

**A compilation of the 100th, 75th & 100th Anniversary Books plus stories from the diary of A.K. Seaman and the 100th Anniversary Book of Kutztown. 1909-2001**

**By Sandra Stitzer**

**1909-** The Fleetwood Water Company was bought by the borough for \$ 55,000.

- The Consolidated telephone exchange began in February of 1909 in the Vincent Orlando Building and Bell in the John Angstadt Tailor Shop 20-22 West Main.
- Frank, Charles and Howard Ritter started Ritter Hosiery on Locust Street. They Manufactured cotton and mercerized half hose. Later Cluett Peabody & Co. Inc. manufactured Arrow products in this building at 26 Locust Street. Deluxe Wash Suit Company also operated in this building.
- Fleetwood Metal Body Company Formed on April 1, 1909. It was started in the Planing Mill building which was owned by E.M. Mill on West Franklin Street. They were incorporated on May 9, 1909. The business started on a small scale with only 5,000 sq ft. of floor space. They immediately expanded to 10,000 sq. ft. In 1910 another 10,000 sq. ft. were added. By 1912 they discontinued the planning mill department. In 1912 they leased the former building of Schaeffer, Merkel & Co. on Franklin and Locust Streets. In 1914 they purchased this property. On June 5th the frame building was destroyed by fire and was immediately replaced with a modern brick building. Companies using the metal products included Chadwick Engineering Works, S.G.V. Co., American Locomotive Company, Packard Motor Car Company, Lincoln Motor Car Company, Simplex Auto Company, Locomobile Company, Duesenberg Auto, Fiat, Lancia, Renault, Minerva, Benz, Isotta, Fraschini, Rolls Royce, etc.
- Joel M. Schaeffer, his son Walter P. Schaeffer and son-in-law John N. Kaufman formed a partnership and purchased the flour and coal business in the mill at the west end of town under the name of Kauffman, Schaeffer and Company. Norman E. Kelchner also entered the firm. In 1912 a fire destroyed the building and it was rebuilt. The Schaeffer estate sold it to W.C. Strause on Jan. 1, 1947. Mr. Strause leased it to Grill & Oberholtzer. Another fire in 1959 ended further operations.
- Charles Madiera sold his partnership to C.A. Wanner and he became the sole owner of the hosiery business in the frame building on Richmond Street along the railroad tracks opposite the town hall. As his business began to grow he built one building after another. Men's hosiery was sent all over the world during the Second World War. Hosiery was produced for both the Army and the Navy.
- D.H. O'Donnel came to Fleetwood in 1909 and opened a drug store at 31-33 West Main in part of David Hoover's saddle shop. He was the first licensed druggist and began the first soda fountain. In 1913 he purchased the building at 19 West Main where Dr. A.N. Fretz had his business. He remained at that location till 1939 when Arthur G. Rauch Sr. and his wife Grace took over the business.
- The Farmers Bank of Kutztown was established.

**1910-** Reading Metal Company was sold to a company from Elyria, Ohio. The building remained empty for 2 years.

- On March 7th 1910 a preliminary meeting and temporary officers elected for the Orioles. On March 10~ it was instituted as the American Order of Orioles. Aug. 25, 1910 they withdrew from the other and affiliated with the Fraternal Order of Orioles Nest #23. They shared the Lodge Hall on Main Street with the Knights of the Golden Eagle. In 1930 the Fleetwood Fraternal Home, Inc. organized a progressive social club. On June 24, 1934 the Ladies Auxiliary was formed.
- Mr. Merkel started to manufacture the grain separator that was first made by his father.
- Leon L. Fegely erected a store and dwelling on the corner of Washington and Walnut Streets. It became known as Fegely & Sons.

- Dr. A. N. Fretz passed away on July 28, 1910. He was a Civil War veteran, Doctor and a Pharmacist.
- The 1910 census shows Kutztown to be the richest borough in Berks County.
- Charles Wanner and John Kauffman retired from the Eagle Roller Mill.

**1911-** A wing was added to St. Paul's Chapel.

- The Fleetwood Silk Company was organized on East Main Street.
- Jeremiah C. Stahler started the Fleetwood Planing Mill Company. In February of 1920 the name changed to Fleetwood Manufacturing Company with Paul Stahler as President, Clifford Stahler as Vice President, Secretary was Charles B. Stahler and Treasurer Ray S. Deysher. They did all types of planing mill work and specialized in work for banks, offices, churches and homes.

**1912-** There were 17 subscribers to the Bell Telephone Exchange which was located in the John Angstadt Tailor Shop on Main Street.

- Aug. 27, 1912, a fire nearly destroyed Kaufman, Schaeffer & Co. It was rebuilt.
- Fleetwood Metal Body leased the property of Hartman & Johnson and in 1914 they purchased the building at a sale. A new building was erected with a wing that extended to Locust Street. In 1917 the warehouse burnt down and was rebuilt.

**1913-** The Kutz Brothers dissolved their partnership and Frank Kutz was the sole owner till 1919 when it was sold to the Bank.

- The old Fleetwood House was torn down.
- In 1913 the price of butter was 34 cents a pound, eggs were 16 cents a dozen, flour was 2 1/2 cents a pound, a quart of milk 6-8 cents, a loaf of bread 5 cents, a bar of ivory soap was 5 cents, Lebanon bologna was 36 cents a pound, vinegar was 5 cents a quart, a pound of coffee cost 25 cents.

**1914-** The present Hotel Fleetwood, a 3 story brick building designed by Charles I. Kutz whose family owned the property, was erected on the same site where the old building stood. Howard Herbein was the new host when the building was dedicated.

- On July 31, 1914, the Fleetwood Board of Trade appointed a committee of 3 to organize a fire company. They were Calvin A. Miller, George A. Knoll and Samuel Rothermel. On August 12, 1914, the Fire Company was fully organized. Charles I. Kieffer became the First Fire Chief. The yearly due was \$ 1.00. Thomas Boyer became the first delegate to the Berks Fireman's Convention that was held in Hamburg. The first fire after the organization was the frame annex of N.E. Kelchner's stable. An overheated stove caused it. The first fire company fair was held at the town hall Over \$ 1,000 was raised at the event. Fleetwood Fire Company became a member of the State Fireman's Association in Nov. 1919. The Jeffry Fire Truck was ordered on Feb. 20 1917 at a cost of \$ 1957. In 1925, a Seagrave model fire truck was purchased at a cost of \$12,500. In 1928, the new building at Franklin and Washington Street was erected. The cost to build was \$65,000. The original building housed the Borough Council quarters, an auditorium theater, Fire Company Meeting Rooms and the Social Quarters; the ambulance is housed in the garage. A Truck Crew was organized in 1937. On Nov. 28, 1942, a brand-new 1942 Mack 500 Gallon pumper was purchased for \$ 6,500. In 1946, another new Mack, 750 Gallon pumper was added to the fleet of vehicles and the following year a 1947 Chevrolet emergency truck costing \$ 4,000 also added. In 1952 the Fire Company instituted a 24-hour emergency ambulance service for the Fleetwood area and began with a 1952 Buick Ambulance. In 1968 a Cadillac was purchased from the Reading Hospital when they discontinued their ambulance service. In 1958 the Fire Company purchased the Schlegel building located on North Franklin Street to house the equipment. All the fire apparatus was housed in this building and the ambulance remained housed in the Fire Company at Franklin and Washington Streets. A 1969 Hahn 750-gallon pumper was purchased. Groundbreaking ceremonies for a new fire station were held on June 23, 1981. Actual construction began in August 1981. The cost of the new building was \$226,000. The building consists of a three bay apparatus room, ambulance quarters, a meeting room, kitchen, a day room, chiefs office and a men's and women's sleeping quarters with adjoining bathrooms. A Ladies' Auxiliary of the Fleetwood Volunteer Fire Company #1 was

organized in June of 1945. A Beneficial Organization was organization was organized in 1955. Both these organizations have since disbanded.

- The Fleetwood High School Alumni Association was organized on May 28, 1914.
- The Onyx Theater at 30 West Main went out of business. They charged \$.05 admission to see a silent movie.

**1915-** The Junior Chamber of Commerce was founded Oct. 13, 1915.

**1916-** The Keystone Electric Light Company closed in Kutztown. They no longer had the equipment to meet the demand for electricity. In 1916 the electricity was bought from Met-Ed. The Fleetwood and Kutztown Electric Light, Heat and Power Company were formed. They supplied electric till 1924 when it was also bought out by Met-Ed.

**1917-** Allen K. Seaman purchased the Moses Folk Carriage Works at Franklin and Washington Streets. William H. Seaman, his son, established a automobile business selling Chevrolet Cars and operating a repair shop. In 1918 alterations were made to the original building. In 1929 a new structure was built featuring a show room. In April of 1937, Russell A., his grandson, joined in the business. They were agents for Chevrolet, Oakland, Cleveland, Studebaker and Buick automobiles.

- There was a coal strike in 1917.
- On Sept. 1, 1917 the Town Hall was sold to C.A. Wanner who had the highest bid.
- The Seventh Day Adventists built the church on Locust Street.
- March 31, 1917, the St. Paul's Union Church Cemetery purchased 3 more acres to expand the current cemetery.
- Jeffry Fire Truck was ordered on Feb. 20th at a cost of \$1,957.00.
- June 5, 1917, the A.P. Merkel building was burned out. It was rebuilt. Fisher Body bought the building in 1927 and Mr. Merkel purchased land at the corner of Richmond and Poplar Streets, which was owned by C.F. Hill. Here he erected a new building that included a modern machine shop. The firm of A.P. Merkel is a partnership formed on April 1, 1948 with Augustus P. Merkel and his son, Daniel. Today Daniel's son, Peter, runs the business.
- A brickyard was located behind the new Merkel building.

**1918-** The Levan-Gehrke Textile Mill was established in Fleetwood in 1918 by H.W.S. Gehrke, as a division of Gehrke Knitting Mills of Reading. Men's hosiery was manufactured until 1935 when production went to Swiss embroidered laces and clocking of men's hosiery. One machine at a time embroidered any design on 98 pair of hose. Joe Gilardone was in charge. The building was torn down when Red Cheek Apple Juice was expanded.

- Down High Speed Tool Works was Incorporated under new management.
- The Boys Scouts were organized in Fleetwood.
- An influenza epidemic spread throughout the community.
- William Seaman made alterations to the Moses Folk Carriage Works and began selling new cars and operating a repair shop. When the Seaman's received the Chevrolet franchise, these cars sold for \$600 to \$800; gasoline was 6 and 7 cents a gallon and mechanical labor was 50 cents an hour.
- In 1918 Homan's Dairy began in the former Stoudt's Garage on South Franklin and Vine Streets. They started delivering milk with a horse and wagon.

**1919-** Frank S. Kutz sold the building at Main & Franklin to the First National Bank.

- May 1919, The Berks County Fireman's Association Convention was held in Fleetwood.

- July 15, 1919, The Fleetwood Real Estate Company was formed to build new homes. Meetings were held in the offices of Fleetwood Metal Body Company for the purpose of forming an organization to build homes and relieve the existing shortage of new places to live. On November 6, 1919 a Pennsylvania Charter was procured for purchasing, holding, selling, mortgaging, leasing real estate and for the erection and improving of buildings thereon. In the same year a plot of ground was purchased from George Moyer and wife on which 4 twin homes were erected. In August the Uriah Eisenhard farm was bought and laid out into building lots. In 1924 the Orlando Farm was bought and divided into lots and in the following year Morris Merkel's farm was purchased for building homes.
- Nov. 1919, Fleetwood Fire Company becomes a member of the State Fireman Association. A stopwatch was procured for the use of the High Constable in enforcing traffic regulations.

**1920-** Feb. 1920, Fleetwood Manufacturing Planing Mill Works was organized. They bought out J.C. Stahler's business. J.C. Stahler started the company in 1911. He died in 1917 and it continued as Fleetwood Planing mill till 1920.

- In 1920, John Leibelsperger started a battery repair business at the corner of Main and Richmond Streets. In 1925 he added auto repair. He relocated to Vine Street and then to 130 West Main. In 1942 the building on Main Street burned down. He rebuilt on the same site and in 1947 his son Bruce joined him in the business. In 1973 Bruce's son John also entered the business.
- Another addition was added to the schoolhouse on Arch Street.
- Klu Klux Klan meetings were held on the athletic field during the 1920's. A black man is buried at one corner of the St. Paul's Union Cemetery and a high member of the Klan is buried in the opposite corner.
- First motion picture house was located at 30 West Main Street; admission charge was \$.05.
- Shade's Plumbing and Heating Company was established in 1920 by Daniel S. Shade who conducted his business at 18 West Main Street. In Sept. 1940, William Shade went into business with his father. When Daniel passed away on May 24, 1970, William became the sole owner. He relocated his business to a new building at the rear of his home west of Fleetwood.
- May 20, 1920, The Fleetwood Grange # 1839 Patrons of Husbandry was organized in the Town Hall on South Richmond Street. Meetings were held in the old Town Hall, then moved to the second floor of the bank and later to the third floor of the Lodge Hall on Main Street. On February 14, 1957, the first meeting was held in the new Fleetwood Grange Hall located along RT. 662. The hall was built on 4 acres that were purchased from Daniel Merkel. The cornerstone was laid on June 3, 1956 and the dedication was June 1, 1957.
- Population grew to about 1900.

**1921-** Fleetwood Bank moved into its new home on Aug. 20, 1921 and the President was D.F. Kelchner.

- Aug. 21, 1921 the E.F. Wylie Shoe Co. began manufacturing infant's shoes. It was incorporated in 1923 and occupied part of the Fleetwood Metal Body building on North Franklin Street.
- The Fleetwood Chocolate Company erected a 3-story tile building at the West End of town. On Dec. 16, 1921 they opened for business. They installed all the latest types of machinery for making chocolate products. The local farms sold their milk to this firm. The company went out of business and moved out of the area. It is believed to have been the beginning of the Reeses company. The Fleetwood Hosiery Company bought the building. Now F.M. Brown's uses the building for storage.
- In Sept. of 1921, Vincent Orlando came to Fleetwood and opened a shoe store at Main & Walnut. In the Spring of 1923, he moved to 23 West Main Street, and in 1929 purchased the adjoining property. The two properties were remodeled and a shoe repair shop was located on the first floor at 25 West Main. His son Michael opened a model airplane store at the same location. Jimmie was in business over 50 years. Vincent died on January 25, 1973.
- Nov. 2, 1921 the 103rd Veterinary Company National Guard of Pennsylvania was organized by Harry B. Roshon

of Reading and Samuel H. Rothermel and Elwood S. Rothermel, both of Fleetwood. The place of meeting was the 3rd floor of the bank building.

**1922-** Daniel Shade purchased the Hill Car. It was kept in his garage and was later put on loan to the Boyertown Body Works Museum. The engine is still the one developed by James F. Hill in 1900.

- In June Mr. Down resigned and Jay P. Clymer became General Manager of the Down High Speed Drills. President of the firm was Alexander Luria.
- Horace M. Kieffer Post # 625 American Legion of Fleetwood was organized on Jan. 25, 1922. The building was named after Fleetwood's only soldier killed in WW1. Horace M. Kieffer, a private in the 168th Infantry, 42 Division was killed at Chateau-Thierry in July 1918. His body lies in Arlington Cemetery. The original headquarters were in the National Bank Building from its inception till September of 1929. Meetings were then held at the Fleetwood Fire Company till July 8, 1947. The Post Headquarters were then moved to the present home, 120 East Arch Street, the former Thomas Keener Paint Shop.
- Theatrical companies circuses, side shows and other exhibitions were subject to a license fee of 5 dollars per day. Butchers, bakers, peddlers, fruitsellers and all other persons selling their goods on borough streets were to pay a license of \$10.00 per annum or a \$1.00 per day.

**1923-** The Bank Building in 1923 contained the following:

- **1st Floor-** Post Office, Quoting Club, Dr. D.B. Blecher, Dentist, O.B. Billmeyer, Jeweler.
- **2nd Floor-** Consolidated Telephone Exchange, 2 apartments, Dr. Charles J. Borst, Chiropractor, George W. Fichthom, Violin and Vocal Teacher.
- **3rd Floor** - American Legion Room, Fleetwood Metal Body Co. Band Room, Armory of 103<sup>rd</sup> Veterinary Co., N.G.P. Headquarters for Fleetwood Neighbor Association, Building and Loan Association, Local Red Cross, Good Roads Association, Board of Trade, Anniversary Committee, Committee Chautauqua, Boy Scouts and a sewing class.
- In Aug. 1923 a concrete highway was completed from the Easton Highway (Rt.222) into town, Rt.662. It was 11,237 feet long and at a cost of \$75, 994.67. Work started on October 30, 1922 and one year later on October 13, they held an auto parade from Moselem Springs to Fleetwood.
- The Hi-Duty Drill Works was established in 1923 as the Down High Speed Drill Works on Locust Street. The high-speed drill has revolutionized the drill business.
- Cyrannus Boyer purchased 23 & 25 West Main and opened a shoe repair shop. Nov. 1923, Reading Hospital Aux. #16 of Fleetwood was organized.
- Charles F. Hill Granite Works was incorporated and became known as Charles F. Hill Company, Inc. Harry A. Shoemaker was President.
- The Grand Central became the site of the first ACME or American Store, as they were known.
- Paul Price opened a barbershop in the Hotel Fleetwood.

**1924-** Fleetwood & Kutztown Electric Light, Heat and Power Co. bought by Met-Ed.

- Walter J. Christ Funeral Home opened his business in a portion of the Orioles Building. In 1939 he renovated the home at 12 West Main Street and made it into a funeral home. He conducted a funeral business here until his death in 1956. His widow Mabel obtained a widow's license and continued the business until 1962. Mark N. Stump served as her licensed supervisor. In 1962 her son Daniel R. Christ obtained a mortician license and took over the business. In 1964 Daniel purchased the Wallace M. Long Funeral Home in Oley and currently owns and operates his business there. In June 1965 Walter R. Christ reopened the Christ Funeral Home in Fleetwood. In 1973 he was asked to succeed John G. Mertz, Funeral Director, in Laureldale.
- The Neighborhood Association was formed when the Board of Trade was discontinued. 1925- A Seagrave Fire Truck was purchased for \$12,500.

- Bowers Battery had its beginning in the Fleetwood Metal Body Company on North Franklin Street. A fire of undetermined origin destroyed these buildings. This company moved to the A.P. Merkel building at the corner of Franklin and Locust Streets. Later they moved to Hyde Park. Eventually Bowers Battery was bought by the Exide Corporation.
- The Fisher Body Company, a division of General Motors, purchased Fleetwood Metal Body and continued in operation till 1931. Among American made cars that used the Fleetwood bodies were Duesenberg, Packard, Lincoln, Cadillac, Pierce Arrow, Stutz, S.G.V., Simplex, Chadwick and Locomobile. In the foreign field were the Isotta Fraschini, Bentley, Mercedes, Rolls Royce, Fiat, Lancia, Minerva, Renault and Benz.
- On August 13, 1925, Robert Wentzel purchased the store at Washington and Coal Alley for \$ 4,700.

**1926-** There were 112 subscribers to the Bell Telephone Exchange. Bell and Consolidated were unified and now had 164 customers. Consolidated was in the Orlando Shoe Repair Shop and when they united moved to where the liquor store was located.

- Sept. 20, 1926, The Visiting Nurses Association of Fleetwood and vicinity had its first meeting. The area covered was Fleetwood, Richmond Ruscombmanor and Rockland Townships and Lyons Station. The first visiting nurse was Miss Mary Ida Brown, R.N.
- Mr. Ambrose R. Hoffman replaced Robert Schlegel in Schlegel, Adams lumberyard. He was in partnership with Frank Mertz.
- Nov 4, 1926 a Baby Welfare Program was organized.
- In 1926 Giuseppe (Joe) Orlando moved to Riemondi's Hotel (Union House) where his first Fleetwood barbershop was located. Two years later he bought his home at 41 West Main Street and transformed the two front rooms into a barbershop. He operated in business there for almost 40 years and his son, Pelligrino, redecorated and continued in business.
- In 1926 the Fleetwood Real Estate Company acquired the farm of Jacob H. Rothermel for building lots and park purposes. An athletic field was sold to the Fleetwood School District. In 1927 a tract of 8 acres of the Rothermel farm adjacent to the western borough limits was offered to Borough Council at no cost and the offer was not accepted because the idea was unpopular among the town's residents. In 1946 the plot was sold to Otto and Edna Nygard. Between the years 1919 and 1945, 78 homes were erected.

**1927-** Henry Kraber purchased the billiard parlor and restaurant on the southwest corner of Main and Richmond from John Mellinger. He operated the billiard parlor until 1933 when he converted it to a taproom. In 1941 Mr. Kraber vacated this corner and moved his place of business to 21 West Main Street where he operated with a restaurant/liquor license. In 1947 he purchased the business on the northeast corner of Main and Richmond Streets from the George Helfrich Estate. This former American Store was completely remodeled and is now the most modern tavern in town.

- Out of the Neighborhood Association grew the Chamber of Commerce.
- A.P. Merkel Building was sold to the Fisher Body Division of General Motors and Augustus purchased land at the corner of Richmond and Poplar Streets.
- The village of Lyons was incorporated as a Borough and was named after M.E. Lyons, who was a chief engineer for the East Penn Railroad.

**1928-** The Fire Company at Franklin and Washington Street was built on land that was part of the George Scholl Homestead. It was erected at a cost of \$ 65,000.

- In July of 1928 Walter H. Noll erected the building, which is known as Noll's Garage. He sold Nash till 1935 and began handling Plymouth and Dodge in 1929. In 1930 he added an annex to the repair shop. In 1946 another repair shop was added.

- Jacob Gottschall established the Fleetwood Bakery at East Main near Walnut. James F. Holl bought it and continued the business. It was later purchased by Heck and Gromis who expanded the building and sold "Butter Gems" baked goods.
- Wellington Strause bought the store at Washington and Coal Alley for \$ 6,800.

**1929**- The Fleetwood Hosiery Corporation bought the Chocolate Company. They originally manufactured silk stockings then later nylon.

- In the fall of 1929, A.K. Seaman erected a new building for a new car showroom at the corner of Washington and Franklin.

**1930**- The Fleetwood Police Department was formed by an act of the Borough Council on January 4, 1930. At that time Evan H. Stoudt was appointed chief of police. Chief Stoudt was supplied with a four cylinder, Indian Motorcycle to patrol the streets of the borough. A two-cell jail was installed in the basement of the fire company building. These cells were later condemned. The Police Station was also located in the fire company building. William Schlegel was the borough's first enforcement officer. He was elected constable and would walk the area serving warrants and subpoenas.

- In 1930 the Fleetwood Fraternal Home Inc. of the Orioles formed a progressive social club.
- The Moses Folk Carriage Works was torn down and William Seaman erected a completely modern building with a show room for the new cars.
- The Camp Fire Girls were organized.

**1931**- Additional land was purchased by the Borough from Benjamin Himmelreich for water in order to supply the growing needs of the community.

- Charles "Packer" Stitzer a painter for the Body Works, began his own body shop business. On Feb. 1, 1931, Elmer Hoch purchased the Box Factory from Thomas Bickel. After this the boxes were no longer made by hand. Guth, Incorporated occupied a part of the Former Metal Body Company on North Franklin Street. This firm built all types of furniture for offices and did special work for churches and theaters.
- Thomas Bickel built a Gas Station & Garage at the corner of Richmond and Pine. Later the business was purchased by Elmer Rhodes and in 1953 E. Richard Boyer took over.
- In October a fire in the rear of the Bowers Battery Works destroyed the building and they were forced to move to A.P. Merkel Building. Later the company relocated to Hyde Park where they were in operation for many years. Exide Batteries purchased the firm and it is in operation today. The Reformed Congregation purchased the land where the fire occurred.
- Survivors of the Metal Body Company formed the Fleetwood Craftsmen. They manufactured over 500,000 mattresses during W.W.II.
- In April the Mertz Estate sold the entire lumber business to A.R. Hoffman.
- Electric Service was supplied by Met-Ed.

**1932**- The Farmers and Drivers Hotel was torn down.

- Fleetwood Craftsmen, Incorporated, was formed in 1932 by some of the men who formerly operated the custom automobile body shop known as Fleetwood Metal Body Company. The original intent was the manufacture of interlaced animal hair pads to be used in furniture and bedding. Prior to and during World War II, the company held many contracts for the manufacture of berth and hammock mattresses for the U.S. Navy. During this period approximately 3,500,000 mattresses were made using 50,000,000 pounds of cured hair. For their efforts the company received the coveted 5 Star Army-Navy "E" award, an honor won by a limited number of companies throughout the nation. With the end of the war, demand for this product came to a standstill and the company

branched out to still another field- the manufacture of rubberized hair. The principle uses for this material are in furniture and bedding. It was also used in packaging (for protection of delicate instruments and tubes), filtering media, and scrubbing and polishing pads. One of the largest uses is for a core of hair that replaces a spring unit in the manufacture of crib mattresses.

- The last trolley run was made. Warren Schaeffer was the conductor and Charles Hoch was the Motor Man.

**1933-** Swiss Embroidery Machines were set-up in the Hi-Duty Drill Works thus the name was changed to H-Duty Embroidery Works. High speed drills and tools were manufactured in addition the embroidery department.

- Henry Kraber converted the Billiard Parlor on the southwest corner of Main and Richmond to a taproom.
- Shortly after the death of George A. Knoll in July 1933, his insurance business was turned over to Braynard N. Frey. He conducted his business first at his parent's home at 115 North Richmond Street and later moved to 17 West Main Street.
- Albright Strause began working for his father in the store at the age of 15.
- James F. Hill passed away on April 29, 1933 at the age of 77. He was a mechanical genius, an inventor, a carpenter and an artist.

**1934-** Fleetwood Fire Company #1 established a Relief Association. It was disbanded in 2000.

- Elmer Rhodes purchased the gas station at Richmond and Pine Streets that was owned by Thomas Bickel.

**1935-** On Jan. 25, 1935, The Fleetwood Fish & Game Association was formed by a group of men who wanted a sportsmen's club. The purpose of the organization is to promote fellowship, conserve wild life, and instruct young people in the proper handling of firearms and in the art of fishing. In December 1936, the organization purchased a property southwest of Fleetwood from James F. Rothermel, which served as the club site till March of 1950. In January of 1950, several more acres of land east of town were purchased from the Fleetwood VFW and 10 adjoining acres of woodland were procured. A small frame building on the VFW tract served as the clubhouse. The old building was sold. In 1964 a modern cement block clubhouse was erected along with a rifle and pistol range and clay-bird traps.

- The Fleetwood Recreational Board was organized on July 22, 1935 for the purpose of providing recreational activities for children and adults of the community and surrounding areas. The following week a playground was built. A summer program lasting 5 and then 8 weeks was setup for the children but was discontinued in 1973 due to lack of interest. The swimming pool, summer basketball and Little League teams have taken its place.
- The congregation of St. Paul's Reformed church purchased land on the northwest corner of Franklin and Arch Streets for the purpose of building a new church.
- Fleetwood had it's first Racing Pigeon Loft. It was located at the rear of 15 West Washington Street. Mr. John S. Hoch began to raise heavy type pigeons to start a business of marketing squabs but the birds became too domesticated. He then decided to raise homing pigeons so he could enter races and compete with other pigeon fanciers. He won several trophies and had birds that flew from North and South Carolina on the same day they were set free.

**1936-** On Oct. 1, 1936, 130 more acres were purchased by the borough for a watershed. A fire completely destroyed the Fleetwood Metal Body Company at Franklin and Arch.

- Red Cheek, Incorporated had its beginning in 1936. During World War II, there was no market for apples in Europe and there were so many small apples available here the idea was fostered to make apple juice. It was originally organized as the Berks-Lehigh Fruit Growers. It became the second largest producer of apple juice on the East Coast.
- Charles F. Hill, owner of the granite works, passed away on September 26, 1936. 1937- The Fleetwood Fire Company Truck Crew was organized.
- On January 19, 1937 East Penn Collectors Club held its preliminary meeting in the Fleetwood Borough Council



Chambers with representatives from Topton, Mertztown, Kempton and Fleetwood. The purpose of the club is to promote the welfare of those interested in collecting stamps as a hobby.

- In April of 1937 Russell A. Seaman became a third generation member of family automobile business.
- On Oct. 19, 1937 The Fleetwood Woman's Club was organized. The club sponsored many projects for the welfare of the community. It was the first club in the state federation to sponsor a Youth Hostel.
- A fellowship cabin was built on St. Paul's Lot at Franklin & Arch Streets.
- George Kline obtained his insurance license in 1937. In 1938 after the death of Charles Glynn, George purchased the home at 105 West Main Street and opened an office. Some years later, he moved to 30 West Main Street. He purchased 32 West Main and remodeled the apartment and turned the first floor into an office. In 1970 he merged with Richard J. Campbell.
- Dr. Ethan L. Trexler began practicing medicine in Fleetwood on Sept. 19, 1937, at 3 East Main Street and moved to 15 South Franklin in May, 1941. After W.W. II had ended he reopened his office in Fleetwood on May 3, 1946.

**1938-** A model aircraft section was added to Vincent Orlando Shoe Repair.

- A chlorinator was built for the water supply. The reservoir now holds more than 3,000,000 gallons of water.
- On April 2, 1938 the St. Joseph's Hospital Auxiliary was organized.

**1939-** The telephone dial system began on January 1st with 265 subscribers.

- In Oct. 1939, the Fleetwood Lions Club was organized. Objectives of the club are to promote civic pride, effective government, good citizenship and to further the cause of eye research and the prevention of blindness. In 1947 they deposited \$1,000 to cover the legal expenses involved with acquiring land for a park.
- Arthur G. Rauch, Sr. and his wife Grace took over O'Donnel's Pharmacy at 19 West Main Street. They remained there for many years and then purchased the original location at 31-33 West Main on Sept. 11, 1945 where Dr. O'Donnel first started. The building was completely renovated. In Dec. 1960, he purchased the adjoining building owned by Charles Leitheiser and moved the prescription department from the rear of the present store to the front of the attached renovated building. The second and third floors were apartments.

**1940-** The population has grown to about 2240.

- In September 1940 the Berks-Lehigh Cooperative Fruit Growers, Inc. received its corporate charter.

**1941-** A fire completely destroys the Ford, Lincoln Agency owned by Daniel J. Schlegel. John Leibelsperger built a garage on the spot.

- Henry Kraber moved his restaurant/liquor business to 21 West Main Street.

**1942-** Jan. 1, 1942 the Kauffman, Schaeffer Mill was sold to W.C. Strause.

Nov. 28, 1942 a Mack 500-gallon pumper was purchased at a cost of \$6,500.

**1943-** April 1943, the Berks- Lehigh Fruit Growers purchased the Fleetwood Planing Mill Company.

- In 1943 Mrs. Carl Weber and Mrs. Mabel Kline operated the Ladies Shop on West Main Street.

**1944-** The Community Fire Company of Virginville was organized in December and was chartered on April 2, 1946.

**1945-** The telephone system has 397 subscribers.

- The Ladies Auxiliary of the Fire Company was organized on Aug. 20, 1945.

- The Pinnacle Equipment Corporation was formed at the old Silk Mill at 203 East Main Street. They leased the building from W.C. Strause. They manufacture meat display cases. Pinnacle had its beginning when Fleetwood Craftsmen sold their refrigeration division to a company from Wilkes-Barre, who moved the business to that city and operated it under the name of Fleetwood Air Flow Corporation. Some of the old employees decided to organize their own business and were granted a charter to manufacture and sell commercial refrigerators under the name of Fleetwood Equipment Corporation.
- Fritz Scheel built a greenhouse and dwelling in 1945 operating under the trade name of Fleetwood Florist. After his death in 1953, the ownership changed to Harold and Edna Zwoyer who used the trade name. In 1956 Ralph and Thelma Heinly went into business here as Heinly Florist. Then in 1971 Curtis and Mary Zimmerman purchased the property, renovated the greenhouse, and added an attractive gift shop.
- Albright Strause went into business himself after he returned from World War II. He maintained the store his father started. W.C. Strause started the coming of Santa Clause on Thanksgiving Day. He arrived on a butcher wagon, a helicopter, an airplane, an antique car, and a sleigh. From Thanksgiving Day till Christmas, music drifted over the town from the amplifying system in the store.

**1946-** The Fleetwood Embroidery Mill was established in the fall of 1946 as a corporation. C.A. Wanner was the owner and President of the firm. They made a variety of cotton, silk and wool hosiery for men and women.

- Early in 1946, because of the similarity of names between Fleetwood Equipment Corporation and Fleetwood Air Corporation, it was impossible to secure a copyright. Consequently, it was decided to change the name to Pinnacle Equipment Corporation.
- The Union Hotel was torn down and an Acme Market was built.
- May 20, 1946, the Fleetwood V.F.W. Post 6952 was organized.
- Aug. 15, 1946, a Mack 750-gallon pumper was purchased at a cost of \$ 9,500.
- In May 1946, Lloyd W. Leinbach started Fleetwood Appliance at the corner of Main and Franklin Streets specializing in the sale of Philco Products.
- In October 1946 Chester A. Sprecher bought the butcher business including a slaughterhouse on Vine Street, two stores, and a door-to-door butcher route from Charles and Howard Focht.
- In 1946 John D. Smith established his own business, operating out of a small office at the rear of his home. He learned the trade from his father, Francis Smith. In 1956 he purchased the adjoining property and constructed a building suitable for his work that includes plumbing, roofing, heating and sheet metal work.
- In 1946 Homan's Dairy had expanded until now there are seven trucks on delivery routes and milk is secured from 25 nearby producers. The products they sell include pasteurized and homogenized milk, buttermilk, cream, chocolate milk, ice cream, cottage cheese and cup cheese. Later they opened a Luncheonette on West Main Street.

**1947-** Henry Kraber purchased the property on the northwest corner of Main and Richmond Streets from Mrs. Elizabeth Helfrich Estate and completely renovated the store and converted it into a modern restaurant and tavern.

- F.M. Brown's Inc. purchased Schaeffer, Wanner & Company. Many improvements were made to the building. An addition was added to the existing structure. Silo for storing grain were added. The coal yard was discontinued. In 1962 and 1970 the mill had been enlarged and modernized to accommodate the increased business. Silos have been erected at various times to store the grains.
- A Chevy Emergency Truck was added at a cost of \$ 3,000.
- In 1947 Mr. Lloyd Leinbach purchased the building at the northeast corner of Main and Franklin in which he started his business. He renovated the building to include 5 apartments and the storeroom. The building was erected by William Sholl. It was occupied for many years by Mertz and Kalbach's general store and grocery. He

specialized in the sale of Philco products and later added other lines.

- The cold storage plant for Red Cheek Apple Juice was built.
- March 17, 1947 the Jaeger Beauty Salon opened in the Hotel Fleetwood. Later they moved the business to 33 Locust Street.
- East Penn Manufacturing ( Deka ) began making batteries in the plant at Lyons.
- In May of 1947 the Bluebirds were organized for girls between the ages of 7 and 9.

**1948-** On April 1, 1948, A.P. Merkel & son Daniel formed the A.P. Merkel Company. Augustus and Daniel were principals and William P, and Reuel ( Augustus Merkel's Brothers ) were associates.

- May 1, 1948, Fleetwood Population grew to 4,410.
- Dr. & Mrs. Arthur Rauch offered land to the borough as a gift to be used a park.

**1949-** The Fleetwood Building Block Company was founded in 1949 by Herbert D. Adam and his wife Elda. The business was located at the rear of 16 North Franklin Street on the corner of Myrtle and Coal Alleys. It started in a small wooden shed. The blocks were tampered by hand. About 12 blocks were made in an hour. As business grew, a new machine with a vibrator was purchased that made fifty blocks an hour. Orders increased to the extent that five additional acres were purchased.

- Kelchner Dry Cleaning began at 31 West Main Street and then moved to 20 West Main. The coin-operated laundry was housed in the Hotel Fleetwood for about 5 years. The owners are Samuel Kelchner and sons Richard and Charles. They are in the business of dry cleaning, pick up store, finishing, repairs and alterations, rug cleaning, fur storage and coin -operated laundry.

**1950-** World War II Memorial erected in the park by the Service Mothers and the Woman's Club.

- In 1950 an 18-acre tract of land on the north side of West Poplar Street was purchased from Win. Merkel by the Pinnacle Equipment Corporation to erect a 6,000 square foot building. Due to increased orders for refrigeration equipment, an expansion was required.
- Henry Kraber became ill and passed away at the age of 49.
- John Bucks became the owner of the property at Main and Richmond and restored the hotel to it's original name" The Grand Central Taproom
- In 1950 George W. Clark built Clark's Sinclair Service Station at East Main and Beech Streets. His son William maintained a TV and appliance shop in a part of the building.
- Dr. Raymond L. Spatz, D.D.S. began his dental practice in Fleetwood in the autumn of 1950, at his home, 305 North Franklin Street. Illness forced him to retire in 1968.

**1951-** May 14, 1951 a jointure agreement was officially ratified by the borough of Fleetwood and the townships of Richmond and Maiden creek to provide facilities for a high school composed of grades 7,8,9,10,11, and 12; the name was changed to Fleetwood Joint Junior-Senior High School.

- Kenneth W. Miller, D.D.S. began his dentistry practice at 21 East Washington Street in August, 1951 and in 1962 moved his practice to 19 East Washington Street.

**1952-** On Aug. 11, 1952, the Pennsylvania State Health Department approved the application for a permit to construct a sewage treatment plan and sewer system for Fleetwood. The question was placed on the ballot and the town's people voted it down.

- Kermit Knerr Barber Shop first began in operation at Richmond and Poplar Streets. Then in January of 1956 he continued the business out of his home at 319 South Richmond Street. The Lion's Club erected a large pavilion in the park.
- Fleetwood Building Block Company built a structure 40' x 60' on the 5 acre tract of land on the west side of Willow Valley Creek and West Main Street. In 1956, a two-block automatic machine was purchased to take care of the growing business. Productions increased to 500 blocks in an hour, additional employees were hired and an office building was added. By 1964 production was increased to 800 blocks and the first boom truck for unloading was added. Fleetwood Building Block is constantly being updated. The business has grown to include not only the standard blocks but also patio blocks, patio stones, ponds, trains and much more. The sons John and Dale are running the business today. An outdoor train travels along the office building and is a sight for all to see.
- A flexible ambulance on a Buick chassis was purchased for \$ 7600. It was the fire companies first ambulance.

**1953-** Harold and Edna Zwoyer took over Fleetwood Florist.

- Edwin Madenford founded the Madenford Roofing and Siding Company in 1953. His sons Roy and Barry joined in the business operation.
- E. Richard Boyer purchased the Elmer Rhodes' service station and went into business in 1953. His son Barry joined him in the business in 1968.

**1954-** A second pavilion was built at the park.

- Clark's TV and Appliance was established in 1954 as a one-man TV center located at 327 East Main Street. Over the years he added TV and Appliance sales as well as service was added. In 1969, business increased and he moved to the present site at 13 West Main Street. Over the years a video store was added to the building. The business reorganized into partnership with William Clark, Marie Clark and Robert Keller as principals.
- Carl M. Bieber opened his business at 34 West Main Street in 1954. He began to sell and repair both shoes and sewing machines. He held the franchise for Nelco and Singer sewing machines. He also had a complete line of sewing needs available. In 1968 he became an agent for Sentry fire proof boxes and safes and Knapp shoes.
- Caleb Killian, M.D. opened his practice in 1954, in the former residence of Dr. F.L.R. Mattern.

**1955-** Dr. Henry A. Sawyer opened his practice at 26 West Main Street in the former office of Dr. Russell Hartman. He served the community here till 1962 when he moved to the house built by Isaac Kutz at 44 East Main Street. Dr. Sawyer practiced medicine here till his death.

- In April 1955 Fleetwood Shirt Corporation was formed in the Cluett, Peabody & Co. building at 26 Locust Street. The manufacture the finest quality of men's shirts and ladies tailored shirts and blouses. The plant comprises two 2-story buildings. In April of 1966 a new modern 1-story addition was completed which centralized the entire sewing division on a single floor.

**1956-** April 22, 1956 ground breaking services were held for St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Dec. 9, 1956 ground was broken for St. Paul's new Reformed Church.

- In 1956 Ralph and Thelma Heinly bought Fleetwood Florist and changed the name to Heinly Florist.

**1957-** On July 16, 1957, Fleetwood Borough Council entered into a contract with Richmond Township to furnish police protection.

- On February 14, 1957 the Fleetwood Grange # 1839 held it's first meeting in the new building and on June 1 ~ of this year a dedication program was held.
- Shar-Let Knit Goods, Incorporated business moved from Shartlesville to 104 East Vine Street in the old Harms Hosiery Building. They manufactured men and boys' underwear for the J.C.Penney Company. It was owned and operated by E.M. Fallon of Fleetwood.

- On June 2, 1957, the Lutherans dedicated their new church.
- The cornerstone laying for St. Paul's Reformed Church took place on June 9, 1957.
- Curtis O. Snyder operated Snyder's Sunoco at Main and Richmond Streets from 1957 to 1963. From this location he moved to East Main and Beech Streets in the former Clark's Sinclair Building. The structure was remodeled in 1970.
- A Eureka ambulance on a Cadillac chassis was purchased at a cost of \$ 7,900.

**1958-** Land was acquired to build a swimming pool and a baby pool near the Community Park.

- The Fleetwood Civil Defense Auxiliary Police Uniform Rank was organized on January 9, 1958. They served at various functions such as parades, school activities, park activities and the Hill Climb. Their name was later changed to the Fleetwood Auxiliary Police.
- In 1958 the fellowship cabin of St. Paul's Reformed Church was turned over to the Boy Scouts. March 9, 1958, St. Paul's Reform Church was dedicated.
- A new elementary school building on West Vine Street, at the former location of Stone Lane School, was dedicated on Oct. 19, 1958.
- Olinger's Esso Servicecenter opened its doors in September. Lloyd E. Olinger became licensed as an insurance agent in 1962.

**1959-** Jean's Beauty Shop was opened at 23 West Main Street in October 1959.

- Contract was awarded to Bosico Pools of Lansdale for the construction of a community swimming pool on April 28, 1959. Minutes of Council Meeting of July 7, 1959 reported the pool was under construction. Although the fencing and landscaping were not complete, the pool was opened to the public for the last week of August 1959.

**1960-** A.P. Merkel passed away and his son, Daniel continued in the business.

- The Board of Adjustment was formed in 1960. Their powers and duties were to decide on appeals of the building codes and make and decide exceptions.
- Official opening and dedication of the swimming pool was on Memorial Day May 30, 1960.

**1961-** Additional land was acquired for a parking lot at the Park.

**1962-** Shuffleboard court was constructed at the park by the Lion's Club.

- Edwin Madenford realized the seasonal nature of the roofing business, so he opened a radiator repair shop in 1962 in conjunction with the other business. Equipment was added until a complete sales service for radiators was added. The business is located at 211 East Arch Street.
- Robert L. Hawkins began his plumbing business in 1962. He was appointed by the Fleetwood Borough to serve as Plumbing Inspector from 1965-1968. Since 1968 he has been a self-employed plumber at 313 North Franklin Street.

**1963-** October 19, 1963 Fleetwood Auxiliary Police instituted their new name.

- Dr. Theodore W. Eastland had a medical practice in his home at 407 West Vine Street. He gave up this practice in 1966, when he became a member of a team of 4 physicians who manned the emergency room at the former Community General Hospital on 12-hour shifts, changing every 5 days. Dr. Eastland's son, Theodore W., Jr., is also a physician and practiced medicine at the medical center he and his partner built in Emmaus.
- A Chevrolet chassis with a Reading Body Works walk in body with storage compartments was purchased at a

cost of \$12,000. The truck was fully equipped with the latest emergency equipment.

**1964-** The sewer system and treatment plants were installed. The first connections were made in December of 1965.

- Mortgage burning for St. Paul's Lutheran Church took place on April 5, 1964.
- A used 1962 Cadillac ambulance was purchased.
- Bette C. Bieber started a beauty salon at 408 North Franklin Street.

**1965-** Basketball court was built with lights for night games. A water fountain was installed.

- October 31, 1965, the mortgage was burned for St. Paul's Reformed Church.
- Fleetwood Multi Video Corporation was formed on May 3, 1965, when a franchise to operate a cable television system was granted by the Fleetwood Borough Council. The office was located at 40 West Main Street. On May 7th began construction of an antenna. The present location is 10 West Main.
- Chester Sprecher passed away and his two sons, Williard and Melvin took over Sprecher Meats.

**1966-** The Auxiliary Police became incorporated and assisted in other communities throughout the county.

- The Fleetwood Senior Citizens' Club for men and women over sixty was organized at the American Legion Hall.
- Clyde W. Yerger, a toolmaker by trade, organized Fleetwood Tool and Die in April, 1966. He established a shop in the rear of his residence at 58 East Locust Street. Work is turned out for large companies specializing in tools, dies, jigs, fixtures, etc.
- July 1, 1966 the official name, Fleetwood Area School District, was adopted.
- The Fleetwood Independent Grocers Alliance commonly called the IGA was established in January of 1966 at 29 West Main Street by Richard Lenk. The store pioneered the 24 hour, seven day a week operation in the Berks County area. The new store opened in western end of town on November 16, 1973. Later it was sold to the Boyer's Market chain.

**1967-** More land was purchased and a pond was constructed for fishing rodeos. Lights were installed for ice skating during the winter months.

- In 1967 the F.M. Brown flourmill was remodeled increasing the production.
- Agnes Breidegam opened a beauty shop in her home in November of 1967.
- Pat Noll moved her beauty shop to her home at 42 East Locust Street.

**1968-** On October 14, 1968, the Fleetwood Planning Commission was established.

- In February 1968, a new senior high school for grades 9 through 12 was completed. The old building became the middle school.
- Charles Gallmoyer and Neil Ludwig formed Fleetwood Auto Service in October of 1968. The garage is located at the rear of 120 South Richmond Street, formally Walter Noll's Garage. They service and maintain automobiles. On August 1, 1973, the partnership was dissolved and Neil Ludwig became the sole owner. Duane Kurzweg is the current owner of the business.
- MFS Enterprises, Inc. began doing business. They manufactured wood and metal patterns in their shop at Poplar and Chestnut Streets. George Moyer and Ray Foster began the business. In 1972 an addition was added to the building. In 1971 Foster's accidental death left Moyer sole owner.

- Kelchner, Incorporated at 11-13 East Main Street started a dry cleaning store and a coin-operated laundry business.
- The Reading Eagle Company celebrated its 100th birthday.

**1969-** The Fleetwood Civil Service Commission was established to prepare rules and regulations of the Borough Code relating to Civil Service.

- Clark's TV and Appliance moved to 13 West Main Street.
- B.G.&G. Corporation was incorporated in 1969. This company processed gourmet frozen foods. French fried mushrooms were the specialty.
- A Hahn 750 GPM pumper mounted on a Ford Chassis was purchased.

**1970-** The name of the Board of Adjustment was changed to the Zoning Hearing Board.

- District Court 3-04 began their judicial functions on January 5, 1970.
- Sandra Wildermuth opened her beauty shop at 26 West Main Street. The business is known as Casa Del Sandra Beauty Salon. The building had been the home and office of Doctor Russell Hartman. Prior to that it was the home and office of Milton Hartman, Russell's father.
- May 24, 1970, William Shade took over his father's plumbing business after the death of Daniel.
- The Crewel World, an art needlework and yarn shop, opened its doors on July 18, 1970, at 20 West Main Street. On Jan. 1, 1971, it moved to 103 West Main Street.
- A used 1968 Cadillac ambulance was purchased from the Reading Hospital at a cost of \$ 8,100.

**1971-** Curtis and Mary Zimmerman purchased Heinly Florist, renovated the greenhouse and added an attractive gift shop.

- In July of 1971 the Berks-Lehigh Cooperative became Red Cheek, Incorporated.

**1972-** A third pavilion was built by the Jaycees. The Rotary Club paid for the cement floor.

- The Fleetwood Lioness Club was organized on June 13, 1972.
- Penn Dutch Cookie Corporation was established. They produced approximately 150,000 pounds of cookies a week.

**1973-** New lights were installed at the park and the Camp Fire Girls planted flowers.

- By 1973 Red Cheek, Inc. was the second largest processor of apple juice of apple juice on the East Coast using 1,500,000 bushels of apples for juice yearly and processing frozen apple slices and peaches for major pie bakers.
- November 16, 1973, the IGA moved to its new location at the west end of town.
- The following businesses were no longer in operation: Fleetwood Box Factory, Hi Duty Drill Works, Fleetwood Hosiery Corporation, Charles F. Hill Company, Hi-Duty Embroidery Works, Frank C. Snedaker Company, Refrigerator Corporation-Damaree-Walton, Vincent Orlando, Ladies Shop, Rhodes Service Station, George Clark Service Station, Deluxe Wash Suit Company, Fleetwood Embroidery Mills, Royce Hosiery Mills, C.A. Wanner Company, Cluett Peabody Company, Wellington Dairy, Homan's Dairy, Stahler Supply Shop, Schaeffer, Wanner and Company, Schlegel Brothers, Grill and Oberholtzer, Becks Feed Mill, Frankenfield and Company (furniture dipping), George Stump, Warren Faust, Fred G.T. Snyder, Paul Snyder, Paul and Earl Schlegel, Heinly Auction House, Buck's Store, Heinly Florist, Shady Pine Luncheonette, Mobil Service Station.
- A pound of butter was \$ 1.09, a dozen eggs was 90 cents, a quart of milk was 41 cents, a loaf of bread was 38-

42 cents, a bar of soap was 12 cents, Lebanon bologna was \$ 1.30 a pound, coffee was \$1.10 a pound.

**1974-** A Miller Meteor Criterion ambulance on a Cadillac chassis was purchased at a cost of \$19,960. This was the fire company's first high body ambulance.

**1976-** Kenneth and Mildred Koller became sole owners of the Grand Central Taproom.

**1978-** A 1978 Horton Ambulance on a Ford chassis was purchased at a cost of \$31,800.

**1980-** A 1966 Mack 1000 GPM pumper was purchased from Ogontz Fire Co. at a cost of \$32,626. It cost an additional \$2000 to place the pumper in service.

**1983-** A 1983 Ford chassis was purchased for the ambulance.

**1984-** J. P. Buchs once proprietor of the Grand Central Taproom passed away.

**1994-** The Craftsmen closed and filed for bankruptcy. The building remained empty for a few years.

**2001-** Albright Strause still opens the grocery store at Washington Street and Coal Alley since going into business after W.W. II.

- A.R. Hoffman's Lumber Yard is still in business.
- The Grand Central Taproom is still open for business.
- The First National Bank of Fleetwood main branch is still located at the same corner but has expanded and has several other branches.
- Garden State Tannery is still in operation.
- Fleetwood Building Block is expanding. Since the death of their parents, John and Dale have added ponds, trains, patio stone and much more to their merchandise. The stock and deliver the building block throughout the county. They have in stock a large variety of stone and patio blocks. A train encircles the building for all to see.
- F.M. Brown's business is still doing well. The trucks filled with grain can be seen along the streets waiting to unload their goods.
- Mae Stump Funeral Home is under the management of David Weber.
- Hotel Fleetwood is owned by Concern. A number of other buildings in town are owned by Concern.
- Clark's T.V. and Appliance has expanded and added a video rental shop.
- Kermit Knerr is still cutting hair.
- Snyder's Sunoco and Boyer's Gulf Station are still pumping gas.
- Zimmerman's Flower Shop is selling the most beautiful flower and gift arrangements.
- Kelchner Cleaners is in operation.
- The Village Butcher is still doing a good business.
- Madenford Radiator service is in operation.



