

INDEPENDENCE-LEE'S SUMMIT-RAYTOWN NEWS REPRINTS

THE JACKSON EXAMINER, Independence, MO Mid-Continent Library
Feb 16, 1906 and more on March 2, 1906;

Approaching marriage of Mattie Green and George Flanagan on Wednesday February 28 at the Raytown Baptist Church. Leonard Cassell and Mary Ballard carried the flowers.

Death of B. F. Ballard, one of the oldest and best known citizens of Brooking township died Thursday at his home 2 ½ miles south of Raytown. Originally came from Illinois but a Missourian by adoption. He was 78 years old. Survivors are the widow, three daughters and six sons. Funeral Friday afternoon at the Raytown Baptist church. Burial in the Brooking Cemetery.

Funeral of Mrs. Cora Huston, wife of William. Died Sunday, funeral Tuesday at 2 o'clock at the home, 416 Short. Tribute of a family of mother and father and eleven children. She was first to cross over the river and has surely gone to a good home. Her friends are legion. She was greatly loved and respected by all and will certainly be missed, especially by family and relatives and friends. She was the beloved wife of W. J. Huston of this city and daughter of John S. and Sallie Hedges of this city who have been here for many years. She was born March 19, 1863. She leaves beside her aged father and mother, her husband, two daughters, Nellie and Marguerite; five sisters, Mrs. W. C. Rice, Mrs. Horace Jones and Mrs. Ada Hedges of Independence, Mrs. Henry Rice of near Kansas City and Mrs. C. C. McClure of Sedalia, Mo., also five brothers; John O. and Richard Hedges of Kansas City, Edward and Charlie of California (that's four). Mrs. Huston was a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church for many years and never forgot to be kind and friendly toward all.

March 9, 1906 - Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Latimore announce the birth of a daughter. Mrs. Latimer's parents are Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Rice.

June 15, 1906 Bettie Hinde died Monday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Hobbs, Raytown Road. She had been sick a long time. She was 58 years old. She was the sister of John W. Hinde.

July 6, 1906 The first installment of bronze tablets to mark the Santa Fe Trail have arrived in Kansas City and will be placed along the old route at various places under the supervision of the park board. One will be at the entrance of Penn Valley Park. There are seventeen in all. The tablet, which represents one of the old prairie schooners, was designed by Mrs. Maud Niles, teacher of art in the Manuel Training High School.

Indep. Ex. July 6, 1906

BROOKING AND WASHINGTON - Independence has lost practically all trade from Brooking and Washington townships. Those are two of the richest and best townships in the county and most are owned by men who live on them. Twelve years ago much of the trade came to Independence but year to year it has gradually been lost and has drifted to Kansas City. Ever since the Raytown boulevard was built through Raytown and another road to Hickman Mills the trade has gone to Kansas City because it could go easily by rock road while if it came to Independence it would have to come over a mud road.

There is no rock road from these townships into Independence. Other townships have gotten rock roads and twelve years of spending a big road fund every year passed, yet no road to bring this rich trade to Independence has been built. The Raytown road south needed not much grading and would not have cost as much as other roads, but it was condemned. No effort could bring the building of this road.

It may be a co-incidence only, but no road money to speak of has been spent in Brooking township since Noland ran for county judge against Chrisman the first time. Of course the township went for its man. Not only has there been no roads built since that time in Brooking township but the one it had, the Raytown boulevard has been allowed to go to ruin.

July 13, 1906 **DEATH OF MRS. L. M. DEHONEY**, 71 Years Old, Lived in Jackson County Since 1850 - Mrs. L. M. DeHoney died at home south of Raytown, July 9. The funeral was conducted from the Baptist Church of Raytown, the Rev. W. T. Campbell of this city conducted the services. The burial was at Brooking Cemetery.

It was given to Mrs. DeHoney to live a long and useful life, a longer span of happiness than is given to most men and women. She was born in Cooper county, Missouri in 1835, and her father was the Rev. Howard Chism. She moved to Independence in 1850 and since that time she has been a resident of Jackson County. On October 5, 1854 she married L. M. DeHoney and they celebrated 50 years of married life in 1904. Mr. DeHoney is one of the best known men of the county and has served in several official positions, being at one time county assessor. He still survives at the age of 81 years.

There are seven children, twenty grandchildren, one great-grandchild. The funeral was largely attended and many floral offerings paid tribute.

The Jackson Examiner- July 20, 1906:

HE BUILT THE OLD JAIL -John Cassell Laid the Stone Walls in 1859 - Still Working at His Trade

The man who laid the stone walls for the Independence jail in 1859 was sitting with Jailer Martin and Marshal Hulse in front of the jail Monday morning. He was a small man with a black beard and black hair and very stoop shoulders. His name is John Cassell and he lives in Kansas City and is still working at his trade, stone mason. (RB Cannot connect with local families, is possible though)

Mr. Cassell said he remembered well all about the jail. It was considered a strong and modern jail at that time. There were six stone cells on the first floor and six on the second

floor, twelve in all. Each cell was closed with an iron door and the locks on each door were about eight inches square and over an inch thick. The keys were big brass arrangements and the twelve keys made a heavy package. The floor of the cells was stone slabs and the ceiling of the same material. The walls are of solid cut stone two feet thick. Then the steel cell was not dreamed about. The old jail was simply a rectangular pile of heavy stone with narrow barred windows and divided into cells, built to keep prisoners inside. There was no effort any sanitation in ventilation or drainage and no closets of any kind, and these specifications describe the jail at present. The stone was quarried on the Noland farm on Rock creek and hauled to the jail in wagons. A teamster would bring two loads a day from the quarries over the old Westport road along where the electric line now runs. Platt & Moore of Kansas City, were the contractors. When completed the jail was considered a fine one. It was the only one in the county as Kansas City did not amount to much in those days.

The brick house in front of the jail was built at the same time and was the residence of the sheriff and jailer. Mr. Cassell came to Jackson County in 1858 and except for eight years spent in the West, has lived in the county ever since. He is still quite active, hardly shows a gray hair and is able to do a day's work at his trade.

September 7, 1906 - Raytown School district calls for a special bond election, September 22, for issue of \$7,000 to build a high school. The consolidation includes seven of the school districts and additional taxes will be light. There are objections for the bonds to run for 10 years because the amount is so small they should be paid in 5 years.

September 14, 1906- UNITED WE STAND -Decorative Windows Being Placed in Court Room - The Three Seals

Decorative windows of stained glass are being put in the upper court room today. The windows are in the north side of the room back of the desk, and will be very handsome when completed.

The three designs are the three seals of the state of Missouri, the county of Jackson County and the city of Independence. The state seal shows in the middle pane, the county on the east and the city on the west. All these are old seals. That of the state, the two bears rearing, known to every school boy, was adopted in 1820. That of the county, showing an old plow with a sheaf of wheat standing by, was adopted in 1826, and that of the city, a prairie schooner, canvass, and drawn by mule teams, was adopted in 1827. The designs are worked into complete pictures by colored glass set at the proper place. The background is a light green and the whole effect will be exceedingly attractive.

Judge Gates will open court in this room Monday. The room will not be complete but so nearly so that it can be finished while the court is in session, the workmen time as it may happen. The room is finished in imitation oak, of which the judge's bench is the center, and the benches will have the same finish. It will be the handsomest and the most complete court room in the county.

October 26, 1906 - Raytown High basketball team: Captain Charlie Thurston; forwards, Allen Robinson, Clarence Jennings; guards, George Cassell, Ernest Collings.

October 26, 1906 - Raytown High basketball team: Captain Charlie Thurston; forwards, Allen Robinson, Clarence Jennings; guards, George Cassell, Ernest Collings. Score was 6 to 3 in favor of Raytown when they played Ruskin.

The Jackson Examiner-. Dec 14, 1906- JACKSON AND HOBBS - Superintendent and Physician at Poor Farm - German for Counselor

James D. Jackson, son of Noel Jackson, a Democrat, will be superintendent of the county poor farm. Dr. A. A. Hobbs of Raytown will be physician for the poor farm. The superintendent gets a salary of \$1,040 a year and the physician \$900. The county elect judges have also announced that Charles German will be county counselor, salary \$3,000, Henry Crawford county accountant, salary \$1,500, W. W. Carter, superintendent court house and -, Kansas City, \$1,200, and Elmer Kithart, chief engineer, \$1,500.

These appointments were announced after a conference of the three men who will compose the county court after January 7. As they will take charge of the offices as soon after appointment as the present officials can be checked out. The proceeding as unusual. Appointments may have been agreed upon but have not been announced until after the court was organized.

James D. Jackson is a young man, the son of Noel Jackson of Van Buren township, and the nephew of Mrs. N. P. Wood of Independence. He is a graduate of the Lee's Summit High School, was for several years employed in the Lee's Summit bank, and served two years in the county assessor's office under George Holmes. Of recent years he has been conducting a farm in Van Buren township. He is a Democrat.

Dr. A. A. Hobbs is a Republican. He is a practicing physician with his office in Raytown, and is one of the well known men of that section. He succeeds Dr. J. W. Greene of Independence. Dr. Greene and Dr. Hobbs were partners in practice at Raytown before Dr. Greene opened an office in Independence....

1907

January 11, 1907 Eva Ritter (to or did) married Will Pierce of Kansas City

February 1, 1907 James Green, Miss Mamie Canary, Charlie Thurston, Miss Eva Ritter, Mr. Earnest Collings, Miss Willie Searcy, Allen Robinson, Miss Ruth Spicer, Miss Artie Talley and Mr. Fred Greene were entertained at a wedding supper in honor of Miss Florence Cox and Mr. George Folk, at the Raytown Hotel, January 23, 1907 at 5;30 p. m. (Note: Prank report-did not marry?)

THE JACKSON EXAMINER - AN HISTORIC HOUSE - Old Pacific Hotel Building Being Torn Down - Built for Wagon Shop

Workmen are engaged in tearing out the old brick walls of the Pacific Hotel building on East Lexington street. The building is an historic one in Independence. It was built in the forties and has housed some of the largest manufacturing establishments ever in operation in Independence.

The house was originally erected as a wagon shop by the firm of Modie & Simpson, the Modie was the father of the late John Modie. It was operated as a wagon shop until some years later it was purchased by Hallar & Fallon. These men had at the time an iron foundry near where the city cemetery is now, and they moved the foundry to the building and at the same time other buildings were erected, and the big wood working establishment was kept going in connection. The firm afterward became Hallar, Crook & Co., and when Mr. Hallar died in 1884 his interest was purchased by the father of V. B. Robinson who continued the business in perhaps the period at its greatest activity, under the firm name of Robinson, Crook & Co.

This ownership brought the establishment to the beginning of the civil war and about this time the big frame building where the wagon shop was burned. The building was taken in charge by Col. Pennick and dismantled and used as headquarters for soldiers.

After the war Jacob Powell came to Jackson County and bought the building and operated it as a planing mill with his sons. Then it was passed into the hands of Hill & Humphrey. Mr. Hill, a wood workman, still in business and Mr. Humphrey, an iron worker, not long since deceased; John T. Clark, a blind man, got the title to the building about boom times and built a second story and converted it into the Pacific hotel. The property afterward fell into the hands of George W. Clinton, who is now tearing it down to make way for a modern business house.

March 12, 1907 - George Washington Cassell and Susan Ann Rhoades Cassell celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on March 12, 1907. They lived where the Raytown Junior High School was built, 10601 East 59th street. They had a large orchard and sold fruit.

April 2, 1907 Coffee Rice, grandson of E. C. Rice of Raytown, was married in Kansas City, Kansas Tuesday to Miss Edna M. Warden of Kansas City. (After the death of Coffee Rice, Edna Warden Rice married Roy Paschal. They had a

restaurant in Raytown and had the chicken dinner place at Rice-Tremonti.)

April 2, 1907 Coffee Rice, grandson of E. C. Rice of Raytown, was married in Kansas City, Kansas Tuesday to Miss Edna M. Warden of Kansas City.

1908

Page 8 of the Abstract concerning the Fox Drug Store and William Jennings Store:

May 23, 1908 William Jennings to Raytown Realty Company, a 99-year lease, for \$200, to build a second story, on the Jennings building, 40 x 70 feet, of brick, gravel roof, pay 1/3 of the taxes and insurance, to build a stairway to reach the second floor....used by Odd Fellows.

Later used by Teen Town, stored articles from the Masonic Hall after their building burned. Later purchased by Cox Pipeline company, housed the Raytown News many years, Moody's Shoe Repair. 6211 or 6213 Raytown road

1909

George W. Cassell died June 25, 1909. Brooking Cemetery:

George W. Cassell May 24, 1838 - June 25, 1909

Susan Ann Rhoades Cassell August 12, 1828 - September 20, 1916

MEMOIRS

Property of Naomi Cassell Stayton (to remain in the Raytown Historical Society unless it disbands, if so, return to her or her family - Mrs. Staytown is now deceased - 2005)

MEMOIRS OF R. H. S. The Prof. James M. Sexton, the promoter of this book we most heartily dedicate "MEMOIRS"

STAFF: Dorothy Dehoney, chief editor; May Cassell, associate editor; Clarence Jennings, business manager; Martha Braun, literary editor; Ray Dehoney, athletic editor; Marguerite Nicholson, art editor

For several months past we have been preparing our Book for its presentation, and, as it is the first Annual that has been published by any Senior Class of Our High School, we have not had our predecessors to go by, but have relied upon ourselves. Professor Sexton was the first one to suggest the idea, and each one of us gladly took it up. On account of the small number in our Senior Class, we have, each one, had to do a large part, but our work has been done with pleasure. "All's well that ends well," so if our Annual is received as we hope it will be, we will feel that our efforts have not been in vain.

(Picture- Clarence Jennings, senior 1908- Assistant in High School 1909. Ever your friend, till time shall end; Throughout this world of joy and sorrow, Your smile may make, for your dear sake, more bliss than living else could borrow.

SENIORS 1909- Class officers: Otis White, president; Fred Browning, vice-president; Christine White, secretary; Arthur Hobbs, treasurer.

Senior Yell: Ringle! Tangle! Rah! Hot tamale! Vim Volley! Tip! Tap! Hip! Hooray! Hurrah for Seniors! Get out of the way!

DOROTHY DEHONEY There is sunshine in her love. And joy forever around her.

Arthur Searcy, Martha Brown (Braun), Otis White, May Cassell, Minor White, Hugh Church, Christine White, Arthur Hobbs, Ray Dehoney, Marguerite Nicholson, Fred Browning

ALUMNI CLASS OF 1907: Bessie Harris, teaching; Jessie Harris, teaching; Maggie Whitehouse, at home; Ruth Spicer, at home; Emma Wright (nee Brown); Florence Cox, at home; Ola Davenport(nee Bull); Ernest Collings, W.J.C; James Greene, W.J.C.; Charles Thruston, teaching; Alfred Greene, W. J. C.; Jesse Searcy, farming.

CLASS OF 1908 : Clarence Jennings, merchant; George Cassell, teaching; William Church, farming.

CLASS HISTORY: The Senior Class of 1909 can not trace to its origin to a historical basis, but depends upon certain traditional and mythical stories concerning each one, from which it draws its conclusions.

Though tradition is not always a safe guide, we will rely upon it for earlier history and from it we find that our class was organized many years ago, among the rosy cheeked urchins of the seven schools of Brooking township. Most of our number possessed that progressive spirit of attention to all of our duties and eagerness to learn the cause and result of everything that confronted us, which destined our class to be the illustrious one it now is.

Each morning we were up at an early dawn and off to school with our slates and books in our hands and deep thoughts in our minds. As we trudged along our way to school we met several companions, and though we never entirely forgot our deep thoughts, we sometimes allowed them to get pretty far from us. We were wondering what Miss Jones would do when she found that mouse in her desk, and how we were going to manage to be excused at recess to go nutting. Our minds were never at rest, and before we reached the school house we had gained several inspirations. Ray Dehoney was an apt adviser on occasions like this and often when Martha suggested letting the proposition drop, Ray would assure her that 'his plan was sure to work', and Martha was generally willing to follow if Ray would take the lead.

When the school bell rang we were the first to take our seats, and the first ones to be at our lessons; Dorothy and Marguerite were always specially attentive to them when some curious noise was heard, or when the water bucket accidentally tipped over on the stove. When the class was called we were never void of an answer for any question. Our answers were not always correct ones, but they were answers nevertheless, the teacher thinking we knew the lesson, most always called on some one else. This plan did not always work, and sometimes we had to study for sometime before we got a satisfactory answer.

We did not notice the changes time was bringing; each day seemed a repetition of the last one as far as we could see, but as the days and months rolled by, we were slowly, but surely advancing, and we were beginning to think of our future education. We looked forward to the time when we could pass from the graded to high school, and when we entered the Raytown High School we felt that we had gained one step on the ladder of success.

We were a gay Freshman class, sixteen in number, inspired with the thought that we were beginning a new epoch of our lives. We had no responsibility to mar our happiness, and our freshman year was spent pleasantly. Prof. White suggested that we join the "Smilers Club." We did so and found it to be a very good plan. Our motto could always be seen on our faces. We had some things to contend with that Freshmen do not have. On account of our building and the large amount of work expected of the one teacher, we were deprived of many privileges other classes enjoyed. We had no laboratory in which to make the necessary experiments in our botany and zoology, but we had woods and fields all around us that we made use of and there we studied real life. The field trips were very enjoyable to those interested, and our first trip was especially so. We started from the school house directly after lunch and spent the afternoon exploring the fields, hills, valleys and streams. We investigated everything as we went along and applied the botanical and zoological names to specimens of plant and animal life. Art Searcy looked for sometime for centipedes but found instead a specimen of the Fungi. He took it to May to analyze, and she, after examining it

closely, told him that it was the hipeta percers, commonly called a parasol mushroom. We managed to have plenty of fun as we went along, in spite of the severe reproofs of some of the Seniors present, and we were sorry when the time came to go home. We could not enjoy this privilege except in the spring and in the fall, but the rest of the time was not idly spent. Some of our number were inclined to wander from us, and by the time we reached the Junior year only ten remained to keep up the work. Among these were six industrious lads. Fred, Ray, Otis, Arthur, Hugh and Art and four charming country lasses; May, Martha, Marguerite and Dorothy. We were determined to keep plodding. Some of the hardest work was done during this year. We often buurned the midnight oil, mastering our lessons. We were kept busy writing essays, compositions and themes on real and imaginary subjects, such as "A Plantation Scene" or a descipion of a sunset in the polar regions, and other subjects similiar, and also very unlike these, mujch of ourtime was given to mathematics, as quadratic equations in algebra bothered us, as well as e Binominal theorem. Literature and history, also had an important place in our list of troubles. They were all too important to be slighted, therefore we tried to do all of them justice; and when we closed the Junior year we were satisfied with our work.

The Senior year is one we will never forget; as in the other years we had difficulties to overcome, but so far we have overcome them. Our's is the third graduating class in the history of the school, and though the results of our work are not perfect, we feel that our efforts have been crowned with success and that we, with the help and encouragement of our teacher, have accomplished what we expected, we realize more fully the object of education and the importance of taking advantage of our High School opportunities than we have before, but we must not stop. We must keep on improving and make our commencement one of the greater undertakings. This is a day we have been looking forward to ever since we entered High School, but now that it is so near we regret to think our school days here will soon be over.

Our Senior year will soon be completed, and with it is the completion of our High School work, and for some, our education. Whatever our course may be, we must bid adieu to our comrades in Raytown High School. We pass out to face new propositions, and make room for the class of 1910.

JUNIORS : Ray Cassell, president; Luther Robinson, vice president; Aubyn Nicholson, secretary; Earl O'Flaherty, treasurer; Noel Jennings, editor. Class roll: Mona Collings, Aubyn Nicholson, Ray Cassell, Jennie Collings, Cecil Hall, Noel Jennings, Earle O'Flaherty, Bertie Payne, Luther Robinson, Velma Wright, Edith Whitehouse.

The SOPHMORE CLASS OF 1911: Ralp Lane, president; Clarence Burch, vice-president; Cora Robinson, secretary, Effie Lewis, treasurer; Mabel Collings, editor
Class Roll: Eddie Burch, Clarence Burch, Lewis Collings, Mable Collings, Alfred Collings. Pearl Cox, Walter Cox, Burrell Day, Warren Dehoney, Ralph Lane, Harry Lewis, Effie Lewis, Pearl Murkin, Mary Mantle, Cora Robinson, Harry Searcy, Marvin Whitehouse

CONSOLIDATED DISTRICT NUMBER TWO

Consolidated District No. 2 was originally seven separate school districts, named as follows Stormy Point, Bluff, Lane, Spring Valley, Central, Raytown, and Chapel.

(Inserted from a County Court Minutes Record, wondering if this might have been a first school, but where?) Book 4- 85678 February Term 1844 - Citizens of congressional Township 48, Range 32 West of 5th Principal meridian No... petition to organize a district in said township for purposes as stated (educational) signed by George W. Hockensmith and 47 others

Court will organize Township 48 Range 32 for school purposes known as McDaniel School District No. 16 Feb. 9, 1839

First meeting of inhabitants will be held at the republic school House on the 4th Monday in March next...John A. Moore appointed commissioner. George W. Rhoades and Cincinnati S. Stribling are appointed inspectors for McDonald School No. 16 for carrying into effect said organization)

About seven years ago several men of these districts decided it would be a great help to have this community to have a central High School. These men established a private High School for two years. In 1905 the seven districts re-consolidated and a public High School was established in the same rented building which the private school used.

This district is one of the wealthiest country districts of Jackson County, with fine farms and beautiful homes. The only blots found upon its surface are its dilapidated school buildings. There are about 25,000 acres of land in the district. The average price at which the farmers held their land is about \$200 per acre. This makes an actual of the real estate alone \$5,000,000. A tax of one cent on the dollar would build ten \$5,000 school houses every year. The actual assessed value will average only about \$30.00 per acre or \$750,000 for the whole district. A tax of one cent on the dollar at this valuation would produce \$7,500.00 or more than enough to build a good high school building; or disregarding the value of the land, suppose we levy a tax of 20 cents per acre. That would give us \$5,000.00, or \$8.00 for every 40 acre farm in the district. If bonds were voted and we were allowed ten years to pay off, each free holder who owns 40 acres of land would have to pay the enormous sum of 80 cents a year. Now as a comparison I should like for you to show me a man who owns 40 acres of land who does not pay 1200 cents every year for the use of a telephone. One of the men opposed the building of a high school most bitterly on the grounds of taxation was found to be paying a total school tax of 80 cents a year (or rather that is what he was assessed for school purposes.) He has three children going to school, and yet the same man pays \$12.00 a year for the privilege of a telephone. Now what do you think of that? (There's a reason ???) This is only one of the 57.

We can prove that has been a successful High School by the results. Nearly all of the graduates from Raytown High School have gone to a higher school, either a university, college. Or normal. Several have taught successful schools, and those who have stayed on

the farm are successful farmers.

On the RHS Calendar: Wednesday November 4-16 School closed on account of diphtheria in community; some of the Freshies are attacked with it.

Wednesday December 2 - entertained by Mrs. Gates in the new hall

Wednesday December 23 - treated by Prof. Sexton. Art Hobbs ate most candy and nuts in one minute

Wednesday February 24 Prof. Porter impersonator entertains us

Wednesday March 16 - school closed for smallpox

ADVERTISERS:

W. H. Nicholson, first class work, painting and paper hanging Bell phone Leeds 835-5

Orlando Jennings- General merchandise, dry goods, groceries, clothing, boots, shoes and patent medicines. In fact everything kept in first class general stores. Highest prices paid for all country produce

S. G. Robinson, Raytown, highest prices paid for country produce

A. M. Woodsn Coal and Feed dealer -phone 24 Independence

C. P. Fieffer, Knobtown

J. Wills, Knobtown

Gaugh. 54th & Bennington

100 YEARS RAYTOWN SCHOOLS

RAYTOWN REMEMBERS, by Roberta Bonnewitz and Lois T. Allen, 1975: page 74: *On September 13, 1873, an acre on the northwest corner of 63rd and Raytown Road was sold to the school board for \$50 by Reuben and Sarah Mockbee. The site was in continuous use until about 1955 when it was purchased by Raytown for a City Hall. The earliest structure was a white frame elementary school. A brick building, built in 1914-15, housed a combination elementary and high school classes.*

(Pictures of both buildings are on display at the Raytown Historical Society Museum)

In 1902, a subscription high school, taught by Miss Eta May Lacey, began in a two-story building at the southeast corner of 63rd and Raytown Road. The structure, built by the Reverend James J. Robinson on his own land, contained Dr. Minor T. Smith's drug store on the first floor. The school occupied the upper floor, (reportedly built by the Ku Klux Klan). Each pupil furnished his own desk, which cost \$5, and was made by a local carpenter, William Hall. In 1906 the school district re-consolidated and formed a public high school.

(Several of these desks are displayed at the Raytown Historical Society)

ECHOES OF THE PAST by Ethylene Ballard Thruston:

When 63rd street was widened in 1911 (widened to make it Blue Ridge Boulevard, now called 63rd street) the building was moved south of the Shumate - Robinson home (6212 Raytown Road). Ross Mc Campbell was the school principal, the teacher, and the custodian. Later the faculty included J. C. Wolfe.

Page 145: In 1912 when Sam Robinson, father of J. L. Robinson and Mrs. Fred McInteer, moved his store to the site now occupied by Ray Smith Motors, the Raytown High School went along. Classes were conducted in a room on the second floor until 1915 when bonds were approved for the new building, now known as Raytown Grade school.

From an interview with Mr. James Luther Robinson, January 25, 1967, at a program for the Raytown Historical Society:

In those days we had seven school districts, all of them were one room school houses. I attended school where the City Hall is now (9900 63rd st.) In a one-room wooden white building. There were about 20 of us in school. That is where I went to school through the 8th grade, and finally graduated from high school there, Consolidated District No. 2. It was the second consolidation under the new law. The first one was Ruskin at Hickman Mills, Consolidated District No. 1. I can recall the experience they had relative to our school levies and school bonds. How different it was in those days that I can remember, because this situation that we enjoy here relative to approving a levy and voting bonds was not always that way. I recall seeing school elections, fist fights in the roads, one fellow would walk off and leave another whipped and laying on the ground because they disagreed about the levy.

THE INDEPENDENCE EXAMINER - February 26, 1904, Vol. 7, page 2 -
ANOTHER HIGH SCHOOL - MEETING AT RAYTOWN TO CONSOLIDATE BROOKING
TOWNSHIP'S SCHOOL DISTRICTS

About fifty men, representatives of the seven districts of Brooking township, met at Raytown Monday to discuss the advisability of attempting to the consolidation of the schools of that township. A committee consisting of one member from each district was appointed to prepare the necessary papers and present it to the voters at the annual meeting April 5. A large majority of those present expressed themselves favorable to the move. This same territory attempted consolidation last year but narrowly lost a majority vote.

County Superintendent Johnson being present briefly explained the law. The advantage to be derived from it, and the expense of maintaining the school. Mr. J. W. McKeever, of Stormy Point, who was chosen chairman, spoke earnestly in favor of the measure, as did G. W. Webb, of Spring Valley, and others. After opportunity had been allowed to all who wished to speak a motion was introduced by Dr. Hobbs, which provided that the measure be presented to the people for their action the ensuing year. The motion carried unanimously. This vote however was hardly a test of the sentiment of the meeting. A previous vote upon endorsing the plan was carried by more than 75 percent.

Following these motions a motion was adopted requesting each district to name a committeeman of one who, acting with the others, should prepare petitions for the clerks and attend to presenting it to the people in the proper form. An active effort will be made by this committee to present the matter to the voters of the entire township that they may cast an intelligent vote at the annual meeting April 5. The committee of which Dr. Hobbs, of Raytown, is chairman, consists of the following members: J. W. McKeever, of Stormy Point; Jos. White, Spring Valley; Ed Collings, Bluff; Arthur Young, Lane; Sep Wallace, Chapel; Wm. Rickey, Central; Dr. A. A. Hobbs, Raytown.

In 1901 the general assembly passed a bill which authorized the union of adjoining school districts for High school purposes. The first of the kind was organized in Washington township, immediately joining this territory on the south, two years ago. The experiment, as it was at first called, has proved highly satisfactory and since then has been discussed in various sections of the county and state. Supt. Johnson is sanguine in the final adoption of many such schools as soon as the people become thoroughly familiar with the principle under which they operate. Other points in the country will try consolidation the present year.