

Ordnance Plant South of Here Will Cost \$30,000,000; Contract Let

(March 5, 1942)

The Bates & Rogers Construction Co., of Chicago, has the contract for the erection of the ordnance plant north of the Springfield-Decatur hard road.

Bates & Rogers will supervise the project and some 59 sub-contractors will work under them. It is estimated that there will be about 10,000 employed at the peak of the work and that the weekly payroll will run from \$250,000 to \$400,000.

We understand the project is to be a 30 million dollar investment but in view of the way the cost of other similar plants has mounted over the original estimate this one will probably run closer to \$50 million.

This project, which is to be known as the Sangamon Ordnance Plant, will be used as an assembly plant. TNT, powder, caps, fuses and shells will be shipped from other plants to be assembled here.

Farmers Sell Out As Defense Plant Moves In

(March 19, 1942)

Many sales are being held in the defense area south of the city as farmers prepare to move. Engineers are on the job.

Activities in the defense area gradually increasing their tempo as farm owners and tenants offer their entire livestock and machinery at sale after sale to the highest bidders, preparatory to leaving their homes. Many do not know just where they will go or what they will do.

An employment office is now open in Illiopolis for application of men wishing to do construction work, all of which necessitates the applicants joining Union.

Illiopolis is full of workers and they are gradually seeping into Mount Pulaski, as they hunt for suitable rooms and homes, forces them to go farther away. Two engineers and their families are taking up their residence in the Times Apartment Building, and others are finding locations in private homes.

PRODUCTION LINE OPENS AT OAK ORDNANCE PLANT

(Dec. 17, 1942)

The United States government has taken over the Oak Ordnance Plant, south of the city, and are now in full charge, opening up their first production line yesterday, and making their first shell.

Quite a number of local residents have already been accepted as employees of Johnson & Johnson, who have charge of the production work and personnel, and many more have their applications filled out.

ORDNANCE AREA LAND OWNERS ARE REDEEMING LAND

(Nov. 28, 1946)

Most of the former land owners redeem land on the site of the Sangamon Ordnance Plant at Illiopolis.

1½ million dollars was involved in the transaction transferring more than 10,000 acres of land back to private ownership.

The government realizes more than 74% of its original investment in the land.

RENT CONTROL IN LOGAN COUNTY SET AUG. 1, 1942

(July 30, 1942)

Federal Rent Control will go into effect in Logan county on Aug. 1, 1942, when residential rents will be put back and stabilized at levels prevailing on Mar. 1, 1942, under a special defense rental order issued Wednesday, by Price Administrator Leon Henderson.

CURTAIN ELECTRICITY DURING W. W. II

(Feb. 1, 1945)

Prohibited Uses. No Person Shall Use Electricity For Any Of The Following Purposes:

1. Outdoor advertising and outdoor promotional lighting.
2. Outdoor display lighting except where necessary for the conduct of the business outdoor establishments.
3. Outdoor decorative and outdoor ornamental lighting.
4. Show window lighting except where necessary for interior illumination.
5. Marquee lighting in excess of 60-watts for each marquee.
6. White way street lighting in excess of the amount determined by local public authority to be necessary for public safety.

VETERANS DREW FOR ORDNANCE PLANT LANDS

(Jan. 9, 1947)

Three plots of land - and 12 veterans wanted them. A drawing for the land was held Dec. 27 at the south administration building of the old Sangamon Ordnance plant. The three parcels of land were left after former owners and their former tenants had been given the right to repurchase the farms. Veterans had next priority.

The lucky three were Paul A. Wheeler, of Niantic; George R. Pritchett of Niantic; and, Robert U. Winters, Ag teacher at the Illiopolis high school.

Capsules containing the names of the lucky veterans were drawn by Mrs. Leroy K. Buckles,

IT'S LIABLE TO HAPPEN HERE! AND IT SURE DID

(Aug. 12, 1943)

Now that coffee rationing has run its course and there is some prospect of getting all the sugar we want, and it looks like we have the war going our way on all front, we hear disturbing rumors on the home front. All of us who think check writing is easier than carrying the cash, will either have to quit writing checks, or, be faced with a service charge each month that will cool-off our ardor for signing bank checks on the dotted line.

If we understand it right, we will also have to pay a service charge for having all checks we present at the bank, cashed. It seems that the banks, overflowing with money, are burdened down with so much free service and so little in comparison on loans that they are going to have to do something to keep the banks from using so much red ink.

It is already being done may places so we will probably get it.

Note - 1961—It happened, and 18 years later it is still happening. What depositors thought was a temporary expedient has presumably become a permanent liability.

WPA BAND CONCERTS DURING SUMMER '41

(June 19, 1941)

Weekly summer concerts by the Decatur WPA Concert Band were initiated in Mount Pulaski Tuesday night at 7:30 o'clock. An hour and a half of fine band music was presented on the lawn in the square.

These concerts, which are sponsored by Mount Pulaski business men, are free, and all residents of Mount Pulaski and surrounding communities are invited to enjoy them.

PUBLISH LIST OF WHEAT ACREAGE QUOTAS IN 1930's

(Nov. 2, 1933)

A printed statement was made of the production and planted acreages of wheat in the years 1930, 1931, 1932, and planted acreage for 1933 of producers of Logan county, who have submitted applications for farm allotments. This publication is made in compliance with the regulations of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. It is made so that a check may be made on all statements claims, and so that reports may be made to the county Wheat Production Control Association on any inaccuracies which may appear in the statements.

JOHNNY MIER, 99, OLDEST AND COUNTY'S LAST C. W. VET, DIED

Service Held In Court Yard. 2,000 Attended

(August 1, 1940)

Full military honors were accorded John C. Mier, 99, at 2:30 p. m. Monday in the Mt. Pulaski public square, in the first funeral service of its kind to be held on these historic grounds since the city was founded in 1836. Mr. Mier was born two miles west of Mt. Pulaski Feb. 13, 1841, and died in the Deaconess hospital, Lincoln, at 9:45 p.m. Friday, July 26, 1940.

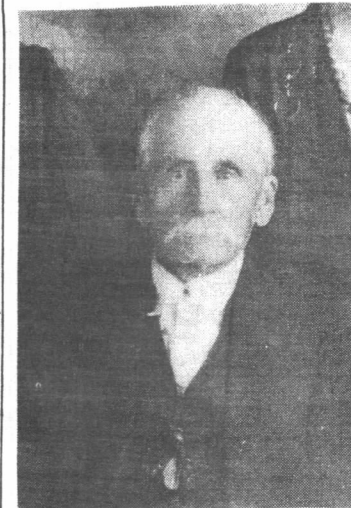
Hundreds of people assembled to attend the services and pay homage to a man who knew Abraham Lincoln when he came to Mt. Pulaski to plead law cases in the old Logan county court house, from 1848 to 1855, when riding the old eighth judicial circuit, several years before Lincoln became famous as president of the United States. And now, almost 80 years later, it was only fitting that the services were held on grounds hallowed by the memory of Lincoln, the State of Illinois having restored the historic old structure as an Abraham Lincoln Memorial Shrine.

Ryman-Fuiten Post of the American Legion of Mt. Pulaski, had charge of the funeral. The funeral cortege moved from the Hershey Funeral Home to the public square headed by color bearers, firing squads, Logan County Legion Band and Legion members from every post in Logan county, followed by the flag-draped casket on a caisson drawn by four horses.

The funeral service was read by Rev. J. Wayne Staley, pastor of the Christian Church, who emphasized the fact that because Mr. Mier was Mt. Pulaski's oldest citizen, and the last surviving Civil war veteran of Logan county, he was being honored not only by Mt. Pulaskians, but all of the county as well. Assisting in the service were: Rev. Ray O. Zumstein and Rev. F. E. Neumeyer. Three hymns, "Does Jesus Care," "He Leadeth Me" and "One Sweetly Solemn Thought," were sung by Paul R. Moore, with Mrs. G. F. Wait as organ accompanist.

Burial was in the Mt. Pulaski cemetery. Following short service at the grave, taps were sounded. The pallbearers, all Legionnaires, were: Senator Nicholas L. Hubbard, Dean Foster, Errol Ryan, Louis F. Schafer, Frank Talma, Thomas A. Gupton, Mt. Pulaski; Buford Beaver, of New-Holland, and, Claude Compton of Atlanta.

In the wild, sparsely settled timberland of pioneer days, John



JOHN C. MIER

Mier was born Feb. 13, 1841, the son of George and Rebecca Laughlin Mier, pioneers in the county, in a log cabin, 2 miles west of Mt. Pulaski, on land now occupied by a son, Elmer.

He was born five years after the town was settled, and proved a great factor in its development. Since his birth he has always lived in the historic town except for the time he spent in the Civil War and a period of time he took to take his wife to the West for her health.

After the war, Mr. Mier married Miss Sarah Smith. 46 years ago they moved into Mt. Pulaski. About eight years ago Mrs. Mier died. Three years later the infirmities of age caused him to be confined to his bed, and less than a year ago it was necessary to move him to the hospital in Lincoln, where expert medical care could be afforded him.

Surviving the war veteran are the following: five sons, Allen and Elmer, of Mt. Pulaski; George of Dawson; James of Lincoln, and Charles of Detroit, Mich. One sister, Mrs. Rebecca Arning of Coffeerville, Kans., survives in addition to many grand and great-grandchildren.

Among the major engagements in which he served during the Civil War were the Battles of Jackson and Vicksburg. He was captured and taken a prisoner after an attack at Guntown, Miss. and was incarcerated in the Andersonville prison where he remained for five months. Believed to have been dying of typhoid fever, he was released and after a desperate struggle with his health, he recovered.

Johnny was a familiar part of the Mount Pulaski picture as he was a regular visitor downtown and kept going with the aid of his cane until he was forced to be confined to his bed.