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Old School No. 2, west of Oatka Cemetery, in Pavilion, 1878, taught by Mrs. Cornelia Lewis.



The safety and permanence of their newly-achieved free government could be insured only through education. Such was the passionate belief of the early settlers. One of their first labors, after providing food and shelter for their children, was the building of school houses and the furnishing of instruction. Although these people were deeply religious, schools were built, in fact, before churches.

As soon as there were enough children in any settlement a log school was raised.

[37]

These first buildings were usually 12' x 14' with desks of hewn logs fastened to the wall. The children sat with their backs toward the center of the room upon benches made of split logs. One side of the room had lower benches for the smaller children. There were few comforts provided in these early schools. Many of the children had to walk three or four miles through the woods along a narrow path with only blazed trees to guide them. Usually one of the larger boys was armed with a stout club to guard against wild beasts that might be encountered. Because they came such

(Continued on page 39)

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## The "Three R's" Nourish Freedom

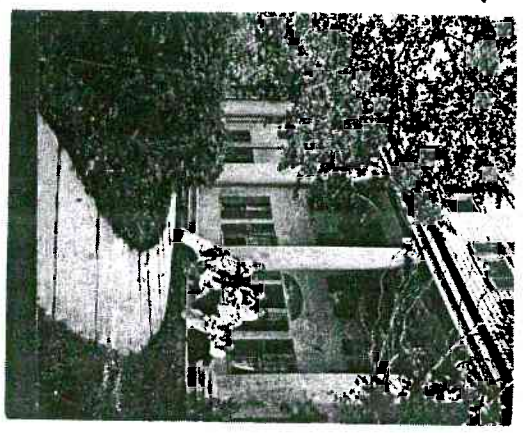
(Continued from page 37)

distances the children brought a lunch packed in a pail or box. One lunch box which has been preserved is a miniature strong box fitted with a business-like lock and key. (Did children in those far off days snatch lunches?) A common water bucket stood near the door. Germs and paper cups were unknown.

Reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic and geography were the usual subjects taught. Paper was scarce and expensive but slates served the purpose. There were but few books, poorly printed and—to our modern eyes—very uninteresting. There were never enough to serve a whole class. The teachers, for the most part were poorly paid. They were obliged to board among the families of the district staying in each home a given length of time for each child in school. The teacher was supplied with a bundle of birch switches for discipline. These were in plain sight over the desk. Usually the teacher must tend the fire unless some older boy helped out. A part of the tuition paid by each family was a supply of wood cut to prescribed length.

While little attention was given to the teacher's preparation, rigid standards of personal behavior were set up and woe to the young teacher who over stepped. For example in some districts no teacher was permitted to dance until a State law was passed in 1858 nullifying that restriction.

After a few years these log buildings were replaced by larger frame structures. The early builders used the materials at hand. In Le Roy and Stafford a number of stone schools were erected, some of them of cobblestones. One cobblestone building is still standing in the northwestern part of Stafford but it is not used as a school. Soon the countryside was dotted with one or two room schools usually painted red which, in retrospect, are so dear to the hearts of the older generation.



Ingham University, on the site of the present Le Roy High School, was the first in the nation to confer academic degrees upon women.

Before 1828 much trouble arose on the Purchase through a provision of the State, "that sites for school houses should be secured by deeds in fee, or by leases from the possessor of the fee," otherwise no school taxes could be levied or collected. David Evans, then local agent, solved this difficulty by deeding suitable sites not exceeding one-half an acre.

Hand in hand with the development of the schools came the establishment of libraries. In 1811 the Alexanderian Library was formed in Alexander. As early as 1804 an association of seven men was formed in Batavia. This association functioned continuously until Mrs. Mary E. Richmond presented to the Batavia school system the Richmond Memorial Library, at which time the said association made over to the school system, 3000 books and \$4000. Other libraries were formed in rapid succession until, at the present time, each school has a well stocked library.

The Woodward Memorial Library in Le Roy is considered one of the finest and most complete in any rural area.

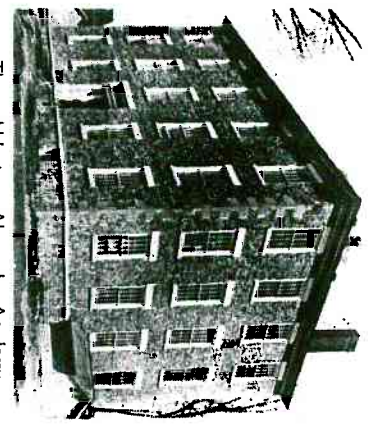
# The "Three R's" Nourish Freedom

In time the "little red school house" was abandoned in the wake of modern centralization. Large buildings with the best of equipment now house our County's children who are transported by bus to the nearest school. Batavia is not centralized but has her own system. The last centralization project was in the Byron-Bergen district.

In the future it will be possible to trace the development of modern schools because all records are very carefully preserved. Such was not the case in early times. Records either were not kept at all or were so poorly kept that they give very little information. There are, however, a few items that prove of interest.

One room schools were established in the various sections of the County before 1812. According to the records the first school west of the Genesee River was opened in 1801 at Ganson's (Le Roy) with Luseba Scott as teacher. She married James Ganson. Her family gave the name to Scottsville. Later that same year a private school was kept by Thomas Lawton, "somewhere" east of the Land Office in Batavia. The first regular district school on the Purchase was opened in 1806.

Many private schools were opened—the outgrowth of the lack of higher educational facilities in the smaller one-room buildings. Among the better known private schools was a classical institution taught by William LeRoy Annin in the famous Round House in Le Roy. This closed in 1859. The best known and most successful venture in Batavia was Mrs. Bryan's academic school which was held in the former Joseph Elliott House. Another very popular "institution" of learning for young ladies was Park Place in the house built by Alva Smith. This school was established in 1848 by Mrs. Ellen Hooker who later employed only col-



The cobblestone Alexander Academy.

lege graduates as faculty members. The site is now a parking area.

Genesee County was fortunate in having within her borders several centers of higher education, the most famous of which was Ingham University in Le Roy. It was chartered as a collegiate institute for young women in 1852 and as a university five years later. It attained National reputation, being the first in the country to introduce a college curriculum for women. Courses in languages, art and music were of high standard. The University was given the privilege of conferring degrees in these subjects.

At Alexander a large building was erected of cobblestones from the surrounding area for use as the Genesee and Wyoming Seminary. The usual enrollment was 300 with students from fourteen states including many from the South. These Southerners left just previous to the Civil War. Following a decline in attendance the seminary became a private school continuing as such until the Union Free School—one of the first in the County—was established in 1886. After the centralized school was opened in 1938 the venerable old building became Town property and is exceedingly well preserved.

In Bethany Center (1832) there stands a cherished building which was first used as a church and later as the Bethany Academy. This school was incorporated

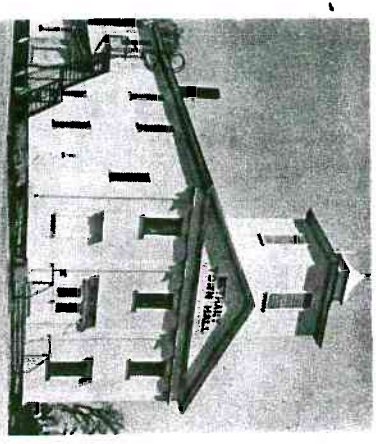
# The "Three R's" Nourish Freedom

in 1844. It is now the Town Hall. Several years before, the Genesee Manual Labor Seminary was incorporated but was closed about twenty years later by lack of funds. This school was located near East Bethany on the Wyoming Road.

Cary Collegiate Seminary was founded at Oakfield, then called Caryville, after the founder of the seminary, Colonel Alfred Cary. It had a large enrollment until Civil War times when, like many another, its patronage declined and it was obliged to close.

In this typewriter age, penmanship is not considered of much importance but it was included in all of the old time schools. Good penmanship was a matter of pride. One writing teacher of other days was especially well known in this area. O. S. Pratt taught writing in the first Batavia High School and at Ingham University. Many specimens of his handiwork are carefully treasured.

Interesting notes concerning the schools of the County show that most of the Union Free Schools were established in early 1900 although Batavia had a free union system many years earlier. The first such school, known as the old brick school house was erected about 1812 at the corner of the present Main and Ross Streets. It was the first brick building west of the Genesee River. The first Regents examinations were given at the Liberty Street school which is now



The Bethany Academy was held in this building.

a part of the Batavia Metal Products factory.

The New York State School for the Blind of which Batavia is justly proud, was established by an act of Legislature in 1865. A year later the cornerstone of the first building was laid with elaborate ceremonies. The people of the village of Batavia gave the site for this institution. When the school was opened there were forty pupils enrolled, some of them adults. No child under nine years of age was admitted. Time has brought many changes. There are now a large number of children in the kindergarten. The total enrollment, at present, is 165 with 22 teachers and other personnel. The whole plant consists of about a dozen buildings used for class rooms, dormitories and for general utility purposes. The new Severne Hall is an ornament to the City. No wonder Batavia is proud of this school.

## INDIAN RESERVATION

The Tonawanda Reservation is located in Erie and Genesee Counties and originally contained over 45,000 acres but has been reduced until it now embraces a tract of 7,547 acres. The Indians have owned and occupied this land for over 100 years. Extracts from diary of John Mauls, a traveler, in 1800: At

Tonawantee reside 15 to 20 families of Seneca Indians who are well supplied with fish from the creek. Here also has been settled from the year 1794, Pond-rit, a French Canadian; he very cheerfully gave such refreshments to ourselves and horses as his slender means would afford."

—Genesee County Gazetteer—1890

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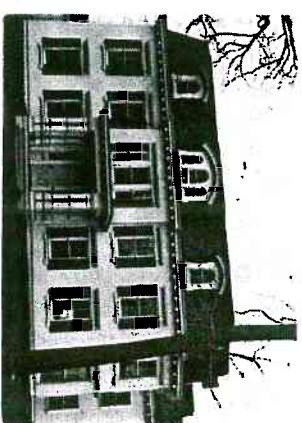


The farmer pushing westward in his simple ox-cart over the Genesee, found the Western Door to be, truly, as the Senecas described it, "a clear and shining place." Its rolling uplands and grass-grown river bottoms were the farmer's heart's desire. Beneath groves of sugar maple, beech and bass wood, elm, oak and ash, he found a rich and loamy soil many inches deep.

Awaiting his axe were scatterings of pine, walnut, wild cherry, chestnut and hickory, many of whose timbers are intact today in our oldest dwellings. Awaiting gathering in the woods were sassafras, wild hops, grapes, elder, raspberries, strawberries, sarsaparilla, spikenard, mandrakes, gooseberries, and in the bog, cranberries—now extinct. Fish, including salmon, were plentiful. Bear, deer, wolf, raccoon, woodchuck, squirrel, foxes and wolves roamed the forests. Wolves and bear soon would prove destructive of the settler's livestock. Passenger pigeons, however, became a delicacy.

The uplands were ready to produce two to three tons of hay per acre; corn, in the river bottoms, would reach 70 to 80 bushels—a fantastic yield in those times of unimproved varieties. Wheat acres would produce occasionally up to 40 bushels (seven was the New York average). Flax and hemp would grow luxuriously and, in the year 1804, a gentleman from Maryland would raise tobacco successfully for market.

"Sweetain" from the maple trees flowed in Springtime, while limestone soil put bone and blood in horse and ox. Potatoes, cabbages, onions, turnips, and other vegetables soon would grow to perfection. When the new country was born in 1802, the shadow of the present



The historic Lay mansion becomes the Genesee County Farm and Home Center.

thirty million dollar agricultural industry lay already across the land.

It was all here—but it could be had only through aching muscles, hard toil, and the long view. The pioneer farmer invested in the future.

His greatest enemy, perhaps, was the malaria-laden mosquito. In spite of so-called "agues" and "bilious fevers," axes rang in the deep woods, neighbors congregated to "log" fields, or "roll up" cabins. Inch by inch the wilderness was pushed back and fenced out. Virgin soil was laid over in black furrows with primitive plows and harrowed with a bush drag. However crudely, the earth was made to open and to yield its abundance.

The early settler drew heavily upon his Indian heritage. He took not only the Seneca's land, but also his agriculture. Corn, beans, pumpkin and squash, called by the Seneca **DIOHEKO**—"They Sustain Us"—sustained the farmer his first season. These he planted in hills, Indian fashion, on the slashings before the fields were logged. The corn crib, the husking peg, and the scarecrow also were Indian gifts. The modelled his cabin on the Iroquan "log house." By the second summer the settler had several acres completely cleared and (Continued on page 45)

for FUN both ways! . . .

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## Fertile Soil and Free People Feed the Nation

(Continued from page 43)

planted to wheat, a door built to his cabin (where a blanket had hung before) and shelter of sorts for his cow and heifers and few sheep. He had wintered these on browse and a bit of hay cut from the clearings. The farmer's wife had a few fowl, a small garden. Sunflowers, hollyhocks, or marigolds, made, occasionally, a splash of color against the cabin logs. These were grown from seed brought lovingly with precious possessions over the tortuous trails.

Cash was scarce or non-existent for many years. The first cash crop was black salts or pot ash, made from timber cleared from the fields. This brought a fair price when barged down the Susquehanna to Philadelphia or Baltimore, or overland to Albany and New York. There was never enough cash, however, to pay off the mortgage, freely offered by the land company, on the settler's farm. This was his millstone for many years.

The War of 1812 was an almost insurmountable set-back. Aside from time and often life lost, trade—such as it was—came to a standstill. Many farmers tightened their belts and started over. Genesee farming remained on a subsistence level until 1825. Then Clinton's

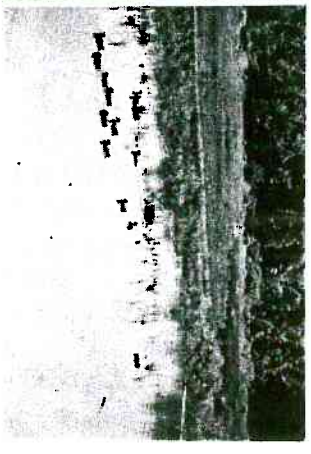
Big Ditch, the Erie Canal, fulfilled the dreams of its prophet founder, opening these lands to unheard of commerce. By mid-century came the railroads. Wheat production, especially, spurred upward. The Genesee country became the "Bread Basket of the Nation." The crude cradle and flail gave way to the mechanical reaper as the industrial revolution swept westward. Wheeled tools put more acres under cultivation. The corn sheller replaced the Indian peg. Agriculture was on the march.

By mid-century, also, the log cabin of the early settler had been destroyed or given over to livestock. In its place stood the white-painted Greek-revival homestead, full, as was its owner, of character and simple dignity. From its classic doorills stretched rolling acres of cleared fields. A turnpike replaced the rutted trail. Backs ached less now, and luxuries had been added to meager necessities. The black earth had fulfilled its promise and the pioneer's dream was realized.

For the next one hundred years, the story was one of growth, consolidation and mechanization. The tractor, combine and the cornpicker have given the most recent impetus to agricultural production. The early prognostication of grass, grain, livestock and vegetable products has been born out over the years. The Genesee country still is the bread basket of New York if not the nation. Dairying, however, has forged forward into first place because of proximity to



The early settler used stumps to make fences.



The modern conservation pond preserves the wild life of the ages.

## Fertile Soil and Free People Feed the Nation

great milk consuming markets. Poultry has increased to over ten per cent of entire production. Fruit, once a major crop in the county, now is negligible.

Genesee now, as always, is a county of family farms, averaging, today, 122 acres. Nearly all are electrified. Most have telephones. There is a combine for every 100 acres of grain, a corn picker for every 85 acres of corn. The county is mechanically prepared, in case of war or other shortages.

Working only a few hours less than his grandfather, the modern farmer cultivates more acres with less help through the use of machinery. The widow with ten children is not, unfortunately, the matrimonial prize she was in 1802 when strong, young backs were the farm "power."

The farmer, once profligate of the land's fertility is, today, conservation conscious. The early settler gave little thought to crop rotation or fertilization. Today, the Genesee farmer listens, studies, and plans with his agricultural agents to increase not only production but also the fertility of the soil. It is his investment in the future.

His Farm and Home Center in Batavia is a useful monument to a century and a half of steadily increasing agricultural progress. This former Lay mansion has replaced the rattle of crinoline and the tinkle of champagne glasses of another great era with the sound of typewriters and the hum of voices planning our agricultural future. This building is, also, the symbol of ever-growing cooperation between the Genesee farmer and the urban population of this county.

The Genesee granary is girded for the future.

### INDIANS

The Iroquois mother spaced her children three or four years apart so that she could give her baby undivided attention during the years it needed her most. She seldom had more than three. Orphaned children, or extra ones in one family, were given to childless couples to raise. The Iroquois loved their children tenderly. They were reprovved, never injured or beaten, and none but the milder forms of punishment were resorted to. After the age of ten or twelve, the boys were given instruction in a group similar to our Scouts.

### AGRICULTURE

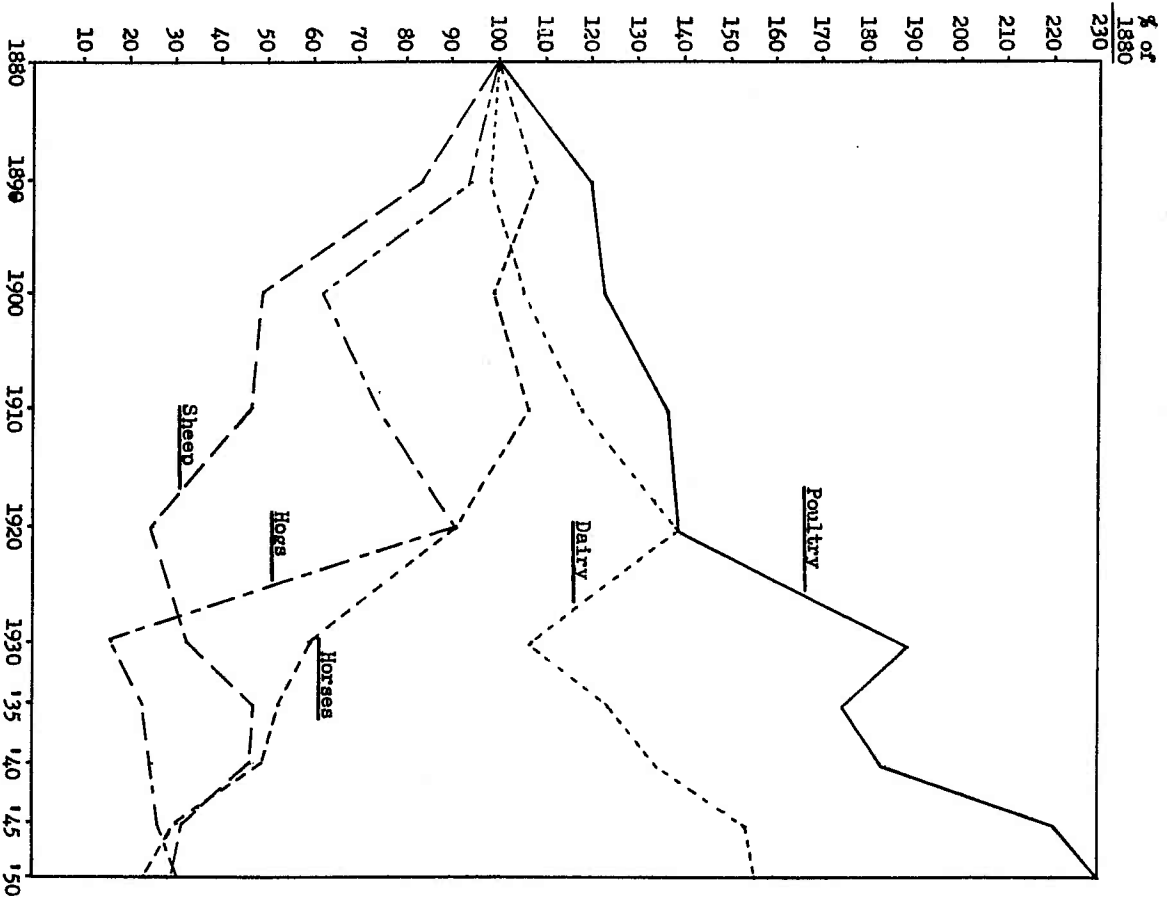
About 1840, A. H. Norris of Stafford began propagating peaches from his own setting, paying \$1 a bushel for the pits and obtaining buds from Rochester. He later imported quince stock from France and propagated dwarf pears. He sent as many as 40,000 at one time to California.

### ARTS

A romance that ended in friendship was that of the Swedish Nightingale, Jenny Lind, and Joseph Burke of Alexander. Both famous as child prodigies, actors, and later, musicians, Burke was violin accompanist for Mlle. Lind on her triumphal tour of America in 1801. It has been surmised that had he proposed to the woman he almost worshipped when she visited him in Alexander, she would have accepted. She married another within months and retired from the stage. Years later when he confessed to her that he would have proposed had he known she would have married "a common man," she answered, "Oh, why didn't you?"

Seventy years ago Calvin N. Keeney of Le Roy—after much down to earth arduous labor—discovered, then by selection developed, the stringless string bean.

The Shift in the Number of Livestock in Genesee County (Base: 1880 equals 100%)



## A Goal for the Future

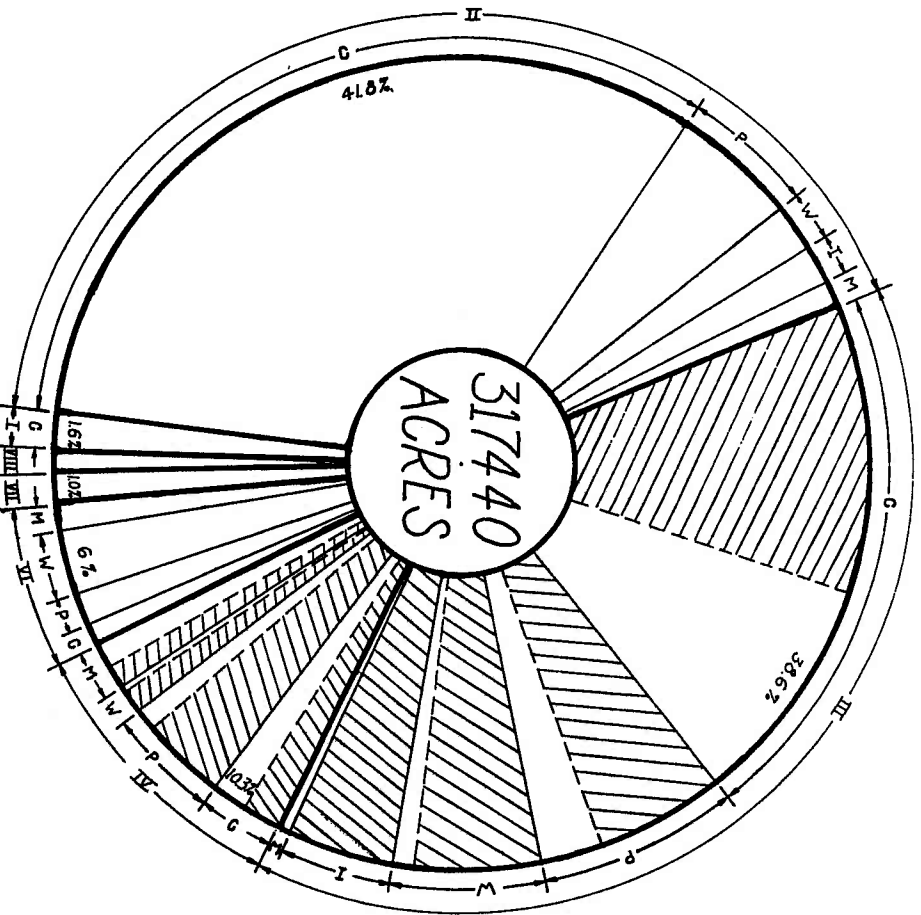
When the early settlers came to the Genesee country a squirrel could travel the length and breadth of the land without setting foot on the ground. The few thousand acres of virgin clearings were gradually enlarged after machines replaced oxen and human muscles, the mantle of trees disappeared at an accelerated rate. Then came the time when larger and more powerful farm equipment necessitated even larger fields. That marked the day when fence rows, the last Maginot line against erosion, were removed from many fields.

Today, 93% of the country is cleared of timber, most of the swamp lands have been drained and put into productive use, and thousands of acres of the heavier upland soils are now interwoven by hundreds of miles of tile drains which make for increased intensity and efficiency of agricultural practices.

These agricultural changes in natural cover, though necessary for an expanded population and a so-called "better life," created certain serious problems.

Large acreages were laid bare to the forces of wind and water. Recent soil surveys indicate that at least half the original topsoil is gone from most of our cropland and about 37,000 acres have lost enough of that original soil "cream" to seriously affect crop yields. Fourteen thousand acres of land should be retired to permanent grass cover and another 5,000 acres should be returned to forest.

Modern pioneers are beginning to put their mark upon the landscape through conservation farming. Large square fields are giving way to contour bands tailored to the topography where each row holds its share of water and soil. Some steep hillsides are being planted to permanent type grasses and legumes while others are being reforested with evergreen trees. Low lands which are too heavy for economic drainage are being flooded to encourage more wildlife development. The goal of the future is to use each acre within its capability and treat it according to its needs for a sustained and abundant agriculture.



### Genesee County Land Capability Classes

- I. Suitable for Intensive Crop Rotations
  - II. Suitable for Rotations—With Simple Conservation Treatment
  - III. Suitable for Rotations—With Intensive Conservation Treatment Carefully Applied
  - IV. Suitable for Hay or Pasture—With Very Limited Cultivation
  - VI. Suitable for Pasture or Woods but Not Cultivation
  - VII. Suitable for Forest and Wildlife Development
  - VIII. Little or No Economic Value Except Wildlife
- Hatch Lines On Any Class Indicate that Drainage is a Limiting Factor.
- C. Cropland
  - P. Pasture
  - W. Woods
  - I. Idle
  - M. Miscellaneous

About 92% of the county's agricultural land area is included in Capability Classes I, II, III, and IV and can be used for crop production with varying intensities of treatment.

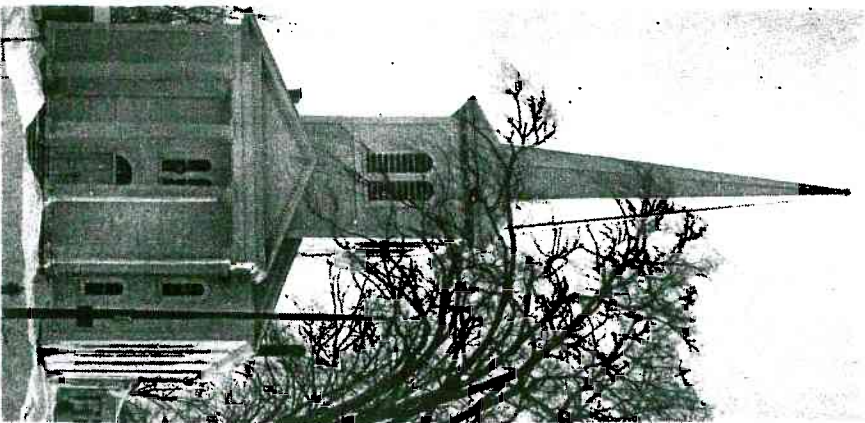


## Alexander Methodist Church

It was the custom of the Holland Land Company to give a land lot to the first church society ready in each town to build a church upon it. The Methodists and Presbyterians contested for the lot in Alexander. The Methodists organized and were ready to go to Batavia one morning to claim the property. In a dramatic coup, the Presbyterians slipped into town during the night, woke up the land agent and secured the land.

Then, in a spirit of brotherhood, the Presbyterians proposed that the Methodists join them in building a union church. The present graceful structure, finished in 1828, is the result. The Methodists later bought the Presbyterian share.

In the picture below, Boy Scouts are shown in formation in front of the church.



## Le Roy Presbyterian Church

This white-spired colonial church was built in 1825 but has undergone several architectural changes. It has become a historic structure. The State Convention of Seceeding Masons, July 4-5, 1828, held here, began our convention system of nominating men and women for high political office. Out of this meeting developed the Anti-Masonic Party, the first effective third party in this country.

In 1830 the church was the scene of a window-breaking, furniture smashing riot during an early Abolitionist meeting.

## Faith and Fun Sustain the Settler

Freedom of worship was the bright star of hope that brought the Pilgrims to America more than three centuries ago. The pioneers who came to Genesee County a century and a half ago brought the same ideal and hope with them. Without their family and community worship, life in the isolated cabins would have been unbearable.

There were no churches until long after the first settlers came here, but they gathered in humble cabins or in the taverns to worship and conduct religious services. Except when transient missionaries passed through, about once a year, members of the community read the services. There is record of a funeral service being read in Ganson's barroom by Stephen Stillwell for a child who had died as its family came through the young settlement.

People of all denominations gathered together at first, but as the communities grew, church societies were formed. The first in the present county was the Congregational Church in Bergen, organized December 14, 1807. The buildings were raised much later. Many of these lovely, colonial structures are in use today.

The Sabbath was a strict and awesome day. Even so, it was anticipated as a day-long social as well as religious event, in spite of four-hour sermons and stiff hard pews. Families brought their lunches and, in winter, foot and hand-warmers for a modicum of comfort. When stoves became common, the grandfathers built the fires on Saturday for warmth during Sunday services. Instrumental music did not alleviate the solemnity until well after the Civil War, violins cellos being used before organs.

There was no solemnity in the church sociables and festivals which have continued through the years to be a living



part of community life. Here young romance found encouragement, and blossomed into unions that have kept the churches living and serving, as they have been served by the families who came to make homes, and build a better country.

Is there anyone among the older men and women who cannot recall, with a bit of nostalgia, the sociables, the church suppers and ice cream festivals, with Japanese lanterns hung on ropes between the trees on the church lawn?

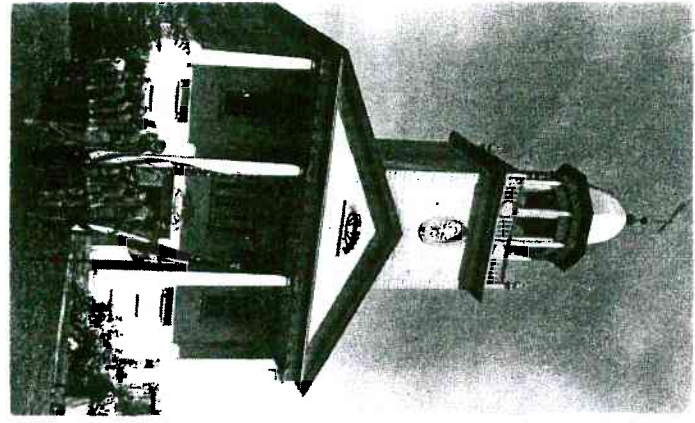
Mothers and Aunts were busy preparing the cakes and ice cream in the church parlor, and lucky the boy who stuck to the job of turning the crank on the hand powered freezer, and got to lick the "dash" when it was taken out, and lucky the girl who set the tables and could have the end piece from a loaf cake!

The wealth of those community church affairs, may seem simple and devoid of excitement to the youth of 1932, but the girls and girls of those days knew the richness of peace and contentment, of association with the grandfathers, who sat a little back from the crowd and told stories of the days when they were young, of their experiences and of the wolves and bears they had to hunt when they threatened livestock and families.

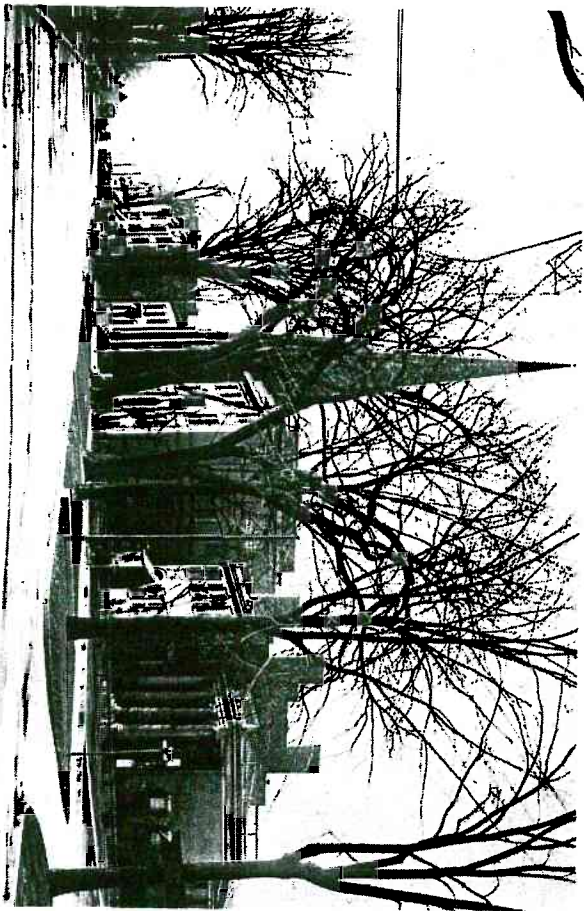
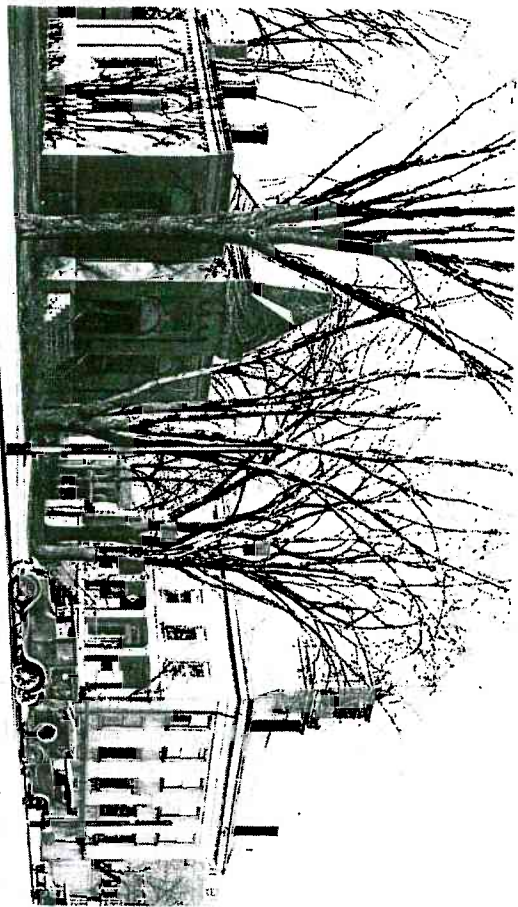
Although the early settler's life was harsh and isolated, he used every opportunity to bring fun and sociability into it. There were "bees," or "frolics" for all occasions—house, barn, or church "raisings;" the preparation of apples for drying; quilting, husking or spinning bees. Drinking, especially in the early days, often was immoderate, and appetites were vast—the old brick ovens were filled to capacity.

These "bees" served a dual purpose, as hired labor was scarce and farmers depended upon each other for help in many-handed ventures. The young peo-

(Continued on page 53)







Top: Genesee County Surrogate's Office and Court House.  
Bottom: Cary Mansion (right) and Main Street, Batavia.

## Faith and Fun Sustain the Settler

(Continued from page 51)

ple loved, especially, the husking bees. Every lad who husked a red ear could claim a kiss—and many were the red ears that were husked repeatedly!

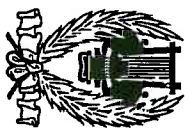
Training or militia days were great events. Wrote a veteran of that time: "Although the companies exhibited the elite of our regimental splendors, glittering with tinsel and flaunting with feathers, a more unsoldierly parade could scarcely be imagined. There were the elect from far-off farms, who sometimes marched to the rendezvous bare-foot, carrying their boots and soldier clothes in bundle—the ambitious cobblers, tailors, and plough-boys from cross-roads hamlets—tall, short, fat, skinny, bow-legged, sheep-shanked, cock-eyed, hump-shouldered or sway-backed; uniformed in contempt of uniformity; armed with flint-lock muskets,

long squirrel rifles or bell-muzzled blunderbusses." The incongruity added to the excitement.

Shooting matches, wrestling bouts, side shows and wonders in natural history provided amusement. Menageries and, later, the annual circus highlighted the year. Magicians and acrobats wandered from town to town. The overjoyous frowned on the circus and they were prohibited in some communities.

There was little opportunity for aesthetic interests in the early years, but as the life became less rigorous, the women sought beauty and culture in household arts and handicrafts such as weaving, embroidering and painting. The pure lines of the early architecture in home and church, the tree-lined streets, the village greens, give evidence of inherent artistry and the good taste of our forefathers.

The religious faith, the capacity for fun, and the artistic expressions of the early settlers were pillars upon which the County's strength was built.



## TRAVEL

"The Erie Canal reduced travel from Buffalo to New York from 20 days to ten days, and the cost of moving a ton of freight fell from \$100 to \$5.00. All the farm products of Western New York at once poured eastward instead of southward. Hitherto, New England had supplied New York with potatoes at from 75c to \$1.00 a bushel. Now "Chenangoes," as potatoes from Central New York were called, usurped the market. Western New York flour could be

shipped via the canal and the Atlantic to southern markets in the West Indies at less than \$1.50 a barrel for freight. The abandonment of New England farms began with the completion of the Erie Canal. New York, hitherto second in rank with Pennsylvania in agricultural products, soon took first rank and held that place until after the Civil War. It was the Erie Canal, all agree, that made New York the Empire State and New York City the metropolis of the Western Hemisphere."

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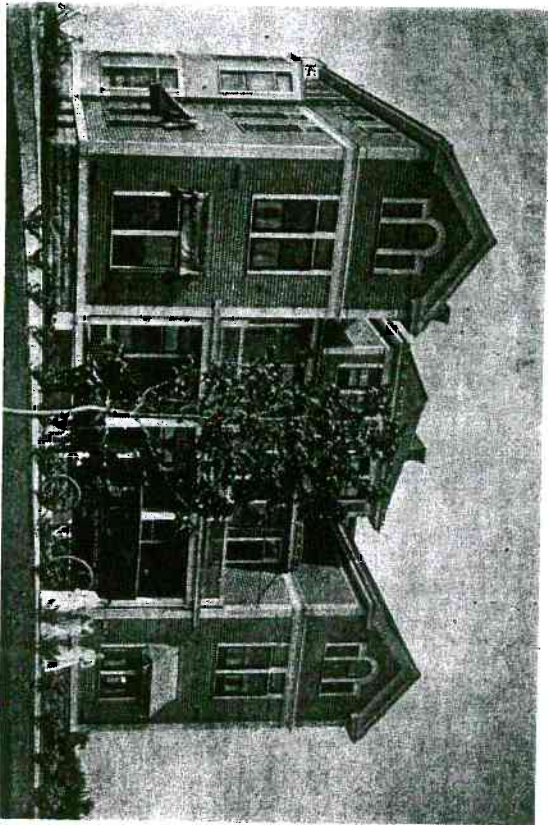
No changes have been greater, perhaps, during the last century and a half, than those in the treatment of disease. The doctor of the early set- tler would scarcely be recognizable as such today.

As late as 1858, W. S. Headley, M.D., of Le Roy, advertised as a “dealer in Drugs, Medicines, Confectionary, Perfumery, Tobacco, Cigars, Pure Wines and Liguors, Etc.” The early doctor’s training was extremely limited. He may have worked for some years as a menial servant or assistant to a practicing physi- cian, reading from the scanty library in his spare time. He learned to grind powders, make pills, bleed patients, put on plasters and dress wounds. After four or five years, he would find a doc- torless community and hang out his

shingle. An early newspaper advertised a doctor’s lecture course which could be had for \$12.00. Whatever his training, however, the doctor was a personage in his community.

Doctors were few in the early settle- ments. The first in the area were David McCracken, M.D., in 1801; Reuben Town, Batavia, 1803, and Dr. Wm. Coe, who came to Le Roy the same year. Every farmer’s wife did nursing and dis- pensed medicine. She purified her chil- dren’s blood with sulphur and molasses in spring, purged them with senna and rhubarb root. She fed calomel until the victim’s teeth fell out. She could cup and leech and even bleed her family if she felt the need. She learned the uses of herbs and “simples,” much of it from the Indian. There is record of the Sen- ecas teaching Le Roy women how to sweat their patients. They would dig a

(Continued on page 57)



The Batavia Hospital, erected 1902. This became the Genesee Memorial Hospital.