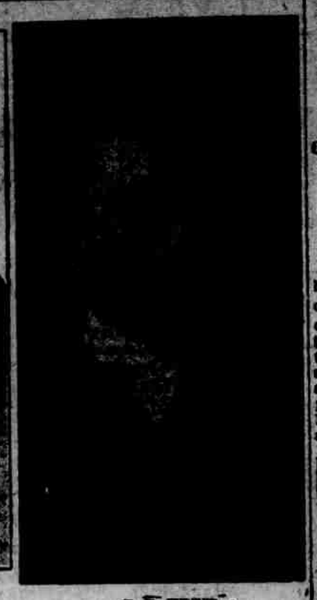
Officers Reorganized Chamber Of Commerce

J. J. BURGESS,
President.

OTTO F. HILDEBRANDT,
Managing Secretary.



R. E. KREIS,
Treasurer.

[illegible] a defined plan to diver- [illegible] the various manufacturing and [illegible] interests of Rock Island as [illegible] possible, it was found that [illegible] Island possessed no institu- [illegible] in the building line to provide [illegible] terrazzo and mosaic floors and [illegible] were made to interest some of [illegible] large terrazzo companies to lo- [illegible] in Rock Island. Following the [illegible] of the Cassini brothers from [illegible] army, and being experts in this [illegible] of work, they were interested [illegible] locating the Cassini Mosaic & Tile [illegible] in Rock Island. So successful [illegible] been their business that they are [illegible] represented by branches in [illegible] Springfield, Des Moines, [illegible], Cedar Rapids and Bur- [illegible]. A small force of high [illegible] experts is maintained by this [illegible]pany. During the short time [illegible] have been in Rock Island their [illegible]siness has totalled over $150,000. [illegible] materials used by this company [illegible] imported from Italy.

Athletic Goods Made Here.

To provide employment for a sur- [illegible] of female labor in Rock Island, [illegible] Stall & Dean Manufacturing [illegible]pany was interested in locating [illegible] branch of their business in Rock [illegible]; which is one of four [illegible]. The company employs [illegible] the neighborhood of fifty people [illegible] manufactures baseball, basket- [illegible] and football equipment, as well [illegible] athletic goods of all kinds, [illegible]sters, bathing suits, etc. Indi- [illegible]ations are that they will develop [illegible] one of Rock Island's leading in- [illegible]stitutions. They are located at 1618 Third avenue.

Rock Island is not as well repre- [illegible]ented in the automobile agency line [illegible] well as other cities of similar size [illegible] the program of the Chamber of [illegible]merce provides for institutions of this character. The first to be [illegible]ecured is the Rock Island-Moline Buick company, which will distribute the Buick automobile in Rock Island and Henry counties. Arrangements are being made by the Chamber of Commerce to provide a new home for this company which will materialize shortly after the first of the year, in conjunction with the distributing warehouse of one of the largest electrical companies in the world. Plans call for a two-story building 90x150 feet on the northeast corner of Twenty-third street and Third avenue, which will cost approximately $100,000.

Rock Island has long needed a first class public warehouse, and the Rock Island Transfer & Storage company placing their plans before the Chamber of Commerce, active work was started to assist this company in securing the fulfillment of its plan. The site has been secured, plans and specifications have been drawn and bids secured, and construction work will start as soon as spring weather conditions will permit.

The Chamber of Commerce disapproved of 10 advertising propositions totalling approximately $15,000.

Investigate Stocks.

An active campaign against the sale of bogus stocks has been undertaken in conjunction with the Illinois State Chamber of Commerce and a good many propositions have been investigated and reports furnished. A good many inquiries have been received from cities outside of Illinois showing that the campaign is bearing fruit and a good deal of favorable publicity to the chamber is being given. The coming year will see the plan put in operation by the Iowa commercial secretaries.

During the past six months a housing and rooming service was maintained by the chamber but this has now been discontinued since houses and rooms have become more available. It is estimated that several hundred people made use of this service.

The chamber assisted in securing automobiles for the convention of Knights Templar and Royal and Select Masters and in securing rooms to accommodate the convention visitors. Assistance was also given the American Legion in their attempt to secure the 1921 state meeting.

At the suggestion of the Rock Island chapter of Red Cross the chamber made a survey of living conditions in Rock Island as compared with other cities in Illinois. As a result of this survey th vocational training pay allowance of ex-service men from this district was increased $20 per month.

On Good Roads.

The agricultural bureau sent a committee to Monmouth to a meeting held by the state highway commission with reference to securing as many miles of hard roads for Rock Island county from the state bond issue as possible, and the prospects are exceedingly bright that the county will secure more miles of hard road than called for by the state program.

Statistics compiled by the executive office of the chamber show that Rock Island is rapidly growing, more families moving to Rock Island than are leaving. This condition has prevailed during the last six months. In the new business line, a good many new businesses, both retail and jobbing, have been added to the list. While these have [illegible] Rock Island without the [illegible]mber, yet they [illegible] to swell [illegible]

take care of the city's charitable requirements. The new hotel project will likewise be pushed vigorously, and this will be the one big item of work on which the chamber will concentrate its activities during the coming year. The city planning commission will likewise receive the assistanve of the chamber in putting forward the plan for the city betterment.

Make Use of Rooms.

Since the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce have been opened in the State bank building, they have been made use of by various organizations. Since September the rooms have been used for over sixty meetings. A plan is being discussed whereby these rooms may be used as a community rest room during the coming season, with an appeal to the rural shoppers to make these rooms their headquarters while in Rock Island on shopping tours. The rooms are also the home of the United States marine corps recruiting station, which is in charge of Sergeant Carl Hauptmann and Corporal Frank Preihs. The possibilities are that this station will be made a permanent one in Rock Island.

The plans of the trade and commerce bureau provide for the consideration of a community catalogue to go to the surrounding cities within a radius of 50 miles of Rock Island. This catalogue will embrace all merchants who desire to make use of this facility. The matter will be taken up shortly after the first of the year.

Conventions in 1921.

Rock Island will likewise be called upon to entertain some 5,000 visitors to the biennial of the Federation of Music Clubs which will meet for 10 days in the tri-cities in June. The sheriffs of the state of Illinois will also meet in Rock Island the coming season. If the new hotel project is completed, Rock Island will extend an invitation to the Veiled Prophets to hold their 1922 national convention in the city.

An interesting experiment which will be watched with a great deal of interest is the affiliation with the Chamber of Commerce of the various organizations comprising the Tri-City Federation of Labor. This body approved of the Chamber of Commerce and membership has been taken in the public forum by the federation, the pressmen's union and painters' union, which will be followed without a doubt by membership on the part of other organizations. As far as the Rock Island Chamber of Commerce can ascertain, this is the first movement whereby capital and business has joined hands for the community good, and the new combination of things augurs well for Rock Island, for with an organization of this character, the Chamber of Commerce should become one of vital force and all projects, whether large or small, should be easily consummated. There is no valid reason why business and labor cannot work hand in hand, and the local plan will be watched with more than usual interest.

RADICAL STAND ON DIVORCE BY BUCKEYE JUDGE

Cleveland, Ohio.—Common Pleas Judge A. J. Pearson advocates absolute denial of divorces, regardless of what the alleged grounds for separation might be.

The occasion for the judge's positive stand arose when a man was cited for contempt of court for failure to pay alimony to his first wife. In explanation, the man said that to pay the alimony would work a hardship upon his second wife and that he was not in a position to support two families.

"If I sentenced this man for contempt," said Judge Pearson, "I would be injuring two women. Had this man not been granted a divorce, he could have supported his first wife as decreed by the court.

"While refusal to grant a divorce may injure some persons who are deserving of a separation, there would be less injury to society in general if divorces were absolutely denied to all.

"In my opinion divorces should be denied all persons regardless of the circumstances.

"When a man who has failed to qualify as a good husband receives a divorce it permits him to fool some other woman, and if the fault lies with the woman it permits her to fool some unsuspecting man. The result is that another divorce case will be filed in the courts in a short [illegible]

LESS NUMBER INQUESTS ARE HELD IN 1920

Suicides Show Increase During Year While Natural Deaths Experience Decline.

There were 128 inquests conducted by Coroner John Maberry during the 12 months between Dec. 1, 1919, and Dec. 1, 1920. This number is four less than for the corresponding period of a year previous.

There were 10 more suicides during the period than in 1919. Deaths from natural causes showed a decrease from 51 to 43. Suicides, auto accidents and falls were the principal causes of death other than natural.

Following is the report taken from the coroner's records:

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Heart—12.
Suicides—21.
Apoplexy—9.
Natural causes—43.
Asphyxiation—8.
Factory and store accidents—3.
Falls—10.
Auto accidents—8.
Railroad accidents—2.
Burns—2.
Poisoning—2.
Drownings—7.
Heart—1.
Murders—1.
Strangulation—2.
Suffocation—3.
Shootings, accidental—4.
Miscellaneous—15.

DECEMBER.

8—Julia Winters, heart disease.
9—William Nickell, heart disease.
9—Katharine Waldmann, hemorrhage of lungs.
10—Emilie Selis, suicide by jumping from hospital window.
12—Emmeline C. Haas, apoplexy.
13—Walter Jaap, suicide by inhaling illuminating gas.
16—Karl Nelson, auto accident.
17—Hilda C. Hultgren, cerebral hemorrhage.
23—George L. Marrill, fall in factory.
24—Victor Baert, natural causes.
24—Orville London, coaster-auto collision.
24—Archie Goldberg, coaster-auto collision.
25—Maggie Hughes, natural causes.
27—Sam C. Burgess, skiing accident.
30—Darline E. Susenberg, accidental strangulation.
31—William Simpson, suicide.

JANUARY.

4—Katharine Fischer, fall in icy street.
5—John Holland, exposure.
7—Mary Harker, burns.
12—John Bartlett, suicide.
14—W. Richard Boost, natural causes.
16—W. Henry Dierks, pneumonia following accident.
19—Theodore Grothans, apoplexy.
20—Joseph W. Cook, heart disease.
22—Filipe Jemenez, struck by railroad engine.
27—Patrick Denahy, suicide.
28—Alexander De Krugger, ptomaine poisoning.

FEBRUARY.

5—Axel Brostrom, apoplexy.
6—Camile De Groote, struck by railroad engine.
7—Miles O'Reilly, lack of care in houseboat.
9—Albria A. De Geeter, auto and street car accident.
11—Jacob Amman, heart disease.
14—Isaac Minteer, old age.
18—Wilhelmina Sundquist, apoplexy.
23—Max Colberg, suicide.

MARCH.

6—Nellie Stombs, elevator accident.
19—Alonzo Chapman, natural causes.
28—John T. Mulinix, suicide.
29—Mary De Brinn, natural causes.
31—Perry A. Brown, struck by auto.

APRIL.

1—Walter Ronaliet, natural causes.
2—Lena Curtis, suicide.
5—Gus Bjorn, burns.
5—John Senanos, accident at factory.
8—Clara M. Johnson, apoplexy.
8—Herbert Avery, natural causes.
17—Gulina Vandemale, self-inflicted attempt to produce abortion.
17—Frank W. Schadt, suffocation in sandhouse.
22—George Schlotfeldt, suicide by drowning.
24—Henrietta Sohrbeck, suicide.
26—Leo B. Schmidt, asphyxiation.
26—Dan Beckman, heart disease.
[illegible] Young, Jr., struck by [illegible]
5—Adolph C. Allaart, accidental asphyxiation.
5—Peter Bruin, accidental asphyxiation.
6—John Anderson, natural causes.
15—Theodore Peckenschneider, suicide by drowning.
16—Calvin Norman, natural causes.
18—George Davis, heart disease.
19—Leonie Brackefelt, suicide by drowning.
21—Mary A. Innes, natural causes.
26—Charles C. Evans, suffocation.
26—John Zwick, suicide.
30—Etta E. Farber, bicycle accident.

JUNE.

3—George Newton, elevator accident.
4—Erna Schuette, strangulation.
6—George V. Scott, accidental drowning.
13—Wilbur Elliott, accidental drowning.
14—George L. Wysong, natural causes.
16—John McGowan, heart.
17—William T. Slamp, hit by auto.
18—Martin E. Shelton, suicide by poisoning.
19—Oliver E. Lee, natural causes.
23—Salvador Fuentis, accidental drowning.
28—Ernest E. Sorrell, natural causes.
28—Thais V. Jennisch, burns.
29—Arthur J. Fuller, gunshot wound.
30—Antonio Lozo, gunshot wound.

JULY.

3—Emma Stark, suicide by asphyxiation.
11—Edward Schnabele, suicide.
13—Lloyd Anderson, accidental drowning.
14—John Farron, struck by train.
15—Clarence Zeek, accidental drowning.
26—Russell Sterusdorff, accidental drowning.
28—Mary Brackenelt, suicide.
29—Mary E. Nelson, suffocation.

AUGUST.

2—Harriet Jenke, fall.
10—Rolla Anderson, natural canses.
11—A. C. Larrison, fall.
12—Ellwood Arwidson, hit by baseball.
13—Konstantion Kapuscinski, natural causes.
19—William E. Plemons, accident in railroad shop.
22—Ernest R. Bursche, heart failure.
25—Angelo Frankvilla, murdered.
27—Judson Passmore, natural causes.
27—Albert J. Lukens, apoplexy.
28—Elmira Thompson, natural causes.
30—Thomas C. Meanor, natural causes.
31—James Klain, fall from wagon.

SEPTEMBER.

6—John A. Munro, heart disease.
7—Josephine Marsoun, struck by auto.
8—Renville E. Crane, heart disease.
13—Emily P. Huilburt, fall in hospital.
22—Frank H. Mielke, fall from scaffold.
25—Howard Baker, suicide.

OCTOBER.

1—Jewell infant, prenatal causes.
9—James Vance, natural causes.
15—Lawrence Ross, fall through skylight.
25—Loretta B. Hammes, accidental scalding.
26—Emma Peters, suicide by asphyxiation.
28—Hiram N. Tavener, apoplexy.
29—Axel Talberg, accidental electrocution.

NOVEMBER.

1—Mat Kawranski, accidental shooting.
2—John W. Stalings, heart disease.
4—Augustus J. Simpson, suicide.
5—Elsa Peterson, shock from fractured hip.
8—John J. De Bont, accidental shooting.
13—Ira Nels Pierce, accidental asphyxiation.
13—Robert Alger, assault by bull.
14—Maria Jackson, natural causes.
16—Earl Dustman, suicide.
16—J. L. Kepple, fall on sidewalk.
16—Hamilton Mann, natural causes.
20—Fred Peterson, suicide.
21—Caroline Pierson, natural causes.
23—Charlotte Lind, accidental asphyxiation.

WRONG USE OF LEISURE.

Decatur, Ill.—Many of the problems of society which are due to the wrong use of leisure time could be corrected by the fuller program of education, according to Superintendent Engleman of the Decatur schools. Boys and girls who are trained for vocation are not apt to become social and moral perverts, he declared.

Mr. Engleman said that high schools of the past have educated the farm boy away from the farm, thus losing a splendid opportunity of educating the boy by using the farm as a laboratory. He said that [illegible] agricultural com- [illegible] educate boys in [illegible]

YEAR 1920 IS GOOD ONE FOR FARM BUREAU

County Agent Outlines Plans for the Future to Benefit the Members.

BY R. R. EDGERTON,
(County Agent.)

The Rock Island county farm bureau has enjoyed a very prosperous year. Through the assistance of the organization department of the Illinois Agricultural association, 197 new members have been added, bringing our total membership up to 1,261. Last year we placed our membership goal at 1,300; this mark has been passed and there are prospects available

PALMER R. EDGERTON,
Rock Island County Farm Advisor.

that will bring our total up to at least 1,325. For a county containing only 423 square miles, we consider this a good showing. We are now adequately financed with a budget for next year showing $21,500 total resources. An idea of the healthy growth of the farm bureau can be gained by a comparison of the above budget with the total resources in 1916, which amounted to only $4,855. With this increase in membership, the problem of serving them adequately becomes more acute. Group meetings seem to be the only possible solution.

During the year the adviser has had 2,281 consultations on subjects varying from hog capsules to community betterment. Our work would be greatly facilitated by a private consulting office. A committee was appointed at the annual meeting to look up a new location and in the event such is secured, the matter of a private office will be taken care of.

A total of 349 actual farm visits have been made during the year. This is not the most valuable service that can be rendered in farm bureau work under the present conditions. Too much time is taken in serving a few. The group method seems imperative.

Better System, Is Aim.

The trend of agricultural thought seems to be toward better systems of marketing the farmers' products; and while the farm bureau is still headquarters for up-to-date information on better cultural methods, better feeding, better live stock and everything that pertains to a more productive agriculture, yet we feel that our big job is to help towards perfecting a real marketing program that will tend to stabilize the markets for farm products.

To this end we encouraged the patronizing of the 10 co-operative live stock shipping associations in the county, have advocated and encouraged the idea of farmers' co-operative elevator companies, and organized a wool pool. Just as the co-operative live stock shipping association is the local unit on which our co-operative elevator companies must be builded, so the farmers' co-operative elevator companies must doubtless be the local unit around which our grain marketing program will be erected.

From the ten different shipping points in the county, 713 carloads of stock were shipped with a total receipt of $1,573,536.92.

The farm adviser has assisted in the organizing of two farmers' co-operative elevators in the county, one at Reynolds, capitalized at $30,000, with 120 stockholders, and one at Hillsdale, capitalized at $40,000, with 155 stockholders.

Co-Operative Buying.

During the year the farm bureau has done considerable co-operative buying for its members. Seed, fertilizer, feeds, spray material and equipment, flour, potatoes, etc., have been purchased in carload lots and less and furnished to the members at cost plus a small handling charge. Of this business $45,000 worth was handled through farm bureau funds; practically all of the fertilizer business and a good deal of the feed was handled by the directors in the different townships. The amount of business handled in the latter way, if we had the figures on it, would nearly equal the above amount. We find the latter method best. The farm bureau office secures quotations, places orders and has the goods delivered at the community station. The local men must take the orders, finance the proposition and deliver the commodity. All of our co-operative buying will have to be handled in this way in the future, since our executive committee has voted that farm bureau funds shall not be used for this purpose. At the best, we feel that this business is more or less of a necessary evil, and that the proper agency for it is the farmers' co-operative elevator, but until such a time as every community is served by such an institution, and as long as the local men are willing to handle and finance this business, we will continue to cooperate with them.

Farm Loan Associations.

The Rock Island county national farm loan association was organized Feb. 14, 1919, with eleven charter members. A total of $57,300 was loaned to these members. No additional business has been done during the year on accouut of a litigation which has tied up the entire system. We predict a great increase in interest in the farm loan association when it is again allowed to operate.

The Wool Pool.

A total of 20,381 pounds of wool was pooled through the county's wool pool this year. This is somewhat more than last year and represents more consigners. These men are mostly inclined to take the bad wool market philosophically and give the warehouse people time to market the same to the best advantage.

As we see the agricultural needs of Rock Island county, the thing that stands out preeminent is a better marketing system for farm products. While in reality we have only touched the fringe of the possibilities of greater production in agriculture, it seems about time that we call a halt on greater production until we can work out a satisfactory way to get cost of production out of which we are already producing. We find a tendency among some people other than farmers, to resent the active interest the farmer is at present taking in working out better systems of doing business. They seem to think that the place for the farmer to fill is simply that of a producer of cheap food. It is gratifying to see the rapid progress farmers are making in taking over and running business enterprises that have heretofore been left to private initiative and exploitation. And why not? They have both the brains and the capital.

Soil Improvement.

We have ordered for farm bureau members 1,902 tons of agricultural limestone to be used in soil improvement, also 100 tons of rock phosphate. We have a few members who have adopted the Illinois system of permanent soil improvement in a substantial way, using both limestone and phosphate in rotation. These men are good missionaries, spreading the gospel of soil betterment in a way that is most effective. Their neighbors can look over the fence and see the results. The high price of phosphate has been somewhat against its more extended use.

No new seeds have been introduced this year, but we have orders for Iowa oats for next season. We have sold nothing but Grimm alfalfa seed to our members for the past two years, believing that this is by far the best seed to use for permanent alfalfa stands. Its hardiness is greatly in its favor.

Plans for the Future.

Briefly stated, the plans for the future involve:

1. Winter meetings to discuss the activities of the American farm bureau federation, the Illinois Agricultural association, as well as the local farm bureau and to help organize the communities where such an organization is justified.

2. Co-operative Enterprises—
(a) Changing stock company elevators into farmers' co-operative elevators.
(b) Merchanding associations with warehouses at points that will not support an elevator.
(c) Sale pavilion.
(d) Farmers' co-operative milling plant.
(e) Limestone and phosphate sheds.
(f) Local limestone crushers.

3. Livestock—
(a) Feeding demonstrations.
(b) Better marketing. Farmers commission company at Chicago to which all co-operative shipments might go.
(c) Cow testing associations.

4. Disease control—
(a) Diagnosis and recommending better sanitation.
(b) Maintaining a serum depot.
(c) Instructing in administration of (1) anti hog cholera serum and virus; (2) hog cholera aggression.

5. Demonstrations—
(a) Two of last year's demonstration orchards will be pruned and sprayed this year to follow up the work done last year.
(b) Disease free seed corn picking demonstrations.
(c) Poultry culling demonstrations.

6. Crops—
New seed stock of some of our standard varieties of farm grains will be secured and such other new varieties as give extra promise. Grimm alfalfa will be pushed as usual.

7. Soil improvement—
(a) Limestone.
(b) Legumes and manure.
(c) Phosphate.

Election Had Much to Do With Checking Market on Real Estate During 1920

BY T. B. REIDY.

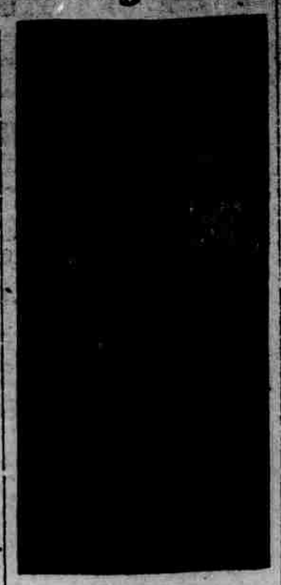
In looking back over the real estate transactions during the year of 1920, it is seen that a great many things have to be taken into consideration which tend to account for the difference in volume of business transacted during the previous year, when it was better all around.

The most important is the fact that it was presidential year. Possibilities of a change in administration with resultant unsettled conditions generally is the cause of some apprehension. The business world in general, outside of the necessities of life, is prone to wait until after election, hoping for a more settled condition, and also for a falling market of different commodities.

For instance, persons who have purchased lots during the last five years have failed to build homes on a rising market of building materials and the high cost of labor.

Then, again, the money situation has been anything but satisfactory. It has been an almost impossible task to obtain money for the building of dwellings. However, things are commencing to brighten. Building material has taken a decided drop in all lines and real estate men are looking forward to an active season for the year of 1921. This does not mean that the local real estate men have not done a thriving business during the year of 1920. Sales during the year have been about normal in the dwelling line, while the sale of lots has slumped considerably.

There have been quite a number of important business transactions in the business center, or loop district, and while this line of business has not been up to normal conditions, yet it has been fair, and had the money conditions been better there is no doubt that a great many more business properties would have changed hands.



T. B. Reidy.

The sale of farm lands has been exceedingly slow in this vicinity. This is accounted for mostly by the unprecedented high prices paid for farms during the year of 1919, when farm lands attained the highest prices ever known before in this county. Some very handsome offers have been made on farms this year, but somewhat lower than last year's prices.

The business outlook for the year of 1921 is very bright and all real estate men are looking for a prosperous season.

LAW [illegible] THE [illegible]

Activities of Clerks In 1920 in Comparison with Year [illegible]

Number of [illegible] cases filed in the [illegible] nig 1920 show [illegible] of 1919, according [illegible] George W. Gamble [illegible]

Declarations of [illegible] come citizens exceed [illegible] off from the previous year. [illegible] there were 289 who were [illegible] first papers against 234 for 1919. This is likely accounted for in the fact that during 1919 [illegible] soldiers took advantage of the opportunity to become citizens without examination.

The divorce mill operated with more telling effect in 1920. Out of 257 cases filed, the court granted 226. In 1919 there were 231 cases filed and only 185 granted.

A comparison of the records of the circuit court for the two years follows:

	1919	1920
Number of declarations of intention issued	484	[illegible]
Number of petitions for naturalization filed	343	[illegible]
Certificates of naturalization issued	175	[illegible]
Number of days circuit court was in session	199	230
Number of days grand jury was in session	12	26
Number of indictments returned by grand jury	87	96
Number of chancery cases filed	367	443
Divorces filed (included in chancery cases)	231	257
Law cases filed	141	259
Divorce decrees granted	185	226

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