

October 3, 1929

HISTORY OF CAMP DOUGLAS - By Dr C. O. Cron, Village President

On the morning of September 20, 1864 the work train of the Milwaukee R.R. left three passengers, two middle aged men and a young girl. The country was wooded except for a wagon road track which led to a small clearing about 1/4 mile distant, beside Chinaman Rock. Here were two long low buildings of boards, partly finished. One of the men was Amp. Chamberlin of Kilbourn and the other was James Douglas, the girl was Ann Eliza Douglas, known today as Mrs. John Singleton, Sr. These two men came to take charge of the wooding camp for the Milwaukee R.R. In those days railroads used wood instead of coal for their locomotives and often had wooding camps situated along the line. This was an excellent location for such a camp because of the exceptionally good timber which grew there.

Mr. Chamberlin acted as clerk and paymaster, while Mr. Douglas began six weeks later to board men. One of the rude board buildings was used for cooking and sleeping quarters, and the other for the men's quarters.

One mile west of this camp was another operated by a certain Mr. Temple. To distinguish this camp from his own, Mr. Douglas put up a sign by the railroad track which read "Camp Douglas" and Mr Temple also erected a sign "Camp Temple". This is the true origin of the name of our village contrary to the belief of thousands of people who come here in the summer who probably think it was named after our military reservation.

Mr Douglas moved his camp to the railroad track and remained there four years, sawing the wood by horse-tread power. In the meantime a telegraph office was built and the Section men built shacks nearby.

The Omaha R.R. was constructed through this section of our country in 1870. It crossed the Milwaukee R.R. one-half mile east of the wooding camp. One of our oldest citizens, Tom Whereatt, helped survey the railroad from here to Elroy. Soon after the track was completed, the telegraph office was moved from the wooding camp to the crossing of the two railroads. A Depot was constructed and the junction became known as Camp Douglas. The wooding camp became known as Old Camp. The vicinity retains this name to-day.

Very soon two hotels were constructed, one by Mr. Brown, between the tracks on the site of the present Bertha Bell restaurant and another was built where Mr. Hansen's pool hall now stands. It is there that Mr. Douglas built this hotel, but James Lynn started to have it in charge in 1872.

By this time a few people had moved here. William O'Harron was here, of course before the Omaha R.R. was established. He owned most of the property on which the village is situated. Our oldest citizen, Bert Lynn, came here in 1872 and at that time there were eight families, namely: Cavenaugh's, Wm. O'Harron, Maurice Duffy, Dan Ryan, Durques Patrick Kerwin, Dennis Hayden and "old man Gardner", as he was known. He was employed in the depot at that time, his son "AB" being agent and J. H. Marsh telegraph operator. There was also a camp of five hundred Indians one-mile west near Old Camp.

The hotel operated by Mr. Brown burned soon after he built it. After that, he homesteaded forty acres of land and built a hotel across the Milwaukee track from his old one. The cellar of this hotel is part of the basement of the late Mrs. John Singleton's residence, while the kitchen part of the hotel is still used by Earnest Singleton as a store-house and is now owned by Frank Byers.

Gradually, as the population increased, various business places were established. Tom Whereatt started the first store in 1871. The structure was ten by twenty feet. He continued his business for two or three years after which the building burned.

When John Singleton moved down to lower camp, he moved the Jenkins house from Jenkins' Valley to the corner where the Megow building was situated. Jenkins Valley is directly back of the Mrs. C. J. Philips residence. There are probably few people to-day who have never heard of such a valley. John Singleton used this building as a dwelling house and built an addition for a store. Later he erected a building across the street where the bank now is located and he and J. F. James went into partnership as dealers in general merchandise.

After some time, John Singleton bought his partner's share in the store and went into business independently. His store burned in 1891, but he rebuilt and continued in business until February 10, 1902, when Will Eberhart took possession. This store burned March 31, 1909. Eberhart rebuilt the present building in 1915, now owned by the Western Union and went into partnership with Claire Eberhart, in 1917 Eberhart sold his interest in the store to C. F. Eberhart.

In about the year 1876 or 1877, Frank Hurd started a store. After two or three years in business he sold it to Frank Long. In 1881 Wm Johnson bought the Frank Long store. He remained in business until May 11, 1886, where he sold to his son, A.C. Johnson. Johnson's store burned in 1891, was rebuilt and burned again March 31, 1909, together with the Eberhart store. Mr. Johnson started in business again in part of the old school-house building. He continued in business here till 1916 when he sold to Marachowsky who one year later sold to E. J. Anthony.

In the year 1889, Geo. Frohmader and E. A. Haskins went into partnership and built a store on the present site of Frohmader's store. This building burned in 1891, but was rebuilt again as the present building. In 1904 Frohmader bought Haskins' share in the store and began business independently. In 1916 he sold to his son, Carl Frohmader and Alvin Graf. After the war it was taken over by Carl Frohmader independently and is now known as the I. G. A. store.

When James Lynn came here in 1872 he took possession of the Hotel which was situated on the lot of Eberhart's store and was known as the "Camp Douglas House". The first saloon was in this building. The hotel burned in 1891 and was rebuilt. In 1894 he sold to Alex and Geo. Eberhard. In 1898 Alex sold his share to George and he continued the business, called it the Belmont Hotel until 1898. He then sold to Mr. Albright of Madison who kept it a year and then the hotel burned. It was not rebuilt.

When John Singleton and J. F. James went into partnership in the store they also bought Brown's Hotel and moved it across the track where Brown's first hotel had been burned. This hotel stood until 1891 when it burned. Mr. Singleton, having formerly bought his partner's share in the enterprise rebuilt of brick. The hotel was operated by Jack Hurley, R. L. Hansen, R. C. Falconer, and Joe Riley for many years. It was destroyed by fire in 1918 under the ownership of Herman Romanosky.

Leander Buffmire probably had the first livery stable here. James Lynn kept a few livery horses in connection with his hotel. There was no flourishing livery business, however, until Alex and Geo. Eberhart went into partnership in 1894 at the same time they bought the hotel from James Lynn. In 1898 George took possession of the Hotel while Alex ran the livery barn. Alex remained in business until 1907, then he rented his barn to Bert Martin, on August 21, 1908. Bert Martin purchased the barn. It burned December 1910, together with part of the old schoolhouse. He rebuilt his present barn and runs his livery and car storage to-day.

Wm. Edson and W. H. Lynn started the first hardware store in 1872. Chas. Hoton, also started in this business in 1886. His store burned in 1891. He rebuilt after the fire, remaining in the hardware business until John Buffington bought his stock in 1913. The latter went bankrupt soon after. Then Irwin Hoton began a hardware business in the same building, which he still maintains. Otto Eberhart and R. L. Hansen later operated hardware stores here.

E. D. Singleton started independently in the hardware business in 1908. His store burned February 12, 1916. He rebuilt the same year and is now in the general merchandise business in company with his son, Ralph.

W. H. Lynn also started the first jewelry store in Camp Douglas. He was in business three or four years and then he sold to his brother, Bert Lynn, in 1892. Bert Lynn started a barber shop in connection with the jewelry store. He is still in the barber and jewelry business and has the long distance and local telephone office in this building.

E. J. Anthony started independently in the barber business and in 1918 bought out Marachowsky grocery, located in the building where Chas Winkler now has a hardware store. Mr. Anthony moved into the Megow Building and one year later bought out the Gent's Furnishing Business from I. G. Whereatt located in the same building. In 1920 E. J. Anthony sold his entire stock to C. F. Eberhart. Mr. Anthony established a grocery business in his own building and C. F. Eberhart moved his stock together with the Anthony stock into the Megow building and it became the Eberhart and Stallman General Merchandise store. It was destroyed by fire in 1923.

The first meat market in Camp Douglas was started by Joe Blaske in 1882. When F. J. Althaus came here and started another meat market two years later, Blaschke discontinued his business. Althaus built the present market building and was in the butcher business until E. V. Luck bought the market March 12, 1916. He sold to John Schroeder who now is our butcher.

L. D. Gleason started the first feed store February 15, 1893. He took his son, William into partnership in 1895. The firm was known as the L. E. Gleason and Son. In 1919 the feed store was sold to the Farmers Co-Operative Company and is now under the management of Martin Hansen.

There were several different men in the blacksmith shop, Mr Washburn being the first to set up a shop in the Megow warehouse back of their building. John Hagel took this over in 1906 and later moved to his own building at the present site.

October 10, 1929 Issue

The Bank of Camp Douglas was established in 1904 with Miss Evelyn Singleton as cashier. A new building was erected in 1911.

C. H. Seibold started his lumber and insurance business in 1900. He has continued since and has taken his son, Raymond, into partnership with him.

Mr Selfert started the first drug store in 1895. He was in business a few years and then went bankrupt. There was no drug store until 1902 when Mrs. B. G. Chinn opened one in the Ed. Haskins building. She sold out to Mr. Porter in 1909. He stayed a few years and sold his stock to Mr. Boundy who moved from the Haskins building. He sold his stock to R. C. Falconer in 1912. In six months time the latter sold to Mrs. H. M. Roddy. In 1918 "Aunt Hattie" bought the Johnson building and moved to her present home, "Everybodys Drug Store".

Mrs. Morton started her restaurant in October 1908. Several years later they built another building now known as the Velvick Cafe.

Mrs. Bert Stafford started a restaurant in the Loomis Bldg, July 1, 1911. She moved to the Green building four years later. She then sold to Frank Hammond who is still the present owner.

Leo Wilkinson's father started the first shoe cobbler's business in Camp Douglas and Leo succeeded him. Several different people had harness shops and shoe stores in their possession. Fred Fredrickson started a good business in shoes and clothing and also a cobbler's shop. He sold to Guy Whereatt in 1912. Jim Peterson bought the Shoe Shop.

Prior to the year 1893 there were no doctors here save two Dr. Walrons and Dr. Bullard. They came here part of the year in the summer months and then left again in the fall. In April 1896, Dr. C. O. Cron came to practice medicine. He has continued since in the village and surrounding community.

Dr. C. F. Happle, dentist, came here in 1908. Later he moved to Reedsburg where he now has a large dental practice.

Dr. W. B. Parke began his medical practice here in 1905 and still here practicing.

One cannot help but notice that so many of the places of business burned in 1891. As a matter of fact, the entire business section of the village did burn. It was not known for certain just how the fire started but it is thought it started from a lamp in Leander Buffmire's saloon. A lighted lamp without a chimney had been left standing in the back room of the saloon. It is thought the lamp exploded, for the flames had crept up overhead and the fire beneath had gone out entirely before anyone discovered it. Then when the fire above was discovered the only means to extinguish it was by chopping through with an axe. It seems almost improbable, but no axe could be found until the fire was so far advanced that the people could not get control of it. The flames enveloped other buildings down the street, jumped across and burned up the buildings on the other side. The entire business section had been destroyed before the flames could be extinguished.

Camp Douglas was incorporated in 1893, the population being 333. However, the Village was not entirely independent until 1899. During those six (6) years the citizens of the Village could vote for the Officers of the Village and the Town of Orange, also part of the license money went to the different School Districts of the Town. In 1899 Camp Douglas was made an independent Village.

Camp Douglas, however, controlled its own government in 1893. It appropriated money for a Town Hall, granted give licenses for the sales of intoxicating liquors and made provisions for the General Welfare of the town. Our census in 1910 was 473. The population at the time of the last census was 546.

Our first Post Office was in Mr. Brown's hotel in 1871. It was changed from a fourth class to a third class while Frank Davis was postmaster. Also two rural free delivery routes were laid out, one taken by Mr. Philip Walker and the other by Fred Olmstead. The Post Office was destroyed by fire in 1916 at the time Earnest Singleton's hardware store burned. When he rebuilt his place of business the Post Office was included and is now occupying one front corner of his store. The present Postmaster is Otto Nienas.

The first Schoolhouse was made of logs and was part of Rule's residence, one mile south of our village. Later it was in John Hinton's residence. Mrs. A. E. Singleton taught school there.

In 1887 Camp Douglas was made into a separate district of its own, and a new schoolhouse was built next to the bluff on the present site. Later an addition was built to it. Part of this school building burned with Bert Martin's livery in 1910. The other is occupied by Chas. Winkler as a hardware store. The present schoolhouse was constructed in 1909. In 1915, this school district and district No. 2, south of here were united.

October 17, 1929 Issue

It is interesting to note that the names of many of the bluffs and of the town itself, though they suggest some phase of military life are really of an entirely different origin. For instance, the origin of the name of Target Bluff. This bluff was

named about thirty (30) years before the military reservation was established. It was about the year 1858, when Milwaukee R.R. was constructed. In surveying, it is customary to use some large land mark as a target. The bluff on the east side of our village was used as a target and has retained its name since as Target Bluff. By standing on the north end of Target Bluff one can see a great distance up the Milwaukee track and at night, when a locomotive is making its way toward Camp Douglas the bright lights from the headlights can be seen focused on the bare rocks until the engine turns just before it reaches town.

Long Bluff, of course, was named from its characteristic shape. It is over a mile in length and has many points and spurs projecting from it. Castle Rock, too, was named after itself, as one might say, it is the curiosity all over the state for geologists who cannot determine its formation. It appears to have been constructed by some huge giant for his castle. The long, high bluff running down beside Main Street on the west side was known as Billy's Bluff, after Wm. O'Harron, who was the first settler.

The origin of Chinaman Rock is very interesting. Prior to 1887 it was known as Kenyon's Rock after a man by that name who lived there. Then about thirty years ago an old chinaman, for such he was called, came and lived in a cave in the rock all winter, begging for his living. Whether he was a chinaman or not is hard to tell, but, nevertheless because of this occurrence the rock is known as Chinaman Rock. (note: Senior Editor Times-Argus: He was a real chinaman and was brought to New Lisbon and cared for by Al Haire at his saloon for many months. The editor saw this chinaman many times before the fellow was finally sent to Chicago.)

We have many interesting rocks and bluffs surrounding our town. They are not only noted for their beauty and protection, but for the great abundance of fragrant arbutus in the spring and the wealth of blueberries in the summer. Then when winter comes they are still useful in offering a splendid coasting place for our school children. Not only the school children enjoy this privilege but the grown ups and married folks as well.

One would almost think that our town could not grow, situated as it is between the bluffs and then hemmed in by the military reservation. But we are getting there, and by and by when we get a bit richer we will build a huge reservoir up on the bluff and have waterworks to help our new fire truck and crew who have already won many honors by their heroism in our small community and near by farms.

The military reservation was established in 1888. At that time there were few business people in our town. One Milwaukee newspaper reporter gave an account in the paper which read that Camp Douglas had no minister, no doctor, no drug store, no cemetery and that Capt James Lynn had lived here for fifty years and never heard of a death, so they had no need of any.

The site of the reservation was selected by Col. Geo. Graham and Adj. Gen. P Chapman. The land was purchased by Gen. Chandler, James Lynn and John Singleton each donated 80 acres of land and the business men of the town grubbed the first rifle range. The first camp was held in 1888 when one officer and two enlisted men from each company were detailed to this rifle camp, which was the first established camp. The Third Regiment occupied the camp for the first time of duty held by a regular during the last week in June 1889. The Third was followed into camp by the Fourth Corps of Milwaukee, arriving Sunday, July 5, 1889. The reservation was not used by the entire National Guard until 1892 when all organizations consisted of 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Regiment of Infantry. The Troop and Battery were ordered here for duty one week each.

October 31, 1929 Issue

On entering our village on County Trunk C from Tomah, a fine gravel road from beyond the village limits skirts the edge of Camp Douglas are two beautiful cemeteries. The first is the Catholic cemetery which has been greatly improved during the past year. To the east and immediately adjoining is the Camp Douglas village cemetery. Both are located in an ideal spot and are carefully maintained and both contain some very fine tombstones. Further on, is located the pickle station, under the able management of Otto Smith, who greets all the farmers bringing their pickles to market with a smile and assuring them of the highest prices for their product. The Camp Douglas stockyards are immediately adjoining on the east. The Farmers Co-Operative Marketing Company makes shipments of livestock to the Milwaukee and Chicago markets each week as also does Thomas Anderson of Tomah. The Standard Oil station under the management of Emil Nelson is next on the line. This station serves Camp Douglas and Hustler and numerous farmers in this vicinity with gasoline and other petroleum products. Across the CMStP&P railroad tracks the Valvoline Oil Company maintains a station with E. D. Heath in charge, who supplies nearly the entire county from this station. Nearby is the National Highways beacon light, which flashes its powerful white and red beams for miles to guide the airmen in their flights by night, and also serves as a guide for night motorists on the roads.

Near the junction of State Highway No. 94 and County Trunk C, the businessmen have established a wonderful tourists camp ground, located in a clearing in the forest and which was utilized gratis by hundreds of tourists during the past season.

On entering the business section of our village the first business house to meet your eye is the plant of the Farmers Co-Operative Company, dealers in general merchandise, farm produce, coal and coke, fertilizer, and other commodities and farm necessities as well as acting as shippers for potatoes, live stock, grain and farm products. This plant is in charge of Martin Hansen, who is also a member of the County Board and is very popular with the country people and the villagers, on account of his unflinching good nature and his willingness to accommodate both patrons and the general public alike. This company was placed on a cash basis last year and this system of doing away with the antiquated credit system has proved an unequalled success and results in great savings in the operating costs of the institution. Edward Barron is Mr. Hansen's capable assistant.

George Eberhart's Standard Oil Filling Station is the next business concern on the east side of the business section. Mr. Eberhart is an old-timer in the annals of Main Street. In May 1894, he purchased the old James Lynn Hotel and after remodeling it, renamed it the Belmont Hotel. In 1900 he purchased the brick hotel, lower down the street, from John Singleton and conducted both hostelries for a number of years. In 1905 he disposed of the Singleton Hotel to Robert Hanson. Mr. Eberhart continued operating the Belmont Hotel until 1907, when he disposed of the inn to George Albright of Madison. The Belmont was destroyed by fire in 1908. In 1909 Mr. Eberhart erected a brick building to the south of the former Belmont Hotel, which he later disposed of to Wm. Fraley, who in turn disposed of the property to Nels Hansen who still conducts a soft drink parlor in the building. The present modern filling station occupied by Mr. Eberhart was erected in 1927 and he carries a complete line of Standard Oil Products. Velvicks Cafe under the management of Theron and Mary Velvick is just south of the Eberhart station. They cater to the general public with an up-to-date ice cream and soft drink parlor as well as serving lunches. Their kitchen equipment and refrigeration plant is thoroughly up to date and the place is very popular among the soldiers.

South of the Velvick Cafe comes the Repeater Station of the Western Union Telegraph Company. This Plant is the largest of its kind west of Chicago. All the equipment is up-to-date and other improvements and installations will be made in the near future. All circuits between Chicago and the North Pacific coast are repeated here, as well as wires radiating out of New York to Duluth, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Winnipeg, Seattle, Portland, etc., also are repeated in this plant. Two ticker circuits are also maintained as well as a local time service circuit with fourteen (14) subscribers in the Village of Camp Douglas. This station is under the management of Conrad Kruse, with the following assistants, Paul Ende, Arthur Anderson, Arthur Mitchell, Edward Meyers, Angus McMurphy and Milo Syverson. The Western Union also owns five fine dwelling houses on the south edge of the village, which are occupied by their employees.

"Little Nels" Pool and soft drink parlor adjoins the Western Union to the south. Nels Hansen has conducted this business for a number of years and keeps a fresh supply of soft drinks, candies, smokes, etc. It is a popular rendezvous for the townspeople and farmers alike.

"Aunt Hatties" is immediately to the south. Mrs. Roddy conducts an up-to-date drug store, handling a complete line of drugs, toilet goods, cigars, candies, ice cream and drinks, and magazines. Aunt Hattie has probably the most famous and complete line of relics and curiosities in the State. All manner of war relics, stuffed animals and birds, rare coins and a wonderful collection of stones and pictures as well as a collection of live birds, interest the caller. Aunt Hattie is well known in every corner of the state and she is well known to troopers from twenty-years back. She is probably the best known person in the state to the thousands of National Guardsmen and officers who have attended the encampments of the state reservation here. She is also well known for her charities and is "a friend in need is a friend indeed" sort of person and is loved and admired by the entire community. When in Aunt Hatties don't forget to sign the register which contains the names of thousands of tourists and visitors. Uncle Tom, a Chief Assistant at Aunt Hatties is well known by old and young - and liked by all.

Jay Bartlett's restaurant is next on the street, conducted in the W. C. Johnson building, formerly the Camp Douglas Theatre. This place is open day and night and the hungry and thirsty can secure refreshments at all hours.

E. B. Thomas of New Lisbon, conducts an undertaking establishment just to the south of the Bartlett cafe.

The Bank of Camp Douglas occupies the brick building on the corner. Miss Evelyn Singleton is cashier and assisted by Fred Johnson and Stella Whereatt. Chas. Hoton is president of the bank, a position he has held since the organization of the institution. The bank is in a flourishing condition and has a high standing in business and financial circles throughout this part of the state.

Across the street to the south of the bank is the Althaus building. August Althaus conducts a soft drink parlor and pool hall in the northeast corner of the building, and Mrs. Frank Althaus conducts a hotel and restaurant in the rest of the building.

November 7, 1929 Issue

#### MAIN STREET

Next we come to the hardware store of Erwin Hoton where we find a complete line of hardware. Next we step into the office of Charles and Raymond Seibold. The Seibolds write insurance of all kinds, handle lumber, building material, cement and sand and gravel. They also manufacture a gaff hook device for landing the large fish which are caught in the Lemonweir river. Next we step into Chas. Winkler's hardware store. Mr. Winkler carries a full line of hardware. Next we come to the Masonic Hall and Club Room. The Eastern Star share the upper hall with the Masons. There are one hundred and twenty-five members of the order of the Masonic fraternity, Lodge No. 272, F & AM, and one hundred and thirty members of the Eastern Star, Chapter No. 214. Next we come to Ernest Leake's filling station and rest room. Mr. Leake handles the Valvoline Oil Products, supplied by Ernie Heath.

Now we cross main street and go up the left side and come to the J. C. Peterson shoe hospital. Jimmy has a fully equipped electric shoe shop. He is also our village treasurer. We next come to the Post Office in the Singleton block. Otto Nienas is postmaster and Harry Butler is assistant. This is a first-class office and is very busy during the soldier season. Next we come to the Singleton and Son Store. Ernest and Ralph carry a full line of general merchandise. ("Gundy" carries the belt for the largest northern pike of the season). Miss Bergitta Peterson is acting as clerk.

Next we step into Carl Frohmaders. Carl carries full line of general merchandise. He is our champion muskie fisherman for the season of 1929. Mrs Anna Wilkinson and Miss Hilda Quist are his clerks. Next we come to B. H. Lynn's barber shop. Bert is our oldest barber, entering into business in 1899. Next in the same building is the New Lisbon Mutual Telephone Company and long distance exchange. Miss Verna Nash and Goldie Haskins are the operators.

Next we step into the City Meat Market owned by John Schroeder. The market keeps a full line of seasonal meats at all times. Next we drop into the Davis Hotel, owned by Otto Smith. Otto, besides playing at being (Mine host) manages the pickle station and the Cunningham fruit farm. Next is E. J. Anthon's store and hall. Ed keeps a fine line of groceries, shoes and sundries and buys poultry. He is also our village and school clerk. The American Legion and Ladies Auxiliary use the hall for their meetings. Next is Al Chamberlains barber shop. When Al isn't fishing or hunting he is busy bobbing hair and shaving. Next is the Ganther Garage owned by Charles and Fred Ganther. Hermie Ganther and Ray Tralmer are the mechanics. They have recently remodeled the building, adding a show room. They handle the Chevrolet line of cars. Charles Waters, our radio wizard, has on display the following line of radios: The Kellogg, Philco, Stewart Warner, Sanora, Temple, Apex, Freid and Capitol, also a full line of tubes and accessories. Next we come to the Bert Martin Livery barn. Bert uses this now to store cars and is a feed barn. Just around the corner is the village smithy, John Hagel, who has a modern power shop. John is the best blacksmith in town and one hears his cheery notes from the anvil early and late. This ends our main street story of our business houses.

Now we go down on Main Street to our ME Church. Our ministers are Rev. David LaVinn and Rev. Mr. Johnson who preach alternately. We turn to the right one block and come to Henry Anderson. Henry drills our wells, fixes our pumps, moves our buildings. He is also a very successful veterinary. On the corner in the brick house lives our parish priest, Rev. Father Splinter. His church is down at the end of Main Street. His congregation are planning to build a new church close to the business section. Now we cross the Northwestern Railroad track.

Between the tracks lies the home of Mr. & Mrs. Addison Faulkner. Mr Faulkner keeps a small dairy of fine cows and furnishes milk and eggs to our people. Now we cross the Milwaukee railroad tracks to the Cliff House which was formerly the Singleton homestead. Frank Byers has remodeled the building and runs a first-class Hotel. Frank is also the local trouble shooter for the Wisconsin Power and Light Company. Next up Douglas Street to the left on Casper Street we come to the plant of the Tri-State Ice Cream Company. Gerald Collins is superintendent of the plant. During the season they have three trucks delivering ice cream over a large territory. Charles Marks is his steady assistant. Next we go back between the railroad tracks where we find our Depot. Morgan Evans is our agent. Geo. B. Olmstead is our express agent. Joseph Byers is night baggage man at the depot, a position he has held creditable for the past 40 years. He is an old "land mark" in the life of our village and is widely known throughout the country. Fred Rohde, Alex Rae and Harry Gilmore are the telegraph and ticket agents. We have four section foremen, Henry Strege and Mr. Len Fowler for the Milwaukee road; and Andrew Moe and Carl Abrahamson for the Omaha. They employ from three to six men steadily during the year. The Omaha has two maintainers; Geo. L. Olmstead and Will Edwin, his assistant. On the Milwaukee road: Ray Stowell. Where the old brick hotel stood Mrs. Bertha Bell owns and runs an up-to-date restaurant and lunch room. Halver Halverson is our ice man and cuts his ice from a pond supplied from pure spring water. Mr Crawford supplies our village with milk from contented cows. Ira Tatu is our drayman and also se-ton of our Protestant cemetery. Next we go out on the military reservation where the following personnel are in charge:

Wisconsin National Guard - Quartermaster Branch

Col. H. C. Williams, Chief Quartermaster, USP&DO - Camp Williams, Wisconsin  
Miss Viola Philips, Secretary

Utility Branch - Maintenance of Equipment and Grounds Ornamentation

Tom Wilkinson - Foreman; G. Waters - Assistant  
C. Stickney - Teamster; Bert Martin - Security

Construction and Maintenance of Buildings

William Nyslop - Chief Carpenter; Tom Montgomery - Carpenter;  
John Burns - Chief Engineer - Heating, Water and Sewage  
C. Atwater - Fireman  
J. Wilkinson - Fireman

Maintenance and repair of Motor Vehicles

Capt. G. Neff - Chief Mechanic; H. Gage - Mechanic

Administration

M. P. Curtius - Property Receipt, Storage Issue, Storekeeper  
A. Olson - Checker; W. Guilligan - Packer

Finance - Federal and State Accountant - Lt. R. Birkeness

Property - Audit - Survey - Inspection

Maj. A. Ellis - Auditor; Edith Endner - Stenographer

Capt. G. Gove - Property Records Accountant; Olga Rude - Stenographer  
Otto Stoltz - Clerk

Ralph M. Immell, Brigadier General  
The Adjutant General  
Wisconsin National Guard

If we have forgotten anyone it is unintentional. We have a wide awake progressive people who are looking forward to the good things that are coming to us as a village.

Our real community, however is not limited to the village. It extends out many miles into the country. All of our people have and share many interests in common, and both village folks and our farmers would both benefit through a more friendly spirit of cooperation between country and town. We have a wonderful school band. The children are making rapid progress under the able instruction of Mr. Needles of Mauston assisted by Charles Seibold.

Just off Main Street two blocks up we come to our high school, a beautiful building with a fine bluff for a background. Clifford Field is principal, Mary Tormey, Elda Beahm, Ella Hansen and Etta Marty are members of the faculty. This year we have 35 high school students enrolled and 76 in the grades.

This high school was established in 1908 with Harriet Murphy as principal. The next year Fred Leon took charge. Miss Murphy came back the following year and stayed until 1913. There have been sixteen (16) classes graduating from our high school.

The Teachers-Parent Association was organized in 1916. This association has done much for the welfare of the school and community.

One great work is the grading of the school ground which will be finished by the present village Board of the Village. This will add greatly to the beauty of our town. Camp Douglas has but two churches, the Methodist Episcopal and the Catholic Church. Both have an average number of members, a Ladies' Aid and are working for the moral welfare of our village. Father Splinter is pastor of the Catholic Church and Rev. Johnson and Rev. David H. LaVinn serve as joint pastors of the Methodist Church.

In 1920 we built a community hall which is the largest public hall in the county. Therein we hold conventions, basketball games, suppers, and our movie shows which by the way are the best that can be obtained. Since the organization of the Quarter-master Division they use the hall as an armory for weekly training. We also have a fine community playground. This work was accomplished by popular subscriptions.

Later I shall write an article entitled "Experiences of Being a Village President."

(CORRECTION: An unintentional error crept into the history of Camp Douglas as published in this paper. It was - Charles H. Hoton who conducted the first hardware store here, we are informed by Dr. Cron. We are sorry it happened Mr. Hoton. You certainly have carried on your part well in building up your splendid village.

THE EDITOR)

## CAMP DOUGLAS - 1987

A CONTINUATION OF DOCTOR CRON'S HISTORY OF CAMP DOUGLAS, OCTOBER 3, 1929:

The Village of Camp Douglas has changed greatly since Dr. Cron wrote the history of Camp Douglas on October 3, 1929. An attempt is made to bring the history up-to-date considering events and conditions that can be recalled in these 58 years.

A large reservoir was built in the hills west of the Village to provide water. A pumping station is located north of Castle Street. Sewage disposal is provided by contract with Volk Field facilities at Camp Williams. Local garbage disposal, street maintenance, and snow removal are handled by competent hired personnel. The local water distribution was turned on in 1953. Ed Krenn retired this year after many years as Maintenance Supervisor.

About this same time the Boy Scouts planted the pine trees between the tracks which add greatly to the beauty of our Village.

1964 was the Camp Douglas Centennial Celebration. There was a big parade, speeches on the Community Hall platform, and contests of the men to compete for the best beard. All ladies had to have old fashioned dresses of the time - 1854. It was a happy homecoming for many and a gala occasion.

St. Louis Days were established by the Air National Guard from St. Louis, Missouri who came to train at Volk Field in the summer. Contests were held to vote for the most popular person to be Mayor of Camp Douglas during the training period, usually someone from the Air National Guard. At this time there was a campaign to raise money for a village swimming pool but this was abandoned judging it to be too big a project. It is believed the funds collected were used for Nelson Park improvements.

We are fortunate to have Nelson Park. The land was donated by Emil Nelson, a long time resident of Camp Douglas. Many family picnics, celebrations, and baseball tournaments have been and still are held here. The tennis courts are used often throughout the summer months. Much credit is due the Village and the Lions Club in the maintenance and improvement of the Park.

The Camp Douglas Promotional Organization has been active for several years. They meet regularly to plan for Armed Forces Days with parades, queen and junior miss contests, flea markets, water fights, chicken dinners, and soap box derbies. Each year during Armed Forces Days the Camp Douglas High School Graduates and friends have a reunion with a dinner and entertainment usually at Target Bluff Supper Club.

The Mini Park downtown, the gardens at Nelson park, and the planting of trees there, as well as the Memorial Garden at the cemetery are projects of the Lady Slippers Garden Club.

Memorial Day has been observed since the Community Hall was built (about 1930) with special speakers, choir singing, and Legion salutes in the several cemeteries in the area. Peggy Ganther deserves much cred for her efforts in providing programs for Memorial Day.

CAMP DOUGLAS - 1987

A CONTINUATION OF DOCTOR CRON'S HISTORY OF CAMP DOUGLAS, OCTOBER 3, 1929

The Village is thankful to have Cable TV. Most everyone subscribes to it although some use the disk antenna.

New Highway Bridges were built on State Highway 12-16. County Trunk H was relocated east of its former location. The road at the top of the overhead leading to the Camp Williams Reservation is maintained by the Village. When the Interstates 90-94 were built State Highway 94 (the shortest State Highway in the State) was renumbered 185. This is the highway between Camp Douglas and Hustler.

There are three churches in Camp Douglas: St. James Catholic Church, corner of Main & Bartel Streets, First Methodist Church, lower Main Street, and St. Stephens Church, across the NW and Milwaukee Road tracks on Douglas Street (the former location of the Cliff House).

The Bluff View Apartments with ten units of housing for the elderly are located at the corner of School and Good Streets behind the school.

Camp Douglas High School in the 1930's and 40's was noted for its good basketball teams, both girls and boys, playing teams in nearby towns especially Elroy, New Lisbon, Kendall, and Wisconsin Dells. They would go to these towns by train and spend the night with some of the members of the other teams. There was always a dance after the games.

Camp Douglas School is now part of the Tomah School System. An addition has been added to the lower floor and improvements made serving 106 students, kindergarten through third grade. The present teachers are: Mrs. Debbie Clark, Mrs. Jeannette Demaske, Mrs. Shirley Galstad-Roh, and Miss Lois Smith. Mrs. Betty Meltesen is a teacher's aid. Children are bused to Camp Douglas.

The Oakdale School (also part of Tomah School System) has 93 students, the fourth through the sixth grade. Teachers are: Mrs. Mary Rubask, Mrs. Steve Shunaker, Marybeth Schanhofar, Debra Klesar, Karen Kriigel, The teacher's aid is Mrs. Sue Johnson.

The President of our Village is Lloyd Chase (who is also President of the Tomah School Board). The members of the board of Trustees are: Bill Guess, Karen Anthony, Joan Minneker, Arnold Schroeder, Art Barth, and Cliff Krohn. The Clerk-Treasurer is Judy Hobson, Chief of Police is Brent Oleson. The President and Trustees meet on the first Tuesdays and second Wednesdays of each month in the Community Hall.

The Community Hall has been newly painted and is in good condition for school activities. The Nutrition Site for the Senior Citizens is located in the basement next to the voting booths. Mrs. Russell Krohn is in charge of the Nutrition Site.

Street numbers have been assigned to all homes in the Village. These are to be used for identification for ambulance service, fire protection, and snow removal. They are not to be used for Post Office mailing.

CAMP DOUGLAS - 1987

A CONTINUATION OF DOCTOR GRON'S HISTORY OF CAMP DOUGLAS, OCTOBER 3, 1929

The Fire Station is located adjacent to the Community Hall. Fire Chief is Bill Kemp.

We are proud of our Rescue Team and Ambulance Service in our Village. They are called many times to assist in accidents on the highways and Interstate in transporting patients to hospitals. Active members are Richard Wright, Chris Kaebisch, Barry Reynolds, Ed Reynolds, and others.

The Milwaukee Railroad has been sold to the Soo Line and is used mostly for hauling freight, although the AMTRAK (formerly the Hiawatha) runs daily for passengers from Chicago to Seattle. The North Western Railroad is not in use through Camp Douglas. This Village was a very busy junction when both railroads were in operation for salesmen stopping here, transportation of troops in the summer, and transfer of passengers for other directions. Oscar Moe used to meet the trains to take mail to the Post Office and bread to the grocery stores on railroad push trucks. The tower was at the intersection of the tracks which controlled the operation of the trains. The freight house and ramp were near the depot. The water tower was south of the depot on the North Western Line. It was not unusual for bums from the trains to stop at the back door for a hand out for doing some odd job like splitting wood. Coal came in on the railroad to the Feed Store. Martin Hansen advised everyone to get their order in early in the fall, saying he would have it watered down so it wouldn't be a mess to unload.

Many years ago between the tracks there was a grist mill run by Herman Eichler which is now the location of the Village maintenance buildings. It was a favorite place for boys to visit on their bikes.

There was a creamery in the building which is now the duplex apartments on the north end of Douglas Street (Woodpecker Hill).

The name of the New Lisbon State Bank has been changed to the Community First Bank. They have added a drive-in between Pat's Pub and the bank which is easily accessible from Main Street.

CHART ATTACHED: Numbers indicate buildings on Main Street.

By: Viola Philps

with the help of Chet & Olga Philps

Dated 21 April 1987

CAMP DOUGLAS - 1987

A CONTINUATION OF DOCTOR CROW'S HISTORY OF CAMP DOUGLAS, OCTOBER 3, 1929

MAIN STREET: Beginning at the intersection of Highway 185 and Highway-12-16 toward the business district on Main Street: On the left.

- A. The American Legion & Auxiliary Clubroom (formerly home of Charlie Canther)
1. Camp Douglas Farmers CoOperative (Used to be the Feed Store)
2. Home of Lucille Kearney (Formerly George Eberhart's Filling Station.
3. Home of Marlyne Larson (Formerly Mary Velvick's Ice Cream Parlor)
4. 2 Apartments and Post Office (Once Eberhart's Store, then Western Union).
5. Hofmeister's Insurance Co. (Formerly Oscar Schultz Tavern).
6. A 2-story Apartment Building (Formerly Nelsa Hansen's Saloon, then Aunt Matties Drug Store)
7. Pat's Pub (Formerly theater, bar, and restaurant).
8. Community First Bank with Drive-in (Formerly named New Lisbon State Bank).
- B. Behind the Bank and between the tracks was the site of the Belmont Hotel, then Bertha Bell's restaurant, then Una's Inn. Now a private residence.
9. Larson's Bar and Restaurant (Formerly Althaus Butcher Shop, then Corner Inn Restaurant and Bar.)
10. 3 Apartment buildings (one was Pinky Hoton's Hardware, Charles Seibold's Ins (this is where Helen Hansen had a milliner shop), then Charles Winklers Hardware Store.
11. The Masonic Temple (remodeled and a lift installed to second floor)
12. Val's Stylemaker's Beauty Shop (used to be Ernie Leake's filling station)
13. Don Stetler's Barber Shop (part of Reed Lumber Yard. The big part of this building is used for auctions)
- C. The building between the Masonic Temple and Val's Beauty Shop was burned down. (Formerly Morton's Restaurant, then Frank Hammond's Tavern.)

MAIN STREET: Beginning at the intersection of Highway 185 and Highway 12-16 toward the business district on Main Street: On the right.

- D. St. James Catholic Church & Rectory. The Rectory was burned down in 1984 and rebuilt as it was by the same contractor that built the original bldg.
14. Mrs. Frohm's home is on the corner across from the CD Co-op which was formerly Ernie Martin's Home.
15. The next building is owned by the Camp Douglas Co-op and was the Livery Barn where they rented out horses and buggies. Jim Peterson's Shoe Shop was in front part of building.
16. The next building is the Body Shop which used to be Fred Canther's Garage, then Jim Olson's Garage.
17. The building next to the body shop was a restaurant but now an apartment bldg.
18. The Hess building is an apartment building but used to be Don Anderson's Grocery, then Ben Hess' Grocery. The American Legion Post 133 and Auxiliary had their clubroom on the second floor during the first years of their meetings. It was burned down on Valentine's Day 1987.
19. The Frontier Apartments were the Davis Hotel and Post Office. This building was also burned down on Valentine's Day 1987.
20. Jim & Kathy Olson's Tavern was the former Butcher Shop of Ernie Luck and then John & Lena Schroeder's Butcher Shop.
21. New Lemonweir Valley Telephone Co. Building. It was the site of Bert Lynn's

CAMP DOUGLAS - 1987

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Barber Shop and Ice Cream Parlor, Boundy's Drug Store & Guy Whereatt's Leather Goods

22. Across to the south is the Mini Park of the Garden Club.  
The building formerly located here was Frohader & Graf Dry Goods and Grocery Store, then Bob Hansen's Hardware.
23. The next building is Bernie's IGA Grocery which was Ern Singleton's Grocery and US Post Office.
24. The next building was a Shoe Repair Shop where leather cleats were put on shoes to play football. It is believed it was run by a Schroeder.  
The building now standing is the home of Mrs. Violet Mattes.
25. The old Ab Johnson house and Ralph Singleton's house are owned by Howard Henricks and now the homes of many VA patients. The Ralph Singleton's house used to be Dr. Park's home and office.
26. The First United Methodist Church is next. The Main Street goes on down to the end wheretthe first Catholic Church was located which burned down before the new church was built. Billy's Bluff had a slide from the top which was quite an attraction during summer training on the Range.

OLD CAMP Going east on the left from Sugar Bowl Bluff on State Highway 12-16 is the old Pottery Factory (which has been made into a very nice dwelling). Next was the Repair & Paint Shop. After the Car Body Shop is Lloyd Chase's Filling Station and Garage, then a new Lemonweir Valley Telephone Company building.

Going east on the eight side of State Highway 12-16 are: Camp Douglas Industrial Park, Gene Schmidt's Body Shop (formerly owned by Leon Ayres and later by Ed Reynolds as a filling station), Travel Mart and Restaurant on the corner (this was the location of the Tri State Ice Cream Factory. Charlie Mark used to drive the ice cream truck). Snakes used to cross the highway from the swamp to Target Bluff in the spring and fall and the highway would be greasy from cars running over them. Farther on is the Target Bluff Supper Club which was rebuilt after burned down. This was formerly operated by Roy and Gladys Morton.

Across the hiway on the left are the Standard Service Station which has been expanded for truck service and the A & W Root Bear Stand (open in the summer).

All of these businesses are in the Village Limits.

COUNTY TRUNK G: Beginning at Wisconsin Street (Oakdale Road) - under the over-head to the right was the Pickle Factory run by Otto Smith and then the stockyards. Farther on is Nelson Park, then the State Surplus buildings (now discontinued).

Across the road going toward the Village is the Hillside Mobile Home Park (36 units), an excellent addition to our Village, then the Cemetery and Dick Olson's Excavating.

Turning right off County Trunk G is Donald Street - a street of lovely homes named for Fr. Donald Berg.

## MAIN STREET

1987

13.	Barber Shop Auctions	26.	1st Metho- dist Church
12.	Val's Beauty Shop	25.	VA Patients
11.	Masonic Temple	24.	VA Patients
10.	2 Apartment Buildings	23.	Bernie's Grocery
9.	Larson's Rest. & Bar	22.	Mini Park
8	Conn. 1st Bank	21.	Telephone Company
7.	Pat's Pub	20.	Jim & Kathy's Tavern
6.	2-Story Apartments	19.	Burned out Building
5.	Hofmeister's Insurance	18.	Burned out Building
4.	2 Apartments Post Office	17.	Apartment Building
3.	Residence	16.	Body Shop
2.	Residence	15.	Livery Barn
1.	Camp Douglas Co-op	14.	Legion Hall