The Lebanon Town Board accepted these recommendations and on Sept. 9, 1964 created by resolution the Lebanon Police Department and appointed Gene Corrigan chief of police and Ken Rowley as a patrolman. Their compensation was \$2.75 per hour and they drove their own cars, being reimbursed 7½ cents per mile mileage car expense. The town board provided them with uniforms, a police radio, and detachable red lights and sirens for their vehicles. These positions were considered part-time jobs and both officers worked at full-time jobs elsewhere. Chief Corrigan recalls putting on his new uniform on the evening of October 31, 1964 Halloween Night, for the first time.

The Town Board purchased the first official squad car in July, 1966.

In August, 1966, the new Lebanon Town Hall was built and so the Police Department had its first office. Chief Corrigan began working full-time Feb. 1, 1968.

In November, 1968, the people elected to incorporate as a village and the Mayor-Council form of government took over on Jan. 7, 1969. They wanted to have a full-time police department, so the present officers were



CONSTABLES Gene Corrigan, left, and Ken Rowley, with Lebanon's first squad car in the mid-1960s. It was the beginning of the modern-day police department.

made full-time personnel. The number of personnel has steadily increased approximately two men per year and now numbers 17 full-time sworn officers. The department also has four marked police cars and three unmarked cars. There are also seven female employees, three full-time and four part-time, in the department. They handle the clerical and dispatching duties.

A new uniform police reporting system was set up in September 1970, getting ready for computer participation. The department became computerized in January, 1971.

Until 1974 all dispatching had been handled by the Dakota County Sheriff's Department. In the spring of that year, the Apple Valley Medical Center was built and ambulance service began in Apple Valley. In July, 1974, the Apple Valley Police Department began 24 hour dispatching for all emergency services -- fire, police and ambulance.

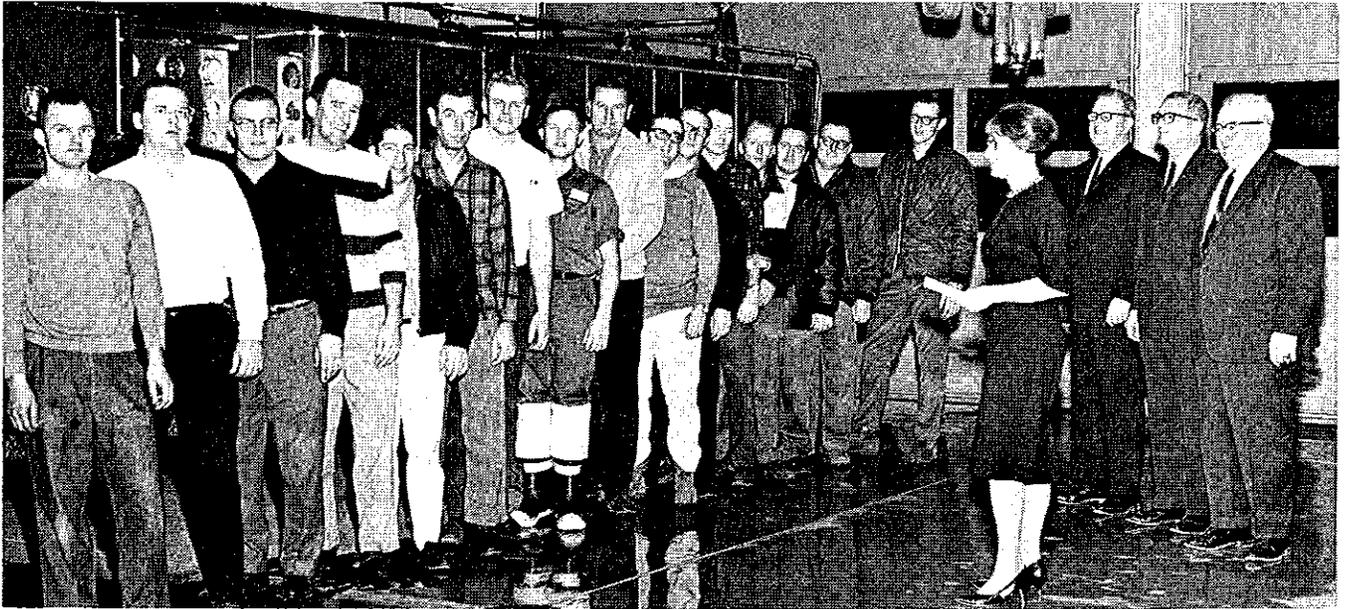
In reminiscing about all his years of police work, Chief Corrigan recalls the first murder case in Apple Valley on July 29, 1974. A Texas man was found murdered in Apple Valley. Two men are currently serving time in Stillwater Prison for this murder.

He feels his most difficult case was in October of 1970 when work continued for several months regarding many homes and buildings being struck by machine gun fire. The police department used a helicopter to help solve this case. The guilty person was charged, convicted, and sentenced to Stillwater. He feels his most bizarre case was a four schoolbus accident on County Road 42 during a blinding snowstorm. There were 220 passengers on the buses and only 13 persons received minor injuries, none serious.

The Apple Valley Police Department is very proud of its record for having no pedestrian deaths in the city. It has received an award every year since 1968 from AAA.

--- Barb Linkert

Fire volunteers formed in 1966



LEBANON'S FIRST volunteer fire department is sworn in by City Clerk Cecelia Strunk in 1966 as the three town board members watch. The first firemen are, from left, Stan Trom, Ralph Dunkle, Dick Tuthill, Dan Kiernan, Dick Redding, Jerry Vadikan, Jerry Holliday, Jim Reemts, Glenn Phipps, Jim Weiler, Dave Rannow, Arvin Bothof, Bob Westin, Jerry Orcutt, Harlan Halpus and Howie Pung. Behind Mrs. Strunk are town board members, from left, Arleigh Thorberg, John Natwick and Steve Delaney.

In its earlier days, Apple Valley, or Lebanon as it was then called, had a contract with Rosemount for fire protection.

By 1966, the town was big enough to organize its own fire service. The department was set up consisting of volunteers, as it still does, with Jerry Holiday as chief. Dick Tuthill, who assumed the fire chief's job in 1969, is the second and current chief.

The first main piece of equipment purchased was pumper unit 4981, bought in 1967 with funds approved in a 1966 bond issue referendum. This first pumper is still in use.

In early 1967, the fire department assumed responsibility for nighttime protection of the community, but Rosemount still contracted for daytime coverage. By the middle of 1967, Lebanon went to fulltime fire protection, but Rosemount continued to respond to calls in the east part of town for some time. The grass fire unit, a four-wheel drive 250-gallon truck, was added in June of 1967 and is also still in use. A second pumper was added in October of 1968 and a third in September of 1976. The van-style rescue unit was purchased in 1971.

In 1972, the fire chief was provided with a car. Because the chief is on duty at all times, it was felt a special vehicle was needed so he could be first to a fire or emergency scene and take charge.

The original fire station, built as part of the town hall in 1966, was expanded in 1973 and a second fire hall was opened in February of 1976.

Prior to 1975, department volunteers were called to action through a multiple-ring telephone system that called everyone at once. Since 1975, a paging system has been used that is operated by the 24-hour dispatch system coordinated with the police dispatcher. Each fireman wears a small paging unit on his belt.

Currently there are 45 volunteers trained for fire and rescue duty in Apple Valley.

Apple Valley Fire Department Women's Auxiliary

The purpose of the auxiliary is to support the volunteer fire department in case of needs during a fire or at other functions. The organization began in April of 1968. The first officers were Marilyn Tuthill, president; Anita Westin, vice president; Rosemary Engle, secretary; and Beverly Goodoiien, treasurer.

Main activities have been to have fund-raising projects to equip the fire department, help the fire department with the annual Fireman's Ball and open house during fire prevention week, and to plan activities for the firemen and their families, such as picnics and Christmas parties.

The club has purchased some rescue equipment and a Resusci-Anne and baby, made rescue vests, and purchased shades for the new fire hall and some equipment for the kitchen.

-- Carlyle Mitchell

Apple Valley pioneers new medical concept

A medical center complete with a 24-hour, hospital-style emergency room has been in operation in Apple Valley for several years.

Now called the Apple Valley Medical Center, the unique facility opened Aug. 12, 1974 under the name "Dakota Community Health Center".

The emergency room, staffed around the clock by a doctor, is designed to serve suburban residents with emergency care for anything from a bad sore throat to a major traffic accident without the building or operating costs of a full-scale hospital.

It was the emergency room, located in a suburban doctor's office building rather than a hospital, that brought the medical center and Apple Valley to the attention of Reader's Digest magazine in February, 1975.

The Digest article, a condensation of a Minneapolis Tribune story by Lewis Cope, was printed in the "News From the World of Medicine" section. It called Apple Valley's emergency room the "wave of the future in the suburbs."

The beginnings of the health center go back to 1972 when the Apple Valley City Council realized that improved medical facilities were badly needed because of the rapid growth of the city. At that time the city council sent out letters to all the doctors in the Twin City area. Dr. Ralph Tharp was the only doctor to respond. Later Dr. Peter Frederixon and Dr. E. John English joined Dr. Tharp as a partnership and the medical center was born.

Family Physicians Associates was the name under which the clinic was organized with Tom Pederson as the administrator. A building was built on Galaxie Ave. near 146th street on land that was donated to the city by Orrin Thompson.

Family Physicians Associates opened with four full-time and 1 part-time doctors. They were Dr. Ralph Tharp, Dr. Peter Frederixon, Dr. E. John English, Dr. Nancy Beecher, and Dr. Harvey Richmond.

The emergency room part of the facility operates independently, but was opened at the same time as the clinic. The ambulance service was started by and owned by the health center until June, 1975, when the ambulance service was contracted to a private company.

In June of 1975 Ron Botko was named the administrator of the facility.

By the end of 1976, Dr. Tharp had left the clinic and Dr. Warren Kleinsasser had joined it.

City is home for new state zoo

In the middle of the wooded northern portion of Apple Valley is the site of the 467 acre Minnesota Zoological Garden -- the first state-financed zoo in the United States.

Ground was broken in 1974 for the May, 1978 opening of the zoo, but the natural-habitat facility was more than 20 years in the dreaming and planning stage. In it, a variety of animals live naturally in four major exhibit areas designed to duplicate as closely as possible their everyday surroundings.

Three of the major exhibits are in the main building complex. The oriental or tropical exhibit is an acre-and-a-half indoor climate-controlled area with wildlife from Southeast Asia, Indonesia and China. The building, complete with a variety of tropical plantings, is maintained at a jungle-like atmosphere and its inhabitants include sloath bears, tapirs, clouded leopards and monkeys.

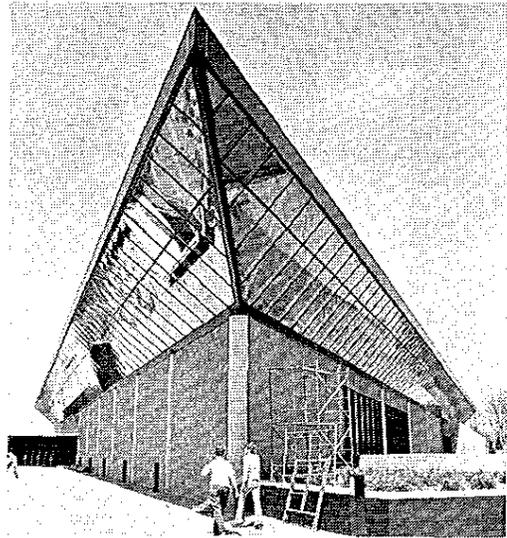
The other main exhibit, the Northern Trek, is completely outdoors and animals live in natural exhibit areas where they have the appearance of being uncaged, although they are actually prevented from roaming by concealed moats. When completed, the Northern Trek will be an 85-acre year-round exhibit of northern hemisphere animals, however it is being built in two phases. The exhibit will have a walking path and a monorail is expected to open in the fall of 1978. The animals include Batrian camels, Siberian tigers, bighorned sheep, Rocky Mountain goats and moose.

The Minnesota Zoological Garden was funded initially with \$23.3 million by the Minnesota legislature. The legislature also promised up to \$2.3 million to match private contributions. The zoo is eventually expected to be self-supporting, producing revenue to pay off the bonds that were sold to build it.

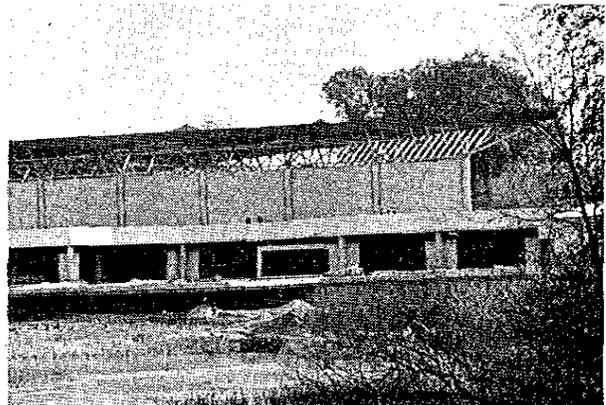
The impetus for a new Minnesota Zoological Garden was first felt in 1955 when the Como Zoo Volunteer Committee, which was organized to raise funds for Como Zoo, introduced the idea of building a new and better zoo at Como or at a site in the metro area.

In the early 1970s the decision was made to build the zoo, but the Apple Valley site was not the first to be considered. The State Zoological Board had almost settled on another location in the Twin Cities when Apple Valley officials started to contact board members contending they could offer a larger and better area

for the zoo. City officials invited state zoo representatives to tour the proposed site with them on horseback.



THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN'S tropical exhibit, with its unusual trapezoid shape, shown under construction in 1976.



A VIEW FROM the future Northern Trek exhibit to the zoo's main building complex while it was being built in 1976.

Apple Valley celebrates America's Bicentennial

"Our community and its people were our exposition. We encouraged and developed the Bicentennial Celebration as a significant opportunity for service and involvement. The evening of Feb. 9, 1976, Lt. Governor Rudy Perpich officially recognized us as a Bicentennial Community. City Hall over-flowed with proud and excited citizens as Rosemount High School Band performed the Star Spangled Banner. Our people continued in this personal pride and commitment in many ways. Compfire Girls and 4-H Club members planted red, white and blue petunias. A Boy Scout constructed a scale model replica of the first school house in Lebanon Township, which is now Apple Valley. The July 4 parade and festival were attended by the largest crowd Apple Valley had ever seen. The event was highlighted by pioneers and their descendents who had significant impact in preserving our community. The continuation of our Bicentennial efforts include restoration, a historical booklet and strengthening the American dream."

-- Marlene Hayes Romain, Chairperson

This one-minute message was recorded by Mrs. Romain on a cassette tape and was included in the Minnesota Bicentennial Time capsule, which is to be opened in 2076. The Bicentennial, the most massive volunteer in the nation's history, brought the Spirit of 76 to Apple Valley in many ways. It was a time to renew citizenship, to become recommitted to this country's goals and objectives. The Bicentennial Celebration stood for the realization that the promised freedoms must be "fought" for again in each generation by persons who care enough to get involved.

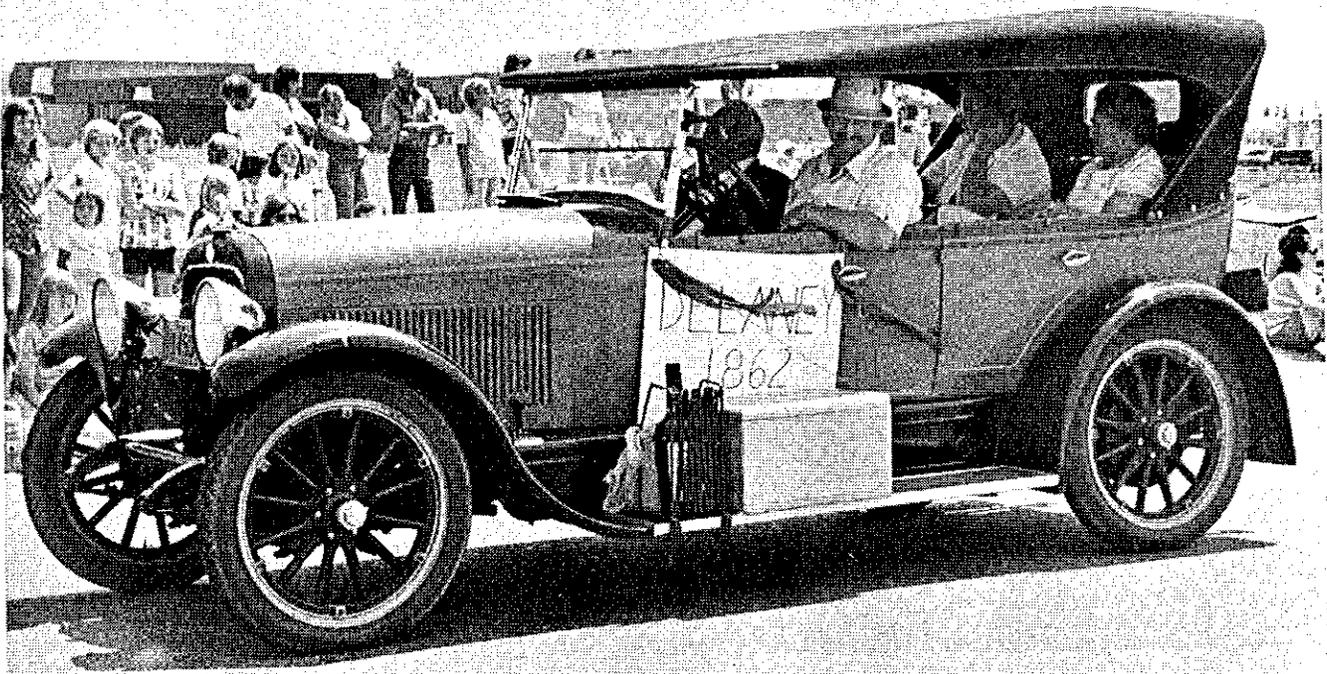


APPLE VALLEY officially became a Bicentennial community on Feb. 9, 1976, at a special ceremony that included presentation by then-Lt. Gov. Rudy Perpich, shown here with members of the Bicentennial Committee. Those who were active in planning Bicentennial events during 1976 included Chairperson Marlene Romain, Alan Kohls, Agnes Scott, Barb Linkert, Jean Hecker, Carol Braun, Ron and Barb Schoof, Jane Angell, Jim Morrissey, Larry Lauer, Lois Taylor, Linda Running, Kathy Weesner, Julienne Moeger, Georgetta Ranck, Charlene Nelson, Juanita Leno, Lucy Van Gelder, Jerry and Joanne Kitzman, Louise Leidner, Carmel Anderson, Mike Foley, P. D. Cozine, Carol Alexander and Bill and Connie Ahlberg.

The many aspects of the Bicentennial year came together in the grandest day of all, July 4, 1976. Like many other communities, Apple Valley had a local celebration, and it included a parade that was the best-attended single event in the history of the community, a carnival, entertainment and fireworks. The Bicentennial Celebration had three parts -- heritage, festival and horizons -- and involved every level of the community including organizations, youth and the elderly. The theme for the July 4 parade was the past, the present and the future. The grassroots celebration left its mark on Apple Valley. The year 1976 brought the city's people together and fostered a sense of community that has lasted beyond the festival itself.



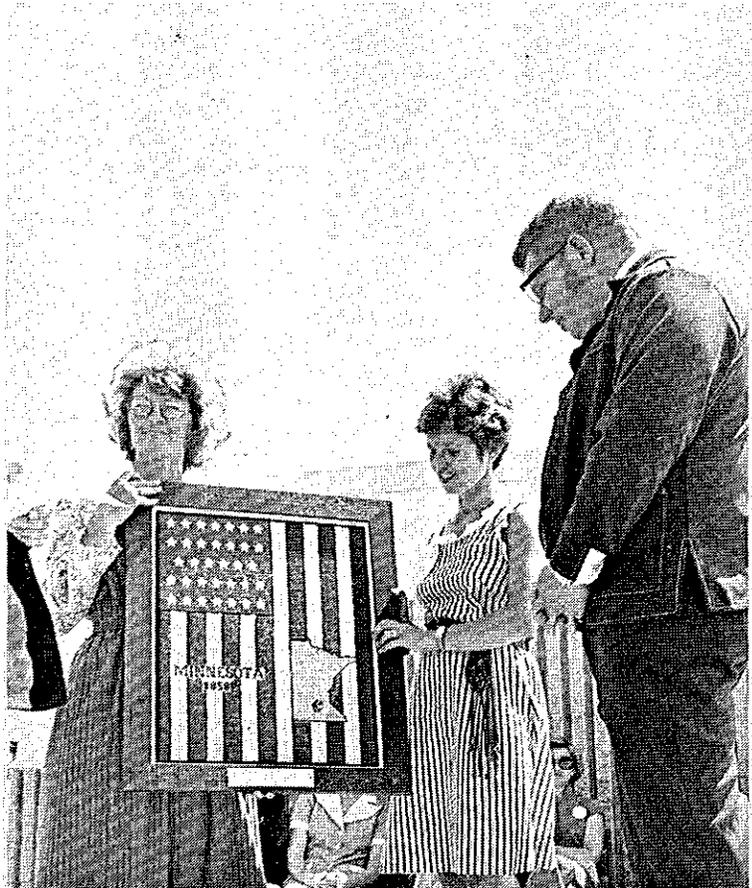
AMONG THE parade floats was this giant Uncle Sam made by the residents of Sandstone Dr., Eagan. This picture has also appeared in a photo-history Minnesota's Celebration of the Bicentennial.



ANTIQUE CARS that carried descendents of Lebanon's "pioneer" families were featured in the Bicentennial Fourth of July parade.



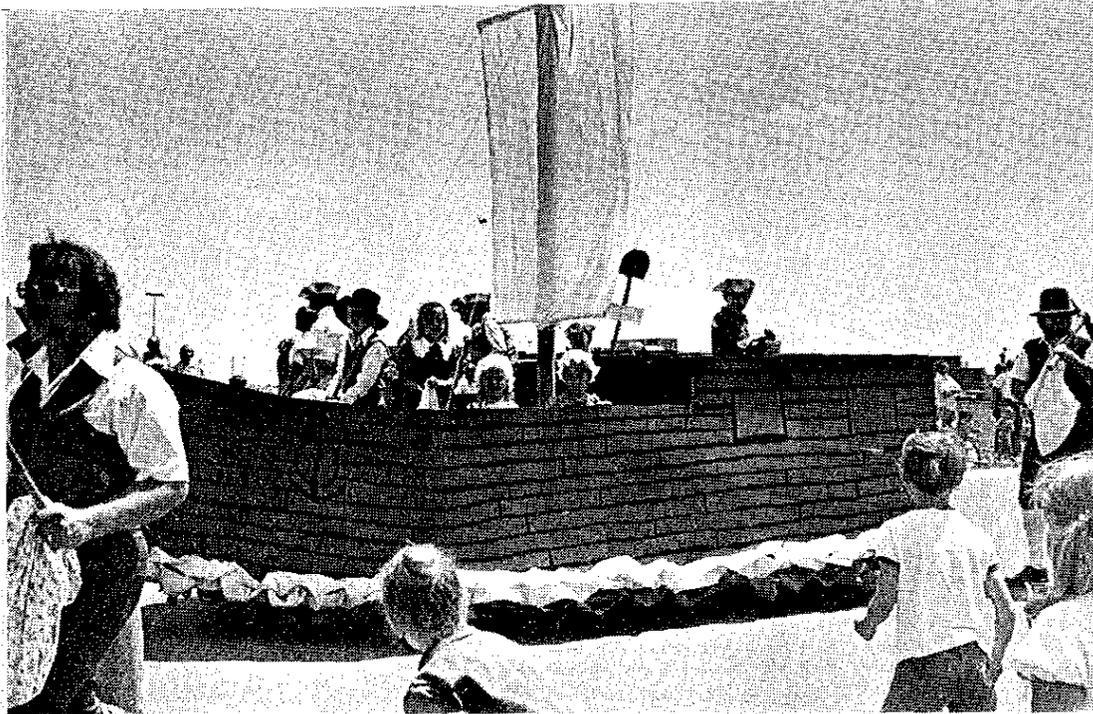
APPLE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL'S Marching band made its first appearance in the parade.



WELCOME WAGON members needlepointed this 1858 U.S. flag and presented it to Mayor Fred Largen on behalf of the city after the Bicentennial parade.



SCOUTLEADER LARRY LAUER rang the bell at Grace Lutheran Church to observe a national simultaneous bellringing on July 4, 1976. Apple Valley was also represented by this picture in Minnesota's photo collection on the Bicentennial.

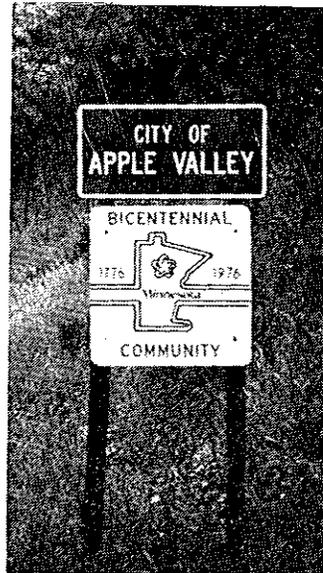


RESIDENTS OF HARALSON DR. titled their float "The Immigrants". Among the families who participated were the Harold Hauglens, the Wayne Ostergrens, the Dave Carters, the Bob Kinneys, the Dennis Grunewalds, the Sue Kemkes, the Ken Ceolas, the Ivan Adams, the Floyd Andersons and the Jim Bielkes. The float keyed on the varied ethnic backgrounds of the neighborhood.



WINNER OF FLOAT competition was the entry from Country View Mobile Home Park, Farmington.

The Bicentennial was bigger than the July 4 events. The year America entered its third century was one of red, white and blue flower beds, decorations, ringing bells, pageants and on-going service projects. Apple Valley had a time capsule, too. It was buried at the city hall, to be unearthed in the year 2000. A contest was held for the first Apple Valley child born on July 4, 1976 and reported to the Bicentennial Committee. A tree was planted on Arbor Day and later in the year, a Town Meeting at the new Apple Valley High School was conducted with the help of many community individuals and organizations.



A RED, WHITE AND BLUE flower bed was planted around the city hall's flagpole by Camp Fire Girls during the Bicentennial year.



THE FIRST Apple Valley baby reported born July 4, 1976, won \$1 for every pound of his birth weight. The winner was Robert Lopez, son of Rueben and Rose Ann Lopez. At left is Marlene Romain, chairperson of the Bicentennial Committee.



TOWN MEETING '76 was another Bicentennial activity sponsored in conjunction with other community groups.



MEMBERS OF THE Bicentennial Committee buried a bicentennial time capsule to be unearthed in the year 2000. From left are Linda Running, Barb Linkert, Jean Hecker, Alan Kohls, Barb Schoof and Ron Schoof.