



James H. Tyson, son of William and Eliza Adams Tyson, was born in Versailles September 14, 1856. As a young man he learned the printing trade in the local newspaper office, later working in printing offices in many different states. In 1890 he bought a printing shop in Chicago, IL., and there made the acquaintance of Charles Walgreen and together they organized the Walgreen Drug Company.

Mr. Tyson has traveled extensively, making one trip around the world and a second trip to Europe, Egypt and Palestine. He observed all churches and temples on these trips and these observations are embodied in this building.

Mr. Tyson set up the trust fund that has made possible this beautiful Temple which is built "to the glory of God" and in loving memory of his mother.

Grandparents of James Tyson

Husband's Name: Tyson John

Wife's Name: Pryor Prudence

Born: 5 Oct. 1792

Born: 12 Jan. 1797

Married: 8 Jan. 1818

Died: 3 Aug. 1838

Died: 27 Feb. 1876

Where Buried: Cross Plains. M.E. Cemetery

Children	Born	Married	Died
William Halsbury	29 Mar. 1819	Elizabeth Adams 1 Oct. 1846 Friendship IN.	Versailles, IN 29 April 1883 Cliff Hill Cem.
Nancy Tanner	8 Dec. 1820	Spencer, Joseph Smock, James	8 Mar. 1891 Cross Plains. Cem.
Sarah Jane	24 Aug. 1822	Wooley, Charley 8 Dec. 1857	1 Aug. 1895
Martha Ann			
Prudence Cornelia		Henry Harris 21 Oct. 1854	
Lizzie		unmarried	
Eliza		Shuck, Henry 17 Nov. 1845	
Joseph E. P.	12 Jan. 1825		13 Oct. 1882

James Tyson's Parents

Husband's Name: Tyson, William Henry

Wife's Name: Adams, Eliza Ann

Born: 20 Mar. 1810 Place: Clark Co. IN

Born: 11 Jan. 1824 Place: Boone Co. KY

Married: 1 Oct. 1846 Place: Friendship, IN

Married 1 Time

Died: 29 Apr. 1882 Place: Versailles, IN

Died: 30 Mar. 1896 Place: Cincinnati, OH

Where Buried: Cliff Hill Cemetery

Where Buried: Cliff Hill Cemetery

His Father's Name: John Tyson

Her Father's Name: Adams, Thomas

His Mother's Maiden Name: Prudence Clark (Pryor)

Her Mother's Maiden Name: Cravens, Anna

Children	Born	Married	Died
Prudence Ann	Near Versailles 7 Sept. 1847	Ripley Co. IN Shephard, Charles 11 Nov. 1868	25 Sept. 1916 Cliff Hill
Matilda Jane	25 June 1849	Shephard, Will T. 13 Oct. 1870	Norwood, OH 8 June 1906
Mary Eliza	18 Dec. 1851	Stark, John 5 Nov. 1872	Buffalo, KA 16 Dec. 1932
John William	5 July 1854	unmarried	San Antonio, TX 2 Nov. 1878 Killed R.R. acid.
James Henry	Versailles, IN 14 Sept. 1856	unmarried	Chicago, IL 1 Nov. 1941 Cliff Hill
Olive	17 Nov. 1860	Heck, William S. 10 June 1880	Cincinnati, OH 2 Jan. 1929
Emma	8 April 1863	Hoffman, William 6 June 1886	1944 Cliff Hill

Hoffman

Hoffman, William H.

B.

M. Versailles, IN

6 June 1886

D.

Father:

Mother:

Children:

Max Myron

B. Osgood, IN

28 July 1888

Paul Tyson

B. Harrison, Ohio

8 December 1892

Hugh Holland

B. Harrison, Ohio

26 November 1896

Tyson, Emma

B. 8 April 1863

D. 1944

Bur. Cliff Hill Cemetery

Father: Tyson, William H.

Mother: Adams, Eliza Ann

D. Typhoid Fever

25 October 1904

Bur. Cliff Hill Cemetery

Heck

Heck, William S.

B. Greensburg, IN

M. 10 June 1880 at

Versailles, IN

D. Chillicothe, Ohio

Tyson, Olive

B. 17 November 1860

D. 2 January 1929

Cincinnati, Ohio

Father: Tyson, William Henry

Mother: Adams, Eliza Ann

Children:

Jean	B. Osgood, IN	D. North Carolina
	22. November 1882	21 March 1959
		Bur. Cliff Hill Cem.

Marjary Sibyl

B. Cincinnati, OH	M. Linde, Alfred
5 August 1891	

Shephard

Shephard, William

Tyson, Matilda Jane

B.

B. 25 June 1849

M. Versailles, IN

D. Norwood, OH

13 Oct. 1870

8 June 1906

D.

Bur. Cliff Hill Cemetery

Father: Shepard, Henry

Father: Tyson, William H.

Mother:

Mother: Adams, Eliza

Children:

Willie	B. Aurora, IN	D. 27 Sept. 1871
	23 Sept. 1871	

Harry Amond	B. Aurora, IN
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19 Aug. 1872
Minnie Alice B. Aurora, IN
1 Dec. 1874
Effie Lauria B. Aurora, IN
5 May 1877
John Tyson B. Aurora, IN
4 Mar. 1882

Stark

Stark, John
B.
M. Versailles, IN
5 Nov. 1872
D.

Tyson, Mary Eliza
B. 18 Dec. 1851
D. Buffalo, KA
15 Dec. 1932

Father: Elijah Stark
Mother: Elizabeth Johnson

Father: William H. Tyson
Mother: Eliza Adams

Children:

Curtis B. Ripley County
5 March 1875
Cornett B. Ripley County
14 Oct. 1876
Mabel B. Wilson Co. KA

	10 Feb. 1877
Ethel	B. Wilson Co. KA
	14 Jan.1879
Hubert	B. Wilson Co. KA
	13 March 1881
Gary	B. Wilson Co. KA
	24 Oct. 1886
Grace	B. Wilson Co. KA
	24 Oct. 1886

Copy of entries in the Tyson Family Bible. Copied June 23, 1972 by Hugh H. Hoffman

“May 9, 1893 was the beginning of a new uplift in my life. Glory to God for a clean heart” (signed) E.A.T. (Eliza Ann Tyson)

“On November 25 1914 The blood of Jesus Christ his son cleanseth me from all sin. Glory be to his name” (signed) E.T.H. (Emma Tyson Hoffman)

Births (Appears to be in writing of Eliza Adams Tyson)

Harry Amond s/o W.T. & N.J. Shephard was born in Aurora, Dearborn Co. IN

Willie s/o W.T. & N.J. Shephard was born in Aurora, Dearborn Co. IN

Curtis s/o John and Mary E. Stark was born in Ripley Co. IN March 5 1875

Cornett s/o John and Mary E. Stark was born in Ripley Co. IN Oct. 14, 1876

Minnie Alice d/o W.T. & N.J. Shephard born in Aurora Dearborn Co. IN Dec2 1, 1874

Mabel d/o John and M. E. Stark born in Wilson Co. Kansas Feb. 10, 1877

Effie Lorena d/o W.T. & N.J. Shephard was born Aurora Dearborn Co. IN May 5, 1877

Ethel d/o John and Mary E. Stark was born Wilson Co. KA Jan. 14, 1879

Hubert Stark was born in Wilson Co. KA March 13, 1881

John Tyson Shephard was born in Aurora, IN March 4, 1882

Jean Olive Heck was born in Osgood, IN Nov. 22, 1886

Gary & Grace Stark were born in Wilson Co. KA Oct. 24, 1886

Max Myron Hoffman was born in Osgood, IN July 28, 1888

Ralph Stark was born in Wilson Co. KA January 17, 1889

Margary Sibyl Heck was born in Cincinnati, OH Aug. 5, 1891 (here the writing changes perhaps by Olive Tyson Heck)

Paul Tyson Hoffman was born in Harrison, Ohio Sunday Nov. 26, 1899.

2.

Parents Record

Father: William H. Tyson was born in Clark Co. IN March 29, 1819 & died at Versailles, IN 12:15 a.m. April 29, 1883

Mother: Eliza A. Adams was born in Boone Co. KY (Corrected to Campbell Co.) January 11, 1824 died in Cincinnati, Ohio March 30, 1896 at 2:30 p.m.

Births Continued

Prudence Ann Tyson was born in Ripley Co. IN Sept. 7, 1847

Matilda Jane Tyson was born in Ripley Co. IN June 25, 1849

Mary Eliza Tyson was born in Ripley Co. IN Dec. 18, 1851

John William Tyson was born in Versailles Ripley Co. IN July 26, 1854

James H. Tyson was born in Versailles Ripley Co. IN Sept. 14, 1856

Olive Tyson was born in Versailles Ripley Co. IN Nov. 17, 1860

Emma Tyson was born in Versailles Ripley Co. IN April 8, 1863

Emma Tyson Hoffman died June 1, 1944 2:30 p.m. at Cincinnati, Ohio.

Marriages:

1886, on Sunday evening June 6th in Versailles, IN Will H. Hoffman to Emma Tyson Rev. James Miller officiating.

William H Tyson & Eliza A. Adams were married in Ripley Co., IN Oct. 1, 1846.

Charles E. Shephard & Prudence A. Tyson were married in Ripley Co. IN Nov. 11, 1865.

On Thursday evening Oct. 13, 1870 Will T. Shephard & Jennie Tyson were married by the Rev. John A. Maxwell

On Tuesday Nov. 5, 1872 by C.W. Lee, Jon Stark and Mary E. Tyson.

Will S. Heck and Olive Tyson were united in the holy bonds of matrimony on Thursday Afternoon June 10, 1880 by the Rev. W.R. Lathrop.

Deaths:

Little Willie infant s/o W.T. & J. Shephard died Sept. 27, 1879

John William Tyson d. Sat. Nov. 2, 1878 at Houston TX.

William H. Tyson d. at his home in Versailles, IN April 29 1883.

Eliza A. Tyson d. in Cincinnati, OH Monday March 30, 1896

Ralph s/o John & Mary T. Stark died at Altoona, KA Nov. 1895

Max Myron Hoffman d. at home in Harrison OH Tuesday Oct. 25 1904

Ripley Journal 3 May 1882

In Memorial

William Haulsberry Tyson, the oldest child of John Tyson & Prudence (Pryor) Clark. Was born in Clark Co. IN 29 March 1819. His father removed his family to Cross Plains IN in Oct. 1822, where he was raised. On the first day of October 1846 at Friendship, IN he was married to Eliza Ann Adams by the Rev. John S. Winchester. He located at Versailles 4 April 1854 where he continuously resided until Saturday morning at 15:15 a.m. 29 April 1882 when he died. He died with nervous prostration. His wife, 5 sisters, 5 daughters and 1 son survive him; 1 son being dead.

Ripley County Journal 9 April 1896

Eliza (Adams) Tyson

Eliza Adams d/o Thomas & Anna (Cravens) Adams was born near Covington, KY 11 Jan. 1824

Her family moved to near Chillicothe, Ohio in 1825. Hence to Moores Hill, IN in 1836, later to Friendship, where she was married to William H. Tyson 1 Oct 1836. They moved to Versailles in 1854, where he died 29 April 1882. She moved to Cincinnati in 1889 where at the residence of her son-in-law Will S. Heck she died 30 March 1896. Her funeral was preached by Rev. Mendell of Manchester, IN in the M.E. Church at Versailles followed by interment of the remains at Cliff Hill Cemetery on 1 April 1896.

She was the mother of seven children of whom six survive her: Mrs. C.E. Shephard, Mrs. H.T. Shephard, Mrs. Will S. Heck of Cincinnati, Ohio, Mrs. John Stark of Altoona, Ka, J.H. Tyson of Chicago, Mrs. W. H. Hoffman of Harrison Ohio; her oldest son John W. Tyson having died at San Antonio TX. In 1878.

From girlhood, she was a Baptist until the disbanding of the Versailles Society of that denomination 1860 when she transferred her membership to the Methodist with whom she continued being a member of St. Paul's Church in Cincinnati at the time of her death. Patient, forbearing she was a shining, practical example of the true Christian religion in her everyday affairs, always preferring to give rather than receive advantage, denying herself for the comfort of others; she loved & sympathized with all mankind; she had no enemy & her many deeds of kindness borne in fond remembrance make her a local celebrity.

"Blessed are the pure in Heart"

Abstracts of Tyson Family Members' deaths taken from Versailles Republican

11 Oct. 1916—Prudence Ann, oldest child of William H. & Eliza Tyson; b. near Versailles 7 Sept. 1847; married Charles E. Hephard in 1868; moved to Aurora, IN & then to Cincinnati, OH & finally to Chicago, IL; there to Altoona, IA to visit her sister Mrs. Mary E. Stark; on Sept. 25, 1916 While reading a time table to Chicago fell dead; survivors; 3 sisters Mrs. Olive T. Heck & Mrs. Emma Hoffman both of Cincinnati, OH & Mrs. Stark, 1 brother J. H. Tyson of Chicago; Cliff Hill Cemetery

Oct. 31, 1906—Jennie d/o Wm and Eliza Tyson; born in Ripley Co. IN 25 June 1849; married Wm Shephard 13 Oct. 1870; died at Norwood, OH 9 June 1906; survivors 7 children.

9 Jan. 1929—Olive widow of Will Heck nee Tyson; died Cincinnati, OH 2 Jan. 1929; taught school; very active editor of Versailles Republican which was owned by her husband; her husband was born in Greensburg & taught school in Batesville & Versailles; he was manager of zoo & had a museum in Cincinnati; survivors: 2 daughters; Jean Heck & Mrs. Alfred Linde, 1 brother James Tyson of Chicago, 2 sisters Mrs. Will Hoffman of Cincinnati & Mrs. Mary Stark of IA.

1 July 1908—Will S. Heck died suddenly of apoplexy at Chillicothe, Ohio formerly of Morris Hill; 49 years; survivors 2 daughters Jean & Sibyl, 1 brother Lewis, a telegraph editor for the Enquirer died recently.

28 Dec. 1932—Mary Eliza d/o William & Eliza (Adams) Tyson; born at Versailles 18 Dec. 1851; married John Stark 5 Nov. 1872; moved to Buffalo, IA where she died 16 Dec. 1932 lacking 2 days of reaching 81 years; buried on her birthday; survived by 7 children; for 5 months she subsided on a spare diet & for the next month on still less food; for the last 28 days, she took no nourishment whatever; her stomach would take nothing & she literally starved to death; member of the M.E. Church.

8 June 1844—Rites held for "Uncle Jim's" sister Mrs. Emma Hoffman; died in Cincinnati; 82 years; ill 4 weeks; b. in Versailles 8 April 1862; lived here until married William Hoffman of Osgood; went to Ohio first to Harrison & then to Cincinnati; she taught school at Versailles; her husband has been ill in a hospital for past 4 years; survivors: Hugh H. of Dayton, OH & Paul T. of Los Angeles; another son Max died at Harrison, OH in 1905; her son Hugh was the only relative to attend the funeral at Tyson Temple; Cliff Hill cemetery by side of son Max; sister of late James Tyson.

14 Dec. 1904—Max Myron s/o William S. & Emma (Tyson) Hoffman; born at Osgood July 1888; ill for 2 years with typhoid fever; died 25 Oct. 1904; sur. Parents, 2 brothers.

11 May 1933—James Alfred s/o Alfred & Sibyl (Heck) Linde of Cincinnati; died Bethesda Hospital of haemophelia; struck by a ball in the face while playing near his home; grandson of Olive (Tyson) Eck formerly of Versailles; grandnephew of James H. Tyson of Chicago for whom he was named; Spring Grove Cem.

Other Relatives of James H. Tyson Of Versailles

(aunt)

Versailles Republican 27 Aug. 1895 Obituary

Sarah J. Tyson was born in Ripley County, IN 24 Aug. 1822 & died 11 Aug. 1895. Aged 72 years, 11 months, 7 days. She was married to Charles Wooley 8 Dec. 1857. She leaves her husband, 1 daughter, besides a host of relatives and friends to mourn her loss but they mourn not as those who have no hope.

Sister Wooley embraced Christianity & was happily converted in early life. Her conversation was of the clearest & most marked type. She awakened while attending camp meeting at the Concord Church west of here. The meeting closed & she returned to her home without entering into the blessed experience of pardon but soon after she reached home, the darkness was dispersed & her shouts of praise were heard around the village & many hastened to ascertain the cause of the shouts. Her conversation seemed to hasten conviction on many who had hitherto been unmoved.

For over 50 years, she led a devoted & consistent Christian life.

For over a year her health had failed but during all her protracted suffering, she maintained an unwavering trust in Christ & when the end came, she was fully prepared. She had got very low but having revived somewhat; she again shouted the high praise of Christ who had preserved her & asked each one present to meet her over there. But on the Sabbath evening as the sun was sinking to rest; her freed spirit entered into heaven of rest prepared by her heavenly Father above.

Buried in Cross Plains M. E. Cemetery:

Wooley, Charles 14 April 1820—1 Oct. 1902

Wooley, Sarah J. Charles 24 June 1822—11 Aug. 1895

Versailles Republican

Mrs. Carrie Hunter, the daughter of Charles & Sarah (Tyson) Wooley. Born near Cross Plains, IN 4 Jan. 1863 & died 25 Feb. 1942. She married Jesse W. Hunter 7 Oct. 1886, who died 8 Dec. 1932. Burial at Cross Plains. She left 6 children: Mrs. Frank Cotton, Charles Hunter, Mrs. Hazel Magard, Les Hunter, Melvin Hunter & Mabel Hunter & a half sister Mrs. Martha Gardner. (cousin)

Versailles Republican 14 Dec. 1932

Jesse Wilbur Hunter died at Cross Plains 8 Dec. 1932. Aged 67 Years. Became ill Dec. 2 & suffered intensely. Born at Avonburg IN s/o Chalres & Indiana Hunter. When he was 2 years old his parents moved to Cross Plains. Married Miss Carrie Wooley 7 Oct. 1886. Father of 9 children; 2 died in infancy & 1 son Harry died in France during WWI. Survivors; widow, children Mrs. Francis Cotton, Mrs. Hazel Leatherbury, Miss Mabel, Charles & Melvin of Cross Plains, & Lee of Detroit Michigan, aged mother. Cross Plains M. E, Church and cemetery.

Grandfather of Sarah Tyson Wooley

Versailles Republican 26 Nov. 1942—Cotton, Mrs. Austin, died at Cross Plains 22 November 1942, aged 53 years. Ill for three years. Francis May daughter of late Jessie Carrie (Wooley) Hunter was born at Cross Plains & spent her entire life there. She was a member of the Cross Plains M. E. Church. Survivors: husband, 1 daughter Mrs. Ina Reed of Cross Plains, 3 brothers Lee Hunter of Detroit, Melvin Hunter of Versailles, & Charles Hunter of Cross Plains, 2 sisters Miss Mabel Hunter of Cross Plains & Mrs. Hazel Mayard of Austin. Funeral at home with burial in Cross Plains M. E. Cemetery.

Versailles Republican 11 March 1943—Gardner, Mrs. Martha J. died 7 March 1973. Aged 93 years. Died at Bennington. Survivors: 3 sons Harry E Gardner of Seattle, WA, Charles Gardner of Madison & Davy Gardner of Bennington, foster son Lon Wooley of Cross Plains. Services held at Pleasant Grove M. E. Church with burial in the Slossen Cemetery near Bennington. (Half sister of Carrie d/o Charles & Sarah(Tyson) Wooley)

Versailles Republican 4 January 1945—Austin D. s/o late Daniel Cotton died of a heart ailment at home of daughter Mrs. Ina Reed at Madison 1 Jan. 1945. He was born in Switzerland Co. but for past 50 years lived in Cross Plains. His wife nee Francis Hunter died 24 Nov. 1942. Survivors: daughter, 3 sisters Mrs. Alice Griswold of Bennington, Mrs. Lyle Nye of Columbus & Mrs. Bess Spencer of Cincinnati, 1 half sister Mrs. Zeda Sigmon of Park Ridge, 1 half brother Cester Cotton of Columbus, MO, 1 grandson Bill Reed of Madison. Cross Plains M.E. Church & Cemetery.

Versailles Republican 14 Dec. 1932—Jesse Wilbur s/o Charles & Indiana Hunter was born at Avonberg. When he was 2 years old, his parents moved to near Cross Plains. Married Miss Carrie Wooley 7 October 1886. 9 Children, 2 died in infancy & 1 son Harry died in France during WWI. Survivors: widow, children—Mrs. Frances Cotton, Mrs. Hazel LEatherbury, Miss Mabel Hunter, Charles & Melvin Hunter of Cross Plains & Lee of Detroit aged mother. Cross Plains M.E. Church & Cemetery.

Versailles Republican 2 April 1891 In Memorium

In fond rememberance of our dear mother, Nancy Smock, who died at her home near Cross Plains on Sunday 8 March 1891, aged 70 years & 2 months. She became a member of M.E. Church when but 11 years old & she lived a faithful member til the last, also a faithful mother. She leaves 3 sons & 2 daughters, 4 sisters & a host of other relatives & friends to mourn their loss. She was perfectly conscious

& realized that her summons had come. She was fully prepared & ready to go without a shadow of a doubt for the future. The pearly gates of her heavenly home were open to her vision * while she said her last fond words of love and counsel to her loved ones here & heard their sobs of grief, her ear caught the voice of other loved ones just across the river, welcoming her home. Her remains were laid tenderly to rest in the cemetery at Cross Plains 10 March 1891 in the presence of a large concourse of friends and neighbors.

We have laid thy form in the grave to rest,
Thy pure white soul is now among the blest.
The place now is vacant around the hearth stone,
And our hearts are so sad since our Mother has gone.
Oh, the pain that we felt as we watched day by day,
The dear lovelier Mother fast fading away.
Yet, we hoped against hope. Praying God to restore,
Our Mother to health once more.
But He for some purpose saw fit to remove,
Our loved one from earth to mansions above.
When now she is wearing a bright starring crown,
Prepared by the Savior for his loyal & his own.
Some day we shall meet them if found worthy,
A crown fitted with gems & jewels rare.

Jim Tyson's aunt

Versailles Republican 21 August 1918

Smock, John Milford oldest s/o James & Nancy F. (Tyson) Smock was born in Jefferson Co. 15 Nov. 1852 & died at Cross Plains 31 July 1918. Aged 65 years, 8 months, 16 days. He married Sarah Evaline Beebe 28 Aug. 1874; 4 children: George & William R. at home, Mrs. Daily Driver of Rexville & daughter Aggie who died at the age of 4. Survivors: Wife, 1 daughter, 2 sons, 1 granddaughter, brothers Joseph & Thomas, sister Mrs. Tillman Whitham

Smock, James

Tyson, Nancy Tanner

b. Lexington, KY 7 Aug. 1808

b. 8 Dec. 1830

m. 1st in KY

2nd m Ripley Co. 8 Mar. 1848

d.

s/o

bur.

1st m. Joseph H. Spencer 4 Mar. 1841

d. 8 March 1891

d/o Tyson, John Clark, Prudence (Pryor)

bur.

Sarah Margaret

b. 13 Sept. 1850

m. Ripley Co. d. 7 Oct. 1897

Kinnett, Cambell

22 June 1876

John Milford

b. 15 Nov. 1852

m. Ripley Co.

d. 31 July 1918

BeeBee, Sarah D.

22 Aug. 1874

Matilda Anna

b. 26 Nov. 1854

d. 13 Nov. 1883

James Copeland

b. 27 Feb. 1859

m. Ripley Co.

d. 25 Jan. 1936

22. Aug. 1881

Horton, Sarah J.

Thomas Tyson

b. 14 July 1861

m. Ripley Co.

d. 22 June 1945

Harmon, Eliza

7 June 1889

Joseph Emmit

b. 22 Aug. 1864

Prudence Cornells

b. 14 Marc. 1866

m. Ripley Co.

Whitman, Tilman

12 Feb. 1895

Kinnett, Cambell

Smock, Sarah Margaret

b. 1830

b. 13 Sept. 1850

m. 22 June 1876

d. 7 Oct. 1897

div. 4 Feb. 1916

d/o Smock, James

d.

Tyson, Nancy P.

s/o Kinnett, James

Butt, Ruth

Dailey

Maude

b. Delaware Co.

m. Ripley Co.

d. 3 July 1928

20 Jan. 1885

Shadday, Wm

Shelby Cem.

16 May 1812

Dessie

b. 1887

1st m. Rotler

d. Fort Wayne

23 Mar. 1912

30 June 1974

He d. 29

Shelby Cem.

2nd m. 29 Aug. 1909

Smock, John Milfred

Beebee, Sarah Eveline

b. 15 Nov. 1852

b. 5 March 1856

m. 22 Aug. 1874 (R. Co.)

d. 31 July 1918

d. 28 July 1946

s/o Smock, James

d/o Beebee, George

Tyson, Nancy

Gelvin, Malissia

George Edwin Beebee

b.

m. Risk, Nellie

Hazel

b.

m. Rush Mike

Aggie Melissa	b. 19 May 1876		d. 21 May 1876 Beebee Family Cem.
Ada	b.	m. Driver, Dailey Cross Plains 16 Feb. 1897	d. 14 Jan. 195_ New Marion Benham Cem.
James William Ray	b.	m. 1 st Martha ____ 2 nd Buchanan, Margaret	
Smock, James Copeland			Horton, Sarah Jane
b. 27 Feb. 1859			b. Switzerland Co. 12 June 1861
m. 22 Aug. 1881			
d. 22 Jan. 1936			d. 11 Nov. 1928
s/o Smock, James			d/o Horton, John
Tyson, Nancy P.			Cavernaugh, Mariah A.
bur.			bur. Salem Cemetery
Edwards Ulysses		m.	
Nona		m. ____Humphries	
Opal		m. ____Knox	
Reuben	b. Jefferson Co.	m.	d. Indianapolis Hosp. 1 April 1949
Pearl	b. 1883	m. Haymond, Anthony	d. Covington, Ky 27 Dec.1927 Salem Cemetery
John	b. Jan 1890		

Prudence	b. n. Benham 29 Nov. 1896	m. E.G. Oslin 27 Dec. 1917 Cincinnati, OH	d. Birmingham Bap. Hosp. 28 Mar. 1925 Salem Cemetery
Carl	b. 1893		d. 4 Oct. 1926
Infant	b. 13 Dec. 1901		d. 20 Dec. 1901
Infant Son	b. & d. same day		
Shirley	b. Aug. 1904		d. n. New Marion 29 Aug. 1904
Smock, Thomas Tyson		Harmon Lida	
b. 14 July 1861		b. 3 June 1871	
m. 2 Jan. 1889 (R. Co.)			
d. 22 June 1945		d. 20 May 1951	
s/o Smock, James		d/o Harmon, Thomas	
Tyson, Nancy P.		, Mary	
bur. Cliff Hill Cemetery		bur. Cliff Hill Cemetery	
Dallas	b.	m. Jarvis, Lulu	d. Milan 14 April 1961 Cliff Hill Cemetery
Dora	b. 24 June 1893		d. 8 May 1906 Benham Cemetery
Thomas	b. 15 May 1895		d. Oct. 1914 Benham Cemetery
Claude Irvin	b. 2 Mar. 1898		d. Benham 15 Mar. 1906

bur. Cross Plains M. E. Cemetery
(Obit. V.R. 14 Dec 1932)

bur. Cross Plains M.E. Cemetery
(Obit. Versailles Republican)

9 Children, 2 died in infancy (Taken from father's obit.)

Harry

d. France WWI

Francis Mary

b. Cross Plains

m. Daniel Austin Cotton

d. Cross Plains

1889

5 Oct. 1910

22 Nov. 1942

Ripley Co. IN

Cross Plains M.E.Cem.

Hazel

m. Ripley Co. IN

d.

Leatherbury, William B.

16 June 1915

Charles

m. Ripley County

Margaret Byard

29 July 1938

Melvin

m. Ripley County

Marie Holcomb

6 April 1934

Lee

Cotton, Austin

Huntery, Frances May

b. Switzerland Co.

b. 1889

m. 5 Oct. 1910

d. Madison 1 Jan. 1945

d. 22 Nov. 1942

s/o Cotton, Daniel

d/o Hunter, Jessie

Wooley, Carrie

bur. Cross Plains M.E. Cem.

(Ob. V. R. 26 Nov. 1942)

Ina b. 1 Nov. 1911 m. Ripley Co.

Reed, Gaylord William

24 Sept. 1932

Greensburg Standard 3 July 1908 Will S. Heck Dead

Will S. Heck of Cincinnati, OH, widely known as a theatrical & amusement manager & former resident of this city died suddenly of apoplexy at Chillicothe, Ohio Tuesday morning at 3 o'clock.

He was born at Moores Hill 49 years ago. He studied for the ministry & had charge of a small congregation.

About twenty years ago, he went to Cincinnati, Ohio & became an agent for a museum. Since that time, he has been engaged as an amusement manager at the Cincinnati Zoo.

He left Cincinnati for Chillicothe a few days ago to arrange for the Eagles' 4th of July carnival.

A widow, 2 daughters survive. A brother Lewis Heck, who was for years a telegraph editor of the Enquirer died recently.

Charles Wooley

b.

m. 8 Dec. 1857

d. 1 Oct. 1901

s/o

bur.

Tyson, Sarah Jane

b. Ripley Co. 24 Aug. 1822

d. 11 Aug. 1895

(Obit. V.R. 27 Aug. 1895)

d/o Tyson, John

Clark, Prudence (Pryor)

bur. Cross Plains M.E. Cem.

Carrie.

b. Cross Plains

4 Jan. 1963

m. Ripley Co.

Jessie W. Hunter

7 Oct. 1886

d. 25 Feb. 1942

Cross Plains M.E. Cem

Smock Deaths

Versailles Republican: Carl s/o J.C. Smock d. h. parents 4 Oct. 1926; ___ yrs. In infantry & overseas from 17 January 1918 to June 10 1918; discharged from Camp Sherman; d. 17 June 1926; military funeral at Salem Chu. & Cem.

Versailles Republican 28 Dec. 1927—Pearl w/o Anthony Hammond & d/o J.C. Smock of Osgood; d. Covington, Ky. 27 Dec. 1927; 44y; sur. Hub. , parents, 2 sis. & 2 bros. Salem Cemetery.

Versailles Republican 14 Nov. 1928—Smock Mrs. Sarah; d. 11 Nov. 1928; 67y; sur. Hub, 2 daus. Mrs. Nona Humphries of Cincinnati & Mrs. Opal Knox of Los Angeles, 2 sons Uli of Cincinnati & Reuben of Osgood; Salem Cem.

Versailles Republican 16 May 1906—Dora only d/o Thomas Smock; d. 8 May 1906; 12y; diphtheria; Benham Cem.

Versailles Republican 18 July 1906—Blanch d/p Jas F. & Sarah Smock; b. 12 Aug 1881; m. Harry Bailey 17 Feb. 1902; d. Piqua Ohio 13 July 1906; 24y 11m 1d; typhoid fever; sur. Hub., 2 sons parents, 3 bros. 4 sis.; Salem Chu. & Cem.

Osgood Journal 14 Aug. 1918—John Milford Smock eldest s/o James & Nancy Smock; b. Jefferson Co. 15 Nov. 1852; m. Sarah Eveline Beebee 28 Aug. 1878; 2 sons, 2 daus.; George F. of Benham, Mrs. Dailey Drivers of Rexville, wm at h., d. West of Cross Plains 31 July 1918; 65y 8m 16d; tuberculosis; preceded by 1 dau. Aggie; sur. Wife, 2 sons, 1 dau., 2 bros. James & Thomas, 1 sis. Mrs. Tilman Whitham; Lincolnville Cem.

Osgood Journal 22 April 1925; Hazel Gladys d/o George & Nellie Smock; b. 7 Jan. 1899; m. Michael Bush 10 Mar. 1923; a baby girl was b. 11 April 1925; only lived 3 days; in early life j. M.E. Chu. At Rexville; d. 17 April 1925; 26 y 3 m 11d; sur. Hub., parents, grandmother Smock & grfather Risk, 2 uncles Joe Risk & Will Smock, 2 aunts Mrs. Rose Cooper & Mrs. Ada Diriver: Benham Cem.

Versailles Republican 22 April 1925; infant d/o George & Hazel (Smock) Bush d. 13 April 1925; 2 d; mother d. 17 April 1925; both buried in Benham Cem.

Versailles Republican 2 April 1891 In Memoriam

In fond remembrance of our dear mother, Nancy Smock, who died at her home near Cross Plains on Sunda 8 March 1891, aged 70 years & 3 months. She became a member of M.E. Church when but 11 years old & has lived a faithful member till the last, also a faithful mother. She leaves 3 sons & 2 daughters, 4 sisters & a host of other relatives & friends to mourn their loss. She was perfectly conscious & realized that her summons had come. She was fully prepared & ready to go without a shadow of a doubt for the future. The pearly gates of her heavenly home were open to her vision & while she said her last fond words of love & counsel to her loved ones here & heard their sobs of grief, her ear caught the voice of her loved ones just across the river, welcoming her home. Her remains were laid tenderly to rest in the cemetery at Cross Plains 10 March 1891 in the presence of a large concourse of friends & neighbors.

We have laid thy form in the grave to rest,
Thy purse white soul is now among the blest,
The place now is vacant around the hearth stone,
And our hearts are so sad since our Mother has gone.
Oh, the pain that we felt as we watched day by day,
The dear lovier Mother fast fading away.
Yet, we hoped against hope, praying God to restore
Our mother to health once more.
But He for some purpose saw fit to remove,
Our loved one from earth to mansions above.
When now she is wearing a bright starring crown,
Prepared by the Savior for his loyal & His own.
Some day we shall meet them if found worthy,
A crown fitted with gem & jewels rare.

Jim Tyson's aunt

Versailles Republican 21 August 1918

Smock, John Milford oldest s/o James & Nancy F. (Tyson) Smock was born in Jefferson Co. 15 Nov. 1852 & died at Cross Plains 31 July 1918. Aged 65 years, 8 months, 16 days. He married Sarah Evaline Beebee 28 Aug. 1874; 4 children, George & William R. at home, Mrs. Daily Driver of Rexville & daughter Aggie

who died at the age of 4. Survivors; Wife, 1 daughter, 2 sons, 1 granddaughter, brothers Joseph & Thomas, sister Mrs. Tillman Whitham

Osgood Journal 5 July 1911 Old Jim Tyson

Sponsor of Journal Editor Writes Ripley Printing History

An Interesting Review of Printing in Ripley Co.

Chicago, June 30, 1911

Dear Editor:

How time does fly.

To see my boy's Dick's name at the head of the Journal & Charley Thomson on the Republican makes their godfather smile with parental pride & hoists Brookly Wayland into the dignity of patriarch.

I thank you for the invitation to contribute a bit of Ripley Newspaper History & though my recollections of dates is not precise enough to call it so, yet a line up that may, with slight allowance be called near history.

Your modern offices, setting type by machine, operated by steam & electricity, show a marvelous change since the gifted Ross Alley, in the southern part of the country, with an equipment of which he carried part on his shoulder from Aurora, began his publishing efforts in the early '50's. He, the pioneer of Ripley Printing, by his contemporaries esteemed the peer of Edgar A. Poe, was ahead of his time; he produced the GENIUS OF YOUTH & later with his brothers, produced the LITERARY MESSENGER, which they moved to Versailles, but as these were strictly literary publications, they were not exactly the predecessors of the newspaper. His old press is still on exhibition at the Republican office.

The first weekly newspaper came to Versailles about the same time as the undersigned, both of us being born. When we were quite young & weak & at the beginning, I could make the greater noise. The paper was enough senior, that we could not be called twins, yet we have found lodging under the same roof & have been intimately associated, My affection for it bring pleasant memories of the days on the paper of the much esteemed Henry Papit.

Barnes of Ohio, rashly ventured into Ripley in 1855 & started the Western Intelligence (name enough to kill it) After a short precarious struggle, it passed into possession of Papet and Foy, who changed the name to the Versailles Dispatch. Foy left the firm & sometime after that he began the Journal which experienced a hiatus, while Henry Papet established the Dispatch & made it a family favorite. The last time I saw a copy of the latter, & it did my eyes good, was among the relics curious & many other interesting articles in the museum of Mrs. T. E. Willison, including the finest collection of postcard in Indiana.

During his father's management, Nick Papet graduated & found his way to the New York Herald.

Papet was succeeded by Jennings then Connor, then P.W. Randall & in the latter office, I realized one of my boyhood dreams by learning to set type which clinched the bonds between me & the paper. Under Alf Randall's encouragement, I also made a bluff at rolling forms, but I smeared so much ink on my clothes, that my dear mother could not bear the loss & the offices could not stand the waste of ink; I might have done better had I been of greater status or the forms smaller.

About the time the Banner made a desultory attempt at banning but there was no clamorous demand for so many papers in Versailles.

It was a tri-weekly; they got it out one week & tried to get it out the next week.

Rebuck & Wilson followed Randall, re-christening it Gazette. This firm soon being succeeded by J.B. Rebuck by whom it was my good fortune to be employed & to him & his good lady, I am greatly beholding. Herm Thompson dubbed me "Devil Jim" & under that title ran a column of clippings in the dear old Gazette.

Thompson & Wayland bought the paper in 1873, changing the name to Ripley Index. Thompson, one of the best newspaper men in Indiana, withdrew, leaving the business with J.A. Wayland, who made it the foundation of a fortune which has been a blessing to his many friends as all us boys who have been associated with him, will unanimously & cheerfully say (Old Brooky) was good to me.

I was with the Index for a short while during which Otto Thum displayed his ability on the Journal, but when with the exuberant consent of the Index, as Otto loved work foremore excessively than did the undersigned. Wayland swore it took me longer to fetch a pail of water than any other boy in Versailles (there possibly being merit in excelling in some direction) the ordinary time across the street to Shooks' well & back being an hour & a half. Well, I could not be blamed if Tony Hassmer or Ezra Taylor confronted with a baseball argument or Joe Stewart & James Newman bantered me for a game of marbles.

A worthy citizen of Shelby Township called at the Index office & explained that he had missed a copy of the New York Ledger to which he was a subscriber & he desired us to print him the missing copy. No amount of explanation from us would pacify him; he indignantly insisted that our business being printing newspaper, we could print the New York Ledger just as well as any other paper & if we did not accommodate him, he would withdraw his subscription of the Index, which dire threat he angrily fulfilled.

Wayland was succeeded in the management by O.F. Thum (now granddaddy Thum) then by Henthorne, then Henthorne and Durham who fancied a hyphenated title Index-Dispatch which thank goodness did not last long.

C.H. Peltan made a valiant but not very well rewarded effort with the paper & during his reign, I was on my native hearth, a few weeks & had the pleasure of teaching Charley Thompson the hang of the barn & installing him in charge of the mechanical department with a blessing. Peltan arranged for the issue of a daily paper at the Osgood Fair on which Thompson, in one of the magnificent structures in the

fairgrounds & the first night, we were engaged quite late, when I announced to the boys that one of us would have to take care of the place all night & proposed that we play a game of cutthroat to determine who should remain giving Charley the wink; as the ground ornamented by a number of obstreperous characters, carrying ___ fluids in abundance inside & replenishments outside. Gus demurred vigorously, but we coerced him into the game under an iron clad oath as fierce as that of Dumas' musketeers & thought easily able to defeat the lad honestly, we wickedly combined against him & stacked the cards on him besides. After the game of Thompson and I hiked out whistling a jocund air, ___ we were not beyond the door when we were overtaken by the panting Thum who confidentially emphatically & disrespectfully informed us that he would not stay there all night for the whole dodgasted town.

We went to Weatherford's where we had engaged a room & were shown to it, to find 6 beds in it. 5 of them were amply filled & the 6th designated as ours & it was burdened with being in a dense state of inebriety closely resembling actual tipsidity; Thompson taking him by the heels & I the shoulders we deposited him deftly & affectionately on the floor. WE 3 then held down the bed till morning unmolested & have had no complaint yet from the dispossessed.

From the Missouri, hegira, the mundivagant Wayland returned in 1880 & started the Republican which soon swallowed the Index & that title ceased. Wayland sold the Republican to Bright & Heck, then it passed through the hands of W.G. Words, Cravens & Young & George Cravens Finally reaching our friends Thompson & Robinson, the present genial proprietors, who we hope will honor it for a lifetime.

The Journal has possessed that name for its inception, though its publication has not been continuous, its early life experienced a plentiful lack of contiguity. Foy moved it from Versailles to Osgood & vice Versa occasionally, but when R.N. Papet came back from New York & became its happy possessor, moved it to Osgood permanently & established it as an Osgood institution—long may she wave;

When I began to work for Nick, I set all the type, but after a few months, he kindly helped out on Wednesday by setting a column or so; another few months later he had to go to work on Tuesday, manfully restraining his feelings & after I had a year's vigorous & joyful experience in the management of the O. & R.R; he had to roll up his sleeves Monday morning & set the whole paper. Strangely enough he discovered he did not need me & after a reluctant (on my part) parting, I drifted to Cincinnati; where after a year's buffeting, I became so shrew a financial expert that I left Cincinnati with a dollar & twenty cents & like Washington throwing a dollar across the Potomac, which feat was explained by saying that a dollar went further ten than now, I reached Indianapolis with a dollar & twenty cents; a few little incidents in connection, like walking part of the way & trading my skates for the freight charge on my trunk don't need elaborating, nor how I traced Doc Jones who then had a drug store on Massachusetts Ave, which I reached about 11 a.m. & visited till noon when his invitation to dine with him at good Mother Kelley's (formerly of Delaware) sounded like a waft of music from Paradise.

While Wayland had the Republican, I joined for a short time & made a spasmodic effort with the Comic Hoosier which died "a bornin'", but I was there long enough to choose Dick Beer for a helper & had the good luck to obtain his services & the showing now made by the Journal is highly gratifying to his sponsor.

While Thompson & Wayland were in the Index, they essayed a branch at Osgood, called the Bagel Talso, called the Boogle & Bugle by Jake Kenens __Shuter, but it was evanescent, like other Osgood papers the Item & the Times the latter an off short from Seymout's heathern Times.

Besides Harry & Charley Bevan & Con Stewart, who made a business of it, a few dilettanti have amused themselves at the cases & pleasures & assistance have I had from John Ferris, Charley Hassmer, Wylle Leedom, Lew Walter etc, as voluntary operators but if any of them ever ventured to distribution—oh my;

I once had the pleasure of loaning the Journal an election table. I had sit in the Republican office; it being unnecessary for both papers to set up the same figures but when it was returned, the type were wrapped up in such a crude manner that we commented ludicrously on it in our paper, "Saying our type came home in a basket." Having no telephone then, the good natured proprietor of the Journal not mentioning any name, Grif took our badinage seriously & was so anxious that he jumped into a buggy & so post hastened to Versailles to make amends, that he repented me of my little joke.

Papet was succeeded in the Journal by George R. Griffin, he by C.W. Gray, then Shockley & Anger & now by Brother Beer—may he long last;

You may talk about your fiddlers form Ole Ball to date,
Or go further if you wish to say Paganini great,
Your braw lad with the bagpipe, or your talented galoot;
Who entrances audiences by the toot upon the flute—
Or your piano thumpers, Paderewsky & his clan,
Your silver throated warbles; Pattie, Abbott, or Moran.
Or Caruso & whatever performers you can find—
There is no other music that sticks the undersigned,
Like the tinkle of the type, with their captivating click,
AS the nimble rhythmic fingers, deftly drop them in the stick;

Yours etc. ,

J. H. Tyson

Note: This letter was written to Mr. Richard J. Beer, who at that time was owner, publisher, and editor of the Osgood Journal. Mr. Beer, Mr. Tyson, and Mr. Charles H. Thompson all learned the printer's trade in the newspaper shop at Versailles and developed a mutual friendship which continued throughout their lives. Mr. Beer later sold the Journal to Mr. Peter Holzer, who operated it successfully for many years.

Mr. Tyson stayed with printing for quite a number of years. After settling in Chicago he met Charles Walgreen, who later founded the Walgreen Drug Co. Mr. Tyson became secretary of the Walgreen Co.

and both men became quite wealthy. Mr. Tyson is best known for his Tyson Trust Fund which continues to support projects for the town of Versailles and surrounding areas.

Mr. Thompson continued in the printing and newspaper field and was co-owner of the Versailles Republican from 1902 until 1937.

Both the Journal and the Republican are currently (1993) being published at Versailles by the Ripley Publishing Co., Inc. The two papers are sold by subscription in combination, with the Journal issued on Tuesdays and the Republican on Thursdays.

Osgood Journal 15 July 1913

“Uncle Jim” sends his poetry letter of regret to the editor of the Journal, who lately sent our old friend “Uncle Jim” Tyson an invitation to be with us during the Fair. This regret of not being able to accept the invitation is so great that he puts his replay in poetry, which we here publish for our readers. Everybody in this portion of Indiana knows “Uncle Jim” & will regret that he will be unable to be with us during the Fair.

Your invitation tantalized
Me, for I surely would enjoy—
A chatty visit in that fine
New office with my printer boy.
I eager am your shop to see,
Also would like to put my feet
Beneath the table at your home—
Your Madam’s great on stuff to eat.
The home room Journal friendly face
I have scanned carefully of late
Expecting it to furnish me
The only great important date.
Though far from hoping at this time
To great my many friends there
I’m always interested in
The dear old home & Osgood Fair.

Our manager has been two months
In Europe & our president
Is now & has been at New York
So very long, that since they went.
We also—rans have had to keep
Ourselves upon a lively hike,
Without a chance to calculate
Upon vacation or the like.
To ordinary duties add
The cheerful entertaining task
Of getting out a catalog—
Two hundred pages, you won't ask.
Me then how my time flits away,
Come up & make a bid upon
The work; I'd rather give it to you
Than any printer in this town.
Now hear another sort of tale;
So rapidly have sped the years
Since I have visited the west
My Kansas sister Mollie fears.
That either I have not the price
Or else I have forgot the way.
She's saying things that you may guess
And other friends, as far away.
As Denver, are remaining me

Of their existence in a style
To make me wish that half were twins
So have two visits in one while.
That date, if any I could make
Unable now I am to see,
And so am certain as it is
Dear, Dick, you will not expect me.
To you & yours, find fond regards—
And gratitude accept from him
Who proudly here subscribes himself
Your honored, flattered old friend.

Jim

Chicago, IL July 10 1913

Versailles Republican 3 March 1930

To Give Town New Church Building

James H. Tyson's Generous Offer is Accepted by M.E. Trustees

At a called meeting of the official board of the Versailles M.E. Church Friday afternoon which was presided over by District Supt. Dr. L.C. Jeffery

Of Seymour; James H. Tyson of Chicago informed the board that he desired to build a fine new church here & present it to the local congregation. His most generous offer was unanimously & heartily accepted.

Mr. Tyson's plan is to move the present M.E. parsonage from the south east corner of the lot upon which it is located to the north east corner of this lot. The church will be built on the parsonage's lot & will face the East.

He said that he had not consulted an architect yet but his present plan was to erect a structure of Bedford stone about 45 to 70 feet with a basement under the entire building suitable for Sunday School & social work. The building to be equipped with a furnace, pipe organ & metal seats. The structure to be

practically fire proof. He also desires the Spire to be as high as will look well on the structure of its dimension.

Mr. Tyson left immediately after the board meeting for Indianapolis where he expected to engage the service of an architect.

He said that he expected to begin the moving of the parsonage within the next 60 days.

Mr. Tyson is known to most of our people as he spends sometime here every year. He was born here & lived here until he reached the age of manhood but since that time has been away from the old home town except for a few days visit occasionally. By those who do not know him personally, he will be remembered for the nice Christmas present he made each family in Versailles, Osgood Christian Church Sunday School Members the inmates of the County Infirmary least Christmas—a 3 pound box of Walgreen's chocolates.

Mr. Tyson was one of the organizers of the Walgreen Drug Store at Chicago & served as its secretary-treasurer until a few years ago & is still with the company.

The Versailles M.E. Congregation & thg people of the community in general are delighted over Mr. Tyson's liberal gift.

Versailles Republican 18 June 1930

Town Of Versailles Becomes Beneficiary of James H. Tyson Trust Fund

18,000 Shares of Drug Company Capital Stock Are Left In Trust

Donors Purpose Is To Fund & Endow In Perpetuity A Trust Fund For The Promoting Religious, Educational, Literary, & Social Advancement In Versailles & Vicinity

Methodist Church & A Library Will Be Built First

Under agreement entered into Thursday, James H. Tyson of Chicago placed 18,000 of common capital stock of the Walgreen Drug Co. in the Tyson Fund for the purpose of funding * endowing in perpetuity a trust for promoting religious, education, literary & social advancement among the residents of Versailles & vicinity & particularly for the purpose of building & maintaining a church, library, waterworks & other public institutions.

Under the provisions of the trust agreement ex-appellate Judge Francis M. Thompson of Versailles, the Union Trust Co. of Indianapolis & Mr. Tyson are trustees of the fund & the Trust Co. is the depository. The 18,000 shares of Walgreen Company stock were turned over to the depository Thursday.

6,000 shares of the stock is now available for sale & 2,000 additional shares will become available for sale on March first of each year for six successive years by agreement among Walgreen Company stockholders.

The particular objects for which the Tyson Fund was formed are: first, to build & equip as directed by Mr. Tyson a Methodist Episcopal Church in Versailles; second, acquire real estate in Versailles & erect thereon & equip as directed by Mr. Tyson a public library to be named the Tyson Library, the cost not to exceed \$50,000 divided as nearly as practical—half to land, building, fixtures & furniture & half to equip it with books, periodicals, maps, etc.; third assume the care & keeping of Cliff Hill Cemetery at Versailles, make the surface there of a lawn, enclose it & additions with low stone wall surmounted with an ornamental metal fence, except on bluff side, this work to be directed by trustees of the M.E. Church; fourth, to provide feasts for the inmates of the Ripley County Infirmary each year on New Years, Easter, July 4th, Sept. 14, Thanksgiving & Christmas.

After the church & library are paid for, the remaining money is to create a permanent invested Tyson Fund not to exceed \$50,000. Should the amount left be over that this surplus over & above \$50,000 is to be given to the American Red Cross preferably to its Versailles or Chicago offices.

While the Versailles M.E. Church exists & continues to occupy the church building by this fund, its church trustees shall apply from the income of the Tyson Fund to their church requirements an amount not to exceed \$5,000 per year & they shall also pay the library directors not to exceed \$5,000 per year for its purposes.

Versailles Republican 18 June 1930

Tyson Fund Should Be Incentive For People To Locate In Versailles

The Tyson Fund from which the Town of Versailles will Reap

Untold Benefits should be a great incentive to people to locate here for residence

Versailles always has had good churches, schools, & streets & has been conceded to be a good town in which to live. We have always had a comparatively low tax rate. For a number of years, we have had good electric service.

Within a few years with the money available from the Tyson Fund, we should be able to install a waterworks, sewer system, & improve the streets. Installation of a good water system will reduce fire insurance.

Our stores & other business houses are far above the same found in towns the size of Versailles. The town is situated on a hill where natural drainage is exceptionally good & is considered a very healthful place. The National Road 50 & State Road 129 give us good roads in 4 directions, all being paved except the road south, which is on the state's 1931 paving program. The Versailles-Vevay Road is expected to be taken over for maintenance by the State highway dept. in 1931.

We have north & south bus service on Road 29 & bus service on Road 50 which was suspended on account of construction work is expected to be resumed soon. Three mails are received & three

dispatched daily. It is only 8 or 10 minute ride to the railway station over a paved road. Versailles has daily freight & express service from Indianapolis & Cincinnati.

The town has 3 prosperous churches, namely, the M.E. , Baptist & Holiness.

The following organizations have active lodges, chapters or troops here: Masonic Fraternity Order of Eastern Star, Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodman, American Legion, Legion Auxiliary, Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts.

The following is a list of the businesses & professions to be found in Versailles: bank, feed mill, 3 department stores, 1 hardware, furniture & lumber & implement store, 3 cream stations, 2 buyers of poultry & eggs, 2 meat markets, 1 drug store, shoe store, 2 garages, talking picture theater, 2 barber shops, beauty parlor, 2 millinery stores, hotel, bakery, woodwork shop, 2 blacksmith shops, 3 filling stations, 3 restaurants & confectioneries, 2 highway lunch rooms, 2 funeral directors, newspaper & job printing plant, 2 musical instrument stores, sawmill, photographer, County automobile license branch, 2 dentists, 3 physicians, veterinary surgeon, 2 real estate agencies, 3 law firms (5 attorneys) abstractor & several truck services.

Tyson Of Chicago Has Done Much For His Home Town

James H. Tyson of Chicago & prominently connected with a drug company with headquarters in Chicago, a company with gross sales of over \$500,000 annually. But in Versailles, IN in his old home town, nearly everybody calls him "Uncle Jim." He likes that better & often finds more pleasure in dreaming again of his printing days that used to be than thinking of the outstanding success of his present field. While fortunate came to him in great measure, he retains a liking for his fellow man & his never forgotten home town.

Cumbered with an excess of Tysons, Cumberland, England cheerfully set Peter Tyson with William Penn to the settlement of Philadelphia. One of Peter's prjency, Elijah moved to Baltimore & set up on a street there the first print shop in America still running. Early in the 19th century John Tyson, a lad of Baltimore stock, was apprenticed to a hatter who later died. The widow continued the business but John announced that he would not work "for a she boss" & at the age of 12, vamoosed. 7 years later in Louisville, he married Prudence Pryor & thereafter worked for a "she boss" from which he could not escape. They moved to Indiana.

Their son, William Halsburry Tyson married Eliza Adams of a family well known in American History. They located in Versailles, IN where on Sunday Sept. 14, 1856 James Henry Tyson, himself appeared.

He was the best marble player in town & could easily consume half a day in going across the street for a bucket of water or on a similar errand.

His mother delighted to tell of incident in the days of shiplaster, as small paper currency was called, once she handed Jim a new 50 cent paper & dispatched him to the store. En route, he encountered

some of his mates, accepted their invitation to join in a game of ball & later accompanied them to a creek where they spent the day fishing & swimming. Jim returned at dusk & he was quizzed concerning his errand & in his response related the proceedings of the day. However, on being urged to restore the shinplaster, he could not account for it. The mother urged him time and again but the matter of the money entirely escaped his memory & he would not even admit having lost it. The mother was disappointed, the loss of the money being a matter of importance to a poor family but she was more disheartened because her loved son gave no satisfactory account of the loss. Months later in tearing up old clothes for carpet rags, she found in a calico waist of his, the 50 cent paper folded small, where it had remained through washing & ironing until the garment was worn out. That evening she was at the gate to meet her boy & threw her arms around his neck, & told him she had found the money, which reminded him that he had placed it in his shirt pocket when he had started to play ball. Her joy was unbounded because he had not attempted to invent excuse to cover the loss or the spending of it.

Began Printing Career in 1871

James Tyson walked out of school 3 April 1871 & into the office of the Gazette, local weekly now the Versailles Republican. After a couple of years the tales of tramp printers encouraged him to roam. He went to Osgood, Aurora, & Indianapolis; Covington & Georgetown, KY; Kansas City & under the Trust agreement, Mr. Tyson is to be a trustee of the fund as long as he lives. One of the members must be a trustee of the Versailles M.E. Church & one must be a Trust Company. After the exit of Mr. Tyson, two of the trustees of the Trust Fund must be trustees of the Versailles M.E. Church, so long as the church continues to exist. In the event the church should cease to exist the agreement provides for the election of the trustees of the Trust Fund by the voters of Versailles.

The Methodist Church trustees are to elect annually on September 14th from their number 3 directors for the Library. The terms of the library directors are not to exceed their terms as trustees of the church.

The purpose of the Tyson Fund being wholly philanthropic & benevolent. The church trustees & the library directors are to denote their services. However, actual expenses incurred in action, directed by all trustees shall be paid by the Tyson Fund.

The depository may retain a fee of 2 ½% of income obtained during its existence as depository in funds invested by it for the Tyson Fund.

The trust agreement provides that after certain specific provisions are carried out, the church trust shall by 10 days previous publish notice call annual meetings of the voters of Versailles to be held at 7 o'clock p.m. September 14 (if 14th be Sunday then the 15th) at which meetings, they will determine how the money is to be spent.

Detailed financial statements as of Aug. 13 are to be published each year in Versailles Republican newspaper. These financial statements are also to be read at the annual meeting of the voters of Versailles.

Mr. Tyson was born in Versailles 14 September] 1856 & was reared here, being the son of late William & Eliza Tyson, whose remains repose in Cliff Hill Cemetery. The early part of his life was spent in the printing industry. He worked Versailles & Osgood for a number of years; later going to Missouri, Colorado & other Western states.

Mr. Tyson was one of the organizers of the Walgreen Drug Co. of Chicago & has been secretary & treasurer since its organization until a few years ago. From boyhood, he has been a lover of nature & enjoyed traveling. During the past 4 or 5 years, he has traveled extensively; making 2 or 3 trips around the world. He has frequently visited Versailles & most of the citizens are acquainted with him.

Last Christmas, Mr. Tyson remembered all families in the town of Versailles & each family of the Osgood Christian Church & the inmates of the County Infirmary with a box of Walgreen's choice chocolates. He has always had a warm place in his heart for home town friends & all of us enjoy his visits here. He learned the printing trade in the Versailles Republican office & still likes the smell of printer's ink. He seldom comes to Versailles without setting a few "sticks" of type just to prove that he has not forgotten the case.

Mr. Tyson is an unmarried man & the only members of his family now living are his 2 sisters Mrs. Emma Hoffman of Cincinnati & Mrs. Mary Stark of Buffalo, KA.

Harrisonville, MO Girard, KA, Pueblo, CO, Boulder, Red Mt. & Denver, Co, Decatur & Waukegan, IL, Cincinnati, Baltimore & Chicago.

His penmanship obtained for him a test of public office, with diverse MO politics; as after being deputy recorder under a Southerner, he walked across the hall of Cass Co. courthouse & became deputy clerk under a Union officer.

In the 70's, the Indianapolis Sentinel occupied one of the experiments in steel buildings, a 3 story structure at the street corner of Meridan & Circle. There under the man Wm C. Fish, one of the noblest characters that ever adorned the principles of any other business says Mr. Tyson, he was graduated as a printer.

After a short time in Chicago, he went to Pueblo, CO in 1882 & became a partner in a weekly newspaper. He slept in a backroom of the office on a bunk made of rough boards. The bedding consisted chiefly of wrapping paper.

From Pueblo he went to the mines of Red Mountain, where he says there actually was gold in the dirt of the streets, "Small particles of shining ore could be seen in the mud on the boots of the miner or occasionally swept from the floor of the office." Jim Tyson set type for the Red Mountain Pilot which claimed the honor of being the highest up print shop in the world.

He drifted to Denver, where he became foreman of the Daily Times. HE with Frank Brady as a partner, in 1886, issued a business directory of Colorado, one of Mr. Tyson's proudest experiences.

Then came a long jump to Baltimore on an advertising project with the man who made maps for General Grant in his Civil War campaigns. This man was also a gifted in the manufacture of extensive gilded illusions, with the result that the venture acquired atmosphere for him in exchange for his Colorado earnings.

Then followed a few months in Washington & a return to Chicago 1 March 1890. There he bought a small print shop in the then famous Forbes Block in 195 Washington Rooms 4 & 5.

This location presented the advantage of the cheapest rent he could find, & by severe economy & application, sometimes working all night, he secured the job of printing a bill of fare for a hotel, which provided him with good meals. By producing an unusual character of printing, generally rhymed cards posters & letterheads, he began to be a cheerful Chicago Citizen & has been one ever since, his business card always carried a verse or two.

Mr. Tyson eventually tired of long hours of toil, & became a traveling agent for a machine manufacturer, later an officer of the company, before as he says, "the factory vanished."

Fortune Introduced Herself

Above all, Mr. Tyson, is fond of the scenery & of the people of his old home, Versailles, IN. There he is affectionately known as "Uncle Jim" to nearly everyone. Recently he donated to Versailles 18,000 shares of Walgreen Co. stock, establishing the Tyson Fund which will under his direction, personally or by will, make possible the building of a church, a library, waterworks & other public institutions, as the citizens shall from time to time apply the income.

He is proud that he is a Hoosier, & says he has nothing on his conscience worse than a \$14.00 board bill owing to a Frenchman who disappeared from Cincinnati, OH three score years ago.

Charles H. Thompson, publisher of the Versailles Republican & Mr. Tyson are close friends, & the latter seldom visits Versailles without going to the Republican office & setting a few sticks of type just to prove that he has not forgotten the case.

That he is engaged in a business that is no pygmy is shown by recent press dispatches in which Charles R. Walgreen, president of the Walgreen Drug store chain, estimated that the total sales for the first 9 months of 1930 would closely approach \$40,000,000.

Mr. Walgreen's entrance into the drug industry was accidental. As a youth in Dixon, IL when working on some shoe machinery, he cut off the first joint of a finger of his left hand, that caused him to become interested in medicine. He became a drug clerk, then came to Chicago & after various positions in other fields, he borrowed \$5,000 to make the first payment of \$15,000 purchase. Jim Tyson was one of those figuring in the first payment. Success came & one store after another was opened until today there are 4443 stores reaching from coast to coast in this organization. The annual gross sales amount to about \$50,000,000.

From Versailles Republican 18 Feb. 1931 & also found in TOPH records.

Versailles Republican 23 April 1936

Versailles M.E. Church contracts Awarded April 16th Total \$133,410

Work on Magnificent Monument Started Today

Must be Completed This Year

Contracts for the construction of the Versailles M.E. Church were awarded Sat. 18 1936 as follows: Miles & Elliot, general construction; Stiegerwald electric equipment; Freyn Bros. Plumbing; Campbell Co. Heating. The total of the contracts awarded amounted to \$133,410.00. This does not include the contracts awarded for the cost of an organ, of pews & all the items of the furniture which will be considered later. The building is to be completed within 8 months.

Bids for the construction of the church were received at the office of McGuire & Shook architects at Indianapolis April 15th.

Many local citizens will be pleased to know that the old church bell will be installed in the new church. Mr. James H. Tyson, whose generous gift making the new edifice possible, wishes something from the old church to be used in the new church & so the bell was selected to represent the "old church."

The new church will be 90 feet from the front steps to the rear, 41 feet & 5 inches in width & about 32 feet from the auditorium floor to the apex of the roof. The spire of steel & aluminum will lift the aluminum across a height of 100 feet above the ground level. The cross will be of aluminum. The spire will be constructed on an open work design to avoid much of the danger from wind pressure.

The main basement will be of a depth of 10 feet & the boiler room will be 13 feet deep. The basement will be used for Sunday school purposes.

Brick of a variety of kinds, including glass brick & enameled brick & terra cotta will be principal materials used in the wall construction, Steps, curb, base & plinth will be of pearl pink granite.

Aluminum to the value of \$35,000 will be used in the building. Windows sash & frames will be of aluminum. The roof will be of lead-coated copper on concrete.

An oil-burning furnace will supply the building with hot air in winter & in summer, the same system will supply the building with cool air from the basement. It said that churches equipped with this system are so delightfully cool in the summer, that the congregations are accused of attending church to keep cool.

L.D. Elliott, of the principal contracting firm is on the job making arrangements for erecting a building to house material & equipment. He will be in charge of the work for this job & his firm intends to push the construction as rapidly as possible. He expresses his intention to employ labor & use material purchased here so far as practicable. He is engaging teams to do the excavation now. Subcontractor for the masonry will probably bring a crew of 15 to 20 men with him.

Versailles Republican 6 Aug. 1936

Versailles Will Get Water Works

System will be Installed by the James H. Tyson Fund

After experiencing the 4th drought in the past 6 summers. Versailles citizens are much elated that the town is going to get a water system through the generosity of our good friend, James H. Tyson of Chicago.

The Tyson Fund provides for the erection of a memorial church in memory of his mother, a water system for Versailles & a public library.

The church is now under construction & at the request of Mr. Tyson, Finch & Babcock consulting engineers of Indianapolis have had several men here the past few days making a preliminary survey of the town & vicinity.

The engineers are said to favor a reservoir instead of getting water from Laughery Creek. A number of sites for the reservoir are being considered.

People in town, with city water cannot imagine what it means to a town like Versailles to go through a draught such as we have been experiencing in the past years. Several trucks equipped with large tanks are busy hauling water & many people are carrying water 6 to 8 blocks.

Indianapolis News 15 August 1936

Think Not Of Little Old Versailles, Ripley County, As An Unhappy Village With Loyal Sons & Daughters Bestowing Benefactions In Generous Degrees

By William Herschel

James H. Tyson, who learned printing craft in local office, comes back to the old home town to provide a church, library, water works & fix the cemetery.

Versailles, IN—August 15—Now & then—speaking in modern vernacular—some old home town “gets a break.”

For instance, Versailles, quaint little tree-blest capital of Ripley Co., down in the southeastern Indiana hills, is at present sitting on top to the world & wondering what benefaction next will be on its happy calendar.

Versailles seems to have reared its sons & daughters to be sentimental about the old home town, several of them have gone into the avenues of life & accumulated a generous part of this world's goods. Instead of socking it away in safety deposit boxed for kinfolk to fight over, they have a thought of Versailles, beloved old home town. This seems more like a fairy story than a narrative of actualities.

Here is going to be no easy story to write. There is so much to tell. The “captain of the host” is James H. Tyson of Chicago, born in Versailles 14 September 1856. His parents were William & Eliza Tyson now resting in Cliff Hill Cemetery, Versailles. In early boyhood, Mr. Tyson developed a “nose” for printer’s ink. He liked to loaf around the composing room of the old Versailles Republican. The boy finally edged his way to a tall stool in front of a type case. This marked the beginning of a remarkable career.

Young Tyson delighted to talk to tramp printers who, years ago, made regular rounds of printing offices. Most of them were experts, yet remained on the local job only a little while. They were men of the world. Their stories fascinated young Tyson & after completing an apprenticeship, he too, started out to find whether the tramp printers had told him the truth about the glories of travel. Mr. Tyson, since then, has visited almost every country in the world—but not as a tramp printer. Fortune came to him through another channel.

After leaving Versailles, Mr. Tyson acquired the friendship of William S. Fish of the Sentinel Printing Co. Indianapolis. Mr. Fish was a finished printer & the Versailles boy learned much from him. Mr. Tyson kept wandering, however, but always with a forward step. He was not the typical tramp printer. He took to the western country & finally became foreman of the composing room of a Denver newspaper. After a time, he headed east. Love for the fine set-ups in type got him into the advertising business in Baltimore & other eastern cities.

Meets Walgreen

Another change came when, in 1890, he met Charles Walgreen, a young Chicago pharmacist. Mr. Tyson had opened a printing office. Walgreen kept talking about the possibilities of the drug business. He knew where there was a drug store that could be bought at a reasonable price. It had a good financial possibility if properly promoted. Tyson financially responded to Walgreen’s appeal for the formation of a drug partnership, although the printer still insisted he was essentially a man of the printing craft.

The 2 friends bought the drug store & at once put some new merchandising ideas to work. Tyson’s advertising experience proving of value. This partnership marked the beginning of the Walgreen chain of stores, now numbering hundreds throughout the United States. Mr. Tyson, recently retired from the business, possessed of a fortune. His success, however, had not erased happy memories of Old Versailles. He recalled boyhood comrade, but most of all, held in sweet sanctity the thought that his father & mother slept in Cliff Hill Cemetery.

Mr. Tyson frequently went rambling back to Versailles, although he had visited most of the world. In Versailles he became known as “Uncle Jim.” He liked that title of friendliness. Then he got to thinking. He was unmarried. His 2 sisters had no wolves clamoring at their doors.

“Guess I’ll do something for the old home town,” he said to himself one day.

And has he?

A few months ago there was organized in Versailles what is known as the Tyson Trust Fund. And this is how Mr. Tyson went about it—he placed in trust, 18,000 shares of the common capital stock of the

Walgreen Drug Co., the same to be used for the promotion of religious, educational, & general community betterment of Versailles, the place of his birth. The Union Trust Co. of Indianapolis, was made custodian of the fund with a board of trustees to join in its administration. It was a fortune in the lap of little old Versailles, a village 3 years older than Indianapolis the state capital.

Mr. Tyson's first designation was that a community church to cost \$150,000 be erected in memory of his mother, whose membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church had dated from her youth. Mr. Tyson also decreed that \$5,000 a year be set aside for the maintenance of the church.

Church Half Completed

Carrying out the Versailles sentiment of the architectural firm of McGuire & Shook, Indianapolis was named to design & supervise the building of the church. Mr. Shook is a native of Versailles. The building already is half completed & will be one of the most beautiful edifices in Indiana. It is being constructed of concrete, steel, granite & tile. Aluminum too, is an important fact, or, particularly in the massive spire that is to rise above the entrance. In the tower the bell of the old Methodist church is to be placed, this on request of Mr. Tyson, for its call was familiar to his parents, his sisters, & himself.

The main entrance of the church will be approached by massive granite steps, surrounded on either side by ivory colored terra cotta columns 16 feet high. Above will be a central medallion on which will appear in gold the sacred sentiment: "Glory to God."

The proof of the lead-coated copper assured permanency. Topping the spire is to glow a great cross 100 feet above the ground. Besides the main auditorium space has been provided for Sunday School rooms & places for holding of community meetings. Little wood is being used in the construction, making the building practically fireproof. The church will seat approximately 350 persons, which is a little less than the population of the entire town.

Mr. Tyson's sentiment for his mother in erecting the memorial church is augmented by another interesting benefaction. HE has provided that Cliff Hill Cemetery be beautified with greater use of flowers & shrubbery. The old graveyard also is to be surrounded by the low stone wall & the driveway is to be entered through an attractive gate.

Another happy thought promoted by Mr. Tyson is that the inmates of the Ripley Co. Infirmary are to have special feasts on all holidays. His friends have insisted, too that September the 14th be observed at the Infirmary for that is Mr. Tyson's birthday. The same date has been named also for the holding of town meetings relative to the use of the Tyson Fund. On that date the voters will hold elections for the naming of trustees who after the death of Mr. Tyson, are to carry on provisions of the gifts.

One of the Versailles trustees at this time is Harry W. Thompson, Editor of the Republican, Mr. Thompson says that, with the completion of the church, a town water works is likely to be promoted. Versailles is without this form of utility & Mr. Tyson wishes that a water system be built. Then it is planned that the construction of a library will follow, one to cost \$50,000. The library will have a

separate maintenance fund, providing books, periodicals, maps & other equipment necessary for public service.

After the foregoing projects have been completed, the trustees are to consider other improvements. In these subjects, the voters of the town will express their opinions at elections to be held each September 14, Mr. Tyson's Birthday.

Mr. Tyson, although well along in years, is a trustee of the fund in conjunction with the Union Trust Co. Indianapolis & Mr. Thompson, editor of the Republican, a young man of energy & keen interest in what now is happening to Versailles through the generousities of the old town's friends.

Besides the bestowals of Mr. Tyson, the town looks with happy interest on thoughtfulness of Joseph Hassmer of Lawrenceburg, IN. Mr. Hassmer was born in Versailles, his father having been proprietor of the town's hotel for many years. Mr. Hassmer, in recent months, has made Versailles perpetual custodian of a beautiful park just outside the town. The park in its entirety, will contain 5,500 acres, although the central area of 68 acres holds the key of interest, for on a beautiful wooded hillside stands the Hassmer homestead, a glory to the eye.

Surrounding the homestead a group of buildings is being erected for the housing of youth organizations, such as 4-H Clubs, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts & similar groups. Here they can gather at all seasons of the year for meetings & outings. Mr. Hassmer has provided a fund of \$100,000 for the maintenance of the park. From the front veranda of the Hassmer homestead, one gets a delightful view of Versailles, away across the valley. The courthouse tower rises above the perspective of trees.

Clocks And Chimes

Speaking of the Courthouse, here is another story of how Versailles veritably has become a little city of sentiment. The courthouse, built in 1861, is an architectural type fast vanishing. All of which is to be regretted. The building is of brick, painted gray, with a tower rising above it. Mrs. Florence Grether of Cincinnati, a former resident of Versailles, frequently visited the old town. A thing she deplored was that the Courthouse had no clock. With fine generosity, she opened her purses strings & provided the courthouse, not only with a fine clock, but a set of chimes.

Here's some more about what is happening in Versailles. Alexander Thomson of Hamilton, president of the Ohio State Chamber of Commerce, likes to come to these Indiana hills & valleys, in fact they impressed him, so that he bought 2,200 acres just outside of Versailles for a hunting and lodge & to promote forest preservation.

He had cleared the estate of dead timber & also has built a dam that had added beauty to famous old Laughery creek. You may remember that it was at the mouth of the stream that Colonel Archibald Laughery & his men were scalped by hostile Indians while attempting to join General George Roger's Clark's expedition to capture Vincennes & save the Northwest country for America.

Mr. Thomson is finding a lot of happiness in his association with Versailles. The town needed better hotel facilities. The old tavern had even better days. He bought the property & immediately brought about a transformation. Not as so many modernists do, Mr. Thomson stuck to tradition.

In remodeling the old tavern, he did not banish the old things. He renamed the place Court House Inn, brought in furniture of the pioneer type & made it "homey" throughout. Of course the inn has modern features, but the glory of bygone days has been retained.

In this part of Indiana the old-timers liked to have gardens where they could sit & sip a mug of ale or beer. Many of the pioneers were Germans & found pleasure in this sociable phase of their native land. Behind the Court House Inn today, the visitor finds a garden once dear to the hearts of the pioneers.

Landmarks Remain

Versailles, born in 1818, still had buildings almost as old as the state of Indiana. They are of a bygone type of architecture, yet tell of a happy past. There still is a pump in the courthouse yard. The town boasts of no industries, yet it is a matter of record that no citizen has ever had to ask for governmental aid.

The town takes pride in 2 events—the annual fall pumpkin-or "pumpkin" show-& the farmer's free fair. These occasions draw thousands from the surrounding country; in fact it is a matter of record that 15,000 visitors attended the fair last October.

Ripley County glories in its history & scenic beauty. The county was founded in 1817 & named for General E.W. Ripley, a distinguished soldier of the War of 1812. The mound builders were here long before that, as the archaeologists testify. At Friendship Village near Versailles, is a watermill built in 1817. Hunger Valley is regarded as one of the most beautiful in all Indiana.

Versailles & Ripley County now are sitting on top of the world, having native-born sons & daughters who have not forgotten!

Versailles Republican 27 August 1936

Corner Stone Laying Program in Complete

Arrangements Have Been Completed for the Cornerstone Laying of the Tyson Memorial M.E. Church in Versailles on Labor Day by the Officers of the IN Grand Masonic Lodge

The Grand Lodge Officers will arrive in Versailles in time for lunch & will be guests of the Versailles Lodge Officers at the Court House Inn.

At 1:30 p.m. Versailles Lodge No. 7 will open lodge at their hall & after receiving the Grand Officers, they will form in line & march to the scene of the cornerstone laying.

The Milan-Dillsboro band will play preceding the ceremony, once during the service & at the close will play a patriotic selection & the entire assembly will sing.

Dr. S. L. Martin, Supt. Of Seymour District, will make a 15 minute or 20 minute address at the close of the Masonic service.

Letters have been sent to all Methodist churches & all Masonic lodges in this section of the state inviting them to attend & the general public has been invited through the press.

Henry Oatman's public address system will enable everyone to hear the program. A detail of state police under the direction of Lt. Walter Eckert & will keep motor vehicles off the streets in the vicinity of the church in order that all may get near the building.

The program will begin at 2:15 p.m. & including the address will last about 45 minutes.

27 Aug. 1936

Corner Stone Laying Program is Complete

Corner Stone of \$150,000 Church at Versailles to be on Labor Day

Grand Officers of the IN Masonic Lodge in Full Regalia Will Perform Ceremony at Tyson Temple at 2:15 p.m.

Mr. Tyson will be Present

Several Thousand People Expected to Attend

A crowd of several thousand people is expected in Versailles on the afternoon of Labor Day Monday Sept. 7 to witness the cornerstone laying ceremony of the \$150,000 Tyson Memorial M.E. Church by officers of the IN Grand Masonic Lodge.

Most Worshipful Grand Master Thomas J. Wilson of Corydon has written the Versailles Lodge that he expects to have a full attendance of the Grand Lodge Officers present in full regalia & that they hope to render the service in a beautiful & impressive manner.

The cornerstone laying committee has sent invitations to all Methodist Churches in S.E. Indiana to attend & the general public has been given a cordial invitation through the press. The Versailles Masonic Lodge in the S.E. Indiana portion of Indiana.

The Milan-Dillsboro Band augmented by several members of the Indiana American Legion Band will furnish music before, during, & after the ceremony by the Grand Lodge Officers.

Dr. Martin To Speak

Dr. Summer L. Martin, Supt, of the M.E. Church of the Seymour district will deliver a short address at the close of the lodge ceremony.

A public address system will enable everyone to hear & Lt. Walter Eckert of the state police has promised a liberal detail of state policemen to handle traffic in Versailles.

The four streets approaching the church will be roped off & no machines permitted in that area in order that there will be plenty of room for the big crowd expected.

The program will begin promptly at 2:15 p.m. & including the address will last about 50 minutes.

Donor Will Be Present

James H. Tyson of Chicago, IL who is erecting the church in memory of his mother, who was a member of the church many years ago, has written that he will be present for the cornerstone service.

The church is being constructed of granite, Indiana Limestone, terra cotta, glass brick, enameled brick, concrete, steel & aluminum & will be one of the most beautiful shrines in Indiana. The basement has been completed & the concrete for the auditorium floor has been poured. The sidewalks will be completed almost to the roofline by the day of the cornerstone laying * everyone attending will be able to get a fair conception of the magnificence of the building.

The church will have a \$5,000 annual endowment from the Trust Fund.

Versailles Republican 10 Sept. 1936

Contents of the Tyson Temple Cornerstone

The copper box placed in the corner stone contains the following articles. The Holy Bible; the American flag; the discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church; a copy of the Christian Advocate; a copy of the Epworth Herald; clippings from newspapers; the yearbook of the Methodist Church; the Centennial program of the Versailles Methodist Church as of 9 Dec. 1934; the names of the trustees, officers & members of the church; a letter of appreciation by the Versailles M.E. Church board to James H. Tyson, donor of the building; the names & members of the Versailles Lodge No. 7 F. & A. M.; a copy of the Versailles Republican & a copy of the Indianapolis Star.

The statement of appreciation deposited in the box was as follows: "The Scroll is deposited as a memorial record of the thanks & appreciation of the board of trustees & the membership of the Versailles Methodist Church to our esteemed & beloved brother James H. Tyson whose gift provided the means for the construction & maintenance of the temple." Signed Charles Curran, Charles H. Thompson, Walter H. Smith, Ben T. Lane, Harry Thompson, Elmer H. Bailey, Otto C. Busching, Roy Hunter & Frank M. Thompson, Church trustees."

Versailles Republican 11 Feb. 1937

Capital Plan for Walgreen Co.

Tyson Fund & Versailles will Benefit from Re-capitalization

Tyson Fund & the town of Versailles will benefit greatly from a re-capitalization plan of the Walgreen Drug Co which was disclosed Fri. by Charles R. Walgreen president of the Walgreen Co.

The plan calls for retirement of the company's present preferred stock, the providing of \$5,000,000 of new capital & the doubling of the common stock capitalization. A special stockholders meeting has been called for Feb. 20 to approve this program.

The plan includes the issuance of \$10,000,000 of new 4 ½ % preferred stock, proceeds of which will be used to retire \$4,083,700 of 6 ½ % stock now outstanding, with the balance added to the working capital. The authorized common stock will be increased from 1,000,000 shares to 2,000,000 shares & a stock dividend of 50% will be distributed to the present common stock holders.

50% Stock Dividend

Directors of the company at a meeting last Friday, authorized the 50% common stock dividend, subject to ratification by stockholders of increase in the common stock.

Walgreen said that the company expected to continue to pay quarterly dividends of 50 cents a share after the common stock split up, the rate that is now effect. This means a 50% increase in dividends stockholders.

"Such a cash dividend policy would of course, like any dividend policy, be subject to the continuance of conditions justifying it," he said.

It is expected that the common stock dividend will be paid to stockholders of record Mar. 2.

Walgreen said, that the company has been negotiating with the investment bankers for sale of the new preferred issues. Holders of the present preferred stock will be given preferential subscription rights to the new stock up to the par value of their shares.

Shares Carry Warrants

Each share of the new preferred will carry a warrant entitling the holder to purchase one share of new common stock at price to be fixed later by directors. The warrants will run for 6 ½ years.

The company will make application to list the new preferred stock on the New York & Chicago stock exchanges, " Walgreen said " & will shortly make application for registration for the new stock with the Security Exchange Commission.

The 40,837 shares of preferred stock are redeemable at \$115 a share on 60 days notice. The total cost of redemption amounts to \$4,696,225 which gathered with other costs incident to the refunding would require approximately half of the proceeds of the new issue.

The company last year did the largest volume of business & earned the largest profits in its history. Net sales in the fiscal year ended 30 Sept. 1936 were \$61,784,000 & net profit will increase its yearly dividends from %17,800 to \$26,700.

Church Nearly Completion

The Trust agreement made by James H. Tyson, donor of the fund, provides for erection of a Methodist Church & public library & their endowment, improvement of Cliff Hill Cemetery & make a number of other improvements in the town of Versailles optional.

The beautiful church which is known as the Tyson Temple is nearly completed & the tentative date for its dedication has been set for Sunday May 16 with Bishop Edgar Blake of Detroit as the speaker.

Finch & Babcock, consulting engineers of Indianapolis, employed by Mr. Tyson have completed a survey & made an estimate of the cost of construction of a water system for Versailles & members from their office were here Wed. completing their survey & estimate of a sewer system. They expect to make their report to Mr. Tyson in the near future.

Citizens of the town are hoping that work will be started on the water & sewer system this summer. The drought last summer impressed on everyone more favorably than ever before the great need of a water system. Had fire broke out in Versailles during the drought, there would have been no chance to extinguishing it as there was no water to be had. With water & sewage systems & our low tax rate the town should experience a steady & healthy growth.

Versailles Republican 29 April 1937

Tyson Temple In Versailles Will Be Dedicated On Sunday May 16, 1937

An All-Day Service is Planned

Bishop Edgar Blake of Detroit will Preside

Plans Have Been Perfected for the Dedication of the \$150,000 Tyson Temple Methodist Church in Versailles on Sunday May 16

Bishop Edger Blake of Detroit area will preach at the 10:30 a.m. service & the pastor of the church Rev. John T. Redman will deliver the dedicatory service sermon at 2:30 p.m. Immediately following Mr. Redman's address, James H. Tyson, donor of the church, will present it to the congregation. Bishop Blake will then proceed with the formal dedication.

Dr. Summer L. Martin, District Super., will be the speaker at the evening service, which will be at 7:30.

The church choir will furnish special music for all the services.

The building has been open for inspection for several weeks but will remain closed from now on until the dedication.

About 5,000 persons are expected to attend at the afternoon service & a public address system will be installed to enable the overflow crowd to hear.

Rev. Redmond was born & reared in Pendleton Co, KY. He has been a member of the Indiana conference for 16 years, prior of which he served in northwestern Nebraska conference. His 16 years in the Indiana conference has been spent in Ohio, Dearborn, Switzerland & Ripley Counties. He came to the Versailles Church last September after completing a 9 year most successful pastorate at Rising Sun.

Versailles Republican 6 May 1937

Bishop Blake to Dedicate Church

Will Preside at Ceremonies Dedicating Tyson Temple at Versailles

All Day Service May 16

The Tyson Temple M.E. Church in Versailles will be dedicated at services at which Bishop Edgar Blake of the Detroit area of the M.E. Church will preside on Sunday, May 16, 1937. There will be morning, afternoon & evening services.

Bishop Blake will deliver the sermon at the morning service at 10:30, in addition to conducting the formal dedication which is in the afternoon.

At the evening service which will begin at 7:30 Dr. Summer L. Martin Supt. Of Seymour district will preach. The subject of his sermon is "Life is a Drama."

Rev. John T. Redmond pastor of the church, has chosen as the subject of his dedicatory sermon "Our Task." This will be delivered at the afternoon service & will be followed by the ritualistic dedicatory service. After James H. Tyson, donor of the church, has presented the building to the congregation.

There will be no Sunday School on that day & the program will begin with the 10:30 morning service.

All music for the entire program will be furnished by the church choir. Anthems & other special numbers will be given morning, afternoon, & evening.

Miss Gladys March of Clifty, a former pastor of the church, will offer prayer at the morning service. Other ministers who will have some part in the day's program are: Rev. E. A. Gillum of Rising Sun, Rev. Ralph Johnson, pastor of Versailles Baptist Church.

The building has been open for inspection for several weeks but will be closed from now until the dedication services.

Indianapolis Sunday Star 12 May 1940

Erects Temple In Mother's Honor

James H. Tyson, Unforgetful of Parents' Care, Erects Lasting Memorial in Versailles. His Old Home Town by Olive Inez Downing

God thought to give the sweetest thing in life in His Almighty power to the earth & deeply pondering what it should be—one hour in fondest joy & love of heart outweighing every other, He moved the gates of heaven & gave to earth—a mother. G. Newell Lovejoy

Through the ages mothers have been the loadstar, the beacon of light of the best attainments & achievements in the boundless world. Mary, the mother of Jesus, through the power of God gave the greatest gift to mortal man; Whistler, the artist, immortalized his mother's influence through pictorial composition; a lofty memorial marks the grave of Nancy Hanks Lincoln; & given by James H. Tyson, a son, to commemorate the goodly traits of a mother who consecrated her life to her Master. It is fitting today to relate the story of Mr. Tyson's life & to tell incidents culminating in the building of this unusual & beautiful church.

James H. Tyson was born September 14, 1856 at Versailles; his father's ancestors were with William Penn when he came to this country to found the Quaker city, Philadelphia in Pennsylvania; his mother belonged to the Adams family who had the distinction of having furnished the United States with 2 presidents. In his youth, James had a very meager income, but he enjoyed all the opportunities given to him in the county seat of Ripley Co.

Early in life, he was attracted by the printer's ink; he worked for the Versailles Republican & when the tramp reporters of the day visited the office, he heard graphic & alluring accounts of worldly travels. Thus inspired, he became enthusiastic to see the great world; he dreamed of faraway Bombay, Olympian heights, & Venstian gondolas; his dreams came true, for he went forth to familiarize himself with the glories of land & sea.

He made his way to Colorado & there too, engaged in newspaper activities. A few years later in a Chicago apartment he made the acquaintance of Charles Walgreen. Pooling their resources, they started the chain drugstores; these prospered & grew with rapidity. They attracted much attention in the early development of the stores by making deliveries on bicycles. During the World War, the stores made astounding returns & so they grew until the profit each year runs into the millions.

Erected Temple to Mother

Drawn by home ties & memories Mr. Tyson returned to Versailles to donate \$150,000 for the erection of the Temple. There is not another like it in the whole world for the plan back of it came from many lands. It is an innovation in memorials.

When I visited the temple a few weeks ago, I was impressed with the whole of its imposing columns has an inscription, "Glory to God," above the opening. This emblematic of the magnificent edifice-the glorification of the Ruler of earth & heaven. The people of the city who knew James Tyson's mother, feel that the keynote of her soul was struck most fittingly in the stand through the ages commemorating her faithfulness to God.

Concrete, Steel, Masonry

The exterior is of glazed glass & terra cotta trim; it is a structure whose composition is wholly concrete, steel & masonry material. The oval-shaped roof of lead-coated copper gleams as it catches the "light of the midday sun" the cast aluminum spire towering 65 feet in the height cost \$35,000; this spire is topped with a cross of the same material & can be seen for quite a distance; as it stands 100 feet from the ground. The bell from the old church where his mother worshipped was set within the tower & still peels its vibrant notes.

Within the temple the auditorium is very interesting its windows are set in aluminum; its ceiling is a dome of blue sky in color studded with pure silver stars; on each side of the pipe organ loft stands large columns with gold leaf decorations inlaid with pearls; the dome above the organ is made of gold leaf in three-inch strips that were hammered out in Germany.

Ceiling & Floors Marble

A circular stairway leads to the Sunday School room with its beamed ceiling & floors of Italian marble, the same material that is used in constructing the streets of Italy. The temple is air conditioned & modern throughout; a tunnel connects it with the parsonage. It was dedicated in May, 1937, & at that time Mr. Tyson became a member of the church, the Rev. John Redmond has been pastor since its erection.

Mr. Tyson, the capitalist & philanthropist, lived in an apartment in Chicago, but the ties of his old home town are still uppermost in his mind & in addition to a donation of \$1,000,000 he has added much to the security of Versailles in religion, education & imperishable ideals, thus furnishing a sense of purity & peaceful living.

Mr. Tyson gave \$70,000 for a school building as a memorial to his father, William Tyson, who years ago as a district school master taught the three R's. He has given the city a modern water & sewage system that cost \$225,000. He has many other plans for the betterment of the old historical county seat because within its walls still clings the memory of a good & loving mother.

The privilege of erecting such a memorial is given to few, but one monument we can all give & that is a character so developed that it will be a fitting tribute to our mother "our echoes roll from soul to soul & grew forever & forever."

Versailles Republican 20 May 1937

500 People in Versailles for Dedication of Tyson Temple

Donor is Present to Present Edifice to Congregation

Bishop Welch of New York City in Charge of Dedication Service

Overflow Crowds Here & Hear Program through Public Address System

The Beautiful Tyson Temple Methodist Episcopal Church in Versailles was dedicated in an Impressive Service

The Tyson Temple M.E. Church in Versailles was dedicated in an impressive service conducted by Bishop Herbert Welch of New York City, Sunday afternoon with a large audience packing the church auditorium, the Sunday School Room in the basement, & the old church. Many were unable to gain admission at either place. An efficient public address system was installed by Henry Oatman of Friendship, enabled all to hear outside as well as in the building.

In the ritualistic dedicatory service of the Methodist Episcopal Church Bishop Welch was assisted by the Rev. W.C. Culvert, pastor of Grace M.E. Church in Indianapolis, Dr. E.C. Dunn, pastor of the Osgood M.E. Church, the Rev. R.L. Dove, pastor of Batesville M.E. Church, Dr. Summer L. Martin, Supt. Of Seymour District, the Rev. J.T. Redmond, pastor of Tyson Temple. 24 Methodist ministers were on the rostrum during the ceremony.

Formal presentation of the building to the board of trustees was made by the donor, James H. Tyson of Chicago, who with Charles Walgreen founded the Walgreen Drug Company. Mr. Tyson spoke of his regret that bad flying conditions prevented the attendance of Mr. Walgreen, whom he felt so greatly was instrumental in the success which made his gift to church members of the community possible.

In the absence of Charles H. Thomson, president of the board, who was ill at home, his son Henry W. Thompson, also a member of the board accepted the gift which was given for "the Glory of God & to the memory of the donor's mother, Eliza (Adams) Tyson." He spoke of the works of Mrs. Tyson in the old church & her far reaching influence on the lives of the boys who were members of her Sunday School class, his father Charles H. Thompson being one of them.

Donor is First New Member

Preceding the dedication services, the donor, James H. Tyson affiliated with the church-its first new member, Rev. J.T. Redmond, the pastor, was in charge of this ceremony which was most impressive.

Mr. Tyson was baptized 6 Sept. 1868 in the old church in Versailles which preceded the red brick used by the congregation as their place of worship until May 9, 1937 when a farewell service was held there preparatory to the occupation of the Tyson Temple.

The processional hymn by the choir in which the audience joined, followed the organ interlude by Mrs. C.H. Kassendick & opened the afternoon service. After the call to worship by Dr. Martin, the Rev. E.A. Gillum of the Rising Sun Church, led in prayer. The pastor of the church with "Our Task", as the subject of the sermon for the afternoon service, opened his remarks by paying tribute to the Christian lives of Eliza (Adams) Tyson, to whom the church is a memorial & of her son James H. Tyson, to whom his generosity made the erection of the edifice possible. He spoke of the heritage of the congregation which was first organized in 1834 & emphasized their task as being that of all Christians, the promotion of peace & good will & the bringing of the Kingdom of God to all mankind. He added that only divine inspiration can enable Christians to achieve this purpose.

Musical selections for the afternoon included "Glory to God" (Emerson) sung by a quartet composed of Mrs. Walter H. Smith, Mrs. Herbert Thompson, Clifford S. Smith & Harry W. Ricketts, a dedication anthem "Great King of Glory Come" (Grabriell) by the choir; a solo "How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings" (84th Psalm) by Mrs. J.T. Redmond; & a violin solo "Andante Religiso" by mother Mrs. Hugh Hoffman as her organ accompanists.

Bishop Was Delayed

Bishop Welch was delayed in his arrival for this service because of an automobile accident on U.S. 50 near the Ohio & Indiana state line, which blocked traffic for some time. The large crowd, however unaware of any delay in the program, for their interest was engrossed in the short message of Dr. Worth Tippey of New York, who has been executive secretary of the Federation of Church of Christ in America for many years. He spoke of the spirit of harmony now existing among the churches & asserted they were all interested in the furthering of the cause of Christ. The Rev. Calvert, representing the Indianapolis district of the M.E. Church & the Rev. H.D. Bassett of Sellersburg representing the New Albany district each spoke interestingly but briefly.

The benediction pronounced by Bishop Welch followed the singing of the hymn "All Hail the Power." After this the building was opened for the inspection of the crowd until shortly before the evening service.

The days program began at the morning worship service at 10:30 which a beautiful organ prelude by Mrs. Kassendick & the processional hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy." The call of worship was given by the pastor Rev. Redmond, who also led in a unison prayer. This was followed by the chanting of the Lord's Prayer by the choir. Dr. S.L. Martin taking as his subject "Life is a Drama" delivered an appropriate sermon in his inimitable way.

Miss Gladys Marsh of Clifty, a former pastor of the Versailles M.E. Church offered prayer. Special music at this service was an anthem by the choir "We Praise Thy Glorious Name" (Maghorne). After the recessional hymn "Stand up for Jesus" Dr. Martin pronounced the benediction. The church was also open for inspection between the morning & the afternoon services.

An organ prelude by Mrs. Kassendick & the processional hymn "How Firm a Foundation" opened the evening services. The Rev. Redmond read the call to worship & the Rev. Ralph Johnson, pastor of the

Baptist Church in Versailles led in prayer. The Rev. Ernest L. Bailey of Pierceville read the scripture lesson.

Bishop Welch brought an inspirational message on the theme, "Worship, Witness, Work." The Bishop who is 74 years of age, has had a life filled with experiences which enabled him to deal with the 3 phases of his subject, 16 of the last 20 years, he & his wife had spent in the Orient Japan, China, Korea, Manchuria, & India. His crossings of the Atlantic ocean number 12 & of the Pacific number 22. The past week, he had been at Springfield, Ohio & during the week he delivered 13 sermons. He & Mrs. Welch left after the evening service for CA where they will read the wedding ceremony for an only grandson.

The Rev. Bailey pronounced the benediction after the recessional hymn "Lead on O King Eternal." An organ postlude followed.

Special music on the evening consisted of 2 anthems, "Rejoice, He Reigneth (Norman) & Ye That Stand in the House of the Lord" (Spiney) by the choir included- soprano: Mrs. John T. Redmond, Mrs. Walter H. Stute, Miss Virginia Hunter alto: Mrs. John M. Hook, Mts. C. Roscoe Spencer, Mrs. Lawrence Terrel, Mrs. Herbert Thompson; tenor: Clifford S. Smith, Glen Estal Smith; ass: Harry W. Ricketts, Walter Bailey. They were attired in black robes & white vestments. James H. Tyson, the donor, who Ripley County folks know as "Uncle Jim" was present throughout the entire program. With him were his sister; Mrs. Emma T. Hoffman of Cincinnati & a niece Mrs. Mabel (Stark) Butler of Altonna, KA, a nephew & family Mr. & Mrs. Hugh Hoffman of Dayton, OH.

Both the morning & evening services were largely attended, the crowds far in excess of the capacity of the church. In the Sunday School room & in the old church which were filled, the audiences observed the program with the auditorium & joined with them in the responsive readings & the congregational singing. This was made possible by the public address system.

Baskets of beautiful cut flowers & palms arranged about the rostrum, potted plants, placed in recesses on either side of the entrance & also garden ferneries on the lawn added to the beauty of the setting, inside & out. And, through the untiring work of the janitor, George Curran, the church was in perfect condition.

Throughout the day approximately 3 thousand persons registered & it is estimated that at least 2 thousand didn't register. 12 states besides Indiana were represented. The states represented were: CA, FL, IL, KA, KY, LA, MI, NY, OK, WA & WV. The registrants also represented 98 cities & towns in IN besides the rural communities. Throughout the day, the heavy traffic throughout the town of Versailles was well handled by Lt. Walter Eckert, by 3 state highway patrolmen. Large signs read: "Slow, Be prepared to stop on Police signal" were placed in the E. & W. parts of town, on U.S. Road 50 & undoubtedly prevented numerous smash-ups. The signs were removed about 6 o'clock & an accident occurred in front of the Evan's Restaurant in less than 15 min. after the removal of the signs.

Versailles Republican 3 Feb. 1938

Court Gives Tyson Right To Build Water Works/Sewer Systems & School

Versailles School Building Contract will be let Feb. 25th

Judge Sam A. Connelly of the Ripley Circuit Court last Friday upheld the right of James H. Tyson of Chicago, IL, donor of Tyson Fund to amend, change & continue the indenture of trust executed by Mr. Tyson in 1930, as set forth & told in his complaint.

The case was a friendly suit brought by Mr. Tyson several works against the Union Trust Co. of Indianapolis, the town of Versailles, the voters of the town of Versailles, the trustees of the M.E. Church, the American Red Cross, the Chicago, IL & R. Co. IN chapters of the Red Cross. The defendants in the action were all beneficiaries of or probable beneficiaries of the Tyson Fund.

Desires To Give Water System

Mr. Tyson desired to build a water system & sewage system for Versailles & to assist to the extent of \$70,000 on a school building. Under the provisions of the indenture as executed at the time he created the Tyson Fund, it was thought that he & other trustees of the Trust Fund were not legally permitted to appropriate money from the fund for the aforementioned improvements.

Albert Ward & Fred E. Shick of Indianapolis were Mr. Tyson's attorneys & Thompson & Rabb also of Indianapolis were counsel for the cross complaintants, Thomas D. Stevenson of Indianapolis represented the national organization of the America Red Cross at Washington D.C. also its Chicago & R. Co. chapters.

Jackson Represents Trustees

B.F. Jackson of Versailles represented the trustees of the town of Versailles. Curtis W. Thompson of Versailles represented the voters of the town of Versailles & Otto C. Busching of Versailles represented the Trust of the M.E. Church. The defendants all filed appearances & separate answers in the demand denied to the plaintiff's complaint.

The compensation of the attorneys were fixed by the court after the agreement of all parties as follows: Ward & Schick-\$1900; Thomson & Rabb-\$1900; Thomas D. Stevenson-\$500; attorneys Jackson, Curtis W. Thompson & Busching served without compensation.

The court action, Friday, clears the way now for immediate construction of the several projects.

To Turn Over \$70,000

Mr. Tyson & other Tyson Fund Trustees-The Union Trust Co. of Indianapolis & Harry W. Thompson of Versailles- will turn over to Harrison Courtaney within the next few days &70,000 to be used in construction of a Johnson Two. Consolidated school building.

The Twp. is bonding itself for \$33,000 & the balance from the government through the Public Works Administration which is contributing \$27,000 toward the project, A contract for the part of the building being erected by the Twp. & the PWA was let sometime ago to the Wm A. Gutzwiller Co. of Batesville & work has been started.

The south portion of the school building is being dismantled & 2 rooms of the grade school have been moved to the Tyson Temple Recreational Building.

Contract to be Let Feb. 25th

The contract for the remainder of the school building will be let on Fri. 25 Feb. 1938. The Trustee's legal notice for the letting appears in this issue of the Republican.

The remainder of the old school building, which was erected in 1903 by the late John A. Hunter & the late Robert R. White will not be razed until after the close of the present school term in April.

Water & Sewer Project Next

Lewis S. Finch of Indianapolis, engineer for the water & sewer project, has the plans ready for both projects & contracts for construction are expected to be awarded early this spring. The estimate on the water & sewer system is approximately \$150,000.

Mr. Tyson's Trust agreement also includes the erection of a \$50,000 library. This will not be constructed until after the other projects have been completed.

First Project Completed

The first project to be completed under the Tyson Trust Fund was the beautiful Tyson Temple M.E. Church which was erected at a cost of almost \$150,000 & dedicated in May of last year.

The trust indenture provides for an endowment of \$5,000 yearly for the Tyson Temple which was erected by Mr. Tyson as a memorial to his mother.

A yearly endowment of \$5,000 for the library is also provided for by the trust indenture.

The Trust consists of 500 shares of Walgreen Drug Co. preferred stock, par value \$100; 13,500 shares of common stock of the Walgreen stock; cash derived from dividends & cash derived from the sale of 10,000 shares of Walgreen Company Stock.

Work to be Done on Cemetery

The Trust indenture provides for certain work to be done in Cliff Hill Cemetery & for feasts for inmates of the Co. Infirmary several times annually.

Versailles is indeed fortunate to have Mr. Tyson provide for her sanitary problems, education & religious development in such a magnificent manner. Most town & cities have to go heavily in debt & bond themselves for the things which Mr. Tyson is giving to the town of Versailles.

Many persons are predicting that some of the taxes here will not be increased by the acquiring of the water & sewer system. That the low tax rate & many advantages offered will prove so attractive that the population of the town will double within the next 15 days.

Versailles Republican 10 Feb. 1938

Open House to be Held at Parsonage Feb. 16

The Rev. John T. Redmond, pastor of the Tyson Temple M. E. Church in Versailles announced open house from 2 o'clock Wednesday Feb. 16, 1938 at the parsonage, which recently being redecorated.

The dedicatory service will be conducted at 9:00 p.m. by District Supt. Dr. Summer L. Martin of Seymour. Musical selections will be furnished throughout the evening.

On the ground floor of the 10 room house are 2 living rooms, dining room, bedroom, kitchen, study, lavatory, & enclosed porch. There are 3 bedrooms & bath located on the 2nd floor. Indirect lighting & hot air heating plant with an automatic humidifier are among the newly added modern conveniences.

The woodwork & plastered walls of the living rooms are light & the beautiful indirect light fixtures are modernistic in design. The entire home is modern in every detail. A new 2 car concrete garage with concrete floor has also been erected at the rear of the parsonage lot. The parsonage basement is connected with the church basement by a tunnel.

Versailles 17 March 1938

Gutzwiller Gets School Contract

Trust & Advisory Board of Johnson Township Announce Award

W.A. Gutzwiller Company of Batesville Operating as the W.A.G. Co. was awarded the Contract for the Construction of the Tyson Unit of Johnson Twp. School Building at a Special Meeting of the Advisory Board & the Twp. Trustee in the Twp. Office in Versailles Wed. Night.

The net amount of the contract was \$48,000. Mr. Gutzwiller has been awarded the contract some time ago for the PWA & Twp. Units of the building.

Other contracts awarded at the meeting were for plumbing, heating & ventilating & the electrical work. The R.M. Cotton Co. of Indianapolis received the plumbing contract for \$6,950. Freyson Bros. Inc. of Indianapolis received the contract for heating & ventilating for \$7,534. The electric contract was awarded to the Skillman Electric co. of Indianapolis for \$2,830.

All Board Members Present

All members of the advisory board: William Black, Harry Black & Elmer Stuter were present at the meeting with Mr. Gutzwiller & unanimously approved the letting of all 4 contracts.

The building is to be a brick structure with white ceramic brick being used on the front & a light brick for the other three sides. The floors are to be terrazzo & the wainscoting is of ceramic brick, different colors being used in various rooms. The entire building will be fire proof construction & will contain many modern features. The total cost of the 2 units of the building is approximately \$132,000.

Work has progressed as far as it can on the WPA unit until the remainder of the old building is dismantled.

School Vacated Monday

The building was completely vacated Monday & the contractor began razing it immediately. It will be completely dismantled by the early part of next week.

School dismissed Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday with the exception of the 1st 4 grades, while equipment was being moved to other buildings in town & the temporary quarters were being prepared for housing pulpits for the remaining 6 weeks of school.

The entire H.S. is located at the Community Building, the 7th & 8th grades in the K of P property on the N. side of the square & the 5th & 6th grades in the Florence Skeen store building on Road 29. Several weeks ago the 3 rooms in the S. wing of the old building were being vacated & the 1st 4 grades were moved to the Tyson Temple recreational building at that time.

Versailles Republican 19 May 1938

Cornerstone Rites at Versailles School

Cornerstone for the New \$135,000 School Building Laid Here Sunday

Ceremony is Halted by Downpour of Rain as Crawley Begins to Speak

Good Crowd Attended

The cornerstone for the \$135,000 Johnson Twp. School building in Versailles was held Sunday afternoon but the ceremonies were halted by a downpour of rain which caused the program of which only half completed to be halted.

J.R. Crawley of Greensburg, for 12 years Supt. Of Decatur Co. schools, who was the principal speaker, had scarcely begun with his address when the rain descended. Since Mr. Crawley had such a splendid address prepared & the people did not get to hear it, we have reproduced it in full elsewhere in this issue of the Republican.

Mr. Crawley has retired from active work after 30 years of school teaching. He served as state H.S. Inspector at one time.

Many people who came early for the ceremony, left before it began on the count of a sprinkle of rain. Many others sat in their cars & did not venture through the mud to get to the building. Notwithstanding all the interference from the weather, a goodly number of people were present when the rain routed the crowd.

Batesville Band Plays

The Batesville H.S. band made a fine appearance in their snappy new uniforms & everyone was sorry to see the musicians get their uniforms drenched.

The program opened with the band playing "America" & the audience singing & the invocation was given by Rev. Leland Courtney of the Tanglewood Baptist Church.

Mrs. Elva Hunter read extracts from the complete history of the Versailles Schools.

Austin T. Funk, principal of the school, made some brief but interesting remarks concerning the purpose of the building, the source of the funds to build it & future hopes of the school. Mr. Crawley then gave about a fifth of his speech before the rain storm broke up the gathering. A public address system belonging to the Co. Farm Bureau enabled all present to hear.

Program Remained Unfinished

The other numbers on the program that remained unfinished were dispensed with the exception the filling of the copper box, sealing it & the placing of in the cornerstone. The actual cornerstone laying ceremony was to have been a reading from the New Testament by the Rev. John T. Redmond, pastor of the Versailles M.E. Church & the following words by the trustee, architect, Co. Supt. & a Tyson Fund trust.

Harrison Courtaney, trustee of Johnson Twp. "To those thousands, we the people of the community have assembled, do this day consecrate & dedicate the cornerstone of this School Building."

Ground Dedication to Education

Wilbur Young, Supt. Of the Ripley Co. schools: "We this on the very ground that was dedicated to the cause of education for the town of Versailles & its surrounding community almost a century ago."

Erb Hanson, member of the firm of Henkel & Hanson, the architect: "On the site where many Ripley County grandest & best men & women have studied and taught."

Harry W. Thompson, one of the Tyson Fund trustees: "So here today, for the future citizen of America who will come here to learn of our country's greatness & to be trained for its service, as well as to complete each his individual preparation for life in its relationship to God, home, & country. This stone is consecrated on this day 15th day of May 1938."

Articles in Cornerstone

The following articles were placed in the cornerstone box: Bible, both Testaments; Flags, Christian & American; coins, nickels 1938 these will not be in general circulation until after June; check written by John A. Hunter, contractor of the 2nd building for the amount of \$7,000 a week wages to a workman; pictures of schools of the past & present-2nd building on this ground 1868-1903 & 3rd building on this same ground 1903-1939 & 4th building on this ground under construction now with a list of the workmen now employed.

Program Includes

Program of Sunday's ceremony, souvenir program of the dedication on Jan. 1904; copy of current issue of Versailles Republican; sheet form Versailles Republican of 30 Aug. 1936. This paper gives information concerning the Tyson Fund along with other gifts to the town: namely by Wm Smith & the late Florence Grether & Lew L. White. In it was included pictures of the donor Mr. Tyson, the Tyson Temple, Ripley Co. Courthouse, business section & scenic sections near Versailles.

Board From The Old Building

A small board sawed from the old building bearing the inscription concerning carpenter T.E. Hunter 1903 & signed this week by his daughter Miss Virginia. Copy legal notices of bond sales, of notices of special meetings of the advisory board of Johnson Twp., Ripley Co., Indiana.

History of the educational facilities of Versailles for the past 120 years (since the laying out of the town of Versailles. (excerpts of which were read.)

Everyone regretted that "Uncle Jim" Tyson of Chicago, the town's benefactor was unable to be present.

Versailles Republican 21 July 1938

Construction Progress On New School Building At Versailles

Modernistic Building Embodies the Most Modern Features Known to School House Construction

South Part Up To The Roof

Construction on Versailles school building is progressing nicely. The south part of the building is almost ready for the roof. The exterior of the building is modernistic in design with cream ceramic glazed brick structural glass brick & Bedford limestone being used in the front. General construction is being done by the W.A. Gutzwiller Co. of Batesville.

The building which is being built on the site of the old school has a floor area of 186 feet wide & 104 feet deep, 2 full stories & a basement under the entire building. Located in the basement are the Home Ec. Dept., manual arts dept., a spacious cafeteria, toilets, showers, fuel & heating room.

A large community auditorium & gym was to have located on the lower floor according to the architects plans designed by the firm of Henkel & Hanson of Connersville. The contract for the auditorium,

however, has not yet been let, but plans are afloat to make the addition possible. The plans also include a prompter's booth located in the footlights of the stage, which would enable the young actors to be prompted without notice or sound of the audience. On the 1st floor would be a balcony of the auditorium & the physical director's room.

Six Classrooms on First Floor

The 1st floor consists of 6 classrooms to accommodate the 1st 6 grades. One of the outstanding features on this floor plan is the primary dept., a room 23 feet wide and 35 ½ feet long. Off of each classroom is a small toilet room, one for the boys & one for the girls.

Since this dept. is used exclusively for youngsters ranging in age from 6 to 7 years, all plumbing fixtures, including drinking fountains, lavatories & water closets are specially constructed for children of that age.

The light fixtures are another special feature. They formed a large snare drum sticks connected to each drum. The drum fixtures are suspended from the ceilings by means of canvas drum belts. Above each fixture is suspended one of Walt Disney's small animals, not forgetting Mickey Mouse & Donald Duck who has a terrible disposition. When the lights are turned on the heat from the lights starts circulating the air, these small animals automatically sail around the light fixture apparently in mid-air.

H.S. On 2nd Floor

The H.S. dept. consisting of the last 6 grades is located on the 2nd floor. On this floor is a large study hall 35 feet by 45 ½ feet long, a complete commercial dept., general laboratory, several recitation rooms, administration offices & H.S. boys & girls toilets.

All outside walls are faced with hard burned shale brick except the front which is of the ceramic brick. The inside walls have wainscoting from the floor to the windows sill height which is ceramic ivory glazed brick. Above this brick the walls are sand finished plaster using fine silica sand.

The ceilings are of acoustical celotex. All windows are of steel sash & the door frames & castings are likewise of steel. The entire building is being constructed of fireproof material including all roof materials, will be finished brown mahogany.

Floors of Terazzo

The floors of all corridors & toilet rooms are in 6 shades of terrazzo in variegated patterns. The floors of all classrooms are marbleized mastic tile.

The heating system is of the latest type unit ventilating heat machine, which are capable of delivering 9 changes of air in each room per hour. The entire building is of the latest design & embodies the most modern features known to school house structure.

Mechanical trades are being done by Skillman Electric Co. of Indianapolis, Cory Electric Co. of Greensburg, Voight Plumbing & Heating Co. of Jeffersonville, R.M. Cotton & Freyen Bros. of Indianapolis.

When the building is completed, it is said by many leading school officials of the state, Versailles can boast of the most completed structure in S.E. Indiana. The cost when the building is finished with the auditorium will be approximately \$175,000.

Versailles Republican 20 Sept. 1938

Water Works Contracts Awarded By Town Board, Approved By PWA

Thomson Construction Co. of Mitchell Submits the Lowest bid of \$79,054

\$8,500 is the Lowest Tank Bid

Work on water & sewage system will begin within 5 days. Contracts were let Fri. by the Town Board of Versailles for construction of water & sewer mains, etc. Thompson Construction Co. of Mitchell at \$79,114.50 lowest bid. W.E. Caldwell Construction Co. of Cincinnati who entered the lowest bid of \$8,500 for the elevated tank & tower.

On Tuesday, the Public Work Administration approved one of the contracts as awarded was graded by D.R. Kennicott PWA regional director of the works at Chicago.

Openings of the sealed bids for the construction of the water & sewer system was held Friday morning at the American Legion Hall. All bids were received on the water mains, sewers, meters, valves, hydrants & other appurtenances necessary to complete the water work, distribution system & sewage system. These bids ranged from the low figure to a \$125,000 high. 5 bidders submitted entries on the 75,000 gal. elevated tank & tower, the high bid being more than \$10,000.

Other Bids Later

Bids on the pumping station, filtration plant, & sewage disposal plant will be received later.

Work must be started on the project within 5 days after the approval of the PWA which was given Tuesday. Through the Tyson Fund, James H. Tyson has given the \$105,000 for the project, the rest of which will be paid by PWA grant the estimated of the engineer Lewis S. Finch of Indianapolis on the entire improvement is \$191,000.

Versailles Republican 20 Oct. 1938

Work Progressing On Water System

Office is Opened by Thompson Construction Co. in Ward's Building

Equipment Has Arrived

Construction was begun in the town last week on the waterworks & sewer system by Thompson Construction Co. of Mitchell, who have opened an office in Versailles in the Dr. R.C. Wood's apartment building on the north side of the square with Frank D. Davis in charge.

A pump has been set up at Laughery Creek & work started on the water line from the creek to the town for a temporary water system to be used during the construction. Digging started Friday in the east of the town at the foot of the ten yard hill on what eventually will be the outlet of the sewer system. Work has progressed to the first corner, from where workmen began working. Eugene Zinn & Orland Mann are foremen in charge of the actual construction.

Several loads of equipment brought in last week included a trench machine, air compressor, tractor, etc. One outfit was moved here from Batesville & one from Mitchell. More equipment will come in within the next few days.

The construction in a PWA Project divided into 3 divisions—Division A. Construction of elevated tank; Division B, Water Works system; & Division 1 Sewer system.

Versailles Republican 4 July 1940

"Uncle Jim" Will Turn on the Water Today

Dedication Ceremonies to be Held for New Water & Sewage System

Albert Stump Indianapolis to Deliver Address at Filtration Plant

Parade to Form at 9:30 A.M.

Jackson A. Raney, Supt. Of Deaf School will Act as Master of the Ceremonies

"Uncle Jim" Tyson of Chicago who gave his old home town of Versailles a modern water & sewage system costing \$220,000, has been here in Versailles for the past 10 days & will turn on the water during the dedication services for the system, which are to be held Thur. morning 4 July. Attorney Albert Stump of Indianapolis, who has a state wide reputation as a public speaker, will deliver the address.

The Master of Ceremonies will be Jackson A. Raney formerly of Versailles, now supt. of the State School of the Deaf in Indianapolis. A parade will form at 9:30 A.M. at the courthouse square & being led to the filtration plant by the Aurora Civic Band. Buses will go & will be provided for those who cannot walk & everyone can that can walk are urged to do so & parking is limited.

Program Announced

The following program will be given at the Filtration Plant:

10:00 A.M. "Stars and Stripes Forever"

Prayer: Rev. Owen M. Sherrill

Vocal Solo: "My Folks Came from Indiana"—Mrs. Frank. M. Thompson

"History of Versailles"—Mr. Raney

"Back Home Again in Indiana"—Band

Address—Mr. Strump

Vocal Solo "It's Just a Little Street Where Old Friends Meet"—Earl Littell

Turning on the Water—"Uncle Jim"

11:00 A.M. Benediction—Rev. John T. Redmon

Following the program, all persons in attendance will be given an opportunity to inspect the filtration plant, pumping station & sewage disposal plant.

The program was set at an early hour so as to give everyone an opportunity to attend the annual 4th of July celebration at Osgood Fairgrounds that afternoon & evening.

AT 11:30 A.M., a dinner will be served at Hasmer Hill Camp in the Federal Park area, which adjoins the town on the north and east approximately 150 persons will attend the dinner honoring Mr. Tyson.

Mr. Tyson, who is known to everyone in Versailles as "Uncle Jim" is a native of Versailles & has been a frequent visitor here during the many years since he left. He & the late Charles R. Walgreen founded the Walgreen Drug Co.

Created Trust Fund

In 1930, Mr. Tyson created the Tyson Trust Fund for the benefit of the people of his old home town. The trust agreement provided for a number of things to be done. The first was the erection of a church, which was called Tyson Temple. This \$150,000 Temple which was erected in memory of Mr. Tyson's mother was dedicated 16 May 1937/

Since its dedication, thousands of people have visited it & more than 27,000 of whom signed the register.

Mr. Tyson, through the fund paid \$70,000 of the cost of the new Versailles School building dedicated in 1938.

Other projects provide for in the trust agreement included the building & equipping of a public library, certain improvements to Cliff Hill Cemetery, feeding the inmates at the county Infirmary on certain dates each year, etc.

Versailles Republican 12 Sept. 1940 Uncle Jim To Attend Pumpkin Show Here

Versailles Benefactor to Meet Nationally Known Banker Here Saturday To Celebrate Birthday

Johnson Yost of Pikesville, KY, friend of Tyson to Attend Versailles Pumpkin Show

James H. Tyson has informed the committee of the 42nd annual Pumpkin Show that he will attend. Mr. Tyson's birthday is Sept. 14th.

Yost visited Tyson Temple on one of his many trips through Versailles & learned the Temple was given to the community by Mr. Tyson. Yost has received national acclaim due to his many unusual policies he has instituted at the First National Bank of Pikesville.

Yost has received attention by recently installing an electric organ in his bank & it is known as the only bank in the U.S. that opens each morning with a 20 minute religious program. The service consists of 3 hymns, a scripture reading by Mr. Yost. The eleven employees of the bank take turns of leading the service. During the year, hundreds of people drop in to see the service or to take part in the service. Then at 11:45 & 2:45, they have 15 minutes of concert. They have a loud speaker that carries the music out on the street. On Saturday, if you go in to discuss loans or other business you are served food & soft drinks.

Versailles Republican 19 Sept. 1940

"Uncle Jim" to Build Library for Versailles

Selects Site for Building & Names Board of Directors

Work to Start in the Spring

Library will be Endowed for \$5,000 per Year

Structure to be White Ceramic Brick & Terra Cotta

Versailles & Ripley Co. folk greatly pleased this week when they learned that "Uncle Jim" Tyson who came Sat. to attend the Pumpkin Show & visit friends here for several days; is making arrangements to erect & equip a library which he will bestow as a gift to the town of Versailles in accordance with the provisions of the Tyson Fund Agreement which he set up a number of years ago.

Mr. Tyson has named the directors of the library & is having the articles of incorporation for a non-profit organization prepared.

A lot upon which to build the library has been purchased from Everett H. Austin & an architect to prepare the plans will soon be selected.

Construction will probably start next spring. The site chosen for the building will be at the corner of Main cross & High Streets & will be just across the street from the beautiful new consolidated school building of which Mr. Tyson paid \$70,000 of the cost. The library is to be equidistant between the schoolhouse & the Tyson Temple, 200 yards from each.

According to the provisions in the Tyson Trust Agreement, the building is to cost \$50,000 & will be endowed up to \$5,000 per year.

The building will be white ceramic brick & terra cotta to harmonize with the Temple & schoolhouse.

The articles of incorporation will provide for 3 directors as members of the library board & also provide that they shall be members of the Trustees of Tyson Temple Methodist Church.

Mr. Tyson has selected the following people as directors of the library: Elmer H. Bailey, Roy H. Hunter & Harry W. Thompson. Their terms of office will be 3 years.

The location selected for the library is ideal & will be very accessible to town folks & is only 2 blocks & a half from the public square & it is very handy to the school children.

With the liberal endowment provided for the library, it should soon become the leading library in S.E. IN.

Mr. Tyson, in his trust agreement, has provided well for the religious & educational welfare of Versailles & vicinity by the erection of the new school, church & now the library. HE provided for the new water & sewage plants.

Versailles Republican 3 July 1941

Shelbyville Firm Gets Tyson Library Contract

Construction Will Begin Next Week

Clyde Yater, president of Co. states

Mae Konkle Is Librarian

Co. Agriculture Agent & Home Demonstration Agent to Have Office Rooms in the Basement

The Shelby Construction Co. Inc of Shelbyville was awarded the contract Tuesday afternoon July 1 for the construction of the Tyson Library Association Inc. at a special meeting at which bids were received.

Mr. Clyde Yater, president of the construction company attended the letting & started the work that will begin the library building next week. Harry W. Ricketts will be supt. of construction. Mr. Yater is a native of Ripley Co., having been born & reared only about 7 miles from Versailles.

McGuire & Shook of Indianapolis, who are architects for the library were also architects for Tyson Temple. William Shook is a native of Versailles but has been successfully engaged in his profession at Indianapolis for 25 years.

Near School Building

The library will be erected on property purchased from Everett H. Austin just east of the school building. The library will face north.

On the ground floor there will be a 21 ½ x 34 ½ feet reading room for adults & another of the same dimensions for children; a lobby 17 x 18 feet, office & workroom, lavatory, drinking fountain & 2 large closets.

The basement will contain a 21 x 31 feet community room which will seat 100 persons comfortably, 4 nice office rooms for the county agriculture agent & county home economic agent, storage rooms, boiler room, rest rooms & hall. There will be an outside stairway to the basement & also a stairway from the lobby. The floors will be of terrazzo.

The exterior will be of white ceramic brick & terra cotta with lead coated copper roof over pre-cast gypsum & will harmonize with the architecture & construction of Tyson Temple. The building like the Temple & school building will be of fire proof construction throughout.

The building will be heated with an oil-burning hot air furnace. The motor & fan on the heating system can also be used to circulate air through the building in the summer months. The lighting will be of the new fluorescent type.

Donates Furniture

Mrs. Alexander H. Thompson, owned Old Timbers Lodge in the Proving Ground area & is also owner of the Court House Inn in Versailles gave Tyson Library Association. The heavy solid oak tables, chairs, davenports, & desk which she had in the mammoth room in the lodge. This furniture was all made at Beria college ate Berea, KY. There will be enough furniture to furnish the reading rooms & basement. This is a wonderful gift & the members of the town are most grateful to Mrs. Thompson.

Miss Mae Konkle, who has been teaching in Versailles H.S. for several years & has credits in library science has been approved as librarian. Miss Konkle will assure the success of the library & will assume her duties in September & will have much of the work of setting up the library before the building is finished this fall. Mr. Yater stated that he hoped to complete the building in 90 days.

Versailles Republican 10 July 1941

Construction of Library Started

Steel Assured

Work Expected to Move Rapidly

The Shelby Construction Co. of Shelbyville that received the contract last week for the construction of the Tyson Library, began work Wed. The lot was cleared, the site staked off & levels established Tue.

At Brownstown, Mon. morning bids were received for a new Jackson Co. Jail

McGuire & Shook, architects for the library, specified steel that was already fabricated & available & therefore contractors were able to submit bids on the library. We understand the contractors have placed orders for all materials & are assured delivery of everything within a reasonable length of time. Therefore, construction should move forward rapidly. Clyde Yater, president of the construction co. was here Tue. in consolation with Wilbur Shook of the architectural firm.

Versailles Republican 6 November 1941

“Uncle Jim” Tyson, Chicago Philanthropist & Benefactor, Dies at age 85

Last Rites Performed for Town’s Most Illustrious Native in Tyson Temple Which He Built in Memory of His Mother

Death Occurred in Chicago Hospital

Business ceased in Versailles the afternoon of the funeral to pay tribute to their most beloved citizen. He was co-founder of Walgreen Drug Co. He died in Memorial Hospital at Chicago Saturday morning, after a few days illness followed by pneumonia. Mr. Tyson had been in his usual health & word of his death came here as a great shock to his friends here.

His last visit here was from Oct. 9th until the 14th. He attended the Pumpkin Show & enjoyed visits in the homes of a number of his friends.

Word reached Versailles of his passing only a few minutes after his death occurred when Charles R. Walgreen Jr. of Walgreen Drug Co. called funeral director Walter H. Smith & asked him to come to Chicago & take charge of the body.

The body was at the Barbour & Gustin funeral home at 4141 Cottage Grove Ave. until Monday when it was brought to the Tyson Temple M.E. Church in Versailles, where it lay in state until the funeral service at 2:00 p.m.

The impressive funeral rites were conducted by the pastor of the Temple, the Rev. John T. Redmond. Three hymns of the church were sung by the Temple Choir. Pall bearers were: C.R. Walgreen Jr., J.E. Ward, C.R. Schmitt, A.L. Starshark, H.G. Lastine & S.J. Bowyer of Chicago, all directors of the Walgreen Drug Company of which Mr. Tyson & the late Charles R. Walgreen were the founders. Mrs. C.R. Walgreen Sr. & Mr. Tyson’s secretaries: Miss Agnes Carroll & Miss Rose Trelles were both in the funeral party which came from Chicago.

Flower girls were Miss Charlotte Beer of Osgood, Mrs. Creighton Martin of Aurora, Mrs. Louise Hunter, Louis Harrison, Lila Thompson, Ethel Vaught, Josephine Curry & Helen Schmaltz.

Interment In Cliff Hill Cemetery

Interment was in Cliff Hill Cemetery at Versailles where his parents & a number of other near relatives are buried.

Among the relatives of Mr. Tyson from a distance who attended the funeral were his sister Mrs. Emma Hoffman of Cincinnati & the following nieces & nephews, grand nieces & nephews: Paul Tyson Hoffman of Los Angeles, CA; Hugh Hoffman of Dayton, OH; Mrs. Sibyl (Heck) Linde, Miss Jean Olive Heck, Mrs. Effie Drury, John Shepard all of Cincinnati, Mrs. Ethel Longenecker of Newton, KY, Mrs. Grace Bulter & Grey Stark both of Attoona, KA, Alfred Linde & daughter Miss Jean Linde, Mr. & Mrs. John Stull & daughter Joy of Cincinnati, Charles Hoffman & Hugh Hoffman Jr. both of Dayton, OH.

Two of his nephews, Herbert Stark & Cornet Stark both of Oregon were unable to be present at the funeral.

Mr. Tyson was preceded in death by 4 sisters: Mrs. Mary Stark, Mrs. June Shepherd, Mrs. Prudence Shepherd & Mrs. Olive Heck & 1 brother John Will Tyson who was killed in an accident in TX when but 21 years of age.

Born & Reared In Versailles

James H. Tyson was born in Versailles 14 Sept. 1856 & was reared here being the son of William & Eliza (Adams) Tyson. The early part of his life was spent in the printing industry. The trade, he learned in Versailles & when a young man, he went West & worked in this trade on a number of papers in several different states before locating in Chicago. He was in Denver, Colorado for several years.

After being in the printing business in Chicago for several years, Mr. Tyson & the late C.R. Walgreen formed a partnership & purchased a drug store. They later organized the Walgreen Drug Co. Inc. which under their guidance became a nationally known concern with stores in many of principal cities throughout the U.S.

Mr. Tyson was a great lover of nature & from boyhood had enjoyed traveling. During the twenties, he made several trips around the world.

For the past 45 years, he had made frequent trips back to his old home town of Versailles & he always liked to drive over the country to the other towns & through the country side. His favorite view was that of Laughery Valley between Olean & Friendship known as Golden Corner community. He often said he had seen nothing more beautiful than this scene in all his traveling abroad. He said the Alps were higher than the Laughery Hills but not more beautiful.

Created Tyson Fund in 1930

In 1930, Mr. Tyson created the Tyson fund for Versailles, his native town. In setting up the trust, he stated in the agreement that it was "with the purpose of funding & endowing in perpetuity a trust to be known as Tyson Fund, for promoting religious, education, literary & social advancement among the residences of Versailles & vicinity & in particular for the purpose of building & maintaining there in Versailles a church, library, waterworks, & other public institutions."

Mr. Tyson specified in the agreement that "This gift & trust were irrevocable."

Benefits received from the Tyson Fund by the town & community thus far include the \$150,000 Tyson Temple; the \$225,000 water & sewer system of which the fund paid 55% of the cost & the government 45%; a \$140,000 school of which the fund paid \$70,000 & the latest gift the Tyson Library which will be completed about Jan. 1, the library represents an investment of approximately \$50,000. The Temple & Library are each endowed for \$5,000 a year.

Built In Memory Of His Mother

The Temple was "dedicated to the Glory of God & in memory of Eliza (Adams) Tyson" Mr. Tyson's mother. Her name appears in a piece of granite embedded in the wall of the marthex. The gift of the school was in memory of his father William H. Tyson, whose name appears in the wall of the corridor. Mr. Tyson's name is on a granite slab in the wake (?) of the water filtration plant. The library has only the word "Tyson on the exterior wall above the entrance."

There is no way of estimating what Mr. Tyson's gifts to the town & community will eventually amount to as the Tyson Fund now owns 13,350 shares of common stock & \$50,000 worth of preferred stock in the Walgreen Company.

The citizens of Versailles are most appreciative of Mr. Tyson's generosity & he was held in the highest esteem by all. Everyone loved "Uncle Jim" as he was known & called by adults & children. The beautiful tributes banked about "Uncle Jim's" coffin in the magnificent temple & the cessation of all business in Versailles Tuesday afternoon were evidence of the love of the citizens for their benefactor. The Spencer Drug Store which is a Walgreen agency was closed during the entire day.

Unusual Floral Tributes

Among the many unusual & elaborate floral tributes were the 2 with the words "Uncle" & "Jim" in large letters which stood just back of the casket on either side of the pulpit & an 7 foot cross of chrysanthemums which stood in the mathex.

School was dismissed in order that the children could attend the funeral service & the Sunday School room in the basement of the Temple were reserved for them. A public address system enabled them & also persons in the church yard, who could not get into the temple to hear the services.

(On the Copy of the Monument Picture Page)

This beautiful Barre Vermont granite monument recently erected at the grave of James H. Tyson in Cliff Hill Cemetery, Versailles, will be dedicated on Memorial Day, Sunday, May 30th. The dedicatory service will follow immediately after the regular Memorial Day program which will begin at 2:00 p.m. C.D.S.T.

The monument is a triangular shaped pylon and rises to a height of 21 feet and one inch. It consists of five separate pieces and has a velvet or unpolished finish. Its plainness and simplicity make it all the more inspiring.

The hundreds of people who have seen it since its erection in March of this year have all been greatly impressed by its majestic beauty. The monument was contracted for over two years ago at a cost of \$3,261. It would cost approximately \$5,000 today to duplicate it.

Below is a close-up of the bronze plaque on the monument.

Versailles Republican 13 November 1941

Niece of "Uncle Jim" Married Wednesday In Tyson Temple

Mrs. Grace Hardy & Dr. L.C. Bauer, Baptist Minister Wed Here

Mrs. Grace Tyson (Stock) Hardy of Wichita, KA & Dr. L.C. Bauer of Eureka, KA were united in marriage at 1:30 o'clock in Tyson Temple. The single ring ceremony was performed by the Rev. George King, pastor of Emerson Baptist Church of Indianapolis.

The bride is a niece of the late "Uncle Jim" Tyson, Versailles benefactor, wore a floor length gown of white lace over white satin fashioned with a sweetheart neckline. She used pink accessories.

Mrs. John T. Redmond sang "I Love You Truly" & Mrs. Chris Kassendick, church organist provided the music at the organ.

Dr. Bauer is a Baptist minister & Mrs. Bauer will be at home at 529 N. Hydraulic, Wichita, KA the first of the year following a wedding trip through the east.

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Ripley County Genealogy

Tyson

Daily papers carried press dispatches Monday Nov. 10, 1941 concerning the will left by James Henry Tyson, Versailles, native and benefactor, who died at the age of 85 years, Nov. 1, 1941 in Chicago IL where he lived for many years

According to reports appearing in various papers, Versailles was remembered in his last will filed in Probate Court Saturday Nov. 8, 1941, which directed that his large personal library be added to the shelves of the new public library at Versailles, then under construction. The library which will be known as Tyson Library, was one of the projects provided for by a trust fund estimated at one-half million dollars and given to the town of Versailles by Mr. Tyson several years before his death.

Value of the estate was estimated at \$425,000. Other charitable bequests were \$10,000 to the Walgreen Memorial Pension trust; \$5,000 to his only living sister, Mrs. Emma Hoffman of Cincinnati and \$2,500 to the Salvation Army. Attorney Leonard Ried said that Mr. Tyson drew up the will June 24, 1941.

An unusual feature of the will filed with John F. Keeley, assistant to the probate judge was that it listed the assets, practically all in Walgreen stock. Tyson who was co-founder of the Walgreen Drug Company, with the late Charles R. Walgreen, was the first bookkeeper and auditor of the company.

He divided the bulk of his estate equally among 12 nieces and nephews giving each one about \$34,000. The nephews and nieces sharing in the \$407,500 are: Cornett T. Stark, Cardiff, CA ; Grey Stark, Garnett, KA ; Herbert Stark, Brownsville, OR ; Mrs. Grace Hardy, Wichita, KA ; Mrs. Mabel Butler, Altoona, KA ; Mrs. Ethel Longenecker, Newton, KA ; John Shepard, Erie, PA ; Mrs. Effie L. Drury, Norwood OH ; Miss Jean Heck, Cincinnati OH ; Paul K. Hoffman, Los Angeles, CA ; Hugh Hoffman, Dayton OH ; and Mrs. Sybil Linde of Cincinnati, OH. All are children of Mr. Tyson's sisters.

Mr. Tyson, a bachelor, retired in 1925, but kept an office at the Walgreen Company and visited it daily while in the city.

Versailles Republican 30 April 1942

Tyson Library Opens Today

The 50,000 dollar Tyson Library given to the town of Versailles by the late James H. Tyson is being officially opened today. The Versailles School band under the direction of Miss Nadine Borden will play at the library tonight from 8 until 9 o'clock. The library is built of white enameled brick & terra cotta, with lead coated copper roof. It is of fire proof construction throughout & is illuminated with fluorescent lights. A \$5,000 yearly endowment is provided by the Tyson Fund. Bailey is President of the Tyson Library Association, Roy H. Hunter is treasurer & Harry W. Thompson is secretary. The building was designed to coincide with the architectural design of the Tyson Temple, an outright gift of Mr. Tyson & the school building for which Mr. Tyson gave \$70,000. Tony Moody is the efficient custodian of the building.

7 May 1942

Tyson Library Is Serving Patrons

Library Reports 100 Borrowers & Circulation of 175 for first 5 Days

During the first 4 days that the Tyson Library has been open, Miss Mae Konkle, librarian, reports 100 borrowers & a circulation of 175. Friday, the first day on which books were available 44 persons took out books.

The formal opening held last Thursday evening was attended by approximately 75 persons. The Versailles School Band under the direction of Miss Nadine Borden played for the occasion.

The members of the band publically presented Miss Borden a gift at the close of the concert. The presentation was made by Miss Carol Harrison.

The library is open from 12 noon until 5 p.m. daily except Sunday & from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. on Mon, Wed, & Sat. The young people seem to enjoy the spacious reading room.

Versailles Republican 23 May 1946

Buy Monument To Place At Grave Of James Tyson

Testing Place of "Uncle Jim," Versailles Benefactor to Be Fittingly Marked

Roy L. Spencer, Chairman of the Committee named to Purchase a Memorial

Monument to be erected at the grave of the late James Tyson "Uncle Jim" in Cliff Hill Cemetery in Versailles announces that the committee has contracted with the Piqua, Granite & Marble Co. of Piqua, Ohio for a monument. The purchase price for the monument was \$3,261.00 & it will be 21 feet high. Other members of the committee were: Robert Bovard, Roy H. Hunter, Walter H. Smith & Marshall Underwood.

An organization was perfected 2 years ago to raise money & purchase a monument to properly mark the grave, but on the account of the war it was impossible to get the kind of stone that was desired, hence the purchase was deferred until now.

The Rev. Wesley F. Fink, chairman of the finance committee states that not all of the money for the purchase of the monument has been raised.

There are a number of unpaid subscriptions to the fund & not nearly enough was originally pledged. Rev. Fink stated Wed. that in the very near future an effort will be made to raise the remainder of the money needed. He said, "We are duty bound to erect this memorial to a man who has done so much for the town of Versailles."

Other members of the finance committee are: E.H Austin, Rev. Harold Gray, Carl V. Smith, Roy H. Hunter & Mrs. N.D. Moran.

Elmer H. Bailey is president of the organization, William Hill vice president W. Earl Holman treasurer & Mrs. Troy Hooton secretary.

B. Frank Jackson, Wm Smith, Leo Harris, Mrs. Major Landwehr & Miss Mae Konkle compose the committee to write a brief history of Mr. Tyson to go on a bronze plaque to be placed on the monument.

Versailles Republican 3 June 1948

Tyson Memorial Dedication With Fitting Service

Hundreds were Present for Decoration Day & Dedicatory Program

“This triangular pylm, based so deeply in American soil, reaching so confidently into the blue sky of God’s universe-staunch, straight, aspiring seems an absolutely right tribute to my “Uncle Jim.” It seems to be the absolutely right spot, for the erection.”

The above words were taken from the address of Mrs. Sybil Linde, niece of “Uncle Jim” Tyson prepared for the delivery on Decoration Day at the dedication of the memorial erected at his grave in Cliff Hill Cemetery at Versailles, IN. However, Mrs. Linde did not get to deliver her address as she suffered a heart attack & her physician would not permit her to leave her home. She asked the Rev. Wesley F. Fink, pastor of Tyson Temple to read her address which he did.

In her letter to Rev. Fink, she said:

“It is with the most poignant regret that I must tell you that it will be impossible for me to be with you next Sun. Although, I have returned home I still have a nurse & am allowed to sit up for only 20 minutes twice a day. Even that seems to exhaust me.

I have written my talk, however, & would appreciate it so much if you would read it. Please feel free to cut it if it is too long.

I shall be with you in spirit & thought although my illness keeps me from the journey.”

Only those who know “Uncle Jim” Tyson intimately can appreciate the splendid tribute Mrs. Linde paid her uncle in her address.

Address Was A Master Piece

Her address was a master piece & was ably presented by Rev. Fink. With the aid of the public address system, the hundreds of people who were in the cemetery for the service were able to hear the address distinctly. In fact, it could be heard several blocks distance from the cemetery.

The dedicatory program was carried out in conjunction with the regular Memorial Day services sponsored by Leore Weare Post American Legion No. 173 of Versailles, Commander Alva Bronnenberg of the post was in charge of the program.

Invocation was given by Rev. August Sansone, pastor of St. John’s Catholic Church of Osgood & a brief Memorial Day Address was given by Rev. Fink. Following his address, Rev. Fink read the address Mrs. Linde had expected to give.

The Legion Memorials were then deposited in a copper box by the church trustees, the school, the town & the Tyson Memorial Committee & the box was sealed in the head stone at Mr. Tyson’s grave.

The Legion then held its services for the war dead. After a short talk by Commander Bronnenberg, prayer was offered by Post Chaplain Edger Hayes & flowers were deposited at the cross marking the grave of the unknown soldier by James Adkins, Serg. –at-Arms.

The school band played the Star Spangled Banner, a salute to the dead was given by the Legion firing squad & Taps were sounded.

The crowd at the service was estimated to be almost twice as large as any that ever attended a Memorial Day Service at Cliff Hill Cemetery in former years.

Several large baskets of beautiful gladioli, the gift of Mrs. Linde adorned the Tyson & Heck lots.

Versailles Republican 3 June 1948

Address of Mrs. S. Linde prepared for delivery at the dedication the Tyson Memorial in Cliff Hill Cemetery at Versailles, IN Sunday May 30 follows:

“Uncle Jim”
by Sibyl Linde

On May 4, 1948, the anniversary of the death of my own 11 year old Jimmie, I drove throught the delicately wrought arched gateway of Cliff Hill Cemetery & caught my first glimpse of the tall granite memorial erected by the town of Versailles folk to the memory of the man whom my Jim had been named.

The triangular pylron, based so deeply in American soil, reaching so confidently into the blue sky of God’s universe-staunch, straight, aspiring—seemed an absolutely right tribute to my Uncle Jim. It seemed too, the absolutely right spot for its erection.

As I stood on the brow of the hill which fell away precipitately to the broad green valley below, I could see Laughery Creek laughing its way between the wind-swept hills.

Suddenly, I found the theme for my message on Decoration Day, when I should speak at the dedication for the memorial. Uncle Jim’s acting everything that was that of a free man. He felt that he had a right to be himself. He glorified in this right as part of the heritage that had been his since Peter Tyson came with Wm Penn from Cumberland, England to settle Philadelphia. He believed that such rights were the cornerstone on which a great America had been built.

I must let Versailles see Uncle Jim as on this clear, bright day in brilliant perspective I saw him—gentle, tey dictatorial; proud yet humble; widely cultured yet ever questioning; rich yet poor. As I looked at the finely cut grey monument before me, I saw instead my Uncle Jim, in his inevitable great tweed suit & Scotch cap to match, with flashing eyes, even as in the grey monument the only accent was the burnished glory of the copper plate at the base.

The Inscription

Why here was the outline for my talk, the inscription itself:

In Memory OF

James H. Tyson

Uncle Jim

How often in previous years, I had jealously emphasized the “my” when I said “My Uncle Jim.” I knew that he loved me as I loved him. Once when I was a weak little girl, convalescent after scarlet fever, it was Uncle Jim who stood at my bedroom door saying—“I’ve come to Cincinnati to carry you downstairs, Sybil.” How gladly I had flung my arms about him for my first excursion after many weeks. He must have treasured this memory as much as I, for he used almost the same words years later when I stood in my bridal white waiting to go to the church. My own dear father had died years before, Uncle Jim had come from Chicago to answer the minister’s “Who giveth this woman?” with his firm “I do.” Now he said, “Daughter I’ve come to carry you downstairs.”

Yet, how many cousins I had. I recall his dictatorial injunction to send Christmas greetings to “my cousin Rose”—his secretary—Rose Trellis.

He didn’t bother to remember our individual family birthdays but on his own, we would receive a crisp bill & the laconic message:

Dear Niece,

Wish you a happy birthday!

Jim

Yet on September 14th for many years, his biggest birthday celebration had been treating to a birthday dinner all the women in his employ at his firm, “Walgreen & Company.” On his 85th birthday, my cousins from New York to California; from Minnesota to Florida numbered over 4500.

“1856-1941”

What a proud life span! The last time I saw Uncle Jim just a week before the attack of pneumonia which put his vibrant personality to rest, his back was straight as a ramrod, his step firm, his mind alert, his eyes clear. He had dropped in without luggage, toothbrush clipped next to his fountain pen in his pocket, for one of his unexpected visits (Fortunately my Alfred & he were the same sized men, so he could wear his pajamas & he knew that a pair would be on his pillow when he was ready to retire.)

Edwards Lytton, veteran actor & Shakespearean reader was to appear before special assemblies on the following day at Withrow H.S. in Cincinnati where I taught speech & dramatics. Uncle Jim gladly agreed to attend with me, as he was a worshipper at the shrine of Bill Shakespeare & knew his great plays almost by heart.

I introduced Uncle Jim to Mr. Lytton before the first program & then he & I took seats in the first row. His lips followed the reader, as he quoted Jacques' lines from "As You Like It" describing Touchstone's Soliloquy on the passage of time & the immortal "To Be or Not To Be" from Hamlet. But when Lytton concluded the dialogue from "Henry VII" between Cromwell & Cardinal Wolsey with the lines:

And my integrity to heaven is all

I dare now call my own"

Uncle Jim rose quietly from his place saying "A request Mr. Lytton, Please finish that speech. It is one of the finest in our literature."

Mr. Lytton bowed & answered simply, "I stand corrected. But will you not give them yourself Mr. Tyson?"

"O, Cromwell, Cromwell!

Had I but served my god with half the zeal!

I served my king, he would not in my age

Have left me naked to mine enemies."

Lived Simply

His was the health of 85 years, spent in simple living plans, the heritage of sturdy hard work, ancestry.

Sometimes his abstemiousness was discouraging. When I had gone all out on the preparation of a typically good Hoosier meal—fried chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, succotash of fresh corn & string beans, long cooked with generous hunk of fat bacon, the whole topped off with apple pie swimming in a whipped cream topping it would be disconcerting to watch him nibble. If pressed too hard, he would remark, "The pleasures of the table are nothing to me."

Perhaps the meal he enjoyed most at my home & one over which he often chuckled, consisted of 6 large unseasoned beets which I had left on my kitchen table to cool while Alfred, Jimmie, baby Jean & I had gone on an unpremeditated picnic excursion. They represented the entire beet crop from our little backyard garden.

He had persuaded our landlord next door to open up from him in our absence. Returning home from our excursion, Alfred had enlisted the company of the policeman at the corner, when we saw the lights in the apartment, but the officer of the law left in disgust, disgruntled haste when we explained that the shirt-sleeved visitor eating the last beet as he sat in an easy chair with his feet propped up on a feet stool was our uncle.

Uncle Jim firmly believed that long walks served as better receipts for keeping the doctor away. When visiting Cincinnati, he would cover 16 miles of hills & dales between my home in the suburb of Clifton & Aunt Emma's home way across the Riverside.

Reminiscences come thronging, but I put them behind me, I must go on.

Donor of Tyson Temple

The first great gift to Versailles was the one dearest to everyone's heart. The first time I attended church services here with him, he had paused a moment in the tile vestibule, kissed his finger tips, then reverently laid them on the table dedicating the edifice to Eliza Adams Tyson, his mother.

Her son's early Methodist training never left him. When he appeared at Mother's of my home, we would always sit up till the wee small hours listening to his reminiscences of days in mining camps in Colorado or perhaps of the time he chartered his own trip down the Nile, when he was to be the guest of a famous Arabian Chieftain. So we never disturbed him in the morning, yet we always knew when it was time to put on the oatmeal. "Always Oatmeal:" the signal was his full rich baritone from the bathroom as he sang, "A Mighty Fortress is our God," or "Oh Thou, In Whose Presence My Soul Takes Delight."

Tyson Library

Through last of his gifts, still unfinished at the time of his death, the library is named next on the inscription.

In my own library, I treasure several volumes of Hume's "History of England" with grandfather's quaint firm William Holsbury Tyson" across each fly leaf. Uncle Jim recalled seeing his father reading these volumes from a comfortable old chair pulled out to the orchard. Like as not, added Uncle Jim, there would be a robin or thrush sitting on his shoulder & eating crumbs grandfather had put there for his feathered friends.

Grandfather Tyson's devotion for books burned fiercely in Uncle Jim's breast. The works of Walter Scott played a close second to those of Will Shakespeare & could be quoted with equal facility.

It was Uncle Jim's love of reading, joined to that of Charles Walgreen which led to the friendship out of which sprang the enterprise of Walgreen & Company. For when Charles Walgreen was a young drug clerk, living in a boarding home on the north side of Chicago back in 1895, he passed most of his free time which was very limited in the evenings with his neighbor across the hall, James Tyson. Their principal amusement consisted of reading history—one smoking his pipe & formulating questions while the other read aloud—then reversing positions for the next chapter.

Uncle Jim, historical giant was Alexander Hamilton & he read everything he could lay his hands on about him. "He was a DOER, Sib" explained Uncle Jim to me one time when I was his guest in Chicago. "Washington & Hamilton were the leaders of the party of construction & optimistic nationalism."

"What integrity he had too" Uncle Jim began pacing up & down the floor, as he spoke, his hand clenched behind him, "Why, when Hamilton withdrew from the service of the government at the age of 38, he began to practice law on his own. In his visit to our new country Talleyrand said, "I have seen the 8th wonder of the world!" "I have seen a man who had made a fortune of nation, laboring at midnight for the support of his family."

May Tyson Library bring to its readers powerful reaffirmations of the American Principles!

Next—

Versailles Water & Sewer System

This was a gift that most surprised us at first, for Uncle Jim resented much in the way of modernization. He never owned or drove an automobile. He lived for one brief in a luxurious suite in one of Chicago's most impressive lake front hotels, then chose to return for the remainder of his life to a modest old building in the run-down south side in walking distance of Walgreen & Co. Office Headquarters at 744 Bowen St. of Chicago Grove. Here he asked to have a room removed as far as possible from any radio in the house.

Yet Uncle Jim's engineers, harnessed Laughery & now the little village of Versailles, IN is the only town of its size in that state to have a modern plumbing & running water. And the dedicatory plaque in the waterworks building bears Uncle Jim's own name.

With my new-found clarity in estimation of Uncle Jim, I understand how earnestly he wished prevention of disease. Perhaps the little round stone in the Tyson lot bearing the word "Max" had something to do with it, for the handsome 16 year old lad, Aunt Emma's oldest son, had been a victim of Typhoid.

Here was proof again of the burning desire to do something vicariously for little grandmother. He often recalled how hard it was for her to get water for cooking & cleaning when wells were dry in summer droughts.

Perhaps the last factor in deciding on this gift was a mystic love of Laughery in whose swimming holes, he had frolicked with Charlie Thompson his boyhood friend. There was a queer sort of feeling that they & Laughery together had accomplished something for the place they loved.

Our High School Building

The last gift mentioned on the bronze plaque, is dedicated rightfully to Grandfather Tyson. Although William Halsbury Tyson died long before I was born, I know him through the tribute of his son & daughters as a scholar & a disciplinarian. The former attribute, I have already mentioned. In the latter score, I recall how mother once pointed out to me a tall sycamore tree near the old Tyson home in Versailles. She told me it had grown from a switch grandfather had made her plant there after she had been severely punished with it for whistling, because "nice girls don't whistle" or do they?

The magnificent building is a far cry from the little one room schoolhouse attended by Uncle Jim, his brother Henry, killed in a railroad accident at the age of 20, & their sisters.

One of my most vivid memories is of a mid-summer afternoon when Uncle Jim, Aunt Emma & her Paul & Hugh were at mother's home. My sister Jean & I always had glorious times when we exchanged visits with these cousins. This afternoon, however we did little playing on our own accounts. Uncle Jim & his 2

sisters were rocking gently in the 2 seated swing below the wild cherry tree, regaling each other & us with questions & quotations from the McGuffey readers, backbone of their early training.

We had been attracted to their vicinity by Uncle Jim's hearty laughter. One of the trio had just finished reciting Longfellow's "About Ben Adhem" with the concluding line "And lo! Ben Adhem's name led all the rest."

"You know" he ejaculated "until I came to read that myself in the 6th reader, I always thought the older scholars recited "Ben Adams" & I was proud of our Uncle Ben, leading the list of those the Lord had blessed."

For hours the fun went on, one starting a new section as another was finished; McGuffey's stories reprinted poems exemplifying thrift, patience, restraint, valor, patriotism, obedience, honor, sturdy, virtue, & resignation in the face of illness, age & even death.

Uncle Jim's education in grade school were augmented by his travels, his wide-spread working experience as he painstakingly saved for his great financial adventure & by his own tremendous thirst for knowledge.

In his eightieth year, his recreational reading was a page by page perusal of the Encyclopedia Briattanica!

And A Personal Endowment Fund

The canny foresight of this last great gift is a typical of James Tyson. It cannot be seen, yet it is perhaps the most important part of it all—funds can keep in efficient operation these glorious gifts to his community.

This Memorial Erected By Citizens of Versailles And Johnson Twp. & Other Friends

The last words of the inscription on the memorial tie in with the 2nd line Native of Versailles. Wherever he was in Chicago, in Scotland, in China, in Switzerland; he was in spirit a native of Versailles, the dearest spot to him in all the world. How he loved you, its people! He may have differed in opinion with many of you sharply at times. He surely refused to be bound by social distinctions among you, but you stood as staunch Americans, highest in his category of friends.

I can't say all that is in my heart this Dedication Day. God help me, however, out of all this complex of emotion & conviction, to express my gratitude & satisfaction in this glorious memorial to a great personality!

And may we all, on this Memorial Day, be fired with renewed determination to hold fiercely to our inalienable rights, like Uncle Jim to be our own unshackled selves—proud of our ability to work, to achieve, to give!

A blend of mirth & sadness, smiles & tears,

A quaint knight errand of the pioneers,
A homely hero, born of star & sod
A Pleasant Prince, a masterpiece of God.

SOURCES OF TYSON MATERIALS

1. Osgood Journal Newspaper, Osgood, IN
2. Indianapolis News Newspaper, Indianapolis, IN
3. Indianapolis Star Newspaper, Indianapolis, IN'
4. Ripley Journal Newspaper, Osgood, IN
5. TOPH Papers
6. Tyson Family Bible
7. Versailles Republican Newspaper, Versailles, IN
8. Pictures from Herbert Thompson, Versailles, IN
9. Researched by Mary Manship C.G.R.S.

James Tyson And

The Tyson Temple

Submitted for Consideration

Of the Lilly Scholarship Fund

Harry E. Wood High School

March 1, 1968

James Tyson And The Tyson Temple

Going into the town of Versailles, Indiana, population of approximately 1,500, and walking down Adams Street, one notices a beautiful church standing on the corner of Tyson and Adams Streets.

Nearing the church, one finds that the exterior body appears to be made of glazed brick. An upward glance shows the roof to be oval-shaped and made of lead-coated copper. Continuing the upward glance the viewer notices a cast aluminum spire. It is tipped with a cross of the same material.

To sum up the architectural style in one set form would be quite difficult since the church is a medley of styles. It has been said: "When James Tyson designed the church he threw together architectural ideas from a handful of distant and diverse cultures with the result of a conglomeration of the Tyson impression of the Taj Mahal, ancient Egyptian arcades, and world famous palaces and cathedrals."¹

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1. "Tyson Methodist Temple", Indianapolis Star, March 22, 1964.

The first impression the visitor receives as he enters the church is one of reverence. Two side stairways lead to the sanctuary where one's attention is immediately brought to the altar at the front of the church. Here "two rounded pillars, decorated with gold and silver, are in front of the chancel that is placed within the bay semi-circle with a rounded proscenium archway." ²

As one gazes around one finds the ceiling to be a dome of blue sky in color, studded with silver stars. These stars make up constellations such as would appear over Indiana on an October night.

Venturing downstairs follows one of two winding circular staircases to the basement of the church. The entire basement appears to be constructed of Italian marble. Here Sunday School services are held. A tunnel leading from the basement connects the church with the ten room parsonage.

The donor of this beautiful church was the philanthropist, James Tyson. He gave the church as a memorial to his mother, Eliza Adams Tyson.

-
2. Louise Lamkin, Tyson Temple (Unpublished)

This magnificent and unique edifice, which brings thousands of visitors to Versailles Yearly, is known as the Tyson Temple.

James Tyson was born to Eliza Adams Tyson and Penn Tyson on September 14, 1856, in the small town of Versailles, Indiana. He went out at an early age to seek his fortune through adventure. The spur for his desire for adventure can be traced back to his first job as newspaper delivery boy for the Versailles Republican. 3 Here at the Republican, while loafing around the composing room, he learned the newspaper trade and worked his way up to the front type case. 4 This advancement was something for a lad of his age.

He talked to and got ideas from tramp printers who sometimes made their way into Versailles. 5 These printers made regular rounds of various printing offices in the country, helping and doing whatever they could. Such men can be held responsible for young Tyson's newspaper enthusiasm. 6

3. "Tyson Methodist Temple", Indianapolis Star, March 22, 1964

4. "Versailles" , Indianapolis Star, January 4, 1964

5. Ibid, p, 1.

6. Ibid, p, 1.

From Versailles Tyson went west to the state of Colorado. In Denver he became foreman of the Composing room of a local newspaper. 7

As his constant urge for adventure swelled up in him again, he left Colorado and this time went east. In Baltimore he ventured into the advertising business, but since he was restless he moved from Eastern city to Eastern city. 8

During this time Tyson traveled extensively, not only here but also abroad. He made one trip around the world and other trips to Europe, Egypt, and Palestine. 9

In 1890, James Tyson decided to settle down here in the states. He opened up a small print shop in Chicago.

While at a boarding house in Chicago James Tyson became acquainted with Charles Walgreen, a fellow boarder. They strengthened their friendship while reading aloud to each other in their spare time. 10

7. "Versailles-James H. Tyson Gave Huge Fund", Indianapolis Times, March 12, 1950

8. Ibid, p, 1.

9. "Town's Benefactor Is a Visitor Here" Versailles Republican, September 10, 1936

10. Mrs. Herbert Thompson interviewed by Susan Perryman (Versailles, Indiana), August 10, 1967

Charles Walgreen wanted to expand his business but money prevented his doing so.

because of the friendship between Tyson and Walgreen, Tyson forwarded the \$1,500 needed for the first addition to the new coast to coast Walgreen Drugstores. 11

As the drug firm grew, James Tyson assumed the position of secretary of the Firm. 12. As time progressed, a law was passed stating that it was mandatory for an officer of the drug firm to be a pharmacist. 13 Since Tyson did not qualify, he took over the legal matters of the firm.

Through new merchandising ideas, sweat and hard work, James Tyson and Charles Walgreen contributed much to the success of the Walgreen Agency.

11. Mrs. Herbert Thompson, interviewed by Susan Perryman (Versailles, Indiana), August 10, 1967

12. Thompson, Interview.

13. Thompson, Interview.

James Tyson loved the town of Versailles, as is evident from the gifts that he gave to the town. In 1930 he donated 18,000 shares of Walgreen stock worth \$72,000 "to promote religious, educational, literary and social advancement among the residents of Versailles and vicinity." 14 A second fund was designated as the Versailles fund. Annual dividends out of the original fund go into the second fund.

Each year the residents of Versailles give recommendations to the Tyson Temple Board concerning beneficial attributes for the town. This board gets together and selects a prospective list of ideas for the betterment of the town. From this list, each year on September 14, Tyson's birthday, the people vote on what addition or additions they want to introduce to the town. 15 Usually there is a \$10,000 accumulation in the Versailles fund for this purpose. To date there is approximately \$450,000 in the Tyson trust fund. 16

14. "Versailles", Indianapolis Star, January 4, 1953.

15. Ibid, p.1.

16. "Versailles is Millionaire's Monument to His Boyhood", Indianapolis Times, March 11, 1950

In 1938 Tyson contributed \$130,000 for a new school for the town Versailles. In 1942 he gave \$50,000 for a library and 6,500 volumes, and \$5,000 for yearly maintenance. A playground and band uniforms were also given to the cause of education. As the town expanded, six additional classrooms and a gymnasium were added to the school. 17

Funds were designated for street improvements and for a sewage system. A five hundred gallon fluorinator was also given for the advancement of the town. Two trucks, one for garbage collecting and one a fire truck, were purchased later. Some twenty years ago, Tyson gave one million dollars for civic improvement and erected a recreational center. 18

Tyson made sure that funds were set aside for regular feasts for the residents of the county infirmary. There would be feasts on New Year's Eve, Easter, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and on Tyson's birthday. 19

In 1937 Tyson made his paramount and most valuable contribution to Versailles Indiana: The Tyson Temple.

17. "Versailles-James H. Tyson Gave Huge Fund". Indianapolis Times, March 12, 1950

18. Ibid, p. 1.

19. "Versailles Is Millionaire's Monument to His Boyhood", Indianapolis Times, March 11, 1950.

In 1936 the plans for the Tyson Temple were brought to the office of McGuire, Shook, Compton, and Richney. The construction got to work immediately and the magnificent edifice was soon on its way to completion.

The church was dedicated in May of 1937 by Bishop Herbert Welch of New York, who was assisted by twenty-three ministers. A crowd of 5,000 people attended the ceremonious happening. 20

The complete temple contains no wood in the construction itself. It is compiled wholly of concrete, steel, and masonry. 21 All traditional angles are replaced, both inside and out. Rounded corners here are the substitute.

The auditorium windows are set in aluminum and white bronze and are in the English style. A Masonic pattern can be seen in the diamond shaped windows.

A frieze is decorated continually around all four walls in the same inverted triangular style. 22

20. Democracy At Work, Indianapolis Star, September 14, 1957

21. "Wood Not", Indianapolis News, July 1, 1953

22. Louise Lamkin, Tyson Temple, (unpublished).

On the wall in the rear of the temple the pediment contains thirteen inverted pyramid forms in serpentine wave pattern, 23 On the front of the pediment are two rounded quarter-circles built of terra cotta with four panels of glass.

The ceiling is a dome of a blue cloudless sky as it appeared on the late autumn afternoon when Tyson's mother died. In the center is a gold North Star surrounded by eight complete constellations of 250 silver stars as they would appear in the heavens. 24 These stars were hand made in Germany. An indirect lighting system is used to gain beauty from this unusual ceiling. Because the ceiling is arched, acoustical materials line the end and side walls. 25

Two pillars which are decorated with gold and silver stand in front of the chancel. The chancel is placed within a semi-circular bay and is included in a rounded archway.

23. Ibid, p. 2

24. Ibid, p. 2.

25. "Erects Temple In Mother's Honor", Indianapolis Star, May 12, 1940.

The dome above the pipe organ is in three inch gold leaf strings which have been hammered out in Germany. On each side of the organ loft stand two large columns decorated with gold leaf in inlaid with pearl.

The main auditorium of the temple seats 300 people. The plain pews in the auditorium are fashioned from Ripley County lumber. 26

The interior glass bricks reflect the beauty of the light colors which are refracted to the tile walled entrance lobby, its terrazzo floors, and Egyptian pilasters. 27

The two circular staircases lead to the basement where Sunday School is held. The entire room, its beamed ceilings and floors consist of Italian marble. 28

26. "Versailles Is Millionaire's Monument to His Boyhood", Indianapolis Times, March 11, 1950

27. Louise Lamkin, Tyson Temple, (not published).

28. "Versailles", Indianapolis Star, January 4, 1953.

From the basement of the temple leads a later constructed tunnel which is connected to the ten room parsonage. 29

It must be noted that in the church there is no kitchen nor recreational area. This is due to Mr. Tyson's firm belief that a church is a place of worship only. 30

The exterior of the temple is comprised of glazed brick and a construction material known as terra cotta. The four entrance steps leading to the bronze door of the temple are made of granite with rounded edges. The portico is supported by twin Egyptian columns which are composed of round ivory-colored terra cotta. On the outside frieze is a half-circled broken pediment with a medallion on which are the words: "Glory To God".

The rounded lead-copper roof covers the entire temple, and is topped off by an aluminum spire. Here, in the spire, is the only trace of the traditional Gothic church influence. 31

29. "Versailles Methodist Parsonage Dedicated", Indianapolis Star, February 17, 1938

30. Mrs. Herbert Thompson, interviewed by Susan Perryman (Versailles, Indiana), August 10, 1967

31. Louise Lamkin, Tyson Temple, (Unpublished).

It is a modern lace work spire of the open alunalite type. It stands sixty-five feet high and is eight feet in diameter at the base. The spire is tipped off with a polished aluminum cross. The spire and cross together stand one hundred feet from the ground.

The bell from the old church of Tyson's beloved mother now finds its place in the Tyson Temple. 32 As it rings people are reminded of the many contributions that James Tyson gave to Versailles to make it what it is today.

32. Ibid, p. 1.

Summary

The Tyson Temple truly fulfills its purpose of worship. Every part of its architecture awakens a feeling of purpose. The temple's architecture reflects the culture that this small town has acquired.

From all parts of the world architecture was brought to one place and constructed into a magnificent edifice by a man of great means. This man never lost sight of opportunities that

given to him from his humble beginnings and home to profit personally from each experience that he had.

-Newspaper Articles-

“Vets of Versailles Still ‘In Service’” Indianapolis News, March 1952

“Two Versailles Cronies Couldn’t Forget Town” Indianapolis News, August 11, 1952

“Think Not of Little Old Versailles Ripley County, an unhappy Village with Loyal Sons and Daughters Bestowing Benefactions in Generous Degree” Indianapolis News, August 15, 1936

“Versailles School Tyson Benefaction” Indianapolis News, May 15, 1938

“Town’s Benefactor is a Visitor Here” Versailles Republican, September, 10 1936

“Versailles—James H. Tyson Gave Huge Fund” Indianapolis Times, March 12, 1950

Indianapolis News, September 19, 1938

“Versailles is Millionaire’s Monument to his Boyhood—James H. Tyson Gave Huge Fund” Indianapolis Times

“Versailles, Ripley County” Indianapolis News, August 15, 1936

“Tyson Memorial Church at Versailles” Indianapolis Star, November 15, 1942

“Tyson Wins Right to Give Buildings” Indianapolis Star, January 29, 1938

“Wood Not” Indianapolis News, July 1, 1953

“Erects Temple in Mother’s Honor—James H. Tyson, Unforgetful of Parents’ Care, Erects Lasting Memorial in Versailles, His Old Home Town” Indianapolis Star, May 12, 1940

“Cornerstone of Tyson Memorial Church to be Laid On Labor Day” Versailles Republican, August 20, 1936

“Cornerstone of the Tyson Temple in Versailles Laid on Labor Day” Versailles Republican September 10, 1936

“Dedication Tomorrow” Indianapolis Times, May 15, 1937

“Versailles Methodist Parsonage Dedicated” Indianapolis Star, May 18, 1937

“James H. Tyson Dies in Chicago—Rites for Philanthropist Will be Tuesday at Versailles” Indianapolis Star, November 2, 1941

“Rites to be Today for J. H. Tyson” Indianapolis Star, November 4, 1941

(Taken from History of Versailles United Methodist Church 1834-1984—Red Book)

Mr. Tyson made a gift of 18,000 shares of Walgreen Drug stock which was placed in the hands of church trustees and known as the Tyson Fund. Through Mr. Tyson's interest, a part of this fund was designated in his trust agreement to be used for the erection of a new, modern Methodist Church. The site for the new church was the southeast corner of the parsonage lot, where the parsonage had formerly stood.

James H. Tyson

James H. Tyson was born in Versailles, September 14, 1856. He learned the printer's trade in the local newspaper office and at 15 became an itinerant printer. He traveled all over the U.S. at this trade and in the late 1800's located in Chicago with a small job shop.

In Chicago he lived at the same boarding house as did Charles Walgreen and the two became close friends. Mr. Walgreen had one drug store at that time and one evening mentioned that if he had \$1500 he would buy another store nearby. Mr. Tyson said that if Mr. Walgreen wanted the store, he had the \$1500 and that was in essence the beginning of Walgreen Drug Company.

Mr. Tyson kept his job shop for some years and later became treasurer of the drug company. In 1926, Illinois passed a law that said, in order to be an officer in a drug company, you must be a pharmacist. Although out of that job, he kept his office in Chicago and took charge of the company's insurance.

In 1926, Uncle Jim as he wanted to be known, made a trust fund of 18,000 shares of Walgreen stock. It was to be administered by the trustees of the Versailles Methodist Church, many of them personal friends.

In the trust agreement, it was stipulated first, that a new Methodist Church be built, to the glory of God and in memory of his mother, Eliza Adams Tyson. His mother was a charter member of the Versailles Church when it was organized in 1834.

The trust stated that it was "with the purpose of founding and endowing in perpetuity a trust to be known as Tyson Fund, for promoting religious, educational, literary and social advancement among the residents of Versailles and community and in particular for the purpose of building and maintaining therein a church, library, waterworks, or other public institutions."

Mr. Tyson spent many happy hours with close friends in Versailles, and was more at home here than he was in Chicago. It must be said that while Uncle Jim's primary interest in Versailles, was his family ties, that interest was honed to a sharp edge through association with his friends in this community.

Uncle Jim made several trips around the world, and his taste in church architecture was reflected in the design of Tyson Temple. He knew what he wanted and saw that his wishes were carried out.

The church itself cost \$150,000. Today it is insured for over a million dollars. He paid 55% of the cost of the \$225,000 waterworks, with government funds the remainder. \$140,000 was also put into the Versailles school. This plus the Tyson Library which cost \$50,000. The library and church were endowed for \$5,000 a year each from earnings from the trust. The date 1929.

There was \$50,000 worth of aluminum in the building. There are no nails in the building, and the timber used in the wood furniture and fixtures are of solid oak, build in Batesville, of native timber. The glass windows he had imported from Europe. The blue ceiling bore the constellation of stars with gold leafing covering an arch above the choir. A tunnel connected the church basement with the parsonage.

To speak personally of Mr. Tyson, he knew both poverty and wealth. The simple things seemed to affect him more than the things his money could buy. He traveled with a cardboard suitcase bought from a Walgreen store and enjoyed sharing conversation with friends.

A private printing type case was kept at Versailles Republican newspaper for Uncle Jim and after visits to other places he would hand set his own stories which were published in the local newspaper.

Mr. Tyson died on November 1, 1941, in Chicago at the age of 85 and is buried in Cliff Hill Cemetery. His grave marker is a gift from his many friends: "In loving memory of Uncle Jim", a gift he would have loved. Mr. Tyson never married.

Tyson Temple

Rev. William F. Walters, father of Mrs. Marguerite Abdon, a present member of this church, served as pastor of this congregation during the construction period of Tyson Temple. He was here during the church's centennial celebration on Dec. 9, 1934, and was the first pastor to serve for five consecutive years.

(Taken from Ripley Co. IN History Book Pg. 102—Middle of Page, Above and Below
James H. Tyson's Picture)

Tyson: William Tyson was a local school teacher and businessman. On September 14, 1856, William and Eliza Tyson became the parents of James, born in the old brick house on lot # 3 on the east side of the square. James learned the printing trade on the Ripley Index, later he worked on the Denver Post and Chicago papers. While in Chicago he became associated with Charles Walgreen, working as treasurer for the growing Drug Store chain. In his later years, wishing to honor his hometown, Uncle Jim, as he was called, built a church in memory of his mother, Eliza, who was a charter member of the Versailles Methodist Church. Tyson wished the new church to have a steel and aluminum spire and not to contain wood. The design is very different. He also built the library and gave money for a modern water and sewage plant, also a new school auditorium. He donated 18,000 shares of Walgreen Drug stock and established a special Tyson fund; the dividends are to be used on ten projects yearly for the betterment of the town. James H. Tyson died November 1, 1941 and is buried in the Versailles Cemetery beside his parents.

Historical Sketch of the Versailles Methodist Episcopal Church 1834-1834

(By Mrs. Charles S. Royce - printed in the Versailles Republican Dec. 13, 1901)

It is quite a coincidence that the first Versailles Methodist Episcopal Church year centennial falls at the time of the sesquicentennial celebration of Methodism in the United States. It is significant and interesting to note the fact, too, that this church is only 50 years younger than her first preacher sent here in 1834 by the Indiana Conference.

One hundred years ago the Methodist churches and her preachers, in these early pioneer times, had many hardships with which to contend and many obstacles to overcome, for the state itself was in its infancy, was sparsely settled, and roads were very poor.

In the records of these early conferences, we notice the large number of men who were refused admittance, giving no reason but adding the statement that the presiding elder had the power to employ them if necessary. It was harder for a married man to secure a pastorate in these days on account of the difficulties they would encounter in moving and in traveling about from place to place, as several churches were included in one circuit.

It was an inexorable rule of the church then, that no man, whatever his age, should marry until he had traveled four years. This rule probably was a wise one when it was adopted but as the frontier days passed, the enforcement of it worked an injustice to the candidates for the ministry and a loss to the churches quite often, of many capable preachers.

Another early rule, which made the marriage of the young itinerant very difficult, was the one requiring the minister to consult his brethren on the subject, before he ever mentioned a word of love or marriage to the young lady of his choice. This ruling was made, of course, to ensure a suitable marriage for their preachers. So it became the custom for the preachers to consult the presiding elder upon this momentous question.

A story is told of one young lady, in the early 30's who had favorably impressed three young itinerants, and each determined to consult the presiding elder at the first possible opportunity. So it happened that all three attended the same camp meeting with the same determination, to consult the elder, neither one knowing of the other's intention. The first one to obtain an interview with the presiding elder, told him, that he had been making the matter a subject of prayer and that the Lord had indicated that he should marry. The elder inquired who the happy young lady was, and when told, stated that she was a fine girl and would make any man a splendid wife. Soon afterwards preacher number two drew the elder aside and made practically the same statement with the same answer and the same endorsement. Then the third preacher approached him for an interview, and this one made a similar statement mentioning the same girl. The presiding elder replied, "Young man, there must be some mistake somewhere. The young lady in question is a fine girl, but you are the third man today who has said that the Lord had indicated her for his wife. Somebody must have misunderstood the Lord."

The reading of the appointments in these early days was a time of intense excitement, for no one had an inkling, as they do today, of where he was to be sent. All preachers were anxious to know, not what the quality or merit of the appointment was, but how far they would have to move, in these pioneer times. And such were some of the existing conditions when this Versailles church was established.

The first Methodist Episcopal church Indiana conference, which included the entire area of the state, met at New Albany in October of 1832. And according to the history of the church, "If any single period in the history of Methodism stands out more conspicuously than any other, it is the period from 1832-1844, the years of the life of the old Indiana conference." These are notable years because of the outstanding leadership of such men as William Allen Wiley, James Ravens, Matthew Simpson and Edward R. Ames, who were in their prime then, and also of conspicuous progress of the church throughout the state.

At the first conference in 1832, which included the entire state, there was a membership of 32 preachers, with five districts and a church membership of 19,853. At the close of this period in 1844, in the 12 years time, there were 208 preachers, 16 districts and a church membership of 87,110. And to illustrate the growth of Methodism in Indiana in these hundred years - The state is now divided into three conferences, the southern part of the state, comprising a little less than half of the entire area, is known as the Indiana conference. It is divided into seven districts, having 323 pastors and a church membership of 135,642. This conference is bounded on the north by the State Highway 40, on the east by the state of Ohio, on the south by the Ohio River and the Wabash River on the west, which gives an idea of the size of the Indiana conference to which this church belongs.

During these early years of the history of Indiana Methodism, it is interesting to note that the Indiana Asbury university, now DePauw university, was founded, and that it is the second oldest living Methodist college in the old Northwest. In 1856 Greencastle, with a population of 500, presented the largest subscription of \$2500 for the college and the conference accepted their bid and the school was located there. There were several bids presented but Calvin Fletcher, representative of Indianapolis, is said not to have labored hard for the institution, saying that it was not good for a young man to be away from home in so large a city as Indianapolis would be some day.

The present Indiana conference was organized in 1893, and is divided into seven districts each of which is presided over by a district superintendent. Originally these superintendents were called presiding elders and retained that title until the year 1908 when the title was changed and Dr. Charles E. Edwards was the first to bear this title in the Versailles circuit. This circuit was first placed in the Madison district, with Allen Wiley as presiding elder in 1834 and it was at this time that Versailles received her first preacher from the conference. This circuit was transferred in 1841 to the Connersville district when A. Eddy was the elder. In 1843 Versailles became a part of Rising Sun district with James Jones as presiding elder. In 1873 this circuit was again changed, and placed in the Meeres Hill district with kneeh Wood, presiding elder. And Leander T. Froeland was the Superintendent of Seymour district when Versailles was transferred there in 1922.

Since that time the following district superintendents have served in this district: L.T. Froeland, 1922-1924; L.C. Jeffries, 1924-1930; E.L. Hutchens appointed in 1930, who is the present superintendent.

The first Versailles Methodist church building, so far as we have been able to secure any record, was a brick structure, located on the corner lot just west of the present church building. This lot is now owned by Walter H. Smith, and another building erected there is used by him as an undertaking establishment.

On November 20, 1839 Tilford Diskersen, executor of the last will and testament of William Skeen, conveyed and warranted to John Lewis, James D. Stagg, Wm. Griffith and David P. Shook, trustees of the Versailles M. Ch. church, for the sum of \$30.00 the west half of lot 70 in the original plat of the town of Versailles. Said lot was the site of the first Methodist church

Then from the report of the last quarterly conference of the M. Ch. church of Versailles, in 1859, we quote the following: "We, the trustees of the new M. Ch. church of Versailles, beg leave to submit the following report: During the latter part of the winter, feeling the necessity for a more commodious building, steps were taken for the erection of a new M. Ch. Church and \$1397.44 having been subscribed, due notice being given, we met on March 4, 1859, and elected George Shook, Hiram Hyatt, Hezekiah Shook, Jacob Francis, and Thomas Kirtley, trustees; and Henry T. Lippert, D.T. Hunter and James White, building committee. The said committee let the building of said house to James L. Yater for the sum of \$2000."

These trustees purchased from Jacob Roberts in the year 1859, for the sum of \$175 the east half of lot 70 in the town of Versailles, this being the lot on which the present church is located.

dedicated in the year 1860 during the pastorate of John Hogarth Lezier and was the continuous house of worship for this church congregation until May of 1898 when it was destroyed by fire. The walls of this building were left standing almost intact after the fire, and a greater portion of them were used in the construction of the present church. Work was begun immediately to rebuild the church, which was completed and dedicated the latter part of the same year. This was accomplished during the pastorate of A.M. Lowden. While it was being rebuilt all services of this church were conducted in the court room of the Ripley County courthouse.

Versailles Methodist church has had three buildings and three parsonages in the past century. In a report of the trustees of this church dated July 20, 1872, we take the following paragraph: "In obedience to the instructions of the quarterly conference of Versailles M.E. church we have sold and conveyed to James White the old parsonage property and have received the full amount of purchase therefor, the sum of \$350 and have bought from B.F. Spencer lot 103 and south half of lot 106, in the town of Versailles for the sum of \$900." This report was signed by Obed Wilson, E.M. Wesley and H. L. Lipford, trustees. This second parsonage was located on the southeast corner of the present parsonage lot. This old building was razed and rebuilt in 1914 when a seven-room frame dwelling house was built and dedicated on October 18, 1914.

The erection of the parsonage was made possible by the untiring efforts of J.M.D. Huddelson, who was pastor at that time. For the success of this undertaking was due chiefly to his management, as he seemed to be able to surmount all obstacles, and with grit and determination, completed the building at a cost of \$1500, leaving no debt in its erection. During the construction, Rev. Huddelson and his family lived in what is now the C.L. Hyatt building, about a square south of the church. He returned in the winter of 1920-21 and served as principal of the high school.

In the year 1930 this parsonage was moved to the southwest corner of the parsonage lot to give place for the erection of a new modern church which is to be built in the near future and financed by the Tyson Fund. James H. Tyson, a former resident of Versailles, in 1930 made that town a gift consisting of 18,000 shares of Walgreen Drug company stock which was placed in the hands of special trustees from this church and is known as the Tyson Fund. A part of which is now to be used for the erection of a new modern Methodist church in the near future and is to be erected on the southeast corner of the parsonage lot, where the former parsonage stood. We find on the old church records that James H. Tyson was baptized in the Versailles church on September 6, 1868 by the presiding elder William Tyrell. Also at one time he served as secretary of this church school. And besides the above named gift he has made this church numerous other substantial donations, which is evidence that Mr. Tyson revere and loves his old early home church, and is intensely interested in its progress and welfare.

In 1857 the Versailles circuit included the following 14 churches: Versailles, Perseverance, Rybalt's Chapel, Napoleon, Osgood, Ruby Schoolhouse, Porter's, White Hall, Salyer's, Helten, Grishaw, Marion (later known as New Marion), Naylor's and Water Schoolhouse. And Osgood was still in this circuit as late as 1882. Others that have belonged to this circuit are Bethel, Pleasant Hill, Pleasant View (later known as Correct), and Cedar Creek. From a circuit of 14 churches or more Versailles became a station in 1930 when Gladys L. Marsh was the pastor, and now there is but this one church which spells progress and more efficient church activities for this community.

On October 4, 1908, Miss Cera Rahe was converted here and the same year she entered the M.E. Deaconess hospital and Missionary Training school at Cincinnati.

So far as we can learn she was the only missionary ever sent from this church.

The concrete walk in front of this church was laid in the year 1880 when Howard Ake was pastor. And the story is told that he raised the money to finance it by subscription in twenty-four hours. The present envelope system for the church budget was also installed the same year.

Some of the local preachers, licensed by the conference were: Chas. E. Gray, 1857; Wilson Starks, 1872; Abner Reas Toth, 1872; Robert McCoy, 1877; Will S. Meek, 1882; and Wm. C. Henderson, Wm. Young, Wm. Connolly and Thomas Day, all in 1885.

Versailles has had but three pastors who served four years each; A.M. Lowden from 1894 to 1898; Gladys L. Marsh from 1927 to 1931 and Wm. F. Walters who came and is at present serving his fourth year. There were four pastors who served three years each; Chas. J. Lee from 1871 to 1874; George Chabran from 1892 to 1895; J.M. Mondel from 1898 to 1899 and J.M. L. Hudelson from 1912 to 1915, all others serving either one or two years.

Some of the former church school superintendents are Mrs. Emma Parsons, nee Wilson, Dr. J. G. Jones, Charles Avery, Benjamin P. Mc Mackin, Menta Rayce, Charles H. Thompson, Emery Copeland, Harry Rickard, and the very efficient present superintendent, Harry W. Thompson.

The present congregation are now saying as did the congregation in 1889, "We feel the need of a more spacious building." More especially is this true of the church school. The school was divided into primary and adult department this year and when looking about for a room for the primary department, Charles L. Hyatt, of Greensburg, a former member of this church came to the rescue, and through his kindness and generosity that department is occupying the first floor of Mr. Hyatt's building while the second floor is being utilized for a recreation hall for the church, the building furnished gratis by Mr. Hyatt.

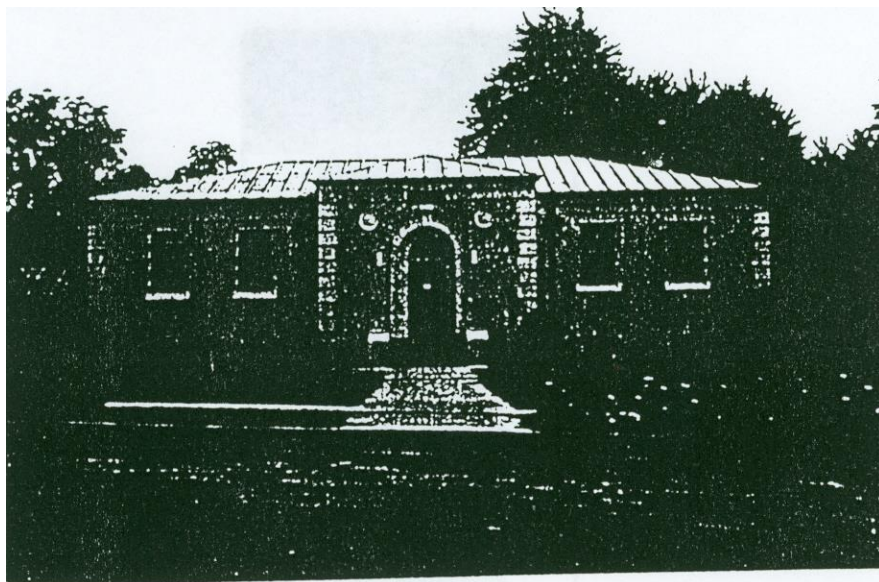
In conclusion, as we come to the end of the centenary of the Versailles Methodist Episcopal church, we know that great progress has been made in this church, her roll now contains 199 names. It is well organized in all departments and all are functioning well, for which Rev. Walters the present pastor is very greatly responsible.

What then of the future of the Versailles Methodist Episcopal church? What will the next century bring forth? That which is so well begun is a challenge flung to the future generations of Methodism in Versailles.

Exhorters; Charles Hull 1854, John Bell 1857, Joseph ... 1857, Wm. Lakin 1858, Wm. ... 1859, ... 1871.



School Building at Versailles, In.



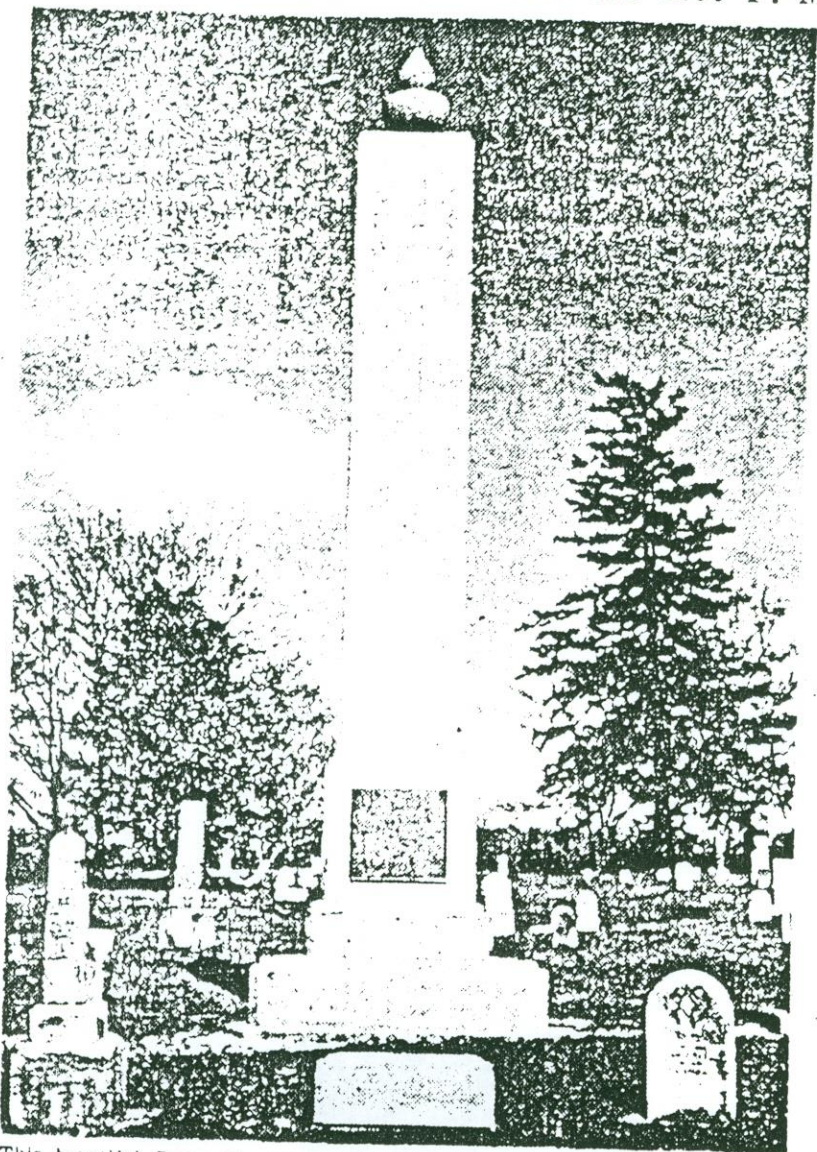
TYSON PUBLIC LIBRARY



JAMES H. TYSON

"UNCLE JIM"

Born 14 September 1856-died 1 November 1941



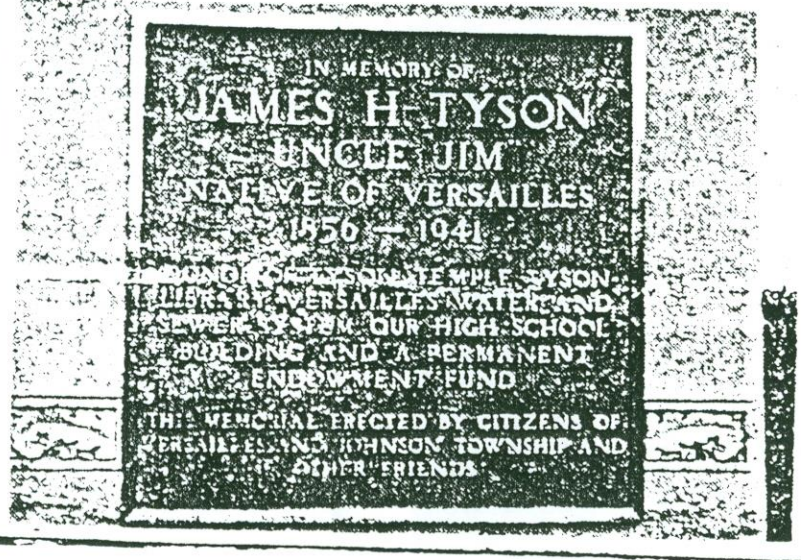
This beautiful Barre Vermont granite monument recently erected at the grave of James H. Tyson in Cliff Hill cemetery, Versailles, will be dedicated on Memorial Day, Sunday, May 30th. The dedicatory service will follow immediately after the regular Memorial Day program which will begin at 2:00 p. m. C. D. S. T.

The monument is a triangular shaped pylon and rises to a height of 21 feet and one inch. It consists of five separate

pieces and has a velvet or unpolished finish. Its plainness and simplicity make it all the more inspiring.

The hundreds of people who have seen it since its erection in March of this year have all been greatly impressed by its majestic beauty. The monument was contracted for over two years ago at a cost of \$3,261. It would cost approximately \$5,000 today to duplicate it.

Below is a close-up of the bronze plaque on the monument.



IN MEMORY OF
JAMES H. TYSON
UNCLE JIM
NATIVE OF VERSAILLES
1856 - 1941
SON OF T. SYSON & EMMA SYSON
LIBERATOR OF VERSAILLES WATER AND
SEWER SYSTEM, OUR HIGH SCHOOL
BUILDING AND A PERMANENT
EMBOWMENT FUND
THIS MONUMENT ERECTED BY CITIZENS OF
VERSAILLES AND JOHNSON TOWNSHIP AND
OTHER FRIENDS

