

GOOD OLD DAYS

Published every month by Tower Press, Inc.,
25 Garden Street, Danvers, Mass. 01923

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Subscription Price, \$4.00 per year
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Second Class Postage Paid at Danvers, Mass.

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VOLUME 5

JANUARY, 1969

NUMBER 8

IN THIS ISSUE

My First Airplane Flight	3, 4
Boys Playing Fort in the Snow	5
RECIPES	6
What! No Guy Lombardo?	7
Memories of Susquehanna River Valley Childhood	10, 11, 60, 61
Our Trip to Indiana	13, 14
WANTED	15, 58
HERE IS YESTERDAY	16, 19
1925 Comic Strip	17
1926 Furniture Ad	18
Reader's Letter	20
First Grade at Work	21
LOOKING HOLLYWOOD WAY	22, 23, 24, 25
Old Time Poems	26, 38, 54
THE PASSING SCENE	28
Sleigh Bells	28
Our Lost Memories	30
From the Photo Album of Hazel M. Eldredge	31
KUAFMAN CARTOON	32, 33
Printing, Wrapping, and Packing Butter for Market	35
Reader's Letter	36
I Remember	42
MEMORIES	44, 46
GENEALOGY	46
Possum Hunting	47
Dan O'Leary Takes the KEELEY CURE	48
I Want to Go "Down Memory Lane"	49
Riding the Rails	50, 51
Freight Cars in Railroad Yard	57

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MEMORIES

WORKING AT OUR SAWMILL

I am past 90 years old and was born March 15, 1878. Do I have a memory? I was born near Salem, Indiana, Washington Co. Lived there until I was about eight years old. Then my father moved over in Jackson Co. We were farmers and rented land when we bought a 100-acre farm for \$250.00. Later we bought forty acres for \$150.00.

I went to school in a one-room building. Our recitation bench was a split-log puncheon. I finished eighth grade when I was 14 years old.

My father had a threshing machine. His first was treadmill power. He had four horses to run it. Next he had a steam engine of the Gar Scott type. It was drawn by horses four abreast. I had an engine and two to the tractor. Later he bought a sawmill. I was the teamster at fifteen years old. I hauled logs and lumber. I drove four horses with one driver. I don't know why, but if there were any business trips to make, he would have sent me.

I had two brothers older than I and two younger at home and one who went west. I had four sisters, and we had children in our family, and we lived in a one-room log house with a kitchen.

I remember father sent me on a two-day trip horseback riding a mare, and on my trip I heard a lot of very much like the exhaust of a steam engine. Shortly, I saw what it was, a gas engine. It was one of the first gasoline engines ever made, and they were demonstrating it. I don't know what it was, for there were no steam boilers to it.

I stopped, tied my horse to a fence, and went up to see it. I found it worked without a boiler for power. So I asked no questions but I thought my way. When I got home I heard all about it, and they all but my father laughed at me. Said I was a fool, which I was, and the boys could tell me that way. Later it came out that it was and I had the laugh on me. Mr. A. W. Phillips, R.R. 4, Ellettsville, Indiana 47424

GOOD-OLD-DAYS

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"The Magazine of Happy Memories"

JANUARY
1969

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