

1901

*Donora  
Golden Jubilee*

---



AUGUST 12-18

1951

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# *Congratulations to Donora*

**ON 50 PRODUCTIVE AND  
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All the members of our organization join wholeheartedly in congratulating the Borough of Donora on the distinguished record of progress established by the community in the 50 years just past.

We join, too, in the sincere hope that the next half century will see the achievement of continuing growth and increasing prosperity by the community. To this end, American Steel and Wire Company pledges its best efforts, in the earnest belief that friendly cooperation will result in benefits of value both to the community and its individual citizens.

**American Steel & Wire Company**



THE OFFICERS AND MEN  
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CIO LOCAL No. 1758

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We Offer Our Congratulations on the 50th Anniversary of Donora



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# GOLDEN JUBILEE of the Borough of Donora



A Presentation to the People of  
Donora and the Monongahela Valley

Sponsored by the  
BOROUGH OF DONORA, DONORA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
and  
BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL MEN

With the cooperation of our  
FRATERNAL, CIVIC AND LABOR ORGANIZATIONS,  
SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES

and  
THE CITIZENS OF DONORA

*Dedicated to the principles of better understanding between peoples of the world; freedom of worship; freedom of speech; freedom of the press; unity in the continued progress of our Borough and nation . . . . . salute to our youth and peace and good will to all men everywhere. . . . .*

MRS. MOSE MILLER

WILLIAM RANK

## OUR HOME TOWN

We think it is only fitting, on this, the Fiftieth Anniversary of Donora's birthday, that we express our gratitude to those forces which have contributed to the steady growth of our thriving town, since its founding in 1901. Our deepest appreciation to the great U. S. Steel Corporation, which selected Donora as a site for one of its largest plants. Our praise to the religious, educational, and civic leaders who, through the years, have shown faith in the future of Donora during prosperity and adversity. And to the citizens of Donora, whose patronage justifies our existence, we express our sincere thanks. This store, established in 1902, by my late father, and in continuous operation since, hopes to be able to serve you for many years to come, in the best possible manner.

HERMAN MILLER

DOROTHY SABO

**MILLER'S**  
*for them*

JOSEPH BORINO

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on Your

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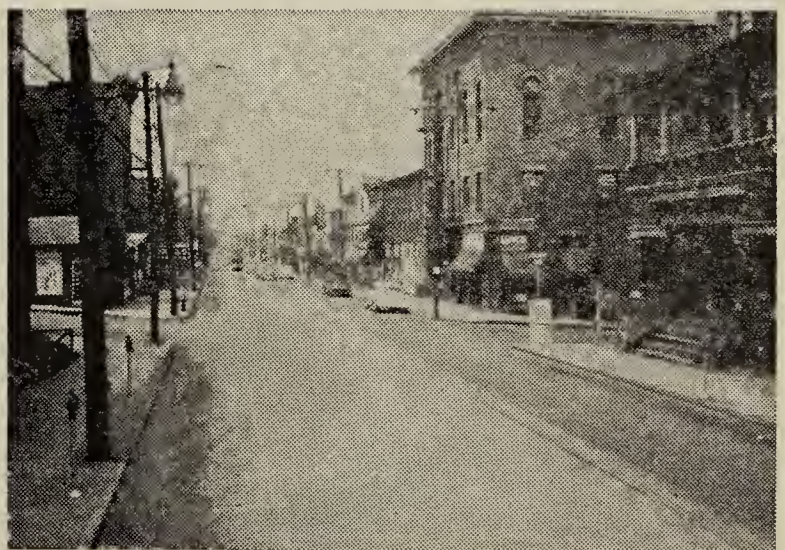
McKean Avenue—1905

1951

The  
Donora Story

by

John P. Clark



McKean Avenue—1951



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Alden F. Miller, Secretary

Thomas McCulloch, V. President

Martin Wehousie, Treasurer

## Our 25th Year of Community Service

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### LIONS TOAST

Not above you — Not below you — But right with you



## *Foreword*

The aim of THE DONORA STORY is to present to the people a brief outline of our rich historical heritage.

During the research and writing of the story, a vagrant but insistent thought protruded itself in the form of a hope that some of this story might prove interesting, entertaining, and enlightening to other groups and individuals who have found Donora a truly remarkable and unusual community.

It is with regret that only a matter of weeks was necessarily allotted to the research and writing of the story for it is felt that many significant aspects of the town's history have been omitted as well as people whose lives were pertinent to the growth of the community.

It is our hope, however, that this story will aid anyone not too familiar with Donora's history to understand and appreciate "The Home of Champions."

My own appreciation and deep gratitude for the information in THE DONORA STORY can be acknowledged here. So many people have aided in the story through personal recollections, old letters and ancient diaries that it would require a separate manuscript to mention all of them. I do take pride in mentioning the people who worked so diligently and successfully in assembling material without which THE DONORA STORY could not have been told. My gratitude for their efforts cannot be contained only in a public mention of their names but lives in my own realization of their service to the community and the esteem with which I hold them. These people I particularly wish to thank: Mr. Roman Koehler, Miss May Flinn, Mr. Paul G. Hayes, Mr. Clare Emler, Mr. W. W. Dennis, Miss Edna Pipes, Mrs. Ruth Gilmore Lewis, Miss Katherine Hayes, and Mrs. Alden Miller.

I also wish to acknowledge the Donora Historical Society from whose files much of the early material for the story was obtained.

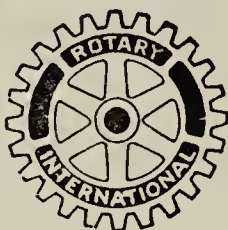
John P. Clark

"SERVICE ABOVE SELF"

"HE PROFITS MOST WHO SERVES BEST"

# Rotary Club of Donora, Pennsylvania

1922



1951

## — OFFICERS —

H. Austin Pete, President

Ray Altenhof, Vice President

Dr. Michael J. Herk, Secretary-Treasurer

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Roman E. Koehler

Charles C. Kane

With a record of 29 years of devoted service to our community,  
Donora Rotary Club pledges continued efforts for its  
welfare and advancement.

# The Donora Story

by

J. P. Clark

Typical of the many robust industrialized towns throughout America is Donora with its 12,000 people. The town, situated on a stiff slope of land which rises sharply out of the Monongahela River valley, is inhabited by a heterogeneous group of people whose manifold cultures have been swirled into one to make Donora the Home of Champions. The Monongahela River which collars Donora almost makes an island of the community as it winds its way northward to Pittsburgh.

Donora, snuggled between the hills of Western Pennsylvania, has reached national importance in two fields: industry and athletics. Its chief industries are American Steel and Wire Works, Donora Zinc Works and coal mining is also extensive in the area immediately surrounding the town itself. The Pennsylvania Railroad reaches a branch of rails through Donora, connecting it with Pittsburgh and the Donora Southern Railroad rolls the huge steel output to the rails of the nation. It is a steel town, a zinc town, and a town of healthy, cheerful, hospitable people.

Donora has Stan Musial of the St. Louis Cardinals to an acclaiming nation of baseball fans and an idol to the youth of the nation. Arnold "Pope" Galiffa, All American quarterback at West Point in 1949 has thrilled the nation with his superlative generalship on the football field and his skill as a forward passer. "Pope" recently won national recognition again in Korea where he accomplished the feat of throwing a grenade accurately into a nest of Reds 75 yards away. And then, in 1945, Donora High School was rated as having the second best high school football team in the nation.

The people are justly proud of their athletes and industrial importance to the nation, but they are also proud of their civic, religious and educational organizations. Twenty-two churches, one synagogue, six large school buildings and 135 civic, cultural, religious and nationality organizations and clubs are worthy of a people's pride.

Donora is a town sanguine and singing with the customs and health and rough strength of a people who came from many different countries to live and work and grow together in a priceless amity and truly American fashion.

The twenty-two churches and synagogue, with their architectural variety lending the town a cosmopolitan and religious motivation alone speak for the spiritual significance within the people. And from the sloping neck of land the boisterous shouts of the mills rise to meet the silver chimes of the church bells in a surprising harmony of sound. Frequently, the mournful moan of a steamboat wafts

## Frank H. Ries

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We thank Donora for its patronage for the past  
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"MOVERS OF THE BETTER FURNITURE"

"ACROSS THE STREET OR ACROSS THE CONTINENT"

up to join the harmony in a lonely undertone, and in a rare, still moment in the night the muffled pounding of its fiery heart steals across the town, echoing the fierce strength and purpose of its people.

The people are alive and interested—vitaly interested—in its community government and its schools. It not only speaks strongly in its political elections but it is purposefully aware of the rights of the individual and the freedom that is America.

The story of Donora is the story of its people; all its people through its industries, churches and schools.

As far back as authenticated history can take us, all of Southwestern Pennsylvania, including the land Donora now claims, was possessed by the Iroquois Indian group. The Iroquois had their headquarters in New York state and used this section as hunting and fishing grounds. It is known, however, that migrating tribes of Delawares, Shawnees and mongrel Mingoes inhabited this section, possibly at their peril.

Highly interesting and enlightening facts about more ancient Indian lore have been unearthed in and around Donora in a relatively recent time. These ancient Indians buried their dead in the position of a baby in a mother's womb. The grave itself was rounded and the sitting, curled body was heavily covered with shells gathered from the forest floor and streams.

The land that is known now as Donora and all the land stretching westward from the mountains and north to Erie was claimed both by Virginia and Pennsylvania. This section apparently was not in the grant William Penn received from Charles II of England. If it was, Virginia disputed that claim successfully for a time. George Washington surveyed this area for the Virginia colony and it was known at that time as Virginia. It wasn't until the Baltimore Agreement on August 31, 1779 that this disputed area became a part of Pennsylvania. At that time it lost its name as Augusta, Virginia to become part of Pennsylvania gain this territory. The line drawn at the Baltimore Agreement set the boundary of the new Pennsylvania to include the land west of the mountains and north to Erie. The southern boundary at this time was drawn at the Mason-Dixon line which was at this time the southern boundary of Washington County. This county, of which Donora is a part, was named after George Washington who surveyed it sometime previous to 1770.

In 1781 Washington County was redrawn and patterned after the thirteen colonies in that it set aside thirteen townships to form the county. At the present time there are thirty-four townships. Before this enactment Washington County had two townships, Fallowfield and Nottingham. The land

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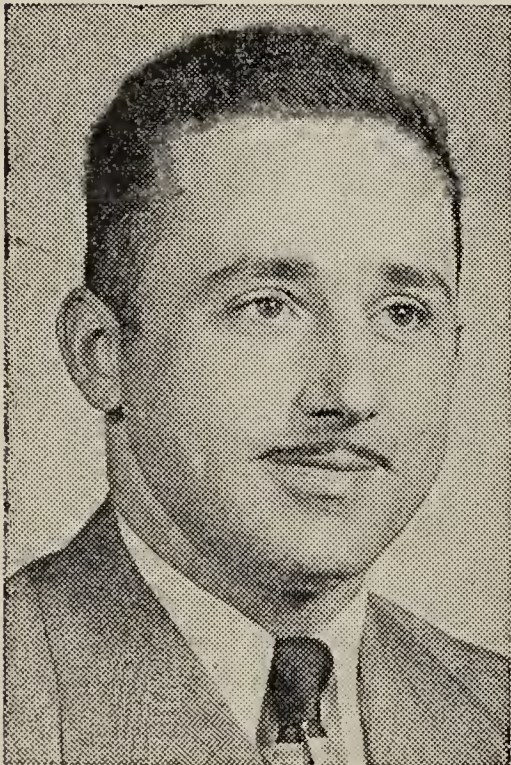
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DONORA, PA.

BEST WISHES  
TO THE  
CITIZENS OF DONORA  
FROM  
S. P. KINNEY ENGINEERS INC.  
CARNEGIE, PA.

BLAST FURNACE AND  
STEEL PLANT EQUIPMENT



C. KENNETH CHARLES  
Gemologist  
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FROM DONORA'S  
SENIOR JEWELER  
GREETINGS

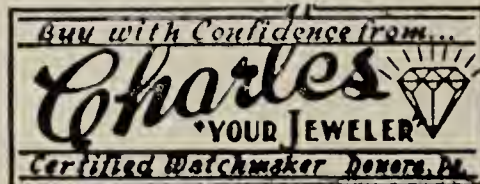
*The past forty years  
have been a pleasure  
serving you with*

"JEWELRY OF THE  
BETTER KIND"

May we continue to  
merit your approval  
and confidence



C. B. CHARLES  
"Your Jeweler"  
1911-1951



that Donora now occupies was Knox township in the latter enactment.

This section that is now Donora was called Horseshoe Bottom in 1769. Possibly the name seemed appropriate due to the curve of the Monongahela river which outlines the territory in a wide, sweeping horseshoe shape.

At this time, 1769, a man named Strasburg and another Nicholas Crist had some of this section surveyed. They built and operated a grain mill and laid out streets—Market Street, Chestnut, Walnut—which retain the same positions and names today.

In 1794 Crist sold property to Robert Gallaway. He in turn sold it to Harmonious Cole in 1795. Then Cole sold it to Manuel Hoover..Hoover sold it to Charles DeHaas and DeHaas laid out the town into lots in 1814 and then sold a part of his property to John Neal in 1815.

About 1775, Peter Castner, of German extraction, beheld the rich and abundant river valley and settled here. On the third of June, 1794, he secured the property by patent from the commonwealth. The patent was signed by Thomas Mifflin, governor of the Commonwealth.

Then Peter Castner's family hailed from Philadelphia and young Peter settled first in Latrobe before making a clearing and rearing his log cabin near the river bank on a gently sloping knoll. The tract of land which he took up soon became known as "Walnut Bottom" and comprised 282 acres.

When Peter Castner died the title passed to his two sons, John and Michael, the former holding the portion which was situated in and around the old homestead.

Michael Castner sold 118 acres of his farm to Josiah Allen in 1830. The next to succeed to the Castner land was Daniel. When he died in 1875 Bert W. Castner, a son became the sole owner.

Meanwhile John Neal, in 1815 advertised in a paper that there were twenty houses built there. This section then was known as Columbia. About this time, 1815, DeHaas left Columbia for West Alexander. He had hoped the community would become the county seat and was disappointed. About four years after this, in 1819, the postal laws effected a change in the name of this community. It seems that another community had previously been named Columbia and this community or Horseshoe Bottom then changed its name to West Columbia.

In May, 1899, R. B. Mellon bought for the Union Improvement Company of Pittsburgh all the Castner estate and 70 acres from the Heslep family, 130 acres from the Bradford Allens and 30 acres from Alexander and Company. Since these purchases were made large portions of adjoining tracts of land have been added. Then the Union Steel

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OF THE

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DONORA STEEL AND WIRE WORKS

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T. H. Durst ..... Chief Accountant  
J. W. Cox ..... Division Superintendent, Blast Furnace  
K. C. Shearer ..... Division Superintendent, Open Hearth  
G. D. Johnston ..... Division Superintendent, Blooming & Billet Mill  
A. W. Strachan ..... Division Superintendent, Rod Mills  
J. J. Just ..... Division Superintendent, Wire & Wire Products  
G. D. Schwarm ..... Division Superintendent, Engineering & Maintenance  
E. M. Brackemeyer ..... Works Supervisor, Production Planning  
J. R. Benner ..... Works Metallurgist  
A. W. Weddell ..... Works Industrial Engineer  
O. W. Truax ..... Superintendent, Industrial Relations  
J. H. Lingrel ..... Office Manager

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Compliments

of

a

Friend



Company began the erection of the steel mill which is at the present time the American Steel and Wire Works.

The Union Steel Company broke ground that was to be the heartbeat of the modern community on May 29, 1900 and production was begun the following September. A second rod mill was started late in 1902. Ground was broken for the open hearth plant on March 27, 1902.

Another family whose name has been linked for almost two centuries with the land that is Donora is the Heslep family. Tom Heslep came over the old trail from Philadelphia in 1769. He had land surveyed that had been purchased from a family named Proctor. Tom settled his family on the 304 acres adjacent to the Castner acres and built his home near where 10th street now stands. Tom, who was a captain in the militia, fought in the Revolutionary War. It appears that Tom left much of the farming of the place at Horseshoe Bend to his two sons, John and Thomas, for he was appointed to take account of the stores needed for the poor in West Fallowfield and Chester County. In 1778 he was granted \$6000 by the Superior Council to purchase provisions for the Colonial Army in Chester County.

Captain Tom Heslep's claim to his land was disputed but in 1796 with 400 pounds he had it patented. He then divided his property between his two sons, giving Thomas 118 acres that would approximate the land between where 12th street and 15th street now stands. John received the remaining acres.

Camp meetings were later held near the river shore on the Heslep estate and this beach was a popular meeting place for the folks around the district.

John Heslep had two sons in the War between the States, Robert and George. Robert was a captain and George a major in the 6th Company, 4th Division, 2nd Brigade of the Pennsylvania Militia. There were 115 officers and men in this company who were residing in Carroll Township at this time. It was formed for service in the Mexican War but it was not called up for service then.

The Heslep place was sold to W. H. Donner for the Union Steel Company in 1900 and James Heslep, the heir, moved to a house he built on the hill and operated the "System" mine, located near Eleventh Street and Meldon Avenue.

The Gilmore family, for whom the Gilmore cemetery is named, moved in at a later date. In 1863 John Gilmore came here from Pittsburgh and bought land from the Bissells. John operated a steamboat line of eight vessels on the river. It was known as the Gilmore line.

Captain John Gilmore and his sons steamed south with their river fleet and took part in naval en-

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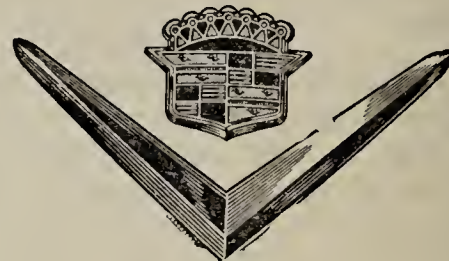
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PRODUCTS



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CELEBRATING

Pontiac's Silver Anniversary

Donora's Golden Anniversary

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BINDI BROTHERS WISH TO THANK THE PEOPLE OF DONORA FOR THE PROGRESS OUR PARTNERSHIP HAS MADE IN THE 15 SHORT YEARS WE HAVE SERVED THEM

1936—April 10th—George and Victor Bindi came to Donora as total strangers. Immediately Donora took to Pontiac and to Bindi Brothers' Service.

1936—July—Gene Bindi entered the partnership as Service Manager.

1936—October—Thomas Bindi, Jr., entered the partnership as Service Manager and Gene moved into the Sales Department.

1937—Bindi's sold 125 Pontiacs and 240 Used Cars. From this year on we have never been able to supply the demand for Pontiacs nor Cadillacs.

1939—Expanded facilities to Monongahela, taking on in both Communities, the franchise for Cadillac — "The Standard of the World" and America's most copied car.

1941—Outbreak of War with Japan and five long war years. During these five years our service department carried the load of overhead which was steadily growing due to the economic conditions of the country.

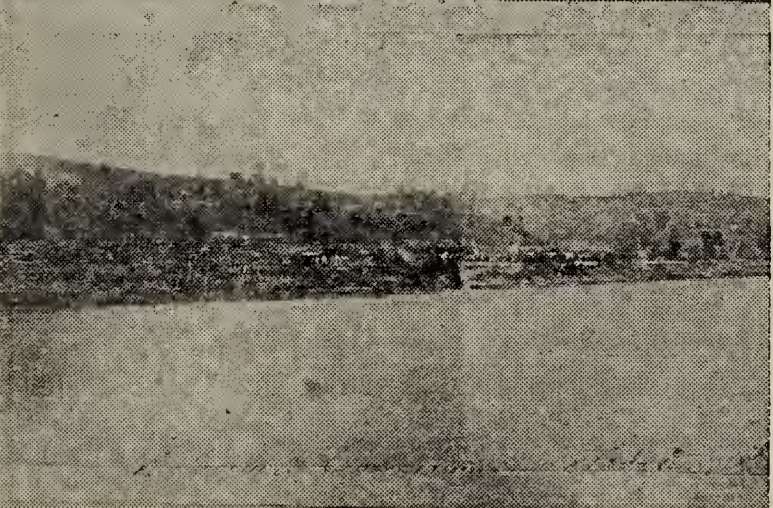
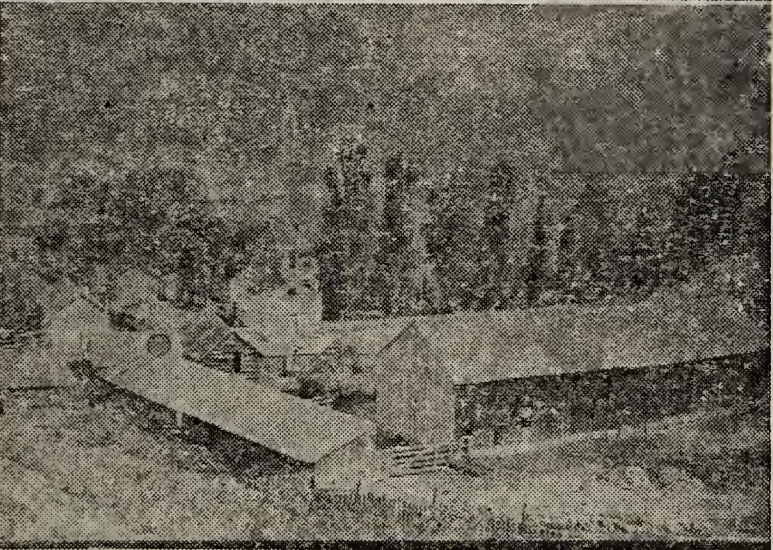
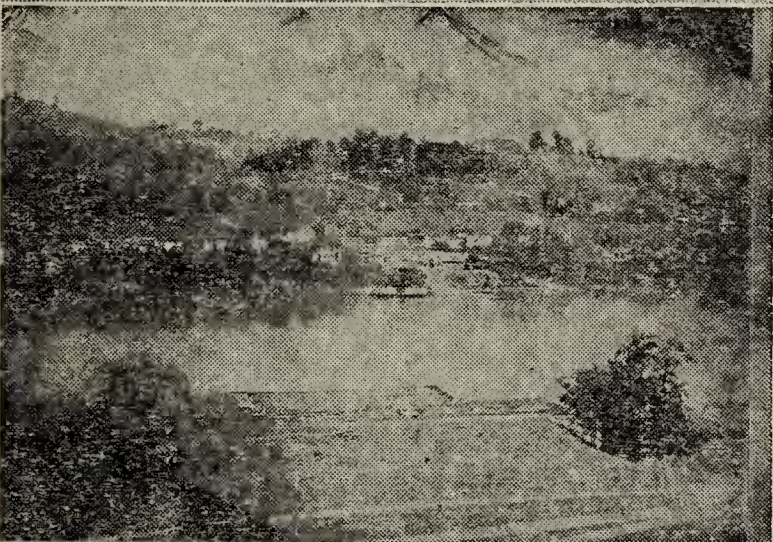
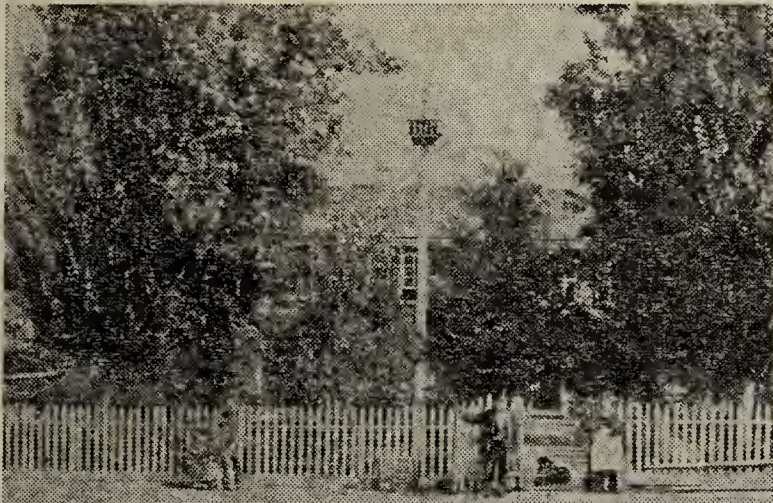
1946—Pontiac and Cadillac resumed production of automobiles. Bindi Brothers were swamped with orders, until five years later, we are still six months behind on our delivery of new cars.

1951—Bindi Brothers purchased the building in which we are now located, which has floor space of 11,000 square feet with our adjacent Filling Station and Used Car lot which is 100 x 200 feet.

THROUGHOUT THE FIFTEEN YEARS WE HAVE BEEN IN BUSINESS HERE, WITH YOUR COOPERATION AND SUPPORT, WE HAVE GROWN RIGHT ALONG WITH DONORA. WE ARE THANKFUL AND PROUD TO BE A PART OF SUCH A GROWING AND PROGRESSIVE COMMUNITY.

**BEST WISHES DONORA!**

Do You Remember?



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PETERSON  
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Bee Bee Electric

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### WHEN GRANDMA WAS A GIRL

Grandpa took her courtin' in a buggy. They lived in a gas-lit house with a pump-water supply. Grandma made many of her own clothes. Grandpa rode to work on a trolley, and tended the coal fire morning and evening. In 50 years, our way of living is amazingly different. Bob drives Mary miles in a smooth-riding auto to catch the latest movie. Their house is a push-button electric. Machines do their washing and cleaning, supply heat and amusement. Their food comes from a magic-like freezer. Their clothes, from a store that caters to their tastes and budget. These are the miracles that have been achieved in half a century. Advances made so quickly that Mom and Dad, and even Grandma and Grandpa, have lived to see and enjoy them!

Next to Your Town, The Best Town in the U. S. A.

Donora Chamber of Commerce

gements against the Rebels during the War between the States.

Captain James Gilmore, a son, was particularly adroit when he joined his steamboat, the "Wild Cat," with a fleet of northern gunboats on the Cumberland River. Another son, Frank Gilmore, enlisted and fought with Company A, 155th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers.

Another son, George, farmed the land. It was Captain John Gilmore who deeded the land on the hillside to the people of the district for a cemetery.

Captain John Gilmore was one of the first men to use "red dog" or burned slate for the repair of roads. He also operated a coal mine and the old slack pile is still visible near the entrance to the Gilmore Cemetery. This mine was known as the "Wildcat Mine."

"Bisselltown," a typical mining community with a long row of frame houses stretching along parallel with the river furnished housing for the employees of this mine. The ferry lane, which led to the river shore and the ferry was the main street of this little community.

Leading down past the sawmill and parallel with the river was a driveway, at the terminus of which was "Gilmore's Landing." Here the passenger and freight packets which plied the Monongahela in these days would land on a "hail" from shore and take on passengers and freight. The boats plied between Pittsburgh and Brownsville and later to Morgantown and Fairmont. The Gilmore Ferry, adjacent to the landing was operated by a man named Koechlein for many years.

Across the river, on the Webster side, above the ferry landing was a large grass plot known as "The Widow Green." It was here that the Volunteers assembled in the spring of 1861 and organized for entering the service of the Union Army against the rebellion. Webster, Bakertown and Sunnyside furnished many men in Company M, 100th Pennsylvania Volunteers, more familiarly known as "The Roundheads." It was at the "Widow Green" they assembled before embarking on a boat for Elizabeth, Pennsylvania, where they joined the balance of the Company.

In 1900 the community of buildings in West Columbia was removed to make room for the Union Steel mill on the shores of the river. The name Donora is a fusing of W. H. Donner and Nora Mellon. No other town anywhere has a name identical to this. It was Donner's choice of a site for the mill in cooperation with Mellon and it was Donner who came in to buy the property for the mill from the encumbent land owners, some of whom have been mentioned here.

The United States postal authorities sent a supply of money orders to the new Donora post office with Donora misspelled. The name on the money or-

# Kanes'

## Restaurant

AND

## Bar

621 McKEAN AVENUE DONORA, PA.



COMPLIMENTS

of

Donora Lodge No. 1265

# B. P. O. Elks

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# THE HERALD-AMERICAN

"DONORA'S HOME NEWSPAPER"

Commercial Printing

Typewriters

Office Supplies

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Congratulations

To Our Friends and Neighbors

on Their

Golden Jubilee

AMERICAN CHAIN & CABLE CO., INC.

Page Steel & Wire Division

MONESSEN, PA.

ders was spelled D-E-N-O-R-A. It caused some confusion for awhile until new forms arrived.

On February 11, 1901 the court approved the application to incorporate the town of Donora. The Donora Citizen's Band paraded for the first time in celebration of the event.

A preliminary meeting of the members of the council-elect held March 1, 1901 was called to order by the first burgess-elect, Bert W. Castner. Present were the councilmen-elect of the first council: C. Devall, E. Jeffries, John G. Parke, W. W. Latta, Dr. William Lewis, Gustav Schaaf and J. P. Power. The purpose of the meeting was to take the oath of office. Burgess Bert Castner swore them in and the first town fathers assumed their responsibilities for the new town.

These men were all leaders and filled with enthusiasm and hope for the future of the town that had just been born. There was John G. Parke, who laid out the town of Donora and surveyed the site of the various plants for the Union Steel Company and was one of the first to arrive in Donora in 1900. He was employed as chief of the Engineering Department and won fame in 1889 when he warned people of the Johnstown Flood. His dashing ride on horseback ahead of the deluge saved many lives that tragic day. And Gustav Schaaf, who had been a captain of Company A, 10th Regiment, 28th Division, National Guard of Pennsylvania won fame leading his company in battles in the Philippines during the Spanish American War. There was Doctor Lewis, the first doctor in town and who lived to see the remarkable growth of the young burgeoning town and the modern records it has set. All these men were leaders with a strong civic pride and the force of personality to get things accomplished — and there was much to be done!

The first council committees formed at this time included: W. Lewis, W. T. Whitledge and L. J. Altenhof on the Finance Committee; Whitledge, Altenhof and Erdelyi on the Highway and Sewers Committee; Z. W. Mullin, Lewis and Erdelyi on the Police-Fire Committee; Whitledge, Parke and Devall on the Printing-Ordinance Committee; the Borough-Property Committee had Parke, Erdelyi and Altenhof; Altenhof, Parke, Devall on the Legal Committee; and on the Light and Water Committee, Devall, Whitledge and Lewis.

The first bills to be accepted by the Council were:

Police duty — John Sommerville.....	\$80.00
C. H. Wilson.....	60.00
Richard Bowden .....	60.00
Sommerville — Meals for prisoners.....	6.75

On September 10, 1901 excitement reached a feverish pitch. People were pouring into Donora with all the zest of their pioneering spirit to carve a prosperous town out of the land that had once been the Iroquois hunting grounds. Lots were staked out between what is now Eighth Street and

COMPLIMENTS

OF

McFeely

Brick Company

LATROBE, PA.

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*Lee Rongaus*

**Redwood Bar**

Hello Neighbor!

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR  
50th ANNIVERSARY

Continued Success and Best Wishes To You  
Donora People, For Many, Many More Anniversaries



FRANK A. PIZZICA

Buick

SALES AND SERVICE

White Trucks

MONONGAHELA, PA.

"USED BUT NOT ABUSED CARS"

PHONE 570



Twelfth Street. Tags were placed on the stakes and the time for buying set at 10:30 A.M. the following morning.

After the manner of the times, the people camped on the boundary of the staked lots and waited for the morning and the 10:30 signal. At 10:30 a gun was fired and the rush for lots started. On that day 200 lots were sold for a total of over \$100,000.

It was a new town geared to the excitement of starting life with a challenge from mud and trees and shrubbery. It was rough from the necessity of living roughly. But the adventure was worth it all in the heritage that is Donora today.

The following May the Cascade Hotel, which is now the Tri-Plant Building was erected and the Jenissee Land Company organized to sell lots in South Donora. The same month a contract was let to build the Donora Hotel and the Erbeck Brothers were awarded the contract to pave the downtown streets.

A jarring note obtruded itself here when it was discovered that Donora was in dry territory and liquor could not be sold. The Budke bill was introduced in the state assembly to repeal the law so far as Donora was concerned but it was defeated on the first vote. A petition was circulated in Donora to reconsider and taken to Harrisburg by a delegation which included John G. Parke, Burgess Bert Castner, Dr. William Lewis and John Ailes. This delegation was successful and the law repealed.

The first meeting of the Donora School Board took place on May 1, 1901. The officers elected were: Edmond Jefferies, President; James P. Castner, Secretary; L. T. Claybaugh, W. H. Farrell, and James Boyd, Directors.

On June 3 the school board met again and elected the first staff of teachers for the borough of Donora. J. C. Caldwell was appointed Principal and Laura Tomer, Margaret Maloy, Emma Haywood, Eva Claybaugh, Lucy Sphar, Mary Campbell, and Mrs. Grace Orr were elected teachers and school opened for the first time in the Donora Borough on September 9 with 252 pupils enrolled.

On May 5 of this eventful year colored residents of the town met at the home of James Minney and organized the First A. M. E. Church of Donora. Then, on June 26, ground was broken for the first church in the borough of Donora.

Foreshadowing the coming fame of Donora in athletics, a group of business and professional men met to organize Donora's first baseball team on July 23, 1901. Present at that meeting were: Walter S. Spragg, James P. Castner, Dr. J. Howard Chessrown, Dr. William Lewis, Dr. J. Sprowls, L. W. Claybaugh, John W. Mullin, William B. Curry, Walter Leeper and W. W. Latta.



— SUN —

Wallpaper & Paint Co.

SHERWIN WILLIAM PAINT

Inlaid Linoleum

Plastic Walltile

Rubber Floor Tile

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PETRO BAKERY

HOME OF FINE BAKED GOODS

Wedding, Birthday and Cakes  
for All Special Occasions

722 McKEAN AVENUE DONORA, PA.

The First Bakery Shop in Donora  
was located here.



ESTABLISHED SINCE 1933

# VALDISERRI'S

Donora Distributing Company

231 SYCAMORE AVENUE

DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA

PHONE 225

30 Brands of Beer

On Warehouse Floor at All Times

BEVERAGES — SOFT DRINKS

WELCOME TO OUR GOLDEN JUBILEE

---

Kimball Safety Products Company extends best wishes to  
Donora and the American Steel and Wire Company  
on its 50th Birthday

## KIMBALL SAFETY PRODUCTS CO.

9310 WADE PARK AVE., CLEVELAND 6, OHIO

Manufacturers of Safety clothing and Safety goggles  
for the protection of the industrial worker.

Under the leadership of these men, the town Donora grew miraculously. In October the first free home library received books from the Carnegie Library at Homestead, Pennsylvania. The Greensboro Gas Company turned natural gas into the lines and made gas available to Donora residents. Ground was broken for the construction of the Matthews Woven Wire Fence plant shortly after this in November, a telephone exchange opened with nineteen subscribers signed up for service. A portable sawmill was set up near Eighth Street and Meldon Avenue for sawing trees cut down on back streets and alleys. Charles L. Latta, the present borough school truant officer, started making daily trips as messenger between Donora and Pittsburgh. Although Donora was growing with the speed and efficiency that has made America rich and powerful, the people of Donora did not overlook the necessities of culture, religion and education. Neither did they forget to safeguard their homes and property, for on July 5, 1901 a meeting was held to organize a volunteer fire department. Then, at a later meeting on September 30, with twenty-three members the organization was complete. The officers of the first Volunteer Fire Department of Donora were: President, L. M. Carpenter; Secretary, J. G. Robinson; Treasurer, Walter S. Spragg; Chief, D. F. Milison; Assistant Chief, S. S. Kelly and Captain, William Kirkwood.

The first purchase of fire equipment included 1400 feet of fire hose, two hose carts—one for the the hill district and one for the downtown district—and one hook and ladder wagon. Those vehicles were pulled and shoved by the men and it is easy to imagine the arduous task it must have been to propel them over the unimproved streets and up the hills. From this modest beginning the Donora Volunteer Fire Department now boasts the most up-to-date equipment and one of the best fire fighting organizations in this section.

Donora, already excellent with the growth of river trade and Gilmore's packets added to its transportation facilities when on April 8, 1867, the Monongahela Valley Railroad Company was organized. This company was authorized to build a railroad from Pittsburgh to Rice's Landing. On February 4, 1870, the name was changed to the Pittsburgh, Virginia and Charleston Railway Company. Construction of the road started in 1870 and was completed in 1881. The Pennsylvania Railroad purchased the franchise of the company in 1879 and began operating it under the name of the Monongahela Division.

The right of way in this section was bought from the Gilmores, Hesleps, Castners, Allens and DeHaas.

In 1908 the Donora station had the biggest business of any station on the Monongahela Division, aside from the Southside, Pittsburgh station. There were nineteen men employed at the Donora freight office.

COMPLIMENTS OF

## Club Billiards

• LATEST INFORMATION •

ON ALL SPORTS RESULTS

654 McKEAN AVENUE

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## Fraternal Order of Eagles

Donora Aerie No. 502

INSTITUTED OCT. 14, 1903

Sponsored and credited for passage of Workman's Compensation, Mother's Pensions, Old Age Pensions, and Social Security Laws.

Pays Sick and Funeral Benefits



Compliments of

# DONORA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

ORGANIZED — 1936

M. J. HANNIGAN, M.D. — President

R. W. KOEHLER, M.D. — Vice President

J. E. NOVOTNY, M.D. — Secretary-Treasurer

D. E. BROWN, M.D.

EDWARD ROTH, M.D.

C. O. CHALFANT, M.D.

H. J. LEVIN, M.D.

W. F. RONGAUS, M.D.

W. J. RONGAUS, M.D.

GRANT FURLONG, M.D.

JOSEPH BERLIN, M.D.



The first locomotive to arrive here for the Donora Southern Railroad to transport materials from the mill was Locomotive Number 1 on January 6, 1903. It had its first run on January 16, 1903 with the following crew: Engineer, William Bowmaster (who at this writing is an engineer for the same company); Conductor, J. D. Foster; Fireman, Charles Phillips; First Brakeman, Thomas Behanna; Second Brakeman, James Sickles.

On Saturday, December 22, 1906, the first trolley car, an old timer, arrived in Donora perched proudly atop a Pennsylvania Railroad flat car. It attracted as much attention as a circus. The people of Donora swarmed around the vain vehicle and cheered as two teams of horses pulled it to Eighth Street and McKean Avenue. This old Pittsburgh Railway Car was christened "Maude" and bore the scarred number 429. The street-car named "Maude" brayed, trembled, balked, squealed and flung fiery sparks as she travelled between First and Twelfth Streets on McKean Avenue. The first day a total of forty-seven Donorans paid to ride.

The bridge connecting Donora with Webster and the towns across the river was dedicated on December 4, 1908. This was a gala day in the history of Donora and marked the end of the ferry boats.

James Castner had charge of the parade that day which included horse-drawn floats. Rebecca Donora Castner, who was the first baby born in Donora, cut the ribbon at the dedication of the new bridge. Rebecca Donora Castner is the present Mrs. Rebecca Burke. In the carriage of honor that conveyed "Becky" to the bridge were the Reverend John Fulton, Presbyterian minister, Mose Miller and John N. Mullin.

People came from far and near to witness the event. New York, Philadelphia and Chicago had interested crowds here to aid in the celebration of the opening of the bridge which was to add another important link to the march of progress. Squire Kelly of Webster, across the river, and George Allen of Donora worked arduously toward the culmination of the bridge.

The earliest school in this immediate vicinity was at Baird Station, at a point where the Donora Zinc Works now stand and Black Diamond. In 1790 a log cabin school, now gone was operated for the children hereabouts.

Sometime after the War between the States a school house was located about where Fifteenth Street and Meldon Avenue join. Property for the school was given by Captain John Gilmore. It was called Gilmore's School at the time and was a one-story frame structure set back about fifty feet from the highway to allow play room for the children.

In later years, an additional building was needed for the increased enrollment and it was made larger. This building is still standing. The property reverted to the Gilmore estate when it ceased its function as a school.

SERVING DONORA TWO WAYS

## Keystone Restaurant

Friendly, Cheerful Atmosphere

REAL HOME COOKED MEALS

Chicken \* Steaks \* Chops

Delicious Coffee

Prompt and Courteous Service

702 McKEAN AVE.

PHONE 9581

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CONTRACTOR

Free Estimates Insurance Coverage

Free Advice on Your Painting Problems

DuPont Pre-Tested Paints  
For Every Purpose

113 Sixth St. — Donora — Phone 123-R

## *Siegel's and its Employees*

ARE PROUD TO BE A  
PART OF DONORA'S 50  
YEAR HISTORY AND TO  
SHARE IN ITS PROGRESS

(Formerly Dan's Dollar Store)



Compliments

of

THE DONORA DENTAL  
ASSOCIATION

DR. B. J. BROWN

DR. GEORGE W. CAMPBELL

DR. JOHN A. DOUGERT

DR. L. S. FERRETTI

DR. THOMAS J. HOOP

DR. ABRAHAM F. KIMEL

DR. HENRY A. SCHMITT

Best Wishes on Donora's Fiftieth Anniversary



The first teacher is believed to have been Hibbard Phillips of Brownsville, whose son was the famous correspondent of the London Daily News, Sir Percival Phillips.

There are some records of Number 9, Victory advanced, Number 10, Gilmore's Primary and Number 11, Gilmore's Advanced schools with teachers listed as Mr. Hetherington, Miss Ida Cummings and Miss Kate B. Bezell; Bert W. Castner was also a teacher in this school. This was in the early 70's after he had attended California Normal School. Another teacher was William L. Bird who resided in either Brownsville or California and later practiced law in Pittsburgh. For a number of years his daughter May was a member of the Donora Public School Faculty.

The territory served by these schools was, roughly, from the present entrance to Palmer Park along the highway up to and including the old Heslep homestead and as far back in the country as the William Rabe farm.

The families attending these schools were: Beazells, McIlcans, Molsbergers, Rabes, Browns, Bairds, Flints, Gilmores, Bakes, Hesleps, Thomas', Shaws, Binleins, Butlers, and families in Bisseltown.

A popular form of entertainment was called "Literary" and was held during the winter months at the different school houses. Readings, essays and debates were given. Debates were the most popular activity and the debaters tackled domestic and national problems to the satisfaction of themselves and the visiting parents and friends.

A complete listing of the schools in this area which includes Carrol Township in the early days is as follows: Number 1, Columbia, William Smith; Number 2, Star, Miss Mary Hootman; Number 3, Galbraith, Miss Effie Johnston; Number 4, Stone, Charles E. Kennedy; Number 5, Valley Inn, Mrs. Annie Weygandt; Number 6, Mingo Primary, Miss Lena Lee Boyle; Number 7, Mingo Advanced, H. L. Hetherington; Number 8, Victory Primary, Miss Florence Grant; Number 9, Victory Advanced (No election); Number 10, Gilmore's Primary, Miss Ida Cummings; Number 11, Gilmore's Advanced, Miss Kate Bezell.

Before the first sale of lots in Donora was held in 1900, the Union Improvement Company knew that the young community would need a school. Therefore, before a lot was sold, the foundation for the school had been laid. It was a modern brick building of eight rooms on the hill at Second Street. The school was called the Allen School.

In that first year, 252 pupils enrolled but when the second year rolled around 625 pupils enrolled. It was necessary to obtain five temporary rooms. Two of these rooms were in the house now occupied by Mrs. John Hauck near Tenth Street on McKean Avenue.

=====  
COMPLIMENTS  
OF

Book's Shoe Store

=====  
Carson's Esso

=====  
20 YEARS  
SERVING DONORA  
=====

## "GOLDEN JUBILEE"

We are looking just around the corner to our 50th Anniversary. We are proud of being Donora's Pioneer Jewelers, having served the people of Donora and surrounding territory for a little over 48 years.

Brown and Son opened their doors to the public of Donora on May 9th, 1903. Below are the news item announcing the opening of a new Jewelry Firm, and the first ad run by H. R. Brown and Sons just as they appeared in the issue of the newspaper dated Friday, May 8th, 1903 then known as the Donora American.

### "NEW JEWELRY FIRM"

H. R. Brown & Son of New Brighton are opening a jewelry store in the Stickel Bldg., 6th St., where A. Gabriel was formerly located. They are putting in a large stock, including \$5000 worth of Diamonds. The firm is composed of H. R. Brown and two sons, Walter J. and Ross M. The brothers yesterday purchased C. F. Blair's store at Monessen and Ross M. will have charge of that jewelry store. Walter J. will be manager of the Donora store.

### FIRST AD

WE WILL OPEN TOMORROW  
With a Full and Complete Line of  
Diamonds — Watches — Clocks  
Jewelry — Silverware — Cut Glass  
and Bric-a-Brac  
in the Stickel Bldg., 6th St.  
Gabriel's Old Stand  
Fine Watch Repairing a Specialty  
Engraving Free of Charge  
See Our Windows  
H. R. BROWN & SONS

The building now owned and occupied by the Wickerham Plumbing, was in 1903 known as the Stickel Bldg. In the early fall of 1904 H. R. Brown & Son bought out the jewelry store of E. F. Segner which was located at 669 McKean Ave., our present address, and moved their store to this location.

Brown & Son in their 48 years have progressed along with the town, and this progress we credit wholly to the wonderful people of the community and surrounding territory, for without the confidence of the public and their patronage, no business can hope to progress. During our expanse of service to the community and public, thousands of young ladies have said "thank you darling" to their fiances who presented them with one of our diamond rings. Thousands of young couples have gone to the altar and said, "I do," with our wedding rings. Thousands have received watches, jewelry, silverware, glassware, etc., for gifts, many of which are still in use though bought during our early days in the community. In our many years in business in the community we have always tried faithfully to give our patrons the finest quality and best service at the lowest possible price. We feel the citizens of Donora have confidence in us, otherwise they would not have permitted us to serve them for the past 48 years. We will continue to give the public as good a quality and service or better, if possible, in our future years.

Our many thanks to the wonderful citizens of the community—for without their confidence and patronage we could not have been in a position to look forward to our 50th Anniversary.

A. FERRIER, Owner

# Brown & Son



The second school board consisted of John Ailes, President; James Castner, Secretary, and W. H. Farrell, J. G. Parke, J. Add Sprowls, M.D., and J. D. Foster, directors.

In 1903, Castner School was started on McKean Avenue near Tenth Street. The land lying between Eighth and Twelfth Streets had been added to the borough to take care of the expanding population. Castner School, when completed, compared very favorably with city schools of the time with its twelve rooms and auditorium. A high school class was started here with a two year course. The first class consisted of two girls, Edna Lewis and Nannie Hodge. They graduated in May, 1904.

Donora's population leaped ahead and again more classrooms were needed. In 1909, the Fifth Street School was opened. The First Street School was opened in 1913. This was a gala occasion in the community for Governor Brumbaugh made the principal address. In 1916, an addition was added to the First Street School and as the population of the town increased the Sixth Street School was opened in 1920 and a large addition was added to the Castner School in 1926.

The culmination of the school building program came when the Senior High School building was dedicated December 19, 1930. The School Board at this time consisted of Mrs. Mertie B. Traugh, President, and the only woman ever to serve on a Donora School Board; J. H. Eyman, Vice President; C. M. Kennedy, Secretary; C. S. Forkum, F. T. McCue, M. M. Neale and H. L. Steward, Directors.

In 1903 the High School term was two years in length. This continued until 1909 when the term was lengthened to three years. During this time the high school was conducted in the Castner School. In 1913, the high school was transferred to the First Street School and in 1914 the four year plan was introduced. This continued until December 1, 1925, when the State Department of Public Instruction authorized a change to the 6-3-3 plan.

The following men have lead the schools of Donora as superintendents:

J. C. Caldwell .....	1901-1905
J. D. Boydston .....	1905-1907
O. E. Rose .....	1907-1911
Marcellus DeVaughn .....	1911-1912
Edgar Reed .....	1912-1916
J. M. Lavhue .....	1916-1917
Thomas M. Gilland .....	1917-1918
A. J. Martin .....	1918-1919
Thomas M. Gilland .....	1919-1930
Rex W. Dimmick .....	1930-1934
John E. Shambach .....	1934-1950
Andrew S. Sukel .....	1950

Athletics has always played a prominent part in the history of Donora. During the last decade, athletics reached a point in Donora which focused the eyes of the nation on the little borough. Don-

We protect Donora's workers and  
school children against  
**ATHLETE'S FOOT!**



Dispenser gives individual treatment to each user. No dilution or contamination of solution. Ingredients are medically proven effective in fighting "Athlete's Foot." Used in Industrial plants—Schools, Mines and clubs.

1. Step On
  2. Mark Time
  3. Step Off
- "As simple as that"

**Walco Products Co.**

311 ROSS STREET                      PITTSBURGH, PA.

COMPLIMENTS OF

**Charleroi Supply  
Company**

LUMBER — MILLWORK

BUILDERS' SUPPLIES

MONESSEN	CHARLEROI
Phone 1640	Phone 3-6571
225 E. Donner Ave.	2nd St. & P.R.R.

BENTLEYVILLE YARD. Phone 64

Started by father in March, 1922  
Succeeded father in April, 1937  
Located in old Phennicie Hotel  
Building at 207 First Street  
Moved to present location at  
110 McKean Ave. in September, 1939

### PECH BROS. FOOD MARKET

110 McKean Avenue  
EDWARD J. PECH—RAYMOND A. PECH  
UNITED SERVICE FOOD STORES

---

### SAM LABASH

GROCERIES & MEATS

Phone 416                      53 S. McKean Ave.

UNITED SERVICE FOOD STORES

---

### JOHN KRUPA

MEATS — GROCERIES — FROZEN FOODS

301 McKEAN AVE,                      PHONE 636

This store originally owned and operated  
by the late John Staruch from the year  
1931 to March of 1948

---

### ACKERMAN'S MARKET

ALLEN H. ACKERMAN, Prop.

Dealers in Fresh and Smoked Meats  
And a Full Line of Staple Groceries

PHONE 526                      353 McCREA AVE.

### VAZUR'S MARKET

705 McKean Ave.                      Phone Donora 341

ESTABLISHED 1927

Choice Meats                                      Groceries  
Fresh Vegetables                                      Frozen Foods  
Dietetic Fruits and Vegetables

---

CALL

### MANO. LICHTENSTEIN

GROCERIES and MEATS

PHONE 683                                      400 FIRST ST.

For Prompt Delivery

Your Neighborhood Grocer

---

### WOLF'S FOOD MARKET

500 2ND ST.

Phone 960

For Prompt Delivery

---

UNITED SERVICE

FOOD STORES

Sponsored by

POTTER-McCUNE COMPANY

McKEESPORT, PA.

ora's most renowned athlete is Stan Musial of the St. Louis Cardinals. Stan is heralded as one of the "greats" in big league baseball and knows nearly everybody in town by his first name. He is a graduate of the local high school and played baseball and basketball for the varsity team.

Arnold Galiffa, another local boy who was graduated from the local school and participated in football, baseball, track and basketball, became nationally famous. At West Point, he became a 1949 All-American and the only cadet, other than "Light Horse" Harry Wilson, to win five letters in sports at that institution.

Louis "Bimbo" Ceccone went to the University of Pittsburgh from here and was famed on the gridiron and on the basketball court. He was mentioned on several All-American teams and was named Captain of the All-State team.

Dan Towler, a local high school football player went to Washington and Jefferson and became the second leading collegiate high scorer in football. Dan is now with the Los Angeles Rams professional team.

Lee Sala, another local boy, is listed in the top ten of the middleweight boxing picture now.

In 1944, and again in 1945, the football and basketball teams won recognition as champions. The football team was unbeaten and untied in these years and was judged to be the second best football team in the nation.

Other years did not reach this height in records but they did produce outstanding athletes and outstanding teams. College coaches flock to Donora to tempt the local athletes to their respective colleges. Donora athletes are representing an unusual number of colleges in sports scattered over the country every year.

Although baseball, football and boxing are the sports that have been most successfully represented in Donora, other sports have a claim to fame too. Dan Towler set a new collegiate record in this area at Washington and Jefferson in the shot put. Basketball has always been popular and produced exceptional teams and athletes and, with so many Scottish and Spanish people in the town it is only natural to list soccer as a popular sport here.

All the national magazines have carried stories of Donora athletes. It is perhaps the only town so represented with so many outstanding athletes.

#### *Some Significant Historical Facts*

The first Post Office in Donora was about a 12' x 20' building located where the car tracks now are on McKean Avenue between the present State Store and Donora Bowling Alley. The first postmaster here was L. T. Claybaugh. Before that, the people received mail from West Columbia.

"COMPLIMENTS

OF A

FRIEND"

---

COMPLIMENTS

OF

Ladies Lodge 1819

Order Sons of Italy in America

COMPLIMENTS  
OF  
THE CRESCENT SUPPLY COMPANY  
Marietta, Ohio

---

WAGONER GAS AND OIL

WEST NEWTON, PA.

— HEADQUARTERS FOR —

ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES

Philco

Thor

Sunbeam

Westinghouse

Bendix

EXCEPTIONALLY HIGH TRADE-IN ALLOWANCES ON ANY  
APPLIANCES

The first doctor in Donora was William Henry Lewis, who had become a regular practitioner in Webster and then came to Donora in 1901. He brought with him his brother, Albert V. Lewis, who was the first dentist in town. Albert was later a star on the first baseball team.

The first child born in Donora was Rebecca Castner, granddaughter of Bert W. Castner, one of the original settlers here. She was born around 1901 and later married James Burke. She is a niece of William Henry Lewis, M.D. Mrs. Burke now lives at 520 Murray Avenue.

Some of the principal land owners in Donora were: George Allen, Clint Teeple, Bradford Allen, Bert W. Castner, Margaret Heslep and Eliza Grant.

The inauguration of parcel post at the local Post Office created excitement on January 1, 1913. C. F. Thomas and A. F. Roode sent the first packages from Donora. G. E. Koedel received the first package by parcel post in Donora.

The Parks and Playground committees of the local Chamber of Commerce with Chairman Spragg heading it are responsible for Donner Park. J. M. Mullin of the Union Improvement Company assisted them and W. H. Donner gave what amounted to \$7,000 for the park. This occurred shortly after New Year's Day in 1913.

Ben Binns, Ewing B. Todd and John Minney were the first to ride the first street car—the street car named "Maude."

On December 14, 1906, the first basketball game to be played in Donora was played in the Palace Ring. Donora won against Monessen 27-14. The Donora players were: Jackson, Boyd, Captain Murray, McClelland and Houston.

Jacquiline Ossko, of Donora, made good in Hollywood. She had the lead in "The Doctor." Her stage name was "Donora Penn." Here is the note she pinned on the back of the picture of "The Doctor." The note was addressed to Doctor W. Lewis.

"Nov. 1, 1939  
Hollywood, Cal.

My dear Dr. Lewis,

About a month ago I took the leading part in this technicolor picture. It is a very dramatic story, so don't forget to see it when it comes to my home town.  
Jacquiline Ossko"

"The Doctor" is a story taken from the portrait painted by Sir Luke Fieldas by the same name.

Mr. W. H. Donner gave \$60,000 to the town of Donora for a community and library center on October 27, 1945. Mr. C. F. Thomas, of Donora, talked to Mr. Donner and the purchase of the Donora Hotel was authorized for this purpose. W. W. Dennis was elected the first President of the corporation to handle the Community Center.

CONGRATULATIONS . . . . .

1901 DONORA 1951

ON ITS 50TH BIRTHDAY

## Perri's Shoe Store

Also Celebrating Our 50th Year

In DONORA — A GOOD TOWN

---

A FINE TOWN

"DONORA"

A FINE DRINK

"MISSION BEVERAGES"

"NATURALLY GOOD"

## Donora Beverage Company

1st & MELDON AVE.

DONORA, Pa.

DONORA GOLDEN JUBILEE QUEEN CONTESTANTS



Back Row—Left to Right: Mayme Seger, Janie Jones, Matilda Fernandez, Bertha Mason, Evelyn Jean Bartoli, Charlene Weighman, Edna E. Jones, Catherine Thomas, Louise Vrancik, Louise Novak, Katherine Conway, Ruth Biress, Rose Marie Fronzaglio  
Front Row—Left to Right: Shirley Greco, Donna Kelly, Eleanor Dzendzel, Betty Bisacky, Emma Lou Cheney, Betty Povzenich, Rita Battilano, Mona Graser

Harold Cope, general superintendent of the Donora American Steel and Wire Works was on hand when construction of the Donora Zinc Works started, as one of the engineers. As a local boy in the graduating class at the Donora High School, Harold won the state oratorical contest in 1910.

Doctor Heatter is the oldest medical doctor in town who was graduated from Donora High School. He was graduated in the same class as Harold Cope.

#### *History of the Steel Industry in Donora*

The American Steel & Wire Company was organized in 1899 and became a subsidiary of the United States Steel Corporation in 1900.

In May 1899, Mr. R. B. Mellon purchased approximately 380 acres of land from Bert W. Castner, the Heslep heirs, Bradford Allen and Alexander and Company for the Union Improvement Company. During the same year the Union Steel Company was organized by W. H. Donner and the Mellon Interests.

The Union Improvement allocated all of the land lying between the Pittsburgh, Virginia and Charleston Railroad and the Monongahela River to industry and all of the land lying west of the railroad for a town site.

The Union Steel Company, W. H. Donner, president, broke ground for the construction of the Wire Mill on May 29, 1900. Mr. W. H. Farrell who was widely experienced in the steel and wire business was secured as manager of the plant.

The original wire plant consisted of two rod mills of the Garrett or looping type, a wire drawing department, wire nail department, wire galvanizing department, varnished wire and barb wire department.

Simultaneously with the construction of the Wire Mill, Mathew Woven Wire Fence Company, F. C. Mathews, president and general manager, constructed a plant for the manufacture of woven wire fencing. This plant formed the nucleus of the present Woven Wire Fence and Wire Welded Fabric department.

One rod mill was started in September 1901 and the second late in 1902. The capacity of the two rod mills at that time was 1200 tons in 24 hours.

The plant was operated by the Union Steel Company under the direction of Mr. W. H. Farrell until 1903, when the American Steel and Wire Company leased the property from the Union Steel Company.

In 1901, the Union Steel Company secured the services of Niven McConnell to design and construct the steel and blast furnace plant for which ground was broken March 27, 1902. Prior to the completion of the plant, the Union Steel Company leased the property to Carnegie Steel Company. Under the direction of Mr. McConnell, the plant,

## Evich Grocery & Confectionery

"The Friendly Corner"

4th AND THOMPSON

ALWAYS ROOM TO PARK

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## Macik Funeral Home

Serving God and Fellowman

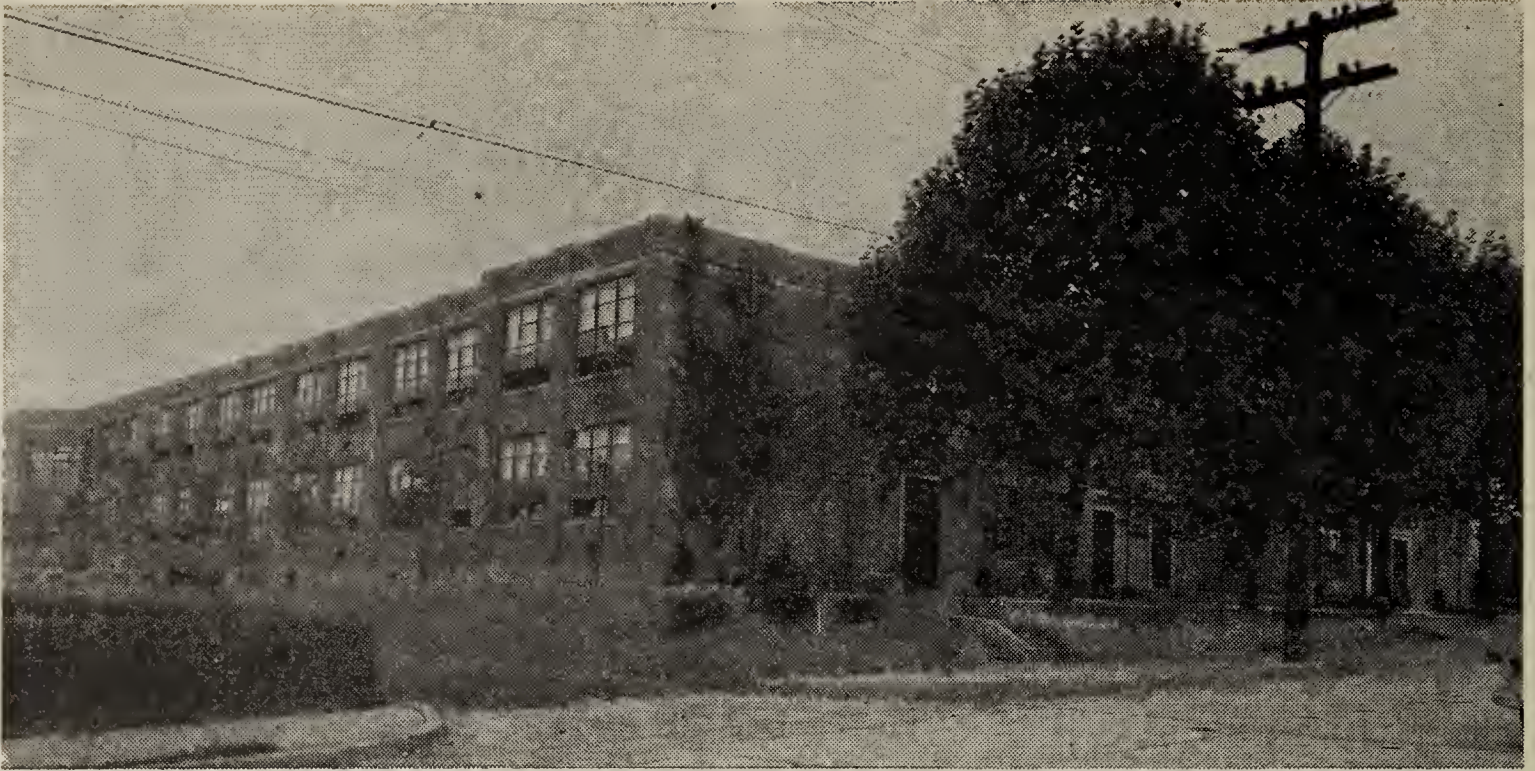
in the Best Manner We Can

5th and THOMPSON

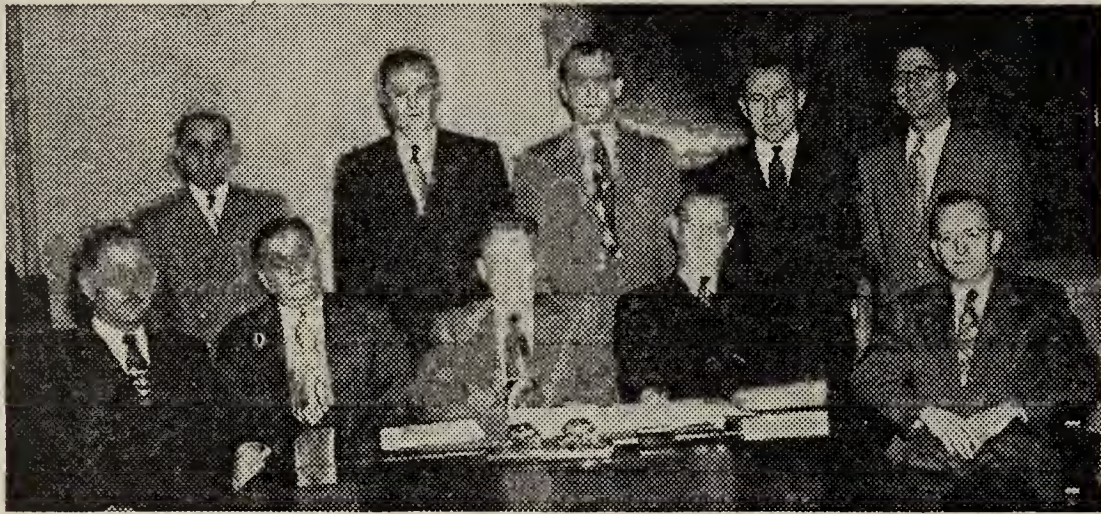
PHONE 1180-J

DONORA, PA.

# DONORA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



DONORA SCHOOL BOARD



Front Row—Left to Right: Paul N. Barna, Louis Busto, Charles Stacy, George O. Frazier, Andrew S. Sukel  
Back Row—Left to Right: Patsy Amatangelo, Paul Johnson, Michael Culyba, Louis Demeter, Thomas Puglisi

## Ground Breaking Ceremonies For Donora's New Housing Project





COMPLIMENTS  
OF  
**Pennsylvania  
Electric Coil Corp.**

1301 SAW MILL RUN BLVD.  
PITTSBURGH, 26, PENNA.

**GEORGE'S UNION PHARMACY**

First in Prescriptions, Cosmetics

"DONORA'S FINEST DRUG STORE"

587 McKean Avenue Donora, Pa.

Phone Donora 153

GEORGE F. PRINCE ROSE MARIE IIAMS

---

**ALTENHOF'S**

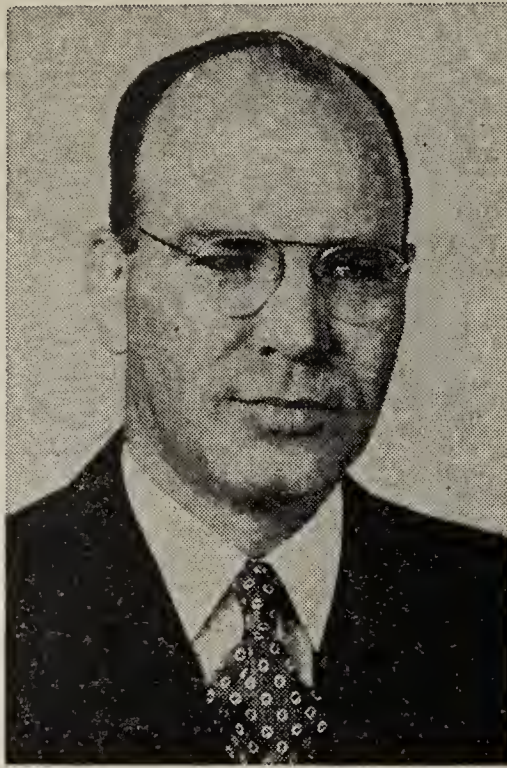
**FLOWER SHOP**

OLDEST FLORISTS IN DONORA

U. S. GOVERNMENT POST OFFICE—Donora, PA.



# LAWSON FUNERAL HOME



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PHONE 20  
PHONE 1129

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701  
THOMPSON AVE.

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RICHARD E. LAWSON

The Lawson Funeral Home, owned and operated by Richard E. Lawson, was started March 17, 1939 in the home of Dr. George Traugh.

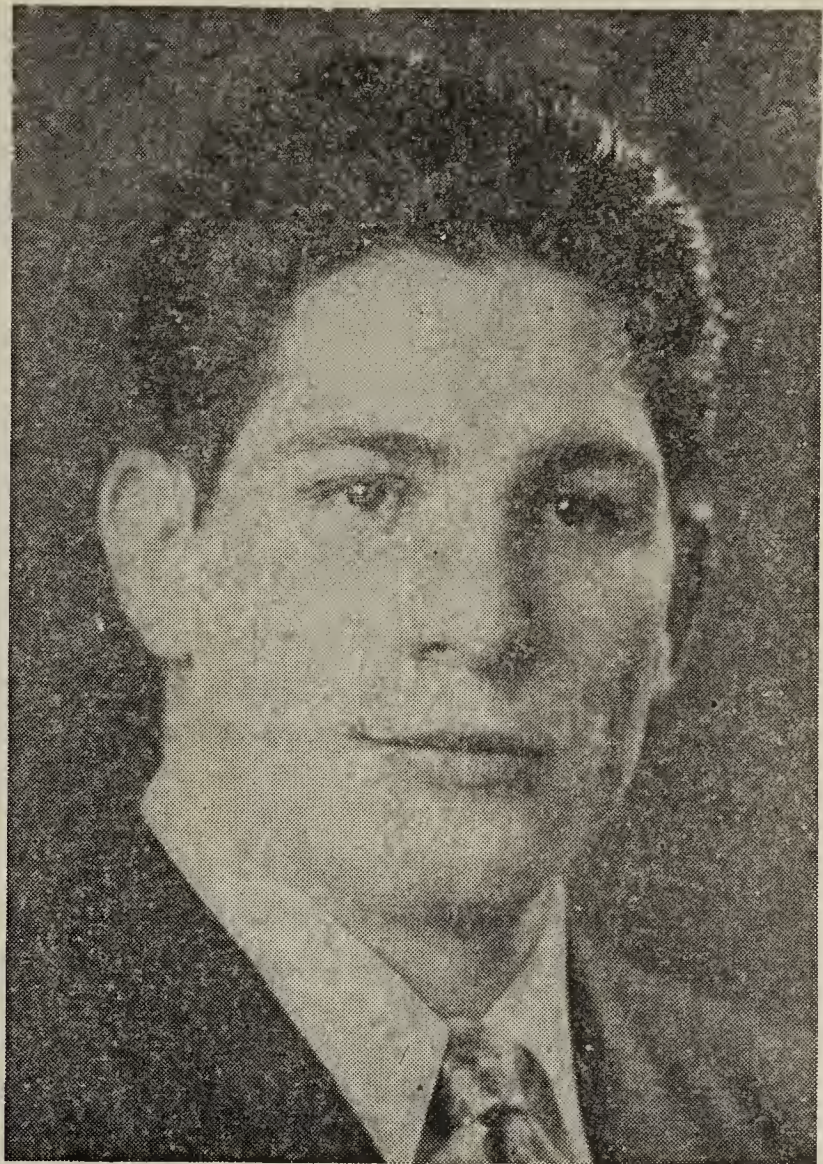
Recognizing the need for an ample funeral home for Donora and vicinity, negotiations were opened with Mrs. Blanche Patterson and Rev. Joseph Kushner, Pastor of St. Dominic's Church. The results of these negotiations were that St. Dominic's purchased the old Traugh home, which is now their present convent, and the Patterson home was purchased for the new location of the Lawson Funeral Home.

Today Donora possesses one of the finer funeral homes in the Monongahela Valley.





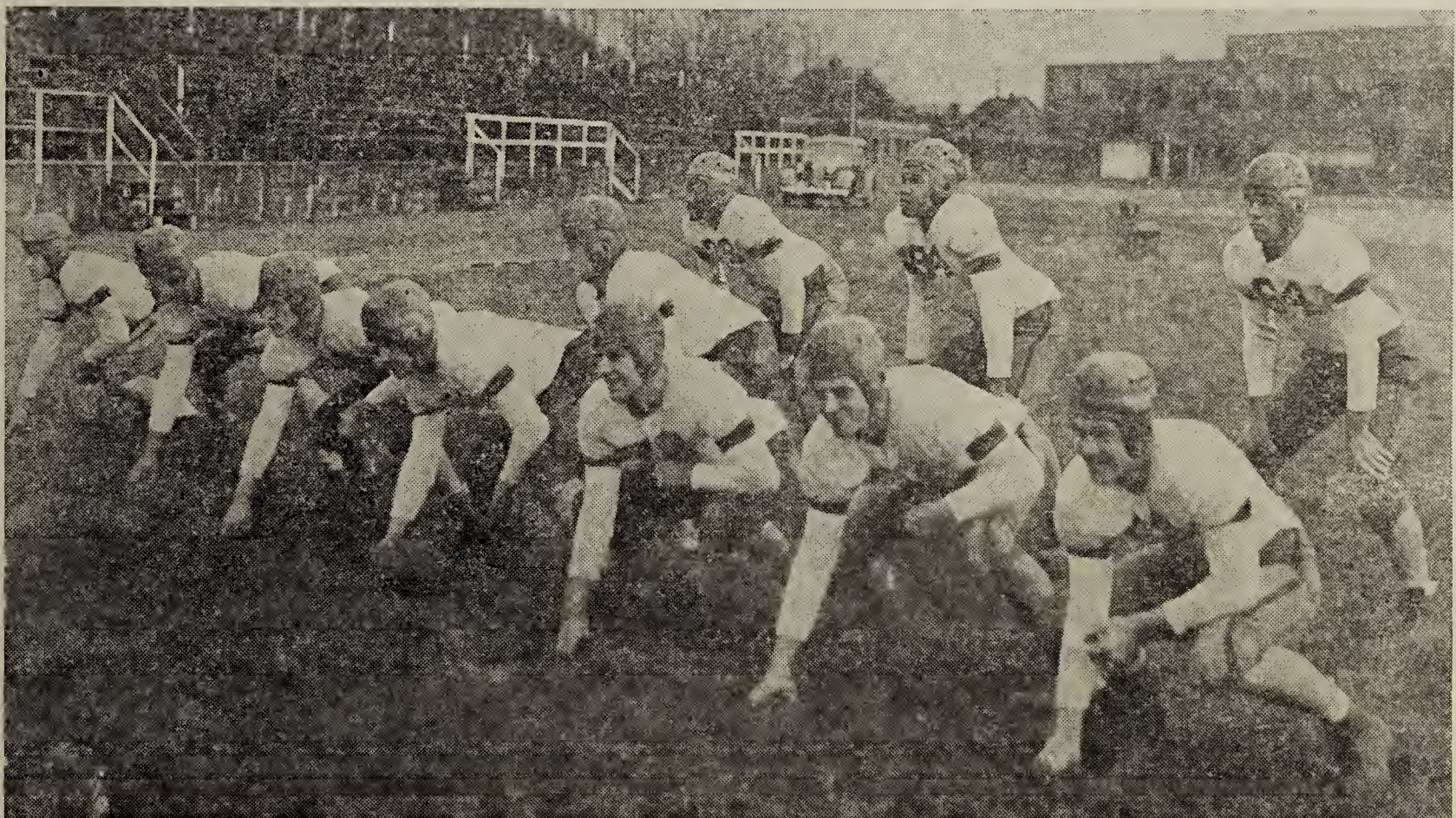
STAN MUSIAL



LEE SALA

## "Home of Champions"

### 1944 FOOTBALL TEAM



Line— Left to right: Ralph Gimera, Harry Ostapowicz, Tom Ballaban, John Jaso, John Buchak, Frank Wieclaw, Stan Bolek      Backs—Arnold Galiffa, Roscoe Ross, Dan Towler, John Foley

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

July 12, 1951

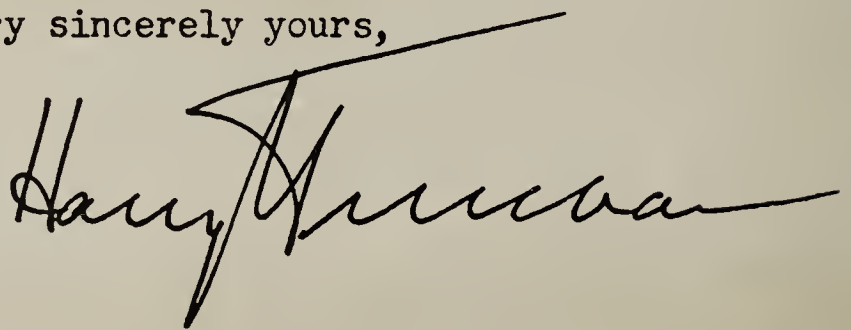
Dear Mr. Chambon:

It is a pleasure to send hearty felicitations and warmest personal greetings to the citizens of Donora on the notable occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of its founding.

The rapid growth of the Borough through the brief period of five decades bears eloquent witness to the vision and foresight of the men who established it in 1901. I congratulate you on the fact that the Borough was built upon the strong foundation of the steel industry and that in its golden jubilee year is a dynamic community of many diverse national backgrounds all living together as true Americans.

May I, as an anniversary message, express the hope that Donora will continue to go forward with progress through many happy and prosperous decades.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Harry Truman". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Harry Truman".

Mr. A. Z. Chambon,  
Chief Burgess,  
Borough of Donora,  
Donora, Pennsylvania.



The Donora Golden Jubilee committee expresses their gratitude to the Community Center for use of their building for the celebration headquarters.

### COMMUNITY CENTER BOARD



Front Row—Left to Right: Charles O'Neil, Mrs. Charles O'Neil, Ben G. Binns, Dr. M. J. Hannigan, Andrew S. Sukel, Mrs. C. B. Charles, M. M. Neale  
 Back Row—Left to Right: John S. McCans, James F. Gallenton, George O. Frazier, J. K. Miller, Roland E. Hoopes, August Chambon, Al Zeffiro, George D. Schwarm, W. W. Dennis

### DONORA LIBRARY BOARD



Front Row—Left to Right: Helen Wilson, Mrs. B. J. Brown, Mrs. C. B. Charles, Rose C. Muio  
 Back Row—Left to Right: Joseph Polkabra, W. W. Dennis, Andrew S. Sukel

# MATWAY CHEVROLET

EDWARD J. MATWAY



NEW AND USED  
CARS AND TRUCKS



761 Meldon Ave.

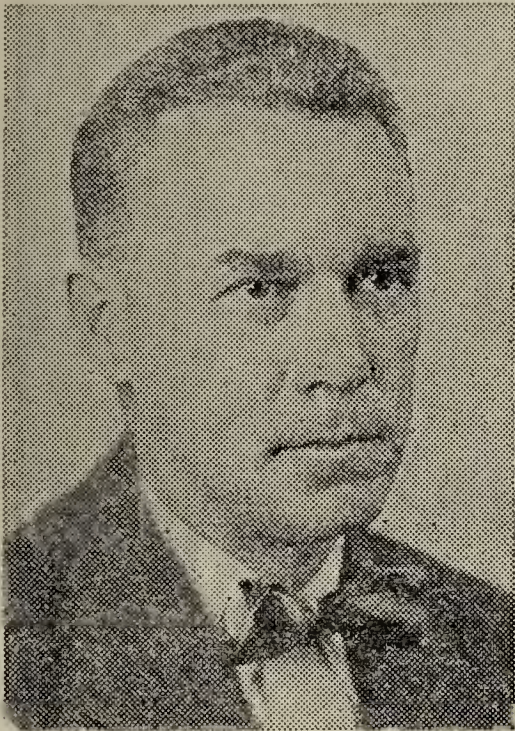
Donora

PHONE 87

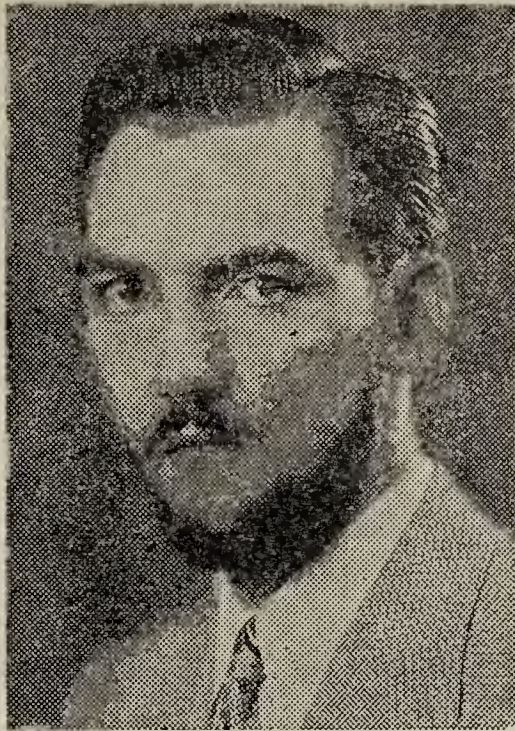
RES. PERRYOPOLIS 4427



AMERICA'S LARGEST  
AND  
FINEST LOW PRICED CAR

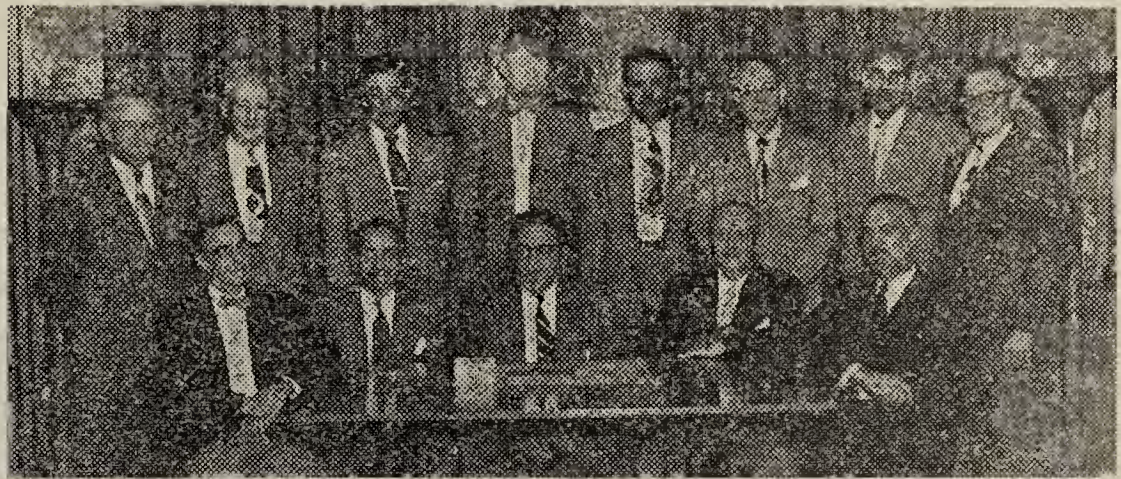


**ROBERT S. BANCROFT**  
Pageant director of  
celebration



**WALLACE D. LAFFERTY**  
Promotional director of  
celebration

### DONORA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Front Row—Left to Right: Frank J. McCue, Joseph Polkabla, Ben G. Binns, H. Austin Pete, Al Zeffiro  
Back Row—Left to Right: Andrew S. Sukel, James F. Gallenton, Arnold Hirsch, J. Preston Carson, Rudolph R. Schwerha, Dr. M. J. Hannigan, Ralph Beem, George D. Schwarm

### DONORA BOROUGH COUNCIL



Front Row—Left to Right: Sylvester V. Erdelyi, John Marasovich, Andrew Sasko  
Back Row—Left to Right: James F. Gallenton, John Jaso, John Duda, Rudolph R. Schwerha

W E S A

Charleroi, Pa.

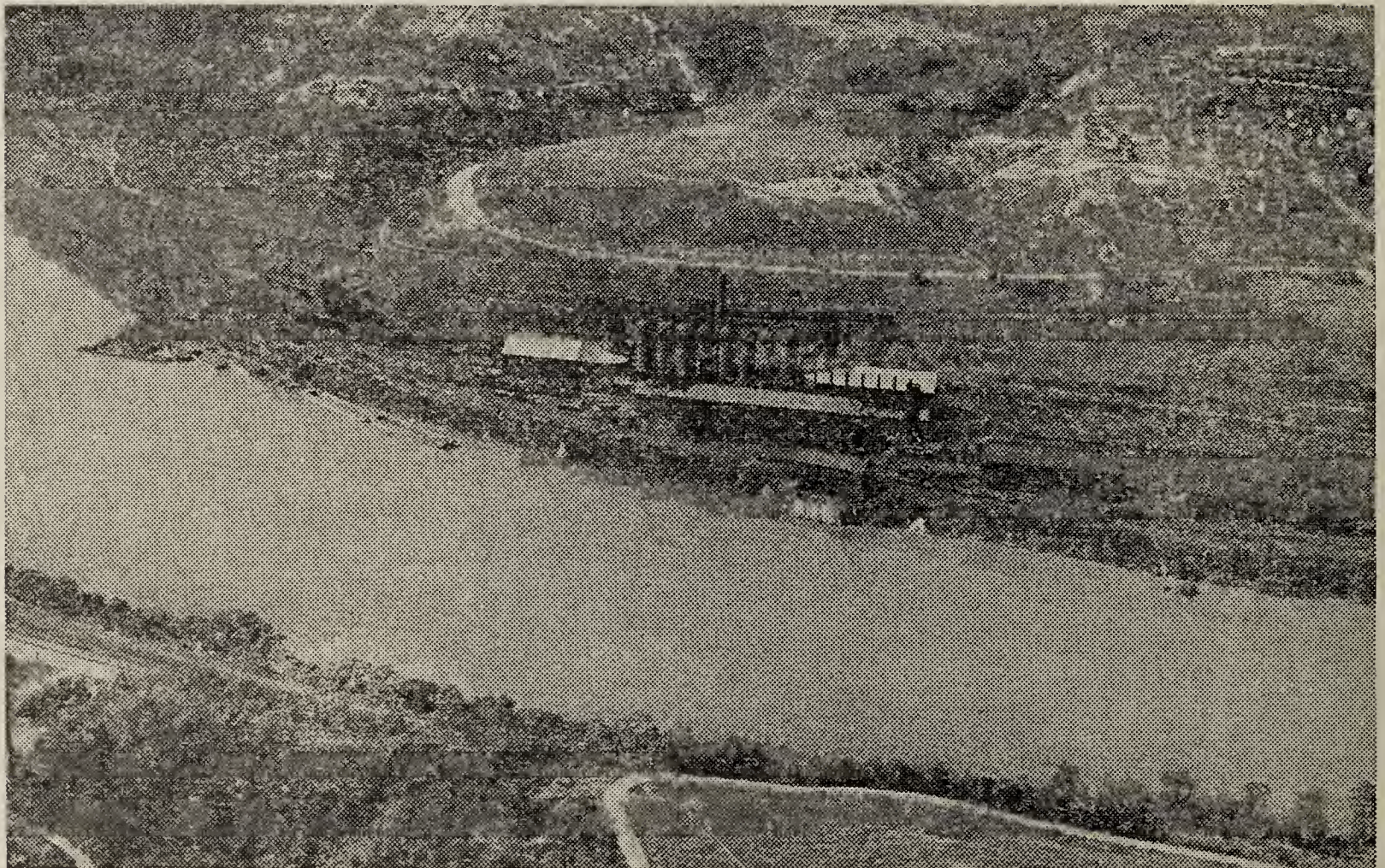
940 K.C.

DAY-LIGHTFUL ENTERTAINMENT

NEWS — MUSIC

MORNING TO NIGHT

BLAST FURNACES A. S. & W. CO.



(Copyrighted by Aerial Surveys of Pgh., Inc.)



PAGEANT

The  
DONORA GOLDEN JUBILEE, Inc.

presents

"THE DONORA STORY"



LEGION FIELD

AUGUST 13-15-16-17, 1951

Performance Time — 8:45 p. m.



Staged by  
THE JOHN B. ROGERS PRODUCING CO.



Directed  
by  
ROBERT S. BANCROFT

Promotional Direction  
by  
WALLACE D. LAFFERTY

## PROLOGUE

A colorful assemblage celebrating the Golden Jubilee of Donora is congregated to honor Miss Donora Golden Jubilee and her Court of Honor. Members of organizations and National groups are represented in this colorful opening panorama.

## SCENE 1—THE INDIANS

As far back as authenticated history can take us, all of Southwestern Pennsylvania, including the land Donora now claims was possessed by the Iroquois Indian tribes. Many years ago the Iroquois were in undisputed possession of New York from the Mohawk Valley westward to Lake Erie. However, it is certain that they made frequent visits to this western Pennsylvania section on hunting and fishing expeditions.

## SCENE 2—SURVEY BY GEORGE WASHINGTON

The land that is now known as Donora and all the country stretching westward from the mountains and north to Lake Erie was claimed by both Virginia and Pennsylvania. The section apparently was not in the grant received by William Penn from Charles II of England. Perhaps it was, but Virginia disputed that claim successfully for a time. George Washington surveyed this area for the Virginia colony and it was at that time known as Virginia. It was not until the Baltimore Agreement in 1799 that this disputed area became a part of Pennsylvania.

## SCENE 3—EARLY SETTLERS

"Horseshoe Bottom" was the original name for the Donora area in 1769. At this time a man named Strasburg and another Nicholas Crist had some of the section surveyed. They built and operated a grain mill and laid out streets which today retain the same position and name. Later Crist sold property to Robert Galloway who in turn sold to Harmonious Code. A family whose name has been linked for almost two centuries with land that is Donora is the Heslep family. Tom Heslep came over the old trail from Philadelphia in 1769. He had land surveyed and erected a cabin.

## SCENE 4—GILMORE'S LANDING

The name of Gilmore has been a prominent one in the early history of the present Donora. In 1863 John Gilmore came here from Pittsburgh and bought land from the Bissells. John operated a steamboat line of eight vessels on the river which was known as the Gilmore Line. The Gilmores engaged in various pursuits. The military claimed some of them. Others engaged in farming and mining.

Bisselltown was a typical mining community with a row of frame houses along the river. The ferry lane which led to the river shore and the ferry was the main street of this little community. At the end of the driveway past the sawmill was 'Gilmore's Landing.' Here the passenger and freight packets plying the Monongahela between Pittsburgh and Brownsville would land on a "hail" from shore and take on passengers and freight.

## SCENE 5—THE CIVIL WAR ERA

When the Civil War broke out, President Lincoln issued a call for volunteers and the men in this little western community responded with the same determination they had shown in fostering their little settlements. Across the river on the Webster side above the ferry landing was a large grass plot known as "The Widow Green." Here the volunteers assembled and organized for entering the service of the Union Army against the rebellion. Men enlisting here became a part of Company M, 100th Pennsylvania Volunteers, more familiarly known as "The Roundheads."

## SCENE 6—SALE OF LOTS

August 30, 1900 was quite a day in the then little town of Donora. People were pouring into town with all the zest of their pioneering spirit to carve a prosperous town out of the land that had once been Indian hunting grounds. The Union Improvement Company had advertised lots for sale. These lots were staked out with tags placed on the stakes. When ten o'clock in the morning arrived there was a bee-hive of activity.

## SCENE 7—THE FIRST COUNCIL MEETING

On February 11, 1901 the court approved the application to incorporate the borough of Donora. Excitement ran high and the village band paraded for the first time. Then on March 1, 1901 a preliminary meeting of the council members-elect was held at which time Burgess Castner administered the oath and a permanent organization formed and officers elected.

## SCENE 8—LITERARY MEETING

The new borough continued to grow rapidly. New families were making their appearance. It was a friendly community then as it has always been. Outside of the parties and dances, other forms of entertainment would seem quite simple and perhaps unattractive to the modern young people. One of the popular diversions was called "Literary" and was held at the various school houses during the winter months when readings, essays and debates were given.

### SCENE 9—DEDICATION OF DONORA- WEBSTER BRIDGE

Affairs in the thriving town progressed according to schedule and plan. Improvements were made all the time. A fire company was organized. Transportation was improving with the advent of the railroad. The first trolley car made its appearance. Plans were made, petitions circulated and all thoughts centered on the new bridge. Finally after several years and many disappointments the new bridge was finished and great was the rejoicing when it was dedicated formally on December 4, 1908.

### SCENE 10—A CHURCH SERVICE IN THE TABERNACLE

The people of Donora are justly proud of their religious background. The early churches were located on both sides of the river. Later the Methodists were responsible for erecting the Tabernacle, as it was known. They not only used it for services themselves but through their generous spirit it was available for other denominations to use it as well. Today there are twenty-two churches and one synagogue in the borough where all may worship God as they see fit.

### SCENE 11—ATHLETICS IN DONORA

Athletics have always played a prominent part in the history of the city. As early as 1901, and possibly foreshadowing the coming of fame in athletics to Donora, the first baseball team was organized. During the last decade athletics reached a point that have caused the eyes of the Nation to be focused on us. Donora High School has produced some National champions in football and basketball and contributed mightily to major league baseball. Her athletes have been outstanding. Frequently college coaches have come to Donora to tempt the local athletes to their respective colleges.

### SCENE 12—AN EARLY SCHOOL SESSION

From the time of the early settlers, education was one of the major problems and one of the first

things to be thought of when new towns were established. Donora residents were keenly aware of the importance of education and even their first efforts along this line were serious undertakings. The Allen School was the first established after Donora was incorporated. Educational methods have changed through the years but many a Donora resident can trace his or her educational background to the schools of yesteryear.

### SCENE 13—THE MODERN SCHOOL

The Allen School and the Castner School served the needs of the borough admirably for a time but the population continued to grow and more classrooms were needed with the result that an ambitious building program was launched with new buildings and additions to the others. The culmination of the school building program came in 1930 when the Senior High School was dedicated. The modern school boasts an extensive curriculum with opportunities for all in various forms of athletics.

### SCENE 14—LEST WE FORGET

In these simple tableaux we pay honor and tribute to the heroes of The World Wars.

### SCENE 15—INDUSTRIAL DONORA

The American Steel and Wire Company was organized in 1899 and became a subsidiary of the United States Steel Corporation in 1900. This was the start of an industry that has brought employment to the citizens of Donora and has been to a large degree responsible for its growth and development. Other companies were formed and took their place in the ever growing industrial picture. In 1915 engineering was completed for the construction of the Donora Zinc Works. Their contributions of materials in both peace time and during time of National emergencies are worthy of mention.

### SCENE 16—PROGRESS

This impressive scene will feature the entire cast of "The Donora Story" honoring the achievements of the past and expressing the hopes and dreams of the future.

# Personnel in the Cast of The Donora Story



MISS DONORA GOLDEN JUBILEE



MISS COLUMBIA

Miss Mary Watkins ..... Organist

Narrators From Donora Playhouse

## PROLOGUE

Miss Donora Golden Jubilee ..... Betty Bisacky

Miss Columbia ..... Jean Bartoli

### Court of Honor:

Janie Jones  
Bertha Mason  
Emma Lou Cheney

Mayme Seger  
Kitty Conway  
Eleanor Yuhas  
Edna Jones

Catherine Thomas  
Eleanor Dzendzel  
Louise Novak

Miss 1901 ..... Joan Just

Miss 1951 ..... Etta Jane Simpson

Donora High School Band under the direction of Guy Corno

### Attendants to Miss Columbia:

Mary Jane Rabe  
Nancy Dorrycott  
Barbara Joan Lambie  
Marlene Bailey  
Marilyn Shearer

Irene Wehousie  
Mabel Kapp  
Alice Kirkpatrick  
Edna Mae Rabe  
Patty Hormell  
Lenora Hormell

Virginia Peters  
Mary Jane Behanna  
Peggy Forsyth  
Leah Mae McPherson  
Eugenia Jobs

**CADETS**

Betty Pasterick Angeline Drudi  
 Connie Bercik Lucille Todora  
 Marlene Petrus Evelyn Gonzales  
 Patty Andrews Joan Kascik  
 Jerry Stima Patty Fresa

**ATTENDANTS**

Margie Saxon  
 Margie Patterson  
 Gerry Vukich  
 Monica Poklemba  
 Pat Bartley  
 Mary Rose Moschini  
 Nancy Revak  
 Janet Witek  
 Louise Widziszewski  
 Shirley Anderson

**BOY SCOUTS**

J. DuJack	J. Kroll
R. Mona	G. Nemo
R. Brady	R. White
J. Neumier	W. Mennitt
T. Mathues	R. Talbert
J. Zontek	D. Epperson
J. Palchak	R. Epperson
N. Clark	R. Sloan
P. Badzik	A. Smith
T. Eisenberg	W. Russell
C. LaMendola	K. Davis
R. Tomaseski	A. Brown
R. Mangeluzzo	J. Stewart
F. Sandrey	

**GIRL SCOUTS**

Susie Wertz  
 Patty Rice  
 Florence Marran  
 Judy Russell  
 Anita DiNatale  
 Marsha Hagerson  
 Mary Catherine Stofko  
 Arlene Tomich  
 Beverly Hall  
 Patty Dolnack  
 Rose Schmitt  
 Barbara Behanna  
 Diane Stark  
 Joan Mehan  
 Carol Levin  
 Peggy Maddock  
 Janet Gula  
 Toby Ackerman  
 Martha Ruben  
 Mary Ann Maddock  
 Mary Ann Hornbake  
 Madeline Matava  
 Marilyn Cline  
 Brenda Samuels  
 Bonnie McNab

**CUB SCOUTS**

S. Raynal	J. McCormick
B. Jones	B. Stack
N. Roos	R. Weiclaw
J. Smith	J. Gidick
J. O'Boyle	J. Behanna
M. Samnelz	T. Hubay
T. Starky	D. Johnson
B. Keffel	B. Campbell
B. Maddock	A. Tomich

J. Kahy	E. Mangino
J. Drake	B. Dantonio
J. Junk	

**BROWNIES**

Shiela Holt  
 Sonia Garcia  
 Sally Garcia  
 Adrienne Corno  
 Janis Kelly  
 Martha Ley  
 Wendy Wertz  
 Ruth Levin  
 Joyce Wassil  
 Sandra Crafton  
 Nancy Nemish  
 Carol Cole  
 Bonnie Matsco  
 Mary Ann Rosenberg  
 Patty Hall

**NATIONS**

Mary Lou Fresa  
 Joanne Alonso  
 Sally Charles  
 Maureen Clark  
 Rebecca Panos  
 Helen Oros  
 Marie Sampler  
 Mary Ann Kotecki  
 Velma Roscoe  
 Joan Corstorphine  
 Elaine Gideon  
 Shirley Evans  
 Marian Miller  
 Margie Malaski

**LADIES IN WHITE**

Jennie Eisenberg	Martha Hunt
Blanche Ross	Frances Raynal
Ella Mae Hudson	Gertrude McDonnell
Helen Brown	Mary Durisko
Bessie Epperson	Tillie McGlade
Ruth Minney	Anna Mae Gibbons
Betty Sittleton	Mary Maksim
Theresa Sanko	Janet McGee
Mildred Ruscitti	Sadie Taylor
Barbara Polkemb	Marie Corstorphine
Mildred Urbanik	Lilly McNab
Edith O'Delga	Martha Stirling
Anna Holik	Gloria Gitlitz
Sarah Shepherd	Delia Kelly
Sara Osiol	Helen Kilvady
Margaret Cotela	Edith Mishkin
Mary Supp	Gloria Weiss
Louise Snyder	Sara Rosenthal
Edith Vince	Irene Weiss
Norma Barone	Roselle Roth
Gladys Robson	Mary Puglisi
Irene Shark	Josephine Scalise
Clare Tomaseski	Mary Anderson
Sue Blangger	Mabel Sharp
Sara McHugh	Jane Sypes
Anne Butler	

**SCENE 1—INDIAN VILLAGE**

Mrs. L. Hubbard	Mrs. S. Coulson
Mrs. L. White	Mrs. A. Kazmerch
Mrs. M. Lawson	Mrs. M. Cline
Mrs. A. Ingram	Mrs. M. Smith
Mrs. P. Bell	Mrs. M. Kelly
Mrs. D. James	Mrs. D. Johnson

Mrs. E. Bush	Mrs. H. Brown
Mrs. L. Bush	Mrs. M. Billups
Mrs. D. Veschio	Mrs. Ann Pech
Mrs. D. Stetz	Marian Strain
Mrs. A. Hubay	Patty Murray
Chuck Zolak	Karen Schall
Richard Henderson	Vera Bagay
Ronnie Pacy	Joyce Slotterbeck
Ronnie Bozik	Donna Kellum
Connie Buchak	Barbara Kellum
Richie Repka	Darlene Volk
Alfred Zyga	Marlene Volk
Jimmy Murray	Larry Coulson
Robert Pech	Billy Marran
Sidney Ackerman	Ronnie Pech
Jackie Guyker	Frank Kazmarek
John Smith	David Bradstock
George Polonoli	Nick Noswarich
Jackie Bowen	Chucky Uram
Mrs. A. Matick	Milton Ackerman
Mrs. A. Kuzemka	Jimmy Weir
Mrs. N. Jones	Gregory Kopac
Richard Mongellizzo	

**SCENE 2—SURVEY BY  
GEORGE WASHINGTON**

George Washington—  
 Louis Gedeon, Jr.  
 Surveying Party—  
 Rudy Glinka Frank Brudzenski  
 Lou Huia Frank Priente  
 Guy DeJulius Bill Spuhler  
 Mike Sovich Donald Gedeon

**SCENE 3—EARLY SETTLERS**

Mrs. Uro Siren  
 Rosella Frohman  
 Maxine Horton  
 Mrs. Zomber  
 Sylvia Zomber  
 Mrs. Henry Cardis  
 N. Warnick  
 Uro Siren  
 William Warnick  
 George Maddock  
 John Mihalic  
 Joe Mendola  
 Jimmy Roth  
 Jane Smith  
 Tillie Fernandez  
 Alice Horton  
 Mary Ann Dzendzel  
 Mickey Dzendzel  
 Larry Siren  
 Jo Ann Alvarez  
 Norma Laughlin  
 Josephine Caprio  
 Bessie Balas  
 Maureen Hornbech  
 Andy Polkembela

**SCENE 4—GILMORE'S LANDING  
TOWNSPEOPLE**

Julia Fronzaglio  
 Minnie Puglisi  
 Jennie Vitalbo  
 Clara Fronzaglio  
 Norma Barone  
 Dolores Pacy  
 Katherine Moran  
 Leona Musci

Daisy Leone  
 Elizabeth Rongaus  
 Pearl Cecconi  
 Josephine Fronzaglio  
 Ruth Muio  
 Domenic Olivieri  
 Alfred Fronzaglio  
 Francis Rongaus  
 William Giannamore  
 Ronald Costa  
 David Leone  
 Joseph Barone  
 Robert Fronzaglio  
 Anthony Puglisi  
 Darlene Fronzaglio  
 Donna Maple  
 Janet Russo  
 Judy Greco  
 Gerry Musci  
 Gerry D'Atillio  
 Claudia Jurik  
 Rose Ann Richie  
 Joan Perry  
 Anthony Papposergi  
 Victor Grico  
 Judy Mucci  
 Kathleen Costa  
 Cecelia Pulgini  
 Civil War Era

**SCENE 5—CIVIL WAR ERA  
 ENSEMBLE**

Ann Daley  
 Catherine Warholc  
 Cecelia Hayes  
 Noreen Sarkus  
 Marion McKee  
 Marie Kelly  
 Dolores Gula  
 Dolores Szymanski  
 Beverly Mermelstein  
 Jerry LaMendola  
 Gloria Tokay  
 June Walker  
 Betty Jane Jones  
 Patty Patch  
 Mary Ann Daley  
 Jo Ann Zomber  
 Margie Valeri  
 Florence Dinsick  
 Ida Mae Walker  
 Ruth Orient  
 Margaret Orient  
 Peggy Norton  
 Agnes Daley  
 Barbara Viedinghaus  
 Raymond Hawk  
 Charles Horn  
 Arthur Kelly  
 Ronald Curtis  
 Ernest Maier  
 William Rank  
 August Bottonari  
 John Pazej  
 Everett Rodriguez  
 Herman White  
 Charles Stewart  
 Leighton Smith  
 Charles Tomich  
 Michael Dutko

Rudolph Cislak  
 Anthony O'Hara  
 Bunny Kelly  
 Wade Boyd  
 Ronnie Campbell  
 Charles Stanley  
 Lee Hokaj  
 Philip Mauser  
 Dominick Oliveri  
 Don Guarscio  
 Al Fronzaglio  
 Hank Garde  
 Jack Miller  
 Bernie Bires  
 Tom Kolodychak  
 and the JUBILEE CHORUS

**SCENE 6—LOT SALE  
 SALESMEN AND BUYERS**

Gerald Gitlitz  
 Cecelia Hayes  
 Hank Garde  
 Raymond Hawk  
 Everett Rodriguez  
 Al Fronzaglio  
 William Rank  
 John Sovich  
 Natale Barbarosso  
 Defendo Augustini  
 Andrew Uhrinak  
 Edward Shevchik  
 Frank Eisenburg  
 Francis Menkin  
 William Murdoch  
 William Chadwick  
 F. D. Barbour  
 Christian Thomas  
 Charles McCue  
 Charles Swartz  
 John De Jack  
 Mike Sovak  
 Mike Molchan  
 George Frohman  
 Walter Cook  
 Mike Mossafra  
 Manuel Faradice

**SCENE 7—FIRST COUNCIL  
 MEETING**

**COUNCILMEN**

John Jaso  
 John Duda  
 Andrew Sasko  
 Charles Wunderlich  
 R. R. Schwerha  
 James Gallenton  
 John Marasovich  
 Sylvester Erdelyi

**SCENE 8—LITERARY MEETING  
 LITERARY MEETING**

Mr. & Mrs. H. C. Clay  
 Mr. & Mrs. William Brisbane  
 Mr. & Mrs. W. Fleming  
 Mr. & Mrs. H. S. Miller  
 Mr. & Mrs. E. E. Compton  
 Mr. & Mrs. Paul Curry  
 Mr. & Mrs. C. E. Scoville  
 Mr. & Mrs. Martin Wehousie  
 Mr. & Mrs. Austin Ley  
 Mr. & Mrs. J. J. Just

**SCENE 9—BRIDGE DEDICATION  
 CELEBRITIES AT DEDICATION**

Mose Miller ..... Harry Miller  
 Rev. John E. Fulton .....  
 ..... E. E. Compton  
 O. E. Rose ..... H. C. Clay  
 Hon. Lucien W. Doty .....  
 ..... Charles Scoville  
 Rebecca Donora Castner .....  
 ..... Trudy Carson  
 Bride and Groom .....  
 Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Compton, Jr.

**DRUM CORPS**

Clyde Horton Daniel Tunon  
 Joseph Fernandez Abdo Nasim  
 Frank Cecconi Ronald Valerio  
 John Yocalano Fernando Ramirez  
 George Hanna Robert Valko

**BAND**

**WILLIAM GUYKER**

Carl Fetkenhour  
 Gorden Fetkenhour  
 William Carson  
 Jay Siren  
 Charles Stewart  
 Rosemary Protz  
 Frank Weir  
 Richard Ziegler  
 Dorval Carter  
 Anthony D'Amore  
 James Strain  
 Richard Lewis  
 Charles Assad  
 Jack Shark  
 Anthony Perfetto  
 Townspeople from Scenes 4, 5, 6,  
 7, 8, 10.

**SCENE 10—CHURCH SERVICE  
 MINISTER—H. WARD SMITH  
 CONGREGATION**

Miss Hazel Watson  
 Mrs. Dallas Compton  
 Mrs. Byron Hagerson  
 Mr. & Mrs. Carl Fetkenhour  
 Mr. & Mrs. J. William Burke  
 Mr. & Mrs. Ted Hickman  
 Carol Hickman  
 Mr. & Mrs. Marius Reynourd  
 Dorothy Kane  
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Fowler  
 Curt Phillips  
 Eleanor Phillips  
 Mr. & Mrs. Harry Ayers  
 Mr. & Mrs. Bob McChesney  
 Mr. & Mrs. Ed Dowler  
 Ross Marteney  
 Harry L. George  
 Hubert Thomas

**SCENE 11—ATHLETICS  
 COLLSGE FOOTBALL COACH**

John Gidich  
 HIGH SCHOOL BOYS  
 Robert Rozborough  
 Mike Torma  
 Ignatius Hokaj  
 Vincent Valeri

## IN THE TABLEAU

William Dolzisky  
Eugene Rongaus  
John Yuhouse  
and High School Boys Quartet

### SCENE 12—SCHOOL DAYS

Teacher—WILLIAM MacNAMEE  
PUPILS

Judy Kovalcik  
Jo Ann Morabito  
Diane Hajduk  
Barbara Rumora  
Valeria Moravec  
Patricia Bodnar  
Josephine Sanfillippo  
Arleen Russell  
Shirley Bowen  
Janice Russell  
Richard Bodnar  
Richard Popinchalk  
John Kovalik  
Michael Chuhran  
Bernard Vaverek  
Walter Fronzaglio  
John DiAntonio  
Donald Mendola  
Maurice Rank  
Barry Patterson

### FIRST GRADUATING CLASS OF CASTNER SCHOOL

Mary Amoroso Yvonne Amoroso

#### SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Ted Hickman

### SCENE 13—MODERN SCHOOL DAYS

Carole Duncan  
Florence Zukow  
Evelyn Vojtas  
Gail Boyd  
Mary Tomasiak  
Patricia Caldwell  
Bonnie McNab  
Gail Nash  
Pat Musial  
Carol Smedley  
Dolores Sherrer  
Helen Davis  
Allene Smith  
Mary Lou Perry  
Charlene Robson  
Marlene Amatangelo  
Rita Stima  
Eva Dusi  
Florence Lario  
JoAnn Muniz  
Mary Ann Conn  
Doris Smedley  
Gloria Jean Kostella  
Rose Marie Yocolano  
Eda Romantino  
Audrey Carter  
Jean Sanko  
Pat McCarthy  
Marian Dolnack  
Charlotte Kopko  
Joan Crafton

Yolanda Mendarino  
Lillie Smith  
Joan Mendarino  
Carol Perry  
Dorothy Murdoch  
Linda Eisenberg  
Sabina Sala  
Patty Davis  
Alice McCluskey  
Mabel Minney  
Mary Ellen Hanna  
Elizabeth Billick  
Helen Couser  
Mary Ann Vukich  
Lucille Fronzaglio  
Rose Marie Fronzaglio  
Loretta White  
Joanne Huber  
Jean Rock  
Martha Glidwell  
Pat Cheney  
Alvera Litsky  
Mary Ann Hudak  
Maryan Susky  
Pat Kowalczyk  
Ronald Gozdonovich  
John Pazej  
John Perry  
William Casson  
William Russell  
Anthony D'Amore  
William Spurling  
David Epperson  
John Smith  
Donald LaMendola  
Dick Lesnak  
Bill Duvall  
Joe Sambol  
Warren Gruessner  
Edward Rodriguez  
George Syrko  
Andy Stunda  
Paul Bucidi  
Lloyd Hormel  
Ronald Nagy  
Charles Ross  
John Law

### SCENE 14—LEST WE FORGET

A. WORLD WAR I TABLEAU  
B. IWO JIMA

### SCENE 15—INDUSTRIAL DONORA

Andy Sesko	William Lomax
Frank Prestia	John Kocak
Frank Pokorny	Anthony Policak
Angelo Cialone	James Lomax
John Arnold	Charles Russell
Elmer Bell	Alfred Hughes

### SCENE 16—PROGRESS WITH THE ENTIRE CAST

GOLDEN JUBILEE CHOIR  
LOUISE BUSTO—Accompanist

Nellie Bowers  
Nellie Jobs

Mrs. J. William Burke  
Mrs. Fred Corwin  
Mrs. John Collard  
Mrs. Milton Hartman  
Gloria Jefferson  
Virginia Carter  
Olga White  
Alyce Yuschak  
Mrs. Elmer Hughes  
Evelyn Howell  
Mrs. William Rook  
Mrs. Hiram Ostrander  
Robina LaClair  
Cornelia Boyd  
Verdeen Boyd  
Alice Hageman  
Martha Foertch  
Martin Wehousie  
Mary Culyba  
Frances Vercheak  
Ann Glod  
Fontaine Hornbeck  
Orville Bush  
Emma Sommerville  
Julia Shevchik  
Betty Jones  
Dolores Veschio  
Ann Kuzemka  
Charles Zolak  
Agnes Campbell  
Alma Coughenour  
Dorothy Higgins  
Fannie M. White  
Betty Duncan  
Ruth Allen  
Florence Mosebaugh  
Frances Weiss  
Martha Emler  
Janie Jones  
Sarah Ann Smedley  
Alice Marie Glaros  
Helen Kelly  
Allan Bowers  
Ignatius Hokaj, Jr.  
Manuel Ibanez  
Philip Mauser  
William Rank  
Joseph Hayes  
Vincent Gamble  
Vincent McDonnell  
Thomas Garde  
Harry Loftus  
Michael Triscik  
Harry Ayers  
Ronnie Campbell  
Uro Siren  
Jalo Siren  
Raymond Shedlock  
Chris Thomas  
Edward Petrus  
Edward Yuhas  
John Spesak  
August Bottonari  
James Daley  
Arthur Hayes  
Sam DeChristoforo  
Charles Stewart  
James Gamble  
James Frey

# OFFICERS and COMMITTEES



**HAROLD COPE**  
General chairman  
of  
Donora Golden Jubilee



**AL ZEFFIRO**  
Co-chairman  
of  
Donora Golden Jubilee

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

HAROLD COPE .....	General Chairman
ALFRED ZEFFIRO .....	Co-Chairman
JACK LINGREL .....	Secretary
HARRY RIEFER .....	Treasurer
J. PRESTON CARSON .....	Chairman Finance Division
BERNARD GERLING .....	Co-Chairman Finance Division
ANDREW S. SUKEL .....	Chairman Spectacle-Ticket Division
WILLIAM K. SMITH .....	Chairman Publicity Division
O. W. TRUAX .....	Co-Chairman Publicity Division
THOMAS B. McDUNN .....	Chairman Spectacle Division
JOHN P. CLARK .....	Co-Chairman Spectacle Division
CY ROSENBERG .....	Chairman Special Events Division
AUSTIN PETE .....	Co-Chairman Special Events Division
BEN G. BINNS .....	Chairman Hospitality Division

### FINANCE DIVISION

J. Preston Carson, Chairman  
B. Gerling, Co-Chairman

### UNDERWRITING COMMITTEE

J. Preston Carson, Chairman  
Harry Riefer

### NOVELTIES COMMITTEE

Bernard Gerling

### BEARD CONTEST COMMITTEE

Manuel Campa, Chairman	
Robert R. McKee	Donald Law, Sr.
John A. Murray	Anthony G. Paro
Al Delsandro	Joseph Verducci
John D'Antonio	Andy Takach
John A. Verbich	Mike Wallo
Charles J. Orient	John Duda, Jr.
Paul Johnson	

### DECORATIONS COMMITTEE

Dr. Malcolm Charles, Chairman  
Frank Queen

### HISTORICAL PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Ralph Beem, Chairman	
Mrs. Doris Wood	Mrs. Morlan Crossley
Frank J. McCue	Dolores Sysmanski
Mrs. Bernadene Puffer	William Granato
Mrs. Wilbur Croner	

### OFFICIAL HAT COMMITTEE

Rainbow Girls

### CONCESSION COMMITTEE

Frank Ross, Chairman	
Dallas Compton	J. Preston Carson



**ADVANCE TICKET COMMITTEE**

Dr. Michael J. Herk, Chairman  
 Guy Corno Alice Hageman  
 Martin Wehousie Margaret Godzik  
 John Gidick Margaret Kelly

**TICKET, GATE AND USHERS COMMITTEE**

Andrew S. Sukel, Chairman,  
 Jerry Wunderlich Alden Miller  
 Louis Busto

**QUEEN CONTEST COMMITTEE**

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 Mrs. Cyril C. Rogers Mrs. Paul Curry  
 Mrs. Charles Scoville Mrs. James Daley  
 Mrs. Eva Seiple Mrs. Joseph Gibbons  
 Mrs. Harry Overand Mrs. Robert McKee  
 Mrs. Charles Nemish Mrs. George Kovalcik  
 Mrs. Dessa Dorrycott Mrs. R. C. Muoio  
 Mrs. Doris B. Wood Mrs. Julia Muniz  
 Mrs. Julia Fronzaglio Eunice Kissinger  
 Mrs. William Smith Mrs. James Myers  
 Mrs. Julia Ponta Mrs. James Morton  
 Mrs. Eldridge Cheney

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George L. Higgins, Chairman  
 Allen Kline William Goggin

**RADIO COMMITTEE**

Joseph Just, Chairman  
 Jalo Siren

**DISTRIBUTIVE COMMITTEE**

W. D. Brisbane, Chairman  
 Donald H. Wertz

**PROMOTIONAL COMMITTEE**

E. W. Fleming, Chairman  
 Albert Faller Ernest Compton

**CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE**

Paul Johnson, Chairman  
 John Toprani Paul Dudro  
 Patrick McCulloch Martin Wehousie  
 Albert Pipik Jim Myers

**SCENARIO AND TITLE COMMITTEE**

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 P. G. Hayes Ruth Gilmore Lewis  
 Clare Emler Katherine Hayes  
 W. W. Dennis Mrs. Alden Miller  
 Edna Pipes

**SPEAKERS COMMITTEE**

John McCans, Chairman  
 Sylvester Erdelyi Carl Haefele  
 Harry Riefer George D. Johnston  
 Edward Pech Dr. Michael Herk  
 Edward Cerruti Ignatus Hokaj  
 Paul W. Curry

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Ned Smith, Chairman  
 Grace Wertz Bill Betler  
 Zora Frye

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 Mrs. Sally Gibson Lee Rongaus  
 Mrs. Emma Sommerville Rita Jaso  
 Olga Campa Lillian Bates  
 Lois Mullen Eunice Kissinger

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Joseph Lawrence, Chairman  
 Lou Love Tom Daley

**PROPERTIES COMMITTEE**

George Schwarm, Chairman  
 Thomas McCulloch, Jr. "Beanie" Huhra

**SPECTACLE MUSIC COMMITTEE**

Guy Corno, Chairman

**FIREWORKS COMMITTEE**

Cy Rosenberg, Chairman

**HOMECOMING COMMITTEE**

Roman E. Koehler, Chairman  
 Mrs. C. F. Thomas Laura V. Tomer  
 Roland E. Hoopes Mrs. R. E. Koehler  
 Mary Tomer Mrs. Edna B. Simpson

**HOUSING COMMITTEE**

Miss Lillian Bier, Chairman  
 Mrs. Dorothy Bollman Mrs. R. E. Koehler

**TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

August Chambon, Chairman  
 John Pykosh, Co-Chairman

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Jerry Wunderlich, Chairman  
 Fred Davison Paul Ross  
 John Gidick Edward Duda  
 Edward Hall Mrs. Little  
 Vincent Puglisi Charles Holet  
 George Kovalcik Bill Pykosh  
 John Clark James Russell  
 Sam Grilli Tom McDunn  
 John Balas Olga Vazur  
 Daniel Connair Mrs. Ewing  
 Mary Hurtik Mrs. Cecconi

**TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

Victor Bindi, Chairman

**FIRST AID COMMITTEE**

Mrs. Cora B. Vernon, Chairman  
 Mrs. Ann Fincik Mrs. Louise Prosser  
 Mrs. Mary Maksim Mrs. Helen Havrilla  
 Mrs. Mary Durisko Mrs. Helen Kopac

**REGISTRATION AND HOSTESS COMMITTEE**

Mrs. Charles Scoville, Chairman  
 Donora Woman's Club

**BANQUET COMMITTEE**

Joseph Polkabila, Chairman

**FREEDOM OF RELIGION DAY**

Joseph Polkabila, Chairman  
 Guy Corno Raymond Shedlock  
 Lillian Bier

**FIREMEN'S DEMONSTRATION AND WATER BATTLE**

John Volk, Chairman  
 All Firemen

**GOLDEN JUBILEE V-J DAY**

Tom Daley, Chairman  
 Albert Delsandro Joseph Stofko  
 Thomas Garde Albert Little  
 Andrew Sasko John Elco  
 Joseph Sirback Garrett Hayes  
 Michael Kosh Joseph Kaydo  
 James Kelly Sylvester Erdelyi

**INDUSTRY DAY**

Jake Cox, Chairman  
 Emery Delsandro Harold Burke

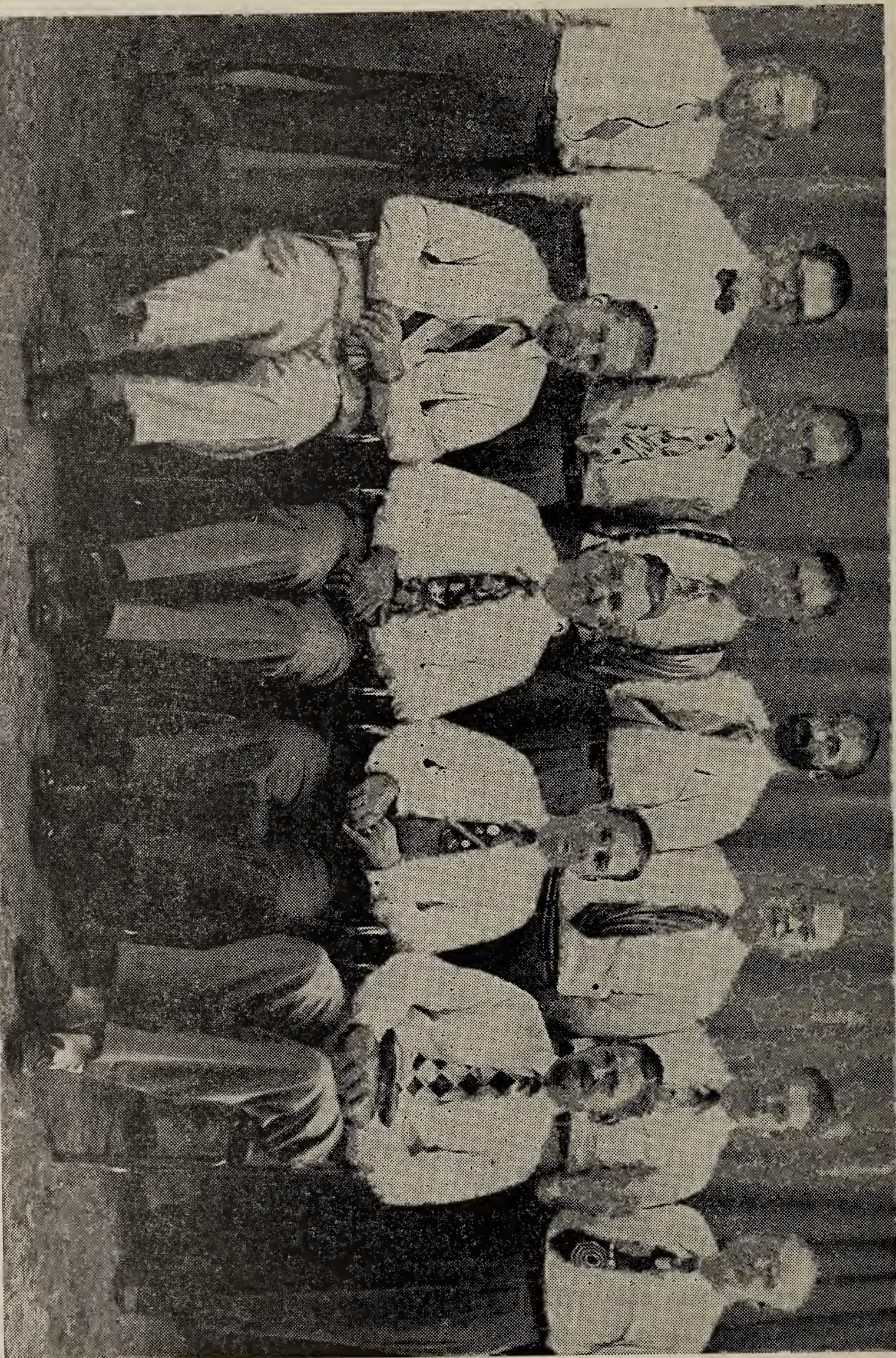
**SPORTS DAY**

John Gidick, Chairman  
 Alex Kramer Emil Badzik

**AGRICULTURAL DAY**

William Stoneman, Chairman  
 Harry Hanks Joseph Kuma

DONORA GOLDEN JUBILEE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Front Row—Left to Right: Jack Lingrel, secretary; Harold Cope, general chairman; Harry Riefer, treasurer; J. Preston Carson  
Back Row—Left to Right: Andrew S. Sikel, Ben G. Binns, Thomas McDunn, John P. Clark, Bernard Gerling, W. K. Smith, Oliver W. Truax, H. Austin Pete

# Donora Golden Jubilee Week Program

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 12—FREEDOM OF RELIGION DAY

- A.M. Mass will be offered in all Catholic Churches. Sermons will stress 50 years of religious growth in Donora.
- A.M. Appropriate services in all Protestant Churches.
- A.M. Special service will be held in the Synagogue.
- 7:00 P.M. Organ Recital—Legion Field.
- 7:15 P.M. Choral Concert — Legion Field — Made up of all the choral groups in Donora.
- 8:30 P.M. United States Steel Hour—George Hicks making his announcement from Legion Field, going out on national hook-up over National Broadcasting Company network.

## MONDAY, AUGUST 13—HOMECOMING DAY

- 10:00 A.M. Registration at Official Booth, Community Center Building, of all Home Comers, continued all week.
- 12:00 Noon Official Grand Opening, whistles blowing, bells ringing, bombs.
- 1:00 P.M. Reception of Homecomers in parlor of Community Center Building.
- 4:00 P.M. Opening of all concession stands and amusement rides on midway.
- 5:30 P.M. Oldtimers Parade.
- 6:00 P.M. Oldtimers Banquet—St. Dominic's Social Center.
- 8:30 P.M. Preliminary program at Legion Field (Homecoming Ceremony).
- 9:00 P.M. Coronation of Queen, Miss Donora Golden Jubilee—Legion Field.
- 9:00 P.M. First presentation of "The Donora Story"—Legion Field.
- 10:30 P.M. Fireworks Display—Legion Field.

## TUESDAY, AUGUST 14—GOLDEN JUBILEE V-J DAY

- 11:00 A.M. Memorial Services—6th and McKean.
- 12:00 Noon Opening of midway.
- 1:00 P.M. Band Concert—6th and McKean.
- 3:00 P.M. Band Competition—6th and McKean
- 4:00 P.M. Crowning of the Veterans' Queen, Mrs. Joseph Short.
- 6:00 P.M. Gala Parade—Reviewing Stand at 8th and McKean.
- 9:00 P.M. Golden Jubilee Coronation Ball—St. Dominic's Social Center—Grand March being led by Miss Donora Golden Jubilee, Miss Columbia and Queen of the Veterans. Awarding of all gifts to Her Majesty and Court of Honor.

## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15—YOUTH DAY

- 10:00 A.M. Youth Day Parade—Bicycle Division, Baby Doll Division, Costume Division, Wagon and Scooter Division, Pet Division—Prizes for all participants—McKean Avenue.
- 12:00 Opening of midway.
- 1:00 P.M. Treat for all children—Legion Field.
- 1:15 P.M. Sports Events for Children—Legion Field. Dashes—
- |                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| Girls - 40 yards | 6 - 8 years   |
| Boys - 40 yards  | 6 - 8 years   |
| Boys - 40 yards  | 8 - 10 years  |
| Girls - 40 yards | 8 - 10 years  |
| Boys - 60 yards  | 10 - 12 years |
| Girls - 50 yards | 10 - 12 years |
| Boys - 70 yards  | 12 - 14 years |
| Girls - 60 yards | 12 - 14 years |
| Boys - 75 yards  | 14 - 16 years |
| Girls - 60 yards | 14 - 16 years |
| Boys - 100 yards | To all ages   |
| Girls - 75 yards | To all ages   |

# Donora Golden Jubilee Week Program

Special races—Sack — Balloon — Wheel Barrow —  
3 legged — Rope Skip — Shoe Race

Pie and Watermelon eating contest

## SPECIAL EVENTS

- |            |  |                                 |
|------------|--|---------------------------------|
|            | Soft Ball Throw - Girls  | Circling Bases - Boys           |
|            | Soft Ball Throw - Boys   | Basketball Foul Shooting - Boys |
| 2:00 P.M.  | Opening of Exhibits—St. Dominic's Social Center—balance of week. |                                 |
| 5:30 P.M.  | Kangaroo Court Session.  |                                 |
| 8:30 P.M.  | Preliminary Program—Legion Field (Youth Day Ceremony).           |                                 |
| 9:00 P.M.  | Second presentation of "The Donora Story"—Legion Field.          |                                 |
| 10:30 P.M. | Fireworks—Legion Field.  |                                 |
| 11:00 P.M. | Band Concert at concession midway.                               |                                 |

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 16—INDUSTRY DAY

- 12:00 P.M. Opening of midway.
- 1:30 P.M. Preliminary bouts of the Battle of the Barrell—Below Meldon on the P. R. R. Freight Station Lot.
- 4:00 P.M. Industry Reception—Monongahela Valley Country Club.
- 6:00 P.M. Industry Day Banquet—Monongahela Valley Country Club.
- 6:30 P.M. Final bouts to determine winners of the Battle of the Barrel—Meldon Avenue—P. R. R. Freight Station Lot.
- 8:30 P.M. Preliminary Program—Legion Field.
- 9:00 P.M. Third Presentation "The Donora Story"—Legion Field.
- 10:15 P.M. Fireworks—Legion Field.

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 17—SPORTS DAY

- 10:00 A.M. Tennis Tournament—all courts in Donora.
- 10:00 A.M. Golf Tournament—Monongahela Valley Country Club.
- 10:00 A.M. Volleyball Tournament—Legion Field.
- 12:00 Kangaroo Court.
- 12:00 Opening of midway.
- 1:00 P.M. Horseshoe Pitching Contest—Lot above Meldon between 11th and 12th.
- Afternoon Old Timer Baseball Game — Legion Field Annex.
- Afternoon Softball Game—Legion Field Annex.
- 8:30 P.M. Preliminary Program—Legion Field.
- 9:00 P.M. Fourth and final presentation of "The Donora Story."
- 10:15 P.M. Final exhibition of fireworks.

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 18—AGRICULTURAL DAY

- 11:00 A.M. Agricultural Day Parade.
- 12:00 Opening of midway.
- 1:00 P.M. Final session of Kangaroo Court.
- 1:30 P.M. Livestock and Farm Implement Show—Veterans of Foreign Wars Playground.
- 6:00 P.M. Reviewing parade of Brothers of the Brush and Sisters of the Swish.
- 6:30 P.M. Judging of the Beard Contest and the Old-Fashioned Costumes—Thompson near 5th Street.
- 9:00 P.M. Street Dancing—Free to everyone—Thompson Avenue between Borough Building and Fifth Street.

# We Wish to Acknowledge

The Donora School Board for granting use of Legion Field for the performances of "The Donora Story."  
Borough Council and the Police Department for 100% cooperation throughout the Golden Jubilee Celebration.  
All other organizations who offered their fullest in cooperation.

St. Dominic's Social Center for the use of their hall for exhibits and the Queen's Dance.

All those who donated prizes for the queen:

Herk's Drug Store	Westinghouse Electric Corporation
McCrorry's	Lieber's Furniture Store
Seigel's	Zak's Drug Store
Boston Store	Book's Shoe Store
William's	Crafton's Home Appliance
Gordon's	Donora Hardware & Electric
Mantsch's Bakery	J. C. Penney Co.
Howard's Gifts	DuVall's Drug Store
Brown's. Jewelry	Sun Wall Paper and Paint
Artuso's Shoe Store	Ondra's Dairy
Hyland Studio	Segin's Sweet Shoppe
Swiatek Jewelry	Louise's Beauty Salon
Union Pharmacy	Julia's Beauty Salon
Pinky's Drug Store	DiNatale Beauty Salon
Ruey & Friedlander	Miller's Beauty Salon
Spragg Hardware	Virginia's Beauty Shop
Garcia Beauty Shop	Ruben's
Donora Furniture Store	Allridge Flower Shop
Perri's Shoe Store	Cousin's Floral Shop
Charles Jewelry	Altenhof's Flower Shop
Montgomery Ward & Co.	Faller's Furniture Store
Central Drug Store	Johnnie's Auto Service
Boston Shoe Store	McWilliam's Service
Reliable Furniture Store	Matway Chevrolet
Ann's Beauty Salon	Club Billiards
	Sam Langer

## WE WISH TO THANK

The Community Center Board for donating space for Jubilee Headquarters.

The Donora School System and Merchants Division of the Chamber of Commerce for Office Equipment.

The Barber Shops and all organizations who sold shaving permits at their places of business.

The Beauty Shops and Drug Stores who sold Cosmetic Permits.

The American Steel and Wire Company, Donora Zinc Works, and all the men who represent this fine organization.

Our Office Staff for their loyalty and tireless efforts.

Ayers Music Center for use of the Baldwin Organ used in the Pageant.

Sound for Kangaroo Court, courtesy of Bedogne and Vincent Electrical Appliances.

Steve George, Gino Bachetti, George Scott, and Emil Babinec for painting of the Jubilee Headquarters, and Donora Lumber Company for furnishing the paint.

Due to the deadline on printing, we regret that many names and acknowledgements have been omitted from this program, but to all of you who helped us, our deepest appreciation.

## DONORA POLICE DEPARTMENT



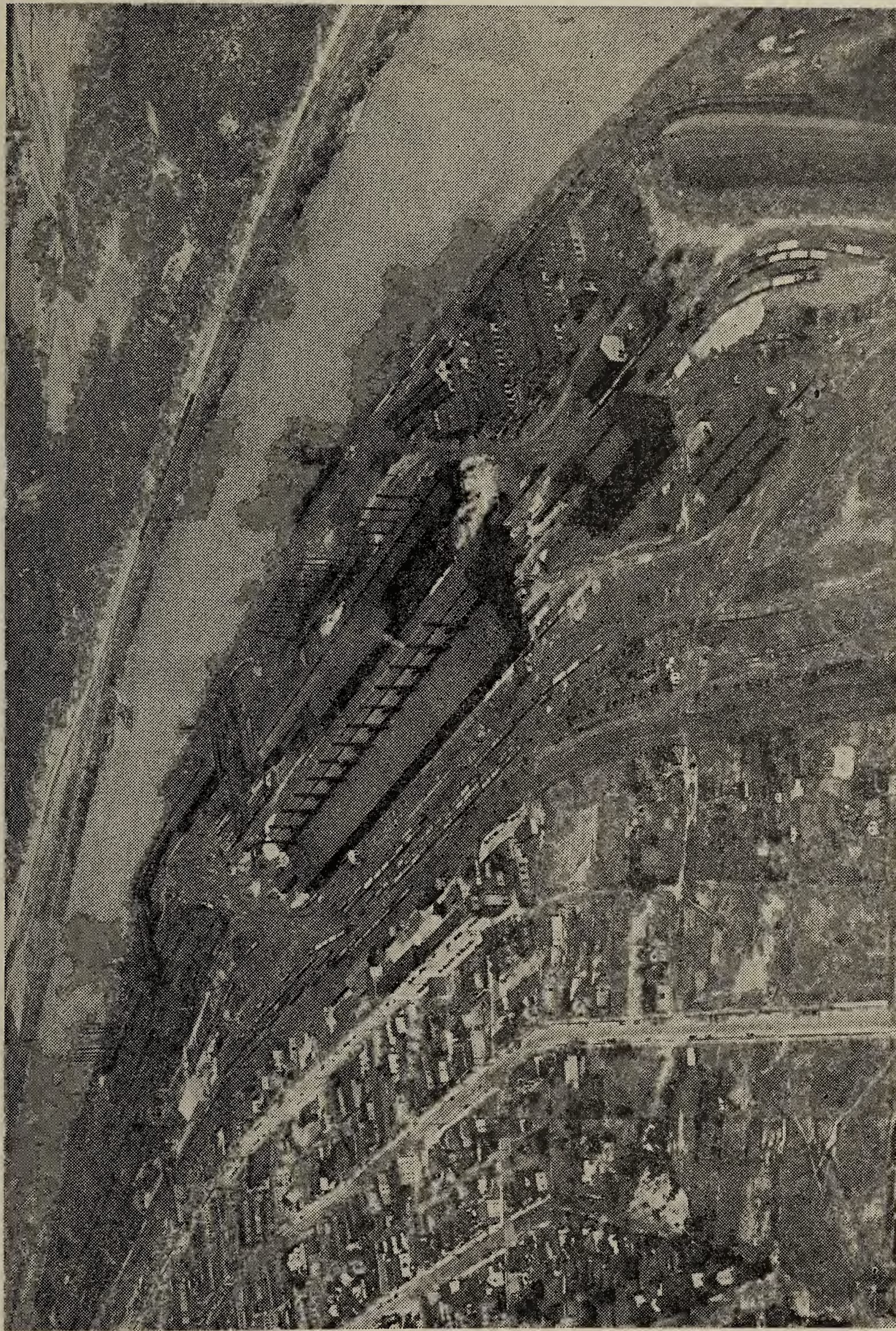
Standing—Left to Right: John Byers, Ted Mathues, William Neal, Sgt. T. Garde, Charles Nedetsky, William Lelik, John Takach, Martin Law, Sam Rosenthal  
Sitting—Left to Right: Joseph Stofko, Lieut. Charles E. Titus, Chief Burgess August Z. Chambon, Chief John Pykosh, George Saxon

## DONORA FIRE DEPARTMENT



On Truck—Left to right: Alfonse Barczuk, Everett Culmen, Charles Stanley, Richard Generie, Joseph Rozik, Sherman Campbell, Harry Coates, Christopher Bettenelli, Dr. D. Brown, Joseph Capone, Steve Blatnich, Sammy Capone, Philip De Rinzo  
Standing—Left to Right: James Hogg, Mike Rozik, John Bodner, Steve Nagy, Joe Blangger, Fred Brocci, Frank Queen, Fred Coates, Louis Bettenelli, James Glaros, William Schempp, Maurice Ranc, Assistant Fire Chief Russell Davis, Fire Chief John Volk

AMERICAN STEEL AND WIRE COMPANY



# *An Expression of Appreciation*

## *Thank You!*

When a community undertakes to proudly celebrate its 50th birthday, since its inception as an Incorporated Borough, and to fittingly commemorate the deeds of those who played a part in its founding and development, nothing is more important than the willingness of public-spirited citizens to accept individual responsibility and to offer their best in cooperation and sacrifice. Of almost equal importance is the willingness of organized groups to lend their constructive force of combined effort.

When the preparation period comes to a close and the celebration itself is being enjoyed, the two little words, "Thank You," sound inadequate.

However, because it is so justly deserved, we take this means of sincerely expressing our appreciation to the following:

Our subscribers whose financial contributions made the celebration possible deserve first thought.

Our committees who served so loyally; the organizations which sponsored various events and activities; the members of the cast of "The Donora Story" who made it possible to present the pageant spectacle; to all these we extend our thanks.

Our Celebration Headquarters Staff worked long and tirelessly. To this loyal group we say, "Thank You."

There are many individuals not mentioned in this program to whom we owe our thanks. Sharing in our gratitude is a score of volunteer workers who gave freely of their time. Membership of many fraternal, religious, civic, union, veteran and social groups assisted in making our daily programs possible.

Our Queen and her court, and all the contestants; all the merchants who gave window space for exhibits and decorated their building fronts; those who entered floats and other units in the parades; the Boy Scouts; the Girl Scouts; and to all others too numerous to mention, who aided in making our Golden Jubilee a success, we sincerely say . . . . .

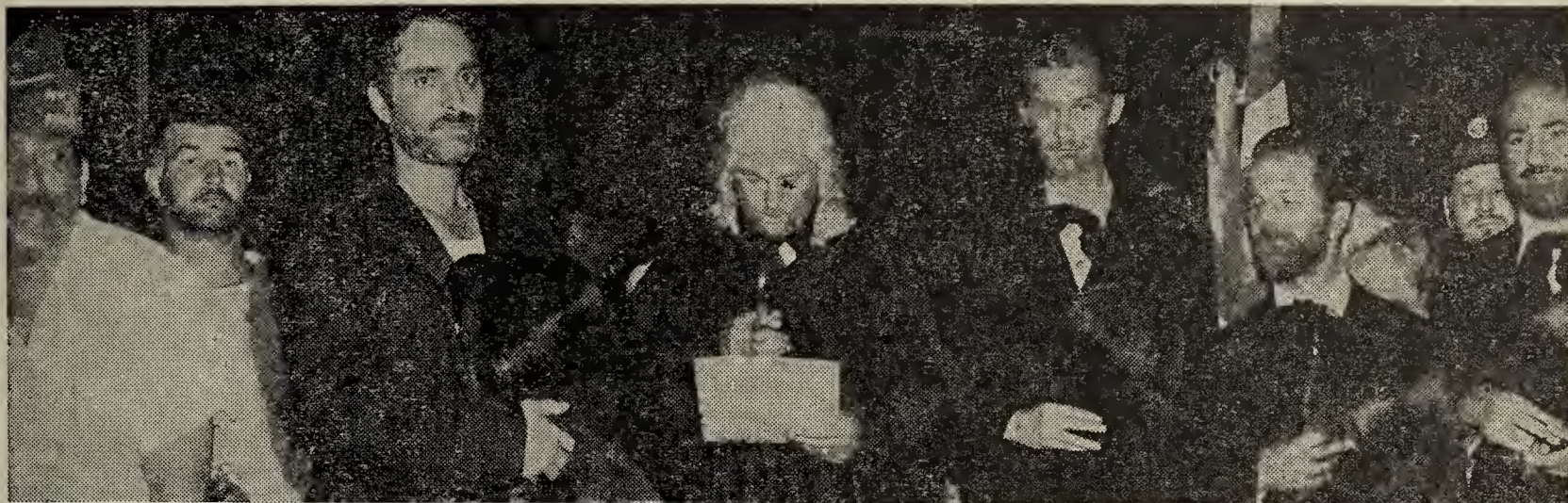
THANK YOU!

Harold Cope—General Chairman

Al Zeffiro—Co-Chairman



# Pre-Celebration Events



# BEST WISHES FROM THE PROFESSIONAL MEN OF DONORA

---

## ATTORNEYS

ANDERSON & ANDERSON

GEORGE O. FRAZIER

A. V. CAPANO

ARNOLD W. HIRSCH

PAUL N. BARNA

---

DR. MALCOLM CHARLES, Optometrist

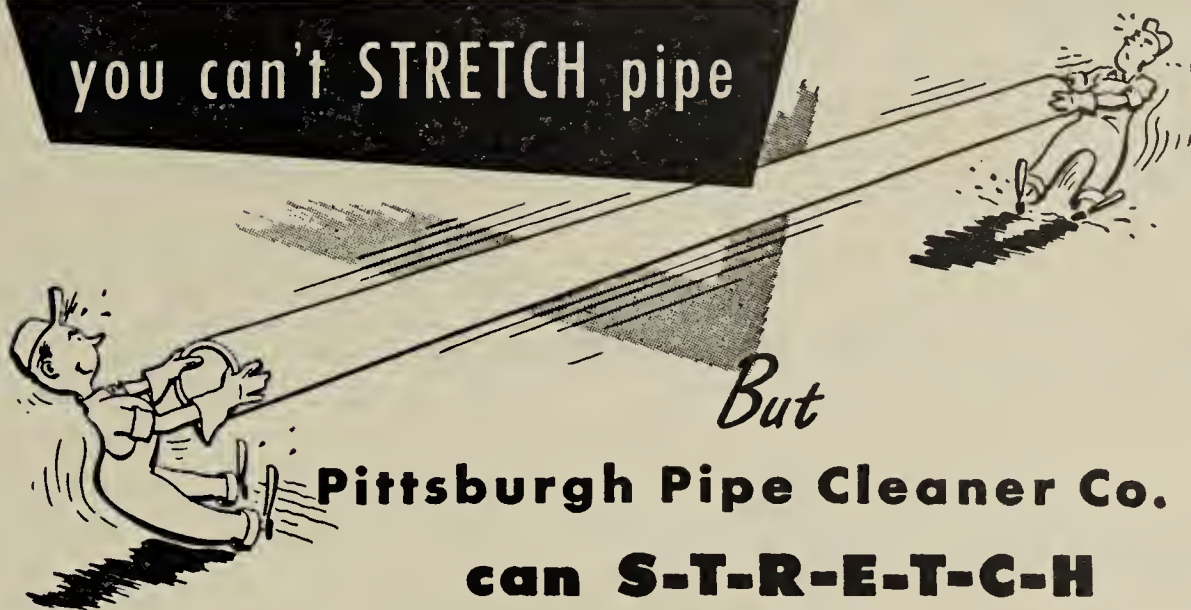
DR. HAROLD M. CHERKIN, Optometrist

---

DR. T. T. HILTON, Chiropractor

DR. A. R. PANGBORN, Chiropractor

you can't **STRETCH** pipe



*But*

**Pittsburgh Pipe Cleaner Co.**  
**can S-T-R-E-T-C-H**  
**the efficiency of your existing lines**

**YESTERDAY**

There was no shortage of material to replace tuberculated or corroded pipe and fittings in your water works system.

**TODAY**

There is a shortage of this critical material because it is going into **DEFENSE PRODUCTION**—so keep your existing water works systems up to their maximum efficiency.

**TOMORROW**

You will need a larger water supply and higher pressure to service the increased requirements for defense production. Will your present system do that job adequately in the years to come?

**THE WATER WORKS INDUSTRY IS ESSENTIAL  
CIVILIAN or DEFENSE**

**T**O maintain a water supply system under these "stepped up" production requirements you need a Pittsburgh Pipe Cleaner Company complete pipe rehabilitation program. You will get highest operating efficiency at **LOWEST COST** and **LOWEST CONSUMPTION** of **CRITICAL MATERIALS**.

- ★ General Surveys
- ★ Hydraulic Analysis
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SHOWS



consisting of two blast furnaces, twelve open hearth furnaces and a 40" blooming mill, including accessories, was completed. Carnegie Steel Company operated the plant until 1907 when it was closed down on account of the depression. In 1908, the American Steel & Wire Company acquired the property from Carnegie Steel Company and has operated the plant without interruption since that time.

During the time the Wire Mill was operated by Union Steel Company, its requirement of Steel billets was purchased in the open market. After the property was acquired by American Steel & Wire Company steel billets were secured from subsidiaries of United States Steel Corporation. This arrangement continued until 1907 when a 30" mill for the production of billets of suitable size was installed at the steel works.

In 1907, the wire drawing equipment was remodeled and modernized for increased and more efficient production.

World War I stimulated the demand for wire and rods and to meet this demand a third rod mill was installed at the Wire Mill in 1916.

In 1921, the first machines were installed for producing wire welded fabric for reinforcement for concrete roads and concrete reinforcement in general.

The demand for wire and wire products continued to increase and to meet this demand two modern, electric motor driven continuous rod mills, and a continuous billet were installed in 1930-31 and the two original looping rod mills and the 30" billet mills were dismantled. In 1940, the wire drawing equipment was again modernized by the installation of continuous individual motor driven wire drawing machines.

Since the original installation, the open hearth furnaces have been enlarged and increased in capacity from 50 tons to 110 tons per heat and, auxiliary equipment improved to handle the increased tonnage. During the intervening years, the blast furnaces and auxiliaries were modernized for greater efficiency and increased tonnage.

The following men served as superintendents and general superintendents from the time the plants were constructed to date:

Wire Mill—1901-1904, W. H. Farrell; 1904-1906, Aug. Mann; 1906-1909, Charles W. Lutz; 1909-1912, F. D. Haynes; 1912-1916, W. E. Acomb; 1916-1928, Aug. Mann; 1928-1938, C. G. Brown.

Steel Works—1902-1905, Niven McConnell; 1905-1907, A. A. Corey; 1908-1912, Ephriam Baird; 1912-1929, J. B. Clark; 1929-1938, A. Fred White.

General Superintendents Donora Steel & Wire

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## THE FALCON BRONZE COMPANY

Youngstown, Ohio

Works—1938-1942, A. Fred White; 1942-1944, L. F. McGlincy; 1944-1949, L. J. Westhaver; 1949-to date—Harold C. Cope.

### *Donora Zinc Works*

On June 16th 1915, engineering work was started for the construction of the Donora Zinc Works. It is a coincidence that both the present superintendent of the Zinc Works, Mercer M. Neale and the present superintendent of the Donora American Steel & Wire Works, Harold Cope, were on hand that day as young engineers. Mr. Neale drove the first stake in the ground upon which rose one of the most important links in the history of American industry. He never suspected then that later he would head the plant.

On September 21st, the first re-fractories were made at the Pottery. On October 20th, the first spelter was produced on No. 10 furnace and on December 23rd of the same year, the first sulphuric acid unit was placed in operation. The other units of each department were completed in close order.

H. A. Barren was in charge of construction and the plant was constructed in record time.

The American Steel and Wire Company operates the world's largest Zinc plant and on October 20, 1915, the Donora Zinc Works produced its first zinc.

The plant occupies 4000 feet of land parallel to the Monongahela River on 45 acres of land.

Mr. M. M. Neale, in his "The Story of Zinc" in the September, 1941, issue of *Wireco Life* gives an interesting history of how zinc rose to prominence.

The German philosopher, Albert Magnus, who died in 1280, is said to have been the first of the more modern writers to mention zinc, and Paracelus (1495-1541) was the first to class it among the metals, the name "zinken" being used. It was not until the seventeenth century, however, that ships sailing from the shores of China, India and Sumatra brought zinc to Europe on a commercial scale. Many of the ships carrying this metal were attacked by pirates, and the Dutch, capturing one of these ships, named the metal "Speauter." This name has been gradually changed to "spelter," a term which is used today throughout the industry to indicate metallic zinc.

The chief by-product of the Donora Zinc Works is sulphuric acid. It is one of the most widely used chemical compounds and plays a vital role in the National Defense program as it is an important raw material in the manufacture of explosives. It is also used in refining crude petroleum, pickling steel, and recovering ammonia as ammonium sulphate.

Cadmium and lead are also by-products in the manufacture of zinc in the Donora plant.

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Schwerha's Restaurant

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Joseph Foytick, Jr., Auto Service

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Michael Uram, Donora Dairy

Lillian's Beauty Shop

Di Natale Beauty Salon

Virginia's Beauty Salon

Ann's Beauty Salon



Zinc's value as a protective coating has long been known and most of the Donora Zinc Works production is shipped to other mills of the Company and subsidiaries of the Corporation where it is used to galvanize wire, nails, sheets and many other steel products.

Zinc plays an important part in peace and wars. As a component of brass it is used in the manufacture of cartridges, shells, fuses and detonators. Alloyed with aluminum, magnesium and manganese, it is used in the manufacture of shafts, propellers, bearings, castings and forgings for airplane parts. Its protective coating properties are utilized in galvanizing marine hardware, cables, pipes, tubes, canisters and drums for the Navy. Die castings of zinc are used in the production of tanks.

Donora, therefore, is a very important center of the nation's high standard of peace time living and a vital cog in the defense of the American way of life.

The first superintendent of the Donora Zinc Works was R. D. Johnston, 1915 to April, 1925. Then K. E. Miller became superintendent in 1925 and died in October of that year. The present superintendent, Mercer M. Neale, was appointed as the new superintendent on December 1, 1925.

Mr. Neale is known in Donora not only as the superintendent of the Donora Zinc Works but as a civic leader. Since he came to Donora on September 30th, 1909, he has been most active in community affairs. It was he who organized the Donora Steel Works Band in 1912 with Andrew A. Patton as director. He has been a member of the school board and in many phases of community life that meant progress and a better town.

#### *Churches*

The following list of churches and the synagogue in Donora is a remarkable tribute to the people here. It points out, as nothing else could, the strong religious faith that is imbued within them.

The early churches, before Donora was chartered as a borough, were located on both sides of the river. It is felt that, in those days, people were scattered and thought nothing of traveling long distances to attend church services. Such being the case, we have listed all the churches in the surrounding area of Donora also.

Fells Methodist Church, first minister, Reverend John Cooper and Reverend Samuel Breeze. First location, log church on present site in 1792. It was founded in Donora in 1784. The present location is Fellsburg and that church was founded in 1834. It is said to be the oldest Methodist church west of the Alleghenies. At present, Reverend W. S. Van Ryn is the minister and its membership totals 150.

The Webster Methodist Church was founded in

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1840 in Webster. Its members gathered first in the shop of Walter Brown. The first minister was Reverend Alvah Chapman. It had other locations before the present site was decided upon, such as the Webster School House and a frame church on Railroad Street. At present, it is located at the intersection of Webster Hollow and the Monessen Road. Reverend Louis J. Wallis is the pastor now and the church has a membership of 125.

The Eldora Mission Church of Jesus Christ was founded in 1862 in Monongahela. The present location is at Eldora and Reverend Walter Anderson is the Elder. The church has a membership of 50.

The Webster Presbyterian Church was founded in 1877 and the first minister was Reverend A. F. Boyd. The first location of the church was at the home of A. A. Perkins. Reverend George Guest is the present minister and the church has a membership of 106.

In 1889, the Sampson Union Church was located at the Sampson Star School. The first pastor was Reverend Raymond Colas. At present, the church is located on the Eldora Road, Eldora, Pennsylvania, and its present membership totals 50. At one time in its history, it held services in the Alexander School.

The First Methodist Church was founded in 1900 in the old school house in West Columbia. Reverend W. H. Kirkland was its first minister. It also was located at a later date on Chestnut Street between the railroad and McKean Avenue. At present, Reverend Edward H. Miller is the minister and the church is located on Fifth Street and Thompson Avenue. It has, at present, a membership of 700 and Donora recognizes the beautiful chimes that sound from the church on Sunday morning.

The Quinn Chapel, A.M.E. was the first church built in the borough of Donora. That was in 1901 and the first minister was Reverend S. P. West. At present, Reverend J. W. Barrett is the minister and the church is located at Second Street and Allen Avenue. Its membership now totals 65.

The Primitive Baptist Church was founded in Donora in 1901 with Reverend George Bretz its Elder. At first, it met in homes and now the church is located on Allen Avenue between Second and Third Streets. Elder Corvin Dove is in charge and it has a membership of 20.

The Ghav Sholom Synagogue was founded in Donora in 1901 at Third Street between McKean and Thompson Avenue. It was also located at Third and McKean before moving to its present location at Second Street and Thompson Avenue. The first Rabbi was Rabbi Levin. Rabbi Benjamin Krohn is in charge at present and it has a membership of 50.

Saint Dominic's Roman Catholic Church was

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founded in Donora in August, 1902. Its first location was in the Walter S. Spragg Building, 733 McKean Avenue, and the first priest was Father Pohorenec. The church is at present on Sixth Street and Thompson Avenue and the Very Reverend Joseph A. Kushner is the pastor. Saint Dominic's has a total membership of 2000.

The First Presbyterian Church was founded in 1902 in Donora at Tabernacle on Prospect Avenue. It was also located later in the First National Bank Building. The first minister was Reverend R. P. Lippencot and the present minister is Reverend Harry C. Coleman. The church is now located at Eighth Street and Thompson Avenue. It has a membership of 400.

The United Presbyterian Church was first located in Donora at the Odd Fellow's Hall in 1902. It was also located in a tent between Fifth Street and Sixth Street and the Castner School House. The first minister was Reverend John W. McClenahan and the present minister is Reverend Clarence J. Sutton. The church is now located at Ninth Street and McKean Avenue with a membership of 300.

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church was founded in 1902 with Reverend G. T. Neal its first minister. It was located in the Old Post Office Building at Fifth Street and Prospect Avenue. It merged with the First Presbyterian Church in 1906 and at that time Reverend G. G. Kerr was the minister. They sold their property to Saint Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in 1906.

The Holy Name of Mary Roman Catholic Church was founded in Donora in 1902. Its first location was in a store on Thompson Avenue. Father Francis Pikulski was the first pastor. Father Joseph Forysiak is the present pastor of the church which is located on Second Street. It has a membership of 550.

The First Baptist Church was founded in Donora on June 29, 1902. At that time it was located in a chapel at the corner of First Street and Waddell Avenue and Reverend W. B. Johnston was its first pastor. At present, it is located at 713 Allen Avenue and Reverend C. W. Ingram is its pastor. Between its first and present sites, it was also located at Eighth Street and Allen Avenue.

The Saint Charles Roman Catholic Church was dedicated in 1903 in Donora and Father Charles Stepling was the pastor. The parish heard mass in the Old Spragg Building and Watkins' Storeroom before that time. At present, the church is located at 735 Thompson Avenue and Father Joseph W. Lowney is the pastor and Father Richard Scherer is the assistant pastor. The first mass was offered in October, 1901, in the Spragg Building. Frank O'Donnell was the first altar boy in the parish. The present membership of the parish is 2000.

The Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church was

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Jim Scott, owner, came to Donora in 1924, acting as service-manager in a local garage and started in business for himself in 1932, on Meldon Avenue, between 7th and 8th Streets. In 1935 he moved to 508 Meldon Avenue, took on the Nash franchise in 1939. He purchased the building at the present location in 1945.

founded in Donora on August 11, 1903. It was located in the First National Bank Building at the time and Reverend H. E. Berkey was the first pastor. At the present time, Reverend Carl E. Maier is the pastor and the church is located at Tenth Street and McKean Avenue. It has a membership of 160.

The Emanuel Baptist Church was founded here on August 14, 1904. Reverend T. T. Lake was the first pastor and the church held services at Goodwin Hall and the Odd Fellows Hall. It also was located on First Street and Watkins Avenue. In August, 1911, it officially began its administration in Donora. At present Reverend R. A. Unger is the pastor and the church is located on Second and Castner Avenue. It has a membership of 196.

Saint Michaels' Greek Catholic Church was founded April 11, 1904. Father Emil Sheregelly was its first pastor and it had a wooden structure on its present location at that time. Father Gr. J. Chegin is the pastor now and the church is located on Fifth Street and Murray Avenue. St. Michaels has a large choir of fifty mixed voices and the choir master is Paul Yatzko. The present membership of the parish is 1200.

The Saint Joseph's Roman Catholic Church was founded on its present location—Fifth Street and Prospect Avenue—in 1907. Father Elias Gusic was the first pastor and the present pastor is Father W. Sadauskas. The membership of the church is 125.

St. John's Episcopal Church was founded in Donora in February, 1915, and Reverend Raymond Harkins was the first minister. It was located at first in the Sunday School in the United Presbyterian Church. At present, the church is located at Tenth Street and Thompson Avenue. This church was dedicated on September 6, 1925. Reverend Lee W. Burnett is the present pastor and the total membership is now 300.

The Hungarian Reformed Presbyterian Church was first located in Donora at the First Presbyterian Church in 1915. Then it moved to its present location on First Street and Watkins Avenue. The first minister was Reverend Alexander Kalessey and the present pastor is Reverend Stephen Szoke. The membership of the church totals 35.

Saint Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church under Reverend Nicholas Podlusky was located at first on Eighth Street and Meldon Avenue. It was founded in Donora in September, 1915. Father John Skvir is the present pastor and the church is now located on Lucretia Avenue. There are 500 members in the church and they have an excellent choir consisting of forty voices.

The Saint Paul Baptist Church was founded in Donora in 1917 and was located in the basement of the present location on South McKean Avenue. Reverend W. E. McBrayer is the present pastor and

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"The Friendly Drug Store"



Reverend J. R. Phillips, the first pastor. The membership of the church is 400.

The Brethren Church was founded in 1923 at 427 Thompson Avenue with Elder William Kiddy its first pastor. Elder Leslie Wolf is the present pastor and the church is now located at First Street and Watkins Avenue. Membership of the church at present is 50.

Saint Philip Neri Roman Catholic Church was founded on its present location at 714 Norman Avenue in 1923. Father Joseph Ronconi was the first pastor and the present pastor is Father Louis Farina. Membership of the church is now 1200.

The First Pilgrim Church was founded in 1926 at 702 McKean Avenue with Reverend J. L. Muir its pastor. The church is now located at 1004 McKean Avenue and Reverend Samuel A. Byers is the pastor. The membership of church now totals 50.

The Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints was founded on January 1, 1927, at Fifth Street and McKean Avenue. Its first pastor was Reverend Samuel H. Gaskill and its present pastor is Reverend J. W. Winters. The church was later located at Sixth Street and McKean Avenue before acquiring its present site at Seventh Street and McKean Avenue. The total membership is now 65.

The Bethlehem Temple (Apostolic Faith) was founded in 1943 at 832 McKean Avenue. Its first pastor was Bishop F. W. Thomas and its present pastor is Elder F. M. Thomas. The church is now located at 216 Twelfth Street and has a membership of 38.

#### *Early Business Ventures in Donora*

The Donora American began as a weekly newspaper in 1901. It was established on April 19 of that year. Vernon Hazzard of Monongahela was the owner of the plant and Roman Koehler was the manager and editor. During the first year of the paper's existence, Roman Koehler purchased a half-interest and the publication continued under the name of Hazzard and Koehler. Roman Koehler resigned the office of burgess of Reynoldsville to come to Donora to assume his duties with the infant journal. Mr. Koehler is now retired from the paper and is president of the Donora Historical Society.

The paper is now a daily under the name of *The Herald-American* and Robert H. Robinson, of Monongahela, is the president.

The First National Bank of Donora was organized in the spring of 1901 and formally opened on July 15, 1901. The first board of directors was as follows: W. I. Berryman, John Ailes, W. H. Donner, A. W. Mellon, Bert Castner, J. N. Mullin and C. F. Thompson. The officers were: W. I. Berryman, president, and John Ailes, cashier. Later,

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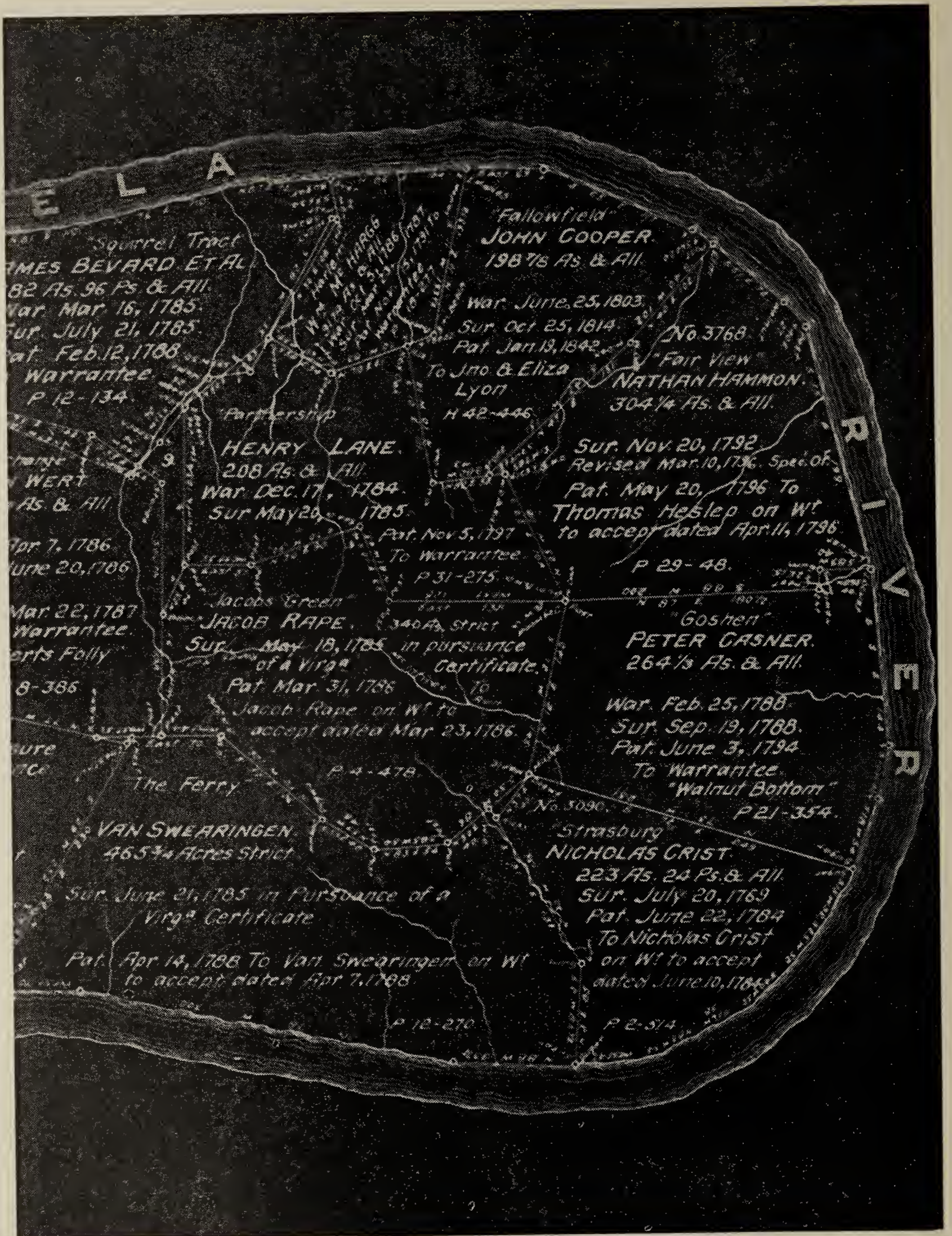
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W. H. Donner resigned and Frank Donner assumed the vacancy. The working force was increased later by the addition of assistant cashier, James G. Binns, and again strengthened by procuring Ben Binns as bookkeeper.

The Bank of Donora began on January 2, 1902. Its first officers were: N. H. Biddle, president; Theo. J. Allen, first vice president, and R. L. Biddle, cashier. The first board of directors included: Theo. Allen, U. H. Biddle, W. H. Binns, William Clendaniel, G. T. Craig, J. O. Cunningham, E. L. Porter, W. S. Spragg, J. A. Sprowls, A. J. Vernon and J. B. Wood.

The Union Trust Company was the third and youngest bank to rise with the new town. The officers of this bank were: John W. Ailes, president; John N. Mullin, vice president; W. H. Binns, secretary and treasurer. The executive committee: J. W. Ailes, Bert Castner, J. N. Mullin, R. L. Biddle and W. H. Binns. The directors: John W. Ailes, William I. Berryman, John W. Donner, Joseph S. Elliott, M. J. O'Donnell, A. W. Mellon, William H. Donner, John G. Coatsworth, A. B. Duvall, Joseph Underwood, R. L. Biddle, J. N. Mullin, George W. Allen, B. W. Castner, William H. Farrell, C. F. Thompson and William H. Binns.

B. W. Castner and Son conducted a general insurance and real estate brokerage business in 1901. as did Schooley and Kenyon; W. E. Todd, another; W. W. Goodwin, another and the Jenisee Land Company, which began in 1900 with Amos Steck, President and General Manager, and H. B. Steck, Manager.

The flour, feed and grain warehouse of W. A. Markell was the first building completed in the borough of Donora. He started business in Donora September 4, 1900.

Sturgis Furniture and Undertaking was a going concern in 1901 in Donora also. E. G. Sturgis operated a furniture store and sold elegant caskets too. In the rear of the store was the morgue where bodies were properly prepared.

Campbell's Shoe Store was operated by E. C. Campbell on McKean Avenue at this time, and A. A. Hardesty and Company operated a hardware store on Fifth Street.

The "Famous" was Donora's first clothing store. It was operated by William Altman in 1901.

J. B. Steward operated a News Agency, the only proprietor of a book and stationery store in Donora.

The National Pool and Billiard Parlor was operated by S. B. Robinson. William Clendaniel conducted a shoe store and R. M. Munson a hardware and plumbing store. The Corner Drug Store was owned by John W. Mullin and later by Fred Allison and Harry B. Wiley.

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PHONE 710

Furniture and undertaking seemed to go well together in Donora at the turn of the century for Gomfort and Kelly operated another such business on McKean Avenue.

J. C. Laing established a dry goods store in 1901 and J. J. Boltze engaged in decorative painting.

Thomas Smith came to Donora in 1900 and accommodated the people with a Transfer and Drayman business. He owned seven head of horses and "delivered the goods." Thomas Smith was appointed street commissioner and high constable in Donora also.

Paul Nordstrom aided the town by establishing himself as an Artist and Decorator; E. L. Jones operated a "Butter and Eggs" store; McCune Brothers Department Store was popular in the dry goods market; Emmet S. Compton had a grocery store; Theodore Herring operated a Grocery and Meat Market up the hill on Fifth Street; Spragg and Son had a hardware store. The Spraggs erected one of the first buildings in Donora called the Spragg Building; Faller Brothers' Furniture opened on July 1, 1901, and they erected a building which bears the same name today; household goods could be purchased from Hopton and Evans; Bertha Dodson operated the Donora Millinery Parlors; the first bakery in Donora was undertaken by Adolph Kapp in August, 1901; B. H. Hodge met the civic need as a Tinner and Roofer; George T. Michener prospered with receipts amounting to \$50,000 a year in his Meat Market; E. F. Segner was a Jeweler and Optician; Ben Roth had a boot and shoe store on McKean Avenue; Wallace and Fruit were grocers; W. H. Siebert, a plumber; John W. Mullin opened another drug store, the Mullin's Pharmacy; George Ferguson's grocery store was on the corner of Fourth Street and Thompson Avenue; R. O. and George S. Bennet had a plumbing business on McKean Avenue and Frank Catapan had a grocery store on Third Street.

The Irondale was the first licensed hotel to open in Donora under C. F. Cardon and later under Nat Harris and Clarence L. Egbert.

The Hotel Columbia was opened by Eneas Coulson in November, 1901.

Allen's Livery Stables were located on Meldon Avenue between Fifth and Sixth Streets. It was first owned by J. P. Power. Arthur Allen, the next owner, was a descendant of the old Allen family that founded Allen Township. He was a brother of George Allen, R. F. Allen and Theodore Allen. The Allens came from Belle Vernon.

George W. Allen was on the ground here in Donora when lots were first sold. He had a real estate business, as did G. A. and Fred C. Van Pelt. The Van Pelts came here in August, 1901, at the invitation of W. H. Donner, president of the Union Steel Company.

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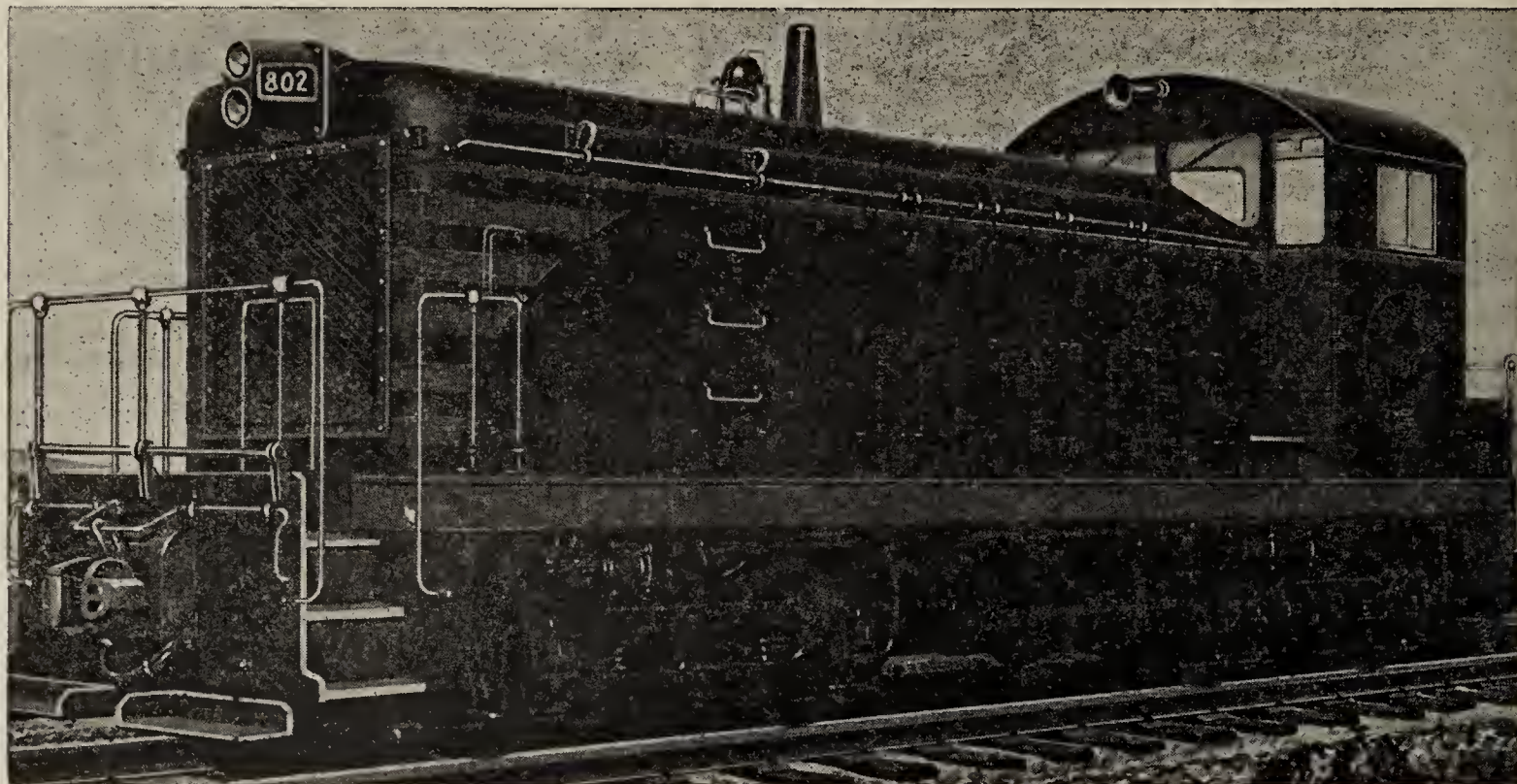
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DONORA, PA.

PHONE 396

The Hotel McManus, Thompson Avenue and Fourth Street, was opened by Bartley McManus April 15, 1901. Bartley McManus was the father of ten lovely children. He was born of Irish parents in Scotland about ten miles from where Bobby Burns followed the plow and composed his songs.

The Hotel Donora was presided over by "the prince of bonifaces," Frank E. Garwood, from Greensburg. It was located on Seventh and McKean.

The Hotel Indiana, J. H. Lollar, proprietor, stood at the corner of Meldon Avenue and Sixth Street.

The Miller Clothing Company, M. Miller, manager, opened for business in the Donora Hotel Building on March 22, 1902.

J. N. Mullin and Paul Mullin operated a Real Estate business.

The Donora Ice and Cold Storage Company was incorporated in March, 1901. C. M. Gay was president; Clyde T. Lewis, secretary, and Dr. J. Add Sprowls, treasurer.

The oldest grocery and general merchandise house in this vicinity was the store conducted by G. A. Watkins, at West Columbia station. At the time the town of Donora was started, this place was known as the Donora Supply Company. He had a formidable trade in both Donora and West Columbia.

The Union Lumber Company had a prosperous business in these early days with officers: C. W. Lynn, C. S. McClosky and Walter Byerly.

Eggars and Graham aided Donora as Contractors Builders in 1901, and the Kirkwood Electrical Company under the supervision of William Kirkwood wired much of the town for electric lighting. Kirkwood used over 200,000 feet of wire in the buildings in Donora.

The Wachtel Brothers and Company operated a "Men's Outfitters" store on McKean Avenue.

In the spring of 1902, R. F. Allen of Belle Vernon, associated himself with Charles Coatsworth of Monongahela and purchased the lumber and yards of the Willson Lumber Company on Meldon Avenue. The directors of the company were: Charles Coatsworth, George Allen, A. J. Vernon, A. B. Allen, B. C. Strickler and Charles Teeple.

The Union Pharmacy was conducted by a limited partnership composed of James P. Castner, Lewis G. Tomer and John S. Culbert. The pharmacy was opened April 1, 1901, on Meldon Avenue.

The J. C. Heslep Coal was obtained from the "System" mine on the Heslep property. James Heslep owned and operated the mine assisted by his two sons, Frederick and Robert. The mine was situated near Eleventh Street and Meldon Avenue.

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PROGRESS AND EXTEND OUR BEST WISHES FOR  
HER CONTINUED ADVANCEMENT IN THE YEARS  
AHEAD.

## PATTERSON SUPPLY COMPANY

"BUILDERS SUPPLIES"

PHONE 920

Foot of 10th Street

Monongahela, Pennsylvania



*Outstanding Donorans  
Introduction*

Donora is justly proud of the many individuals who were blessed with particular talents and of those who have achieved their goals in their fields. Many were born and educated here, others lived here for a period of time, but one thing they have in common, part of their success was in some way influenced by Donora.

*Medical*

Success is difficult to define. However, those who alleviate the troubles of others certainly deserve mention. Therefore, we will mention first the members of the various medical fields.

Dr. W. H. Lewis, Sr., practiced in the Donora-Webster vicinity for over fifty years and received recognition from the American Medical Association for this service. His son, W. H. Lewis, Jr., is a Harvard graduate and is a recognized heart specialist in New York City.

Leo O'Donnell, head surgeon at Mercy Hospital, and an associate of the Medical School of the University of Pittsburgh, is widely known for his success in operating on "Athletes' Knees." His hobby is the University of Notre Dame Alumni Association.

John, his brother, is a medical diagnostician at the Allegheny General and St. Joseph's Hospitals in Pittsburgh. He is president of Allegheny County Chapter, American Medical Association.

John Urbaitis is a psychiatrist and is Assistant Superintendent at Warren State Hospital. His brother, Peter, is also an M.D.

Captain Ralph Fielding's, U. S. N., latest assignment has been Naval Medical Attache at the American Embassy at Moscow.

Commander George S. Watkins, U. S. N., has specialized in Industrial Medicine. Locally, he was known as "Tackle" and "Football Captain" in his school days.

Albert Roode is a medical missionary in Sudan, Africa. This followed an interesting war history in the medical corps, aboard the destroyer, "Quick." One of his sons was born in Africa.

Kenneth McPherson was the medical attendant of the late Theodore Roosevelt, at the President's personal request. His death at the front in World War II was of international importance.

Pomeroy Plevay is a plastic surgeon at University of Pennsylvania Hospital.

Rufus Parrish is our first renowned colored doctor.

Milton Applbaum is a specialist in various skin disorders and centers his services in this valley.

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DONORA, PENNA.

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DONORA'S FIFTIETH BIRTHDAY

Many Happy Returns

**SMEETH-HARWOOD COMPANY**

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**WE ARE PROUD**

TO BE PART OF DONORA ON ITS FIFTIETH  
ANNIVERSARY AND CAN BOAST THAT WE HAVE  
SERVED DONORA FROM ITS BEGINNING, FOR THIS  
IS ALSO OUR JUBILEE YEAR —

**FALLER FURNITURE**

576 McKean Ave.

DONORA, PA.

Lewis Weiss is an ear, nose and throat specialist in Sewickley, Pennsylvania, as is John Cacia in Evansville, Indiana.

The Keefer girls are an interesting pair. Julia is an M.D. and Frances, a dentist.

Dr. George Traugh, Jr., D.H.S. 1905, practicing physician in Fairmont, West Virginia, was one of the early mathematics teachers in his own high school before completing his medical studies. His brother, John, is an M.D. and they are the sons of one of the town's doctors that served for many years. The old doctor was also an ordained minister. Their mother, Mrs. Mertie Traugh, was a member of the local school board that served earnestly for the welfare of Donora's youth.

Dr. Morris Heatter gave his service as team physician of Donora High School for many years. He is at present the school physician. His brother, Max, is located in Monessen, Pennsylvania.

Serving locally are the two Rongaus brothers, Walter and William, Dweese Brown, Ralph Koehler, Joseph Novotny and Edward Roth. Others that have adopted various communities are William and Chester Tomaseski, George Toth, John Heill, Mercer Neale, Jr., William Mitro, Michael Kolczum, and the two Johns brothers, Donald and Nicholas, plus the late Doctors Perri and Issacs.

In summary, we note that this totals thirty-five medical doctors that lay claim to being "Donora Boys." Donora, too, is proud of the many family physicians of the past and present that have seen fit to locate and work so industriously in our community.

In the other medical branches, we have our dentists. Henry Schmitt, diminutive Donora High School and University of Pittsburgh athlete, was the first local boy to locate at home. He is an outstanding citizen, and the father of eight children. His hobbies are hunting and fishing. Brother Joseph, W.P.I.A.L. halfback, 1921, has offices in Erie, Pennsylvania. Lewis Ferretti, recent graduate, has chosen his home town in which to practice. Jacob Graham settled in Pittsburgh as did Frances Keefer. John Purcell is in Brownsville, Pennsylvania.

These six might call themselves "Donora boys," yet Donora has been fortunate to be adopted by the other men who chose to locate here and thus helped protect our health.

The members of the nursing profession are numerous and truly serving everywhere. In industrial nursing, we have had many local girls but one name revered by Donora workmen for the past three decades is Grace Hickman.

The Donora School District officially started the school nursing system in 1921 with Gertrude Hayes. She was followed in later years by Anna

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## Golden Jubilee

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DONORA, PA.

DONORA 330

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Meats — Groceries — Fruits and Vegetables  
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— Proprietors —  
William Schwartz and Ralph L. Evans

Burkhardt and Mary Daugherty. In earlier years, Marie Watson and others helped with the school work but they were employed by civic organizations, such as the Visiting Nurse Association.

Captain Annabelle Watkins is serving with the Army in Japan as a dietician. She is the sister of Commander Watkins of the Navy.

Harriet Latta Clark, former teacher and speech therapist was a physical therapist with the Army during World War II.

#### *Religion*

In the field of Religion, we have Mose M. Shaw, a leader in the youth movement of the United Presbyterian Church. His fellow graduates of 1905 called him Max.

Myrtle Stump McCullough is an ordained minister of the Baptist Church as is her husband, Walter. Each has his own parish in Homestead, Pennsylvania.

There are two Pipiks in religion. They were ordained in the Greek Rite of the Catholic Church. John, known as Father Michael, is one of the very few Benedictine Monks in the United States of this Rite.

Lawrence Connair, known in religion as Father Roger, served as a Commander in the Chaplains Corps in the U.S.N. in two Theatres of War—African and Pacific.

For many years our synagogue was in charge of Rabbi Elefant. Three of his sons, local school products, Maurvin, Milton and Benjamin are Rabbis serving in Boston, Massachusetts, New York City and Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania.

It is to be expected that individual churches will recognize their own sons and daughters who have dedicated their lives to God in serving mankind. Many priests, nuns, and ministers could be listed.

Some of these not mentioned above are the Reverend Fathers, Krysmalski, Adamek, Ribik, Elco, O'Connell, McCullough, Marconyak, Felepchak, Conway and Hruska, and the late Fathers, Odelga and McNamara. The ministers are the Reverend J. McPherson, London, Hogg, Boettiger, and Chilcate.

#### *Art*

In the field of Art, we have two interesting contributions. They are Renzo and Renato Rutili, twin brothers. Both attended Donora Senior High and have won International art prizes. Renzo had the honor of designing the school seal which is still in use and which may be found on every class ring. He also designed the furniture display for Macys and the display for the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company at the New York World's Fair. During the war, Renzo designed multiple gliders

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DONORA 1603

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Penney's has been at home in Donora,  
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As fairly old settlers in this community,  
we offer neighborly congratulations on  
this great occasion. We're proud of you,  
Donora — we're looking forward to the  
next fifty years, and the ones after that!

J. C. PENNEY CO. INC.



for the U. S. Army Air Force. Renato has specialized in the field of advertising. His work may be seen in many nationally advertised magazines.

Ernest E. Compton, a Donoran, with his father, designed the Senior High School Building. Both men are well known as architects.

#### *Music*

In the field of music, Chuck Evans is distinguished by playing in and serving as president of Fred Waring's orchestra. Edith Sagul is a concert artist and has taught the study of the flute at the Juillard School of Music.

Two brothers, Glorian and Frank D'Andrea, have had varied musical careers. Frank earned a Doctorate in Music at Columbia and now heads the music department of a western university. Frank has performed at the Royal Academy of Music, London, England and participated in the Vienna Festivals before World War II.

#### *Education*

In the field of education, Andrew S. Sukel, local school superintendent co-authored a widely used citizenship text book.

Dr. David Moskovitz is a long standing member of the mathematics department at Carnegie Institute of Technology and co-author of several mathematics text books.

James Charlesworth is a pioneer in the establishment of courses in labor relations and government.

Marvin Shagam is our only student at Oxford University, England.

Twenty-five years ago it was noted that fifty-nine local high school graduates had taught in Donora. At present, 55 teachers in our public schools were local products. One of these, Edwin Ore, has composed the school Alma Mater.

In the broad field of education, we have men who have earned distinction by attaining a doctorate, the ultimate in formal education in the field. There is Clarence Genovese, a former Donora school teacher and psychologist, who is now a consultant in Industrial Psychology in New York City. There is Michael Duda who served as both teacher and administrator in the local schools and is now superintendent of schools in Monessen. There is Michael J. Herk, who is, at present, the principal of Donora Senior High School and Joseph Balogh, who is, at present, assistant professor of sociology at Bowling Green College.

#### *Government*

The following are adopted Donorans: Grant Furlong, M.D., has been Donora's contribution to Federal Government. He served as congressman from this district. He has held other positions such as Postmaster, State assemblyman, and numerous county positions and is County Sheriff at present. He is

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THE CONTINUED SUCCESS OF DONORA  
FOR  
THE NEXT  
50 YEARS

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Donora Lodge 1676

## ORDER OF SONS OF ITALY

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**HOME APPLIANCE STORE**

**540 McKEAN AVENUE**

**ESTABLISHED 14 YEARS**

**SERVING DONORA TWO WAYS**



probably Donora's best known citizen and knows the greater portion of the population by their first names. He is a busy man for he has always continued his active medical practice.

Judge D. M. Anderson — Washington County, Orphans' Court, is Donora's best known legal representative and our only Judge.

J. Add Sprowls, M.D.—deceased, was an assemblyman and a member of the Board of Directors at Morganza.

Vincent Capano—local attorney, served as assemblyman.

M. M. Neale—local mill executive and a leading citizen is on the Board of Directors at Torrance State Hospital.

Ben Binns, local realtor, better known as the town's banker, is on the Board of Trustees at California State Teachers' College.

Added to these, are many local men admitted to the bar. Among these are Paul Neel, George Frazier, John Koedel, Nicholas Polkabra, Malcolm and Dwight Anderson, Daniel E. Cannon, Arnold and David Hirsch, Achilio D'Emedio, and Leonard Greenwalt.

Major Margaret Goodman Brown has continued her relationship with the WACS.

#### *Science*

In the field of Science, Donora has contributed Myron Fair, formerly a teacher of physics at Duquesne University and who is now working on Atomic Research at Oakridge, Tennessee. Another is Walter Kaufman, a research engineer who designed the catapult on aircraft carriers and who is now pioneering in jet propulsion. We also have Walter Houseler, a well-known authority on high explosives as well as American stamps. Jean Colgan and Paul Yavorsky are two among very few ever to receive fellowships in scientific research to the Mellon Institute. Dwaine Edwards was also honored by receiving a fellowship to Columbia University.

#### *Industry*

In Industry, we have our local Superintendent of the Donora Steel and Wire Company, Harold Cope, D.H.S., 1910. Our local industry has been the opening link for many in successful work in Industry.

Fred Carpi is a vice-president of the Pennsylvania Railroad. His start was the P.R.R. freight office in Donora.

James B. Castner of Wilmington, Delaware, is an executive in the plastic research of the Dupont Company. He is one of the descendants of the town's first settlers.

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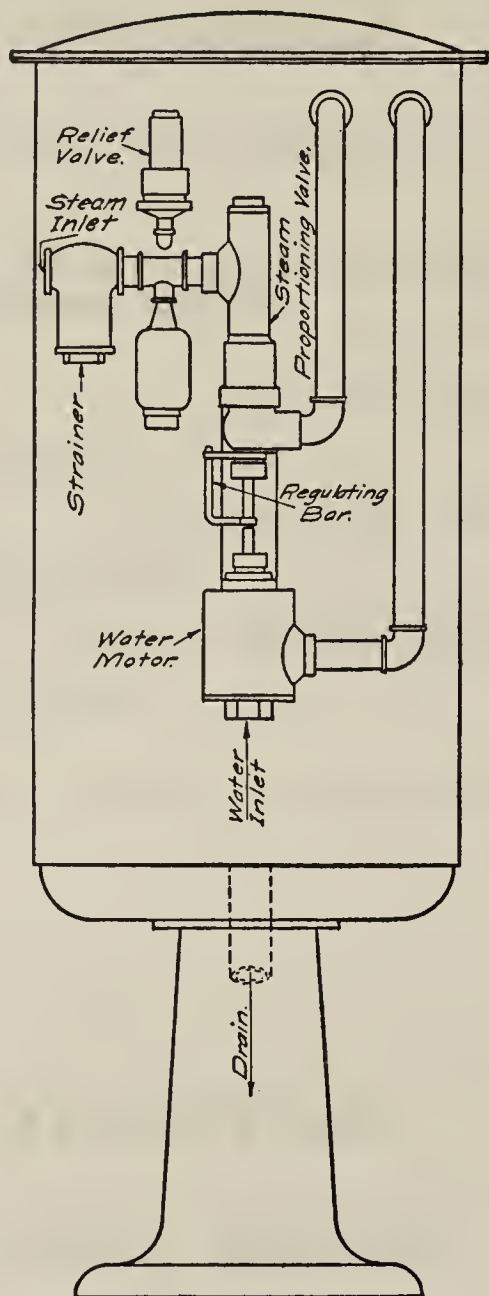
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PHONE DONORA 172

Vincent Sweeney, former editor of the Sunday edition of the Pittsburgh Press directs all publicity of the C.I.O.

J. J. Joy, inventor of the Joy Coal Loader, is a name known to all coal men. He is often given credit for revolutionizing the coal industry.

*Business*

Gregg Neel, D.H.S., 1908, has headed the real estate groups in Pennsylvania and is probably the best known realtor in Pittsburgh or Western Pennsylvania.

Alfred Zeffiro is a name often repeated along the nation's highways. His trucks and vans are likely to be seen most anywhere in the eastern part of the United States.

Harold Cope, general superintendent of the American Steel and Wire Works here was chosen by the people of Donora to head their celebration that heralds the fifty-year period of its existence.

Mr. Cope is an enthusiastic and vigorous civic leader and a Donoran. After graduation from the local high school in 1910, he studied engineering at Penn State. His first job here was as a "blue print boy" which was followed for a brief period in 1915 in a surveying capacity known industrially as a "red man."

In 1917, Mr. Cope worked in the Blast Furnace Department and in December of the same year, he became turn foreman in that department.

In 1922-1924, he was on a student apprentice training program.

He became General Foreman at the Blast Furnace in 1926 and in 1934, he was elevated to the position of Superintendent of the Blast Furnace.

In 1940,— he was made Assistant General Superintendent of the plant and then in 1942, he went to Cleveland as a Divisional Metallurgist.

On January 1, 1945 he became General Superintendent of the Central Furnace and Coke Works at Cleveland.

On August 1, 1949, Mr. Cope came back to Donora in his present capacity.

He is active in church building programs and is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club, American Foundry Society and the American Iron and Steel Institute.

His hobbies are varied and include metal work, wood work, photography (in this he is really good) and fishing (some doubt is cast upon his ability here).

Donora is fortunate to have Mr. Cope with us again. He understands Donora and Donorans are proud to have such an outstanding son lead them to a glorious Jubilee Celebration.

COMPLIMENTS OF

## Irondale Hotel

One of Donora's oldest landmarks is the Irondale Hotel, situated on McKean Avenue at the corner of Sixth Street. It was the first licensed hotel in the borough, and is still the gathering center for many "old-timers" who like to talk over the events which occurred here in the early 1900's. Originally opened by Frank Cardon, it is now operated by Alex Dombrosky.

PHONE 347-R

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SINCE 1931

## Everett Lynn Garage

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— HYDRECON —

THE HYDRAULIC REFRACTORY CONCRETE

— FRANCO-PLASTIC —

THE PLASTIC FIRE BRICK

SNOW SHOE, PENNA.

At this time, in closing our brief story of Donora, we offer Donora's "Official Family and the Members of the School Board."

August Chambon, Donora's present burgess, came here from Besseger, France, on August 3, 1907. He was graduated from Donora High School in 1918. Burgess Chambon was elected to the borough council in 1937 where he served until 1943. Then he assumed the unexpired term of Dr. Grant Furlong, as burgess. After that, he was elected burgess and is now fulfilling his second term. Mr. Chambon is in the transportation business but, aside from his duties here and at the borough building, he is enthusiastically striving to better the firemen's organizations. He was the president of Western Pennsylvania Firemen's Association and one of the originators of that organization in Washington County. He was the first president of the Washington County Firemen's Association in 1940. At present, he is the Treasurer of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Firechiefs' Association and for the past five years has served as Fire Warden in Washington County.

The borough council members are: John Marasovich, James Gallenton, Charles Wunderlich, Andrew Sasko, Rudolph R. Schwerha, John Duda and John P. Jaso.

Sylvester Erdelyi is Borough Secretary; W. W. Dennis, Borough Engineer; Joseph Polkabila, Borough Treasurer; Paul Barna, Solicitor; J. J. Norton and Joseph Droboszewski are Justices of the Peace; George Saxon, Constable and John Hornbake, Tax Collector.

Donora's Board of Health is comprised of: Dr. William Rongaus, Chairman, Chester Glinka, John Gidick and Charles Stacey. The secretary is Miss Elizabeth Ostrander and the borough health officer, Frank Sczymek.

It has been noted that a native Donoran, Andrew S. Sukel, is Superintendent of the Donora Public Schools.

The present school board members are: President, Charles Stacey, Patsy Amatangelo, Louis Demeter, Paul Johnston, Louis Busto, Thomas Puglisi and Michael Culyba with Paul Barna as School Solicitor and George Frazier as School Secretary.

There is no conclusion to the story of Donora, for history is the unfolding of the lives of people and their influence upon one another and the impact of their lives upon the future. What that future in Donora is going to be will always harken back to the influences and actions of the people in this story added to the unraveling thread of lives of Donorans today.

It augers well that Donora is known nationally as "The Home of Champions," for upon that theme a tradition might well be built so that its stature will be truly more and more imposing.

## Jurik & Novotny

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Since 1942

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DONORA HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM OF 1905



232 MELDON AVENUE

DONORA, PA.

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OUR GOLDEN JUBILEE  
PLUS ONE YEAR

INCORPORATED JULY 17, 1900

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HOWARD COLGAN, Secretary

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George Karabin  
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Donald Porter  
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John Prystash  
Paul Sukla  
Matthew Wyvratt

Martha Volk  
Albert Kovalak

Michael Vayansky

Yolanda Greco  
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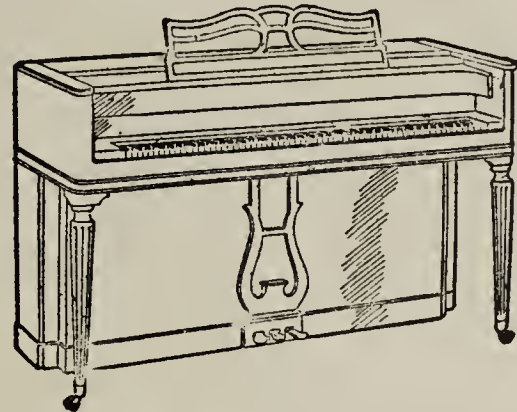
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A Piano Tuner

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Property Management - Rents - Sales

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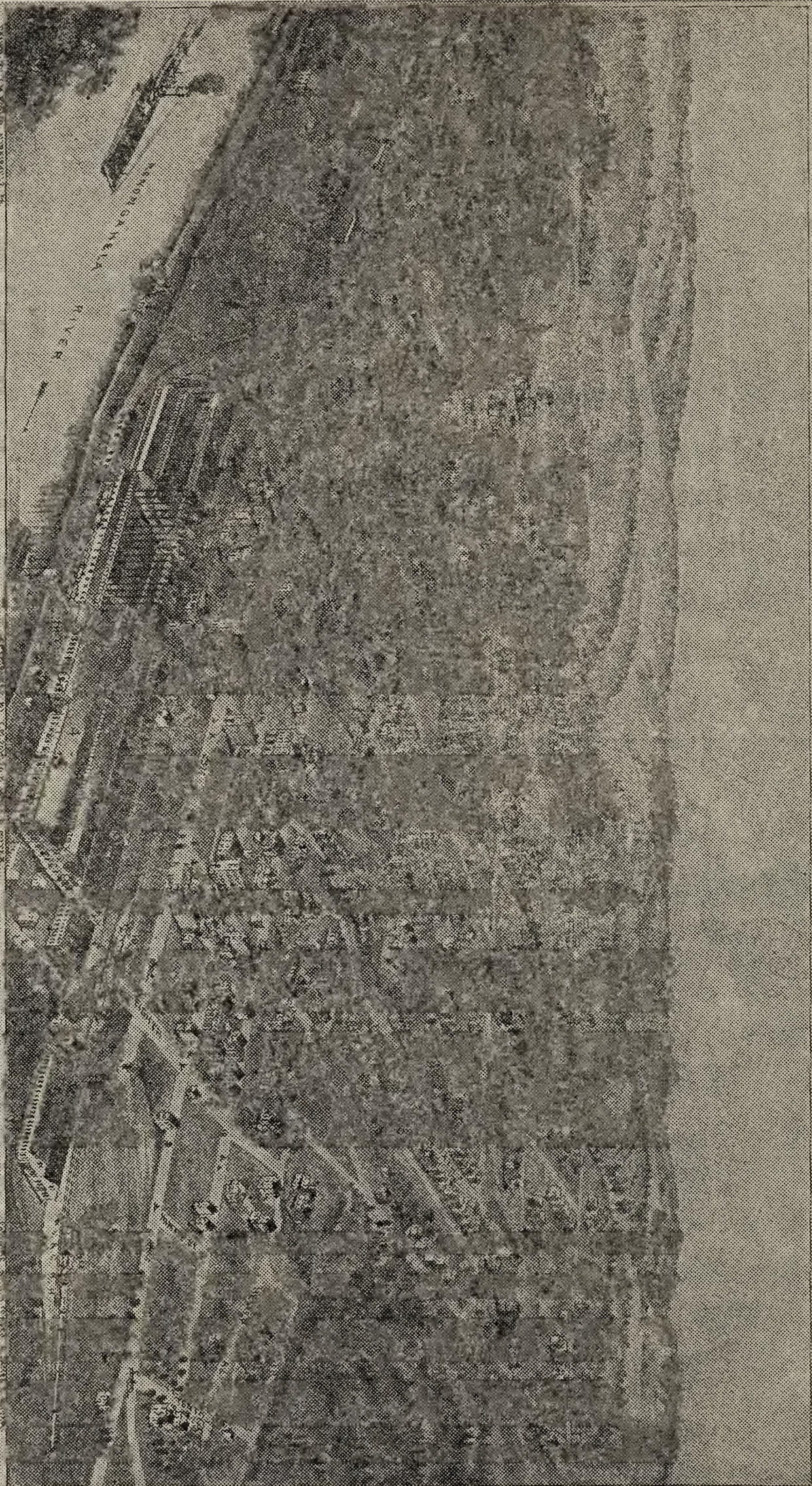
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ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
ST. NICHOLAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
ST. DEMETRIUS EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
ST. BASIL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
ST. JOSEPH'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
ST. ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
ST. CATHERINE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
ST. AGNES'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
ST. TERESA'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
ST. ANTONY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
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# DONORA,

WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.  
1901.

THE MAP WAS MADE BY THE DONORA  
MAP COMPANY, DONORA, PA.  
THE TOWN AND SURROUNDINGS FROM 1890.



GREETINGS FROM DONORA'S OLDEST AUTO DEALER 1911-1951  
DODGE DEALER SINCE 1914

Mr. R. M. Ridgely, Ross, to all who know him, came to Donora in 1901, worked as a steam engineer for the Wire Mill for ten years, then in 1911 went into the automobile business at the location now occupied by S. M. Langer, where he sold the Stoddard-Dayton car for over a year until the company quit making them. During the first year he sold 21 cars, the first of which was sold to Heath Zundel of R. D. 1, Belle Vernon, Pa.

During 1912, 1913 and 1914 he sold the Huppmobile. During 1914 he took on the Dodge dealership. Dodge car No. 32, of the first day's assembly by the Dodge factory, was sold by R. M. Ridgely, also to Mr. Heath Zundel.

Other makes of cars sold during the years by Mr. Ridgely: EMF (every morning fix) Paige, Jewett, Chandler, Cleveland, Packard, Willys, Jordan, Chevrolet, National, Marmon, Austin, Huppmobile, and Stoddard-Dayton.



First car owners in Donora, 1911:

Ben G. Binns, John W. Ailes, George Watkins, "Chuck" Jones, Freddie Williams, Fred (Barney) Foertch, J. F. Lewis, Dr. M. H. Day, Dr. W. W. Lewis, M. J. O'Donnell, M. E. Faller and Ben Hodge

R. M. RIDGELY

Your DODGE DEALER since 1914

As Donora has grown and prospered so have its merchants, including Mr. Ridgely. Many Dodge cars have been sold from the present location at 840 McKean Avenue, Donora, the most sales in one year being in 1933 when 635 new Dodge cars were delivered.

This has all been possible through the loyal following of satisfied customers, of which we are very proud.

It is the wish of Mr. Ridgely that his old customers know that he holds their friendship and trade in the highest regard.

**R. M. RIDGELY**

DODGE CARS — DODGE JOB-RATED TRUCKS & PLYMOUTH CARS

PHONES 76 & 77

*This Banking Office, too  
is celebrating its*

# GOLDEN JUBILEE

*On May 25, 1919 a Charter was granted  
to the First National Bank of Donora,  
successor of the former Donora office of  
Mellon National Bank and Trust Company.*

The association between Mellon and the "First National Bank of Donora" began early. Andrew W. Mellon was a Director until 1916. Paul Mellon was elected a Director in 1932.

A. W. Mellon was also a founder and Director of the Union Trust Company of Donora, which was later combined with the First National Bank to form the Union National Bank of Donora . . . now the Donora Office of Mellon National Bank.

The present officers, who have served all three banks, join with all members of the staff in congratulating the community of Donora on its Golden Anniversary.

**Donora Office**

**MELLON NATIONAL BANK  
AND TRUST COMPANY**

**MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION**