

Interview Transcript: Mr. Howard Christian, Part 1

Interviewed by Earl Mann, Oct 8, 1997

Transcribed, Edited and Researched by Karin Page

MANN: This is October the 8<sup>th</sup>, 1997. This is Earl Mann. I am taping some memoirs of Howard Christian<sup>1</sup> of Lawrenceburg and Greendale. Howard's a long-time resident of both and a businessman, former businessman, in Lawrenceburg. Howard, tell us a little bit about yourself, where you were born, maybe your parents, and some information you have on downtown Lawrenceburg. [*Sound of setting up microphone.*] There you go ahead, there. Okay. Just tell us who you are, and, you know.

CHRISTIAN: My name is Howard Christian. I'm a resident of Greendale, formerly of Lawrenceburg. I'm 91 years old and I've seen quite a lot, seen two floods, seen a lot of storms, ice gorge in 1918, and the flu epidemic. I've seen some things that are rather catastrophic in meaning to some. It's not a very good picture to paint about the flood, but it's there and you have to accept what it gave us.

I worked in downtown Lawrenceburg during the 1937 flood and it was very devastating.<sup>2</sup> The water was as high as the second, the ceiling on the second floor of those buildings.<sup>3</sup> [The water] it had never achieved that depth before. I think that the 1913 flood got around 67 feet. But it was, this flood was all up and down the Ohio valley and it destroyed a lot of property and quite a few lives were lost. My dad and I escaped it by about 15 minutes from getting drowned. The house we were in, his house, his home, was washed way. It was the first house at the old B&O [railroad] crossing at the west end of town. This property was later used in the underpass that goes under the railroad there. I sold it. Mom and Dad passed away in 1942.<sup>4</sup> I held on to the property and then in the '80s when the city built the underpass,<sup>5</sup> then I sold it to the city.

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<sup>1</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 14 Feb 2022); citing Press 9 Apr 2002; entry for Christian, Howard L. Howard was born 17 Mar 1906 and died 6 Apr 2002.

<sup>2</sup> "1937 Ohio River Record Flood," database with images National Weather Service of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ([www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov) : accessed 14 Feb 2022).

<sup>3</sup> "History: The Flood of 1937," Lawrenceburg Conservancy District ([www.lawrenceburgconservancydistrict.com](http://www.lawrenceburgconservancydistrict.com) : accessed 14 Feb 2022). Photo of Walnut Street in Lawrenceburg during flood, including St. Lawrence Church.

<sup>4</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 14 Feb 2022); citing Press 5 Jul 1942; entry for Christian, Henry. Henry had sons Thomas and Howard.

<sup>5</sup> Possibly the underpass on Front Street.

MANN: Okay. Let's go on to the locations here.

CHRISTIAN: Okay. Now, I would like to start on the west end of High Street.

MANN: Okay. I've got to get this on right now, so you just.

CHRISTIAN: The old brick yard. They made brick. Originally, it was the Mitchell's brick and then it later became the Suer brothers, Ben<sup>6</sup> and John Suer. I knew them both. I worked there.

MANN: OK, now. Just start over with that.

CHRISTIAN: The west end of High Street, which is, the lower part of it is no longer in existence. The new flood wall took up that part of the street<sup>7</sup> and also the I&M. But, the little brickyard was, they made brick. John, was the original, I think the original company was the Mitchell Brick Company and then it became the Suer brothers, Ben and John. I knew both those men and they were both nice men. My wife was a friend of John Suer's niece and those girls ran around together a lot when they were in high school. The approach to that old brickyard was just a hill.

There's one family in particular I would like to call attention to is the Darling family. They had a nice home. Three of the brothers worked for the railroads. John<sup>8</sup> and Bud worked for the B&O and Horald<sup>9</sup> worked for the Big Four.<sup>10</sup> They would signal one another. When they were coming through they would let the railroad station there know and then they would call and let them know. At nights, they would stand out in the yard and wave a lantern or a lamp back and forth for a "Hello" signal and that went on for years and years.

At that end of town, Henry Herler lived down there and Henry was quite a collector of old antiques. My nephew has a piece of Indiana lore that he got

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<sup>6</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 14 Feb 2022); citing Press 28 Sep 1934; entry for Suer, John Bernard d. 1 Sep 1934. Possibly "Ben."

<sup>7</sup> "History: Building the Levee," Lawrenceburg Conservancy District ([www.lawrenceburgconservancydistrict.com](http://www.lawrenceburgconservancydistrict.com) : accessed 14 Feb 2022). Information and photos of levee construction.

<sup>8</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 14 Feb 2022); citing Lawrenceburg Press & Register 16 Aug 1962; entry for John Darling b. 9 Aug 1887 d. 14 Aug 1962, retired Baltimore and Ohio locomotive engineer.

<sup>9</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 14 Feb 2022); citing Journal Press 14 Oct 1980; entry for Horald Darling b. 10 Jun 1894 d. 9 Oct 1980, retired railroad engineer.

<sup>10</sup> "Big Four" railroads in Indiana were Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis lines. (Murphy, Ared Maurice. "The Big Four Railroad in Indiana," Indiana Magazine of History, June and September 1925, Vol. XXI, Nos. 2 and 3. p. 109.)

from him. I think it's an old powder horn, he has in his possession. Henry Herler had a man at that end of town. My Uncle Jim had a freight system...

MANN: Okay, I've cut it right there. Just ...

CHRISTIAN: My uncle Jim had a freight system and he hauled freight around town and a lot of it was from the farm. He hauled the barrels of flour to the wharf at the foot of Walnut Street. They would ship these by steam boat and then it found its way up into the northeast part of our country where a lot of potatoes were growing and apples. And these barrels were, the flour was removed and they used them for return, return their potatoes and apples to the Ohio valley. Uncle Jim had a big wagon and they could roll these barrels on there and it wouldn't be too much of a load. But he had a lot of big horses, a lot of big draft horses. Not as big as the Anheuser-Busch horses, but they were big horses. He farmed the land, down where I&M is now, a cornfield. When I was a kid, I worked in that cornfield two years for him from six o'clock in the morning to six o'clock at night we made 50 cents a day. And, when night came you couldn't hardly close your hand, your hand was so tired and sore and stiff. He would tell us on Saturday night, "Oh, we're going to quite at 5 o'clock tonight. You can go home, clean up and go to town to spend some of your money." We had a total sum of three dollars, but three dollars was a lot of money in those days. I managed to buy some clothes with it, because clothes were cheap, not in quality, but in price. And there were some good merchants around Lawrenceburg. I knew quite a few of them.

MANN: Howard, tell us some more about the buildings, the area there along High Street there. You started out

CHRISTIAN: The Tousey house, on West High Street, was the old underground railroad for the slaves, so it was said, in the Civil War. It later became the office for the Lawrenceburg Roller Mills and they ground wheat into flour there. They had about two-thousand-barrel capacity per day. It was owned by three men from the east, Rothwell, Brown and, let's see, what was the other man's name – Adams. And they were all elderly gentlemen and they finally sold it. They sold the mill to somebody else. But, they made good flour there.

Then up beyond that was, on the river side of High Street, was the old furniture buildings. Johnson and Claire ran those buildings and they made chairs in there and chairs, and dining room furniture. Then they had another building over on Maple street. The next building up there was, of any note, was the old Fitch building which was later the home of the American Legion. It was owned

by one of the Fitch family and he had a little hardware store in the back of it. I used to go up and buy nails for my Dad. Buy dime's worth of nails and you've got a lot of nails. And then on up to the next building of note, was the Fitch Funeral Home. Mr. and Mrs. Tom Fitch,<sup>11</sup> they had three boys, Bob and Ted and, what was his name? Well, anyhow, they had white Arabian horses to pull their funeral carriages. And, in the winter, they would put a sled, or hook the horses up to a sleigh. Mr. and Mrs. Fitch were very nice people and they presented a beautiful picture of a winter scene. I think, Currier and Ives would have been proud to have made that into one of their scenes if they could have seen those two people. How well they looked and how well they were dressed, the condition the sleigh was in and how beautiful the horses were. Then on the corner, was the Fitch drug store, which was Charlie Fitch and his daughter was Virginia. She was in high school when I was there.

Then on across the street to the old Jesse Hunt House, better known to most of us old-timers as the King Hotel. Then Seitz had an insurance agency next door, Lou Seitz and then Goodin-Seitz. The Seitz family are still in the insurance business and their descendants. Then came a post office in the next building. There was a wheel store. There was a Western Auto, and they, at various times, they sold merchandise, mostly automobile supplies.

Then on the corner of that alley, was the old Western Union office. Across the alley was Decker's Store, a variety store. Mrs. And Mrs. Carl Decker<sup>12</sup> and they had Chic, two boys and a girl and Elizabeth was ahead of me in high school. They ran that store.

Then came the McCullough Drug Company.<sup>13</sup> They manufactured, they had a small drug concern, manufactured medicines. And Gibson, Lou Gibson we called him, who lives out on Ludlow Street in Greendale, he could probably give you a lot of information about the McCullough family. He married one of the descendants of this McCullough family.

On the corner, a man ran a drug store by the name of Dietrich, Al Dietrich.<sup>14</sup> He was a nice man, he was a good pharmacist, he could tell you

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<sup>11</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 14 Feb 2022); citing Journal Register 1 Dec 1955; entry for Fitch, Thomas A., father of Theodore H., Robert Allen, and Thomas A.

<sup>12</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 14 Feb 2022); citing Register 19 May 1960; entry for Decker, Carl William. Founded Decker Variety Store, Lawrenceburg. Preceded in death by children Ethel, Charles and Chester; survived by daughters Mary Matson and Elizabeth Hattendorf.

<sup>13</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 14 Feb 2022); citing L. Register 24 Feb 1927; entry for John McCullough b. 24 Dec 1875 d. 18 Feb 1927. Managed the McCullough Drug Company.

<sup>14</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 14 Feb 2022); citing L. Press 15 Feb 1951; entry for Dietrich, Albert H. Pharmacist for several years.

things, and give you medicines for different things. He was a pretty good cure-all guy.

Across the street from that, on the same side, was the old Fair Store building which would have been a modern-day department store that had all kinds of merchandise. And then Bill Hassie had a tin shop. Then up on the corner was Clarence Hunter,<sup>15</sup> who was a cashier at the old People's Bank, People's National Bank. He had two daughters. One of them passed away at an early age. The other one went to Alaska to live and I don't know, I lost all track of her.

Across that, next, I can't think who owned the house, but it later became the Methodist parsonage. Next door was Claude McWethy.<sup>16</sup> Claude was the, he ran the Big Four Depot up on the railroad there, right on the river. They had a little train that ran between Aurora and the main line, a junction. And they hauled freight from Aurora, Lawrenceburg out load onto the main line. Claude was with them for them for quite a long time. And he had a brother that played baseball. I played baseball with Milt.<sup>17</sup> He was catcher.

Then the Decovies, Fritz Pacory, who mostly, the old-timers knew Fritz and Ramona and Austin Moon's wife was a Decovey. They lived out in Greendale on Nowlin Avenue. They were all kids when I was growing up, those three. Then you come to the railroad and then come back down the other side of the street there was the Breyer's home, Marcus and Joe, the two boys that I remember, they were both good men. Mr. Breyer was very close with his money. I worked with Marcus out at the flour mill and I worked with Joe out at the penicillin plant out in Greendale there. And then the Watt's people, the Watt's family, they figure in quite a bit of history about that end of town. I am not too familiar with it but Jimmie More (Smore?) could probably give you a real good run down on the Watt's family, if you care to contact him.

Then came Dr. Smith's hospital.<sup>18</sup> Dr. Smith was a great man, I'll tell ya. In the old movies, there was an old gentleman, a heavy-set gentleman, and I can't recall his name now, but he was always in to something that benefited people. And during 1918, 1917, 1918, he was the only doctor in town because all the others were in the military. And he went about town with a big satchel. And, he'd carry his medicine right with him. And he went go all over town and Greendale and he administered to people. I know he did to us. And he didn't

<sup>15</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 14 Feb 2022); citing L. Press 3 Oct 1946; entry for Clarence Hunter b. 25 Sep 1879 d. 1 Jan 1946.

<sup>16</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 14 Feb 2022); citing Journal Press 31 Dec 1974; entry for Claude McWethy d. 1 Dec 1974.

<sup>17</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 14 Feb 2022); citing L. Press 16 Feb 1950; entry for Milton B. McWethy d. 1 Feb 1950.

<sup>18</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 14 Feb 2022); citing History of Dearborn County 1915; entry for Dr. George Foster Smith b. 2 Feb 1875 d. 6 Mar 1944; had daughters Amy and Ruth.

ever put on any airs. He was just a plain old country doctor but people would get up and go to him, today like Dr. Smith was, especially in that flu epidemic. There'd be a lot of people that are now only disabled, they would be out on their feet, out making graves. He passed on, oh, quite a number of years later. He had two daughters, one of them got killed out here on the highway turning out of Greendale by [Route] 1. And the other one, she married, she got married. I can't remember her name. One was Ruth and I can't remember the other one's name.

But that part of Lawrenceburg and then coming down, across from the Gibson building, oh, not, erase. The O'Brien's, the house, and that has been a beautiful home. I knew Bill. He was a commander in one of the naval vessels,<sup>19</sup> and I can't recall the name of them but, Mrs. Bob Ritzmann,<sup>20</sup> she was a Theis, I believe. Anyhow, she was a daughter of this O'Brien. Her mother was a Theis,<sup>21</sup> T-H-E-I-S. They pronounce it "Teas". She's in Lawrenceburg yet. You could probably get quite a bit of information from her if you wanted to find out about the Theis. When we lived down in Lawrenceburg she lived down the street from us and her sister used to take me to Sunday School, Katherine. Coming down Walnut Street, let's see ... [noise of microphone].

MANN: This will come on.

CHRISTIAN: It's ready to go.

MANN: It's on. Yes

CHRISTIAN: On High Street, west of Elm, there was a fellow by the name of Hayes and he had a big house in there. He was pretty prominent in politics around the county. Then there was a place on the alley Mrs. Lommel had. She had two boys and a girl, Bud<sup>22</sup> and Chet and the girls' name I can't recall. But she had a boarding house there. She was a pretty well-liked lady. Bud and Chet both where well thought of around town. Then across the alley was a home.

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<sup>19</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 14 Feb 2022); citing Press 8 Mar 1940; entry for William H. O'Brien Jr. b. 13 Jan 1888 d. 6 Mar 1940. Lt Commander in Navy; retired in 1932.

<sup>20</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 14 Feb 2022); citing Press 6 Mar 1990, Register 8 March 1990; entry for Robert A. Ritzmann d. 5 Mar 1990; wife was Sheila O'Brien.

<sup>21</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 14 Feb 2022); citing L. Press 26 Apr 1951; entry for Henry Theis b. 30 May 1862 d. 19 Apr 1951; daughter Mrs. William H. O'Brien.

<sup>22</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 14 Feb 2022); citing Press 9 Jul 1985, Register 11 Jul 1985; entry for Carl "Bud" Lommel.

Then down, at Short Street, at Short and High, were two groceries. Stockman was on the corner and right next to him was McGranahan.<sup>23</sup> Now, the Stockman family is pretty well deep rooted around here and the descendants. And the McGranahan's are, Hedrick married one of the daughters of Tate McGranahan. The other one married to a fellow out of Aurora, Cheek. And I knew both those boys, they were both fine men. Cheek passed away but Hedrick is still living. I think he got some connection with tearing down this [inaudible] down there. These two grocery stores, in the winter time they'd buy rabbits and hang a rabbit up on a clothes line outside the store. You'd buy a rabbit for a quarter with the hide on it.

And across the street, Dr. Emmert's father<sup>24</sup> ran a dry good store and I knew the old gentleman. They sold yard goods and threads, stuff like that.

Then, the next building down was Tony Hoffmeier's Bakery.<sup>25</sup> Tony had these two sisters and Tony baked the best rye bread you ever ate and he let people know that that was the best rye bread around. Then there was the old Building and Loan on the alley. Then across that was Carl Benning had a grocery.

And then there was some, Ullrich had the, Ullrich and Wilson had a tire shop in there. And then Kroger was in there, where Seekatz had a shoe store.

And then on the corner where this Whiskey Restaurant is now, was, Gordon's used to have a store in there. Mr. and Mrs. Sam Gordon<sup>26</sup> and their son, Jerry, was the one that was connected with the Brendamour's Sporting Goods<sup>27</sup> in Cincinnati. Anyhow, they had a nice business. A lady that lived next door to my brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Dolly Connelton,<sup>28</sup> worked for them for years. And – no. Take that back. She was across the street with Abe Frankel. A [black person] worked there.

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<sup>23</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 14 Feb 2022); citing Press 26 Oct 1899; entry for Joseph McGranahan b. 16 May 1818 d. 17 Oct 1899; owned grocery store on Short St. for 32 years.

<sup>24</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 2 Mar 2022); citing Press 8 June 1934; entry for Phillip J. Emmert b. 27 Nov 1841 d. 1 Jun 1934.

<sup>25</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 2 Mar 2022); citing Register & Press 25 Jun 1953; entry for Anthony M. Hoffmeier b. 29 Sep 1870 d. 22 Jun 1953.

<sup>26</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 10 Mar 2022); citing Journal Press 20 Sep 1983; entry for Samuel H. Gordon d. 1 Sep 1983; resident of Cincinnati, OH, formerly of Lawrenceburg, IN, where he owned Gordon's Dry Goods Store.

<sup>27</sup> The Williams Directory Co., *Cincinnati City Directory 1964* (Cincinnati, Ohio: The Williams Directory Co. Publishers, 1964) yellow pages under "Sporting Goods – Retail," entry for Brendamour Ed Inc 130 E 6<sup>th</sup>.

<sup>28</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 10 Mar 2022); citing Journal Press 23 Mar 1976; Find A Grave ID 2036057; entry for Dorothy (Dolly) Connelton b. about 1885 d. 20 Mar 1976; 50-year employee of Frankels, Lawrenceburg, IN.

Then the next building, next to the Frankel's, was a fellow by the name of Miller and he had the livery stable down on the corner of Vine Street, the next street down. And he had horses stabled there along Vine Street.

Across the street from that going back just this side of the public library is now, there was a big house in there and another fellow by the name of Hayes<sup>29</sup> lived in there. He had a granddaughter, I can remember her because she had red hair. I can remember her real well. Her first name was Janet.

But, anyhow, then came the old Reagan restaurant, uh, Hotel. They had a real nice business. It was only a half a block from the B & O railroad depot. And they had an old gentleman there that worked for the, a colored man, they called him Rance. I don't know what his name was. But he died a rich man because all the salesmen would come there and would stop at that hotel because they would get off the train, and there they were. And he would haul their luggage back and forth on a great big wheelbarrow. And he died a rich man because they would give him tips on the market and he died a rich man. But I can't remember, all I ever knew about him was that he was Rance.

But while we are on that B&O Depot, we used to buy the Cincinnati Post or the Green Times Star Extra for a penny. It came down about quarter to seven at night at the ball game. They had big ball games then because they didn't have any lights. And they had this place where you could buy it 5 for a penny and they would give you the bat scores of all the games up to date. But in that area right there, where that depot was, there was a garage. And there was a fellow by the name of Harry Von, was the first distributor of Schultz bread in this area. And he delivered that with a horse and wagon. He'd get the bread at night, he'd store it in there and the next morning he'd haul around to the stores. A double loaf of bread, a twin loaf of bread, was eight cents a loaf. And once in a while, while he delivered that, he'd break a loaf, it would break and he'd pass it out to we kids. And we thought we were eating angel food cake when we got a piece of that bread. And, that was Harry Von. He went about the different stores.

Woods<sup>30</sup> had a grocery store right across the street there. And, further on down, the Reagan Hotel, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Reagan<sup>31</sup> - they were nice people.

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<sup>29</sup> The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory, Aurora – Lawrenceburg 1929*, (The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, Inc., 1929), Lawrenceburg "H" for Hayes Edward, Sr., Res. 22 W. High St. 86-Y. Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 10 Mar 2022); citing Press 8 Jun 1950; History of Dearborn County 1915; entry for Edward Hayes b. 28 Aug 1865 d. 2 Jun 1950; Daughter Mrs. Janet Evans of Hamilton, OH; sons Edward L. Hayes and Leyman Neal Hayes of Lawrenceburg, IN.

<sup>30</sup> Moores Hill Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory January 15, 1910*, (Moores Hill Telephone Company, 1910), Lawrenceburg, p. 21, entry for Wood, G. H. Grocer, 27-29 W. High street.

<sup>31</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 10 Mar 2022); citing Press 4 Feb 1954; Register 4 Feb 1954; Find A Grave Memorial ID: 68893649; entry for Peter Reagan b. 31 May 1870 d. 2 Feb 1954; operated the Reagan Hotel on High St., Lawrenceburg, IN.

[Inaudible] some organization that they were a part of. The people that were at the bank worked there and they would all go out to the farm once a year and they would have a big picnic. But they had a gentleman with them who was a cook. His name was Grant Blackstone<sup>32</sup> and he was the best cook. And people would come from all around just for his cooking. And he lived over there in Newtown where you turn off to go down to the high school, coming off of 50, coming off of 1, turning go down around that way. He lived right around that corner, in that house there. Now I remember, we knew him really well because his ... my dad, we raised hogs. So, at that time you could feed them house slop. Well, we always got that house slop from the Reagan Hotel and fed the hogs. Grant, well, once in a while he'd slip us out a piece of pie or something. He was a fine old man, fine gentleman.

[No recording from 30:16 to 30:40]

CHRISTIAN: The library was up a big flight of steps and there was a lady in that library, Tibbs, Corrine Tibbs. And a lady worked there by the name of Boyd. And you could go there, just like you do now, and get your books. On that corner, lived a family by the name of Barrett, Barrett Hardware Store<sup>33</sup> out on Walnut Street. And Elkanah, E-L-K-A-N-A-H, Elkanah was his name and he had Enos Barrett and Anita Barrett, two kids. Then you come to the courthouse. And the courthouse was, in the summer and spring, spring, summer and fall, that was the gathering place for kids with roller-skates. We roller-skated around that place, I don't know how many times. It was lots of fun. That was about the limit of our night-time activities, was skate until dark and then go home.

And then, the jail was the next place, the old jail. It was a little old brick building. And it wasn't very big, nothing like this thing they got now. During World War I, they had some problems with the military that stayed in here. They got unruly a couple of times and they put them behind bars to get them straightened out. They had a skirmish there one night. Well, across the street was a fellow by the name of Moore that had a house, a big house on the corner of Charlotte and High. He had a pipe railing around his fence, fence like around his house, around the front part. And there was some shots fired and one of the shots went through that pipe. I tried to get somebody to see if that piece was preserved and I don't think anybody had anything to do with it. That house is gone now. It was all part of this renovation for the jail.

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<sup>32</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 10 Mar 2022); citing Register 4 Mar 1954; Find A Grave Memorial ID: 64852679; entry for Grant Blackstone d. 1 Mar 1954; former cook at the old the Reagan Hotel.

<sup>33</sup> Moores Hill Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory January 15, 1910*, (Moores Hill Telephone Company, 1910), Lawrenceburg, p. 14, entry for Barrott, E. & Son, Hardware, Stoves, etc. 311 Walnut st.

But, then, next to that was were another Moore lived. Next to that house. And then the sheriff of Dearborn county was killed in 1928, Herman Lang.<sup>34</sup> He was killed out in Indiana on a moonshine or a bootleg deal or something. I knew him and his wife both.

Then came the carriage factory. They manufactured buggies,<sup>35</sup> different types of buggies and pleasure vehicles mostly. My two uncles worked in the paint department and they painted these buggies. Painted them black and they had a collapsible roof, a canopy over them. They painted them and then they had a little green or a red stripe around them. I can see those things sitting there yet in that old warehouse. They had a pretty good sized warehouse. They would keep that thing full of buggies and then they'd ship them out on the B&O railroad side out of the warehouse and load them in the box cars. And then on the other end they made the buggy parts. They practically made the whole buggy there except the ribs that went across the top, that were collapsible. And I gotta put this in there. When they had a bad one, they threw them out. And we kids would get that and saw the one end off and make that for a hockey stick. They were shaped bowed on each end and then a straight piece and that was for this leather red canvas-like roof that went over the top for weather protection.

And then we would come to the big four train line when it came by there and it would goes over to Seagram's now. And that was part of the levee. And there was a fellow by the name of Anderson lived in that, well, his father-in-law lived in there first, and then later on he lived in there, Anderson.

And then, next to that, was a coffin factory office.<sup>36</sup> And there was a fellow in there by the name of Wright, Hewson Wright,<sup>37</sup> owned that. He had a boy named Bill. I played baseball with Bill when we were kids, down on Row and High Street there. Bill later became a producer of black and white films out in

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<sup>34</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 10 Mar 2022); citing Register 2 Jan 1930, 9 Jan 1930; Lang/Shaw//Anderson Murder File; entry for Herman Lang b. 3 Sep 1889 d. 1 Jan 1930; Shot by James Anderson on New Year's Eve in the line of duty as the Dearborn County Sheriff while investigating Anderson's shooting of Benjamin Shaw.

<sup>35</sup> Moores Hill Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory January 15, 1910*, (Moores Hill Telephone Company, 1910), Lawrenceburg, p. 17, entry for James & Meyer Buggy Co High and Maple streets.

<sup>36</sup> The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory, Aurora – Lawrenceburg 1929*, (The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, Inc., 1929), Lawrenceburg, Classified List, entry for Coffin Manufacturers, Ohio Valley Casket Co., 423 W. high.

<sup>37</sup> The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory, Aurora – Lawrenceburg 1929*, (The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, Inc., 1929), Lawrenceburg entry for Wright, Hewson, Res. 51 Oakey Ave. Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 10 Mar 2022); citing Press 10 Feb 1944, History of Dearborn County 1915; entry for Hewson Wright b. 21 Dec 1863 d. 5 Feb 1944; Wife Kate; son William H. Wright.

Hollywood.<sup>38</sup> His mother lived out on Oaky Avenue out in Greendale, here. But we'd play baseball a couple of summers there together. All the local kids would gather together, they'd pickup games. But Bill later when he, I don't remember if he graduated from high school or not. I think he did and then he went on out there. But, he became a pretty well-known producer of black and white films.

The next house that sets close to this business where Mr. and Mrs. Wright lived and later on it was occupied by Schusterman.<sup>39</sup> Schusterman owned the junk yard or salvage place there on the railroad. And, by the way, he came to this country, he was a Russian immigrant and he came to this country. And he hunted junk, bones, whatever, in a handcart. When he died, he died the second richest man in Dearborn county. And it all goes to show you, when you put your shoulder to the wheel, there is more than one ways to make money. I liked Louie and his wife. He had Ben Schusterman, who is known quite a bit around, and Gab had an automobile place down the railroad there. And there was Norma and there were three girls and two boys. And Ben had a clothing store on Walnut Street. Louie was really a nice old gentleman. I liked him real well. And Ben was a lot like the old guy. And Pat Moorman worked for Ben and he lived over on Mary Street there. He always called me Sarge. I don't know where he ever come up with that name. And everybody called him Sarge. He was in World War I and he was a nice man, Pat Raymond Moorman.<sup>40</sup>

And, the next house was Kestler's house. Let's see, there was Emily, and her sister, and I can't recall her first name. Anyhow, she and Bob Oberting were pretty friendly for a lot of years and then both married other people. She was a phys-ed teacher and Bob was interested in automobiles.<sup>41</sup> Bob Oberting was one of the three men that was associated with that flying red horse at the American Legion over in Newtown. I knew Bob and talked to him any number of

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<sup>38</sup> . Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 10 Mar 2022); citing Journal Press 29 Jul 1980; entry for William Hewson Wright b. 25 Apr 1902 d. 23 Jul 1980; Famous writer-producer for many successful Hollywood films and television shows.

<sup>39</sup> The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory, Aurora – Lawrenceburg 1929*, (The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, Inc., 1929), Lawrenceburg entry for Schusterman, L., Rags, Metal, Wool & Hides, 319 W. William.; Schusterman, Louis, Res. 519 W. High St. Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 10 Mar 2022); citing Lawrenceburg Press 2 Oct 1952; entry for Louis Schusterman b. 1 Mar 1867 d. 1952; Born in V[B]jalostok in the Poland part of Russia where he was married. The family came to this country in 1904.

<sup>40</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 10 Mar 2022); citing Journal Press & Register 21 Sep 1967; entry for Raymond (Pat) B. Moorman b. 23 Feb 1895 d. 15 Sep 1967; WW I Veteran. Employed in men's clothing stores and was employed part time by Home Improvement Co., Lawrenceburg, IN.

<sup>41</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 10 Mar 2022); citing Journal Press 29 Mar 1988 Register 31 Mar 1988; entry for Robert Oberting b. 24 Sep 1890 d. 28 Mar 1988; WW I Veteran. Former owner of Studebaker Auto Agency. Charter member of American Legion Post 239.

times. He was a very likeable man. He had a brother Am[os]<sup>42</sup> who was interested in hunting; he had bird dogs. And John<sup>43</sup> was a politician and he ran in some of the first dirt car races in Indiana. That was back in the early part of the century. I knew John for a long, long time. And he was one that knew Jack Dempsey, who was a heavy weight champion of the world at one time, in boxing. And, at one time the American Legion had a meeting over in the east there, and John rode his horse in through the door of Jack Dempsey's restaurant. And that's not hearsay, that's a fact. And he was that kind of a man. He could meet any kind of a situation and he had an answer for it. And I think I'm right in saying this, he was associated with Eddie Rickenbacker, who was a World War Ace in World War I with the Air Force. And I've got a book on that, on Eddie Rickenbacker in there sometime, if somebody wants it, to read up on it. John Oberting was a well-liked man and he had the old Dixie Bar-B-Q<sup>44</sup> up there on Old 50. Rita Lynn, their family knew, Rita Lynn, Rita Young, she's down at the court house. I think she was a school teacher at one time. Somehow in there, they were related.

But the personnel that have passed through Lawrenceburg have not been recognized for some of the things they have done. And we need to do a little brushing up on them because there are some pretty nice people and some people that played some pretty important parts in the history of this town.

And as you get on down High Street there, there was a one-armed paper hanger who had made the Guinness Book of Records because he was a one-armed paper hanger. And the old club family[?], and the old Fitch family and Zig Fitch was a son of the one-armed paper hanger and on down to where my Uncle Jim lived and there was an old town pump there, and that's where he watered his horses, my uncle Jim lived down at the end of the line there. And that pretty well takes care of High Street.

[No recording 42:41 to 42:50]

CHRISTIAN: At the foot of Walnut Street, at the river, there was a bowling alley, Billy Williams ran a bowling alley there, behind the King Hotel. And a lot of people bowled in there and I bowled a few games in there. But he also had a

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<sup>42</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 10 Mar 2022); citing Register 14 Dec 1972; entry for Amos P. Oberting d. 13 Dec 1972; founder and superintendent of annual Oberting Fox Hound and Dog Bench Show, Dearborn Co. Fair for 51 consecutive years.

<sup>43</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 10 Mar 2022); citing Register 12 & 19 Feb 1959; Press 12 Feb 1959; entry for John W. Oberting b. 28 Aug 1875 d. 7 Feb 1959.

<sup>44</sup> The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory, Aurora – Lawrenceburg 1929*, (The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, Inc., 1929), Lawrenceburg entry for Williams, Wm. H. Fish Mkt. 339 Walnut; Lawrenceburg Classified List, Restaurants, Oberting Barbecue, E'town Rd.

poker game back there. And he had a saloon in there. And Billie also had a fish market<sup>45</sup> out on Walnut Street. He was a likeable old gentleman, but somehow he just didn't fit in with the social life of some of them, and they didn't, he didn't get credit for some of the things he did accomplish.

But, going down the east side of Walnut Street, I think we came to the King Hotel and then the Gordon's store. And then, next to the Gordon's store, the old Register printing<sup>46</sup> company had a place in there at one time. But prior to that, there was an old gentleman by the name of George Tibbets. George had a little peanut stand, we used to call it. He sold peanuts and candy and donuts. At the county fair he sold hokey pokey ice cream. A lot of people don't know what hokey pokey ice cream is. But I ate a lot of it and its good but you had to eat it pretty quick [laughs] – it melts pretty fast. But George sold all those little knick-knacks. And he also had an ice cream wagon. He'd go around town with the horse and the ice cream wagon. You could buy a cone, a penny cone, that had a pretty good dip of ice cream in it. And it was good ice cream. He had bigger cones, nickel cones. But he was in that area and George, he had a device on the floor on people that rang a cow bell. People would call people out. And then the Register building and then there was a couple of other businesses in there.

Then next to that was the old American State Bank,<sup>47</sup> which is now occupied by Dearborn Savings and Loan. And I didn't know too many people there. We did most of our business with the old People's National.<sup>48</sup> And then, across the alley, was Hassmer's Music Store.<sup>49</sup> Now, Hassmer, one of the Hassmer boys was associated with the American State Bank. And young Tony, that was the son of this Anthony, his mother, young Tony's mother was name was Geiser and her father ran a butcher store. And they had a music store there, sold records, phonograph records, and sheet music. And the old gentleman would go out in a horse and buggy and sell sheet music and piano rolls and Victrola records, in the horse and buggy. And he'd go around to all these small towns.

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<sup>45</sup> The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory, Aurora – Lawrenceburg 1929*, (The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, Inc., 1929), Lawrenceburg entry for Williams, Wm. H. Fish Mkt. 339 Walnut; Lawrenceburg Classified List, Fish Market, Williams, W. H. 339 Walnut.

<sup>46</sup> The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory, Aurora – Lawrenceburg 1929*, (The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, Inc., 1929), Lawrenceburg Classified List, Newspapers, Register Printing Co., 110 E. High.

<sup>47</sup> The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory, Aurora – Lawrenceburg 1929*, (The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, Inc., 1929), Lawrenceburg Classified List, Banks, American State Bank 118 Walnut.

<sup>48</sup> The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory, Aurora – Lawrenceburg 1929*, (The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, Inc., 1929), Lawrenceburg Classified List, Banks, People's Natl. Bk. 119 Short.

<sup>49</sup> The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory, Aurora – Lawrenceburg 1929*, (The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, Inc., 1929), Lawrenceburg Classified List, Musical Instruments, Radios, etc.) Hassmer, A. J., 122 Walnut.

But, they had a nice music business there. And I recall them having a plaster of Paris dog that you had seen many times in the music is, seems to be the center of attraction. They show this dog, Boris or something they call it, I don't know. But anyhow, they had this dog in there. They had a lot of records in there. I bought a lot of records in there. You could buy a record for seventy-five cents.

Next to that was Kestner's<sup>50</sup>. They had a confectionary and sold candies and all that and sold little items for the house, little breakfast dishes and stuff like that. Mr. and Mrs. Kestner. And they had a son named Bob. And Bob was a very intelligent man and it was a shame that they didn't get some of his views or some of his things that he could have told about the town because Bob was very intellectual and he was very nice to talk to. He worked for the government, something about customs. I can't recall off hand, but he was a nice man. Mr. and Mrs. Kestner were very nice people.

And then, Frankel's<sup>51</sup> - been there since the first of the century. Ike, you can't mention Frankel without somebody mentioning Ike. And he had the boys, Charles, and Sam and, what was the other one? There were three boys, I think. Anyhow, Sam and Charles were in high school at the same time I was in high school. And, they sold men's clothes. And did a terrific business for some time. Charles shut it down and a little later he passed away. Sam passed away prior to that.

The next to that, Mrs. McKim<sup>52</sup> had a women's shop, where she sold women's apparel and I think she sold yard goods and threads and stuff like that. She was a nice lady. I liked her. Her daughter married Chet Leiendecker.<sup>53</sup> Chet Leiendecker will figure in some of your things that come up in the history of the town.

And next to her, Mrs. McKim, was a, they called him Pfiester. And they had Alberta, that was the daughter. And Ralph, he was, helped over there. They had a little newspaper, weekly, they had a little tabloid, about eight pages and they would put that out once a week. He was quite a tennis player – he and Bob

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<sup>50</sup> The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory, Aurora – Lawrenceburg 1929*, (The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, Inc., 1929), Lawrenceburg Classified List, Confectioneries, Kestner, Ernest, 128 Walnut.

<sup>51</sup> The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory, Aurora – Lawrenceburg 1929*, (The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, Inc., 1929), Lawrenceburg Classified List, Clothing, Frankel, I., 134 Walnut; Frankel, Nate, Walnut & Cent.

<sup>52</sup> The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory, Aurora – Lawrenceburg 1929*, (The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, Inc., 1929), Lawrenceburg Classified List, Dry Goods – Retail, McKim, Mrs. C., 136 Walnut. Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 14 10 Mar 2022); citing Register 22 July 1965; entry for Christine McKim b. 1872 d. 18 Jul 1965; Former owner of a dry goods store.

<sup>53</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 10 Mar 2022); citing Register & Press 21 Apr 1955; entry for Chester Henry Leiendecker b. 31 May 1895 d. 13 Apr 1955; married Helen McKim.

Woods, and Squibb, and Emmett Hoy[?]. They all played tennis together. They were all good tennis players, as far as local talent was concerned. They never did any championship stuff. They were pretty good tennis players. Then Ted Moore, next was Ted Moore.<sup>54</sup> He had a pool hall and he had several pool tables in there. You could go in there and play billiards or your one pot pool or whatever you want to play, the table was there for you. He was quite a man in the sporting field. And everybody seemed to like that pretty well. He was a pretty good-sized man.

On the railroad was a fella by the name of Sam Harris.<sup>55</sup> He had a women's apparel shop. Eliho and Elaho or Eliho, whichever you prefer, the children, those two I knew. I believe one of the descendants of Mr. Harris, I don't know if it was another son, married and bought the mill hall. She worked the old penicillin company out there. She was a pretty nice lady. I liked her real well.

Across the railroad, dividing the town was the railroad. Across the railroad, right on the corner, sat a little barber shop. Kind of don't know who ran it anymore, but you could get a haircut for a quarter. Next to that was a place, there was a restaurant in there, Pete Grammer<sup>56</sup> had it. And Pete Grammer could make the best hamburger and the best oyster stew, and fried oyster you ever ate in your life. Thirty-five cents for an oyster sandwich and it was as big around as a saucer and bowl of oyster stew. I think the stew was a quarter and the sandwich was thirty-five cents. That was a lot of money in those days.

Next to him, Bryant sisters had a millinery store<sup>57</sup> and they kept up pretty well on women's hat styles. One of them was named Mabel and the other one I can't remember, but she married a fella, Garnier. They were associated with the old Garnier Brewery, which was where the Lawrenceburg emergency unit is now. They were in that area right there.

Then came Lommel's<sup>58</sup> at one time had a confectionary in there, Charles Lommel and his brother. Then on the alley where the [inaudible] is, across the

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<sup>54</sup> The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory, Aurora – Lawrenceburg 1929*, (The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, Inc., 1929), Lawrenceburg Classified List, Billiard Parlors, Moore, R. B., 146 Walnut.

<sup>55</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 10 Mar 2022); citing Lawrenceburg Press 1 & 8 Nov 1956; entry for Samuel B. Harris d. 1956; sons Eli and Jack, daughters Adeline and Loona.

<sup>56</sup> The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory, Aurora – Lawrenceburg 1929*, (The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, Inc., 1929), Lawrenceburg Residential List, Grammer, Carl, Lunch Room, 210 Walnut St. Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 10 Mar 2022); citing Lawrenceburg Press 4 Dec 1947; entry for Carl "Pete" H. Grammer b. 11 Oct 1890 d. 28 Nov 1947.

<sup>57</sup> The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory, Aurora – Lawrenceburg 1929*, (The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, Inc., 1929), Lawrenceburg Classified List, Millinery Woman's Shop, 117 Walnut.

<sup>58</sup> The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory, Aurora – Lawrenceburg 1929*, (The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, Inc., 1929), Lawrenceburg Classified List, Confectioneries, Lommell Bros., 212 Walnut.

alley, was the old coal yard and Mr. Kunz was the proprietor that hauled coal<sup>59</sup> from the river or from, mostly from the river, they got barge coal. And they would go down there and unload it. They had a horse and carts, a one-horse cart, and hauled that coal up to the yards, dumped it in the yards. Then when somebody ordered coal, they shoveled it back in the carts and delivered it to your shed or whatever you had to put [coal]. Mr Kunz [had] two daughters. One married Pete Harry and the other married Andy Fox.<sup>60</sup> Andy Fox had a shoe store over in Newtown. Andy was a real likeable man. And so was Pete. I liked Pete real well. Pete and I, I got acquainted with Pete. My grandfather, when he got killed in a plane/train accident, my grandmother took in washing, and one thing another. She did the [laundry for the] Harry family. Pete had just been married, he and his wife, the Kunz girl. My grandmother, on weekends, would bake. Grandmother Christian, would bake rolls, and she would bake donuts, and she would bake coffee cake, they called it 'kuchen.' Everybody at that end of town was German. They spoke German and you had to pick up a little German to know what was going on. So, she would bake coffee cakes and she had a coffee pot. It must have held three gallon anyway. Great big [inaudible] coffee pot on the back of her stove. They would dump the grounds when it got [inaudible]. Pete would come out, pick up the laundry, go to the safe, she had an old safe there. Get him a cup, pour him out a cup of coffee, go over to the window, get him a coffee cake, sit down, get him a knife and he would eat a whole coffee cake, drink a cup of coffee or two. [He'd] gather up the laundry and away he would go. And that is how I got acquainted pretty well with Pete, because he knew me pretty well from that type of a, running across me, one another, you know. Later on, I borrowed some money from him. I never had problems with him. I paid him every nickel I borrowed back. Pete passed away and the boys, the McLaughlin boys are in there now. They grew into this great big financial institution. It's pretty well recognized all over the southern half of Indiana.

And then there was a fellow by the name of Biddle<sup>61</sup> next to the coal yard. There was a fellow by the name of Biddle. At first there was a little grocery in there and then came Biddle had a jewelry/shoe store in there. Maggie Smithson worked for him. Then came Benny Shusterrman's clothing store and Pat [Moorman], I can't think of his name. Well, anyhow, he worked in there for him – the one I called 'Sarge'. He had a nice little men's clothing business going there.

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<sup>59</sup> The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory, Aurora – Lawrenceburg 1929*, (The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, Inc., 1929), Lawrenceburg Classified List, Coal Dealers Peoples Coal Co., 222 Walnut.

<sup>60</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 10 Mar 2022); citing Register 29 Nov 1962; entry for Andrew L. Fox b. 21 Dec 1881 d. 14 Nov 1962; Retired from Peoples Coal Co. in 1941. Survived by wife Mayme Kunz.

<sup>61</sup> The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory, Aurora – Lawrenceburg 1929*, (The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, Inc., 1929), Lawrenceburg Classified List, Jewelers – Retail, Biddle, I. N., 236 Walnut.

Then next door to that was the old Spangel Salon, that later became the A&P. Now it's part of that building and loan. Pete Spangel's<sup>62</sup> son lives out in Greendale yet.<sup>63</sup> The old Spangel's Salon, they had a name for it, but I can't recall the name.

Across the street was the old [Gottner?] Grocery. The [Gottner's?], later on Kroger went in there. Charlie Lange went in there and he took over there. That was his grocery business, and he leased the building to Kroger.<sup>64</sup> And that was Kroger's first store in Lawrenceburg, back in the [19]'20s. I was Kroger's first carry-out boy. My cousin ran the store, Sidney Long.<sup>65</sup> He ran the store. I worked in there and I sacked potatoes, I sacked beans and swept the floor, you name it, that was what 'cha did.

Across, well, down Walnut Street was the old [?] Agency. That later on went out of business, after the '37 flood. Gannet's had that. And then there was the Gardner Laundry in there and they did laundry in there. They did collars and shirts and stuff like that. And then later on Bob Spekman/Struckman went in there, in the building. He was in there quite a long time. Next door was the Zion church – it's been there since 1848 and there's been an addition made to it. Those beautiful windows in there, you couldn't replace them today because of the way there were put together – all leaded and put together. You couldn't replace some of that. You'd have to go look at the national debt and see which is bigger. And the [inaudible – park?] was next and then came a fellow by the name of Lucien Gardner lived in there. He married a girl by the name of Bates. Her brother was quite a drummer in – he was associated with one of the big bands for quite a while. I can't recall which band it was. But, anyhow, then came the old Walnut Theater<sup>66</sup> and [?] ran that and now [?] runs it. And then came the Vest Home. They lived there quite a long time. I don't know who occupies it now.

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<sup>62</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 14 Mar 2022); citing Register 24 Jul 1958; entry for Charles "Pete" Frank Spangel b. 25 Sep 1892 d. 16 Jul 1958; Son of Charles A. and Elizabeth Dunk Spangel. Survived by wife Adeline Linden Spangel, son Robert, daughter Verjean.

<sup>64</sup> Southern Indiana Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory for Lawrenceburg-Aurora*, (Southern Indiana Telephone Company, Inc. Aurora, Indiana; 1954); p. 26; entry Business Listing, Kroger Co. High & Short St.

<sup>65</sup> Dearborn County Obituaries, database Lawrenceburg Public Library ([www.lpld.lib.in.us](http://www.lpld.lib.in.us) : accessed 10 Mar 2022); citing Dearborn County Register 16 Sep 1999 & Journal Press 21 Sep 1999; entry for Sidney E. Long.

<sup>66</sup> The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, *Telephone Directory, Aurora – Lawrenceburg 1929*, (The Southern Indiana Telephone Company, Inc., 1929), Lawrenceburg Classified List, Theaters, Walnut Theatre, 352 Walnut.