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The Newspaper Press of the Calumet Region, 1836-1933

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Solon Robinson published the first newspaper in the Calumet Region at Lake Court House, later Crown Point, in 1836 or 1837.¹ Robinson owned a small press on which he printed handbills, legal notices, songs, and poems expressing his political and temperance views. Occasionally he published a newspaper variously known as the *Great Western* or *Western Ranger*. Robinson was particularly active in behalf of William Henry Harrison, the Whig candidate for the presidency in 1840, and his songs and poems were distributed to many newspapers in the state. During the campaign he took his printing equipment to the Log Cabin Convention in honor of Harrison at the Tippecanoe Battleground, where he turned out songs and other literature for distribution to the crowd.²

Robinson sold the press and type in 1842 to James S. Castle of Valparaiso. Castle had published the *Michigan City Gazette*, said to have been the first newspaper in Laporte County, from 1835 to 1841. In 1842 Castle started the *Porter County Republican*, the earliest paper in that county, at Valparaiso with Robinson's press. This newspaper, a weekly, was independent in politics while under Castle's direction.³ William M. Harrison purchased the *Porter County Republican* in 1844, changed its name to the *Western Ranger*, and made it a Democratic sheet. In 1847 William C. Talcott, a Free Soil Democrat, bought a half interest in the paper. Valparaiso's *Western Ranger* enjoyed unique distinction because

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¹ The Calumet Region includes the northern portions of Porter and Lake counties. The region is drained by the Little Calumet and Grand Calumet rivers. Robinson founded Crown Point and was instrumental in its becoming the county seat of Lake County. He achieved national prominence as agricultural editor of the *New York Tribune* from 1852 to 1880. Herbert A. Kellar (ed.), *Solon Robinson, Pioneer and Agriculturalist, Selected Writings* (2 vols., Indianapolis, 1936), I, 10, 31.

² Kellar, *Solon Robinson*, I, 19, 136-137.

³ Deborah S. Gay, "The Earliest Authentic History of Porter County, Indiana" (MS in Valparaiso Public Library, [1876]), 15.

abolitionist articles by Talcott and Democratic editorials by Harrison appeared on the same page.⁴ Talcott bought Harrison's interest in 1849, and the paper became the *Practical Observer*. It continued as an abolitionist paper until 1854, when Talcott joined the newly organized Republican party. Weekly and semiweekly editions of the *Practical Observer* were issued until September, 1853, when a daily was published, the first in the region.⁵ R. A. Cameron purchased the *Practical Observer* in 1857 and changed its name to the *Valparaiso Republican*. As such it was the official spokesman of the Republican party in Porter County.⁶ The *Republican* passed into the hands of Thomas McConnell, William C. Talcott, and Henry W. Talcott in 1858. Cameron recovered control of the paper the next year, and the daily edition was discontinued.⁷ In September, 1860, Cameron dropped the last two letters from the paper's name, and it became the *Valparaiso Republic*.

Democratic papers had a difficult time in Porter County for some years after the formation of the Republican party. L. H. Miller started the *Porter County Democrat* at Valparaiso in 1856. The paper, which was later sold to A. Lytle Jones and J. L. Rock, expired shortly after the elections of 1860.⁸ C. C. Morricle established the *Valparaiso Democrat* in 1864, only to see it go the way of many Democratic organs in that part of Indiana during the Civil War. The paper died after a few weeks for lack of patronage.⁹

Cameron, the owner of the *Valparaiso Republic*, joined the Union army in 1861, and E. A. Beebe obtained control of the paper. The former served as corresponding editor and sent home long, spicy letters about his experiences. Beebe was unable to finance the paper, and in 1863 it reverted to Cameron and his wife, Jane E. Cameron. Aaron Gurney became the editor, but its publication was discontinued in December, 1863, when he resigned. Valparaiso had no newspaper until January, 1866, when Cameron returned from the army and revived the *Valparaiso Republic*. G. A. Pierce bought the paper in November, 1866, and immediately sold it

⁴ *Ibid.*, 16; *Valparaiso Vidette and Republic*, December 17, 1868. The major Valparaiso newspapers from 1865 are in the county clerk's office at Valparaiso. A few scattered issues before that date may also be found there.

⁵ *Valparaiso Vidette and Republic*, December 17, 1868.

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ *Crown Point Register*, January 27, 1859, cited in "Old Time News," *Lake County Star* (Crown Point), August 18, 1901; *Valparaiso Republican*, March 31, 1859.

⁸ Hubert M. Skinner, "Complete History of Porter County," *Valparaiso Messenger*, February 26, 1878.

⁹ *Valparaiso Vidette and Republic*, December 17, 1868.

to Aaron Gurney, who had founded the *Porter County Vidette* the previous January. These papers were merged and issued as the *Valparaiso Vidette and Republic*.¹⁰ Pierce immediately founded the *Valparaiso Republican*, which was merged with the *Valparaiso Vidette and Republic*, July, 1868, and issued by Gurney and Pierce. In June, 1869, its name was changed to the *Porter County Vidette*. Five years later William C. Talcott and his son, C. R. Talcott, purchased the *Porter County Vidette*.¹¹

An important development in the history of Porter County journalism occurred in 1871 when German-born Englebert Zimmerman founded the *Valparaiso Messenger*. The *Messenger* was the first successful Democratic newspaper in the Calumet Region. Zimmerman had published the *Columbia City News* from 1860 to 1864, then founded the *Columbia City Post* in 1864, and later worked for the *Fort Wayne Democrat*. When Democratic leaders in Valparaiso persuaded him to move his equipment there, he was the publisher of the *Wyandot Democratic-Union* at Upper Sandusky, Ohio. Zimmerman was an unusually able journalist and under his guidance the *Valparaiso Messenger* became vigorous and prosperous. He supplemented his income by doing printing for the Northern Indiana Normal School, later Valparaiso University. In 1881 Henry Baker Brown, owner of the school, bought a half interest in the *Valparaiso Messenger* but held it for only a short time.¹² Englebert Zimmerman died in 1906, and his son, Arthur E. Zimmerman, was city editor and managing editor of the *Messenger* until his death in 1914. The following year Hinman F. Strother of Pittsfield, Illinois, purchased the *Messenger* from the Zimmerman estate. In 1924 he sold a half interest to Lynn M. Whipple of Niles, Michigan, who gained complete control of the paper the next year.¹³

The *Valparaiso Herald* was started by P. O. Sullivan in 1881. The *Herald* was well edited and popular because of its full coverage of local news but, unable to survive on subscriptions alone, stopped publication in two or three years.¹⁴ James A. McConahy founded the *Valparaiso Star* in 1891, ran it as a daily for two years and then as a weekly until 1898, when

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, November 27, 1866; *Valparaiso Republic*, January 4, 1866.

¹¹ *Porter County Vidette* (Valparaiso), June 10, 1869, and June 4, 1874.

¹² *Vidette-Messenger* (Valparaiso), August 16, 1936. Weston A. Goodspeed and Charles Blanchard (eds.), *The Counties of Porter and Lake, Indiana* (Chicago, 1882), 71.

¹³ *Vidette-Messenger* (Valparaiso), August 16, 1936.

¹⁴ [Harry G. Cutler], *History of Porter County, Indiana* (2 vols., Chicago, 1912), I, 93.

it was merged with the *Porter County Vidette*. The combination was published as the *Valparaiso Star-Vidette* until 1903, when John M. Mavity of Cambridge, Illinois, bought it and dropped the *Star* from its name. The *Valparaiso Vidette* and the *Valparaiso Messenger* were merged and issued as the *Vidette-Messenger* in 1927. Its officials were John M. Mavity, president; Lynn M. Whipple, vice president; and John Earle Mavity, treasurer. In 1929 Whipple bought the interests of the Mavitys, who retired from the local newspaper field.¹⁵ The *Valparaiso Vidette*, the *Valparaiso Messenger*, and the *Vidette-Messenger* were the only successful daily papers in the Porter County section of the region.

Chesterton, located in Westchester Township between Valparaiso and Lake Michigan, was the only other town in the Porter County part of the region to have a successful newspaper. The *Chesterton Tribune*, published by W. W. Mikels, was started on October 28, 1882.¹⁶ During the latter part of 1883 it passed into the hands of a group of Chesterton businessmen headed by John T. Taylor. In June, 1884, Arthur J. Bowser and Samuel D. Watson purchased the paper. Bowser gained complete control of the *Chesterton Tribune* in September, 1884, following which he published and edited it for almost forty years. A native of Valparaiso, Bowser had attended the Northern Indiana Normal School and was one of the editors of the *Porter County Vidette* before coming to Chesterton.¹⁷ He was an able newspaperman who made the *Chesterton Tribune* one of the most widely read weeklies in the region. Bowser kept a sharp eye on local and regional events and developments which were faithfully reported to the *Tribune's* readers. The local news was fully covered in the columns, "Chesterton Chips" and "Porter Pointers," the latter containing news of Porter, Chesterton's sister community.

Although Chesterton and Porter were less than a mile apart, Bowser in July, 1894, demonstrated his faith in the latter's industrial potential by establishing the *Porter Tribune*, which he also edited. But Porter's subsequent development did not justify his hopes, and in April, 1896, Bowser combined his two papers into the *Westchester Tribune*,

¹⁵ *Vidette-Messenger* (Valparaiso), August 16, 1936.

¹⁶ *Chesterton Tribune*, October 28, 1882. There was a statement in the *Chesterton Tribune*, April 8, 1904, that the paper was started in 1881 as an organ of the Greenback party. No evidence has been found that such was the case. The issue of the *Chesterton Tribune*, October 28, 1882, was listed as Volume I, Number 1. The complete files of the *Chesterton Tribune* are located at its office in Chesterton.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, November 14, 1896; *Vidette-Messenger* (Valparaiso), July 17, 1935.

published at Chesterton. Through this step he hoped to provide better services for Chesterton, Porter, Baileytown, and Waverly, all in Westchester Township.¹⁸ The name of the paper again became the *Chesterton Tribune* in November, 1897. In April, 1923, Bowser sold the paper to John G. Graessle, who had been his foreman for almost thirty years. Bowser had too much printer's ink in his veins to remain out of the newspaper field. Early in 1934 he began to edit a column known as "Siftings—Gleaned from Hither and Yon and Now and Then—and Way Back When" for the Valparaiso *Vidette-Messenger*. This interesting column, which he continued until shortly before his death in July, 1935, was devoted largely to local history as recalled by Bowser and by contributors from Porter County.¹⁹ After Graessle's death in 1928 his widow sold the *Chesterton Tribune* to Warren G. Canright, a graduate of Lawrence College at Appleton, Wisconsin, who had operated a printing company in North Chicago, Illinois, for three years after World War I. He was with the *Chicago Tribune* for five years before coming to Chesterton.²⁰

The Lake County portion of the region was without a newspaper for fifteen years after Solon Robinson discontinued his little sheet in 1842. Its population obviously did not justify a journalistic endeavor in those years, for there were only 3,991 persons in the entire county in 1850.²¹ Crown Point, a village of thirty-five dwellings and three stores in 1849,²² was not incorporated as a town until 1868. The *Western Ranger*, later the *Practical Observer*, of Valparaiso devoted space to news of Crown Point and had a large circulation in that vicinity for several years. The success of the *Observer* in Lake County convinced Janna S. Holton, John Wheeler, and Zerah H. Summers, all related by marriage, that a local Republican newspaper was needed at Crown Point. They invested \$300.00 in the purchase of a press and type and established the *Lake County Herald* at the county seat in 1856. Rodney Dunning, a Valparaiso newspaperman, was persuaded by a guarantee of subscriptions equivalent to \$300.00 a year to edit the paper.²³ Dunning proved to be a poor choice to guide the paper; at least its

¹⁸ *Porter Tribune*, July 6, 1894; *Chesterton Tribune*, April 16, 1896.

¹⁹ *Vidette-Messenger* (Valparaiso), July 17, 1935.

²⁰ *Chesterton Tribune*, December 6, 1928.

²¹ *Seventh Census of the United States, 1850*, p. 768.

²² *The Indiana Gazetteer, or Topographical Dictionary of the State of Indiana* (3rd ed.; Indianapolis, 1849, 1850), 202.

²³ William F. Howat (ed.), *A Standard History of Lake County, Indiana, and the Calumet Region* (2 vols., Chicago, 1915), I, 246; Goodspeed and Blanchard, *Counties of Porter and Lake*, 440.

failure after a few months was blamed on what was regarded as his "shiftless unconcern."²⁴ Wheeler and Summers purchased Holton's interest in the *Herald's* equipment and founded the *Crown Point Register* in August, 1857.²⁵

The publishers of the *Crown Point Register* may well be regarded as the fathers of Lake County journalism. Wheeler was born in Connecticut and came to Crown Point in 1847. The next few years he worked as a farmer in the summers and as a teacher during the winters. Wheeler learned surveying from his father in the Kankakee swamps and was elected surveyor of Lake County in 1853. Summers, also a surveyor, had worked on the Cleveland and Toledo Railroad and came to Crown Point in 1854. He was Wheeler's assistant as county surveyor.²⁶

The *Crown Point Register* was the spokesman of the Republican party in Lake County and enjoyed a large circulation from the very beginning. Wheeler and Summers soon discovered, as did many publishers in the early period, that a successful journal needed subscribers who would pay cash in advance for the paper. At the end of the first year of the *Register's* existence they announced that \$800.00 had been "trusted out" and that henceforth the credit system was to be abandoned.²⁷ John Wheeler's newspaper career ended in April, 1861, when he joined the Union army. Summers, who was elected clerk of Lake County in 1859, evidently found the task of publishing a newspaper too arduous, and the *Register* was sold to B. D. Harper and A. E. Beattie in 1862.²⁸

Meanwhile the Democrats had challenged the Republicans by establishing the *Lake County Jeffersonian* at Crown Point in January, 1860. The paper was owned by J. A. Berry and its first editor was B. D. Harper. The latter was soon succeeded by Joseph P. Smith. Smith's connection with the paper immediately brought favors from the Buchanan administration, and he became the local postmaster and was also made census-taker for the county for 1860.²⁹ The

²⁴ Goodspeed and Blanchard, *Counties of Porter and Lake*, 440.

²⁵ *Valparaiso Republican*, August 11, 1857.

²⁶ Timothy H. Ball, *Encyclopedia of Genealogy and Biography of Lake County, Indiana, with a Compendium of History, 1834-1904* (Chicago, 1904), 577; Howat, *Lake County, Indiana, and the Calumet Region*, I, 246.

²⁷ *Crown Point Register*, July 29, 1858, cited in "Old Time News," *Lake County Star* (Crown Point), July 7, 1901. Most of the issues of the *Lake County Star* and the *Crown Point Register* since 1881 are on microfilm in the Gary Public Library.

²⁸ Goodspeed and Blanchard, *Counties of Porter and Lake*, 441. Colonel John Wheeler was killed at the battle of Gettysburg, July 2, 1863.

²⁹ *Crown Point Register*, February 9, 1861, cited in "Old Time News," *Lake County Star* (Crown Point), November 24, 1911.

strength demonstrated by the Republicans in the elections of 1860 was proof that a Democratic paper could not be published successfully at Crown Point, at least at that time. In April, 1861, the *Jeffersonian's* plant was sold to two tramp printers, Charles Alvord and one Desmond, who immediately sold it to a third party whose identity was never discovered. Alvord and Desmond hurriedly left Crown Point owing the original proprietors of the paper \$600.00 of the purchase price. The presses and type mysteriously disappeared one night from the old Chapman Hotel on the west side of the public square, where the paper had been printed; "not a track was left for a trail to show which way it had gone."³⁰

The arrival of the first railroad in 1865 immediately increased the population of Crown Point and that part of the county through which it passed. The boom that followed was characterized by increased activity in the local newspaper field. Harper and Beattie published the *Crown Point Register* from 1862 to 1866, when Samuel E. Ball purchased Harper's interest. The following year Ball sold out to Frank S. Bedell, a veteran newspaperman formerly with the *Dubuque (Iowa) Daily Times* and the *Detroit Free Press*.³¹ Bedell became the *Register's* sole owner when Beattie died in 1869 but sold an interest in the paper to C. W. Ainsworth in 1875. H. M. Ingrim started the *Crown Point Herald* in 1872 to support Horace Greeley for president in that year's election. Timothy Cleveland purchased the *Herald* in October, 1872, but sold it to James J. Miller and John F. Rowins in November, 1873. Although the plant was immediately destroyed by fire, new equipment was installed and the *Crown Point Herald* was continued. Miller bought Rowins' interest in January, 1875, and in December of that year sold the paper to Bedell and Ainsworth, who merged it with the *Crown Point Register*. The following year John J. Wheeler purchased Ainsworth's interest in the paper. Wheeler disposed of his share in the *Register* to John Millikan in 1880.³²

Millikan was one of the most experienced as well as one of the ablest of the many editors at Crown Point in this period. He had been connected with the *South Bend Free Press* from 1837 to 1845, when he moved to La Porte and purchased the *La Porte Whig*, which became the *La Porte Union* in 1852. Millikan went to Plymouth, Indiana, in 1871

³⁰ *Crown Point Register*, April 4, 1861, in "Old Time News," *Lake County Star*, September 26, 1911.

³¹ *Crown Point Register*, October 14, 1902.

³² Goodspeed and Blanchard, *Counties of Porter and Lake*, 441-442; Thomas H. Cannon, H. H. Loring, and Charles J. Robb (eds.), *History of the Lake and Calumet Region of Indiana* (2 vols., Indianapolis, 1927), I, 372-373.

and bought the *Plymouth Republican*. He came to Crown Point in 1877 and established the *Crown Point Cosmos*, an unusually interesting paper. Much of the material in the *Cosmos* reportedly came from La Porte. Millikan discontinued the paper after three years to do active work on the *Crown Point Register*.³³ In 1882 Millikan bought Bedell's interest in the *Register* and became its sole owner. The paper prospered under his guidance and was a strong influence in behalf of the Republican party in Lake County. Millikan sold the *Crown Point Register* to Allison A. Bibler in 1891 and retired from newspaper work.³⁴ Bibler, who had worked on the *Chesterton Tribune* before coming to Crown Point, published the paper for seven years and then sold it to Charles J. Davidson. He recovered control of the *Crown Point Register* in 1914 and ran the paper until his death in 1941.³⁵

The position of the Wheeler family as the first family of Crown Point journalism was largely due to John J. Wheeler, the able son of John Wheeler, one of the founders of the *Crown Point Register*. John J. Wheeler married Belle Holton, a granddaughter of Solon Robinson. His first journalistic effort was the publication of the *Young Hoosier* for about five months in 1875 at Crown Point.³⁶ In October, 1880, Wheeler bought the *Crown Point Herald*, a Democratic paper founded in 1878, from John Griswold and began the publication of the *Lake County Star*, a Republican organ.³⁷ From its very beginning, the *Star* was probably the strongest weekly in Lake County. In 1904 it was said that the paper had the best equipment and the largest circulation in northwestern Indiana. John J. Wheeler died in 1917. The *Lake County Star* came under the control of his son, Fred Young Wheeler, who had been schooled in the newspaper business by his father since he was seventeen years old.³⁸

The Crown Point *Freie Presse* was one of the best edited and most influential of the German-language newspapers in the Calumet Region. It began in 1874 and was originally owned by John Lehmann, John H. Meyers, and John J. Wheeler. Lehmann, who was born in Switzerland, became sole owner of the paper after a short time and converted it into a Democratic organ. The *Freie Presse* had a large circulation

³³ Howat, *Lake County, Indiana, and the Calumet Region*, I, 248; Goodspeed and Blanchard, *Counties of Porter and Lake*, 442; Timothy H. Ball, *Northwestern Indiana from 1800-1900* (Crown Point, 1900), 535.

³⁴ Ball, *Northwestern Indiana*, 535.

³⁵ *Gary Post-Tribune*, March 7, 1941.

³⁶ Goodspeed and Blanchard, *Counties of Porter and Lake*, 442.

³⁷ Cannon, Loring, and Robb, *Lake and Calumet Region*, I, 373.

³⁸ *Ibid.*; Ball, *Encyclopedia of Genealogy and Biography*, 577.

among the Germans of the county, many of whom could not read English. In 1900 Henry Barck was the editor of the paper.³⁹ No evidence was found to indicate when the *Freie Presse* was discontinued, but there was little need for German-language newspapers among the second generation of Germans.

Hobart, one of the small communities in the region, was more than adequately served by newspapers in the early years. The *Hobart Journal*, founded by Paul J. Kelley in 1877, was the town's earliest newspaper. The *Journal* was absorbed by the *Hammond Western Indiana Tribune*, later the *Hammond Tribune*, when that paper was established in 1880. As the *Hobart Tribune*, a Republican paper, it was printed in Hammond and issued as late as 1889.⁴⁰ Porter B. Towle of Hammond, a brother of Marcus M. Towle, the founder of that city, started the *Hobart Transcript* in 1882. Towle published the *Transcript*, which was also printed in Hammond, for only a short time.⁴¹ The *Hobart Gazette* was founded in 1889 by George Narpass and George Bender. Andrew J. Smith purchased the paper in 1890 and two years later sold a half interest to Nevin B. White. Smith being a Democrat and White a Republican, the *Hobart Gazette* was published as an independent paper.⁴² The *Hobart News*, a Republican paper, was started in 1907 by A. A. Keelor. It came into the possession of A. L. Pattee in 1912.⁴³

Newspapers started slowly in Hammond. Most of the original settlers in that area were Germans. Their numbers increased when the George H. Hammond Packing Company, established in 1869, showed a preference for German butchers and sausage-makers. As a large number came directly from the old country and could not read English, German-language newspapers from Chicago and Milwaukee had a large circulation in the community. English-language papers did not do well there until the second generation of Germans matured and until native-born workers from nearby states found employment in other industries. Crown Point and Hobart papers circulated in Hammond among people who had originated in those communities.⁴⁴ Hammond remained an unincorporated town until 1883, and the lack of political

³⁹ Goodspeed and Blanchard, *Counties of Porter and Lake*, 443; Ball, *Northwestern Indiana*, 534.

⁴⁰ *East Chicago Journal*, October 15, 1889.

⁴¹ Goodspeed and Blanchard, *Counties of Porter and Lake*, 443; Cannon, Loring, and Robb, *Lake and Calumet Region*, I, 373.

⁴² *Hobart Gazette*, souvenir edition, May, 1898.

⁴³ Cannon, Loring, and Robb, *Lake and Calumet Region*, I, 375.

⁴⁴ *Hammond Times*, June 17, 1951.

activity there until that time made the community a less attractive place for newspapers.

Porter B. Towle founded the *Western Indiana Tribune*, a Republican paper, at Hammond in December, 1880. The paper was sold to Alfred A. Winslow in July, 1881, under whom it became the *Hammond Tribune*. The *Tribune* ran as a weekly until 1883 when Winslow commenced the first daily in Lake County.⁴⁵ Winslow may rightfully be called the father of the English-language press in Hammond. The success of the *Hammond Tribune* was due largely to its support of Marcus M. Towle, mayor of Hammond from 1884 to 1888. The paper's mission was largely political and it was said that it "went strong during campaign years and slumped terribly between fights."⁴⁶ Winslow sold the *Tribune* in 1893 to W. J. Maxwell when he entered the consular service of the United States.⁴⁷

The *Hammond Tribune* changed hands frequently after Winslow left the city. Thomas J. Hyman of Chicago bought the paper in 1894 and sold it to James G. and Henry Davidson of Whiting, who in turn disposed of it to Allison A. Bibler, the publisher of the *Crown Point Register*.⁴⁸ Winslow returned to Hammond newspaper circles for a short time when he purchased the *Tribune* from Bibler in July, 1904. But in September, 1905, Winslow sold the paper back to Bibler, who immediately disposed of it to a syndicate of local men headed by Ralph B. Bradford.⁴⁹

James B. Woods, postmaster and also city clerk, founded the *Hammond Independent* in 1888 to support Thomas Hammond for mayor against the incumbent, Marcus M. Towle, in the elections of that year. Hammond's victory apparently convinced Woods that the *Hammond Independent* had achieved its objective and the paper was discontinued.⁵⁰ In 1890 Mr. and Mrs. Silas E. Swaim started the *Lake County News*, a Democratic paper, in Hammond. Swaim ranks with Winslow as one of the brightest figures in Hammond's journalistic history. The Democratic party's ability to compete on fairly equal terms with the Republicans in the city was due largely to Swaim's paper. In 1891 Swaim bought the

⁴⁵ *Lake County Times* (Hammond), July 21, 1906; Goodspeed and Blanchard, *Counties of Porter and Lake*, 443.

⁴⁶ *Hammond Times*, June 17, 1951.

⁴⁷ *Chesterton Tribune*, August 11, 1893. Winslow held posts in Belgium, Guatemala, Chile, New Zealand, South Africa, and Canada. Cannon, Loring, and Robb, *Lake and Calumet Region*, II, 70, incorrectly give 1896 as the date of sale.

⁴⁸ *Lake County Times* (Hammond), July 21, 1906.

⁴⁹ *Chesterton Tribune*, September 28, 1905.

⁵⁰ Howat, *Lake County, Indiana, and the Calumet Region*, I, 249-250.

Hammond Standard, which had been started as the *Hammond Echo* by Marcus M. Towle and Charles A. Cleveland in 1889 or 1890. This was a Republican paper which was published and edited by Elmer E. Ragon and Charles A. Cleveland.⁵¹ Swaim merged the *Standard* with the *Lake County News* under the name of the *Hammond Daily News*. The reputation and influence of the *News* were enhanced when Percy A. Parry became its editor, but the paper suffered an almost crippling blow when Parry went to the *Lake County Times* in 1906.⁵² The *News* was unable to compete successfully with the more wealthy *Lake County Times* and was discontinued in the early twenties.

Armanis F. Knotts founded the *Calumet Journal*, a Populist newspaper, at Hammond in 1891.⁵³ This paper, edited by his brother, Thomas E. Knotts, was particularly active in the support of labor during the Pullman and railroad strikes in 1894. Thomas E. Knotts encouraged the strikers and their sympathizers to defy a federal injunction which ordered them to refrain from interfering with trains as they passed through Hammond to and from Chicago. He was arrested for contempt of court and taken to Indianapolis, where he was released on his own recognition. Knotts was never brought to trial.⁵⁴ The *Calumet Journal* was discontinued shortly after the strike when Thomas E. Knotts joined the Hammond police force and because business and legal affairs occupied the time of Armanis F. Knotts.

Porter B. Towle, who had founded the *Western Indiana Tribune* in 1880, continued active in Hammond newspaper circles. In 1891 he founded the *Hammond Leader*, a daily, and published it until 1899. In 1900 Towle was listed as the publisher of the *Hammond Daily Republican*, which was apparently the *Hammond Leader* under a new name.⁵⁵ This paper was in existence early in 1903 but the date of its death is uncertain.⁵⁶ The *Deutsche Volks-Zeitung*, a German-language newspaper, was started in Hammond in 1891.⁵⁷

⁵¹*Ibid.*, II, 827-828; *Chesterton Tribune*, January 22 and May 22, 1891.

⁵²*Hammond Times*, June 17, 1951.

⁵³Frank E. Geros (ed.) *Hammond City Directory, 1891-1892* (Hammond, 1891), 23. Armanis F. Knotts was mayor of Hammond from 1902 to 1904. Thomas E. Knotts was the first and only president of the town board of Gary, 1906-1909, and was the first mayor of that city, 1909-1913.

⁵⁴*Chicago Tribune*, July 2, 1894; Thomas H. Cannon, "Tom Knotts, Mayor and Man," *Gary Evening Post*, March 26, 1921.

⁵⁵Geros, *Hammond City Directory, 1891-1892*, p. 23; *Chesterton Tribune*, March 18, 1899; Ball, *Northwestern Indiana*, 534.

⁵⁶The *Hammond Times*, June 17, 1951, published items from the *Hammond Daily Republican* issued the day after Armanis F. Knotts was inaugurated mayor of Hammond. Knotts was elected in November, 1902, and took office around January 1, 1903.

⁵⁷Geros, *Hammond City Directory, 1891-1892*, p. 23.

Wilhelm Schnett was listed as its publisher in 1900.⁵⁸ The paper must have died during the next few years, for it was not listed in the Hammond city directory for 1911.⁵⁹ The *Nord-Indiana Post*, also a German-language sheet, was started in Hammond on August 29, 1914, which was the opening day of the Indiana State Convention of the German-American National Union in that city.⁶⁰ The date of the demise of this paper is uncertain.

The purchase of the *Hammond Tribune* in 1906 by Sidmon McHie, a wealthy Chicago grain and stockbroker, marked the beginning of a new era in the newspaper history of the region. Until that time most of the publishers in the area had been men of limited means and their papers, on the whole, led a hand-to-mouth existence. McHie possessed the business genius, energy, and capital to publish a newspaper on a scale never before attempted in the Calumet Region. He had already demonstrated his confidence that Hammond was destined to be an important industrial city by building both the Hammond Building, at Hohman and Fayette streets, and the Hammond grain elevator, and by making heavy investments in local real estate. The capitalist reasoned that a good newspaper was needed to advertise the city and that in time such a project would also be profitable.⁶¹

McHie changed the name of the *Hammond Tribune* to the *Lake County Times*, a step which indicated that he did not intend to limit its circulation to Hammond alone. The first issue of the *Times*, a Republican paper, was published June 18, 1906. The proprietor brought his brothers into the publishing organization, William A. McHie as president and Richard A. McHie as secretary.⁶² Matthew P. Ludwig and Ralph B. Bradford, who had been connected with the old *Hammond Tribune*, were retained. Sidmon McHie persuaded Hugh E. Keough, a Chicago newspaperman, to edit the paper for a time.⁶³ Percy A. Parry, as has already been noted, succeeded Keough as editor and guided the paper for about thirty years. The *Hammond Tribune* had a daily circulation of only 137 when McHie bought it, while that of the *Lake County Times* immediately jumped to five thousand and within a short time a high pressure campaign increased it to ten thousand, though most of its circulation was free.⁶⁴

⁵⁸ Ball, *Northwestern Indiana*, 534.

⁵⁹ See Edgar Smith (ed.), *Directory of Hammond, 1911* (Gary, 1910), 9.

⁶⁰ *Lake County Times* (Hammond), August 29, 1914.

⁶¹ *Hammond Times*, June 17, 1951.

⁶² *Lake County Times* (Hammond), June 18, 1906. The complete files of the *Lake County Times* and of the *Hammond Times* are on microfilm at the Hammond Public Library.

⁶³ Keough was later famed for his column, "The Wake of the News," in the *Chicago Tribune*.

⁶⁴ *Hammond Times*, June 17, 1951.

The McHies invaded Gary in June, 1906, a few weeks before that community was incorporated. An edition of the *Lake County Times*, called the *Gary Evening Times*, was compiled and edited in a tar paper shack among Gary's sand hills by C. Oliver Holmes. Holmes, the first town clerk of Gary and a member of its first school board, had formerly lived in Hammond. The *Gary Evening Times* was printed in the *Lake County Times*' plant in Hammond.⁶⁵ This was Gary's first daily newspaper. The publishers of the locally owned papers, particularly the *Gary Evening Post*, a Democratic paper, resented this invasion of what they considered to be their private domain. The feud between the McHies and the *Evening Post* lasted while Thomas E. Knotts was president of the town board and mayor of Gary from 1906 to 1913. On more than one occasion the *Evening Post*, in which Knotts had an interest, accused the McHies of being hostile to Knotts and to Gary in general.⁶⁶ Such able newspapermen as Roy G. Parry, Alfred Jones, Elmer Ragon, and Leslie J. Parry edited the *Gary Evening Times*. This Gary edition of the *Lake County Times* was discontinued in August, 1933.⁶⁷

The territory of the *Lake County Times* also included East Chicago, Whiting, and Calumet City, the latter just across the Illinois state line from Hammond. For many years it published the *Calumet City Times* and the *Whiting Times*; the edition devoted to the "Twin City," East Chicago and Indiana Harbor, bore the name *East Chicago—The Times—Indiana Harbor* on the front page. Each of these seemed to the uninitiated to be locally owned newspapers, but actually there was little difference in the various editions except for the name of the paper and some variation in local news. This arrangement apparently proved too expensive during the depression, and on August 28, 1933, the *Lake County Times* became the *Hammond Times*. As such, special editions were issued to the neighboring cities although there was little difference in any of them.

The competition provided by the *Lake County Times* discouraged the publication of daily papers in the neighboring cities with the exception of Gary. Hammond's population was 64,560 and that of East Chicago was 54,784 in 1930.⁶⁸ It is doubtful whether any other city in the nation of East Chi-

⁶⁵ Howat, *Lake County, Indiana, and the Calumet Region*, I, 252-253, 384.

⁶⁶ *Gary Evening Post*, September 29, 1911.

⁶⁷ *Hammond Times*, August 28, 1933.

⁶⁸ *Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930, Population*, III, Part I, 700-701.

cago's size was without a locally published daily paper at that time. The situation in regard to the newspaper, along with the fact that Hammond, East Chicago, Whiting, and Calumet City were all served by the same traction system, favored the retail merchants of Hammond and harmed those in the other cities. It cost a resident of East Chicago no more to go to Hammond than to the local business section; consequently, people were drawn to Hammond to shop by its merchants' advertisements in the *Lake County Times*. As a result, Hammond became a city of large department stores while small retail outlets predominated in East Chicago.

Whiting was a fertile field for weekly newspapers from its early years. The city dates from 1889 when the Standard Oil Company started the construction of its refinery there. Its population was 3,983 in 1900 and 10,880 in 1930.⁶⁹ Although Whiting's population was small compared with neighboring cities, the community was from its inception the most prosperous and stable in the region. The refinery, around which the city was built, provided steady employment for its workers in periods of depression as well as in boom times. The reading public of Whiting was unusually numerous for a city of its size because the refinery employed a larger number of skilled workers than did most industries.

Whiting's earliest newspaper was founded about a year after the construction of the refinery began. In November, 1890, David A. Holman, pastor of the Plymouth Congregational Church, started the *Congregationalist* for circulation among the members of his flock. The publication was so well received that Holman expanded its scope and in January, 1891, changed its name to the *Whiting News*. As such, it was the purveyor of local news and gossip. When ministerial duties called him elsewhere, Holman sold the paper to James G. Davidson, a young real estate dealer who intended to use it to advertise his business. The new publisher made a big splurge and printed ten thousand copies each week to circulate in a Whiting that then boasted less than three thousand people. The magnitude of these operations was such a drain on the young realtor's pocketbook that he sold the *News* to his brother, Henry S. Davidson, in June, 1891.⁷⁰

The *Whiting Standard* was started in 1892 with Edwin S. Gilbert as publisher and Edward A. Gowe as editor, but

⁶⁹ *Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900, Population, I, 139; Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930, Population, III, Part I, 702.*

⁷⁰ *Whiting Call*, souvenir edition, October, 1910. Most of the Whiting newspapers since 1892 are on file at the Whiting Public Library.

after a short time it was sold to Henry S. Davidson, who merged it with the *Whiting News*, a Republican paper.⁷¹ Whiting was isolated for a time in 1894 by the Pullman strike. The trains stopped running and with them the flow of food and other necessities into the community. Publisher Davidson's ingenuity was put to a test during this crisis. His supply of newsprint being exhausted, one issue of the *Whiting News* was printed on the back of ordinary wall paper.⁷² Henry S. Davidson's interest in the *News* waned, and in 1895 he resold it to his brother, James G. From 1895 to 1900 the paper led an erratic existence, and it was said that if the editor had any other duty to perform on print day the paper simply did not appear.⁷³ James G. Davidson had a talent for writing, and his pungent articles published under the name of "Pocahontas" were a popular feature of the *News*. In 1900 he sold the paper to Edwin S. Gilbert, a former East Chicago newspaperman. Then in 1904 Edwin H. Farr leased the paper, but a disagreement between him and Gilbert over its political policies led Farr to establish the *Whiting Call*, beginning June, 1906. Gilbert soon discontinued the *Whiting News*.⁷⁴

In 1892 U. G. Swartz, an employe of the Standard Oil Company, founded the *Whiting Democrat* and installed modern equipment. Swartz, an able man, was prominent in Whiting's affairs for many years. His appointment as postmaster of Whiting and a subsequent promotion at the refinery made it necessary for him to dispose of the paper. On January 1, 1897, it was sold to William E. Ingham, publisher of the *East Chicago Gazette*. Ingham named the paper the *Whiting Sun* and made it Republican in politics.⁷⁵ Cecil Ingham became editor for the paper when his brother died in June, 1898. Four years later Brooks B. Bowman bought the *Sun* and published it until 1904, when he sold it to Frank S. Vance, whose wife was an excellent printer; he published the paper with success and profit. Under his direction the *Sun* was known as the "Official Paper of the City."⁷⁶ The *Sun* passed into the hands of William A. Hickey, a "Jeffersonian Democrat," in September, 1908, and he published it until the presidential election of that year.⁷⁷ Toward the end of 1908 Edwin

⁷¹ Howat, *Lake County, Indiana, and the Calumet Region*, I, 250-251.

⁷² *Whiting News*, July 13, 1894.

⁷³ *Whiting Call*, souvenir edition, October, 1910.

⁷⁴ *Whiting Times*, historical edition, August 4, 1939.

⁷⁵ *Whiting Sun*, January 1, 1897.

⁷⁶ Howat, *Lake County, Indiana, and the Calumet Region*, I, 251; *Whiting Call*, souvenir edition, October, 1910.

⁷⁷ *Whiting Sun*, September 26, 1908.

S. Farr bought the *Sun* and merged it with the *Whiting Call*. Farr published the paper as the *Whiting Call-Sun* for a few months in 1909 and then renamed it the *Whiting Call*.⁷⁸

Farr had edited the *Farmer's Advocate* in Moline, New York, and had had many years of newspaper experience in Chicago before coming to Whiting. He was among the ablest of Whiting's editors and under his direction the *Call* was a very interesting and widely read weekly. The paper was strictly Republican except in 1912, when the editor supported the Progressive or "Bull Moose" ticket. In 1917 James J. Griffith, who had been foreman of the *Twin City Sentinel* in East Chicago from 1912 to 1915, became part owner of the *Whiting Call*. Griffith's journalistic career was interrupted by service in the army during World War I. In 1920 the owners of the Ben Franklin Press, a successful job printing firm, took over the *Whiting Call*. The paper was converted into a daily in 1926 with James G. Griffith as editor, and its name was changed to the *Whiting Daily Times*. It took only a year to convince the publishers that Whiting was not the place for a daily paper and the *Times* reverted to its weekly status. Late in 1926 Griffith became the sole owner of the Ben Franklin Press. The newspaper was published for a time as the *Ben Franklin News* and then under its former name of the *Whiting Times*.⁷⁹

There were fewer newspapers in East Chicago than in any other of the larger cities of the region. Its first, the *East Chicago Journal*, owned and published by Joseph Hirsch, appeared on March 30, 1889, about a month before the young community was incorporated as a town. The paper was apparently printed in Hammond. Hirsch published the *Journal* until October, 1889, when he sold it to the Calumet Printing and Publishing Company of Hammond, the reputed owner of the *Hammond Tribune* and the *Hobart Tribune*.⁸⁰ No record was found that the *Journal* was published after Hirsch disposed of it.

In 1891 Edwin S. Gilbert founded the *East Chicago Globe*, the first newspaper to be printed in the town itself. Gilbert published the paper, a Republican weekly, until August, 1899, when it was purchased by Allison P. Brown.⁸¹ Brown, one of the city's ablest journalists, edited the *Globe*

⁷⁸ *Whiting Call*, August 6, 1909; *Whiting Call*, souvenir edition, October, 1910.

⁷⁹ *Whiting Times*, historical edition, August 4, 1939.

⁸⁰ *East Chicago Journal*, October 15, 1889. The issues of the *Journal* are in the East Chicago Public Library.

⁸¹ Ball, *Encyclopedia of Genealogy and Biography*, 542. Magenta D. Kennedy, "Facts Concerning East Chicago," *History of Lake County* (Crown Point, 1934), XI, 95.

for about thirty-five years; during all that time the paper remained a weekly and in politics was generally Republican. As was noted earlier, Gilbert purchased the *Whiting News* in 1900. From that year until about 1904, he published at his Whiting plant an edition known as the *Indiana Harbor News*. Gilbert's newspaper work brought about his appointment as first postmaster of Indiana Harbor in 1902.⁸²

The development of the Indiana Harbor section of East Chicago dates from 1901, when the Inland Steel Company began to build its plant along the shore of Lake Michigan. The *Lake County Directory, 1909*, reported the existence of the *Harbor Sentinel*, established in 1902 and edited by William W. Moberly.⁸³ This was probably the first paper published and printed in that part of East Chicago. Evidence is lacking to indicate how long Moberly conducted the *Harbor Sentinel*. By 1913 the *Twin City Sentinel*, published by Harry M. Dill, was being circulated in East Chicago, probably as the successor of Moberly's paper. Dill also had the agency for the circulation locally of Chicago newspapers.⁸⁴ Subsequently Dill sold the newspaper agency and also the *Twin City Sentinel* to Joseph J. Freeman and his wife, Marion Heath Freeman.⁸⁵

Mrs. Freeman had the most distinguished career of any of the newspaperwomen in the region. Joseph Freeman, said to have been an excellent reporter, was more interested in the advertising and business sides of newspaper work.⁸⁶ Mrs. Freeman's association with the Calumet Region began in 1906 when she joined the staff of the newly established *Lake County Times*, now the *Hammond Times*, as an associate editor in the editorial department. In 1907 her husband took charge of the East Chicago and Indiana Harbor edition of the *Lake County Times*. Next year the Freemans moved from Chicago to East Chicago.⁸⁷ The equipment of the *Twin City Sentinel* was meager and antiquated when the Freemans

⁸² Ball, *Encyclopedia of Genealogy and Biography*, 542.

⁸³ *Lake County Directory, 1909* (Gary, 1909), 410.

⁸⁴ E. Palma Beaudette, *East Chicago—Indiana Harbor, Political, Historical, Industrial* (Chicago, 1913), 47.

⁸⁵ Marion H. Freeman to the author, Wheaton, Illinois, July 15, 1955. Mrs. Freeman placed the date of their purchase of the *Twin City Sentinel* as about 1910. Evidence indicated that it occurred during or shortly after 1913. Mrs. Freeman, who is now 85 years old, lives near Wheaton, Illinois. Joseph J. Freeman died in 1945.

⁸⁶ Mrs. Freeman began her newspaper career as a reporter for the City Press Association, now the City News Bureau, in Chicago during the World's Columbian Exposition, 1893. She was also employed by the *Chicago Inter-Ocean* and by the *Chicago Tribune* before coming to Hammond. Joseph J. Freeman's first newspaper work was with the *Topeka (Kansas) Capital*.

⁸⁷ Marion H. Freeman to the author, Wheaton, Illinois, July 15, 1955; Beaudette, *East Chicago—Indiana Harbor*, 47; *Hammond Times*, June 17, 1951.

bought it. Gradually, over a period of years, they purchased the most modern linotype machines, presses, and eventually a stereotyping outfit. Their plant came to be one of the best printing establishments in Lake County.

Because East Chicago lacked a locally published daily paper, prominent citizens began to urge the Freemans to issue a daily edition of the *Sentinel*. The Freemans opposed such a step, pointing out that a large segment of the city's population was foreign-born who could not or would not read an English-language newspaper.⁸⁸ As the municipal elections of 1921 approached, increased pressure was brought to bear on the Freemans to make the *Sentinel* a daily. Since the *Lake County Times* in Hammond had indicated at an early date its intention to support the Independent party, Republican leaders felt desperately the need of a daily paper. They adopted the slogan, "We want a daily," and turned to the Freemans for such a paper. The Freemans were repeatedly promised unlimited moral and financial support if they would convert their paper to a daily. Sincere in their belief that the Republicans had the best candidate for mayor and encouraged by such offers of support, the Freemans began to issue the *Sentinel* as a daily a few months before the election.⁸⁹

The ensuing campaign was probably the most bitter in the city's history. Friendships were broken because of the invectives and insults hurled at each other by the candidates for mayor. The *Lake County Times* and the *Twin City Sentinel* "pulled all the stops" in their support of their respective candidates. On election day Governor Warren T. McCray had the Gary unit of the state militia ready to move into the city in case local authorities were unable to maintain law and order.⁹⁰ The Independent party was victorious in the election. In the course of the excitement that occurred when the results were known, a number of the more exuberant supporters of the winning ticket decided to celebrate their victory by wrecking the *Sentinel's* plant. Mrs. Freeman described what followed:

"On election night, fearing that the rowdy element roistering about might throw a rock through one of our front windows or otherwise damage our property in our absence if the shop was closed down at the usual hour, my husband and I de-

⁸⁸ East Chicago's foreign-born constituted 53 per cent of its population in 1910, and 40 per cent in 1920. See *Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910, Population*, II, 568, and the *Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920, Population*, III, 297.

⁸⁹ Marion H. Freeman to the author, Wheaton, Illinois, July 15, 1955.

⁹⁰ *Lake County Times* (Hammond), November 8, 1921.

cided to remain within until things quieted down, regardless of which side won, never dreaming however of what was really in store. Before midnight it was evident that Callahan was the victor but the shouting was in full swing until long past that hour and we stayed on until 3 a.m. A taxi stopped across the street and believing it to be the one we had ordered, Joe locked the door and we started across. But just as we reached it, it pulled out, the driver muttering: 'No more fares tonight.' We stood there expecting our own taxi momentarily. While we waited, another car, not however a taxi, drove up and stopped in front of the shop. A number of men piled out of it at once, but immediately piled in again, one of them remarking loudly as he glanced our way: 'This isn't the place, its a block down'. Joe thought he recognized the car but in the dim light that filtered through the window it was impossible to recognize the faces of the passengers. As it drove off our taxi appeared from the opposite direction, stopped to pick us up, and we were driven to our home.

"In view of what happened shortly afterwards we later became convinced that the car we had been watching contained the men responsible for the wrecking of our plant. Our belief was confirmed later. We learned that the same car returned very shortly after we took our departure, and its occupants went into action. Albert, the porter, an old derelict who slept on the premises had been a witness to everything. He related that shortly after 3 o'clock hearing a racket he rose from his bed which was at the back of the shop and ran out to see what was doing. He encountered six or eight well-dressed men wearing masks who after threatening him with revolvers into silence went to work on the machinery. They smashed and hacked at everything in sight, not only the presses and linotype machines but the furniture, telegraph instruments, typewriters and even an umbrella had been attacked with sledge hammers and other damage-dealing implements. . . . It was not long before Joe learned the identity of those who participated in the raid; and I knew from him at the time who they were. But at this late date I have forgotten most of them and of those I do recall hazily I have forgotten the first names, or their initials."⁹¹

The damage done to the plant was estimated at \$25,000.⁹²

⁹¹ Marion H. Freeman to the author, Wheaton, Illinois, July 15, 1955. The *Gary Evening Post & Daily Tribune*, November 9, 1921, reported that the presses were started and pieces of scrap iron were tossed into the machinery. This was taken as evidence that at least one of the vandals knew how to start the presses. Also see *Lake County Times* (Hammond), November 9, 1921, for an account of the destruction of the plant.

⁹² *Gary Evening Post & Daily Tribune*, November 9, 1921.

Editorially, the leading newspapers denounced those involved in the vandalism. The *Gary Evening Post & Daily Tribune* called it "as dastardly a deed as has been committed in Lake County in many years."⁹³ Hammond's *Lake County Times*, which had supported the victors in the recent campaign, demanded that "the guilty be brought to bay so that the courts may have an opportunity to deal with those responsible for such a shameful deed." The paper also indicated that the guilty were prominent citizens by demanding that "the perpetrators be punished no matter who they are."⁹⁴ According to Mrs. Freeman, the wreckers were not ordinary goons or hoodlums, but well-to-do men of reasonably good standing in the community.⁹⁵

Such was the end of the *Twin City Sentinel* and of the efforts of the Freemans to publish a newspaper in East Chicago. Not one of the Republican leaders who had joined in the hue and cry for a daily newspaper and who had lavishly pledged both capital and influence to make it a success came forward to redeem his promises.⁹⁶ After a brief and futile effort to revive the paper, the Freemans saw it pass into bankruptcy. Mrs. Freeman was employed about a year by the *Gary Post-Tribune* during the course of an effort by that paper to publish an East Chicago edition. The project was curtailed because of the lack of local advertising. Later she worked on the staff of the *Chicago Daily Journal* from 1925 to 1931 and conducted a column on the woman's page of the *Chicago Daily News* from 1931 to 1934.⁹⁷

George Huish, who had been associated with the *Twin City Sentinel*, purchased the remains of the Freeman's plant from the receiver and founded the *Calumet News* in 1923.⁹⁸ A capable and aggressive newspaperman, Huish soon had the new paper on a paying basis. In November, 1923, the *News* was converted from a weekly to a biweekly, issued on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Alfred G. Perry, one of the ablest journalists in the region, was installed as editor. John De Jong became city editor in 1926. Although Huish was a

⁹³ *Ibid.*, November 10, 1921.

⁹⁴ *Lake County Times* (Hammond), November 11, 1921.

⁹⁵ Marion H. Freeman to the author, Wheaton, Illinois, July 15, 1955.

⁹⁶ *Ibid.*

⁹⁷ *Ibid.* Joseph Freeman did free-lance writing for a short time after the destruction of the plant but soon retired because of ill health. Mrs. Freeman covered the Loeb-Leopold trial in 1925 for the *Chicago Daily Journal*. Her last newspaper assignment was in 1947 when, at 77 years of age, she began a two-year period on the *Richland* (Washington) *Villager*.

⁹⁸ Statement of George Huish to the author, East Chicago, June 12, 1955. The issues of the *Calumet News* may be found in its office in East Chicago, and those from 1926 to the present are on file at the East Chicago Public Library.

Republican, the *News* was more often independent than partisan in local political affairs. The paper weathered the depression years, although it was forced to revert to a weekly in January, 1933. The *Calumet News* and the *East Chicago Globe* were the only newspapers in East Chicago at that time.

The *Calumet Advance*, founded by Louis A. Bryan in 1896, was the first newspaper published on the site of the present city of Gary.⁹⁹ The so-called stock yards boom in 1890 had been started by rumors that several of the large meatpackers intended to locate in this area. Fred D. Bradford and Henry A. Bradford, Chicago realtors, organized the Chicago, Tolleston Land and Improvement Company and laid out a town that was successively known as Bradford, East Tolleston, and Jerusalem.¹⁰⁰ The boom collapsed when the packers decided to remain in Chicago, and Jerusalem became a ghost town. In 1896 Bryan, a Chicago lawyer and real estate dealer, acquired a huge acreage between the Wabash railroad tracks and the Little Calumet River, including Jerusalem, and laid out the town of Calumet. Bryan started the weekly *Calumet Advance* to publicize the community and to promote the sale of lots; he issued it until 1907.¹⁰¹

The region where Gary now stands was virtually a wilderness of sand ridges, sloughs, and scrub oak until 1906, when the United States Steel Corporation began the construction of its great mills along the shore of Lake Michigan there. The town of Gary was incorporated in July, 1906. On May 10 the *Chesterton Tribune* announced the publication of the *Northern Indianian*, a Democratic weekly, in the embryo steel city. The paper was published by J. O. Benthall and edited by Thomas F. Costello, Chicago newspapermen. Its early issues were printed in Indiana Harbor.¹⁰² A few months after the *Indianian* was started its own offices and presses were located in the Knotts Building at Seventh and Broadway. The paper was a staunch supporter of Armanis F. Knotts, the first manager of the Gary Land Company, a subsidiary of the steel corporation, which laid out the city of Gary, and also of his brother, Thomas E. Knotts, who was president of the town board and later the first mayor of the city, 1909-1913. The Knotts brothers, backed by the *North-*

⁹⁹ Howat, *Lake County, Indiana, and the Calumet Region*, II, 475.

¹⁰⁰ See "Circular and Map of the Chicago, Tolleston Land and Improvement Company" in Gary Public Library.

¹⁰¹ Deed Book, LXXX, 261, in Lake County Recorder's office, Crown Point, Indiana; Horace S. Norton, "Reminiscences" in Biographical Sketches of Gary and Lake County Residents (scrapbook in Gary Public Library compiled by the library staff), VIII (pages not numbered).

¹⁰² *Chesterton Tribune*, May 10, 1906. Most of the issues of the *Northern Indianian* are on microfilm in the Gary Public Library.

ern Indianian, frequently challenged the power of the steel company in the management of Gary's affairs. While Armanis F. Knotts denied that he had any connection with the paper, he and his brother apparently encouraged and favored it in various ways.¹⁰³

The *Northern Indianian's* failure within three years of its establishment was apparently caused by a combination of circumstances. The steel company, which supplied the young community with electricity, gas, and water, also sought the franchise to build and operate the street railway system, but the town board, largely through the influence of Thomas E. Knotts, granted the concession to the privately owned Gary and Interurban Traction Company. When the *Northern Indianian* went out of business, the claim was made that its demise was due to the failure of the Gary and Interurban Traction Company to keep its promise to pay for the presses and other equipment of the paper, but no proof was ever offered that such was the case.¹⁰⁴ Other factors apparently affected the fortunes of the *Indianian*. For instance, Costello's aggressive and vitriolic editorials were resented by the steel company's officials and also by the conservative segment of Gary's citizens. The editor's favorite target was Horace S. Norton, the steel company's most prominent official at that time, whom he persistently called "Turkey Neck."¹⁰⁵ Norton was the founder and president of the Gary Commercial Club, an association of merchants and professional men, which functioned as a sort of chamber of commerce. A study showed that the leading merchants favored the *Gary Daily Tribune* for advertising while the *Northern Indianian* depended upon the uncertain support of small scale realtors. This situation may have been due to Norton's influence. Costello's associate Benthall was thought to be a Socialist and such a rumor may have been a liability to the paper.¹⁰⁶ The *Northern Indianian* closed its doors in March, 1909. Costello left a bewildered foreman in charge of the offices and equipment and returned to Chicago. The paper's creditors petitioned the circuit court to determine its ownership. There were rumors that Thomas E. Knotts would assume control of the establishment when the matter was settled in the courts.¹⁰⁷ When that time came, as shall be seen, Knotts and his brother, Armanis F., did buy the equipment and began the publication of the *Gary Evening Post*.

¹⁰³ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁴ *Gary Weekly Tribune*, March 12, 1909.

¹⁰⁵ Erwin Crewe Roseneau in *Gary Post-Tribune*, August 6, 1947; Thomas H. Cannon, "Autobiography" (MS in Gary Public Library), Chapter L, 3.

¹⁰⁶ Cannon, "Autobiography," Chapter L, 3.

¹⁰⁷ *Gary Weekly Tribune*, August 16, 1909.

The founding of the *Gary Weekly Tribune* in June, 1907, by Homer J. Carr and George R. Scott was an important event in Gary's journalistic history. Carr was editor and Scott was in charge of its business office. Both were veteran newspapermen who had worked together in Chicago for some years. In 1891 Carr had been hired by the *Chicago Tribune* to organize a telegraphic marine news service for some forty newspapers in the lower Great Lakes region. Scott became assistant manager of this news bureau. Carr was marine correspondent for the *Chicago Tribune* when he came to Gary. Because Carr had long been connected with the *Chicago Tribune*, he and Scott chose the name of *Gary Weekly Tribune* for the new journal.¹⁰⁸ The office of the paper was first located in a rude shack on what was then Euclid Avenue, just west of Broadway. Later it was moved across Broadway to where the Union Railway Station now stands. For some months the local news and advertisements were collected by Mark Goodnow and Fred Carr and mailed to Chicago, where the editor and business manager had the type set and the papers printed. They were then sent back to Gary for distribution on Saturday mornings. This procedure was followed until the spring of 1908, when Carr and Scott built a plant at 670 Broadway and installed modern equipment. By 1912 the paper had outgrown its quarters and moved to its second home at Fifth and Washington.¹⁰⁹ On Labor Day, September 7, 1908, the *Tribune* became a daily, the first to be printed in Gary, though the weekly edition was continued for several years. Carl O. Dennewitz, another prominent figure in the city's newspaper circles, joined the staff of the *Weekly Tribune* as a cub reporter. He later became managing editor of the *Gary Daily Tribune* and remained in that position until he joined the army in 1917.¹¹⁰

Carr and Scott were Republicans and, except for the elections of 1912 when they supported the Bull Moose ticket, their papers were the partisan spokesmen of the Republican party in local politics. The *Tribune* papers were also the spokesmen of the United States Steel Corporation in civic affairs, and Carr was an intimate friend of William P. Gleason, superintendent of the steel works. Nevertheless, a few Democrats were connected with the *Tribune* papers. Arthur P.

¹⁰⁸ *Gary Post-Tribune*, August 13, 1936. The complete files of the *Weekly Tribune* and *Daily Tribune* are on microfilm in the Gary Public Library.

¹⁰⁹ Cannon, Loring, and Robb, *Lake and Calumet Region*, I, 375-377; *Gary Daily Tribune*, June 21, 1912.

¹¹⁰ Dennewitz was a foreign correspondent after World War I for the *New York Tribune* (now the *Herald-Tribune*), and the *New York Times*. He was an editorial and advertising executive with the Crowell Publishing Company at the time of his death in 1934. See *Gary Post-Tribune*, November 3, 1934.

Melton, city engineer in the Democratic administration of Mayor Thomas E. Knotts, was reported in 1909 to be one of their stockholders, and Dennewitz was Democratic candidate for city clerk in the election of 1913.¹¹¹

The great real estate boom, which provided profitable advertising, coupled with the unsettled state of political affairs during Gary's early years, attracted other newspapers to the city. The *Gary Daily News*, edited by Carl J. Cooper and Alfred Jones, was started in November, 1907. This paper, printed in Chicago, was reportedly owned by the *Daily News* Publishing Company of that city.¹¹² The *News* ended its short career on a sour note. A subscription drive was launched in December, 1908, with a piano as the grand prize. Several of the city's most prominent young ladies entered the contest, and numerous people were persuaded to pay for subscriptions six years in advance, but the paper failed in March, 1909. The subscribers lost their money and the winner of the contest never saw the piano.¹¹³ Next came the *Lake County Democrat* in August, 1909, to oppose Thomas E. Knotts for mayor in the city elections of that year. Alfred Jones was one of its editors, and John F. Dorman was one of its founders.¹¹⁴ The success of Knotts in the election caused the demise of the paper early in 1910.

Gary became a fifth class city in October, 1909. Thomas E. Knotts, president of the town board since 1906, was eager to be the city's first mayor. A strong and controversial figure, he was opposed not only by the Republicans but also by an insurgent faction in the Democratic party. Since the *Northern Indianian* had closed its doors in March, 1909, none of the newspapers in Gary was friendly to him. Both the *Gary Daily Tribune* and the *Gary Evening Times*, the latter an edition of the *Lake County Times* of Hammond, supported John A. Brennan, the Republican candidate. The *Lake County Democrat*, as has been noted, was founded to prevent Knotts from getting the Democratic nomination. Therefore in August, 1909, Knotts and his brother, Armanis F., bought the equipment of the defunct *Northern Indianian* at a mortgage sale and established the *Gary Evening Post*.¹¹⁵ The new paper, a daily, occupied the old quarters of the *Northern Indianian* in the basement and a portion of the second floor of the Knotts Building at Seventh and Broadway.

¹¹¹ *Gary Weekly Tribune*, November 10, 1909; *Gary Evening Post*, June 13, 1913.

¹¹² Cannon, "Autobiography," Chapter L, 5; *Gary Weekly Tribune*, March 26, 1909.

¹¹³ *Gary Weekly Tribune*, March 26, 1909.

¹¹⁴ *Ibid.*, August 6, 1909; Cannon, "Autobiography," Chapter L, 5.

¹¹⁵ *Gary Weekly Tribune*, August 6, 1909.

Thomas H. Cannon and Frank Patrick, veteran Chicago newspapermen, were engaged to run the *Post*. Patrick was the publisher and business manager while Cannon wrote the editorials and worked as a reporter. A. Howard Bell, later auditor of the Gary public schools, was installed as circulation manager. Thomas E. Knotts' instructions to the staff of the *Post* in regard to the forthcoming campaign were brief and to the point: "Make it hot. Give 'em hell."¹¹⁶ The first issue of the *Post* appeared on October 2, 1909, about a month before the election. After Knotts had been elected mayor, his interest in the *Post* waned immediately, and Cannon and Patrick were left with a white elephant. They organized a stock company with a proposed capital of \$15,000 but could find few purchasers in the lull that followed the election. In later years Cannon recalled their troubles: "We were living at the Victoria Hotel. The proprietor could have testified to the insolvency of the paper. Nevertheless, we kept the *Post* alive until, January, 1910, when two young men from Ohio dropped into town. They were J. Ralph Snyder and his brother H. B. [Henry Burgess] Snyder."¹¹⁷

The brothers were the sons of Henry Richard Snyder, a prominent Ohio newspaperman. Their father had published at various times the following newspapers in Ohio: the *Logan Republican*; the *Pike County Republican* at Waverly; the *Urbana Citizen*; the *Marion Mirror*; and the *Piqua Call*. For a time he was associated with Senator Joseph B. Foraker in the publication of the *Dayton Journal*. Later his journalistic activities took him to Springfield, Missouri, where he owned the *Springfield Republican* for about six years. His wife, Minerva Burgess Snyder, worked on that paper as its society editor and as a reporter. Their sons began newspaper careers at an early age as carriers. Henry Burgess Snyder graduated from Yale University and J. Ralph Snyder attended Drury College for a time. When they came to look over the situation in Gary, Henry Burgess was the publisher of the *Urbana Citizen* and J. Ralph was the manager of the *Marion Mirror*.¹¹⁸

There was good reason for the Snyders to be impressed with the opportunities in the young steel city. Its population had risen to almost 17,000 in 1910.¹¹⁹ Already there were 4,204 employees in the works of the steel corporation and

¹¹⁶ Thomas H. Cannon, "Tom Knotts, As Mayor and Man," *Gary Evening Post*, March 26, 1921. The complete files of the *Gary Evening Post* are on microfilm in the Gary Public Library.

¹¹⁷ Cannon, "Autobiography," Chapter L, 3.

¹¹⁸ Interview with Henry Burgess Snyder, Gary, June 14, 1955. Also see *Gary Post-Tribune*, November 28, 1953.

¹¹⁹ *Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910, Population*, II, 568.

the construction of that large plant continued.¹²⁰ The erection of the American Bridge Company's plant had been started in 1909 and that of the American Sheet and Tube Company began in 1910. Both were important subsidiaries of the United States Steel Corporation. The Gary Screw and Bolt Company's plant, an independent, was also begun in 1910. These industries rapidly increased Gary's population in the next few years, and there were indications that other companies intended to seek sites in the city.¹²¹

In March, 1910, the Snyder brothers purchased controlling interest in the *Post* with capital obtained from the sale of the *Urbana Citizen*. Thomas E. Knotts retained a small interest in the paper until about 1916, when the Snyders bought his share. The brothers gained full ownership by buying the few shares of stock held by others, mainly saloon-keepers.¹²² The new officers of the *Post* were Thomas E. Knotts, president, Henry Burgess Snyder, editor, and J. Ralph Snyder, business manager. The Snyders announced that the *Post* would be a Democratic paper and its editorial policy would be along the lines of true democracy.¹²³ Thomas H. Cannon remained on the staff as an editor and reporter. Henry Richard Snyder joined his sons in 1912 and was associate editor of the *Gary Evening Post* and later of the *Gary Post-Tribune* until his death in 1925. A third son, Herbert R. Snyder, came to Gary in 1913 to become advertising manager of the paper. The equipment of the *Post* was antiquated and in poor condition when the Snyders purchased it, but they moved to a new site on west Fifth Avenue between Washington and Adams and installed modern equipment. For the first time since its birth the *Evening Post* began to look like a real newspaper.¹²⁴ In 1913 it moved to a new home on the north side of Fifth Avenue between Broadway and Washington, where it remained until its merger with the *Gary Daily Tribune* in 1921.

From 1910 to 1921 the *Gary Evening Post* and the *Gary Daily Tribune* were the city's leading newspapers and also bitter antagonists in the political arena. The Snyders backed Thomas E. Knotts in his futile bid for another term as may-

¹²⁰ Employment statistics provided by John H. Vohr, superintendent of the Gary Steel Works of the United States Steel Corporation, October 21, 1954.

¹²¹ Gary's population was 55,378 in 1920, and 100,426 in 1930. *Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930, Population, III, Part I, 715.*

¹²² Interview with Henry Burgess Snyder, Gary, June 14, 1955. According to Snyder, their original investment in the *Gary Evening Post* was about \$8,000.00.

¹²³ *Gary Evening Post*, March 10, 1910.

¹²⁴ Cannon, "Autobiography," Chapter L, 3.

or of Gary in 1913. The day following the election the *Post* announced that henceforth it would be a free lance in public matters,¹²⁵ yet for some years the Snyders showed a tendency to support the Democratic party. In 1915 Henry Burgess Snyder was appointed postmaster of Gary by President Wilson and held that position until late in 1920. The *Post* urged the United States to join the League of Nations after World War I and was a consistent advocate of closer co-operation between the United States and other nations of the world. It also agreed with the Democrats that the tariff should be kept at a low level, while it went down the line in support of the Democratic tickets, both national and local, in the elections of 1920.¹²⁶

The Snyders again announced in January, 1921, that in the future their paper would be independent in politics. They denied that the decision to retire as spokesman for a particular party was due to any political disappointments. The *Gary Evening Post*, they said, had been Democratic because it believed in the principles of Woodrow Wilson. It would support the Democratic party in the future whenever that party stood by the interests of men, women, and children everywhere. But the political situation was different in the state, county, and city, particularly in the last two. These, the announcement continued, were business institutions that should be conducted on business principles, and that in the city and county there was no inherent reason why anyone should vote either the Republican or Democratic ticket. In conclusion the opinion was expressed that "without a party we believe we can stand for the best interests of the community in a way that the public will understand and appreciate." The Snyders went on to praise the administration of Mayor William F. Hodges of Gary, a Republican, but declared that Lake County, also with a Republican administration, was not so fortunate.¹²⁷ The Snyders probably realized the futility of supporting the Democratic party in the city and county, which were consistently Republican before the depression which began in 1929. Thomas E. Knotts, whose victory in 1909 was largely a personal one, was the only Democratic mayor of Gary until 1935.¹²⁸ In view of this political situation, one can understand the reasoning on the part of the Snyders that they could be a greater influence for good in local affairs if they were independent rather than on the "outside" as Democrats. Whether their course

¹²⁵ *Gary Evening Post*, November 5, 1913.

¹²⁶ *Ibid.*, November 3, 1920.

¹²⁷ *Ibid.*, January 3, 1921.

¹²⁸ The Republicans elected the city treasurer and a majority of the city council in the elections of 1909. See *Gary Weekly Tribune*, November 5, 1909.

strengthened the Republicans and weakened the Democrats in Gary and in the county is an open question.

The depression that followed World War I, combined with an increase in the cost of newspaper publication, brought financial difficulties to the *Gary Daily Tribune* and to the *Gary Evening Post*. Their incomes were further diminished because merchants could not afford to advertise in both papers. As a result, the two papers were hardly more than breaking even.¹²⁹ Under existing conditions it was doubtful that Gary was large enough to support two daily newspapers. Of the two, the *Gary Evening Post* presented the more sprightly appearance and was also in a better financial condition.

Early in May, 1921, Carr sold the controlling interest in the *Gary Daily Tribune* to Dennewitz and Charles Emley. A short time later, on May 21, they sold it to Edward C. Toner, publisher of the *Anderson Herald* at Anderson, Indiana.¹³⁰ Robert B. Phillips, also of the *Anderson Herald*, who had had five years of newspaper experience in Gary, became editor while Emley remained on its staff as business manager. The paper was to be independent in politics. Toner was soon beset with the same financial problems that had troubled the previous owners of the *Tribune*. On July 9, 1921, he sold the paper to the Snyders and returned to Anderson.¹³¹

The Snyders combined the *Post* and the *Tribune* into the *Gary Evening Post and Daily Tribune*. The new paper, which was housed in the old *Gary Daily Tribune* Building at Fifth and Washington, was put into circulation on Monday, July 11, 1921. Its officials were Henry Burgess Snyder, editor; Henry Richard Snyder, associate editor; J. Ralph Snyder, business manager; and Herbert R. Snyder, in charge of commercial printing. George R. Scott, one of the founders of the *Gary Daily Tribune* who had retained a financial interest in the paper, was secretary of the new organization. The Snyders began the publication of the *Gary Sunday Post* in the same month only to discover within a short time that Gary was not yet ready for a local Sunday paper.¹³² In August, 1922, the name of the Snyder's paper was simplified to the *Gary Post-Tribune*. Although officially labeled as independent in politics, the paper consistently supported Republican

¹²⁹ Cannon, "Autobiography," Chapter L, 4.

¹³⁰ Dennewitz and Emley's reasons for disposing of the *Tribune* so quickly are not entirely clear. Henry Burgess Snyder in an interview with the author at Gary, February 16, 1956, said that it was possible that Dennewitz and Emley miscalculated their financial strength or that they had acted as the intermediaries for Toner in the purchase of the paper.

¹³¹ *Gary Evening Post*, May 21 and July 9, 1921.

¹³² The *Gary Post-Tribune* began the publication of a Sunday edition in the fall of 1955.

candidates for local, state, and national offices in the 1920's.

The *Gary Post-Tribune* prospered as business conditions improved and as merchants saw the advantage of advertising in only one paper. The circulation of the *Gary Evening Post* had averaged 6,241 copies in 1920, while that of the *Gary Post-Tribune* was 20,026 in 1930.¹³³ A new building erected at Fourth Place and Broadway for a reported \$500,000 was dedicated and put into use in 1927. The position of the Snyders as the "first family" of Gary's journalism was further strengthened in 1930 when Henry Burgess Snyder married Mary Rennels, literary editor of the *New York Telegram*, who had served in a similar capacity on the *Cleveland Times* and also the *Cleveland Press*. Mrs. Snyder wrote articles occasionally for the *Post-Tribune* and was on the staff of the *Chicago Daily News* during the Century of Progress Exposition in Chicago, 1933-1934.¹³⁴

Any history of the region's newspapers would be incomplete without the story of Thomas H. Cannon, one of its very able working newspapermen. Cannon started his newspaper career in 1874 and for more than fifteen years worked as a reporter and editor in Colorado, Kansas, and Missouri. In 1890 he became political editor of the *Chicago Times* and was later employed by the *Chicago American* and by the *Chicago Daily Tribune*. Cannon covered numerous assignments for Chicago papers in the Calumet Region of Indiana and was thoroughly familiar with the area before coming to Gary. At the time Thomas E. Knotts engaged him and Frank Patrick to run the newly established *Gary Evening Post* in 1909, Cannon was chief editorial writer for the *Chicago Daily Journal*. The Snyders persuaded him to remain on the staff of that paper when they purchased it the following year. Cannon worked on the *Gary Evening Post* and on the *Gary Post-Tribune* until shortly before his death in 1936. The great steel strike of 1919 was his last bit of heavy newspaper reporting. Feeling the weight of the years, Cannon devoted most of his time after that to editorial duties and to his daily columns. To quote his own words: "The end of the trail had been reached. The swivel chair was calling."¹³⁵

Cannon's fame and wide acquaintance among the readers of the *Gary Evening Post* and of the *Gary Post-Tribune* were due largely to his columns, "Flue Dust" and "Lud

¹³³ Circulation figures provided by Henry Burgess Snyder, Gary, June 14, 1955.

¹³⁴ *Gary Post-Tribune*, January 15, 1930; interview with Henry Burgess Snyder, Gary, June 14, 1955. Mary Rennels Snyder edited the book section of the *Gary Post-Tribune* which was started late in 1954.

¹³⁵ Cannon, "Autobiography," Chapter L, 9; Cannon, Loring, and Robb, *Lake and Calumet Region*, II, 33-37.

Wrangler," which were daily features of those papers for many years. The title "Flue Dust" was no doubt inspired by the smoke and dust which poured constantly from the flues and stacks of the great steel mills and which, when the atmosphere was heavy and the wind came from off the lake, moved like a fog over the city. Cannon started the "Flue Dust" column in 1913 and conducted it until shortly before his death. The column consisted at first of verse and prose written by Cannon in which he interspersed satirical and humorous comments about current events, both local and national. In 1915 contributions were received from his readers and from members of the newspaper staff. The first contributor was Margaret K. Hanlan, society editor of the paper, who as "Pandora" sent in exceptionally fine poems and sprightly skits. As time went on, poems, jokes, and timely bits of wisdom came from the pens of contributors with such names as "The Grey Courier," "Merely Gene," "Uncle Spud," "Shoe-Shine Socrates," "Rhoda Dendron," "Oh Hek," and numerous others. Contributions came not only from Gary's citizens but from people in nearby states. For some years Cannon published the best of the "Flue Dust" material annually in a booklet called "The Log Book." Cannon also created "Lud Wrangler," whose letters and musings were daily features of the newspaper's editorial page.¹³⁶ He also ventured into the historical field, serving as editor-in-chief for the *History of the Lake and Calumet Region of Indiana*, a two-volume combination of history and biography, published in 1927.¹³⁷

By 1933 the region's newspaper pattern was well established. Because of its nearness to Chicago there had never been a morning daily in the area nor were there prospects of one. Instead, the citizens read the metropolitan papers in the mornings for items of national and international interest and in the evenings turned to the locally published dailies for local and regional news. The *Vidette-Messenger* dominated the Valparaiso scene, the *Gary Post-Tribune* held sway in the steel city, and the *Hammond Times* circulated heavily in Hammond, Whiting, and East Chicago. The weeklies, East Chicago's *Globe* and *Calumet News*, Whiting's *Times*, Crown Point's *Register* and *Lake County Star*, Hobart's *Gazette*, and Chesterton's *Tribune* brought news and notices of a more intimate nature to their readers. The fact that all these newspapers survived the depression indicated that they were permanent fixtures in their respective communities.

¹³⁶ Cannon, "Autobiography," Chapter LV, 1-2; *Gary Post-Tribune*, August 28, 1936.

¹³⁷ The other editors were H. H. Loring and Charles J. Robb.