

MANCHESTER
Through The Years



ALICE M. DUBLER

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INTRODUCTION

IN presenting this brief history of the village of Manchester, the writer desires to return her sincere thanks to all who so kindly assisted with information given her which was contained in old newspapers, scrapbooks and histories. Especially are my thanks due to: Mrs. Adelbert Robinson, Mrs. L.L. Swarthout, Mrs. Della Foster, Mrs. P.J. McLaughlin, Mr. Oscar Payne, Mr. Munson Wheeler and my nieces, Mrs. Ruth Pratt Wadsworth and Ann Fairchild.

With our many thanks to friends in general, we leave our work to secure their favor which earnest endeavor generally wins.

To the generations to come, we trust that you will always cherish the memory of these early pioneers for the sacrifice and dangers they endured, and this village of Manchester may ever be your pride and joy.

This history is lovingly dedicated to our five children: Erstine, Harold, Janc, Beulah and Ruth.

FOREWORD

FROM whence did I come, and what came I here to do? These are questions as old as time but ever new with each succeeding generation. Today as "Time Marches On" we record for future generations on threads of wire, and by moving pictures, the daily events which mark human failure or progress. A century and a half ago while more hardy and adventurous men were pushing back the wilderness in ever widening circles and remaking the materials given to them by God and nature into the forerunners of comfort and convenience we enjoy today, others, by letters, manuscripts and printed page, recorded the progress which they made.

It is fitting that Alice Van Duyne Dubler should make this compendium of the history of Manchester. She is the great-granddaughter of one of the first families to settle in this section, and a student of history, well versed in the legends and folklore. To read this narrative will lead the more contemplative mind to view with reverence and admiration the hardships which they endured, and the success which followed their efforts, and will cause us to rededicate ourselves to the responsibilities which we should assume to be worthy of the heritage which they have given to us.

At the beginning of the Eighteenth Century, America had become the asylum for some five hundred thousand men and women who, because of poverty, fear of religious persecution, or through the political ambition of unscrupulous rulers, had left the lands of their birth and come to our shores in hope of finding a better and finer way of life. By the middle of the century this number had greatly increased. The following years in this century were filled with events which led up to the final secession of the colonies from England, the Revolutionary War, and the preparation for the States to assume their new responsibilities. During this period, the population began to move westward and new outposts of civilization were started in Ohio and west of the Appalachian Mountains.

By 1800, tales of the opportunities in western New York State rekindled a spirit of adventure in these new Americans and many set out to rebuild their homes and fortunes in the Lakes Country. The natural beauty of the heavily wooded, rolling lands, and the rich deep loam soil suitable to produce many crops, the possibility for water power to operate their mills, attracted many of the more stable and home-loving folks to the section in the Finger Lakes Region now known as Ontario County. Our story is centered around what was then known as

Stafford's Landing, for Canandaigua Outlet at that time was navigable to this point by boats large enough to carry a man's family and whatever household necessities he cared to bring with him. It is here our narrative begins; for it is about those sturdy folks who endured hardships of travel through the wilderness, cleared the land from the forest, planted their first grain, and built their homes with their own hands. Here they could live, raise their families, work, and worship God, each according to the dictates of his own conscience.

To the older generation, of which I am a member, this narrative will bring back memories of names and incidents long forgotten, and from these silent reminiscences, if they could be gathered and recorded, might be written a tribute worthy of the love and respect we hold for those who are no longer with us.

The youth of today should study its message and could with profit seek to emulate the examples of fortitude and industry herein recorded to the end that they too, with divine guidance, will be able to meet and solve the complex problems of this modern day and age.

Charles A. LaBounty

FIRST SETTLERS

WE may feel sure that one sunny October afternoon in the year 1788 a band of Indians was gathering hickory nuts or butter nuts on the flat lands on the west side of Canandaigua Outlet, where the village of Manchester is located today. This tract of several acres was covered with nut-bearing trees. We may feel certain that the same afternoon in 1788 a couple of flat bottom boats came up the Outlet and landed across from where the boy scout camp now stands.

Back in those days one could possibly make his way through the woods on horseback, but wagons were out of the question. A great many settlers came by boat from Albany up the Mohawk river, made a short portage to Oneida Lake, and eventually came up the Outlet to the landing mentioned above. A few boats did work their way through the rapids between here and Littleville and thus on to Canandaigua Lake. This was a tough job. As a result, roads came into use. The first roads were supposed to have been laid on the line of lots. As settlers moved in, roads came to mean shorter cuts from one settlement to another and from farm to farm. Often an old Indian Trail through the forest was utilized to advantage. Otherwise a visit to a neighbor would have necessitated many weary hours of travel and in those days hospitality meant more than a cup of tea; everyone was welcome. The door stood open, and open hands gave their best from their little.

The first and only plank road in the town of Manchester which went from Palmyra to Canandaigua was built in the year of 1849 by a stock company and was a toll road. The toll gate was located just south of the present school house. Later, this toll gate was moved back and converted into a dwelling. In the year 1953, it was owned by Mr. and Mrs. Glen Olmstead. Previous to the planking of this road it had been the stage and mail route for many years from Canandaigua to Palmyra and also for the village of Manchester which was a halfway stop for all stage coaches and travelers. The mail was brought by stage coach from Albany to Buffalo; Canandaigua was a distributing place for other mail routes in this country, by coach and horseback.

This settlement was first known as Township 12, Range 2. In 1821, March 31, a township was set off and called Burt. On April 16, 1822, the name was changed to Manchester. This land was purchased by Phelps and Gorham of the Old Bay State at the nominal sum of four cents per acre. They paid for it in colonial securities which were worth about one half of their par value, making the real cost something less than two

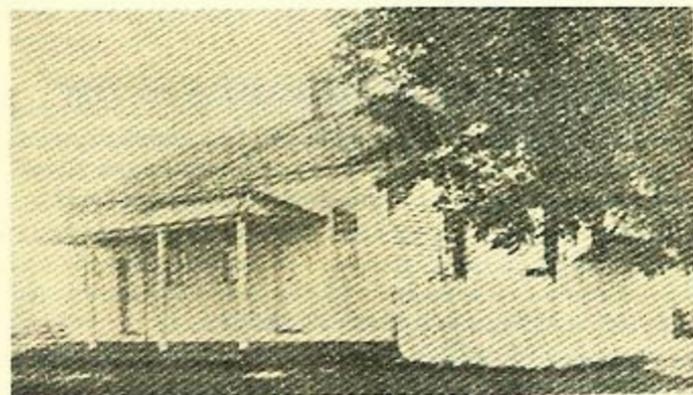
cents per acre.

In 1793, the first white men to come to this settlement were Joab Gillett, Stephen Jared and Joel Phelps. Jared and Phelps remained only a short time, so to Joab Gillett belongs the honor of being the first true pioneer of the village of Manchester. The first long house was built by Joab near the site of the present Baptist Church. Here the first wedding was performed when Ruth Gillette married Sharon Booth who was the second permanent settler. Joab was considered a model pioneer in one respect, for he brought five daughters and three sons with him. After Ruth and Sharon Booth's wedding, they moved into the farm house just south of the four corners in Shortsville. At least four generations of Booths have lived on this farm.

The third and last person to arrive in 1794 was Deacon John McLouth. He was connected with the early religious movements of the town. The first religious meeting was held in his barn.

From 1794 to 1800, we find the name of other settlers who came to this community and helped to make its history. Among the best known were Nathan Pierce, John McLouth, John VanFleet, (General VanFleet's ancestor), Sharon Booth, Benjamin Barney, Jedediah Dewey, William Mitchell, Peleg Redfield, Hooker and Joseph Sawyer, Ebenezer Pratt, John Lamunion, Gilbert Howland, Elihu Osgood, William Stafford, Thomas Harrington, Jeremiah Hart, Jacob Rice, Ananis Wells, Luke Phelps and Bezaliel Coats.

The first supervisor of the town of Manchester was Joshua VanFleet. He also was a member of the legislature from Ontario County in 1812, and again in 1814. His home was south of the Shortsville four corners. The site where the house stood was where the home of George Miller stands in the year 1953. His great-grandson was General VanFleet who played an important part in the Korean War. He retired in the early part of the year 1953.



The Old Quaker Meeting House, South Farmington

II

WAR OF INDEPENDENCE

THIS village may well be proud of the forefathers who fought in the war of American Independence. Among the names of those patriots are Nathan Pierce, Joshua VanFleet, Peleg Redfield, Samuel Rush, Thomas Sawyer, Joab Gillett, Ebenezer Pratt, Israel Harrington and Nicholas Chrysler. It would be impossible to know the rank of each one, with the exception of Nathan Pierce who was captain of a company.

Then after the Revolutionary conflict, the soldiers came home to establish their homes in the wilderness. While the struggles and hardships were fresh in their minds, their well earned peace was disturbed by the War of 1812. It is not strange to find the name of Nathan Pierce, Jr., son of Captain Pierce, among the first to enlist. He served under General Wadsworth, familiarly known by his men as "Black Bill". At the close of the War of 1812, Nathan Pierce was given command of a company militia.

Another boy deserves mention. Gilbert Howland, eldest son of the pioneer, Nicholas Howland, was captain of a company of militia at the breaking out of this war and on May 28, 1812, was commissioned by Daniel D. Tompkins, Governor of New York State, to be captain of a company in the regiment of infantry of Ontario County. His patriotism was not to be proven, for he yielded to the desires and wishes of his father and mother and gave up the life of a soldier. His father and mother belonged to the Society of Friends.

III

EARLY GLIMPSE OF THE BUSINESS SECTION

THE very earliest records give the death of Thomas Sawyer, March 12, 1793, as being the first death to occur in this town. The first birth recorded is that of Donis Booth on March 25, 1795.

The first merchant was Nathan Barlow; the first physician was James Stewart. The training of the youthful minds fell to Elam Cranc who was the first school teacher. Achilles Bottsford ranks as pioneer cobbler. The first printer was Lewis H. Redfield.

Religion was a feature of pioneer life. Rev. David Irish preached in Manchester in January 1797, and in February founded the Baptist Society. The legal organization was perfected in 1804. Ebenezer Pratt, Joseph Wells and Jeremiah Dewey were the first trustees of the church known as the "Old Stone Church." It stood on the east side of Main Street just a few rods above the underpass.

The house occupied by John Johnson, (one of the village merchants) is the oldest house to remain standing in 1953. It was built by Nathan Pierce in the year 1801.

In the year 1798, the Pratts came to Manchester. They bought a tract of land lying between the lands of Joab Gillett and Nathan Pierce. That would be as wide as from the Baptist Church to the south and the line of the first farm to the north of the schoolhouse, and extending west to the Farmington townline. Four generations of Pratts have occupied the same location until 1943 at the death of John H. Pratt, M.D. when the property was sold by his widow to Patrick J. McLoughlin for a funeral home. This was the same location where Ebenezer and Elkannah Pratt built their loghouse.

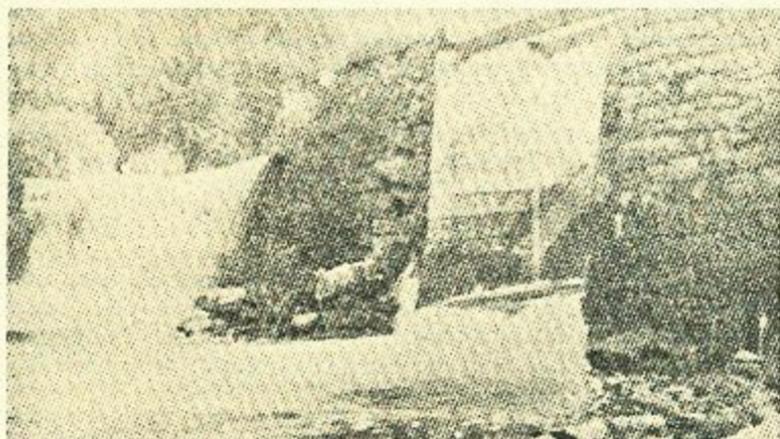
The Barlow Store, which was built in 1809, is the exact spot now occupied by the Johnson and Bennett general store. This store was a gathering place, and many a cracker barrel discussion took place here. Barlow was appointed postmaster or some agreement was made, and the mail was brought from Canandaigua twice a week. Previous to this, the settlers went to Canandiagua on horseback to get their mail.

In 1814, a town library was started in Manchester. The funds were raised by selling one thousand shares of stock at two dollars a share. The library contained over six hundred volumes of biographies, histories, and scientific, moral, political, religious and educational works. On its shelves could be found such works as: Rollin's *History*, Franklin's *Works*, Lock's *Understanding*, Goldsmith's *Works*, *Biography of Pious*

Persons, Dying Thoughts of a Christian, Elements of Morality, Cook's Travels, etc.

The selection of these books shows that the minds of these valiant pioneers were fully as vigorous as their physical endurance had been in hewing a forest home. For over fifty years this library occupied a room in the home of the late John H. Pratt, M.D.

In 1815, the Masonic Lodge was founded at the tavern of Reuben Buck. The records show that there were only fourteen members at the time of organizing. The membership soon increased to over one hundred members. It was known as Manchester Lodge No. 269. Dr. Philip Draper was the last member of this lodge to be buried by Masonic Orders in the year 1827. The Anti-Masonic excitement was the cause of the disbandment and the last meeting was held on December 17, 1828.



The Old Dam of the Canandaigua Outlet

The settlers suited things to their needs and used the water-power afforded by Canandaigua Outlet. The first industry was a flouring and sawmill erected by Theophilus Short at Shortsville. In 1811 William Grimes built a carding mill a little farther north on this same stream. In the same year, the Ontario Manufacturing Company was organized, bought the water power at the village of Manchester and manufactured woolen cloth. At this time there were only two other woolen mills in the state. One was at Oriskany and the other was at Ballston. It was not strange that the settlers here got the idea this would make a great

manufacturing center, a rival of Manchester, England.

The first directors of the Ontario Manufacturing Concern were: Joseph Colt, Nathan Comstock, Jr., Jonathan Smith, Ananias Wells, and Isaac Lapham. The main factory building was sixty feet square and three stories high. This building stood on the west side of the outlet a little above the stone dam. The spinning and most of the process of making cloth was done by machines in this building. Some of the machines were operated by water power, but the weaving was done by hand operated looms. They had six hand operated looms busy all the time. The company had a machine they could not operate, but, after a good deal of correspondence, a young man was found who could make it work. This young man was Stephen Brewster who came to Manchester in 1814 from the New England States.

The village was growing. At an early date our forefathers realized the necessity of educating and preparing the young for the future responsibilities that would confront them. As early as 1813, the first school was held at the home of Ebenezer Pratt. A record taken from a book containing the minutes of the meeting relates that after much argument it was voted that a school house should be erected and it should be twenty-six feet long, twenty feet wide and nine feet high. It was voted that a tax of two hundred and fifty dollars be levied on the district for the purpose of erecting a school building. The site of this building was where the park now stands.

When the Indians sold this land to Phelps and Gorham, they reserved the right to fish and hunt upon it for eight years. As it happened, this proved of immense value to the settlers. The Indians killed the wolves that were so prevalent in those days. The wolves killed the deer which the pioneers need for food.

Moses Buck had the idea that the location for a hotel was on the corner of Salt Street later named State Street. The hotel was bounded on the north by Pratt's land, on the west by property belonging to the Methodist Church. This was the site of the hotel from 1814 until 1895 when it burned. Following this hotel, Edward Smith, a mason by trade, built another hotel in the exact spot. While the lower floor has of late years been used for a meat market, owned by Jacob Malter, after his death Leon Cooley became manager of the market. This is also where Tom Dalbraith's Barber Shop has been for forty years; just previous to the barber shop it was used for a picture show.

The building now owned by Hawkes brothers and used as a bakery for many years was built by Moses Yeomans. Moses Yeomans came to Manchester from New York City soon after 1830. He entered into

negotiations with Ebenezer Pratt for the purchase of a square acre of land on the corner. He could not come to an agreement as to price. Moses was crafty and he wanted that corner lot. Thomas Lathbury, father of Edward Lathbury, was a young man and an excellent carpenter. Moses bought logs and had them set on the Harold lot, which was across the street from Pratt's. He set Thomas Lathbury at work cutting the logs into timbers and pegging a frame together. Ebenezer stood this for a day or so and then a settlement was made.

The names of the men who built this building were: Thomas Lathbury, Abner Booth, George Hill, and M. Whitney. They begun work in the spring and completed the following year in September. This seems like a long time but, when one considers that the clap boards were all planed by hand, and that all doors, sash and blinds were made by hand, we have a feeling they did very well. Several buildings around this village had a fan shaped ornament placed near the top. This building was one which had the ornament at the top. In 1940, the clap boards were covered with asbestos shingles.

Moses Yeomans had a wonderful garden. All of the square acre that was not occupied by the building was set out to rare and curious shrubs and flowers. Some of the old garden remained for many years.

Behind his house was a summer house. This would be in the rear of the post office in 1953. Near the summer house was a pump in a well. He used to connect a hose to the well, and a man by the name of Bill Smith would pump by the hour while Moses irrigated his garden.

In the year of 1861, an Englishman by the name of Abram Bronk bought this property. This was the place where Mitchell Bronk first saw the light of day. Mitchell Bronk wrote in the "Enterprise" about the time his mother would take him across the street, to play on the floor with Frank Rodney. The Rodney house was the one the Attorney at Law, Max Morris, lives in, in 1953.

Later Mr. William Rouse purchased this block. He was a shoe cobbler and used the little room on the north side to carry on his business. At one time the Episcopalians held services in the main room.

Mr. William Hawkes purchased this block after the death of Mr. Rouse. Mr. Hawkes established a bakery business and lived in the south side of the building. After the death of Mr. Hawkes, the business passed on to his two sons, Hugh and Stuart. Many of the lads from high school take their lunch period here where they can buy good pies, fried cakes and doughnuts. Mr. Stuart Hawkes and family occupy the south side.

The "Old Yellow Tavern" was built by Ebenezer Pratt. Many a

matter that concerned this village was settled here. This stood about where Boardman's Store stands in 1953.

In 1835-36-37, James Nottingham was proprietor of a Tavern. Jefferson Davis was pastor of the Methodist Church. David Bates conducted a shoe shop and employed quite a number of people. There were two asheries, (buildings in which trees were burned under controlled conditions to produce potash which was sold to make soap and other products) one on North Avenue, the other where the village hall stands 1953.

There were two founderies located in the village; one was on State Street opposite Merrick Avenue. The office building was very close to the sidewalk. Sam Salt later moved the building to a point west of the dam, where Frank Jervis and John VanCurren made hubs and wagon wheels.

At this time there was no man more popular than Colonel Stephen Power, an intelligent, courteous, agreeable man and very prominent in the church. He was a colonel in the militia. He was public spirited and generous. Power and Mosley conducted a store just north of the Tavern. Power and Blossom had a foundry where they made stoves and various other articles. This foundry was located south and east of the mill hill.

Stephen Power built the stone dam. This dam was supposed to have caused financial troubles which involved Mr. Power and others in a big crash. The dam cost a lot of money as it was all hand cut stone. Much of the wall can be found today and still looks rugged.

The dawn of the first real modern advancement came with the opening of the Auburn Branch of the New York Central Railroad in the year of 1844. The station at Shortsville was a wood yard. The wood burning engines would stop here to be replenished with fuel. This railroad system brought more settlers to this section.

The south side of Salt Street had two houses beside the corner block, in the early days, the one now occupied by Andrew Ryan and the one which was owned by Luther Smith. The Ryan house was owned by a man named Silas Russ. A little to the west of his house very close to the sidewalk was a wheel shop. This shop burned, but he still carried on his work in a shop in the rear of his home.

Between the hotel and the Methodist Church on the north side of Salt Street stood a house owned by David Wolvin. This stood here for many years. When the new house on the same site was built, the old house was divided and moved to Merrick Avenue where it serves as a home for two families.

A thorn hedge extended up Salt Street from the old Bennett Homestead to the Sadler Homestead.

The Bennett Homestead is considered one of the oldest houses in the village. It is now owned by Mrs. Isabelle Quigley, granddaughter of Stewart M. Bennett.

In 1840, the first Methodist Church was built on the present site.

IV

THE CIVIL WAR

LOYALTY and love of country was as dear to the men of 1800 as to their forefathers. When the cry of the Civil War rung over the land, a noble response of volunteers was made. Nearly one hundred residents of the town of Manchester answered the call.

In 1881, the Herendeen Post G.A.R. was organized. The last Sunday before Memorial Day, a union service was held in one of the Protestant Churches. The old soldiers were brought in carriages to the church. It surely was a sight to see the men who belonged to the Post march in with their bright badges. The front seats were reserved. The music was appropriate as well as the sermon. Each year there were familiar faces missing until there was only one thing to do and that was to place the flag on their graves. Each year some high school boy is chosen to recite Lincoln's Gettysburg Address and a speaker is chosen to speak before the Soldiers' Monument in Brookside Cemetery. Some of the names of the residents who took part in the Civil War were: William Rouse, Martin McCombe, W.W. Overacre, Oliver Titus, Franklin Wheat, Edwin Watkins, Pratt Dibble, Henry Dewey, Martin Dawson, Henry Faurote, Moses Hearold and Theodore Mickery.

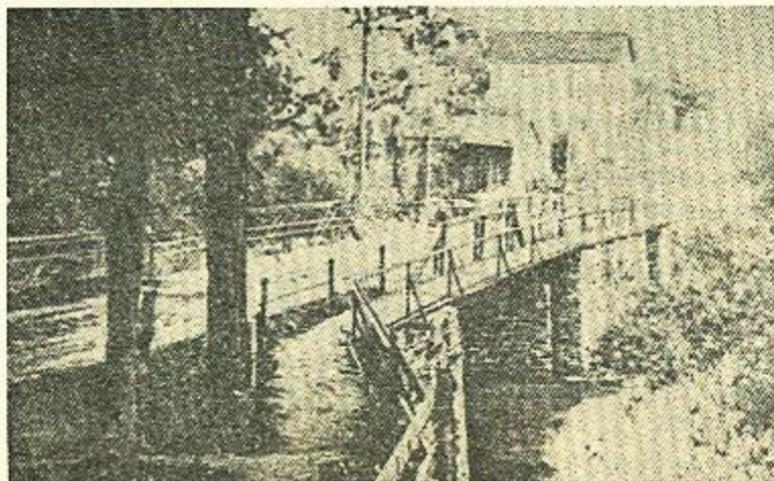
During the Civil War, the post office was kept in the Harrington house on North Main Street. Calvin Harrington, (great-grandfather to Mrs. Helen Howe,) had twin daughters, who lived to be very old. Lucinda died at the age of eighty-four in the year 1913. The other twin, Luccena, lived to be eighty-five and died in 1914. Their father had a cooper shop where they made barrels. This was at the rear of the homestead.

A BAD FIRE

A harness shop stood where the garage of Glen Schlecht stands today. This was run by a man by the name of Brigham. He was a brother-in-law of Mary Lathbury, the hymn writer.

On May 8, 1879, on Sunday morning shortly after two o'clock, people were awakened from their slumbers by the shouts of "Fire". The flour mill at the top of the hill on the south side was on fire. It was discovered by a party of young men returning home from a fishing trip. The fire apparently had not gained much headway. When the doors were opened, the flames burst forth and drove back all who attempted to enter. In a short time the surrounding buildings were on fire, and it was found impossible to save any of its contents except a few tools from the back of the blacksmith shop. The blacksmith shop stood just west of the flour mill.

Gardner Sheldon and son Edward lost the mill and Peter Cooper lost the blacksmith shop by fire. The estimated loss was eight thousand dollars on the mill and five hundred on the stock, which was covered by insurance. Peter Cooper's loss was estimated to be about eight hundred



The Old Mill Hill and bridge crossing Canandaigua Outlet
Mason's grist and Russel's sawmill
Manchester, New York

dollars, with no insurance. His home was saved by the desperate efforts of the public-spirited men.

After the death of Edward Sheldon in 1885, Walter Mason (Mrs. Swarthout's father) bought the mill. It was a three-story building where the farmers brought their wheat to be made into flour. The corn was brought here to be ground into meal. The young boys would get the cobs and sell them for a nickel a bag. This would give them spending money for the nights the band gave concerts. The old mill was no longer used. In 1919, Clinton Mason, the son of Walter Mason, took it down and the good timbers were used in making his own home on Newton Street.

Just west of the flour mill and a little to the south was built the blacksmith shop, where the horses in the community were shod. A man by the name of Craver was blacksmith here at one time. Fred Post was blacksmith for a number of years. The house behind the park was Craver's residence, and then Fred Post and his wife lived there.

Down under the hill, just east of the flour mill, was a saw mill. The saws were operated, like the flour mill, by water power. This was conducted by Charles Russel. This gentleman lived on North Main Street. He was the grandfather of Charles LaBounty.

VI

THE INCORPORATION OF VILLAGE

THE village of Manchester was incorporated in 1892. The first president of the village was John R. Pratt, M.D. The trustees were William A. Willson, Walter G. Mason, and Levi Redfield.

In 1893, it is recorded that John R. Pratt, M.D. was again elected president. The trustees were Isaac P. Reed, William A. Willson, Walter Mason, S.F. Burlingham, and Luther Walters.

In 1894, Herbert G. Randall was elected president, and the trustees were Albert Sheffield, Christopher Gilligan, Ira P. Reed, and J.W. Overacre.

In 1895, John R. Pratt, M.D. was again elected president. The trustees were Walter Mason, Albert Sheffield, and Christopher Gilligan.

In 1896, John R. Pratt, M.D. was president, and trustees were Walter G. Mason, S.F. Burlingham, E.F. Hinman, and R.D. Houston.

In 1897, John R. Pratt, M.D. was still president, and trustees were Thomas Allison, S.F. Burlingham, and Walter G. Mason.

In 1898, John R. Pratt, M.D. was elected president, and the trustees were John Rodney and T.A. Rodney.

In 1899, Prof. Albert C. Mayham was elected mayor or president, with Frank Smith and John Rodney as trustees.

The tax levies by the years were:

1892	\$200.00	1896	\$ 892.55
1893	\$400.00	1897	\$ 865.00
1894	\$500.00	1898	\$1,100.00
1895	\$900.00	1899	\$1,992.36

VII

THE COMING OF THE RAILROAD

IN the year of 1892, in the month of November, the Lehigh Valley Railroad was completed. This worked a material change in Manchester. Several passenger trains went each way daily; all, with the exception of the "crack train," The Black Diamond, stopped. Many folk would come to the crossing at the edge of the evening to watch this train go through. A very comfortable station was located just south of the Moon Coal Office. It was moved to a place just north of the "bunk house." Christopher Gilligan, with his sons, Frank and John, conducted a store about west and south of where the underpass is located today. All the needs of the railroad men could be supplied here. Two large rooming houses were on the southeast side of the tracks. Later, one was converted into a "bunk house," where the crew members could find a good bed at nominal fees. A very modern restaurant was built by L.V.R.R. on the back of the bunk house. This displaced the first one, which was in a house, and where space and facilities were inadequate. The railroad brought many new families to the village. Many men were employed. In the year 1938, the diesel engine displaced steam. Men were laid off, and they had to seek employment elsewhere.

In August, 1911, one of the worst disasters in the history of Manchester occurred. A fast train, carrying many passengers to a G.A.R. reunion, went through an open switch and landed in Canandaigua Outlet. Many were killed and many more were injured.

In 1894, the records show that J.W. Overacre received eleven dollars for fifty-five hours at twenty cents an hour for making out the assessment roll. The same year, Benjamin F. Wheat earned three dollars and eighty-two cents for three and one-half days of labor on the highways.

In 1894, it was a familiar sight to see a little old man by the name of Merrit Macumber going around at twilight with a stick under his arm, on which to stand, while he was lighting the oil street lamps. These lamps were placed at intervals all through the village. It is recorded his pay was fifty cents a night. The last bill paid to this gentleman, as recorded, was February 17, 1903. Merrit Macumber died on December 12, 1907, at the age of seventy-two years.

On February 26, 1903, the records show the first electric bill to be paid to the Ontario Light and Traction Company by the village for one month was twenty-eight dollars and sixty cents.

In the year of 1906, a railroad man by the name of Fox had been down at the pond fishing. As he came up to go to the round house, an electric wire was down in front of the old cemetery. The wire was live. He stepped on it and was electrocuted. Mrs. Fox brought suit against the Power Company and the village of Manchester. Manchester paid the widow one thousand dollars.

On the northeast corner of Main Street stood Barlow's store. For many years this corner has been used as a site for a general store. The names of Allen, Knapp, Pratt, VerPlank and Johnson and Bennett, have been connected with this building. Long before the days of buses for school children the children walked miles to school. Hands and feet numb with the cold, children always found a welcome to come into the store and warm themselves over the huge register in the center of the floor. The hitching posts were at the rear of the store. While A. L. Knapp was proprietor, the post office was located here. He was postmaster for five years. On April 7, 1890, Manchester was established as a money order and postal note office, through the endorsement of U.S. Senator John Raines. In the first year, Postmaster A. L. Knapp did ten thousand dollars worth of business. The mail pouches came to Shortsville and were brought to Manchester by conveyance. Mr. Reuben Gulvin, an Englishman who lived on North Avenue, carried the mail from 1893 to 1910. He was such a kindly old gentleman; no accommodation was too great for him to render his patrons who rode to the trains. His horse's name was Cub. He was a good old horse, not too fast, but faithful. After the death of Mr. Gulvin, the Farrells carried the mail. In 1953, Arnold Howland brings the mail from Shortsville.

In 1832, Almerim Dunham, son of Samuel and Asenath Dunham, came to Manchester from Mansfield, Connecticut, to live. They came by boat from Troy to Palmyra. He had a nursery business until 1890. They lived at the hotel when he first came to Manchester. He bought the place where his great-niece and husband Mr. and Mrs. Harold Griffin,

now lived. He served as justice of the peace for over twenty years, having concluded his labors on December 11, 1911. Prior to becoming justice of the peace, he was constable for fourteen years, being elected to that office in 1868. One year he was town collector. He collected from the town of Manchester, for one year, \$22,500. He was elected to his first office as a Whig, but later became a Democrat.

Ten years after electricity was first installed in the village, the water works were installed. When the test was made for the water supply, it was found that there were several springs near the overhead bridge on the north side of State Street. Here the springs were tapped and the pumphouse built. The standpipe was placed on Merrick Avenue. This changed and improved the sanitary conditions in Manchester. The day of outdoor toilets was gone. The water was very hard, and it was necessary to use a considerable amount of laundry soap. On July 25, 1952, a softener was put in, thus improving the water's use.

The sidewalks were laid at different times. The one on North Avenue was put down in 1908. Cross walks were placed at convenient places, usually in front of places of business.

VIII

THE FIRST WORLD WAR

ON April 6, 1917, the calm quiet of a spring day was suddenly broken by the shouts and cries of many people. We were at war. Over night, the very personification of peace became the very life of war. We were at war with Germany. The quietness of this little village was dispelled by the shriek of the whistles of the troop trains as they came down through the railroad yards. Then, too, the Lehigh, being a direct route from the large manufacturing cities to the New York Harbor, made plenty of business for the railroad men.

The Red Cross was reorganized. Much knitting of socks and sweaters was done, as well as comfort bags with toilet accessories in them.

The merchants were required to sell as many pounds of cereal with flour to their customers as they could. Food prices were high.

Some of the names of our boys who enlisted and were drafted in World War I were:

Lloyd Howland	April 1917	Ainsworth Bennett	July 1918
Myron Burns	April 1917	James Craig	August 1918
Carl Rowley	April 1917	Howard Vienna	September 1918
Gordon Cole	July 1917	William Shearns	August 1918
Garrett Weston	July 1917	Leon Rice	September 1918
Howard Hickmott	September 1917	Frank Lyke	
Charles Craig	September 1917	Spencer Comisky	July 1918
Earl Hurlburt	September 1917	Kenneth Smith	August 1918
Frank Vienna	November 1917	Henry Jones	
Frank Craig	November 1917	Earl Galbraith	
Leon Cooley	November 1917	David Werner	
Clifford Datthyn	April 1918	Ernest Swartz	
Howard Utter	July 1917	Leon Bulger	
Earl Craig	April 1918	John Twenty-five	
Raymond LeRoy	April 1918	John H. Robinson	
Chester Bumpus	April 1918	Patsy Pettrone	
Walter Morris	May 1918	Ralph McGill	
Isaac Shearns	May 1918	Edwin VerPlank	
Rolland Galbraith	May 1918		

When the armistice was signed, November 11, 1918, this little village went wild with excitement. Church bells rung, whistles blew, mothers and all who would, joined in a parade, making noises with thumping on any pan that was available. One home was saddened, and that was the home of Augustus Turner. Their youngest son, William, had made the supreme sacrifice. His body was laid to rest in France.

A banquet was given our boys in Pratt's Hall after all had returned.

IX

EARLY MAIN STREET

IN 1918, a dreadful epidemic of influenza broke out all over the United States. This little village had its share. In many instances, whole families would be found stricken with it, with no fires in the house and nothing to eat. Orphans as well as childless couples were left to mourn their loss. This was the winter where the use of automobiles was useless much of the time. Dr. J. H. Pratt and his aged father were busy night and day. Dr. John R. was able only to look after the office patients. Coffins could not be manufactured fast enough to meet the demands in many cities. Dr. John H. Pratt often spoke of that epidemic as "a great nightmare."

A picture show building was built by John Gilman just south of the Yeoman, Rouse Hawkes' block. It was built of stucco. The expense of film and small patronage forced the sale of the property. In 1947,

Gordon Hovey, head of the Market Basket Company, bought the building and converted it into a self-serving grocery store.

In 1911, the blacksmith shop just east of the bandstand was taken down and a very modern hall was erected. The fire company keep their fire-fighting equipment on the east side in the front; their meeting room is located at the rear; on the west side in the front are the village board rooms; at the rear are the voting booths. The upper floor is used for dances, weddings, receptions, and family reunions.

Just south of the Market Basket Store is a building, built by William Davidson, owned by M. Barton in 1953. At various times, a drug store, barber shop, Market Basket, and, last, a post office have been located here. Joe Volpe's Barber Shop occupies the smaller room to the south.

The building just south of the post office was built by George McGurk of Shortsville. It was used as a garage and auto repair shop. After this, it was used by the canning factory to store goods. In 1952, the Liberty Brothers bought it and converted it into a first class hardware store.

George Shaw, who was a veterinarian, built a brick house south of McGurk's Building. His office was behind his house. This was a great gathering place for men; more fish and horse racing stories were swapped here than any other place in Ontario County.

Next to George Shaw's house, a wooden structure was built, in which George Proechel conducted a meat market. This building burned, and he rebuilt it with stucco blocks. George died, and Mrs. Proechel sold to Boardman's, where a delicatessen store is carried on in 1953.

In the years around 1890, such names as Julius Proechel, Meat Market and Groceries, also Seldom F. Burlingham, Fine Meats, Haner and Farnsworth, Best of Meats, were on the signs on buildings, between Boardman's Delicatessen Store and the post office.

Abbot Hessney came to Manchester from Syria, with two boys and two girls besides his wife. He built a brick building on the east side of Main Street. His living quarters were on the second floor; the first floor was used for different business enterprises. A one room wooden structure was next to it, in which Sandy and Louis Ventura conducted a shoe repair shop.

Just north of Abbott Hessney's block, his son, Leo, built a general store with living quarters in the rear. They had ten children, who lived to get a very good education and go out in the world and use it.

Just north of Leo Hessney's General Store stood a house called the Dibble House. This was moved back and a large brick block was built near the sidewalk. Living quarters were built on the second floor, and a drug store, then later, a delicatessen store, was conducted on the south side. At one time there was a delicatessen store on the north side, and, in 1953, a saloon is located here.

Ezra Smith built a brick structure across the street from Pratt's Store. It was a general store, conducted by Smith and Johnson. John Johnson bought the E.E. Pratt Building, and moved the store across the street, this time under the name of Johnson and Bennett.

The place where Smith and Johnson conducted a store was used many years as a hardware store. Ryan and MacMillan and Liberty Brothers have conducted a hardware here. In 1952, Paul Gersbach opened an Electrical Appliance Store here.

The post office has seen many changes. The first account in the records shows that Barlow's Store received the mail from Canandaigua twice a week. Up to this time, people rode horseback into Canandaigua to get the mail. During the Civil War, the Harrington House on North Main Street received the mail twice a week. In the records of 1867-68, Abram Bronk was deputy postmaster and Hiram Jennings was Postmaster. The population at this time was 374. Albert Knapp had the postmaster in his store in the early 1890's. John Rodney was postmaster, followed by W.W. Overacre, and then by Charles Overacre, and he was followed by Andrew Ryan. Mrs. Clara Turner Smith has worked as assistant postmistress over a long period of time.

X

THE SECOND WORLD WAR

ON December 7, 1941, while people were listening to their favorite radio program, an interruption came saying that Pearl Harbor had been bombed. The Japanese had made a surprise attack; again we were at war. This sent gloom across the United States.

Production is the key to success in modern warfare; it can be obtained only by many hours of toil. There is no short-cut and no substitute. Women left their homes, took jobs in shops, on railroads, on farms, anywhere that men could be spared for military. Many women joined the Nursing Corps, the Waves, and the WACs.

Meat was allotted according to the size of the family. Red tokens were allotted each housewife. Each allotment was very small. Ration

books were issued each member of the family. One could get only the portions of many staple goods, according to one's stamps. Sugar was the hardest commodity to get. Molasses, honey, and karo syrup were the substitutes. Some folk bought quantities of sugar and never did declare it. Of course, this was considered very unpatriotic. Substitutes of all kinds were used.

There were certain signals given by the local fire whistle, which mean that all lights, everywhere, should be turned out. This was called "Black Out." This was done in case of an air raid by the enemy.

An aid raid station was established at the school. The fire squad car immediately came to the school when the whistle blew. Nurses and firemen immediately came down to the school building. Army cots were assembled. A very large supply of first aid dressings was kept here.

Bedside nursing classes were started. First aid classes and canteen classes were conducted in the Baptist Church kitchen.

The Red Cross used the Health Center, in which dressings were in the making most of the time.

Our boys were enlisting. Army camps were springing up like mushrooms. It seemed as though about every other man one met on the streets was in the uniform of our country. The finest young men of our community had to go. Among the number who went, the names of some are:

John Abbott	Herbert Warner	William Daily
Ralph Bromley	Robert Mason	Fritz Albrecht
Charles Bromley	Gordon Overacre	Mario Pronti
Floyd Bement	Anthony Daurio	Edward Daly
William Bagshaw	Michael Misleany	Harold Eagley
Robert Bagshaw	Catherine Hill R.N.	John Rush
Gordon Crowell	Joseph Natoli	Oscar Reubens
Brice Singly	Robert Anderson	Joseph Veto
Walter Chambers	Anthony DeDonato	Walter Green
Wilber Barrows	Tom Ciardi	Frank Macumber
Rodger Halderman	Richard Corni	Michael Rush
Harold Dubler	Thomas Chunko	Louis Delgotto
Leslie Elliott	Gladys Williams R.N.	Alfonso Twenty-Five
John Elliott	John Bolonda	Richard Ryan
George Fisher	Harold Burgess	Charles Smith
Walter Green	John Procko	Joseph Frederick
William Griffin	William Lerner	William Eddinger
Roger Carren	Myron Ross	Harold Ryan
Ariel Singly	Angelo Corino, who paid	Ernest Potter
Harold W. Griffin	the supreme sacrifice	John Klym
Russel Barrows	Douglas Daly	Douglas Lush
George Cottrell	Anthony Lisai	Clyde Eddinger

Donald Henry
Hugh Hawks, Jr.
William Hawks
John Geise Jr.
Robert Hudson
Eugene Potter
Frederick Hudson
Raymond Hudson
Douglas Hawkes
Norman Hawkes
George Hawes
Frank Huxley
Harry Huxley
Howard Vienna
John Hayden Jr.
Howard Wright
Chalmer Post
John Sawran, who paid
the supreme sacrifice
John Maslyn
Raymond Daly
Moses Moses
Sammie Abbott
Jack Galbraith
Lemuel Myers
Donald Howland
Joseph Misleany
Peter DeVelder
Woodrow Macumber
Abbott Hessney
Francis Hessney
Lloyd Bennett
Perry O'Hearn
Susan Griffin R.N.
Nick Veto
James D'Arduini
Tommas Ciardi
Arthur Henry
David Hawkes
Donald Hawkes
Duane Cootes
Richard Hudson
Lyndon Potter
Lyle Pulleyn
Albert Pardington
Earl Robinson
George Toney
Paul Huxley
Nelson Vienna
Merle Warner
Gerald Rodney
Robert Ross
Robert Hessney

Joseph Kaczerwaski
Michael Bolonda
Sam Degaloma
John Moses
George Floating
Frank Schults
Francisco Liberty
David Werner
Ainsworth Bennett
Lynden Potter
Kenneth Smith
Louis Sementelli
Merton Page
Howard Murray
George Nicholson
Walter Rodney
John Schudlick
Henry Jones
Richard Meehan
John Elliott
Donald Eagley
John Galbraith
Harold Rodney
John Demott
Raymond Murrell
Floyd Potter
Eugene Potter
Harold Daly
Sam Degloma
Francis Marsa
Michael Daurio
Chalmer Post
Leslie Elliott
Nick Degloma
George Prochel
Thomas Sementelli
John Misleany
Isaac Moses
Alfred Ciardi
Anthony Degloma
Peter Frederick
Almond Philley
Joseph Maslyn
Isaac Moses
Albert Tuttle
Isaac Abbott
James McShea
Kenneth Potter
Frances Hessney
Jack Pettrone
Harry Ross
Richard O'Hearn
John Toney

Peter Misleany
William Chunko
Severio Zona
John Brophy
Floyd Kite—killed in
action
Thomas Messersmith
Frank Copey
Emmett Cross
Donald Curran
Louis DelGotto
Donald Gates
Thomas Holmes
Pratt Macumber
John O'Donnell
Gerald Quale
George Repsher
Harold Rodney
John Rush
Merle Warner
Renato Ventura
Willard Crider
Edward O'Conner
Jack Pettrone
Lynden Quale
Isaac George
Kenneth Ross
William Ross
Jack Hoffman
Howard Burgess
Philip Cripple
Paul Cummings
Nick Degloma
John Demott
Clifford Goodell
William Kaczerwaski
Jean Liberty
Howard Main
Joseph Procko
Francis Repsher
Theodore Repsher
Walter Rodney
Edward VanCasseele
Herbert Warner
Harry Weaver
Nicholas Minute
Patsy Pettrone
Harold Quale
Robert Potter
Robert Hackett
Felix Corni
Curtis O'Conner

On January 17, 1942, a very impressive ceremony was held in the High School gymnasium. The Parent Teachers Association presented to the school a service flag with a star in it for each boy in service who had attended the Manchester High School. Also on the flag were six stars for former teachers who were in the armed services. At that time, there were 171 former students and teachers in the service. On May 1, the same year, the number had risen to 200.

The daily papers were filled with war news. Gasoline was rationed. About every home in the little village was affected by the war.

The headlines of the Rochester Times Union read on Tuesday, May 8, 1945 — "Victory; Nazis Beaten, Japan next; Day of Prayer asked for Sunday, Mothers Day."

Then on Tuesday, August 14, 1945, the Rochester Times Union printed an Extra. The heading of this paper read "Victory, Jap Surrender." Again great demonstrations took place over the entire nation.

Soon our boys were returning to their families. Boys were going back to the jobs they had worked at before going into the army.

Some of our boys had married girls from the south. Some had brought brides from England and even Germany. It didn't take too many months to make adjustments.

XI

SANITARY IMPROVEMENT

FOR many years Lee Crowell peddled milk to the people of Manchester. He carried a milk can to each door. In it was a long handled dipper. Some container would be left on the veranda. The number of tickets indicated the amount: if one pint, one dipper; if one quart, two dippers.

After Lee Crowell, Henry Pilcher bought the milk business. After a few years he sold it to Tom Dalbraith, who was the barber. Then Francis McShea bought the business. After a few months William Crowell peddled milk.

In 1932, Agar Grievson started the milk route. He bought some discarded cement blocks from the canning factory and had them brought down to the north end of center Street. His father was a mason by trade. He built the buildings where the dairy is now located. The

blocks were drawn by the teams of Job Masseur and Edward DeBrock. The pasteurizer was installed in 1943. Agar Grievson and Harry Schlecht were partners in the business for a few years. However, due to poor health, Grievson sold out to Schlecht and moved with his family to Chandler, Arizona in 1949. In 1950, a homogenizer was installed. In 1952, a bottle washer was installed. Due to sanitary conditions and the home refrigerators, milk was delivered every other day.

In 1943, Agar Grievson built the locker plant for frozen meat and vegetables. The nearest locker plant was at Geneva. Again, his father built the cement block building. Joseph Toney and Silas Hulbert helped to install the 600 lockers. These lockers rented for ten and twelve dollars a year. At first, a hand saw was used to cut the huge quarters of beef. Bernard Dubler did most of the cutting the first year, and Mrs. Grievson wrapped with celophane. Within a short time, all tools were operated by electricity.

On January 1, 1952, Agar Grievson sold his locker plant to Jake Abbott. While Jake cuts, Mrs. Eva Toney wraps the meat in celophane and seals it.

In 1939, the sewage system was installed at a cost of \$135,000. The disposal plant was built by the outlet, just east of the dairy. Then, too, down here has been built a cement block building in which the trucks, snow ploughs and all equipment used on the village streets are kept. Frank Lyke served as corporation superintendent and was followed by Mike Bolonda.

Pratt's woods were located just west and north of the school. These woods were a cherished memory of those who attended Manchester school. The beautiful spring days to go and gather wild flowers, perhaps take an early swim, or at least come home with wet feet, are a cherished memory.

In 1951, a road was built through the center of the woods that all through travel might by-pass Manchester. It is a strange sight to stand at night and watch the big headlights come out of those woods like some huge monster. Down deep in the heart there is a regret to think the younger generation can never know the fun of going into Pratt's woods.

A concrete bridge spans the Outlet which connects the west end of the road with the east end. This road by-passes the village, starting at the Overhead Bridge at Brewster's Crossing, passing through Abbotts, Records, Pratts, or McLaughlin's Woods, farm owned by Jennings to Peter Gellis, through Bennett, Vanduyne, Potter, Misleaney farms and joining the Clifton Springs road.

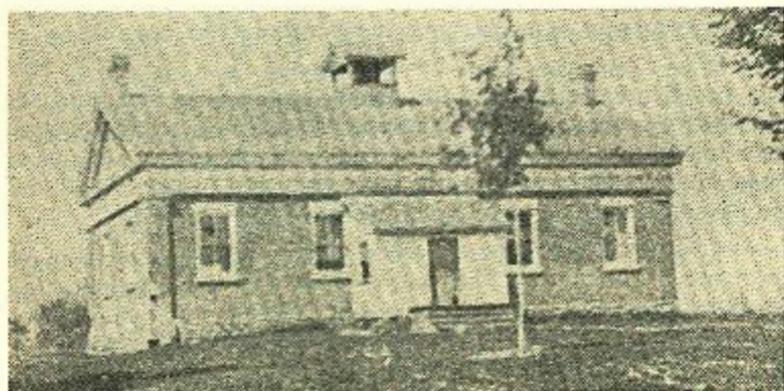
For many years the Lehigh Valley crossing on Main Street had been a nuisance. There was much switching to be done. There had never been any serious accident here, due to the gates being controlled by the man on the tower on the east side. However, doctors were detained on many hurried calls. In cold weather it was bad when so many Catholics walked to church to Shortsville, and so, in the year 1934, the railroad made an underpass. Then, too, the sidewalks were built, connecting both towns.

XII

MANCHESTER SCHOOL

AT a very early date, our forefathers realized the necessity of educating and preparing the young for the responsibilities that the world would naturally confront them with. As early as the year 1813, the first school meeting was called and held at the home of Ebenezer Pratt. A record taken from a book containing the minutes of the meeting related that after much argument and adjournment of said meeting, it was voted that a school 26 feet long and 20 feet wide and nine feet high, a frame building unless otherwise agreed hereafter, should be built. They also "voted that a tax of \$250 be levied on the district for the purpose of erecting a school building." This school was erected and stood in what is now the park.

The records of the school from 1814 until 1895 were written by Commissioner of Education, L.L. Morse, who was a teacher in this school in 1860 and 1861.



First School in Manchester

In the year 1852, the school district No. 8 voted to erect a new school on a new site. A lot was purchased from Hiram Jennings, whose farm was the first one north of the school. The schoolhouse was erected by Gardner and Sheldon, proprietors of the Manchester Mill, under the supervision of N.K. Cole and Thomas Lathbury. A part of the material used in the construction of the building was taken from the old schoolhouse in the park. It was the first built without partitions of any kind. It was one long room, with a platform and recitation seats at each end, and doors in the front and rear centers. The drinking water was brought from the Wilson property. This, in 1953, is the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ainsworth Bennett.

This one room, with two recitations going on at once, did not prove satisfactory. As a result, a $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch partition was built of pine boards, making two rooms. This was better, but by no means was it sound-proof. This was replaced by a double partition, which remained until 1895 when this school was torn down. It had been in constant use for 43 years. Children started school at six years of age, and left at sixteen years of age. Five generations attended this school.

The first teacher in 1856 was Mr. Spurbeck, who taught two years. Following Mr. Spurbeck, the teacher was Mr. D. Brown, who later became editor and proprietor of the Poughkeepsie Enterprise. He was succeeded by Miss Jane Pierce, who with her sister, Carrie, taught successfully for a number of years.

During 1860-1861, Commissioner of Education L.L. Morse was employed with Miss Carrie Hahn as assistant teacher. The school had about 112 students registered at this time. This was the beginning of the Civil War, and men in the Union Army uniform were a common sight upon the streets. War was the important topic of conversation. During the same winter, Miss Jane Pierce taught a select school in the second story of the old stone tavern.

The next teacher was Mr. George Powell. He was succeeded by Theodore C. Henry, who later became a very successful financier in Denver, Colorado.

During the years of 1865-66, Commissioner Morse again had charge of the older pupils, with Miss Mary Aldrich as the second teacher. At this time the enrollment was less than one hundred pupils.

In 1867-68, Miss Mary Sheffield, (Mrs. Maud Mason Swarthout's mother), and Miss Carol Pierce were the teachers. H.P. Wells and Miss Harbough are recorded as teachers following Miss Sheffield and Miss Pierce.

In 1873-74, Charles G. McClouth was principal with Miss Lucinda Power as his assistant. The registration at this time was 125. Mr. McClouth was again hired for 1884-85, with Miss Harriet M. Pratt as the second teacher. At this time the enrollment was 130.

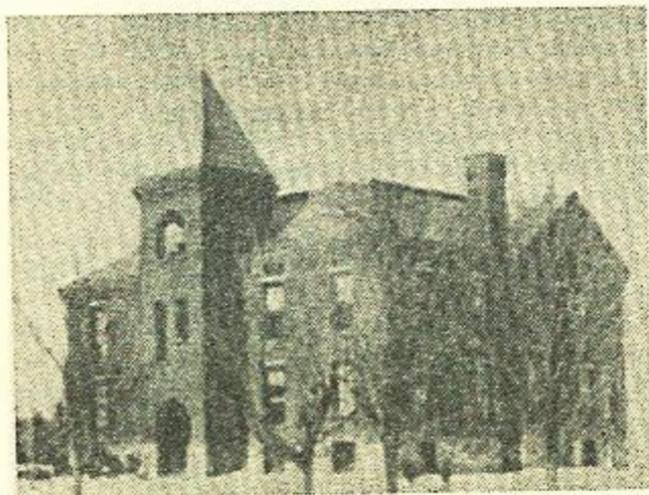
In the fall of 1881, William Witter of Gorham was the principal with Miss Harriet S. Pratt acting as the second teacher.

The list of teachers from 1874 to 1895 were the following:

1874	Miss Lucinda Powers	1882	Miss Ann Harold
1875	Miss Harriet S. Pratt	1883	Miss Harriet M. Pratt
1876	Mr. Lockwood	1884	Charles McClouth
1877	Miss Belle Bronk	1885	Joseph Gilbert
1878	Miss Ada Redfield	1886	Wayne Power
1879-1880	H.S. Champlain	1887	E.A. Barnes
1881	William Witter	1888	Louis M. Antisdale

Louis M. Antisdale was taken ill and he was replaced by Joseph Gilbert who also taught in 1889, 1890 and 1891. Taylor taught in 1892, Miss Mary Wilson in 1893, Willis Goodhue in 1894 and Walter E. Troop in 1895. The assistant teachers were Miss McIntyre, Miss Mary Wilson, Mrs. Mac Burlingham, Miss Harriet M. Pratt, Miss Inez Darling, Miss Margaret Burns, Miss Anna Warfield, Miss Anna Stone and Miss Mary Hoffmire.

After the completion of Lehigh Valley Railroad, new families came



Second School in Manchester

to this little village. The two room school was too small for the number of the children on the attendance record.

In 1894, a room was rented in the basement of the Baptist Church and used for the primary class. This was understood to be a temporary arrangement. During that year and the next, the question of a new school building was agitated and special meetings were held. Finally, the sum of \$10,000 was voted by the district to build a new school while the school was being housed in the basement of the Baptist Church. Although the quarters were cramped, progress was made.

On February 19, 1896, school was opened in the commodious rooms of the new red brick school house. A new chapter had begun in the history of School District No. 8. The school was dedicated on Saturday, March 14, with appropriate exercises. Very appropriate programs were given out, with the picture of the new school on the front, with the printed programs inside the cover. The names of the following trustees were printed on the programs: Walter Mason, John H. Van Dwyne and Augustus Hawkes.

Only a few of the rooms were used at first. A.C. Mayham was the principal and Miss Margaret Burns, Miss Mary Huffmire and Inez Darling were among the first teachers.

The next principal was Charles Herrick who was ably assisted by Miss Esther Towne. These teachers are well remembered and respected along with many others. Their outstanding virtue was discipline. The teachers didn't have to use "the hickory stick" because the children were taught in the home to respect and obey their teachers. There were mischievous pupils, but they were disciplined with much wisdom. This was the year 1901.

About this time, through the efforts of Professor Charles Herrick and the board members, Union School No. 8 became a high school. Mrs. Annabel Johnson Brophy, Mrs. Alice Cole Power and Mrs. Clara VanArsdale Merwin, were the first graduates in 1903.

Following Professor Charles Herrick, came Professor Lewis. He served as principal two years. Both Mr. Herrick and Lewis were single and roomed at the Knapp home. During Mr. Lewis' term he contracted scarlet fever and had to remain thirty days in the "Pest House" connected with the Memorial Hospital in Canandaigua. One beautiful spring day the girls of the senior class skipped school and went to the woods. Mr. Lewis requested each girl to get the members of the school board to sign her request before she could resume her studies. This occasion was never repeated.

In September, 1908, Professor George Elliott came to Manchester to fill the place of Professor Lewis. He occupied the home in which Mr. and Mrs. Harry Barrows live, in 1953. He lived here the seventeen years that he was principal of the school.

The red brick building was too small to accommodate the enrollment. Two classrooms were made out of the auditorium.

In 1915, a new building was erected leaving plenty of space for additions. It was a three story building. A very modern auditorium with a balcony was built in this school. Evergreen trees had been set out on the west side of the school premises. In building the new school these were protected. With the red brick building in use and the new building, the enrollment was so large the quarters were cramped.

In September, 1925, Professor George Elliott accepted a position in White Plains, New York.

He was succeeded by Elmer T. Koster. He bought the new home of John Elliott, a dentist, which in 1953, is occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Chester Hyde and family.

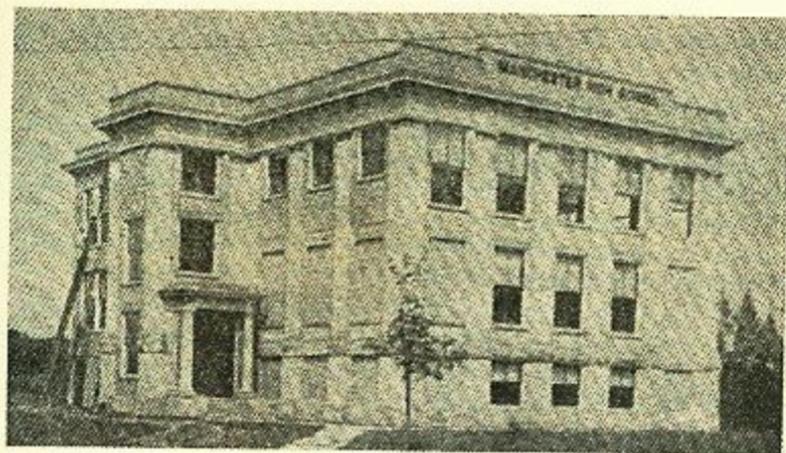
This was the beginning of the Parent Teacher Association. During Professor Koster's principalship, banking in the grades was introduced. An orchestra was organized with J. Hart Kinsey of Canandaigua as teacher. This was the beginning of instrumental music in the schools. At this time, the red brick school and the new yellow brick building were overcrowded. To relieve the congestion a two-room wooden structure was built between the two brick schools. This housed the first grades.

Professor W.W. Bullock followed Professor Koster in 1928. At this time the enrollment was large. Mr. Bullock was a born disciplinarian. He had a very quiet manner. He had the respect of every child in the school. His business administration was very commendable.

It was during Mr. Bullock's principalship that the school district voted to add on to the yellow brick building that was built in 1915. Land already had been bought from Dr. J.H. Pratt. This extended the school property to Black Brook. At a cost of \$180,000 an addition was built. To this building were added a modern home economics department, industrial arts department, science department, nurse's office and a very large gymnasium with lockers and showers.

The wrecking crew of David Cooper of Hamilton, Canada, took the red brick building down and disposed of all of the material.

The members of the Board of Education at this time were Dr. John H. Pratt, president, William Baird, J.S. Massecar, Neal O'Harrigan and Charles Wiley. Hugh Hawkes acted as clerk of the Board of Education



Third School in Manchester

for a number of years. In September, 1931, the school was opened for regular classes in the new addition.

On Friday, December 4, 1931, the dedication exercises were held in the auditorium. The DeLuxe Orchestra of Rochester furnished the music. The welcome was given by Dr. John H. Pratt. Mr. H.G. Loveless, district superintendent of schools, spoke on "The Manchester School." Mr. Ernest R. Clark of Rochester, educator and traveler, was the main speaker. Invocation was given by Rev. Albert W. Walker. The Benediction was pronounced by Rev. L.L. Swarthout.

The contractors of this building were: General — Adrian Monje, Newark, New York; heating and ventilation — Howe Basset, Rochester, New York; electrical — Sykes Electrical Company, Rochester, New York; plumbing — Lane and Geiger, Rochester, New York; clocks and telephone — International Time Recording Company.

Following Professor W.W. Bullock in 1936, Professor Albert T. Bishop became the head of the Manchester High School. He came to Manchester from being principal of Shortsville School. He was young and believed in progress. He was responsible for the band-vocal department and the beginning of Religious Education in the school. It is a known fact that he made personal loans to some deserving students to aid in furthering their education. When he resigned, a petition was circulated with the signatures of many

taxpayers, but in spite of this, he would not reconsider his resignation. A secretary was employed.

In 1941, Arthur J. Peck assumed the position as principal of Manchester High School. At this time, Joseph Natoli, instructor in industrial arts, was called into the United States Army. He was replaced by John M. Hennessy of Oswego and, later, by Mr. Foster of Hopewell. Again we were at war. This caused much restlessness among the pupils, especially the seniors, because they knew that they too would soon be in the service.

Through the able leadership of Mrs. Arthur Peck, a very appropriate exercise of the dedication of Manchester High School Service Flag was held. It was held in the high school gymnasium, January 14, 1943, at 8:00 p.m.

The following program took place:

"Prep March" — M.H.S. Band; Helen Collins, Director.
Community singing of the Star Spangled Banner, led by George Abel, of the Turner Schrader Post. Pianist, Mrs. Alice Boardman.

Invocation — Rev. L.L. Swarthout

Bugle Call — Henry Cianfoni

Pledge of Allegiance — Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts; Scoutmasters Ainsworth Bennett and Marjorie Clocksin.

Community singing of World War I Choruses

Drill — Manchester Firemen; John Robinson, Drill Master

Unveiling of M.H.S. Service Flag; Leon Cooley and John Kerins, representing Turner Schrader Post.

Presenting of Flag to the Board of Education — Owen Anderson, President of Parent Teacher Association.

Acceptance — Matthew Hill, President of the Board of Education.

Presentation of Stars to Miss Bailey by Mrs. Arthur Peck
Acceptance — Miss Helen Bailey

Presentation of Names to Miss Proechel by Mrs. Arthur Peck
Acceptance and reading of names — Miss Rita Proechel

Dedication — Patrick J. McLoughlin

Word of Appreciation — Corporal Francis Marsa

Presentation of Flag to Mrs. Stewart Hawkes, Custodian

Acceptance — Mrs. Stewart Hawkes

Community Singing

Benediction — Rev. John E. Napier

Return of Colors — Boy Scouts

Taps — Henry Cianfoni

Selection, Assembly Hour — M.H.S. Band

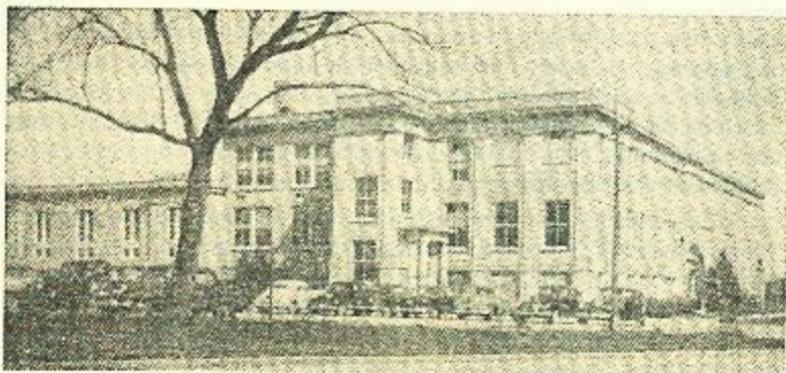
In September, 1944, Mr. Charles Spangle became principal of Manchester High School. At the time of Albert Bishop's administration, centralization was discussed. It seemed the time was not ripe. Again the subject of centralization had arisen. The basketball teams of Shortsville were using the court of M.H.S. Mr. Richard Spitzer was the principal at Shortsville and was very progressive.

In August, 1949, over 1,000 residents of Manchester, Shortsville, and nine area school districts assembled in the local school gymnasium to hear the result of balloting that had started at 2:00 p.m. and ended at 8:00 p.m. A total of 954 votes were cast, of which 709 were for, and 232 were against, centralization. Three ballots were spoiled, and one was blank.

Following the announcement of the ballot results, the assembly was called to order by the general chairman of the meeting, VanHerpe of Shortsville. He then introduced John Loveless, superintendent of schools, who proposed the election of a seven-member school board, composed of two men of each village, and the remaining from the rural districts.

As chairman of the nominating committee, elected prior to the start of the balloting in the afternoon, the superintendent then proposed that the committees name the board candidates; this was approved by the meeting.

The board elected was as follows: Elected for one-year terms were:



Fourth School in Manchester

Arthur Doody, Shortsville; George Glover, District No. 3; Roy Durant, Manchester; Elected for two years: Dr. John Crowther, Shortsville; Alvin Howland, District No. 7; Elected for three years: Albert Crowley, Farmington; and Browning Crowell, District No. 8.

Under the plans also approved at the meeting, the Shortsville High School Building will be used for all Shortsville village and some rural pupils attending first to sixth grades.

The Manchester School Building will be used by the first to sixth grade pupils, inclusive, of Manchester, the balance of the rural areas, and also high school pupils of both villages.

With the centralization came the need of a cafeteria. At first the rooms adjoining the gymnasium were used. Mr. Charles Spangles, as principal and Mr. Richard Spitzer as guidance director.

The first year of centralization with Mr. Charles Spangle as principal was very sympathetic, and cooperated with his teachers to the fullest extent.

With the coming of centralization, it was necessary to buy several busses. At first there were but few, but as time went on it was necessary to add to their number.

After much voting for a name for the new centralized school, the name Red Jacket was decided the best. This name was taken from Red Jacket, the Indian Chief, who has left his name firmly planted in Ontario County.

Red Jacket's best-known appearance in Canandaigua and the county was in the fall of 1794, when the Pickering Treaty was signed with the Senecas of the Iroquois Federation. He was then a young man thirty-five years of age, a sachem of the Senecas, and known for his brilliant scarlet jacket. He had already achieved renown among the Indians for his desperate fighting skill and his speed on foot. In 1779, when he was only twenty years of age, he was active in inflicting the one serious setback which General John Sullivan suffered on the famed expedition through this area.

Red Jacket was one of the boldest orators during the negotiations between Colonel Timothy Pickering and the Senecas at Canandaigua in the latter part of 1794. It is said he liked the sound of his own voice. There is one record that on October 26, 1794, Red Jacket talked for six hours in presenting the Indian cause to Colonel Pickering.

The Pickering Treaty, commemorated by the boulder on the lawn of the county court house, was signed in Canandaigua on November 12, 1794. This secured for the white settlers all of the land in Ontario,

Monroe, and Livingston Counties, and parts of Wayne, Steuben, and Orleans Counties.

Red Jacket, with about 3,500 of his Seneca brothers, moved into the new territory, around Lake Erie. In the War of 1812, he is known to have taken sides with the Americans. He died in the large Seneca village near Buffalo in January, 1830. A monument in Forest Lawn Cemetery marks his grave.

It was in September, 1950, when Douglas Estes came to Red Jacket Central School to be principal. Mr. Estes came to take the principalship made vacant by the resignation of Charles Spangle. Mr. Spangle took over the vice-principalship and guidance department, the position made vacant by the resignation of Richard Spitzer. His principalship was the great adjusting period.

The auditorium was converted into a cafeteria. A second floor was placed above the auditorium, and a sound-proof band room was built.

The school yard where the buses came was dug up and a good base was laid.

A good-size library is on the third floor. Two bronze plaques have been placed there, one in memory of John Moses, and the other in memory of Edward DeGroot.

A cupboard was built on the second floor near the office containing trophies won for athletics which has been the outstanding activity down through the years.

The names of some of the teachers who have served longest in the school are: Mrs. Harriet VanArsdale Bullock, Mrs. Estelle Randall Burnette, Mrs. Marie Galbraith, Miss Alice Gilman, Miss Edith Dayton, Miss Catherine Shelley, and Mr. Joe Natoli.

Some of the custodians were: Mr. John Burns, Mr. Benjamin Smith, Mr. Roy Macumber, Mr. Edward Post, Mr. James Galbraith, Mr. Charles Wylie, Mr. Nathan Aldrich, and Mrs. Flormond Governor. At one time during the period of the Red Brick School, the athletic team needed suits. They did the janitor work to earn money for their suits.

In the spring of 1953, Douglas Estes accepted a position in Clyde, New York, to be the principal of the high school. Neil Harkenrider was given the contract to become principal of Red Jacket Central School for 1953. The overcrowded condition still exists. At this time, there are 783 students enrolled in the R.J.C. School district — 327 in the Shortsville Building, 448 in the Manchester Building, and 8 pupils in the Armington School. There is now discussion concerning a new high school building for the two villages.

At the School Board Meeting in March, 1953, Mr. Harold Contant, who has taught commercial subjects in R.J.C. School since 1949, was named vice-principal of Red Jacket School. Mr. Charles Spangle will do guidance work only.

XIII

VILLAGE CEMETERY

MANCHESTER'S historic cemetery on south Main Street took on a fresh, neat appearance in the spring of 1952. Much of the credit is due Max Morris, our local attorney, Oscar Payne, whose ancestors are buried there, and Albert Pardington, who works and is paid by the hour for cutting the grass.

In the earlier days, wrought iron fences encircled some of the family plots. There were many beautiful elms, oaks and maple trees before the dense fog of smoke made by the steam engines.

This cemetery is on the site of Joab Gillette's farm. Today, in 1953, a huge oak tree stands on the north side of the cemetery. It is a little hard to determine its age, but it is easy to believe it came from one of the acorns from one of the oak trees on the Gillette farm.

For many years, an evergreen tree stood in the center of the cemetery in memory of the unknown soldier. During the time of steam engines and soft coal smoke, this tree died. However, an iron cross was placed where the tree stood.

Where William Griffin lives on North Avenue, Edwin Watkins lived in the year of 1875. He was a colored fellow. He seemed to have played quite an important part in the history of early Manchester. He served in the Civil War. His wife died October 2, 1875, aged 23 years. Later Edwin moved to Auburn and remarried. After his death, his second wife made application for the Civil War widows' pension. She had no proof that the first Mrs. Watkins was dead. However, Alvin Dewey Sr. and Eugene Payne went to the cemetery, replaced the old broken headstone with a new one, took it's picture, and sent it to the proper authorities. We expect the widow received her well-deserved pension. In the southwest corner the tombstone stands today, in very good condition.

The tombstone of Sharon Booth and Ruth Gillette Booth stands near the extreme northwest corner. This couple had the first wedding in Manchester. The names and dates are very clear on their tombstones. Many of the stones are slab stones, and the names and dates have worn

away by the storms of the centuries.

Stephen Brewster's monument is in very good condition. He was the young man who came to Manchester from the New England states to repair one of the looms in the woolen mills. He was born March 21, 1792, and died August 27, 1879.

In the extreme north central part of the cemetery is the grave of James Cooper. He died September 27, 1819, aged 55 years. A part of his epitaph reads:

*Children stop as you pass by
As you are now so once was I
As I am now so you will be
Prepare for death and follow me.*

Moses Yoeman was born May 27, 1794 and died December 21, 1856. His epitaph reads "The Memory of the Just is Blessed." This man built the block where Hawkes's bakery stands in 1953. This man came to Manchester from New York around 1830. His tomb stone is in the southeast corner by the sidewalk.

Moses Hearld died November 16, 1882, aged 45 years. The marking of his headstone reads: Co. K 14 N.Y. Infantry.

The family plot of Thomas Lathbury, a good Methodist brother, is on the south side of the cemetery. He was born in 1810 and died in 1888.

Ebenezer Pratt's tombstone is well preserved. It reads: died September 24th, 1813, at the age of 70 years.

Ebenezer Pratt, Jr. died November 13, 1815, aged 42 years. His epitaph reads:

*My flesh shall slumber in the ground
Till the last trumpet's joyful sound
Then burst the chains with sweet surprise*

Nathan Pierce died April 25, 1814, aged 44 years. His epitaph reads: Though lost to sight yet dear to memory.

Timothy Ryan, a keeper of bees, on May 12, 1814, was stung by a bee which caused his death. His epitaph reads:

*A thousand ways cut short our days
None are exempt from death
A honey bee by stinging me
Did stop my mortal breath
This grave contains my last remains
of my frail house of clay
My soul is gone, not to return
to one eternal day.*

The first child born in Manchester was Doris Booth. She was the first to be buried here in 1801. She was the granddaughter of Joab Gillette.

Betsy Howland died in 1801. Her epitaph reads: *All flesh is grass.*

Rev. Benjamin Swick was pastor of the Baptist Church. The Sunday School had gone to Canandaigua for a picnic. He died while attending the picnic. His grave is marked by a very good monument which marks his resting place.

The following soldiers are buried here: Elisha Averill, Ebenezer Pratt and Robert Tobinson of the War of 1812, also Captain Peter Mitchell and Benjamin Overacre, Mexican War of 1846.

Those buried here who served in the Civil War were: Benjamin Wheat, Pratt Dibble, Henry Dewey, Henry Faurote, James Golden, Jacob Downer, Henry Jeffery, and Theodore Vickery.

This cemetery should be the pride of both young and old of this community. Those early settlers of this village who sacrificed and fought for our freedom rest here.

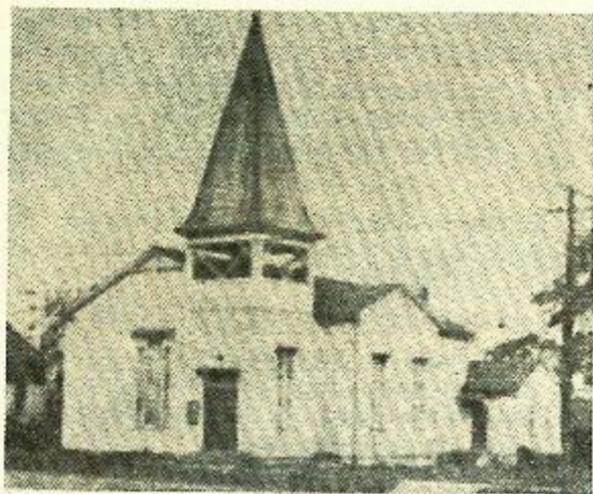
XIV

THE METHODIST CHURCH

IN 1834, a class meeting was held at the home of Sharon Booth. Those present were Sharon Booth, Alfred Dewey, Joseph Sawyer, John Lathbury, Benjamin Armington, Thomas Hornsby and Moses Yeoman. Rev. John Shaw was a Methodist minister who seemed to be the prime mover in forming a society here. The men named above were as anxious to form a society as Rev. Shaw was. Thus the Methodist Society was organized at that class meeting in 1834.

The services were held in the school which was located in the park until the year of 1840. Then a church was built on Salt, now State, Street where the present church stands in the year 1953. This first church cost the Society \$2,000. The above men named were the first trustees. The money could not be raised and it was necessary to put a mortgage on the building. Moses Yeoman held the mortgage and it became necessary for him to foreclose. The Society was compelled to return to the school again to hold their meetings.

At this time, Rev. Manly Tucker was presiding elder. The first steward was Joseph Sawyer and the first class leader was John Lathbury.



The Old Methodist Church

In 1847, the property was redeemed and was repaired at a cost of \$600. Rev. Sylvester Condon preached the rededication sermon. There was a long wide porch with Corinthian pillars on the front. There were two front doors, one on the southeast corner, the other on the southwest corner. A large box wood stove stood on the southeast side of the main room with stove pipe running across the church to the chimney on the north side. The pulpit was on the north side and was rather low.

In 1864, the church again was repaired at a cost of \$600. It was rededicated in August of that year. Rev. Buck of Canandaigua preached the rededication sermon. This time the porch was enclosed as a vestibule. A choir loft was built over the vestibule. The pews remained as before, straight backs painted with black walnut tops.

In 1881-1882, plans were made to build a church on south Main Street. The people were not able to raise enough money and so it was decided to enlarge and remodel the existing building. Work was started during the pastorate of C.E. Herman and completed during the pastorate of W.M. Bengier.

Work was started on the church in 1883, and for four months services were held in Willson and Allen's Store.

The cost of remodeling was \$3,400. The sanctuary was 36 by 50 feet. The pulpit was 6 by 22 feet. The classroom was 36 by 26 feet.

The land where the first church was built was given to the organized society by Ebenezer Pratt.

This rededication service was held in November, 1883. Rev. William Searles of Auburn preached the sermon in the morning and Rev. U.S. Beebe preached the evening sermon.

The cost of the carpeting, a deep red, was \$282.00.

The first parsonage was purchased in 1885. It was on Clifton Street. There was a mortgage of \$400 on it in 1901. During the pastorate of Rev. C.A. Baldwin, the money was raised and the parsonage had a clear title. In 1905, the parsonage was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Springer. Before they built their present home, the parsonage was moved across the road.

Mrs. Elizabeth Warfield, a member of the Methodist Church, was an invalid in a wheel chair for a number of years. She built a new home on north Main Street. At her death, this home was bequeathed to the Methodist Church for a parsonage. Rev. S.S. Pratt was the first pastor to occupy the new parsonage in 1905.

The first Missionary Society was formed July 11, 1875. A stirring missionary message was delivered by Rev. F.C. Hebbard of Clifton Springs after which a Foreign Missionary Society was organized. Miss Irene T. Southworth was the first president. For years, Miss Harriet M. Pratt acted as treasurer.

The first leader of the choir was Martin McComb. The tuning fork was used before an organ was installed. Mr. McComb was followed by Ambrose Beale who was the leader until he moved to Kansas City. Mrs. Martha VerPlank had charge of the music for over 40 years, until her eye sight failed.

The first Sunday School was organized in 1855. The branches are the Cradle Roll and The Home Department which have served this church these many years.

The first Ladies Aid Society was formed December 13, 1870, at the residence of Thomas Lathbury on south Main Street. The officers were: secretary, Miss Adaline Dibble; assistant secretary, Miss Betsy Dawson; treasurer, Mrs. Thomas Lathbury. Rev. Swallow was the pastor.

During Rev. Benger's pastorate in 1882, the salary was \$765. There

were three donations during the year. Manchester, Shortsville and Chapinville shared the pastor as well as the salary. Manchester raised \$300.00 by the renting of the pews.

In 1869, Rev. J.M. Bull had a very successful revival. He labored faithfully for six weeks, and one of the greatest revivals in the history of Manchester Church was the result.

In 1899, Rev. Sylvanus Lane came to be the pastor. He brought with him two very bright sons, Edward and William, both of whom entered the ministry. While Edward was pastor at Waterloo, he died of flu in 1918. William came back to pastor the Manchester Church in 1913, and died in 1938 while pastor at Penn Yenn Church.

In 1901, Rev. G.A. Baldwin was pastoring the Methodist Church. He felt the call to the African Mission field. He was not equal to the climate and so returned before his term had expired.

At the left, just inside the back entrance was a dark room with a trap door which led to the cellar. For years this little dark room was the only kitchen the church had in which to prepare meals. A small cook stove stood in the corner.

The Ladies Aid had been busy raising money to build a kitchen. At last, they had accomplished what they set out to do. In 1911 Alvin LaRue of Palmyra built a kitchen on the north side of the Sunday School room at a cost of \$285.00.

When the church was built, a row of sheds extended across the back, with hitching stalls. This afforded quite a bit of pleasure for the boys to climb the beams. Some of the families who hitched their horses here were: Mr. and Mrs. John Bump and family, Mr. and Mrs. William Diets and family, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Cross Sr. and family, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis McClouth and family, Mr. and Mrs. Russell McClouth, Mrs. Lottie Converse and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hindes and Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Rice.

When the day of horses and carriages had passed and automobiles had taken their places, the insurance rates were higher due to the sheds, and, as a result, these were torn down.

The church bell played an important part in the history of this community. The bell was rung when there was a fire in any part of the town. Then, when the armistice was signed after World War I, it was rung. New Year's Eve, it was rung to welcome the new year. Then, too as a funeral procession approached the church, the bell was tolled as many times as the deceased was years old.

The circular altar rail in front of the pulpit brings to mind many

sacred memories. For generations the communicants had knelt here and received the Lord's Supper from a large pewter cup. A large pitcher was used for the grape juice to be poured into the cup. Many lasting conversions took place here. This spindled altar rail was decorated with daisies, buttercups, and ferns for many children's Day services.

Before electricity, there were very elaborate chandeliers containing oil lamps. When the furnace was installed, two large registers, one on each side of the big room, were laid in the floors.

Large sliding doors separated the sanctuary from the Sunday school room. during the pastorate of Rev. G.A. Baldwin, sliding doors were installed in the Sunday School room, and divided it into two very large rooms. This was heated by a large stove. Many a careless child scorched some article of clothing while trying to get warm.

For years the morning and evening services were well attended. Prayer meetings always were held on Wednesday evenings. In 1864-65-66, the Methodists conducted Cottage prayer meetings on Sunday afternoons.

As time passed, it became necessary either to rebuild the old church or tear the old one down and build a new one.

In the year 1944, Central New York Conference sent Rev. Winifred McCombs to Manchester to become the pastor of the Methodist Church. Rev. John and Rev. Winifred, his wife, had spent years in the evangelistic field. Rev. John was a native of Dublin, Ireland. He had the Irish accent. Mrs. McCombs came from a very fine family in Canada. Rev. Winifred McComb was a great woman of faith and great physical endurance. At this time, the Shortsville and Manchester Methodist Churches were ministered to, by Rev. W. McCombs. A new Manchester church was being agitated. After much counselling with superior officers, the trustees gave permission to start the new church. The old church was taken down and much of the timber was bought by Harry Schlecht for his new house on Center Street. Manchester joined Shortsville in worship in their church.

Homer Galbraith was chosen as the contractor to build the church. Some discussion about the site for the new church arose, but it was finally decided that the site would be where the church had always stood.

The basement was very large and, when it was completed,

services were again resumed in Manchester with Mrs. McCombs as pastor and Rev. Hess as pastor of Shortsville Methodist Church.

The kitchen of the new church was very modern. The members worked like beavers, serving meals at the Canandaigua and Palmyra Fairs. A restaurant was conducted in the basement. Different organizations of the church worked regular days each week. For two years this was carried on.

The corner stone was laid on a Sunday in October. A.D. Grievson donated the corner stone in memory of his father who was a mason by trade. Bishop Lewis O. Hartman was the guest speaker. Rev. Ellory Van Dyke, Geneva district superintendent, opened the service, followed by prayer by Rev. L.L. Swarthout. The following were officers of the building committee: A.D. Grievson and Fred Allen co-chairmen, Charles H. Spangle, treasurer, Chester Messimer, Howard Seaman, Kenneth Herman and Abram DeGroot.

\$30,000 was raised by the church, in two years and eight months.

In 1951, the church was completed at a cost of \$70,000. Memorial windows were given by different families. The large window in the front was given by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Two organized Sunday School classes, the Post Bible Class and the Philathea Class, worked very hard to help raise money for the new church.

The house next to the church was bought for the parsonage and was remodelled, after the one on north Main Street was sold.

A pipe organ was installed. There are very fine classrooms, and the young people were given the very spacious room on the third floor.

After all these months of hard labor and nervous strain of planning the new church, as well as visiting the sick, burying the dead and looking after the services in general, Mrs. McCombs, this woman of great faith, became ill and a change was necessary. Her husband, Dr. John McCombs, took charge in the year of 1950.

Rev. Gerald Harris and his wife came to take up the pastorate of the new church in 1950.

The first baby to be born in this new parsonage was a baby boy, Carl Harris, born in October, 1952.

Rev. Harris strongly believes that teaching and working with the young people is very important.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH

THE following is a copy of the minutes of a meeting held at Manchester to consider the building of a Baptist Church. The meeting was held at M. and R. Buck's Hotel in the year 1813, on the 19th of January.

"Resolved, That the meeting deem it expedient to build a meeting house 40 by 50 feet on the land owned by the Baptists in the village.

"Resolve, That Moses Buck, Jonathan Melvin and Elisha Johnson be a committee to make a report of a plan, place, expense, etc.

"Resolve, That the new ground of the contemplated meeting house be sold to the highest bidder on January 23, 1815."

In 1816, a stone church was built midway between Shortsville and Manchester on the "high bank" on what is now the Lehigh Valley property today near the railroad restaurant. Ebenezer Pratt, Joseph Wells and Jeremiah Dewey were the first trustees. Anite Reed was the first person to be baptized.

In 1849, the Baptist Society bought the land where the Baptist Church stands, for \$200, in 1953. The pulpit and old organ were brought from the old stone church to the new church which was built by the village cemetery. These two pieces of furniture are well preserved in the year 1953. This church was a wooden structure painted white.

In 1900, the church was remodeled and, on October 10, 1910, it was rededicated.

A large portion of the congregation were farmers. The sheds were built to accommodate the horse and wagons. There was a family by the name of Dewey who lived just below "Old Guide Board" on Clifton Springs Road. They drove an ox team to church.

Mr. Benjamin Wheat, who lived just north of the church in the house occupied by the George family in 1953, was usher and caretaker combined. He had a slightly bent figure. He was remembered by his sunny disposition. He had a son by the name of Benjamin Franklin Post Wheat.

Before the church was remodeled in 1900, the church had a gallery which had many pews and which surrounded three sides of the church. In front of the pulpit was the choir loft. The choir master was Howard Dewey. The choir had twenty members, some of whom were: Cyler Redfield, Jabez Ashley, Polly Howland and her sister Eliza, Lucinda Arnold and her sister Mary, and N.K. Cole, Esq. Howard Dewey used the tuning fork.

Just at the head of the stairs in the gallery was the "nigger" pew which was exclusively used by the colored folk. Ed. Watkins was a colored farm hand of Deacon Howland. He sat in this pew.

Rev. Benjamin Swick was pastor of this church. He died while attending the Sunday School picnic. He was buried in the village cemetery by the church. His funeral was the largest attended up to this time. He always wore the conventional high hat and, when the weather was cold, wore a shawl. He was the last pastor to be called "elder." Men of dignity always wore shawls.

The following ministers served the church:

Elder David Irish, 1797-1800	Elder B.R. Swick, 1866-1870
Elder Elnathan Finch, 1800-1804	Rev. R.P. Root, 1871-1873
Elder Anson Shay, 1804-1828	Rev. Edward Royce, 1874-1877
Elder Thomas Colby, 1829-1830	Rev. Jusdon Davis, 1877-1878
Elder Caleb Rice, 1830-1831	Rev. M.V. Wilson, 1878-1886
Elder Marvin Allen, 1831-1834	Rev. S.S. Utter, 1886-1898
Elder Noah Barsal, 1834-1836	Rev. Edwin C. Long, 1898-1905
Elder Alra Kingsley, 1836-1842	Rev. A. Covell, 1900-
Elder Harley Miner, 1842-1847	Rev. Joseph Weston
Elder John Wiggins, 1847-1851	Rev. E.A. Lower
Elder John Townsend, 1852-1854	Rev. Frank Edan
Elder James Moore, 1855-1859	Rev. A.A. Reed
Elder John Shotwell, 1859-1860	Rev. Walter St. John
Elder Ira Bennett, 1861-1862	Rev. Leo Swarthout
Elder L.C. Bates, 1862-1866	

The Women's Missionary Society was organized February, 1876. Mrs. Edward Royce was the president and Mrs. Lottie Smith was secretary and treasurer of the society.

The Christian Endeavor was organized in March, 1890. It was customary to have a Covenant meeting just before Communion Sunday.

In February, 1887, Mitchell Bronk was granted a letter of recommendation to preach.

In 1888, Harriet Hawkes sailed for Burma, as a missionary.

On December 27, 1933, John Newman was baptized and given a license to preach. His father was the pastor of the Methodist Church in Manchester in 1924.

On November 18, 1951, Jane Bennett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ainsworth Bennett, was ordained.

A new electric organ was installed in 1951. Chimes for the new organ were given by Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Payne and Miss Kitty McNutt in memory of their relatives.

Rev. L.L. Swarthout came to Manchester in 1921. Soon after, he married Miss Maude Mason. Mr. Swarthout is the father of three sons, Rev. Paul Swarthout of Hamilton College being the eldest.

XVI

THE RED JACKET TELEPHONE

MR. Carlos Pierce Osgood was born in Manchester on March 11, 1857. He attended the local school and later attended the Academy at Canandaigua. He graduated from this school and taught school for a few years. At the age of twenty-one, he went to Iowa. In 1883, he went to Territory of Dakota where he engaged extensively in the raising of wheat. In 1889, he returned to Manchester. For a few years Mr. Osgood was prominently identified with independent telephone movement in western New York. In 1902, he established a line in Manchester and Shortsville. In 1903, he organized and incorporated the Red Jacket Telephone Company. He became its president and general manager. This was his "baby", and he watched it through to maturity and success.

At the beginning, the office and switchboard were in his home which was located on the east corner of Merrick Avenue and State Street. As the subscribers increased, more room was needed. The exchange was moved to the Buck property, next to the State Bank in Shortsville.

In the year 1933, Mr. Osgood died. Mrs. Daisy Osgood lives over the Telephone Exchange in Shortsville. In the year 1947, Mrs. Daisy Osgood sold the business to Mr. D.W. Walker.

On April 2, 1952, a new era had arrived when all telephones became dial. The telephone has played a big part in local history.

Mr. Jacob Repsher and Miss Margaret O'Harrigan have been employed the greatest length of time.

XVII

THE FIRE COMPANY

MANCHESTER Village had had several bad fires. The only help was the bucket brigade.

In May, 1911, the citizens of Manchester, desiring fire protection, called the interested taxpayers together and formed a volunteer fire

company.

Jacob Malter was elected the first fire chief, Dr. George Shaw, the first president, and George Sheperd, the secretary.

The first meeting was held in Dr. Shaw's barn behind Liberty Bros. hardware in 1953. The first equipment was a hand drawn chemical cart.

In 1913, the first major step toward efficient fire fighting was when water mains were laid, fed by springs near the overhead bridge on west State Street.

The fire department was motorized in 1915, when a used Peerless truck was purchased. The fire company is always striving to improve their only chemicals.

In 1919, the village bought a new Ford hose and chemical truck. The fire company is always striving to improve its efficiency by modern equipment.

In 1926, the first pumper was purchased. This was deluxe chassis mounting of a 500 gal. pump.

In 1941, a squad car with a public address system was bought.

In 1948, an American LaFrance 500 gal. pumper was purchased.

In 1933, Fire Chief John Robinson started working with the members to form a drill team. Firemen's conventions were very popular. About three days and nights in the summer were advertised as Firemen's Convention, which was held up State Street by the round house where there was plenty of room. Concessions, such as a Ferris wheel and a merry-go-round, were moved. A part of the proceeds went to the village firemen. The high light of the convention was the parade, attended by firemen from the surrounding counties with their bands. The bands were judged and trophies given. Manchester firemen have won many of these trophies. They have been known as one of the best drill fire fighters throughout the state.

They were crowned champions at Geneva in 1934, again in North Tonawanda in 1936. They also took a prize at Flushing, Long Island, in 1939. Robinson retired, but his work will never be forgotten.

For a number of years the firemen have sponsored Halloween parties for the children in the village. The children assemble at the school grounds, parade through the streets and then return to the school gymnasium. From kindergarden to high school, each grade passes before the judges. Awards are made to each grade for the best homemade costume and the store costume. This is sponsored by John Boardman. At the close, each child is given a treat.

A baseball park with flood lights, near the round house, was the last project.

All fire fighting equipment is kept in the east side of the village hall. A large room to the rear is used for their meetings. There is a Ladies Auxiliary.

There are forty-seven active members in 1953.

XVIII

THE RED CROSS AUXILIARY

A NOTICE was given out in all churches for a meeting to be held in Municipal Hall, May 3, 1917, for the purpose of organizing a Red Cross Chapter.

Mrs. Edwin Pratt acted as chairman of the meeting. Miss Maude Mason acted as secretary of the meeting.

A unit of Canandaigua Red Cross Chapter was formed on May 16, 1917.

On May 23, 1917, Mrs. Thompson of Canandaigua came to speak on the work of the Red Cross. Mrs. Clara Smith was made chairman and Mrs. Flora B. Post, secretary.

The following folk were made charter members: Miss Maude Mason, Mrs. Clara Smith, Mrs. Walter St. John, Mrs. Ernest Swarts, Mrs. Flora B. Post, Mrs. Edwin Pratt, Mrs. Fred Post, Mrs. Frances J. VanDuyne, Mrs. Eugene Payne, Mrs. William Hickmott, Mrs. Harriet Washburn, Miss Mary Pratt, and Mrs. Martha VerPlank.

The Red Cross knit socks, helmets and sweaters for the boys in the First World War.

In the Second World War, the Red Cross made dressings, several afternoons a week in the Health Center. The Red Cross organized aid classes, taught bedside nursing, and held canteen classes in the Baptist Church kitchen.

Each year a drive is put on to raise money to meet the quota.

Mrs. Loretta Robinson and Mrs. Florence Dalbraith have served as officers of the Red Cross longer than any other officers.

XIX

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE Roman Catholic Church developed a growth late, but it was vigorous. The societies have had harmonious cooperation and constant progression.

The first Catholic Church in Shortsville stood where the Papee Warehouses are today, in 1953.

The church was to serve Manchester as well as Shortsville.

In 1900, the property, a little east of the southeast corner of the four corners in Shortsville, was purchased. This was to be the site of the new Catholic Church.

It was built of yellow brick and was called St. Dominic's. The first mass to be said in this church was said by Rev. Felix J. O'Hanlon, of Clifton Springs. He served this parish for a number of years.

Following Rev. O'Hanlon was Rev. John Gainey. During his pastorate, a new electric organ was installed.

In 1922, Rev. John Napier was sent to pastor the church. The congregation was growing.

In 1929, the church was partially destroyed by fire. When it was rebuilt, it was made much larger.

The manse was the home formerly owned by Neal Brophy.

The house on the corner, which Hattie Tay owned, was bought by the church, and the house was razed. Now a very pretty lawn adds to the beauty of the church.

The seating capacity of the church in 1953 is 475. There are members of 400 families attending here. In 1953, C.M. Mack and John Johnson are the trustees. John Robinson and Arthur Doody are the auditors.

Two boys, who became priests, Leo Pulling and Ernest Brophy, have gone out from this parish. One girl, Monica Bennett, went out from this church to become a nun.

In 1948, the Catholic Church rented the second floor of John Johnson's block in Manchester as a social hall. Here the Holy Name Society meets, as well as the Rosary Society. Religious Education is carried on here.

Mrs. Alice Boardman has been organist for over 20 years.

THE BOY SCOUTS

ON the 23rd day of March, 1916, the Boy Scout Troop was organized by the Rev. Walter St. John, pastor of the Baptist Church.

This meeting was held on a blustery Saturday afternoon in one of the Sunday School rooms of the Baptist Church.

The first registered scouts were Alden Wilkinson, Rodger Schultz, Fred Hudson, and Lionel Schultz. There were four junior scouts or cubs. They were Thomas Chrysler, Milton Hudson, Albert Chrysler, and Gordon Overacre.

Scout Master St. John's committee was R.P. Craig, Ainsworth Bennett and James Galbraith.

Homer Galbraith joined the troop and, soon after, was appointed assistant scout master, a position which was held by him for many years.

It was with great enthusiasm that these first scouts began working on their merit badges. On June 22, 1917, James Hawkes passed his first class, and was presented with his first class pin by the Ontario County Council.

In April, 1917, the Boy Scouts erected the flag pole in the park. They planted grass seed and made flower beds.

The first camping trip that Scoutmaster St. John took them on was to Sodus Bay on Lake Ontario. Twice they went to Canandaigua Lake camping, once at Camp Taron, an other time to Ontario County Camp.

In 1918, Scoutmaster St. John became an eagle scout. He was the first eagle scout in the county.

In 1920, Scoutmaster St. John left the pastorate of the Baptist Church for another charge. Assistant Scoutmaster A.M. Bennett took over until the committee could find someone else. For over thirty years A.M. Bennett was scoutmaster of troop 39.

In 1920, Ezra Smith, father-in-law of Mr. Bennett, gave the scouts a piece of land and built a log cabin on it in which to hold their meetings. This is located on North Avenue down by the Outlet, not far from the bridge. They named it Camp Ge-Wa-Nah, an Indian name which means "to help." At one end of the large room is a fireplace. The room is decorated with furs of animals, stuffed birds and animals of all kinds. There are many pictures of the scout troops as well.

The eagle scout is the highest rank obtainable in scouting. In order to become an eagle scout, one must have a satisfactory record as a life

scout for a period of at least six months. Then he must pass twenty-one tests to receive that number of merit badges.

The first eagle scouts were: Harold C. Ryan, Clair Barrows, Abbot Hessney, Glenn Herman, Newton Randall, Walter Pappert, James Meehan, Laverne Messimer, Chester Hyde, Leland Barrows, Mike Balonda, and David Werner.

First Aid is one of the important merit badges. It is so important that in order to receive merit badges for second and first class scouting, one must pass this particular test. For over twenty years Mrs. Alice V.D. Dubler, a registered nurse, taught this class. Mrs. Maude Mason Swarthout taught botany and book binding for many years.

Many of our scouts have received life-saving medals by putting to use the knowledge gained in scouting. The first was Theodore Beach, who with the help of Chester Hyde and Laverne Messimer, saved the life of Joseph Balonda, who nearly drowned in the outlet near the bridge. He received the Congressional Medal of Honor for this deed.

On July 19th, 1935, Harold Dubler was sitting in his car near Littleville Dam. There were several people around. Few were swimming; five girls in bathing suits were sitting on a log which was fastened by a wire. Not one of these girls could swim. The wire broke, letting these girls down into twenty-two feet of water. Confusion prevailed; everyone was excited. Some yelled so loud they were heard as far as the railroad crossing. Harold, having been taught life saving, plunged in. With the help of Stanley King, of Shortsville, they were able to rescue all five. The girls were: Marjory Walters, Marjory O'Brien, Margaret Bliss, Mac Farnsworth, and Gertrude Hogan. On August 28, 1935, Scout Dubler and Stanley King were presented awards of thirty-three dollars each, given by friends of Scouting. This presentation was made at Menteith's Point on the west side of Canandaigua Lake. The awards were made by Justice Robert T. Thompson, of Canandaigua, who was a very good friend of Troop 39.

Then again, in Clifton Springs Sanitarium dining room, before four hundred people, the Gold Medal of Honor was awarded Scout Dubler. Thomas J. Keane of the National Board made the award and told the circumstances. Dubler was also given a framed certificate signed by Daniel Beard. This occasion was the Silver Jubilee of Scouting. Eagle awards were made to Frank Huxley, Thomas Ciardi, John Chunco, Elwin Crowell, Richard Hudson, and William Crowell.

At one time the scouts had an orchestra. It was a nine-piece orchestra, led by Edward Barrows, who played the cornet. A piano had

been donated to the troop. The members of the orchestra were: Clair Barrows and Fred Hudson, piano; Milton Hudson, drums; Harold Ryan, banjo; Ralph Barrows, violin; Leland Barrows, drums, Alvin Dewey, violin; Abbott Hessney, violin.

There are camps and camps, but the boy scouts of troop 39 feel there is no camp like the one at Inlet, on Little Brown Tract in the Adirondack Mountains. The first camping trips were in the summers of 1923 and 1924. All through the winter the boy scouts sold bake goods, held minstrel shows and a bazaar in the village hall. The money raised was enough to take care of expenses for 26 scouts, with their adding four dollars apiece to the sum raised.

The parents used their cars to help with the transportation. Mr. Otis Herman loaned his truck, which took the tents and all camping equipment. Mr. Ezra Smith and Harry Prochel went along as camp directors and cook. Homer Galbraith went as Assistant Scoutmaster, and had charge of all scout activities.

They left at 4:00 a.m., and at night they had arrived at Raquette Lake, where Brown Tract ponds are located.

The camp consisted of tents, and a large mess shack was built, covered with canvas. The scouts built their fireplace, latrine, and a place for garbage. This usually took the first day, before they could get settled for camping.

The hikes have always played a big part in their camping. They would hike to Raquette Lake, Bear Mountain, Bald Mountain, Eighth Lake, Eagle Bay and Inlet. They took food in their knapsacks and cooked it at midday. What appetites they brought back after one of these hikes, only the cook can describe.

After supper, a big camp fire was built on the lake shore; songs were sung, stories told, and sometimes they acted out something that had happened among the scouts during the day. In one of the later camping trips, the act long to be remembered was, "I will chop your wood for you, Mr. Mattern."

For nearly thirty years, two weeks have been spent in the Adirondacks by troop 39, usually during the month of August.

Among the men of the county who encouraged Scoutmaster Bennett as well as the scouts, were Justice Robert Thompson, of Canandaigua, N.Y., "Doc" Evans, of Canandaigua, and last, but not least, J.M. Stoddard, of Shortsville, N.Y.

On March 20, 1944, programs were handed out with a splendid picture of J.M. on the cover. Above the picture was printed "Testimonial

Dinner to Our Friend." Under the picture it said "Manchester Boy Scouts." A wonderful roast beef dinner was served by the boys. Howard Sprague acted as toastmaster. An accordian solo was played by scout William Owens; Homer Galbraith spoke on "Our Troop." A piano and bones duet was played by Fred Hudson and Bert Lush. Mr. Owen Anderson, industrial arts teacher at the high school, spoke on "For he is a Friend to Boys." This was a tribute to Mr. Stoddard. Presentation of Certificates was made by Harold Griffin, Chief of the Fire Department. Taps were played by Robert Ross.

In the thirty years A.M. Bennett acted as scoutmaster, the boys of this community considered him their "buddy." They deeply respected him. If counsel was needed, they never hesitated to go to the store to talk with him.

Because of illness in his family, it was necessary for him to give up all activities, as well as scouting.

George Record and Robert Hackett tried to carry on, and really did very well. They felt with their work they couldn't carry on longer.

In 1952, former scouts and scout families made Mr. and Mrs. Bennett a gift of a fine television set.

In the spring of 1952, a new scoutmaster was needed. There had been no scout meetings all winter. In the early part of March, 1953, on Monday night, about forty scouts turned out for a meeting organized by Eugene MacConnell, new neighborhood commissioner of scouting in Manchester. A new troop committee was formed, and Norbert Coyne was named scoutmaster.

XXI

W.C.T.U.

IN the winter of 1874, Christian women went everywhere in saloons praying and singing hymns. Usually the Bible was placed upon the bar when the saloon keeper gave them permission to enter. Frances Willard called this "The Crusade Winter." In March of this same year, these Godly women called Frances Willard to go with them to the saloons to sing and pray. She said the spirit of the Crusaders was very gentle. They sang "Rock of Ages" as she had never heard it sung before. She was asked to pray. They knelt on the sawdust floor. There was a group of unkempt, hard-drinking men. She said she had never prayed as she prayed that day, except at the bedside of her dying sister, Mary. She called this her Crusade Baptism.

This Temperance Movement was beginning to bear fruit. In August of 1874, at Chautauqua, N. Y., "the birthplace of grand ideas," the Women's Christian Temperance Union was born. A convention was called for November, 1874, at Cleveland, Ohio. The National W. C. T. U. was then organized, with Miss Frances Willard as corresponding secretary.

In 1879, Miss Frances Willard was elected National President of the Women's Christian Temperance Union.

About this time, Rev. DeLarme became pastor of Chapinville Methodist Church. Mrs. DeLarme's sister was Miss Louise Rounds. She was a W. C. T. U. Organizer. She came to Manchester and organized a Union in September, 1887.

The meetings were held the first Tuesday of each month. The first seven years, there were very few records kept. However, on February 21, 1885, it was recorded, "The members of the W. C. T. U. decided not to give a free lunch to the voters on Town Meeting, or what is now called election, day."

Again, on February 26, 1887, arrangements were made by the members of the W. C. T. U. at their meeting for the free lunch. They voted to give free lunches, in the same place, the north side of what is, in 1953, the Hawkes Block. It was also recorded, "The W. C. T. U. takes great pleasure and pride in calling attention to the fact that every year when the free lunch is given, the vote has been increased, whereas, in 1885, they chose, as an experiment, not to give the dinner, the vote fell off one half. Not only this, but it is a known fact that the good coffee and cream resulted in a no-license vote and saved men from indulging in intoxicants which were provided at other places. Therefore, with confidence, they purpose to follow in this line, and invite all the ladies to give their support to the dries. They were asked to furnish biscuits, butter, cold meats, baked beans, doughnuts, pies, cheese, and cream and coffee. They were asked to have it at the rooms by eleven o'clock. They cordially invited all voters to cast their votes for no license, and to be sure to call at the Free Lunch Room."

On September 11, 1886, the ninth anniversary of the W. C. T. U. was celebrated on the beautiful lawn of Mrs. A. Allen, who lived in the red brick house across from the Baptist Church. The records say, "Aside from being an extremely hot day, it was a most pleasant affair."

No pleasanter spot could have been chosen than this beautiful lawn on the bank of Canandaigua Outlet, beneath the overhanging trees with glimpses of water between the trees, resembling miniature lakes.

The exercises of the occasion opened by singing "Bringing in the Sheaves," led by Kate Newton (Mrs. Edson Randall) at the organ. Devotions were led by Mrs. H. Dewey, who gave a very interesting Bible reading on Parental Responsibility. At the close of the discussion, they sang "Nearer, My God, to Thee." The secretary, Miss Louise Southworth, gave a most pleasing review of the work of the society's first nine years. Select readings were given by the Misses Mae and Clara Burns; Miss Mattie Overacre (Mrs. Augustus Hawks) rendered a solo entitled "the Drunkard's Wife" in a most thrilling manner. The election of officers then took place.

President — Mrs. Sarah McComb
1st Vice-President — Mrs. M.H. Dewey
2nd Vice-President — Mrs. H.H. Smith
Recording Secretary — Miss Louise Southworth
Corresponding Secretary — Mrs. A. Allen
Treasurer — Mrs. M.M. Smith

At six o'clock the company was invited to two long tables, where a delightful supper was provided by the ladies. This closed a white-letter day in the history of Manchester Women's Christian Union.

After seventy-six years of existence, we find that the meetings are conducted much the same as the former years.

For many years the election supper was served by the Union. This was one way the society had of raising money. At the first, the Union collected fifty cents for dues. Later the Union conformed to the state's requirements and raised the dues to one dollar.

The meetings were held the first Tuesday of each month until 1950, when it seemed advisable to change to the first Monday of the month.

The officer in 1953 are:

President — Mrs. Alice M. Dubler
1st Vice-President — Mrs. Eva Barrows
Secretary — Mrs. Mable Hurlburt
Treasurer — Mrs. Mary Hawkes
Corresponding Secretary — Mrs. Mary DeGroot

XXII

THE HEALTH ASSOCIATION

IN the month of April, 1923, a mass meeting was held in Municipal Hall for the purpose of interesting the people in a plan to raise

one hundred and fifty dollars. Oakmount was the county tubercular sanitarium at East Bloomfield. Different villages had furnished rooms. Mrs. Anna Sutter, R.N., was the county nurse. She was anxious that Manchester furnish one.

Plans were made to serve a dinner in Trainman's Hall, which was over Johnson and Bennett's store. The following committees were appointed: General chairman, Alice Dubler; Secretary, Marietta Hawkes, Chairman of the dinner committee, Mrs. Joseph Anderson; Chairman of dish-washing committee, Mrs. John Pratt.

The dinner was held May 3, 1923. It was a complete success. The sum of \$114.40 was raised.

John Gilman was running motion picture shows in his show house, which later became the Market Basket Store. He agreed to have a picture and give the proceeds from the show toward our Oakmount fund. The show netted \$46.51.

It was voted to send Dr. Selover, superintendent of Oakmount, a check for \$150, which furnished a room, and "Room Furnished by Manchester" was printed on the door.

This left a balance of \$10.91 in the treasury.

A great need had presented itself in the southern end of the village. Many of the families had come from Europe, scarcely able to speak or understand the English language. They knew nothing about sanitation and the care of the sick; they were totally ignorant.

A graduate nurse was nursing in a home where there were two scarlet fever cases. A nurse in uniform was a phenomenon.

Within two years, the nurse was married and moved in to the neighborhood where she had nursed scarlet fever cases. Now she was called upon to assist in maternity cases, to teach one mother how to sterilize bottles, and to care for irritable babies. Usually any supplies needed were taken from the nurse's personal supplies. The worst case was a little boy partially boiled.

He had been playing with a little flat cart. He stepped on the cart, lost his balance, and fell into a boiler full of boiling water. Although these folks were very clean, there were no supplies. Again it was necessary to go to the nurses linen closet for sheets, oil, and cotton. The child lived only a few hours. At this time was born the "idea" — why not have a loan closet and health center.

Dr. Daniel Eiseline, health officer, and Mrs. Alice V.D. Dubler, R.N., felt the time was ripe to try to introduce this project to citizens of this village.

On June 4, 1923, a meeting was held in Municipal Hall. Dr. Eiseline gave a very interesting talk on public health. A motion was made, seconded and passed that we organize at this meeting.

A motion was made, seconded and passed that it be called Manchester Public Health Association. The following officers were elected:

- President — Mrs. Alice V.D. Dubler, R.N.
- 1st Vice-President — Mrs. Daisy Osgood
- 2nd Vice-President — Mrs. William Eddinger
- 3rd Vice-President — Mrs. William Rhoades Sr.
- 4th Vice-President — Mrs. Hattie Potter
- Secretary — Mrs. Marietta Hawkes
- Treasurer — Mrs. Genevieve Hawkes

The little white building on the southeast corner of Dr. John R. Pratt's lawn had previously been used for a Post Office. It had become too small for a Post Office, and the Post Office had been moved elsewhere. Although the property belonged to the Pratts, the building belonged to James Hosey. The president interviewed Dr. John R. Pratt; permission was gained to use the land the building stood on, as long as the building was used as a Public Health Center. James Hosey had a chance to sell the building, but instead granted the Health Association the use of it. Later the village bought it for \$100.00. After cleaning it, Edward Lyman varnished the entire inside. Rufus Hixson, lumber dealer of Shortsville, furnished the lumber and John Potter built two drop shelves.

Mrs. Tucker, the druggist's wife, gave a very good cupboard in which to keep supplies. Mrs. Minnie Malter gave a small library table, and Leo Hessney, a medicine closet. Miss Anna Sutter, county nurse, gave the first cast iron white bed. For thirty years this bed has been in use.

The Mesdames Marie Galbraith and Bertha Bennett donated the first wheel chairs. Many crutches were donated.

The first chest clinic to be held in Ontario County was held in Trainman's Hall, August 15, 1923, with the encouragement of the Manchester Health Association. Mrs. Florence Reynolds (now Mrs. George Tector) Dr. Wright of Clifton Springs Sanitarium staff and other local nurses officiated.

For many months, pre-school age clinics were held in the Health Center, this being made possible by white curtains which could be drawn to divide the room. These were held once a month until the money provided by the "Shephers Towner" Bill, was exhausted.

Doctors John H. Pratt and Daniel Eiseline were the examining physicians. Many a deformity was discovered which would otherwise have been a handicap if it hadn't been corrected. This service was free to all parents who would bring their children.

Mrs. John H. Pratt conducted bedside nursing classes for high school girls. The County Public Health nurses conducted several classes during the years.

A class for Italian mothers was held in the Health Center. A nurse, who was Italian, was sent by the Public Health Service of the state at no charge to anyone. She taught bedside nursing and taught some nutrition.

Sewing was done for Memorial Hospital in Canandaigua by the members of the Society. Rummage sales, experience socials, plays, suppers, and bake sales were held to help with the expenses.

A dozen and a half of folding chairs, scales for pre-school age clinics, as well as linen, were bought to be used as needed.

In 1941, Mayor John Robinson saw the need of the Manchester Health Association. Topsoil was put in the lawn surrounding the Health Center; grass seed was sown; the building was painted. Through his efforts and Clarence Fairchild's help, donations of cash were received, which met the needs of the organization for eleven years.

Through Job Massecar, town supervisor, a bed, a bedside table and some bedding, that were rescued from Oakmount Sanitarium fire, were donated to the Health Association.

In 1952, Justice of the Peace, William Daley, saw the need of some new equipment. Justice of the Peace Daley and Mayor Vienna asked for donations. As a result, \$400 was raised.

The first new equipment was a new modern wheelchair. The next was several new pairs of modern crutches. The Veterans of Foreign Wars made a donation of a fine folding wheelchair.

The chief expense is for replacement of mattresses and renovation of the same, also replacement of rubber sheets.

For thirty years continuously, this organization has ministered to this community in a very humble manner.

Mrs. Alice Dubler acting as Chairman, Mrs. Alice Loring acting as Vice-Chairman and Mrs. Genevieve Hawkes as Secretary and Treasurer, this organization has fulfilled its purpose.

Mrs. Loring died April 9, 1949, and Mrs. Loretta Robinson filled the vacancy until January, 1953, when she resigned.

Mrs. Genevieve Hawkes, busy helping to look after the interests of the bakery, is never too busy to accompany any borrower to the Health Center.

After thirty years of service, the officers of the Manchester Health Association have found the public very gracious. Only once in awhile it becomes necessary to remind a borrower of an unreturned article.

XXIII

REV. MITCHELL BRONK

AMONG the many citizens of the past, Rev. Mitchell Bronk has contributed more history and facts about old Manchester than any other one person.

Mitchell Bronk was born November 24, 1862, in the house which still forms a part of the old Moses Yeomans, Bronk, Rouse, Hawkes block. This is the block on the southwest corner of State and Main Streets.

His father, Abram, had purchased this property in 1861. His mother, Cynthia, was the daughter of Stephen Brewster and granddaughter of Nathan Pierce.

As a small boy, his boyhood chums were Frank Rodney, John Willson, Will Newton, Clarence Cole, Eugene Bennett, John and Frank Pratt and the Belden boys.

His father died and his mother moved to Shortsville. He was converted at an early age and was baptized through the ice of the outlet by Rev. M.V. Wilson, then pastor of the Baptist church.

He attended the one room school house in Manchester. Later he attended the Canandaigua School for four years. He attended the University of Rochester in 1886. He also attended the Union Theological Seminary in New York City. He studied in Europe at schools in Germany and Geneva, Switzerland.

He was on the Editorial Staff of the American Publication Society of the Baptist Church. He also wrote several books, some of which are: "Pillars of Gold," "Light in the Valley" and "Manchester Boys." He was pastor of many large city churches.

He died October 31, 1950, leaving a son, Delter Wolf Bronk, who is president of Johns Hopkins University, and a daughter who is librarian at the University of Pennsylvania.

His sister, Dr. Isabelle Bronk, was a professor at Swarthmore College.

Excerpts from the book "Manchester Boys" by Mitchell Bronk:

One mother who had her children grouped about her, reading "Manchester Boys," was surprised to hear her young son say, when she had finished reading the story, "Oh shucks, why didn't he write more."

During 1875, Mitchell Bronk, Will Newton, John Willson, Clarence Cloe, Walter and Fred Converse, Frank Rodney and Eugene Bennett, about thirteen years of age, seemed to be the "gang" in Manchester. They were mischievous boys but not bad.

Miss Powers and Miss Rodgers were the teachers.

There was a girl in school whom they called "Mosquito Bars." She came from a very poor family. For the want of a ribbon for a sash, she substituted a yellow mosquito netting. The gang nicknamed her mosquito bars. One day she became very ill. She was absent from school a long period. However, when she was able to return to school, she wasn't teased any longer. The last day of school, it was the custom to choose a queen and crown her with a crown of wild flowers. In a way to recompense for their rudeness, they chose her to become queen. This made her very happy and they decided she wasn't so plain after all.

Eugene Bennett lived where the VanDuyne family lived in later years. The outlet runs through the farm. The gang started down to Gene's to pick wild berries. There were a great many growing along the fences. They took their pails for the berries, lunch baskets and fishing equipment. It was a hot day and they planned to take a swim. They covered themselves with large mosquito netting squares to keep mosquitoes and gnats from biting them.

Will Newton was picking berries nearest the outlet. He gave a loud yell. The other boys set their pails down and ran as fast as they could to where Will was picking. They thought no doubt he had seen a rattlesnake, but, instead, a man lay in the water, facedown. He had a very ragged brown coat on and had long tousled hair.

It was Dod Brown. He had been a character around Manchester for years, a human wreck due to drink. He had boasted that he had drunk enough whiskey to float the Manchester Tavern.

Gene Bennett's father went to Clifton Springs and got the coroner. This brought a day of pleasure to a sad ending, but what a temperance lesson these boys had learned!

REV. LEO PULLING

REV. Leo Pulling was born in Livonia Center, October 19, 1897. He was the youngest of four boys brought to Manchester by his mother, Mrs. Mary Pulling, in 1898.

Their first home was the Palace Hotel which stood across the street from the Old Cemetery on South Main Street. They hadn't lived there too long before the hotel was destroyed by fire.

Mr. and Mrs. John Meahan gave the family shelter. Later they moved into the house on North Main Street owned by John R. Pratt. This house, in 1953, is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Barrows.

This, however, was not a permanent home as Mrs. Pulling was having a large house built in about the same place where the hotel had stood. This was a large double house. A family lived on the south side and her family as well as roomers and boarders, lived on the north side.

The boys had plenty of chores to do; this helped their mother and kept them out of mischief.

Leo started school in Manchester but completed his high school in the Canandaigua Academy.

He felt the call to priesthood, and entered the seminary of Our Lady of the Angels at Niagara University. Here he was awarded a scholarship. In 1919 he sailed for Rome, Italy, to attend the American College.

Monsignor Pulling, who was ordained in the church of St. John Lateran in Rome, May 18, 1924, was appointed a Monsignor by the Pope while he was in Italy on private business.

His first Mass was said in St. Dominic Catholic Church at Shortsville, New York.

In 1932, he organized a church in Lancaster and built a manse as well. His mother became his housekeeper.

In 1942, he became pastor of the Holy Trinity Church in Dunkirk.

In 1943, he was appointed priest of the St. Columbia parish which is on the corner of Hickory and Egel Streets in Buffalo, New York.

In 1949, he celebrated his 25th anniversary as a priest and received a Congratulatory Cable from Pope Pius the XII on his silver Anniversary.

REV. ERNEST BROPHY

ERNEST Brophy, the name his boyhood friends best knew him by, was born February 15, 1885. His parents, Corneluis and Ellen Brophy, lived on a farm just west of Manchester on what is known as the Pratt road.

His first school years were spent in the country school near DeBrocks. As he passed the grades, he then entered Manchester High School. He was a member of the third class to graduate after the Manchester Union School became a high school. This class graduated in 1905.

He was well remembered for his kindness and his thoughtfulness of others.

After graduation he felt the call to the priesthood. He entered St. Andrews Seminary and later attended St. Bernards Seminary in Rochester, New York. He graduated on June 6, 1914.

He said his first mass in his home church, St. Dominics of Shortsville, New York. His first assignment was assistant pastor of the Immaculate Conception, Roman Catholic Church.

During the flu epidemic of 1918, Father Brophy worked day and night, relieving the suffering and comforting the bereaved. In February of 1918, a very bad fire broke out in Rochester. Father Brophy worked tirelessly with the firemen.

Four days after the fire, Father Brophy developed pneumonia due to exposure and, having no resistance, died.

His funeral was held in the Immaculate Conception Church of which he was assistant pastor. Rev. J.B. Brophy, a cousin of the deceased, had part in the service.

The body was then put aboard a train of the Auburn branch of the New York Central and brought to Shortsville.

The body was taken to St. Dominic's church where it lay in state.

A prayer service was conducted by Rev. Felix J. O'Hanlon assisted by Rev. Francis Moffet. Following the prayer service the remains were laid to rest in St. Rose Cemetery in Shortsville, New York.

MANCHESTER BANDS

THE first band to be organized in Manchester was called Smith's Cornet Band. A few young men of the community were gathered in front of one of the business places one evening. They were making noises with their mouths that resembled band music. This was the occasion that gave them the idea of organizing a band. Mr. Hinman Smith spent one winter taking cornet lessons from a teacher in Rochester. Then Mr. Smith taught the rest of the interested young men to play the cornet. The first cornet band was composed of twelve members; the names of some were: Mr. Hinman Smith, leader; Mr. John Rodney; James Rouse; William Rouse; Charles Harrington; N. K. Cole.

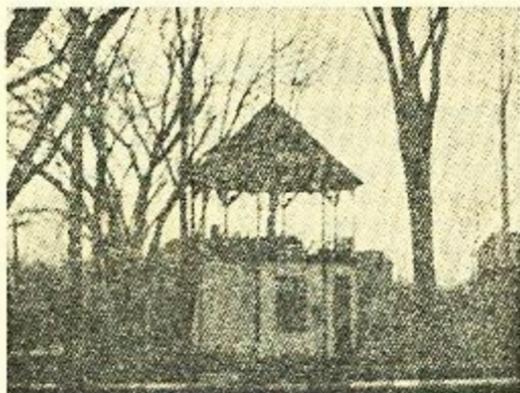
It is recorded in the "Shortsville Enterprise" of June 16, 1888: "The first band concert of the season, given by the Manchester Cornet Band, in the village last Saturday evening, was an enjoyable affair. The band played very fine music. Our merchants enjoyed the booming trade and the large crowds from the surrounding towns were well repaid for being present. The credit of the whole affair belongs to E.B. Crain."

It is recorded in the "Shortsville Enterprise" of May 21, 1887: "The Cornet Band of Manchester will give a concert on the lawn of Mrs. A. T. Whitney on Main Street, Shortsville, on Memorial Day."

In the years of 1885-86, the Manchester or Smith Cornet Band agreed to hold concerts every other Saturday night in the park during warm weather.

Rev. M.V. Willson, pastor of the Baptist Church, with Hinman Smith and N.K. Cole formed a committee to receive donations with which to erect a band stand. The cost of the building was estimated to be about one hundred dollars, but the actual cost was two hundred dollars. It is believed that a resident by the name of Luther Walters, assisted by a man by the name of Rapalu from Yates County, built the band stand.

The following people gave money toward the amount needed: J.R. Pratt, M.D., Willson and Allen Company, L.H. Aldrich, A.L. Knapp, Orin Vine, William M. Wells, N.C. Herendeen, H.S. Lyke, J.F. Aldrich, N.K. Cole, J. Lyke, Newton Smith, R.C. Herendeen, Mark Pomeroy, C.H. Herendeen, Mrs. H.A. Brewster, Charles Bumpus, Allen Power, Mrs. H. Hart, Jim Gavin, A.M. Snedeker, J. Rushmore, A.W. Hawkes, James Hawkes, H.E. Hawkes, M.V. Willson, W.H. Post, J.W. Overacre, J.F. Clark, E.P. Herendeen, William McComb, A.H. Dewey, L.S. Newton, Thomas Lathbury, Charles G. McLouth, J. Tate.



The Old Band Stand

After the erection of the band stand, a Committee was appointed to care for the park as well as the band stand.

In later years, Mr. Edward Lyman, a graduate of Boston Conservatory of Music, became leader, and the name was changed to Manchester Military Band. This band was a much larger band than the Cornet Band. Some of these members were: Frank Rodney, Edson Randall, Frank Cole, Will Cowan, Pat Lyman, Daniel Williams, Sam Weller, George Walters, Godlieb Walters.

This band was very popular throughout western New York and was called to many places to give concerts.

Many summer concerts were given in this village. The money was appropriated by the village board to pay the band members.

In 1899 and for several summers after, moonlight excursions on Canandiagua Lake proved a very popular pastime. To make this trip complete, music was furnished by the Manchester Military Band. The names of the boats were "Onalinda," the "Orgarita" and "Orianna," a smaller boat.

For several years, there haven't been any concerts but there is much sentiment connected with the band stand.

In 1952, the Veterans of Foreign Wars placed a monument here in the park in memory of our war heroes.

NEW THROUGHWAY

THE Lane Construction Company, which rebuilt Main Street in Canandaigua, was awarded the contract to build 9.88 miles of the new super-highway just north of the village of Manchester, at a cost of \$4,132,907.45. The contract required completion by December 31, 1953.

This mammoth road construction has changed the entire countryside just north of the village. Trees have been cut down — the course of Black Brook has been changed — but the greatest change came about by removing the large house and barn just south of Black Brook to make place for the Clover Leaf.

Records show that in the year of 1859 Hirman Jennings lived on this farm. The records also show that this same man was postmaster in 1867-68. It is possible this home could have housed the postoffice.

When the first settlers came to Manchester, the bears roamed the forests. It was on this site that a bear trap was placed. The trap was a pen with a large piece of fresh pork and, sometimes, a young pig hung inside for bait. When the bear entered, he stepped on a spring that let down a door, thus making him a prisoner. Folk came to see the bear, as people of today would go to a circus. The farmer would shoot him and then let him loose for the dogs to destroy him.

About 1873, a family by the name of Newberry lived on this farm.

Gauis Randall, a man from Bristol, was the next farmer to own this farm. Mr. Randall had a large evaporator as well as a cider mill. It was a common sight to see huge piles of apples in the yards in the fall of the year. This meant employment for several women as well as men.

Mr. Randall sold to a man by the name of Setner. As well as a home open for young folks' parties, Mr. Setner always had a team for hire for sleigh and strawrides.

Mr. Setner sold to Job Massecar. Mr. Massecar made the large house into a two family dwelling.

One year, the community had a slight earthquake. No damage was done, but the water veins were changed. Some farmers found water had come into their wells that had been dry for years, while others had found their wells dry. Massecar's well was one that was dry. He had a large herd of stock. For weeks he had trucked water from the village.

One Sunday afternoon while he and his wife were walking through the fields and looking at the crops, it was very dry. They noticed a green

spot of grass back of the barn. After testing, they found there was a spring with water enough to supply the stock in the barn, the milk house and the house.

A pea vinery stood just north of the barn. The farmers brought many tons of peas here during the harvest to be shelled and taken to the canning factory. The pods were used for cow feed in the early spring.

After Mr. Masecar's death, his widow sold the farm to Joseph Abbott. Abbott raised acres of beans and tomatoes and sold them to the canning factory. Migrant workers were brought in to pick the vegetables.

After the construction company moved in to build the new highway, these buildings were sold to the highest bidder. Joseph Abbott bought them back, with a crew of men, tore them down and moved the material to Pratt road, where he built a new home in which to live.

XXVIII

MISS MARY LATHBURY

ON August 20, 1841, Mary Artemisia Lathbury, was born to Rev. and Mrs. John Lathbury.

The site of her birthplace, was a house which stood about where the DeVelder home stands today on West State Street in Manchester, N. Y.

She attended the school in the park, for the first years of her school life. She was a bright little girl, very quiet and earnest in her manner. She had a very fair complexion and light hair. In school she seemed always to be drawing pictures of flowers, fairies and angels. She had that innate talent that God gives but few.

God was honored in that home. The Methodists held many a cottage prayer meeting there. Camp meeting was held each year in August in the woods at Chapinville. Mary spent much time while there with her girl friends, some of whom were Lucena and Lucinda Harrington and Betsey Dawson.

She was converted at an early age. As she knelt in consecration, knowing that she had some special gifts of heart and hand, right there she specifically dedicated them to her Master whom she loved and the humanity for whose sake He gave Himself to bleed and die.

She moved with her family from State Street, to the house just north of the school. She lived here until she went to a girls' school at

Fort Edward, New York where she studied art. Art was her all engrossing study. For a number of years she was an art instructor at Drew Seminary. Later, she resided in New York City where she was appointed assistant editor of the Methodist Sunday School Advocate.

Frances Willard, who was her close friend, has this to say of her, "Mary Lathbury is one of the most crocus natured, delicate women I know." She agreed to be the designer of the picture on the Children's Pledge cards and the designer of the seal of the National W.C.T.U. Miss Willard said, "So we called Sweet Mary our special artist." In the Centennial year of the W.C.T.U., Miss Lathbury wrote the following hymn:

Lift up, Lift up thy voice with singing
Dear land, with strength, lift up thy voice
The kingdoms of the earth are bringing
Their treasures to thy gates rejoice.

One other hymn for the W.C.T.U.:

Room for the truth, make room before us
For truth and righteous to stand
And plant the blessed banner o'er us
For God and Home and Native Land.

She became private secretary to Bishop John Vincent of the Methodist Church in New York City.

She was one of the Founders of the Chautauqua on Chautauqua Lake, New York. It was here at Lake Chautauqua, just as the sun was sinking in the west, that she was inspired to write the much loved vesper hymn, "Day is Dying in the West." "Break Thou the Bread of Life" first appeared in the summer of 1880 as a study song for the Chautauqua.

Her many friends and schoolmates had a literary society in Manchester. They named their society, "Mary A. Lathbury Circle."

Miss Lathbury died in the year 1913 at the age of 72 years at East Orange, New Jersey.

XXIX

DR. JOHN STAFFORD

DR. J. Stafford was born on Stafford Street in the town of Manchester, March 15, 1805. After reaching manhood he decided to get an education. With this end in view he entered Palmyra Academy. He walked six miles each day over the rough country roads. Later he attended Hobart College in Geneva, where he completed his medical education.

When he was a very young man, he was tall and would have passed as a lad much older. It was at the time of the election of John Quincy Adams. Young Stafford stood among the voters. When the hat was passed, he cast his vote and no one challenged it.

He lived to be nearly one hundred years old.

XXX

DR. DANIEL A. EISELINE

DR. Eiseline was born June 10, 1868, to John and Elizabeth Linder Eiseline, in Canandaigua, New York. His parents came from Bavaria, Germany, to this country in 1867. His father was a shoemaker by trade and followed this trade until 1897.

Dr. Eiseline's preparatory education was received at the public school and the Academy at Canandaigua. He entered Buffalo Medical College, from which he graduated in 1896. Before entering Medical College, he worked in several of the drug stores in Canandaigua.

Immediately following his graduation at the Medical College, he came to Shortsville and established his practice.

On July 18, 1901, he was united in marriage to Mable Brown of Shortsville, New York.

For many years he was secretary and treasurer of Ontario Company Medical Association. He was secretary of the board of directors of the Canandaigua Hospital of Physicians and Surgeons.

He enlisted in the Army of World War I.

For many years he was Health Officer of the Town of Manchester.

Dr. William Brady, noted columnist, was a personal friend of Dr. Eiseline. Dr. Brady claims much help was given him, in his early practice, by Dr. Eiseline.

He died December 27, 1946, after a short illness at his home on High Street, Shortsville, New York.

XXXI

DR. JOHN RICHMOND PRATT

DR. John R. Pratt was born March 2, 1826, to John and Sally Potter Pratt, in Manchester, New York.

He received his early education in the Manchester school. He attended the Academy in Canandaigua, New York. After finishing the Academy, he was tutored by Professor Childs of Pittsford, Massachusetts. He then entered Jefferson Medical College and graduated in 1851.

In 1861 he established a practice in Manchester, New York at the home where he was born.

He was County Coroner at one time. He was a man of many humorous stories.

He died in the house where he was born, September 14, 1925, at the ripe age of 99 years.

XXXII

DR. JOHN HAHN PRATT

DR. John H. Pratt was born to Dr. John R. and Mary Hahn Pratt, in Manchester, New York, on July 22, 1865.

He was educated in the Manchester school and Cornell University. After graduating from Cornell, he entered Bellevue Medical School in New York City where he received his medical degree, in 1890.

Returning to Manchester, he started practicing with his father. A man of few words, Dr. Pratt believed the left hand should not know what the right hand was doing. For that reason, only those closely associated with him knew of the many instances where a need presented itself and the benefactor (Dr. Pratt) was never known.

For thirty years he served as president of the Board of Education of Manchester High School.

He was also a director of the State Bank of Shortsville, New York. He was president of Trustees of the Brookside Cemetery Board.

For fifty years he was a member of Ontario County Medical Society. For this he was given a testimonial dinner in his honor in 1940.

Dr. Pratt's great grandfather, Ebenezer, cleared a place in the wilderness and built a log house, about where the Pratt house stands in 1943. It was here he died, September 21, 1943 after a week's illness.

His widow, Mrs. Vivian Laurence Pratt, and many cousins survive him.

Interment was in the family plot in Brookside Cemetery.

MANCHESTERS INDUSTRIES

IN 1793, Manchester was a tract of land about six miles square, covered with forests and traversed by the sparkling waters of the Outlet. The timber for the cabins was there in an abundance; the soil, as yet unbroken and enriched by all the secretions of the ages, needed only the hands and brains of the pioneers to produce the grain.

On June 23, 1796, Joab Gillette cleared a piece of land and entered upon the life of a farmer.

In 1798, Sylvester Davis built a blacksmith shop, which was located a few rods east of the Outlet bridge.

Fishing in the Outlet was very common in those early days. There were plenty of white fish, chubs, black bass, and trout. The fishing was done with nets. Fish was much needed for food. It was hard to preserve the fish because of the scarcity of salt. A man came through from Salt Point (Syracuse) occasionally, with a barrel of salt in exchange for eleven bushels of grain.

The farm work was done with ox teams; some few farmers had horses. In clearing the land, different methods were used. Some would cut the timbers by slashing and then set fire to the fallen trees.

In 1814, a woolen mill was built, which gave employment to thirty or forty laborers. This was at the west end of the bridge where the Village Hall stands in 1953.

Where the woolen mill stood, several years later, a grist and flour mill was built. This mill burned, but was later rebuilt. The last owner was Walter G. Mason. For many years, Byron Macumber and Elmer Crissey were employed here. This mill had three stories and was run by water power.

Just east of the grist mill was a saw mill, owned and operated by Charles Russel. This mill, too, was operated by water power.

In 1892, Newton Smith built a saw mill on south Main Street. It burned in 1902, but was rebuilt, and modern equipment was installed.

On Thursday, September 1, 1892, the first passenger train to come over the Lehigh valley Railroad, arrived at the Manchester Station, well loaded with passengers. A great many of these passengers concluded their journey at this station. At this time there were five passenger trains each way, every day. Freight traffic was equally as heavy.

Mr. H.W. Post, a native of Manchester, purchased the second ticket to be sold, from the Lehigh Valley Ticket Office at the station in Rochester, New York.

With the coming of the railroad, many European families came to Manchester seeking employment. They settled by themselves, near the railroad. Three generations have lived here. The younger generation has graduated from our high school, fought in both world wars, and have made excellent citizens. Many years have passed since the first families settled here, and the younger generation is leaving the first settlement and building very modern pretty homes in other streets in the village.

As refrigeration was unknown at this time, Swift and Company had a large ice-house on the south side of the tracks where the cars with perishables could be reiced. This place gave employment to many men, especially in the icing season. Many a farmer was employed here while filling the ice house.

The largest freight transfers in the world were built here in 1914. Many women clerks found employment here as well as men. Men were employed to run the trucks which transfer the freight from one car to another. Electricians are employed to keep the electric trucks in repair.

In 1916, the old roundhouse was torn down and a much larger one was built. Many more stalls for the engines were built in the new one. A large repair shop was included where all repair work could be done. Business was booming and signs of prosperity were seen everywhere.

In 1922, the shop men went on a strike and many of the men went elsewhere to work.

The coming of the diesel engines changed the occupations of the residents of Manchester more than anything else had done in the history of Manchester. The first yard diesel came in the year 1938, and the first road diesel in the year 1948. Gasoline had replaced the soft coal; consequently the coal pockets were torn down. There was no more need of the large round house, so the stalls were torn out. After changing of crews, the diesel continues with freight to other terminals. This, of course, means fewer employees. In sixty-one years many changes have taken place on the railroad, but the greatest change came with the eight hour law and the diesel engine.

Many railroad employees found employment at the U.S. Veterans Hospital at Canandaigua, N.Y., some at Garlock Packing Co. at Palmyra, N.Y., others at Papec Machine Co., at Shortsville, N.Y., and a few found employment at various places in Rochester, N.Y.

At one time, Ezra Smith bought farm produce and had his office on the west side of South Main Street, about where the Moon Coal Office stands in 1953. A switch led up to it where cars could be loaded with farm produce and made ready for shipment.

Across the street, about where the canning factory stands, James Hosey conducted a coal business.

On Railroad Avenue in 1953, Browning Crowell and son, Gordon, conducts a coal business, sells fertilizer, and buys farm produce.

Moon Coal Company at first conducted a coal business where James Hosey's coal office stood. Later, a very modern office and coal sheds were built on the west side of South Main Street. Mrs. Emma Anderson Moon acted as general manager.

A canning factory has been doing business for a number of years on the east side of South Main Street. Allen Brothers were connected with this business for a number of years. Walter Allen, a son of Fred Allen, has been employed with the factory over a long period of time. When the harvest season is at its height, about one hundred people find employment here; both men and women are employed.

In 1953, instead of canning fruits and vegetables, all foods are to be frozen.

From the year 1798 to 1953, the preserving of foods has improved greatly. When a barrel of salt arrived from Syracuse, that was news to this small village. Now the canning and freezing of foodstuffs is so common, and home refrigeration is so convenient that one can not imagine the work and worries the early settlers endured.

Manchester, like most other villages, finds that "time and tide wait for no man."

XXXIV

PLEASURES OF THE COMMUNITY

THE bears roamed the forests in the early days of Manchester. They developed an appetite for fresh pork. The bear would take a good sized porker and walk off on his hind legs with the pig clasped in his front paws. If the bear was cornered, he would turn upon the pursuer. Thus it behove each farmer to have his firearms handy. Trapping bruin seemed most successful. The trap was baited with pork. The moment the burley thief touched his paw to the tempting morsel, down would go the door and suddenly his retreat would be cut off. A large bear trap was placed on the Hiram Jennings farm, the first farm beyond the school house. It was the regular custom when a bear was trapped for everyone to go and see him, as one would go to a circus today. Usually the bear was shot and let loose, for the dogs to finish the job. As early as 1804, the bears and wolves were so scarce the cattle were

allowed to go at large on the "Commons" or on the range.

Coon hunting proved a delightful sport in those early days. In 1816, on a certain night, George Cromer, in company with two of his boon companions, went coon hunting. After tramping many a weary mile, the barking of the dogs announced that they had discovered the track of one of the animals. An exciting chase ensued. The dogs never lost the scent, and finally the coon was treed. The tree being separated from the other trees, there was no chance of the animal jumping from one tree to another. They decided to sit and wait for daylight. They decided to smoke him out, that they might get a shot at him. They waited for some time and the coon made no appearance. Then they decided to let one watch while the other two slept. They were very tired from the long tramp through the woods, swamps, and underbrush. Their companion, after replenishing the fire, sat down by the tree and fell asleep. The fire got a good start and in the early morning the tree fell. This awakened the two, with a start. When they reached the side of Cromer, they found he was dead. The tree had fallen across his abdomen, instantly killing him.

Long before the days of the automobile, young people were quite content to stay at home and find their pleasures there and in the community.

The pond afforded a good place of amusement, both winter and summer for the young folk.

In summer, the boys enjoyed swimming, especially by the dam. Fishing was a popular pastime. If the girls had a chance to go rowing, pond lilies were found in abundance.

In the winter, one could see the smoke (and smell it too), telling of the bonfires which were built to warm the skaters. To skate to the Lehigh Valley Railroad was considered quite a feat. Mrs. Clara Turner Smith, Stanley Post, Courtney Randall, Don Turner, and William VanDuyne, found this a delightful sport and were excellent skaters.

When the ice broke up in the spring, boys would ride the icebergs.

Before the days of the automobile, the "Mill Hill" afforded a great amount of fun in winter. The hill was much higher than it is today. When the state road was built in 1908, the hill was cut down. Johnnie Johnson, Bill VanDuyne, and Myron Burns had made toboggans on which several might ride. The toboggan was made with a sled in front, and back, with a long board connecting the two sleds. The steering was done with the front sled. Whoever owned the toboggan did the steering. The hill was very steep, and by starting at Main Street it made a swift, long ride. The only disadvantage was the walk back up the hill.

Many winters, singing school was conducted. Mrs. Martha VerPlank had charge of this choral society. Among those who presided at the piano, one best remembered was Miss Esther Towne, a member of the high school faculty. Many of the tenors and basses came from Shortsville.

The housewives in the community usually had a rag-bee during the winter. During the long winter evenings all of the old house-dresses and other discarded articles of clothing had been torn into strips about two inches wide. If the colors were not the desired shade, much dyeing was done before strips were cut.

Friends were invited to spend a certain day with the lady who had been tearing rags. The ladies would sew the strips together and then wind them up into balls. The average ball would weigh a pound.

The best glassware, silver and linen would be used for this occasion and a bountiful dinner would be served. Many times, the menus would consist of spare-ribs, pickles and preserves, delicious coffee, dressing, mashed potatoes, squash, homemade bread, homemade pies, and cheese.

The rags were taken to the weavers, where strips were woven for a carpet. There were two weavers in Manchester, Mrs. Alice LaBounty, of North Main Street, and Miss Delia Russel, of Center Street. When the strips of carpet were finished, they were sewen together into a large carpet. Before the carpet was laid, straw or papers were laid on the floor. This carpet reached the edge of the room on all sides, and was held down with carpet tacks. If any stretching needed to be done, someone with rubbers on his feet would endeavor to stretch it in place.

Husking bees were one of the pleasures enjoyed by both men and women. The couples would be invited to a certain farm home, usually in the early fall. The female who found the red ear of corn was kissed. The refreshments usually consisted of homemade doughnuts and coffee; sometimes sweet cider and pumpkin pies were included.

The families usually gathered around the center table after dark. There was a large oil lamp in the center, which afforded light enough for each member of the family to do whatever he desired. The boys and girls might be studying their lesson; father might be reading the daily paper, while mother was doing some hand sewing. Sometimes popcorn balls were made, and then again the family might have a candy pull. It was not an uncommon thing to see a whole family grouped about the piano or organ singing their favorite hymns or folk songs.

It was a familiar sight to see the man of the house start out with lantern in hand and the women folk following, with shawls over their

heads, going to spend the evening with their neighbors.

Bicycle racing was a familiar sport in the bygone days. The run was from Manchester four corners to Canandaigua and return. Many of the local young men participated. A gold medal was won by Ernest VanDuyne at one of the races.

Horse racing was another sport in the early nineties. After participating in a barbecued ox dinner, which was held in the park, a few participated in horse racing. The race was run up R. Pratt's road. Douglas Aldridge won in one particular race.

The Fourth of July was a big day in Manchester. The Manchester Military Band, led by Edward Lyman, played a big part in all celebrations. Usually a concert was held in the park. Different kinds of races were held. A flagpole stood in front of the Post Office, which is now the Health Center. This pole was greased and money was placed on the top. The one who could climb to the top won the money. The women of the Methodist Church served dinner. The homemade ice cream could never be forgotten.

On April 14, 1917, in Municipal Hall, the annual promenade concert and ball of the Manchester Fire Department took place. This was largely attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all present. The hall decorations were very tastily arranged, the color scheme being red, white, and blue. The music was furnished by Murrell's seven-piece orchestra. A delectable supper was served. About \$250 was raised to help pay for the firemen's parade uniforms. The success of the event was due to the tireless efforts of the following committees:

Decorations: William Meahan, Charles Craig, Douglas Wylie, Frank Vienna, Joseph Meahan. Advertising: Paul Cummings, Floyd Gilman, Douglas Wylie. Reception: Charles Wylie, James McNally, Edwin Verplank, James Craig, Frank Craig, Edward Murray, and John Johnson. Floor: John Johnson, Neil O'Harrigan, John Robinson, William Davidson, Leon Cooley, Edward Smith, and Torrence Rodney. Door: James Lester and George Proechel. Tickets: John Gilman. Cloak room: Boy Scouts. Refreshments: Stuart Hawkes and Ainsworth Bennett.

For many years baseball has been a very popular sport in the village of Manchester. A piece of property, near the Lehigh Valley round house, was purchased and converted into a baseball park. Because the land was purchased from Mr. King, it was named King's Baseball Park. About halfway up State Street, a road on the south side of the park leads into the park. Large floodlights and bleachers have

been erected here, thus making it convenient for evening games. The annual firemen's carnival is held in the park.

In the Manchester Enterprise of September 13, 1917, we find the following, "A Lot O' Bunk From Sayre":

"Say, fellow citizens, if you are in proper condition to enjoy a good laugh at the measly efforts of a Sayre, Pennsylvania, pencil pusher to belittle Manchester, read on, but if your state of health will not permit such indulgence, delay until it does, for this attempt at being funny at Manchester's expense is so poorly done, that it's a scream.

"Here it is, and it is the Sayre Evening Times write-up of the recent baseball game played by the Manchester nine with the Colemans in the baby city. The only way we can give it to you is to quote it, for we wouldn't have the nerve to steal a single line of it. Get you ready for the laugh.

"Manchester, New York, where in the hicks is Manchester, New York? A map of the state of New York shows no such town as Manchester. But the Lehigh Valley map has Manchester plotted as being a fly spot somewhere west of Geneva where the freight trains stop. Manchester has a railroad yard, a transfer station, a boarding house, a blacksmith shop and a baseball team. Everybody else lives at Shortsville, two miles away.

"Manchester, with environs, can dig up a baseball team. Wise old fans, the chaps that can bet and get away with the cash, say that Manchester has the finest bunch of amateur things that every came to Sayre, Pa. unattached.

"Colemans won twice on Manchester grounds. Manchester won once on Coleman grounds. Manchester was due to win again on Coleman's grounds.

"It took fourteen innings for the Manchesters to win by a score of 5 to 4 on Coleman's field. Thirteen innings gave the game to Sayre at Manchester. Again Manchester lost at home by the score of 5 to 4. So Manchester was on the dope sheet to win again on Coleman's grounds, but the score tells a contrary story.

"Now isn't that a fright? We wouldn't ordinarily waste our space on such junk but it was sent to us with a dare that we "Dassn't print it." We bet the fellow who wrote that, was born in the hills of "Pennsy", graduated from the school after attaining the third grade, never studied geography in his life and never heard of any other place except New York, Chicago, and Sayre. We wonder if he knows Abraham Lincoln is dead? We suggest that the next time the Colemans come to Manchester they bring this would-be Mark Twain along, in charge of his mama, of course. We will get someone to lay off for the day and show him a real town."

We do not know who wrote the article, but the loyalty and love of one's home-town is much in evidence.

XXXV

SMALLER BUSINESS

IN the year 1909, William Baird opened a grocery store on south Main Street. At one time William Callister was in partnership

with Mr. Baird. Due to poor health, Mr. Baird discontinued his business and sold the block. He died in August, 1932.

On August 9, 1932, very early in the morning as a train was coming into the Manchester railroad yard from Buffalo, the engine whistle stuck. This awakened many of the residents of this quiet little village. Just a few seconds after the whistle stopped blowing, there was a terrible explosion that broke many windows and rocked the whole community. People were running from everywhere. Someone had put a bomb in the building formerly owned by Mr. Baird and blown it to pieces.

Since that time, another small building was built on the same site. This has been used for shoe repair work.

The home built by W.W. Overacre was bought by Julius Liberati, the front porch enclosed and used as a grocery store. He opened for business in 1932.

In the home formerly owned by W.W. Hawkes, John Twenty-five opened a store in the front part of this house in 1931. At first he sold beer, and then groceries.

A restaurant was built by John Twenty-Five in 1948. This stucco building is just south of his store, near the underpass.

In October, 1949, Walter Hayward built a stucco building just south of Hessney's block. In this block is a liquor store. The manager is Millum Hayward, son of Walter Hayward.

In 1911, Mrs. Mottelo, a mother of three children, was left a widow. Living on Railroad Avenue and no store being nearby, she started a little grocery store in the front of her home. It was greatly damaged by fire in 1926, but after this a larger store was built. This store has seen many changes. In 1953, Joe Mottelo and his sister Preasa live here and carry on the business.

On west State Street, John Corino conducts a gasoline station and general store in 1953.

Frederick's Service station is across the street from Corinos. There is an automobile repair shop connected with this station.

Denny's Grill, sold to Ceravolos in March, 1953, is near Bennett Avenue.

In the winter of 1953, Frank Salm conducts a television repair shop in the little room on the north side of the Hawkes' block.

Across the street from Hawkes' Block, a gas station and automobile repair shop is located. Glen Schlecht is the owner.

Walter Rice, who at one time conducted the garbage business, conducts a gasoline station on the northeast corner of State Street in 1953.

Robert Tuttle gathers garbage once a week in 1953; this contributes much to the sanitary condition of this small village.

The year is 1982, about 30 years since the preceeding chapters were written by Alice Dubler, a grand ole' dame and devotee of Manchester village. Alice passed on to her heavenly maker in 1980, and I'm sure she would heartily approve of the efforts of a small group of Manchesterites to update her book and have it reprinted so that many who wish for copies may have them. All of a sudden, I think nostalgia has hit many of us, and it's fun to read back about what used to be. With the full cooperation of Alice's children: Ernestine, Harold, Jane, Ruth, and Beulah, we shall proceed.

In one of the first chapters Alice tells about the first settlers arriving by boat and disembarking across the Outlet from the boy scout camp. Our young folk today probably don't know where the scout camp was as it is all cleared away, and the man who now owns the property, Melville Beard, has a lovely landscaped backyard that could put many parks to shame. Stop by some day, you old Manchester scouts, and take a look at where Ainsworth Bennett helped mold you into the men you are today.

At the writing of this book, the railroads were a very vital part of Manchester. In 1982, there is a single track running thru the village. In June of 1970 was the beginning of the end. At that time all clerks and yard help were dismissed and by October of 1972 all crews ran through Manchester. The one time largest transfer in the country and the Manchester yards were just a whistle stop along the way. These changes were all made in an attempt to salvage the Lehigh Valley Railroad from bankruptcy. In 1977, the Federal Government subsidized the line, but in 1981, the land was sold to Ontario County for 1.5 million dollars. Presently Ontario County Administrators are working with local governments to offer tax incentives and improve water and sewer to make the area attractive to private industry. Ontario County leases the line to Ontario Central Railroad who now supply industries along its line.

Hawkes' Bakery was a landmark and well known establishment having provided baked goods for the Manchester residents for 70 years; first, by William and his wife Marietta and then, passed on to their sons, Stuart and Hugh. But in March of 1963, the business was closed and, in May, demolished to make room for a gas station. The day of the small family-owned stores is no more. Remember when there was Malter's Meat Market, Hawkes' Bakery, Johnson & Bennett's General Store, Leo Hessney's Furniture Store, Andy Ryan's Hardware, George McGurke's Auto Sales, the movie house, the Drug Store, Proechel's Meat Market? Drive down Main Street today and Malter's Market is an Insurance Agency; Andy Ryan's Hardware building was destroyed by fire; Johnson & Bennett's is an Antique Shop; Leo Hessney's has been destroyed by fire; McGurke's is Shine's Dry Cleaners; the movie house was demolished for a gas station. Ike George is still in the Drug Store but, according to Ike, not for long. Proechel's market became Boardman's Ice Cream parlor, July 3, 1946, and closed on August 26, 1972, (26 years) and is currently a pizza shop.

In December 1974, there was another Main Street fire which left a space for a village parking lot where Leo Hessney's home and store had been located.

Fire changes the face of a community and Manchester's Main Street does not look the same in 1982 as it did in the early 1950's. As was mentioned before, what was Andy Ryan's Hardware burned to the ground in 1976. At that time it was being operated as a restaurant. It is now a village parking lot. The little health center that stood next door has been demolished and thanks to the village and Mayor "Gino" Liberty, the health center now shares a new building on the corner of Clifton and Center street with the boy scouts. In December of 1974, another Main Street fire, that left a space for a village parking lot was Leo Hessney's home and store. Even though the Ice House was not located on Main Street, it was known by Manchester residents. It too burned in 1975.

Most every one was very familiar with the Lehigh Valley bunk house and Bennett's Restaurant, both housed in the same building next to the railroad. In the early 1920's, Harry Bennett took over a restaurant to feed the men who came in on railroad runs and stayed in the bunk house. Soon the knowledge of the culinary expertise of the Bennett's spread to the village residents and it became a popular spot to wind up an evening out. Cars weren't that plentiful then and, by and large, you walked to your places of entertainment. Another fire destroyed this well known establishment.

Some changes over the years might be noted as follows:

1. What was once Emma Moon's office for running her coal business is now Pat Angeline's Refrigeration office.
2. The canning factory is now Rytown's window-making business.
3. The railroad round house has been remodeled and used as Stoda Warehouse.
4. Malter's Meat Market was handed down to his son-in-law, Leon Cooley, and became known as Cooley's Market. From there it became Joe Volpe's Barber Shop and then Lawrence Ryer's Insurance office. Lawrence sold out to Richardson Hagerman Insurance and, in 1982, they closed their Manchester office and transferred to their Clifton Springs office. At this writing, the rooms are vacant.
5. What was Johnson & Bennett's General Store was used for a number of years as the chapel for St. Dominic's Catholic Church. At present it is being operated by Dell Brothers as an antique shop and second-hand furniture store.
6. The dairy that has served the community for many years was first owned by Bill Crowell, then sold to Roggie McShea. Agar Grievson purchased the business from McShea, ran it for a number of years and then sold to Harry Schlecht. From Schlecht it moved to John Abbot, and George Record and from Record to Dairy Center of The Finger Lakes. Dairy Center of the Finger Lakes sold to the present owners, Upstate Dairy Association in 1979.
7. In 1959, a Chamber of Commerce was organized and chaired by John Volpe, a local boy who was serving as Postmaster. With the cooperation of the Chamber and Village Board, business was brought into the community. Reginald Lush, also a local boy, was serving as Mayor at that time. Between Volpe and Lush and their respective organizations, Dryad Die Casting started operating in an abandoned building on North Avenue. Shortly after that, a friend of the owner of Dryad built a large plant off Merrick Avenue on land donated by the Manchester Fire Department, and started operating a plastic molding company called Westplex. These two businesses are still in operation and thriving, although Dryad is now Wise Die Casting.
8. Another big addition to the village was a Mobil Home Park on the north side of Route 96. The Chamber and Village Board were instrumental in this transaction also. This added some 400 plus new residents to the village.
9. The lengthening of Newton Street also saw the addition of many new homes - a very pleasant residential section of our village.

10. Mary Ann Hessney Malark surely deserves mentioning in this sketchy update of our history. She opened a women's clothing shop on Main street almost across from the Manchester Hotel. It is a most attractive shop, carrying a good grade of clothing in the latest fashions. In fact, her shop is known as Mary Ann's Fashions.
11. The Abbott Brothers, Sam & Joe, fellows who grew up in the Village of Manchester, also have left their mark on our fair village, with the addition of a gas station, 2 motels, second to none, and a lovely restaurant just recently remodeled in the year of 1982. Joe and Sam have retired from the scene and Joe's sons, Bob and Tom, are now running the show.
12. Last, but not least, is our new village hall erected on Mill Hill just east of the old hall which was taken down, and the grounds graded in a soft slope toward the new building. As you old timers will remember, the Village rooms and Fire Department were housed in the same building. Such is the case today with room to keep all the trucks under one roof, and spacious, attractive meeting rooms for both fire company and village board and organizations.

Finally, remember the school where you learned your reading, writing, and arithmetic? Did you ever think you'd see the day when it would no longer be a school? Well, that day has come. With the building of a new school to serve both villages of Manchester and Shortsville and the rural area, the building in Manchester was sold to A.B. Cowles, a printing establishment. Those of us who are endeavoring to have this history reprinted and updated went to A.B. Cowles to see if their business would undertake this type job. Much to our delight and surprise, they said if we got the material to them early enough so it could be worked into free time, they would do it "free of charge." Many thanks to A.B. Cowles from all of us who will once again enjoy having Alice Dubler's book to read and refer to over the years. And again, thanks to the Dubler family for the help they have so willingly provided.

Mildred F. Lush

