

Welcome to ~ ~

Chronology Biography of Collins School

1882 – 1983

My Life of Education

101 years

Part I Era

1882 – Spring 1922

Primary source: Collins Gazette

FREE

NO COST

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Collins Alumni

Dedication

Who – The entire Collins School Community – School Board Members – Faculty Members – Transportation Staff – Maintenance Staff – Food Service Staff – All Students attending with near 1500 graduates.

What – A well-earned sincere tribute to all those acknowledged below for achievements of the past that we recognize and retain for posterity.

When – Today and *Tomorrows* unto the Horizon.

Where – Throughout the Collins Community and Beyond; Border to Border and Sea to Sea to all with Collins Heritage plus others unlimited.

Acknowledgements

To - Authors of “Collins Alumni 1892 – 1979,” Anna (Stevens) (Moses) Wesenauer (1924), Alice (Heintz) Marsh (1926), Frances (Denniston) Gilley.

To – Author of “Remember When – Collins and Collins Township 1848 – 1976,” Verlie (Etnier) Huggins (1958)

To – Authors of “A Century of Living – Collins, Iowa, 1882-1982” Anna (Stevens) (Moses) Wesenauer (1924), Donna (Huntrods) Ose (1933), Esther (Downing) Jacobson, Alice (Heintz) Marsh (1926), Vera Vasey, faculty member.

To – Collins Library (Librarian Chris Evans-Winfield), and City of Collins (City Clerk Theresa Findlay).

To – Collins-Maxwell Community School District

To – Maxwell Community Museum – Maxwell, Iowa

To – The many, many, many others who provided helpful information and other assistance

Collins School Chronological Journey

Part I Era: 1882 – Spring 1922

November 28, 1882 Collins Township has been redistricted by the school board and another sub-district created, making 10 in place of 9. The town of Collins is now No. 10. As there is no schoolhouse in No. 10, it will be necessary for the board to rent until such time as a house can be built. There are now about 40 scholars in the new district. The school board is in earnest and is determined to give every child a chance for education. Success to them (*History of Story County, Iowa*: Payne, c. 1887, Page 282.)

November 29, 1882 The **first town school** called Collins No.10 was located across the street west of the post office and across the street north of the Chester and Lucy Lillard residence. It was occupied for the first time Friday evening with a show. It had to be dedicated. School began December 1882, with Miss Mills as the teacher with **40 pupils enrolled**.

December 6, 1882 Our school officers have succeeded in making arrangements for a winter school.

May 1883 School is now in full running order with about **fifty scholars**. Charles Campbell is the teacher. We are getting another school, larger than the old shanty now used. It is to be built before winter. We now have sidewalks.

December 5, 1883 Our winter term of school commenced with Miss Mills as teacher.

April 9, 1884 A fine two-story school is to be built this summer.

May 14, 1884 The building committee selected site for schoolhouse.

July 2, 1884 The foundation for the new school is laid. The building constructed was a two-story wooden structure with basement, which stood in the area of the Paul and Lola (Dodd) Whitaker home north of the Christian Church on Main Street.

December 1884 School is in full blast, **75 scholars** with Edwards and Coughlain, teachers.

November 20, 1885 The schoolhouse is receiving a new ceiling in the lower room as well as a new coat of paint. Belt & Denniston did the woodwork and Mark Sweet the painting.

March 12, 1886 School will close next week with an exhibition given by the pupils which we judge will be a success owing to the fact that the pupils are very studious and their teachers, John Alexander and Maggie Knepper, are both enterprising teachers.

April 16, 1886 School opens Monday with Miss Maggie Knepper as teacher. (Insert 2003: Appears school year was three terms – fall, winter, and spring.)

December 20, 1886 Both rooms of our school are doing nicely with Professor Long in the **upper level** (higher grades) and Maggie Knepper in the **lower** (lower grades). There seems to be quite an interest manifested by the pupils.

March 18, 1887 School closed Friday in the upper room with an exhibition in the evening, which proved a success and did credit to both pupils and teachers. The Collins band favored the congregation with music between plays.

April 15, 1887 School commenced in this place Monday with Nat Glasgow as principal and Miss May Eatherton as assistant.

September 30, 1887 The fall term of school is progressing nicely under the instruction of Prof. Nat Glasgow, principal. He has on the roll about **65 pupils** whom he is doing the best to give all the aid possible. Owing to the fact that he has not enough time to teach writing during the day, school meets two evenings each week to give instruction in that branch.

First graduation 1892

January 19, 1894 School board meeting. Albert Armstrong appointed to fill vacancy. H. Hazlett appointed secretary of board to fill vacancy.

March 9, 1894 The public school will give an entertainment at the schoolhouse March 17. The feature will be **exhibition in calisthenics**.

February 22, 1895 Calisthenics exercise on March 8.

May 24, 1895 May 31, 1895 commencement exercise at public school. Prof. L. T. Weld of Nevada will deliver the address. (Insert: Graduate list not found)

April 23, 1896 At the meeting of the school board last Monday evening Prof. Lyon was retained for the ensuing year. W. M. Evens of Maxwell was engaged for the intermediate department. The selection of a teacher for the primary department was deferred till the adjoined session of the board next Saturday night.

May 14, 1896 The ice cream and strawberry festival given by the high school last Saturday evening was a pleasant affair. The proceeds, about \$10 net, will be used in helping to defray the expenses of commencement day.

May 21, 1896 There was school in every department last Saturday to make up (f)or the loss of Thanksgiving.

July 9, 1896 The sidewalk in front of the schoolhouse has been re-laid and is now four feet wide.

August 20, 1896 At a regular meeting of the school board on Monday evening, it was resolved that school will open, Monday September 7. **Tuition will remain the same as formerly, .30 a week for non-resident pupils.** Charles Tuke will be the janitor for the fall term.

September 10, 1896 Collins schools reopened last Monday with the largest enrollment ever shown at the beginning of the fall term. There are **40 pupils** in the **high school**, **37** in **intermediate department**, and **41** in the **primary room**. (**Enrollment = 118**).

October 8, 1896 Quite a number of ladies visited the primary department of the school last Friday and enjoyed the exercises which always take place the last Friday of each month.

December 3, 1896 An elocutionary entertainment will be given in Collins Wednesday, December 9 under the auspices of the Collins Public School. The talent secured is Mr. Carter B. Weaver of the Drake School of Oratory which is under the direction of Prof. Ott. Mr. Weaver is a success as an entertainer and those who fail to hear him will miss a rare treat. An admission of .15 will be charged: ½ will go to the school for purchase of apparatus to be used by the class in natural philosophy.

December 17, 1896 A practical effort to **get the library** for the schoolhouse started will be made next Tuesday night and Edwin E. Keyes will give a dramatic recital in the M. E. Church. The admission is .15 and the entire proceeds will be devoted to the library.

December 17, 1896 The seats in the schoolhouse have been rearranged to accommodate the increase in the number of pupils. It is also likely that after the holiday vacation, Prof. Lyon will be given an assistant in the person of Mrs. R. Sanders.

March 4, 1897 Town of **Collins population equal 400**. Other town populations: Maxwell – 900, Colo – 600, Baxter – 550, Iowa Center – 200.

June 3, 1897 The high school students assisted by Principal Lyon and Miss Hunt entertained a crowded audience at the schoolhouse Saturday evening. Twelve of the students, 6 of each sex, performed two drills, one with rings, and the other with dumbbells. The gents wore neat athletic uniforms and the ladies pretty summer girl costumes. The exercises were entirely satisfactory, moving without a hitch. Two farces followed. Cast members were: Ada Hunt, Jessie Stanton, Henry Vasey, Maud Warrell, Leona Meade, Roy Cooper, George Shearer, Charles Hall and Charles Angelo.

August 12, 1897 The ladies took in **\$21.35 at their supper** Tuesday evening at the schoolhouse. This amount will be used in papering and painting the three rooms of the schoolhouse that are now in use, the school board having agreed to make up whatever deficiency there may be when the work shall be done.

August 26, 1897 A subscription is being circulated to raise money for the purchase of a set of encyclopedias for the high school room.

September 9, 1897 School opened: New principal – Herbert Pease, received education (graduated 1894) at Collins School. Herbert Pease, **high school – 34** students; Mrs. Saunders, **intermediate room – 36** students; Miss Hunt – **primary room – 41** students.

Principal Pease started out with a desire to have an equipment of books, absolutely necessary to give the best information possible. By the kindness of subscriptions, he raised money to purchase a set of 15 volumes of the International Encyclopedias, the latest edition, a price of which is \$45. These handsome volumes are now in evidence and are being found to be of eminent service.

December 23, 1897 The school board at its meeting Tuesday evening decided to **employ a 4th teacher** for the remainder of the winter. Prof. Pease's room will be divided. The north room will be furnished with the old seats for the time being, thus incurring no other expense than the teacher's salary. This move of the board is to be commended.

January 6, 1898 The high school includes grades 9 and 10, **the later being the new grade just added.**

January 13, 1898 The high school has been divided and a part of the pupils will occupy the third or grammar room. This leaves a few vacant seats for any who wish to attend.

April 14, 1898 At the meeting of the high school literary society, it was decided to buy a **flag sized 12 feet by 6 feet, price \$6.00.** It was also decided to buy a dictionary for the grammar room, providing the school board agrees to return the money by the beginning of next year.

April 21, 1898 A new flag proudly floats over the school building. It is a beauty.

August 18, 1898 The school board has decided to repaint the schoolhouse, repair the roof, put in new seats, and make other improvements before the fall term begins.

September 1, 1898 School begins next Monday. **Tuition will be .30 per week,** payable to the principal each month in advance, Herbert Pease.

October 6, 1898 The board at its next meeting will be asked to grant a two-week vacation the later part of this month in order that the older boys have time to pick corn without interfering with their studies. The new seats arrived last Saturday and were placed in position in the schoolrooms most needing them.

October 27, 1898 On Monday evening at their meeting the school board decided to have a vacation next week. They also advanced Principal Pease \$30 for the purpose of additional books for the school library, said sum to be returned to the district before the end of the school year.

February 23, 1899 Flag Day exercise scheduled 2-29-99 (Friday evening) for grammar and high school – program includes all students. Program of songs - 5 solo and group numbers, 1 essay presentation, 7 recitations, 2 orations, sword drill by 12 boys, flag drill by 18 pupils.

June 2, 1899 High school enrolled = 18, Herbert Pease, principal and teacher. Grammar school enrolled = 31, Nellie Brockett, teacher. Intermediate school enrolled = 47, Mrs. V. E. Walker, Teacher. Primary room enrolled = 36, Ada Hunt, teacher. **Total enrollment 132.**

June 8, 1899 The class of '99 numbers 11, 7 young ladies, and 4 young gentlemen, the largest that ever graduated from the Collins high school. Our school library numbers about 150 volumes, about 50 having been added this year. It will be open to the children during the summer Saturday afternoons. Miss Grace Hall will take charge.

June 28, 1900 At the meeting of the school board Monday evening Miss Culow/Kulow of near Maxwell was elected teacher of the Grammar room. A new system of textbooks was partially adopted. The balance will probably be supplied at the next meeting of the board. The new books selected thus far are readers, languages, physiology, and history. The school board is saving us more than 50% the cost of the new books. The publishers of the new books allow us to turn in the old ones at 50% of the cost of the new books.

March 14, 1901 The school election last Monday resulted in the re-election of Dr. Knepper and A. G. Armstrong as directors. There was absolutely no interest in the election, there having been but 33 votes cast.

April 25, 1901 School board elected the following teachers for the next school year: D. G. Welty – principal, Miss Merle Kulow/Culow – Grammar room, Miss Eva Hattery – Intermediate, Miss Ada Hunt – Primary.

October 31, 1901 Music textbooks have been provided to facilitate a **study of “Moosic” according to law**. There seems to be a great deal of objection on the part of patrons to taking up the pupils' valuable time with the unnecessary study, but law is law.

December 12, 1901 Enrollment for the entire **school is now 156**. By back reports, 20 more are now enrolled than ever before. Prof. Welty said he would increase the enrollment to 160 by the first of the year. A class in bookkeeping and commercial arithmetic started in the high school last Monday. The 10th grade is doing fine work in natural philosophy. As proof, ask some of the students questions on heat or sound.

February 27, 1902 A meeting of the graduates of Collins high school will take place at the school house Friday evening March 7, at 8:00 P.M. **to form an alumni association.** All graduates are urged to be present and help form the association.

March 13, 1902 Sixty-six votes cast in school election Monday. Directors elected were C. L. Fish – 34, John Hattery – 25. Other returning board members are Henry Angelo, A. G. Armstrong, J. G. Gingles, secretary of the board. W. H. Thompson re-elected treasurer.

March 13, 1902 Alumni Association of the Collins High School was formed Friday evening. The following were the officers elected: President Charles Angelo, Vice President – Roy Cooper, Recording Secretary – Grace Hall, Corresponding Secretary – Alma Randall, Treasurer – Howard Niebel. A committee was appointed to arrange for a banquet to take place the next evening after graduation exercises.

June 5, 1902 The first banquet of the Collins High School Alumni Association was held Saturday evening in the opera hall. There were about 50 present. The table decorations were elegant. The supper was very choice, being purveyed by Mrs. Fish of the Collins restaurant. The junior students acted as waiters. The class of 1902 were the guests of honor of which were uniformly dressed in black silk. Principal Welty was toastmaster and responses were made by classes of 1892 through 1902. The musical selections included a song by the graduating class and selections by the select quartette, Misses Forrest Thompson, Daisy Ozmun, Fern Belt, and Myrna Fish. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows: President – Charles Hall, Vice President – Howard Niebel, Secretary – Myrtie Finnie, Treasurer – Roy Cooper.

September 2, 1902 School will open next Monday with the following teachers: D. G. Welty – Principal, Wm. Golly – Grammar room, Miss Eva Hattery – Intermediate, Miss Lois Felshaw – Primary.

September 18, 1902 The **enrollment of the school is 133**, divided among the different rooms as follows: Principal Welty's room – 21, Mr. Golly's room – 38, Miss Hattery's room – 41 and Miss Felshaw's room – 33.

October 2, 1902 J. C. Gingles, secretary of the board, completed the census of the independent district of Collins. The children of school age in the district number 163.

November 13, 1902 At a meeting of the school board, a two-weeks holiday vacation was agreed upon. **Another grade was added, making 11.**

December 11, 1902 On Monday last, after the old school house furnace refused to work for the 100th time, the school board decided to abandon it and do so, substituting stoves.

March 19, 1903 The school board has **raised teachers' wages from \$38 to \$40 for the winter term and from \$30 to \$32 for spring and fall terms.**

March 21, 1903 The senior class play “Valley Farm,” was presented Saturday evening at the opera house to a capacity house, many being unable to secure seats. The pupils did well and all seemed highly pleased. The proceeds amounted to about \$75. At the school election Monday evening Dr. Robertson was named to succeed O. F. Henrich.

September 19, 1905 *Collins Clipper* and *Collins Liberator* consolidated and named *Gazette* with Wm. Burney, editor. The ill-health of Mr. Secord was the cause.

October 10, 1905 The school forced to close for two weeks because of diphtheria.

December 27, 1907 Basketball games between Colo and State Center. (Insert 2003: These are the first notes we have noticed on adjoining towns playing basketball.)

December 30, 1907 Collins. The scholars have resumed their duties at school after a week’s vacation.

January 15, 1908 High School Will Debate. A program will be given by the Collins High School pupils next Friday in which the question, “Resolved, that the man is more capable of carrying the purse than the woman” will be debated. Those on the affirmative are Clarence Fish, Leon Cooper, Charles Mead, and on the negative, Jessie Secord, Mattie Hattery and Ica Downing. Everybody is cordially invited to attend.

May 4, 1908 Collins high school at Colo baseball game coming Friday afternoon. (Insert: 2003 – **this is the first mention of Collins high school baseball.** No outcome of game found.)

May 30, 1908 Decoration Day program includes girls’ glee club – 3 songs and one song by the boys’ quartette.

July 30, 1908 A petition is being circulated and freely signed today asking the board of directors of Collins Independent School District to call a special election for the purpose of voting a tax to build a new school building and for a site for the same.

August 6, 1908 Petition for new school building signed by a majority of voters for construction of school building. Principal Ballard informs us that the Collins Public Schools have a new record book which will show the standings of any pupil who enters our schools and attends at least six weeks. We never had a permanent record before and the new record book will be of value.

August 20, 1908 The petition for a new school building showed over 2/3 of the electors had signed it.

August 20, 1908 The school board met Monday and Wednesday evenings. The idea of using a room or building other than the schoolhouse was abandoned. A partition will be put in the high school room dividing it in two, which will give accommodation in the meantime, in the emergency, although crowding somewhat. New seats are ordered with the calculation they could be used in the new building when erected.

September 10, 1908 School board meeting. Petition calling for election signed by 112 eligible signers – about 75%. The scheduled school election for October 12, 1908 to **issue \$14,000 bonds**. Polls open 1:00 P. M. to 6:00 P.M. J. F. Lingenfelter, president of the school board. J. S. Felshaw, secretary.

October 15, 1908 Monday was a good day, a little dusty, but otherwise an ideal October day. It was the day of the school election. **Votes for school bonds – 113, votes against – 16**, defective ballots – 4, total votes – 133.

October 19, 1908 Football game Friday P.M. Colo and Maxwell (Colo news). (Insert 2003: These are the first notes we have noticed on adjoining towns playing football.)

October 22, 1908 W. W. Ballard, principal and E. A. Biesnecker, high school teacher. Enrollment: Grade 12 = 2, Grade 11 = 7, Grades 9 and 10 = 28. Grammar department = 35, Emma Grove, teacher. Intermediate = 33, Miss Brooke, teacher. Primary = 36, Lena Burney, teacher. Total tuition students = 23.

October 22, 1908 Public Notice. **Truancy Law** – any child 7 to 14 years shall attend public, private, or parochial school for at least 16 school weeks in each school year. Any person violating these regulations shall be charged with violation of Truancy Law. Fines are \$3 to \$20 for each offense.

October 29, 1908 The school board met and passed resolution **issuing the \$14,000, 5% bonds and floating them**.

November 5, 1908 John Lafferty husked 140 bushels of corn one day last week, on reliable authority. He did his own chores morning and evening of that day. (Insert 2003: There have been periodic fall school work vacations for children to help with picking corn. 140 bushels of corn x 75 to 80 ears per bushel = 10,500 to 11,200 ears of corn to throw into the wagon box and then scoop into the corn crib.)

December 18, 1908 (Friday evening) High School play, “Meet Mr. Bob” – comedy. **Cast** of high school students: Leon Cooper, Willie Pritchard, Myrtle Ball, Lee Carver, Clara Dolph, Mattie Hattery, and Blanche Soper. Admission – adults .25, children .15.

December 24, 1908 This is the regular meeting last Monday night, the question of a schoolhouse site was brought before the meeting. On motion it was carried by a majority the board **purchase the three full acres** immediately east of Haley residence and pay therefore the **sum of \$1,100** as per proposition submitted, the same to be used for the schoolhouse site.

January 21, 1909 In this issue is the notice asking for bids for erection of the new schoolhouse. The site is a prominent elevation with natural drainage on the sides, and is well suited to show the noble proportions of the **building whose size will be 61 by 65 ft. two stories and basement**. The rooms will be adapted for high school and grade work. There will be 8 rooms (not counting basement rooms) and by the aid of folding doors, allowing rooms to be opened together, a large auditorium will be assured for lectures, school plays, and other gatherings of a scholastic or public character. The whole will be heated

by steam. Everything will be modern and in conformity with sanitary requirements. The plumbing and sewage will be considered important features. By Feb. 23 the contracts will be let and soon thereafter the work of the building will begin.

January 28, 1909 O. A. Hougland of Chariton, the architect for the Collins School building...submitted the plans and specifications. The **construction** will include: Press brick, Bedford stone, composition roof, hard wall plaster, metal ceiling, yellow pine finish, rolling partitions, plumbing, septic tank and steam heat.

January 28, 1909 Sealed bids will be received by J. S. Felshaw, secretary of the Independent School District of Collins, Iowa until 1:00 P.M., February 23, 1909 for erection and completion of school building 61 feet by 65 feet. A certified check for 5% payable to W. H. Thompson, treasurer, must accompany each bid as a guarantee. Checks returned to unsuccessful bidders. Contractor to whom contract is awarded will be required to give satisfactory bond for faithful performance of contract. Right is reserved to reject any or all bids.

February 3, 1909 Complaints received by the board as to the method of conducting examination of pupils. Action by the board: Whereas Principal Ballard concurs with the board in following resolution: Therefore, be it resolved that **each pupil in school above the third grade be required to take examination every six weeks**. A marking of 3% be allowed each pupil for perfect attendance. (Insert 2003: It appears likely this is beginning of regular six-weeks exams and grading that continued for over fifty years.)

February 18, 1909 The graduating class of 1902 had reunion at home of Clara Shearer. Members of class present: Mabel Ozmun, Clara Shearer, Iva Dickinson, Maude Wells, Mrs. Beulah Gearhart, David Anderson, Florence Pritchard.

February 25, 1909 The school board in special session on February 23, 1909 for the purpose of **opening bids for new schoolhouse**. Following were the bids: C. R. Carpenter, Albia, IA - \$15,674; Guthrie & Holt, Albia, IA - \$17,115; Carmach & Son, Radcliffe, IA - \$16,762; Shippy & Burke, Waterloo, IA - \$17,397; Peterson & Jacobson, Webster City, IA - \$20,478; Teas Brothers, Sheraton, IA \$15,150; J. H. Eastman, Newton, IA - \$14,427. J. H. Eastman, being lowest bidder, was awarded the contract. Checks of 5% amount were returned to other bidders.

February 25, 1909 On motion, the secretary was instructed to give notice of the submitting to qualified electors proposition for the **sale of the old school building and the sale or retention for a public park of the land**, which proposition will be submitted to the said qualified electors of Collins Independent School District at their annual meeting Monday, March 8, 1909. Official notice of which is in this issue.

February 25, 1909 Noticed of annual meeting Independent District. The annual meeting of School District will be held at City Hall in town of Collins on second Monday in March, 1909 at 1:00 P.M. and closing at 6:00 P.M. A director will be elected for a term of three years to succeed J. F. Lingenfelter and a director for three years to succeed Denniston. The board has directed the following propositions shall

be submitted to and determined by the voters: "Shall the board of directors sell the old school building and land and apply proceeds to the new school building or shall the board of directors sell the old school building and retain the land for public park." J. S. Felshaw, secretary.

March 4, 1909 Grades 11 and 12 = 6, W. W. Ballard, principal and teacher. Grades 9 and 10 = 27, E. A. Biesnecker, assistant principal and teacher. Grammar/grades 6, 7, 8 = 50, Emma Grove. Intermediate/grades 3, 4, 5 = 29, Miss Brooke. Primary/grades 1 and 2 = 27, Miss Lena Burney. **Total 139.** (Insert 2003: Notice grade numbers are now used with the grade names.)

March 15, 1909 School board meeting. J. H. Eastman building bond was presented and read. Moved by S. S. Denning and second by S. S. Hanson that board accept the bond, motion carried. The report of annual meeting of election of Collins School District was presented, the report showed 69 ballots cast, 8 rejected. J. F. Lingenfelter received 58 votes and Henry Denniston 57, both duly elected for 3-year terms. J. F. Lingenfelter re-elected president.

The proposition to sell the old school house and the land received 40 votes and the proposition to sell the old schoolhouse and retain the land for public park received 24 votes. The confirmed official satisfaction of majority vote is to sell old school house and land and apply proceeds to the new school.

March 28, 1909 The surveyor came Friday and laid out the ground for the building. Excavating and hauling are in progress. **Eight men and four teams are at work.** The excavating started Monday morning and the work is rushing. Two cars of brick have arrived from Boone for the foundation. A car of cement has arrived from Mankato, Minn.

April 1, 1909 The excavation of the cellar was finished Monday. The **excavated space will be the gymnasium.** Workmen are putting in the concrete footing for the walls. If the weather is good they will start laying brick Monday. A ditch is being dug and laying of pipe has begun to carry city water to the school grounds. The following materials have arrived on the ground the past week; two cars of brick, a car of structural iron and a car of lumber. A car of gravel came from Maxwell today.

April 8, 1909 The brick work started yesterday with a force of four bricklayers.

April 15, 1909 Teachers meeting at Maxwell attended by six Collins teachers: Principal Ballard, Mrs. Biesnecker, Miss Grove, Miss Brooke, Clara Shearer, Cresey Downing.

April 22, 1909 School building. Cut stone, pressed brick and joists are on the ground. Foundation is complete. A carload of window frames arrived. Building materials is now all on the ground but the work has been delayed by wet weather.

April 28, 1909 The work has made good progress the past week. Pressed brick up over one-half of the first story. Mr. Conway of Belle Plane, another bricklayer has been added to the working staff. Stone sills and window frames on the first story are all up.

April 29, 1909 – School caucus and election – to nominate candidates for the school board.

May 6, 1909 Work on the school building is making substantial progress this week. Brick work is up to the end of the first story and they are putting in the joists of the second floor.

May 6, 1909 The **Opening Ball Game** – Collins H. S. boys played a game of ball at Maxwell Friday. Collins won 16-4. Raymond Crosby and Harvey Westcott – battery. Crosby pitched 7 innings, Fred Jackson 2. Westcott caught all the time. (Insert 2003 – first news article providing outcome of game and the names of any players.)

May 6, 1909 Teachers Meeting, School Report

May 7, 1909 **Track and field meet at Marshalltown**, Saturday for high school athletes of Story, Harden and Marshall Counties. (No results found.)

May 8, 1909 (Saturday) Teachers meeting at Christian church in Collins. County superintendent expects all teachers in **Collins Township to attend**. We especially invite the members of school boards and all patrons to attend.

Program: Music – primary children. Talk to teachers – County superintendent Ira J. Scott.

Paper – “Country Schools for County Children” by Miss Clara Shearer (Collins). Discussion – Miss Maude Kennedy (Collins).

Song – Oliver Shearer and Harold Lingenfelter.

Paper – “Personal Work of Teachers in Discipline and Cooperation with Parents” – Lena Burney (Collins). Discussion – Professor H. W. Bowsen (Maxwell).

Reading – Clara Signs (Collins).

Address – “The Rural School Library” – Honorable W. J. Veneman (Maxwell). Discussion – H. W. Dana (Cambridge).

October 12, 1909 Boys basketball – Colo at Nevada, first game of the season. **November 19, 1909** Girls basketball – Cambridge at Maxwell (Insert 2003: Nothing found on Collins basketball during the above dates.)

November 23, 1909 The new school is nearing completion and transfer possible this week. School dismissed Thursday and Friday for Thanksgiving vacation. **(Insert 2003: Transfer was completed to new school over Thanksgiving weekend)**

From the old school building constructed in 1884 came the first graduation class for those ten students who had completed eighth grade in 1892. When a year of High School was added, two of those students returned to school for further education and graduated in **1895**. Soon a second year of High School was added and in **1899**, the graduates were ten-year students. Eleventh grade classroom was added in **1905**.

In 1910 the first full four-year high school graduation was held.

December 24, 1909 School was closed for one week of holiday vacation.

December 29, 1909 The 1909 holiday season had an added special event: Wednesday, **December 28, 1909 proved to be a beautiful day for the dedication of the new high school building.** Owing to cold weather the crowd was somewhat late in arriving so the forenoon program was confined to the address by President Brooke of Toledo Leander Clark College. He gave a splendid discourse on some defect courses emphasizing as the main defect point that most courses are fitted to cater to the 2 ½ % that plan to go to college. **97 ½% only finish the eighth grade or high school.** (Insert 2003: Latin was required one or two terms as State Colleges of Iowa required Latin to enroll in college. State Colleges removed Latin near 1920 and Collins School promptly ended Latin requirement.)

Dinner followed to which 3 and 400 did ample justice. The afternoon program opened with a short paper by Superintendent Scott on “The School and the Boy” calling especially for a closer relationship between the home and the school. No doubt the most heartedly enjoyed and favorable commented speech was that of Prof. Walter Athearn of the Drake Normal Department (Insert 2003: Drake University). His talk covered topics of general educational value. Miss Elizabeth Burney of the State Teacher’s College (Insert 2003: University of Northern Iowa) favored the audience with a splendid vocal solo. Dr. Longwell of Highland Park, being sick, was unable to appear. Professor McClennahan, High School inspector for the college was the replacement. His lecture gave a splendid description of New Mexico and that part of the U. S. known as the Great Southwest. The boys’ quartette was thoroughly enjoyed and heartedly encored.

(Insert 2003: The time schedule on the project is impressive: Petition calling for a school election signed by near 75% of eligible voters presented to school board 9-10-1908. School election and passage to issue \$14,000 bonds on 10-12-1908. Public notice for sealed bids for construction of school building 1-28-1909. Bid opening and awarding contract 2-23-1909. Construction began mid-March and completion with school moved into new building November, Thanksgiving weekend 1909.)

April 1, 1910 At the meeting of the school board Friday evening, the following grade teachers were elected for next year. Principal and assistant were not decided on; Clara Shearer – primary, Myrna Fish – 3 and 4, Emma Grove – 5 and 6 grades, Gussie Brooks – 7 and 8 grades.

April 22, 1910 An excellent teachers meeting was held Saturday at the high school building. Besides many patron visitors, several teachers from Maxwell attended. Supt. Dana of Cambridge and county superintendent Scott were also present. Collins teachers attending were the entire corps of town teachers, Misses Clara Shearer, Gussie Brooks, Emma Grove, E. C. Evans, W. W. Ballard, the graduating students, Myrtle Hall, Mattie Hattery, Clara Dolph, Willie Pritchard and rural teachers Clara Signs, Grace Hattery, Hazel Hand, Alta Young, Creny Downing.

April 22, 1910 The Collins schools boys played their first matched game of **baseball** this season Friday, and the Colo boys defeated them by a score of 7 to 5. Saturday they went to Rhodes and took spite out on the boys there by several scores.

May 6, 1910 Baseball game at Colo. Colo 10, Collins 9.

May 24, 1910 The **graduating exercises of the high school** were held in the Christian Church Friday evening. **The class delivered orations.** The graduates were Clara Dolph, Blanche Soper, Myrtle Ball, Mattie Hattery and Will Pritchard. The exercises were followed by the alumni banquet at Graef Hall.

Sept. 8, 1910 Opening of Schools. The Collins Public Schools opened Monday with the full staff of teachers: W. W. Kirk – principal, Ira McClure – assistant principal, Margaret McLaughlin – 7 and 8 grades, Emma Grove – 5 and 6 grades, Myrna Fish – 3 and 4 grades, Clara Shearer – primary grades. There has been considerable new furniture placed in the building lately, fine new cement walks have been completed leading up to the school and everything is in first class condition for a good school year.

October 20, 1910 established a high school equipment fund to raise \$100. C. W. Kirk

November 10, 1910 School faculty and others returned on Sunday afternoon from Des Moines where they attended the State Teachers convention, among them being Superintendent and Mrs. Kirk, and Misses McClure, McLaughlin, Grove, Fish, Shearer, Swalwell, and Julia Anderson

Jan 6, 1911 High School, 11th and 12th grade = 9; 9th and 10th = 28; W.W. Ballard, Principal. Clinton Evans, Assistant Principal. Grammar Grades = 38, Emma Grove Teacher. Intermediate = 33, Miss Brooke Teacher. Primary, First Grade = 12, Second Grade = 14, Clara Shearer Teacher. **Total = 134.**

February 16, 1911 On February 18, the board of school directors will offer for sale to the highest bidder the old school building complete, including the basement, foundation, and furnace, also the 11 lots comprising the old site.

February 23, 1911 Old school building sold. The buildings on the old school house grounds were sold. The school building was knocked down to Wm. Vasey for \$280. The sale of the lots was stopped before any were sold on account of the bids being too low.

March 23, 1911 School Board met Monday evening. C. G. Vasey and Oscar Anderson and newly elected members were sworn in. J. F. Lingenfelter was re-elected chairman of the board. All of the teachers were re-elected, except for the grammar grades Miss Clara Signs was elected, and for assistant principal Miss Emma Baie. **(Insert: Clara Signs – beginning of 34 years at Collins School.)**

April 13, 1911 The Boys Club baseball team will play their first game of the season on home ground tomorrow, Friday April 14 with the Cambridge High School team. Both teams are believed to be in good condition and a hotly contested game is expected. Come and enjoy a good game and encourage the boys. Game called at 3:00 P.M. Admission: Adults .15, children .10, ladies free.

April 13, 1911 Story County, Rural teachers' conference.

Topic: How should the pupils study? The teacher's part, Miss Grove. (b) The parents' part, Miss McClure. Vocal solo, Milo Hall, "The Country Boy or Girl."

Topic: Is consolidation of rural schools of Collins Township with the Collins High School desirable? (a) Yes, Myrna Fish and Clara Shearer (b) No, Mattie Hattery and Cynthia Mead. Vocal solo, Harold Lingenfelter, "Friday Afternoon"

Topic: How much and what shall the school introduce that is outside of the regular work? Carrie Hattery

Topic: Grading the rural schools, Superintendent I. J. Scott

The above program was given at the district meeting of teachers in Collins High School Saturday.

April 20, 1911, Boys Club Team Wins Friday afternoon on the home grounds the Boys Club baseball team won a splendid victory over the Cambridge High School team, defeating them by a 13 to 4 score. Cambridge has long been famed for its baseball teams and the Collins Boys were expecting to have their hands full. Cambridge started the game with a rush, bringing in two scores the first inning. For the first three innings Collins played wild, as a result of a short attack of stage fright brought by the whirlwind start of the Cambridge boys and their size and formidable appearance. However, this did not last long and pitcher John King settled down to his usual form. After the first three innings King's pitching and his splendid backing by infield and outfield, proved too hard a problem for Cambridge to solve and they failed to score again. After the Collins Boys got their stride, they gave a splendid exhibition of consistent batting and piled up 13 scores. The lineup of the Collins team was as follows: Arlo Heinrich, (c), John King (p), Harvey Westcott (1st), Ray Carver (2nd), Oliver Shearer (3rd), John Thompson (ss), Eddie Harsh (lf), Amos Botheras (cf), Earl Kendig (rf), Leon Keagel (rf).

What? Baseball! Who? Colo H. S. vs. Collins Boys Club. When? Friday afternoon at 2:30. Where? Ball park, Collins. How much, Adults .15, children .10, Ladies, free. Who will be there? Everyone who enjoys a good game.

April 27, 1911 The **baseball game** between Colo and Collins last Friday was a very interesting and exciting contest up to the last moment of play. Neither team scored the first two innings. In the last half of the 3rd inning Collins managed to bring in one score. In the fourth each team scored one run. Colo soon made a spurt and brought in three more, making the score 4-2. Collins brought in one more and later each made a score, making it 5-4 in Colo's favor. It remained thus until nearly the end of the game, when in the last half of the 8th Collins scored two runs, placing them one ahead. Colo had but one more chance at bat. If Collins could shut them out in this inning, the game was won. There were two outs and none on base when John King hit a batter, thus letting a man to first, who managed to get clear around before a third out was made. This tied the game the again with the score 6-6 and only half an inning to play, both teams strained every effort. After two outs and no one on base, Harsh got a single, King followed with another, leaving a man on third and first. King tried to steal second and the Colo pitcher threw wild to second, letting Harsh in with the winning score.

Both teams played consistent ball throughout the game. Both Scogsberg and King deserve credit for their good pitching. Ginter of Colo made a home run. Final school, Collins 7, Colo 6. Lineup as follows: John King (p), Arlo Heinrich, (c), Harvey Westcott (1st), Ray Carver (2nd), Oliver Shearer (3rd), John Thompson (ss), Earl Kendig (lf), Eddie Harsh (rf), Amos Botheras (cf). The Collins boys expect to go to Melbourne Saturday.

May 8, 1911 Rural Eighth Final Examination This examination will be given in the Collins High School on Saturday, May 13, 1911. Rules governing: A pupil to be eligible to take the eighth grade final examinations: (a) shall have finished course of study set forth in handbook for Iowa Schools, pages 16-150 inclusive. (b) shall have come from a school the course of study of which ends with the eighth grade. (c) shall have passed a rural preliminary eighth grade examination, evidenced by records in county superintendents' office. (d) shall comply with rules thereof. Examination program: 8:00 A.M. Preliminary, 8:15 A.M. Arithmetic, 10:15 A.M. Physiology, 1:15 P.M. Grammar, 3:15 P.M. Music, 4:15 P.M. Civics (not now required). There is no fee required. C. W. Kirk

May 18, 1911 Base Ball Notes. Last Friday the Collins Boys Club baseball team lost to Colo by a score of 5-4. It was a hard fought game all the way and undecided until the last moment of play. This is one game apiece for the two teams. Arrangements have not yet been made to play off the tie.

Melbourne high school team will play here Saturday afternoon 2:30 P.M. The former game with Melbourne, Collins won by the close score of 2-1. The admission.15, and 10 cents.

Melbourne-Collins Game The ballgame between Melbourne and Collins High Schools at the Collins grounds emphasized the caliber of the Collins team. Melbourne gave their best work most of the time and did get one score, but that was all. The result of the game was 6-1 in favor of Collins. There was good attendance of the public. The interest in these contests is increasing and the fame of the Collins Boys ball team is spreading. We look for some notable contests during the holiday season.

Ball Game Next Tuesday Afternoon. The Dysart High School baseball team will play Collins High School team, Tuesday May 30 on the home grounds. Game called at 2:30 P.M. the **Dysart team claims the championship of northeastern Iowa. Collins claims the championship of central Iowa.** And this game will decide the championship of the state. Come out and give the boys a boost. **Admission .10 and .15 cents.**

June 1, 1911 To the Teachers of Story County: The Story County summer school will begin Monday morning, June 12, at 7:00 at the Nevada High School building and will be session ten days.

The Story County Normal Institute will begin Monday morning, July 10th at 7:00 in the Nevada High School building and will be in session ten days.

The programs of the summer school and institute are so planned that the work done in one is not done in the other, but the work of the two makes up one and the same course of study. The work this year will be both academic and the lecture plan.

Very sincerely yours, L. J. Scott

June 1, 1911 Collins vs. Dysart The ballgame last Tuesday between the home boys and Dysart was one of the best games played here this year. Although the boys were up against an older bunch of players, Dysart worked for all they got. This score was 5-1 in favor or Dysart, but the game was better than the score indicates. King pitched a good game and was given good support by the men behind him. Heinrich caught good, Carver starred with the big stick, Shearer at 3rd accepted 7 chances without an error. The

Dysart players are gentlemen and will always, always be welcomed in Collins. The lineup of players: John King (p), Arlo Heinrich, (c), Harvey Westcott (1st), Ray Carver (2nd), Oliver Shearer (3rd), John Thompson (ss), Earl Kendig (lf), Eddie Harsh (rf), Amos Botheras (cf).

June 1, 1911 J. F. Lingenfelter Resigns from School Board: J. F. Lingenfelter resigned his position on the school board. The board met Monday night and unanimously adopted the following resolution on motion: "Be it resolved by the school board of the Independent District of Collins, Iowa, that in, accepting the resignation of J. F. Lingenfelter as president and member of the board, we do so with due respect and respectfully thank him for his assistance and good work as a member of the school board and especially for his untiring efforts in the building of the new school house." The board elected Dr. R. C. Robertson to fill the vacancy called by Mr. Lingenfelter's resignation. H. C. Denniston acted as chairman pro tem.

July 20, 1911 The school board hired J. W. Randal as janitor for the year at a salary of \$40 a month.

August 24, 1911 School Board Meeting. The board accepted the bid of Biddick and Holman Lumber Co. to supply the best enterprise lump coal at \$3.45 per ton to be delivered in the bin at the school house, 30 tons to be delivered in September and 30 tons in December. On motion, it was carried that school shall begin September 4. The board moved and it was carried that solid geometry be discontinued from the course of study and orthography and orthoepy be added.

September 6, 1911 County Students to Town School Free tuition for country scholars in the high school. The new school law enables country children to get the benefit of a high school education without cost to their parents.

October 12, 1911 Collins High School Football. Collins High School football team is now assured. Twenty members are in the squad and a better lot of enthusiastic muscular specimens would be hard to find. They are practicing every evening and the elected organization will be effected in a few days. (Insert 2003: No later information found)

October 19, 1911 State Teachers Meeting Soon. The official bulletin for the Iowa State Teachers Association is out. **The 57th annual session** will be held in Des Moines, November 9,10 and 11. The program for the general association includes speakers of national prominence. (Insert 2003: 1911 minus 57 years equals 1854 as the first Iowa State Teachers meeting, before Civil War era.)

November 10, 1911 All the teachers of Collins Schools and many from the county schools are planning on being present at the State Teachers' meeting to be held in Des Moines, 9 and 10.

November 17, 1911 Laboratory apparatus to the amount of \$200 which was purchased for the high school is beginning to arrive.

December 7, 1911 Old School Building Moving Workmen are moving the old schoolhouse building to the southeast corner of the old school grounds. William Vasey, the owner, will have it **converted into business premises for a drug store on the first floor and opera house on the second floor.**

February 22, 1912 School Caucus. A caucus of the Independent School District of Collins will be held at Vasey Brothers Lumber office at 8:00 Monday evening February 26 to nominate candidates for the following offices: Two directors for three years, directory to fill a vacancy for one year: J. S. Felshaw, secretary.

March 21, 1912 School Board Meeting The new board met Monday night, Dr. Robertson was elected as chairman. He appointed Oscar Anderson and Curt Campbell as finance committee. H. C. Denniston and C. G. Vasey were appointed committee on Grounds and Teachers. Teachers were elected: Superintendent Kirk was re-elected, also Mrs. Clara Shearer - Primary Teacher. Others elected were W. J. Burney - Assistant Principal, Grammar Grades - Miss Clara Signs, Intermediate - Mrs. Rosa Halterman, Grades Three and Four - Miss Julia Anderson.

April 11, 1912 Story County Teachers Association meeting to be held April 13, 1912. County Superintendent Scott.

April 18, 1912 Collins Alumni Association meeting will be held Monday evening at Hall Store to arrange for the annual alumni banquet. Your presence is urgently requested.

April 25, 1912 Alumni Meeting. The Alumni Association of Collins High School met Monday evening to arrange **committees** and for festivities in connection with for this year's graduation. The committees are as follows: Finance - Maud Wells, Clara Signs, C. G. Vasey, Erma Anderson; Lunch - Mrs. Harvey Southern, Myrna Fish, Mrs. Leona Boydston, Mrs. G. F. Holland; Invitations - Clara Shearer, Ira Dickinson, Claire Fish, George Lingenfelter.

Planting Trees at School Grounds: The following trees have been planted at the schoolhouse grounds: Two Camperdown Weeping Elms, Six Red Flowering Double Horse Chestnuts, Two Weeping Ash, Twelve Caroline Poplars, 32 Norway Maple, 12 Pyramadalis, also shrubs have been planted.

June 7, 1912 In the June 3 issue of the *Nevada Journal* we (Collins editor) saw where the Colo High School Baseball team claims the championship of this section of the state, and also claims that they defeated Collins High School at their home grounds Decoration day, by a score of 4 to 3. We feel this is a mistake because our information indicates the game was forfeited to Collins High School by a score of 9 to 0.

June 12, 1912 Seniors Entertained Mrs. O. B. Patterson entertained at dinner Sunday. The folk were among the guests: Miss Blanch Brown, Miss Persis Fertig and, Chas. Hattery. Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Kirk entertained the Seniors and Miss Duwe, Friday evening May 1. An elaborate three course dinner was served, the table was beautifully decorated with cut flow and the class colors, navy blue and gold. The evening was delightfully spent in conversation.

Mrs. H. Patterson entertained the Seniors and the Misses McCrea and Duwe at a six course dinner. Monday, May 16. The decorations were in the class colors, blue and gold. The guests were favored with solo musical selections from the victrola. A very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all present.

The Juniors entertained honor of the Seniors Tuesday evening May 17, at the home Virgil Randall. -The invited guests were the Seniors and the High school teachers. The rooms were tastily decorated with the Senior colors and flowers. Refreshments were served in courses. The evening was pleasantly spent with games, music and conversation.

September 2, 1912 School opened with the following teachers: Supt. – C. W. Kirk, Assist. principal – W. J. Burney, grades 7 and 8 – Clara Signs, grades 5 and 6 – Miss Rose Halterman, grades 3 and 4 – Julia Anderson, grades 1 and 2 – Clara Shearer.

January 23, 1913 The annual meeting of Story County Teachers Association will be held at Nevada February 7 and 8.

March 6, 1913 School Election At the caucus Friday night there was a spirited contest for the nomination of school director. No less than five ballots had to be taken to decide who should be the nominee. On the fifth ballot Dr. Richardson won. The election is on Monday first March 10th.

March 6, 1913 High School Notes The weekly meeting of the Junior-Senior Society was held Friday afternoon in the Laboratory. The meeting was called to order by the president and, after the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, the following program was rendered: Song, "Flow Gently Sweet Afton" Society Reading, Ada Swallow. Medley, Vilda Thompson, Edwin Fish, Ralph McCord, Ethel Stratton. Theme, Ethel Dodd. Debate, "Resolved that a religious qualification should be required for president." Affirmative, Ruth Anderson, Ethel Carver. Negative, Mable Hanson, Arlo Heinrich. Song, "Old Kentucky Home," Society. The numbers were well prepared and the interest in regard to this work is increasing. In the debate, many practical points, were given by each one of the debaters, and after a short discussion, the decision was announced in favor of the affirmative.

March 27, 1913 School Board Meeting. The following teachers elected: Assist. principal – W. J. Burney, grades 7 and 8 – Clara Signs, grades 5 and 6 – Rose Halterman, grades 3 and 4 – Grace McCrea, grades 1 and 2 – Clara Shearer.

March 28, 1913 Junior-Senior literary program. Discussion leaders – Ethel Carver and Ruth Anderson. Topic – "Is Ragtime Music Beneficial?" Physics experiment – John Thompson paper. Manual Training Should Be Matriculated For School Athletes – Arlo Henrichs. Debate – Resolved that Examinations Should be Abolished: Affirmative – Ralph McCord, Velda Thompson; Negative – Ethel Stratton, Ethel Dodd. Decision to affirmative.

April 29, 1913 – Section 10 of the Story County Teachers Association met in the auditorium of the Collins High School Saturday for the annual meeting. Program included: Song – primary grades, Prayer – Rev. Violet, Solo – Dorothy Hanson, Address – Mr. McNabb, Exercise – Color Fairies – grades 5 and 6, Double Duet – Mable Kern, Mable Tribby, Eva King, Mary Holmes. Instrumental solo – Florence

Oxley, Presentation of question relating to school method – management following by general discussion.

(Insert 2003: Did not notice any sport or athletic news from June 6, 1912 through April 29, 1913.)

May 22, 1913 Collins High School Commencement Exercises The most important event of the school year is the graduation of the 12th grade students who, having finished their school work, are ready to begin the duties of manhood and womanhood. The Collins Schools provide a liberal education for the students who persevere to the close, and send them out into the world of everyday life with credentials that are a passport for entrance to the work they may undertake in the various callings, or preparatory for the studies of a profession.

The graduation took place in the opera house Friday evening before a fashionable audience that packed the auditorium. The proscenium was decked with ferns and flowers and the stage electric lamps were brilliantly effective. The class motto on black cloth with scarlet letters, “The elevator to success is not running, take the stairs,” was elevated and suspended across the rear of the stage. As the orchestra played, the graduates and Supt. Kirk took seats on the stage, while the other members of the faculty and the Board of education occupied seats reserved specially for them in the auditorium.

The members of the graduating class were: Ethel B. Carver, Leon E. Keagle, Hazel M. Marsh, Florence A. Oxley, John B. Thompson.

The following was the order of the program: Music – Orchestra, Invocation – Rev. Violet, Music – Orchestra, Chorus – “O Happy Days gone by” – HS, Oration “The Blight of Idleness” – Ethel B. Carver, Oration “Progress and Poverty” – John B. Thompson, Vocal Solo – Harold Lingenfelter, Oration “Things Worth While” – Hazel M. Marsh, Instrumental Solo – Forest Graef, Oration “Determination, the Basis of Success,” – Florence A. Oxley, Oration “Character” – Leon E. Keagle, Music – Orchestra, Presentation of Class – Supt. Kirk, Presentation of Diplomas – Dr. R. C. Robertson, Benediction – Rev. Violet.

The orations were very credible productions. The subjects were such as the appealed to a popular audience and were treated with frankness. The ideas were fresh and vigorous and were clothed in apt and good English. The delivery was marvelously fine, considering the difficulties encountered. As the graduates spoke rain fell against the windows in torrents, thunder shook the building and the lightening was pyrotechnic display that was too vivid and too incessant and too close for comfort. The windows had all to be closed to keep out the deluge, the result being a hot auditorium, but not so hot as the stage where the graduates nobly triumphed over every obstacle and effectively delivered their orations without the omission of a single syllable.

Supt. Kirk paid the class a high compliment, showing that the five graduates that kept their studies side by side, to within a fraction during the four grades of high school. Such training is bound to tell in the work of life.

Dr. Robertson, president of the board of education preceded the presentation of the diplomas by a brief, but pointed and appreciative address.

The orchestra was very helpful and entertaining: Giving pretty selections that were enjoyed. Mrs. Forrest Graef with piano solo and Harold Lingenfelter with vocal solo added much to the success of the program. The high school chorus sang excellently with a tone that compelled admiration. The accompaniment on pianos were Mrs. G. E. McCord for orchestra and Miss Jennie Hall for vocal music.

March 5, 1914 Notice of Annual Meeting – Collins Independent District Notice is hereby given to the qualified electors of the Independent District of Collins in the county of Story, State of Iowa, that the annual meeting of the said district will be held at the Town Hall in the Town of Collins, Iowa on the 2nd Monday in March 1914 at 1:00 o'clock p.m. and closing at 6:00 o'clock p.m.

A director will be named for a term of three years to succeed C. G. Vasey, one for three years to succeed Oscar Anderson, and a treasurer for two years to succeed W. H. Thompson. The meeting will be open for the transaction of such business as may legally come before you. J. S. Felshaw, Sec'y.

March 12, 1914 School Election At the school election Monday, C. G. Vasey and C. R. Wick were elected directors. W. H. Thompson was elected treasurer with no opposition. 86 ballots were cast and one was spoiled. The judges of the election were J. W. Shenkle and W. W. Wood. E. J. Kielley was clerk. The vote was as follows: For directors, two vacancies. Oscar Anderson - 34, G. F. Holland - 18, L. E. Patterson - 25, C. G. Vasey - 53, C. R. Wick - 39. For treasurer, W. H. Thompson - 81.

March 19, 1914 School Board Meeting The old board met Monday night. Bills were allowed. The newly elected directors, C. G. Vasey and C. R. Wick took the oath of office. The new board met, with Dr. Richardson as temporary and permanent chairman: He was elected president of the board. He appointed H. C. Denniston and C. R. Wick as financial committee. Dr. Robertson and C. G. Vasey, committee on grounds and buildings. On motion the board engaged Rev. Medbury as speaker at graduation exercises. C. W. Kirk was re-engaged as superintendent of the schools for the next two years at a salary of \$1400 per year. The board will meet March 27 to elect teachers for the ensuing year.

March 19, 1914 State Superintendent of Public Instruction to Speak in Collins Recent school legislation affecting the subjects taught and equipment used in rural schools has impelled many districts in Iowa to consolidate. Collins township is so situated relative to the town of Collins that a central school could be established here and pupils living in extreme corners of the township have practically the same distance to travel.

That our people, both of the township and of the town, may have firsthand information from a responsible and impartial state official who is deeply interested in the welfare of Iowa children, Prof. Kirk has secured Supt. A. M. Deyoe for an address in connection with the annual Patrons Day Program and School Exhibit March 27, 1914. The rooms will be open for visitors after 9:30 a.m. and friends are requested to come early that they may examine the work before noon. The program will begin at 1:00 p.m. Directors of rural schools in the townships are requested to have their teachers and board members attend.

March 27, 1914 Patrons Day Patrons Day at the Collins Schools attracted a large crowd of people from country and town. The exhibits were artistic in appearance and showed the progressive work of the pupils, giving patrons and visitors a knowledge of the superior work of the Collins teachers and pupils. The interest taken in the exhibits was very marked and much approval expressed.

In the afternoon the proceedings were centered in the auditorium. Supt. Kirk presided and the following was the program: Song – Primary, Rec. – “When Brother Works Arithmetic” – Ester Stratton, Dialogue “The Ghost” – 3rd and 4th grades, Dolly Show – Primary Girls, Rec. – Martha Thompson, The Color Fairies – 5th and 6th grades, The Rainy Daisies or Parsols – 3rd and 4th grades, Doll Exercise and Song – Primary, Rope Work – 5th and 6th grade Boys, “Star Spangled Banner” and Drill – High School and 7th and 8th Grades. The program was very enjoyable and satisfactory.

State Supt. Deyoe’s address on consolidation of schools was convincing. He met the objections to consolidation with a remarkable fairness: Out of those who have tried consolidation, 95% are still in favor of it. It gives the country boys and girls as good an education as those living in town and the means of travel was shown to be a success. An average of two days in each winter was the limit that the children could not be conveyed to the central school. There was a great advantage in the superior education and consequent saving of years of time and much expense to those who wished a better education for their children than the present country school afforded. It meant better schools, better education, better citizenship.

April 4, 1914 Seniors Entertained Saturday evening, April 4, 1914 the seniors were delightfully entertained by Misses Vilda Thompson and Ethel Stratton, at the home of the latter; all of the class but one being present. The evening was spent in games and music. Then the class was ushered into the dining room, which was beautifully decorated with the class colors, and a two-course luncheon was served by Mrs. Stratton and Miss Eva King. The class departed pronouncing Vilda and Ethel royal entertainers.

April 23, 1914 High School Ballgame The Collins High School played the Rhodes High School last Friday at Rhodes. The game was disastrous for Rhodes as the following shows: Collins 17 runs on 11 hits and 15 errors. Rhodes 8 runs on 8 hits with 18 errors. The lineup for Collins: Carver – (p & 3b), Shearer – (1b), Ralph McCord – (1914) (p & 3b), Dewey Kern – (1916) (cf), Edwin Fish – (1914) (ss), Lloyd Holland – (1917) (2b), Harley Minear – (1f), John Hattery – (1914) (rf), Arlow Heinrich – (1914) (c). Time of game – 2 hrs. & 59 mins.

April 24, 1914 Alumni Association Meeting Friday evening, April 17, 1914 meeting was called to order by president. Report of constitution and bylaws by committee. Motion was made and carried that we will wait until the alumni banquet before we take action on the constitution and bylaws. Banquet to be held Friday evening, May 22. Election of **committees** as follows: Invitation – Iva Dickson, Bessie Carver, Maude Stigler. Lunch – Clara Shearer, Mrs. Chambers, Mrs. Holland, Mrs. A. Vasey. Program – Aura Harmsen, Hazel Marsh, W. J. Burney, Lula Kennedy, Clara Signs. Decorating – Oliver Shearer, John Thompson, Leon Keagle, Ethel Carver, Maye Suthern. Lookout – Mrs. Boydston, Chas. Vasey.

May 8, 1914 Collins High School Ball team played the Colo High School team on the home grounds Friday. The game ended in a victory for Collins. The score being 13-2. The high school certainly has a fine team, this being their **4th game, having never lost a game.**

February 5, 1915 Story County Teachers Association – Nevada M.E. Church – February 5, Friday evening at 8:00 p.m. and February 6, Saturday at 8:30 a.m.

March 4, 1915 Supt. Kirk Writes on the Need of Consolidation for Country Scholars – After July 15 schools must teach agriculture, domestic science and manual training. Both agriculture and manual training are being taught in the Collins school. The equipment for teaching domestic science will be installed during the summer, ready for the opening of the new school year. Rural schools must equip for the teaching of the above subjects.

Just how one teacher may successfully handle eight grades plus these subjects is a problem yet unanswered. Experienced school men know she can not successfully handle the proposition. Who then shall furnish the boys and girls who are to be poorly taught? Shall you?

The state law makes provision for state aid to consolidated districts. Is not this a challenge to Collins and Collins Township to meet the requirements and give to the rural boy and girl as great advantages as the town child has? Eighty-two districts in Iowa have consolidated already. Now is the time for action and the matter should receive serious consideration from you if you reside in a rural district. Consolidation has its problems, but they are being solved. The percent of attendance in consolidated schools shows conclusively that transportation of pupils is being successfully accomplished. Let us hear from you. Respectfully, C. W. Kirk.

March 4, 1915 Notice of Annual Meeting – Collins Independent District Notice is hereby given to the qualified electors of the Independent District of Collins in the county of Story, State of Iowa, that the annual meeting of the said district will be held at the Town Hall in the Town of Collins, Iowa on the 2nd Monday in March 1915 at 1:00 o'clock p.m. and closing at 6:00 o'clock p.m.

A director will be named for a term of three years to succeed H. W. Denniston, Vasey, one for three years to succeed R. C. Roberson. The meeting will be open for the transaction of such business as may legally come before you. J. S. Felshaw, Sec'y.

March 26, 1915 Election of Teachers – Another meeting of the school board was held Friday evening when three of the teachers were re-elected: Asst. Principal – Miss Duwe, Grammar Teacher – Miss Clara Signs, grades 3 and 4 – Miss McCrae, Supt. Kirk was re-elected at a former meeting. The primary department and grades five and six have not been filled. Several applications for both have been received.

March 26, 1915 Collins High School Literary Society – Auditorium of the High School Friday, March 26, 1915. Program – Questions on Parliamentary Rules. Song – High School, Original Story – Lorene

Anderson, Instrumental Solo – Mary Bates, Our Class Prophecy – Virgil Randall, Reading – Doris Keagle, Song – High School. Debate: Resolved, that Iowa, in the future, should be an agricultural, rather than a manufacturing state. Affirmative: Alda Dodd, Earl Swisher. Negative: Blanche Brown, Dewey Kern. Song – High School. Literary Committee.

April 2, 1915 Collins High School Literary Society – Auditorium of the High School Friday, April 2, 1915. Program – Questions on Parliamentary Rules. Address to C. H. S. – C. W. Kirk, Song – High School, Humorous Reading – Clarence Jones, High School Trip – Mabel Kern, Instrumental Solo – Hester McConnell, Song – High School. Debate: Resolved, that rebellion against tyrannical government was justifiable. Affirmative: Leona Halterman, Charles Byerly. Negative: Joe Stanton, Pearl Wax. Song – High School. Literary Committee.

April 23, 1915 The Cambridge High School Baseball team defeated Collins last Friday on the home grounds by a score of 4 to 10.

May 6, 1915 High School and Business Men – The high school and business men had a ball game at the school grounds Friday afternoon, high school winning by a score of 9 to 7. Ray Carver was catcher for the business men and batted a home run, the ball going over to Arthur Vasey's lots. While catching, a ball hit him at end of finger and drew first blood. There was a good deal of changes in the business men's team. Fred Shearer pitched for them. The battery for the school boys were Dewey Kern and Harley Minear. The game was full of fun and a good crowd enjoyed it. The high school had the honors, although the business men played well, especially in the first innings.

May 27, 1915 Graduates Give Orations – The High School Literary Society's program Tuesday afternoon was of even more than usual interest because of the three graduates giving orations. There was a numerous, interested, and appreciative audience, representative of the whole township. The graduates are young ladies from the country districts, a fact in itself indicative of the high value placed by the Collins Township people, outside as well as inside the independent district of Collins, upon the educational advantages of our city schools. **The graduates' orations were,** "The Meaning of Success" – Blanche Brown; "Self-Reliance" – Alda Dodd; and "Motive Gives Life Its Value" – Persis Fertig. The orations were marked by high ideals, pure and noble thoughts, and worthy ambitions, expressed in chaste and dignified language. At the close of the exercises the graduates received many deserved compliments for their superior oratorical productions which had given the auditors so much genuine pleasure.

The singing of the High School was much enjoyed, Leona Halterman being the painstaking accompanist. A pretty vocal duet was given by Mabel Tribby and Mabel Kern. Mary Bates gave a pretty solo on the piano, and Mary Holmes and Leona Halterman a duet on the same instrument. This latter number, on account of its bright rendering, was enthusiastically received and an encore demanded. Interesting and enjoyable readings were given by Clarence Jones and Mabel Vasey and Wayne Ball an essay. The toast list included one by Doris Keagle with response by Truman Stanton and one to the seniors by Dewey Kern, responded by Blanche Brown. A debate stirred the interest to the limit. It was: Resolved – "that suffrage should be granted to women." Pearl Wax and Mabel Tribby represented the

affirmative and Lloyd Holland and Chas. Byerly, the negative. The judges were: Mrs. Lulu Robinson, Rev. A. V. Hart and Wm. Burney. The arguments were as good as we ever heard, and the rebuttals by Pearl Wax and Lloyd Holland were keen and pointed, bringing down the house with their climax cadences. The judges gave the suffragists the honors two to one. The program closed with remarks by Supt. Kirk, supplemented with a short and appreciative talk by Rev. C. S. Hanson.

Nearly everybody present took the opportunity to see the manual training work of the schools. The work in this line is of great practical value to the students, who are taught and become familiar with the use of the tools.

May 27, 1915 Coming Events at Collins – High School graduation tonight, Thursday, May 27. Alumni Banquet Friday, May 28. **The election for consolidation of schools Saturday, May 29.** (Insert 2003: Did not find election outcome results. Refer to February 16, 1920 entry in this history.)

February 17, 1916 Teachers Meeting at Cambridge – Cambridge entertained over 200 teachers at the County Teachers Association meeting there Friday and Saturday. The teachers of the Collins Schools and those of the township with but few exceptions attended.

March 2, 1916 Notice of Annual Meeting Collins Independent District – Date second Monday of March 13, 1916....

March 2, 1916 Referring to School Election – In the notice of the annual meeting of the Collins Independent District is this issue, two propositions are submitted: “Shall the Board be authorized to transfer the funds in the School House Fund to the School Building Bond Fund?” and “Shall the board be authorized to expand the sum of not to exceed \$2800 for the purpose of installing an adequate heating plant, and building new roof on school building?”

There is no proposal to issue bonds for the improvements. The first proposition merely has in view the using of funds received for the old school house and grounds and transferring it to the school building fund that it may be used in reducing the bonded debt on the present building. The second proposition is provided for by money now in the contingent fund and is so necessary that it cannot be delayed without risk to the building and to the health of the scholars.

During the winter the heating was so poor that the children had to wear their wraps until about 10 or 11 o'clock in the morning. It is altogether impossible to give a satisfactory service with the present heating plant. The roof of the school building is exhausted. The leakage from it comes down to the lower rooms and the preservation of the building demands a new roof.

March 16, 1916 School Elections – The school election brought out 101 votes, two being spoiled. Those elected were R. E. Marsh for director and W. H. Thompson for treasurer.

On the proposition “Shall the Board be authorized to transfer funds in the School House Fund to the School Building Bond Fund?” the vote was 47 for and 40 against, the proposition carried. The other

proposition "Shall the board be authorized to expand the sum of not to exceed \$2800 for the purpose of installing an adequate heating plant, and building new roof on school building?" was defeated. The vote was 36 for and 48 against.

March 23, 1916 Meeting of the School Board – The School Board met Monday night. C. R. Wick resigned and Dr. Richardson was appointed to fill the vacancy. He and the new member, R. E. Marsh, were received into office. The board reorganized with Dr. L. F. Richardson, chairman. The board authorized the payment of \$4,000 of bonds May 1st. Bills were allowed and other routine business received attention. The board adjourned to meet March 31st to elect teachers.

May 25, 1916 The School Exhibits – The manual training and domestic science exhibits at the school building last Thursday attracted many visitors. The domestic science students served refreshments and exhibited samples of their products, all of which were highly appreciated by patrons and visitors. The manual training exhibition was of great interest. The exhibit includes the following: Chicken brooder – Vern Holland, Library table – George Weese, Library table – Courtney Coles, Work bench – Millard Stratton, Sleds – Harold Marsh, William Ball, Bertha Ball, Vern Holland, Leo Cooper, Pearl Fever. Parasol racks – Lowell Hattery, Lloyd Holland, Bread board – Leo Cooper, Harry Stier, Book rack – Courtney Coles, Cedar chest – Charles Byerly, Pedestal – Charles Byerly, Hall trees – Dewey Kern, Virgil Randall, Harold Marsh, Necktie rack – Cecil Jones, Thermometer – Lester Moore, Towel rack – Cecil Jones, Bird cage – Millard Stratton, Foot stool – William Ball, Millard Stratton, Piano bench – Lowell Hattery, Magazine holder – Pearl Wax, Writing desk – Carrol Byerly, Table – Lloyd Holland and Joe Stanton, Supply table – Lloyd Holland, Sleeve board – William Ball, Nail holder – Courtney Coles, Screen – Harry Stier, Plate rails – William Ball, Harry Stier, Millard Stratton, Stand – Harry Stier, Stool – Carrol Byerly.

The manual training exhibit is still on view at school building and will be on view Saturday. Supt. Kirk will be present Saturday to answer questions and explain the work which is of superior class, being good enough to rank with the finished work of the cabinet makers. The exhibit is for those people of town and country and the country people are especially invited. The exhibit is interesting to all homemakers. The boys worked an hour each day of their regular school time. Supt. Kirk himself directs the manual training and the results accomplished are a credit to him and the Collins School.

May 25, 1916 Graduation Exercises of Collins High School – Four students of the Collins High School graduated this year: Mabel Tribby, Dewey Kern, Virgil Randall, and Truman Stanton. The graduation exercises were **held in the opera house** Friday evening. The house was filled, many having to be content with standing room. The graduates seated on the stage, were accompanied by Supt. Kirk, Dr. Richardson, chairman of the board of education, and the orator of the evening, W. A. Price. Supt. Kirk presented the class and Dr. R. C. Roberson, member of the board of education delivered the diplomas to the graduates.

May 25, 1916 Alumni Banquet – After graduating exercises the High School Alumni Association met at the High School building for the annual banquet. About 100 were present. Arthur A. Vasey presided and welcomed the class of 1916. The response was by Truman Stanton in the form of a toast to the

“Alumni Association.” Other toasts were, “Our Schools” by Miss Persis Fertig, “Our Town” by Dr. R. C. Robertson, and “Our School Days” by Mrs. Maud Stigler. A bounteous supper was served and enjoyed. The juniors waited on the tables. The orchestra played splendid selections that all appreciated. The toast list, as the subjects indicate, brought forth much valuable and pleasant thought of a nature connected with the city of Collins, the Collins High School and the Alumni Association. It was a very delightful reunion of the graduates of Collins High.

August 10, 1916 School Bond Election – Notice of another school bond election for the consolidated school district is to be found in this paper. Another election is made necessary on account of not having had sufficient votes cast at the last election to make it legal. According to a peculiar kink in the law, it is necessary in carrying an election of this kind to have enough affirmative votes to exceed a majority of all votes cast in the last previous election. The previous election was that held March 25, at which 156 votes were cast making it necessary at the election on July 10 to have 78 affirmative votes to carry the issue. However, only 58 votes were cast on the proposition of which 53 were affirmative and 5 negative – Sheldahl Thrift.

September 7, 1916 – The Collins School opened Monday with the following faculty: Supt. – C. W. Kirk, High School – Dora Duwe and Mildred Stone, Grades 7 and 8 – Clara Signs, Grades 5 and 6 – Beatrice Lundy, Grades 3 and 4 – Persis Fertig, Primary 1 and 2 – Ethel Gibson, Domestic science and music – Iva Nichols.

April 20, 1917 Meeting of High School Alumni – Friday evening April 20 meeting called to order by president. Motion was made and carried that the alumni banquet be held on Friday May 18. **Election of officers:** President – B. L. Mead, Vice President – Leon Keagle, Sec. – Grace Hattery, Treas. – John Thompson. **The election of committees:** Invitations – Maud Stigler, Ethel Shearer, Bessie Carver. Lunch – Jennie Hall, Ruth Anderson, Aura Harmsen, Florence Ayers. Program – Hazel Dodd, Beulah Gearhart, Myrna Sokol, Lena Vasey. Decorating – Lulu Kennedy, Clara Signs, John Hattery, Virgil Randall, Truman Stanton. Lookout – Oliver Shearer, Leon Keagle, John Thompson. Toastmaster – B. L. Mead. Bessie Carver, Secretary.

September 7, 1917 Collins Public School opened Monday, Sept. 3rd with the following corps of teachers, C. W. Kirk, superintendent; Miss Ruth Sperry, principal; Miss Grace Cunningham, assistant principal; Miss May Welter, music and domestic science; Miss Linderblood seventh and eighth; Miss Nellie Clance fifth and sixth; Miss Ruth Watson third and fourth; and Miss Grace Hattery, primary.

January 24, 1918 School entertainment at 3:00 p.m. Feb. 5 at High School. Parents welcome. Free

February 21, 1918 School board decided to have school the next 4 Saturdays to make up for the time lost because the furnace was undergoing repairs.

March 14, 1918 School Election: H. C. Denniston, R. C. Roberson, Treasurer W. H. Thompson were elected.

March 15, 1918 High School on Trip. H. S. went in several autos to Ames to inspect Iowa State College and get acquainted with the various building and courses of study.

March 21, 1918 New School Board: C. G. Vasey, President, H. C. Denniston and R. C. Roberson succeeded themselves.

April 4, 1918 The first ball game of the season was played yesterday at Rhodes with Collins the score being 7 to 2 in favor of Rhodes. A home run did the trick with two on bases.

April 11, 1918 Local News: The high school ball game Thursday between Collins and Colo at Colo resulted in a victory for Collins by a score of 20 to 7. They sure did some running to pile up that number!

April 11, 1918 The ball game here Friday between Rhodes and Collins was a good one the score being 12 to 6 in favor of Collins. Two of the best plays made were possibly the fly catch by King as he backed over the fence and the catch by Stier in the field. It is now one and one and the next game with Rhodes ought to be a hummer.

April 11, 1918 The ballgame this week with State Center was an extra good game, the score being Collins 4, State Center 2. Tomorrow they play Rhodes here "Rah" for Collins.

April 25, 1918 Baseball game between the businessmen and the H. S. team. Four umpires were used. The final outcome was 34 – 15 in favor of the businessmen.

May 9, 1918 Collins High School play was given Thursday, Friday, and Monday evening to large house. It was a big success and we have heard nothing but words of commendation and praise for all who had a part in making it a success. The title of the play was "At the End of the Rainbow." The high school is to be congratulated on the talent of those who took part.

May 16, 1918 Ballgame at Rhodes. Collins won 25-5. Season Record 4-1

(Insert 2003: No baseball box scores or lineup of players provided on any of the 1918 games.)

May 16, 1918 Collins Public School Becomes Accredited

Patrons and Friends of the Collins School will be interested in knowing that the institution is now fully accredited. Graduates of this school will now be admitted to the college courses without entrance examinations or conditions. To get a school in condition to accredit takes time and forethought of the Superintendent. In order to be admitted to the accredited list a school must have maintained during the four years preceding the time of accrediting, a course of study substantially equivalent to that from which the first class will graduate under the accredited system. This school was inspected last October and has been admitted without a change of course of study and without any restrictions upon the class of 1918. On account of the commercial

changes going on at the present time we found it advisable to drop one half year in Commercial Geography and substitute English History which did not alter the course of study.

We wish to further state to the patrons of our school that the Inspector when making his visit here, stated to the Board that he was surprised to find as good a school, one that is being kept up in such excellent condition, commending Mr. Kirk for his method of keeping the records and outlines, and stating that he seldom ever found a high school with as good records. The fact that our school has been placed on the accredited list without a change of the course of study and without restrictions should give us reason to feel proud of the management of our school. C. G. Vasey, Pres.

May 23, 1918 Friday evening was graduation week. First came the baccalaureate or class sermon on Sunday delivered by Rev. Moore of the Christian Church and held in the Methodist Church. On Wednesday the public were invited to inspect the work of the Domestic Science and Manual Training classes. The crowning day of the week and in fact of the school year and to many of the pupils of their public school education came on Friday when the graduation or commencement exercises and alumni banquet were held for the class of 1918 held in the Methodist church Fri. evening May 17. Charles W. Lyon, an attorney of Des Moines, and who was superintendent of the Collins Public Schools 1897, was the principal speaker of the evening and gave the address. The diplomas were presented to the graduates by the President of the school board C. G. Vasey in a few well-chosen words benefiting the occasion.

The Alumni banquet at the close in the basement of the church was also an enjoyable occasion. H. L. Mead was master of ceremonies and was thoroughly at home in that capacity. The **names of the 1918 graduates are:** Mary Bates, Susan Brown, George Weese, Lowell Hattery, Clarence Jones, and Carroll Byerly. Courtney Coles enlisted in service in his junior year.

March, 13, 1919 School elections: C. C. Chambers and W. H. Holmes were elected.

March, 25, 1919 March 25 Collins High School Agriculture class and their teacher walked out to the Carr farm to study mules. We found Amos Carr and his men ready to exhibit and explain the desirable and undesirable points considered in the raising and buying of the Cotton, Sugar, Mammoth, Mine, Andalusian and Contractor mules.

April 3, 1919 The ball game Friday afternoon between the high school team and business men of Collins was won by the former by the score of 8 to 6. Many good plays were made but the business men were out of practice. There may be more similar games later on.

April, 1919 To Rural Patrons of Collins Public Schools: Because of the large number of rural students now attending the Collins school, the enrollment in certain grades have reached the capacity of the room. Admission next September will be in the order of the receipt of written application made by the parent and filed with the superintendent. This application should be made now that students now attending may be certain of admission. C. W. Kirk, supt.

May 1, 1919 The ball game at Slater Friday between the Collins and Slater high school teams resulted in a score of 14 to 8 in favor of the Collins team.

May 15, 1919 BASEBALL SCHEDULE Slater H. S. at Collins Friday at 4:30 with Collins H. S. Nevada H. S. at Collins Tuesday at 4:30

May 15, 1919 COLLINS WINS FROM CAMBRIDGE Wednesday of last week. The Collins and Cambridge High School ball teams crossed bats at Collins and when the smoke of battle cleared away it was found that Collins had fourteen scores and Cambridge eight. The Collins team is hard to beat.

May 15, 1919 The Collins H. S. ball team won from the Story City H. S. team yesterday in a hotly contested game by a score of 4 to 1. The score was 4 to 0 up to the ninth inning. Some ball team.

May 22, 1919 School Overcrowded. Fifty-five written applications for admission next Sept are now on file. These will be admitted if the capacity of the room permits. If all cannot be provided for, what shall be done with the others? This is a real problem for the rural community. Recent legislation will evidently close some rural schools. Where shall these children receive teaching?

Commencement Excises - A class of seven will graduate from the Collins High school this year. On May 30, 1919.

May 22, 1919 SLATER-COLLINS GAME The visitors were easily outclassed but were gritty and played the game with a determination to do their best. This game was a tryout for Oswalt as pitcher and his performance was very satisfactory. The visitors didn't understand how he did it but he did. Score, Slater 3, Collins 26.

May 22, 1919 Nevada High Plays Ball? (front page) *Collins Gazette*

Nevada High school was defeated by the Collins High school in a hotly contested match. The game was played on the Collins grounds Tuesday afternoon before a large crowd of enthusiastic rooters and but for the fact that Nevada had come to our village with a steadfast determination to win the game – a laudable ambition – everything would have been find. But they had underestimated the bunch they had to go up against. From the beginning of the game much was heard from Nevada rooters about “small town stuff.” During the past two years we noticed that Nevada liked the “small town stuff” such as we furnished in “long green” to help Story cont go “over the top” in the various drives for Liberty Loans, Red Cross, Y. M. C. A. and other activities in connection with the world war. But the “small town stuff” won't go in a ball game particularly when there is too much of it – such as scores. Nevada could not stand it and at last to find a ready excuse to quit, resorted to the old worn out excuse of kicking on the decision of the umpire – they just quit, but then, “he who fights and runs away will live to fight another day.” Both umpires, in our estimation, were perfect gentlemen and endeavored in every way to render correct decisions.

The design of athletics in educational institutions is to better the physical development of the pupil and to teach him manliness, sturdiness and honest competition, to be able to meet the trials and vicissitudes of life and always come up smiling. The high school boys, no doubt, would have shown themselves bigger than the game had it not been for their athletic director who refused to let the boys play longer, thus showing a weakness as an instructor and a mighty poor example for any young man to pick out to guide his conduct throughout his future.

May 22, 1919 Baseball News *Collins Gazette*

Well, well, well Nevada came down and got theirs handed to them as we have handed it to the rest only it was easier done. About all that Nevada looked at good was beefing, rag-chewing and quitting. They are real stars at this. it is easy to see how they have won their games if that object they had with them here did all the dirty umpiring. He could not make it work here, it would not stick, so they got sick and they did what was expected of a bunch like that, they quit. It that mutt is an umpire I am an Attorney General. The game started and finished just as I figured it would. Collins had them outclassed and off their feet from the word go and they were yellow and quit. Well, Nevada, you will have a team, maybe, in the next two hundred years but the first hundred will be hard sailing for you.

Say boy! That old machine of Collins was working great Tuesday. Old Hank Duesbury (Henry Duesbury – p) had everything on the old pill this day and made them look funny. Tom (Tom King – c) plays the game from the jump, Hank Gowdy had nothing on that boy. I wonder where that old leaguer on first base (Dwight Patterson – 1st) came from. He is the real stuff and has his head working all the while. Baily you are fine. O, the peach on 2nd. Say, he is the real article. He has a fine peg and holds them right on the sack all the while. Carver, (Lowell Carver – 2nd) you are magnificent. Now, the rabbit Maronville (Harry Stier – ss) on short is a real shortstop. He got some that you could not see, he's a bear. Old Don Carlos (Don Titus – 3rd) on third is a fiend. He eats them up, yum, yum, yum, and how he does murder the old pill. When he comes up you can figure on great things taking place. Oh Mister, that old field is worth a cool million. Bonaliaus, Cooper (Lee Cooper – rf) in right is going fine, he plays the old game in great style, gets better all the time. Say, if you want to do well and have no bad luck, don't by mistake drop any over around center field for that is the home of Big Joe and they can't get by that party. Joe (Vern Holland – cf) you are a perfect jewel. And that old reliable left fielder, don't build any castles in the air if you figure on putting any over there for you will go home talking to yourself. Oswalt, (Lowell Oswalt – lf) you are great. We have the best club in the league by a large majority and we have an umpire that knows the old game from start to finish and does his duty just as he sees it and believe me he sees all. Pederson, you are the best there is. A Fan

NEVADA LOSES BY FORFEIT - *Nevada Representative*, Thursday, May 22, 1919 Game to Collins After Leaving Field Because of Poor Decisions. Scrap Narrowly Averted

In what was supposed to be one of the deciding games in the county league schedule between Nevada and Collins Tuesday, Nevada forfeited the game to Collins in the first half of the eighth inning. At the time of the game was called off the score stood 9 to 8 in Collins' favor with Nevada going like a house afire for a win.

In the first inning the locals went out one, two and three and the Collins team laid down a barrage of hits in their half of the inning that netted them five runs. In the second neither side scored. Klove got on first in the 3rd by being hit by a pitched ball but pulled a Little Nemo a minute later and was thrown out. Collins failed to score in this inning. In the fourth Nevada managed to pull down three runs, but Collins came right back with two more making the score 7-3. In the fifth the home guards took another shut out and made Collins a present of two more by one of the several minor balloon ascensions that featured the game, giving them a total of 9. In the sixth Armstrong got on first by a walk but poor coaching and a case of sleeping sickness served to get him caught in the same manner as Klove did in the third. Neither side scored in this inning. Nevada annexes a couple at the start of the seventh and held Collins scoreless making the score 9-5.

It was the eighth inning that brought the fiasco that ended the game. Purvis the first man up singled through short. Banks flew out to center and Harris took first on a hit to right field advancing Purvis to second. Shaw struck out making two men on bases and two gone. Klove then came up and got a timely 2 bagger over the left bringing Purvis home and advancing Harris to third. Wray hit a hot one to short stop who went up in the air and tried to throw it over the first baseman's head into the street. This brought Klove and Harris home, making the score 9 to 8 and it was right here that the Collins umpire, Fedderson, made a decision that was so rank that it could be smelled clear over by the third base. He called Wray out because Purvis who was on the coaching line had touched him as he went down to first. He also called him out because the Collins first baseman had been interfered with and the fight was on.

There is nothing in the rule book regarding his first claim for Wray being out and while the crowd was thick along the first base line the Collins first sacker couldn't have got the ball had he been possessed of the entire Sahara desert. He couldn't have jumped that high. It was simply a question of Nevada having the Collins' pitcher's number and having the game going their way. The tag end of the batting list had rapped him for several hits and Nevada was a good way to making a tie at least of the game and Fedderson knew it. Nevada had been warned by other teams that have played Collins this year that they would have to beat the umpire and the whole town and the way the town and the whole hundred inhabitants were there, swamped into the field looked bad for some of the local rooters. After considerable wrangling during which time Fedderson refused to consult the rule book (balance of print not readable).

Runs Summary

Nevada	0 0 0	3 0 0	2 3	With 2 out in top of 8 th inning, dispute on umpire 3 rd out call resulting in forfeiture of game by Nevada to Collins. See following articles for details and commentary.
Collins	5 0 0	2 2 0	0	

COLLINS PLAYS ON WEDNESDAY *Nevada Representative*, Monday, May 26, 1919
Deciding League Game Will Draw Huge Crowd to Witness Battle Royal For Championship

Nevada and Collins high school baseball teams will again go to the mat on Wednesday at which time the standing in the County High School Baseball League will be settled for good and all. After last Friday's

blowup at Collins there isn't any love lost between the two aggregations and from the first "let's play ball" until the game is over there will be something stirring. Collins men who were in the city the last of the week stated that their team was coming loaded for bear and that's just the way the locals state that they want them to come.

The game at Collins last Tuesday has caused enough talk to assure the management of a record breaking attendance for a high school game and they have stated that there will be plenty of special authorities on hand to keep the crowds away from the base lines so that a recurrence of part of the cause of the argument at Collins will be impossible. They have also stated that Coach Mayser of Ames has been called on to furnish an umpire which he will do. It is likely that he will send over a member of his Cyclone team to officiate at the game. This umpire will have no interest in either team and will be one whose decisions can be relied upon.

Umbreit will use the same line-up in Wednesday's game that he used at Collins. If Nevada will play the ball that it has played the majority of the games this season, there is little to fear, but if they pull some of the boners that featured the Collins exhibition they will get licked and will have no kick coming this time. There is considerable money around town that Nevada will win and it looks like it depends how well they play the third and deciding game."

May 29, 1919 Baseball News *Collins Gazette*

The Collins High School met the Nevada High School on the Nevada grounds yesterday and in a spirited contest with defeat. The score was 14 to 10.

The writer's only regret in his trip to the county seat was that he was unable to become acquainted with the esteemed editor of the Representative. Many inquiries as to his whereabouts did not reveal his hiding place and the only clue that could be obtained was the supposition that he was at his home or in its vicinity pasturing his cow in the front yard. We might say in connection that this was the nearest to "small town stuff" in Nevada.

The one hundred and three inhabitants of the town went to Nevada with the expectation of being treated as ladies and gentlemen and in this were not disappointed in the least. The game was fair, the umpire was the soul of honor and the inhabitants were royal entertainers in every sense of the word.

We want to see the deciding game played at an early date. We believe that we can win the next game and will guarantee that our boys will stay until the game is thru and if beaten will acknowledge defeat like sportsmen and quite with a smile.

COLLINS GOT SQUARE DEAL, Nevada Representative Wednesday, May 29, 1919 **In Spite of Vicious Stories and Methods, Visiting Ball Team Were Well Protected**

Unlike the treatment which has been meted out to the Nevada High School team when they have been playing away from home, Collins in the game here on Wednesday night got a square deal all around. In

fact had as far as the crowd was concerned all the better of the argument, but because of the umpire, the policing of the grounds and the attitude of the Nevada folks, who want to see ball games won by playing not by abuse, rowdyism or any other method foreign to the game.

It was plain to be seen at the opening of the game that the Collins boys had been filled with a lot of hot air by some of the alleged sports of that community, who, according to Collins visitors present said they had told the boys they were in for a rough house, they would be beaten up and all that sort of rot. In fact the principal of the High School in a conversation before the team arrived here, stated as much as his fears.

No danger, Nevada does not win its sporting events that way. Neither does any other town which plays the game.

Those in charge of yesterday's game deserve credit for the way in which the game and the crowd was handled. There was no crowding about either first or third. True the Collins people present tried it once or twice and in the excitement all the crowd moved nearer the base lines than was right but the police promptly pushed them back to the required distance. The umpire was as fair a man as ever held an indicator and saw to it also that the crowd did not interfere.

True, there was some noisy ones in the crowd, one in particular who insisted on calling for the Representative man. As the writer and our base ball writer went to the game to see a ball game, it's needless to say he was not answered.

Collins, by the way, must have a fine number of sports in their midst, it does not take a great deal to "peeve" them and even a questionable victory seems to set them wild. This evinced by the report of the game in their alleged newspaper which wandered all over the lots in telling the story of the first game, discussing the sale of Liberty Bonds, Red Cross memberships and other things entirely foreign to base ball, as well as abusing the Nevada team in all of the limited language the Collins papers writer had at his command.

Another writer who hides behind the signature "A Fan," also took his pencil in hand to tear into the Nevada bunch at the first game, his remarks running all the way from "That object they had with them" – "If that Mutt" – "they are yellow," and "Well Nevada you will have a team maybe in the next two hundred years, but the first hundred will be hard sailing for you."

Incidentally take note what a difference a few days can make with a square umpire, a well policed field and a square deal all around in fact Wednesday's game makes that letter writer known as "A Fan" look sick as a prognosticator.

**NEVADA DRUBS COLLINS TEAM, *Nevada Representative*, Wednesday, May 29, 1919
Takes Game Here Yesterday By Decisive Score Making League Standing Fifty-Fifty**

Nevada high school slipped Collins a well deserved beating here yesterday by the score of 14-10. From the time that Collins first came to bat it was a slugfest and the game was filled with enough good hitting on both sides and sensational plays to make it interesting for the spectators notwithstanding the size of the score.

There were about 400 people attended the game, the largest that his seen a game here this year and the receipts which totaled about \$75 would have been larger had the authorities anticipated as large a crowd and provided tickets. Collins rooters were there in force but aside from a lot of legitimate noise they didn't put over a thing. As goat getters they were nil and their efforts in getting Armstrong's goat went for naught. "Bobby" Thomson, athletic director of the Ames city school umpired yesterday's game and his decisions were fair in every case. If Fedderson, the pet and pride who umpired the first game at Collins, was present, he was conspicuous by his silence.

The Collins team played good ball most of the time and deserve credit for the game they put up. If they would play their own game and leave their "village-barber-batboy-coach" and a few other would be advisers, who by the way should have retired about world fair time, at home, they would get along just as well. Duesbury who has been touted as the best pitcher in the county league, was yanked in the fifth inning and his place on the mount taken by Oswalt. Oswalt gave the best he had but the locals had their hitting clothes on and clouted him nearly as bad as they did Duesbury.

In the first half of the first Collins started out with a lot of steam and landed four tallies but the home guards by a series of clean swats were able to ennex six going clear through the batting list. In the second Nevada went up in the air and allowed Collins to score four more runs and Nevada was able to shove only one over in this frame making the score 8-7. Things were different in the third and the invaders were retired one, two and three. Klove got a walk that landed him a run when Boller connected for another two bagger and this made the score 8 and 8.

In the 4th neither Collins nor Nevada were able to score but in their half of the fifth, Nevada shoved over a run, also credited to Klove which gave them 9-8 lead. There was nothing doing for Collins in their half of the sixth but Nevada landed on Oswalt, who replaced Duesbury in the fifth, for hits netting three scores and giving them 12-8 lead. Collins got desperate in the seventh and annexed two scores and held Nevada to none which evened things up somewhat, 12-10. In the 8th it was one, two and three again for the visitors and Nevada slammed the ball for two more tallies giving them 14 and ending their scoring of the game.

In the ninth Armstrong showed that he had the Collins sluggers in his palm. Holland the first man up hit one to Klove who juggled the ball allowing him to reach first. Oswalt the next man hit one to Purvis allowing Holland to go to second and making himself safe at first. With a man on first and second and no outs the home guard rooters felt a little dubious but it was evident that there was no cause for alarm as Armstrong fanned Patterson, Cooper and Duesbury in 1-2-3. It was a pretty a finish to a ball game as was every seen on a local diamond and Armstrong deserves the credit.

It was a mighty good game. Both teams played some good ball and also some ragged ball. There was no beefing on either side. Thompson's decisions were unquestioned and Nevada won the game by having it on the visitors. Collins rooters who stated before the game that "they had the best ball team in the country" will have to hand it to the locals for slipping their idols a good sound beating. There will have to be a deciding game played to settle the league championship dispute. It is likely that a neutral town will be asked to furnish a diamond for this game but Nevada has it on them when they rely on their ball team alone and will copy the league championship hands down.

BOX SCORE

Nevada

	AB	R	H	TB	PO	A	E
Boller LF	5	1	3	5	1	0	0
Banks SS.	4	1	1	3	0	0	0
Armstrong P	4	1	0	0	0	5	1
McCord 3B	5	1	3	3	3	3	0
Purvis 2B	4	3	2	3	3	1	2
Harris C	3	3	2	2	10	4	1
Shaw CF	5	2	0	0	0	0	0
Klove 1B	3	2	0	0	10	0	1
H. Fawcett RF	5	0	1	1	0	0	0
	38	14	12	17	27	13	6

Collins

	AB	R	H	TB	PO	A	E
Harry Stier (N/A) SS	4	1	0	0	0	0	1
Donald Titus (1919) 3B	5	2	2	4	2	4	0
Lowell Carver (1922) 2B	5	1	3	3	1	5	2
Tom King (N/A) C LF	5	3	1	1	6	2	1

Vern Holland (1920) CF	5	1	2	2	1	0	0
Lowell Oswalt (1921) LF P	5	2	2	3	1	0	0
Dwight Patterson (N/A) 1B	5	0	0	0	5	0	0
Lee Cooper (N/A) RF	4	0	0	0	1	0	0
Henry Duesbury (1920) P LF C	4	0	0	0	7	0	2
	42	10	10	13	24	11	6

Collins 4 4 0 0 0 0 2 0 0 10 – 10 – 6
Nevada 6 1 1 0 1 3 0 2 0 14 – 12 – 6

Bases Stolen: Nevada 4, Collins 5.

Two-base hits: Nevada – Boller 2, Purvis, Collins – Oswalt.

Three-base hits: Nevada – Banks, Collins – Titus.

Bases on balls: Nevada – Purvis, Harris, Klove 2.

Hit by pitcher: Nevada – Banks, Armstrong, Harris, Collins – Stier, Cooper, Duesbury.

Struck out by Nevada pitcher Armstrong 9, by Collins' pitchers – Duesbury 8, Oswalt 6.

Passed balls: Nevada – Harris 1, Collins – King 2.

Left on bases: Nevada 6, Collins 8.

Umpire: Robt. Thompson

JUST HOW IT ALL HAPPENED, *Nevada Representative*, Thursday, June 5, 1919
Writer Upholds Nevada Teams Actions in Collins Game – Shows Game Could be Protested

The following article has been contributed to the Representative by the Nevada man who was present at the game with Collins on May 20th who has taken this time to study the play and rules that would be applicable. It might be well to state that the Nevada coach in taking his team from the field pursued the correct course in case he would wish to protest the game later. Had he finished the game it could not have been protested before the state high school athletic association. So many questions have been asked and conflicting stories told about the events in the base ball game at Collins, that it seems best, now that

the smoke of battle has cleared away, to tell the story of the play, as it really happened and to tell why the Nevada Coach kicked until Fedderson (umpire) forfeited the game to Collins.

It was the first half of the 8th inning with Nevada at bat. Two men were out, two had scored, and one was on second – Wray was at bat, with the Nevada heavy hitters to follow him. Wray hit a safe one to the Collins S. S. who threw the ball hurriedly about 6 feet over the first base man's head. Wray ran to first and in turning ran into Purvis (Nevada second baseman) who was coaching at first. The umpire then called Wray out, alleging that Purvis had touched him (Wray) and consequently he was out. The Nevada Captain, who according to the rules, has a right to protest any decision, at once asked "why?" Fedderson paid no attention to his protest, so he turned the case over to the Nevada coach. He asked Fedderson why Wray was out. Fedderson said the coach on first base touched the runner and he was out. He (umpire Fedderson) refused to listen, and gave the Nevada Coach one minute to clear the field, else he would forfeit the game. Now this was the Collins field. There were many Collins people on it, and it was not the business of the local Coach to assume the duties of a policeman. He simply stood on his rights and told Fedderson that play would go on, when he, Fedderson had given satisfaction on the play in question. Then Fedderson declared the game forfeited, and since he was angry, and would not listen to reason, and since there is a Higher Authority in this state to whom appeal can be made in such cases, the Nevada Team withdrew.

Since then several new developments have arisen. The Collins paper called Umpire Thompson the squarest man that ever umpired a game – yet, when some Collins people explained the play to him, he said he would have called the player safe. Again Sec. Foster, of the National Association of Baseball Clubs – the supreme authority in Baseball, when the identical play was explained to him in detail, said "A big league umpire would pay no attention to the play. The runner was safe."

In view of the above, the Nevada Athletic authorities feel that if ever a just kick was made, they made one on May 20th. They have no regrets for their action – and they have the right to protest the game before the State Board of Athletics. The Nevada Coach took the action which he took, with a full knowledge of what it meant, and was backed by his team, who were as one in approving his stand. He believed, then and now that while it looks bad to "kick" on an ump's decision, yet there are times when it looks and is better to kick, than be abused and imposed upon. May 20th was one time that it was better to kick.

May 29, 1919 Commencement exercises will be May 30. Speaker will be A. C. Fuller of Iowa State Teachers College. The **graduates** are: Myrna Dodd, Ila Holmes, Mable Holmes, Mildred Stratton, Don Titus, and Julia Tracy. Alumni banquet will be given immediately after the exercises.

The Roaring Twenties and Beyond

February 16, 1920 School Consolidation Collins Township and the town of Collins will likely have consolidation of schools, from the present outlook. Some years ago consolidation was voted on, but lost out, the country districts being against it. Since then there has been gradually a change in sentiment in favor of consolidation and we believe it will carry. **On Thursday Messrs. Steve Carr, Bradford**

Stevens and Charley Carr were a deputation in Nevada and placed the petition for consolidation on file in the court house. 190 signers were on the petition. Objections must be on file at the office of the county superintendent by noon Feb. 18.

The Collins school building is one of the best in this section. It would require but comparatively a small addition to make it comply with the necessary requirements should consolidation carry. The Collins schools are already accredited. The conditions are suspicious for a hearty union of the whole township in educational affairs.

March 18, 1920 Iowa State Teacher Association Central Division of the State Teacher's Association will convene in Des Moines April 1, 2, and 3. Maude Wakefield, County Superintendent.

March 25, 1920 School Elections Yesterday – Following is the result of the election for officers for the **Collins Consolidated Independent School District**. Owing to the weather and bad roads, only 102 votes were cast. For directors for one year: H. C. Denniston 65 votes, W. C. Heintz 26 votes, J. W. Thompson 37 votes, C. G. Vasey 66 votes. For director for 2 years: T. M. Carver 80 votes, J. C. McCord 27 votes, L. F. Richardson 26 votes, Bradford Stevens 65 votes. For director for 3 years: W. F. Holmes 62 votes, E. A. Carr 45 votes. (Insert 2003: The petition for consolidation filed near February 16, 1920 was officially enacted with this election.)

April 5, 1920 School board of Collins Independent School District met in called session at the school house for the purpose of organizing Consolidated School Board of the Consolidated Independent School District of Collins. **The reorganized Collins Consolidated School Board Members are:** C. G. Vasey elected President: Members are H. C. Denniston, Bradford Stevens, W. F. Holmes, T. H. Carver.

April 14, 1920 School board met in a special meeting for the **purpose of selling bonds** of the Consolidated District of Collins Township... Board action taken to accept Geo. M. Betchtel & Co. of Davenport, Iowa, bid for bonds in accordance with the following contract and that the President and Secretary be authorized to sign same.

April 15, 1920 School board met and re-elected **Supt. C. W. Kirk at a salary of \$3,000 per year.**

May 6, 1920 School Exhibit Students of home economics and manual training in the Collins School extend to the public an invitation to visit and inspect rooms on Wednesday, May 12 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. to inspect work done by students.

May 9, 1920 The Collins High School team is making preparations to go to Nevada tomorrow, Friday afternoon where they will play the Nevada High School. Every body who can should go and help the boys win this match.

May 13, 1920 Vote on School Bonds May 29th May 29th is the day set to vote on the proposition of whether **bonds in the amount of \$125,000** are to be issued by the **Collins Consolidated Independent School District** which has just been organized. The school board informs us they have adopted policy of

building and preparing for the future needs of the district as well as the present needs. They have been looking at and reviewing plans for a modern up to date building and most appropriate of its kind. They will profit by the expense of other school boards who have not built so wisely. Nearly every school building is overcrowded and this is also true of nearly all of the consolidated schools in the state although they have been built in recent years. One building should be had for the grades and one for the high school. It would be equipped with gymnasium, heating plant and all other necessary rooms. The proposition to vote on is as follows:

“Shall the Consolidated Independent School district of Collins in the county of Story, state of Iowa, issue bonds in the sum of \$125,000 for the purpose of purchasing land for an addition to the present site and constructing and equipping a new school house on the site thus enlarged?”
Remember the date and come out and stand back of the board you have elected.

May 13, 1920 Graduation Week This week the Seniors of Collins High School will graduate. Sunday evening the baccalaureate exercises were held at the Methodist Church, the pastor Rev. Fred W. Ingvaldstad preaching the sermon. It was a splendid address and appealed especially to the young people. Friday evening the commencement exercises will be **held in the Methodist Episcopal Church** and will be followed by the annual Alumni banquet. The program at Friday evening exercises will be as follows: March – Mrs. M. H. Biddick, Invocation – Rev. B. H. Coonradt, Piano Solo – Florence Ayres, Music – Quartet, Address – Chas. H. Meyerholz, Music – Tents of Arabs, Orchestra,
Presentation of Class and Diplomas: Mildred E. Bence, Zela M. Campbell, J. Henry Duesbury, Vern E. Holland, C. Cecil Jones, Mamie M. Jeffers, Mabel M. Kendig, Cora E. Stratton, Josephine M. Tracy. Class Motto – “No Victory is Without Labor,” Colors – Old Rose and Silver, Flower – Pink rose. Music Springtime – Orchestra. Benediction.

May 20, 1920 Friday afternoon there was a **base ball tournament at Rhodes**. The first game was between Collins High School and State Center. The game was an easy one as the score was 17 to 0 in favor of Collins. Rhodes played the wining team and it was a good stiff game to the last. Rhodes H. S. won by a score of 5 to 3. (Insert 2003: No box scores found)

May 27, 1920 Bond Vote Saturday The history of all consolidated districts is an increase in attendance. More pupils stay in school and finish the course. In nearly every instance, schools that were built in the past few years find they did not build large enough. Mingo made the mistake of not building large enough. Colo likewise should have a school building almost as large again to accommodate the increase demands of their school today.

Let us all get out and vote for the issue and allow the school board to do the job right, build for the future as well as the present, and not make the mistakes that others have. Now is the time to do it as it can be done better now than afterward. Women who are interested in the education of their children should avail themselves of this opportunity to vote for the better ideals of the community. Let us have a building and a school that will be a credit to ourselves and others to follow. The polls will open Saturday, May 29 at 1:00 P. M. and will close at 6:00 P.M. Remember the time and the place. Saturday is the time and Collins is the place.

May 31, 1920 School board met in adjourned session at the High School building meeting. The returns of a special Election held on May 29th 1920 of the Electors of the Consolidated Independent School District of Collins, Twp. To vote upon the following proposition: **Shall the Consolidated Independent School District of Collins Twp., Story County, Iowa, issue Bonds in the sum of \$125,00.00 to build and equip and purchase additional ground, was presented and read. The report of said Judges of election was accepted and placed on file.** (Insert 2003: Bond issue passed and Board proceeded with bid letting and building construction.)

September 2, 1920 School Opens next Monday The Collins Consolidated School will open next Monday, September 6th. The school has been put into first class condition. **Four of the rural buildings have been moved in and placed south of the old school building. They will be temporarily used until the new building will be put up next year.** Following is a list of the teachers for the ensuing year: C. W. Kirk - Supt.; E. Grace Kimberley - Principal, Marshalltown - History, Civics and Political Economy; Carrie V. Streffler, LeMars - English and Latin; Phoebe Cocoon, Cedar Falls - Mathematic and Physics; Clare Kasischke, Buckeye - Home Economics, Physiology and General Science; Vacant - Manual Training and Agriculture; Miss Clara Signs, Collins - Eighth Grade; Miss Hazel Holmes, Collins - Seventh Grade; Miss Nellie Claver, Mount Ayr - Sixth Grade; Miss Ina Marmou, Des Moines - Fifth Grade; Miss Leah Elliott, Collins - Fourth Grade; Pearl Wax, Springfield, Kansas - Third Grade; Eleanor Plank, Tipton - Second Grade; Jessie Frazier, Morning Sun - First Grade.

September 2, 1920 School Routes and Haulers Route No. 1, Hugh Fertig, commencing at A. L. Pitcher's; Route No. 2, Lowell Carver, commencing at T. H. Carver's; Route No. 3, Sam Patterson, commencing at Mr. Allen's; Route No. 4, Tom Jones, commencing at W. A. Ozmun's; Route No. 5, Henry Stratton, commencing at Ben Phares'; Route No. 6, Hiram Rutter, commencing at Earl McCord's; Route No. 7, Sid Atkinson, commencing at the old Dunahoo farm; Route No. 8, G. F. Holland, commencing at Chas. McCord's; Route No. 9, Lowell Oswalt, commencing at John Link's; Route No. 10, Wm. Robinson, commencing at Wm. Luings'. The above routes are subject to change when deemed necessary. All students are under the strict supervision of the haulers, and misconduct or behavior will be reported just the same as tho you were in the school room. The use of tobacco in any form is strictly prohibited by law, likewise any profane language of any nature. (Insert 2003: **All school buses were horse drawn.** Spring 1922 picture shows horses, bus drivers and student passengers. Bus routes likely quite short, 3-6 miles and 12 – 15 children passengers.) **(Insert 2004: See Aug. 29, 1940, added information.)**

November 14, 1920 Collins High School basketball played Cambridge High School team here yesterday and won by a score of 11-5. **(First basketball score found.)**

November 18, 1920 Collins Consolidated School to have fine **new Motion Picture Projector.** This is made possible through courtesy of the Curtis Publishing Co. who are giving the school one-half of every subscription taken for the Country Gentleman, a National Farm Weekly recognized as leader in its class. The subscription price is \$1.00 per year. Everybody is asked to help this good work along. Just give your

name and \$1.00 to the pupil who calls on you or send it to the school. The campaign will end on Monday, November 22nd.

December 16, 1920 New School Building sealed proposals will be received by the underlined up to 2 P.M. January 12, 1921 for the erection of a school building for the Consolidated Independent School District of Collins, Iowa. Bids will be received separately for the General Construction, Heating and Plumbing, and Electrical work. **The building is 69 x 109** feet fireproof construction; 3-level building including gymnasium. Home economics area, shop room area, auditorium with stage, plus classrooms for grades 7 through 12. **(Insert 2004: See August 29, 1940 entry for updated building information.)**

The bids will be made according to plans and specifications as prepared by **Thorwald Thorson, Architect**, Forest City, Iowa. Plans will be on file with the undersigned and at the Builders' Exchanges at Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minn., and Des Moines, Iowa. Contractors desiring plans may obtain same from the Architect on a deposit of \$10 to guarantee return of same. The board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

B. L. Mead, Secretary
Thorwald Thorson, Architect

The building site location was 60 to 70 feet directly north of the existing 1909 school building (See Page 47, Insert 2003)

January 12, 1921 School board meeting for **acceptance of the bid** of \$72, 649.95 by **M. A. Floyd Co.** of Minneapolis (MN), on **general construction** contract using Bids No. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7. (Insert 2003: Also board accepted Capital Fire Range brick for building.

January 21, 1921 School board meeting met in adjourned session for the purpose of **taking up bids** on Heating and Plumbing and also electrical work. Board approved contract to **McGrew Electrical Co.** of \$2,535.36 for the **electrical work**. Also approved contract for **heating and plumbing** be awarded to **M. F. Binzhof** of Marshalltown, Iowa for net contract of \$18,998.50.

February 1921 Notice of Annual Meeting of Collins Independent District to the Qualified Electors of the District in Story County is to be held in town hall in Collins the 2nd Monday, March 1921 at 1:00 P.M. and closing at 6:00 P.M. Directors to be elected to succeed C. G. Vasey for 3 years and H. G. Denniston for 3 years. Elected H. G. Denniston and C. G. Vasey.

February 3, 1921 To the Patrons of Collins Consolidated Schools The efficiency of a school depends upon the health of its pupils and to this end we are addressing you in the hopes that we may have your help and cooperation in sustaining the health of the pupils and the community.

The State Board of Health has advised that the schools be not closed during the time of contagious diseases unless a large percentage of the pupils become infected. We feel that with the help of the parents, the teachers and the local board of health that our school will be perfectly healthy in a short time and offer the following suggestions for your guidance:

If your child is feeling indisposed do not send him to school until you are sure what the trouble is. Be particularly careful to take care of all sore throats as these are all infective and perhaps may be the forerunners of a more serious ailment. Remember that from the mildest cases of scarletina the most malignant forms of scarlet fever may develop.

Remember that the two diseases in which a rash develops quickly after the initial symptoms are scarlet fever and German measles. In scarlet fever the rash appears first upon the chest and rarely upon the face at all while in German measles the rash appears first upon the face and neck. There may be scarlet fever with a sore throat, strawberry tongue-and no rash or there may be a rash without the sore throat. German measles rarely shows sore throat. Scarlet fever usually shows nausea and vomiting early, German measles rarely at all. Scarlet fever is accompanied by fever, German measles by none or very little, rarely above 100 degrees F.

If your child has been sick do not send him back to school in the school wagon until you have a doctor's certificate that he is all right, for contagion will be spread as quickly in the wagons as in the school room.

A trained nurse will be in attendance at the school and the pupils will be carefully watched and in the event of any indisposition the parents will be notified and will be expected to come and get such children at once, that the danger of contaminating any other child, either in the school room or on the bus, will be at a minimum.

This circular has been written for YOUR benefit. It is the desire of the school board and the board of health that no contagion shall exist in the community and if you should be so unfortunate as to have sickness in your own home be careful that it does not get into any other home. Observe the Golden Rule and "do unto others as you would that they would do unto you." In this way and this way only, can we keep the school healthy and in a flourishing condition.

Directors of Collins Consolidated Schools
Local Board of Health

Baseball Background

The Beginning – Abner Doubleday (1813-93), U. S. army officer, is the reputed inventor of the game of baseball, likely in the 1840's. Baseball specifications are 3 inches in diameter, 9 inches around – circumference and 5 ounces weight. Round wood bats. (Aluminum bats had replaced most wooden bats except in professional baseball by year 2000.) Game played on a diamond-shaped square with 90 feet equal distance lines beginning at home plate and proceeding counter-clockwise to 1st base, 2nd base, 3rd base and return to home plate. A batter must complete this circuit to score a run.

Considering the present popularity of baseball, it is difficult to realize that the sport has developed almost entirely since the United States Civil War (1861-65). Before that time there were sporadic attempts to arouse interest in baseball, but it was not until the soldiers, who learned the game while in the army camps returned to their homes that the sport became a national pastime.

Baseball in 1862 required 9 men on a side as today, but was played without gloves, masks, or protectors, while pitchers tossed the ball to the batter in much the same manner as batting/hitting practice. These factors doubtless account for the phenomenal scoring power of the team at bat. Two scores, one from each team, were needed to record the tallies. . . . Some scores of the early years were 66-48 with the game lasting nearly four hours, 54-23, 83-57, 115-42 (8 inning game) State of Iowa Baseball tournament held in Burlington, Iowa, October 1867 with total prizes more than \$1,000 was one of the earliest tourneys. During the year 1866, groups were organized in towns and cities throughout the country and records exist of a few ball teams in Iowa that year. By 1867 the baseball season had opened and teams were formed which contended for supremacy with neighboring groups.

Couple of renowned Iowa baseball players in the Baseball Hall of Fame are “Cap” Anson (1851-1922) of Marshalltown, Iowa, who was baseball pioneer in the early day era; **Bob (Rapid Robert) Feller** (1918 – living 2004) of Van Meter also renowned, pitched for the Cleveland Indians 1935 – 1956 (military service 4 years).

A Few Beginning Days Rules and Changes - Base on balls = 9, 1880 to 8, 1882 to 7, 1884 to 6; 1887 to 5, 1889 to 4; **Pitcher’s Box** distance from home plate – 45 ft, 1881 increased to 50 feet. **Pitcher’s delivery** motion must have hand pass below his hip, 1884 – pitcher’s motion limited to shoulder high delivery; **Pitcher’s box** is 6 ft. x 6 ft, 1886 to 4 ft. x 7 ft: **Batter allowed** to call for high or low pitch, 1887 batter not allowed to call pitch. **Strike zone** defined as between top of shoulders and bottom of knees, 1893 - **Pitching distance** is 60 ft. 6 inches; 1895 Pitching rubber is 24 x 6 inches, bat must be round and diameter limit 2 ¾ inches. 1900 – **Home Plate** changed from 12 inches to 17 inches wide. 1920 – The **spitball pitch** abolished.

State Baseball Tournaments Through the Years - Iowa State College/University at Ames, Iowa began the State High School spring baseball tournament in 1921. They sponsored and held tournaments through 1927. For the first four years (1921-24) invitations were sent all high schools to participate in the State Baseball Tournament held in mid-May (no fall baseball season) on Iowa State College/ University campus in Ames, Iowa. Beginning 1925 sixteen high school baseball teams across the state were selected by “Committee-in-Charge” for the State Tourney in Ames.

The Iowa High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) assumed sponsorship and control of the state tourney in **Spring** 1928. Spring state baseball tournaments continued through 1972 when the spring season ended and was merged into **Summer** baseball that began in 1946. Very few small (Class B) schools participated in summer baseball until after spring season ended in 1972. The **Fall** baseball tournament began in 1938, and continued through 1985 when it was

also merged into the summer season for one baseball season and state tournament.

Collins School: May 4, 1908 Collins high school at Colo baseball game coming Friday afternoon. (Insert: 2003 – this is the first mention of Collins high school baseball. No outcome of game found.)

May 6, 1909 The Opening Ball Game – Collins H. S. boys played a game of ball at Maxwell Friday. Collins won 16-4. Raymond Crosby and Harvey Westcott – battery. Crosby pitched 7 innings, Fred Jackson 2. Westcott caught all the time. (Insert 2003 – first news article providing outcome of game and the names of any players.)

May 22 and 29, 1919, Collins and Nevada played for unofficial Story County Championship. (Refer to May 22 and 29, 1919 entries for narrative of games.) **Collins has participated in 5 State tournaments: 1923, 1924 State Championship.** (Refer to April 10, and May 22, 1924 entries for narrative of season), 1927 (Refer to May 12, 1927 entry). Collins advanced through sectional, district and sub-state tourney for next trip to the State tournament in **spring 1955** (losing first round game 5-4 in last inning), and **spring 1956**, advancing to semifinals. Collins had 2 near State tournament achievements in this same era; fall 1954 loss in finals of sub-state to Van Horne that advanced to State tourney finals, and fall 1955 1-0 sub-state loss to Tracy that went on to win State championship. The 1956 team had 6 senior regular players led by 4-year lettermen, John Vasey (Left-hand pitcher), Jerry Nichol (catcher), and Jim Dodd (shortstop).

Boys and Girls Basketball Background

The Beginning – 1891-92 – Basketball was originally a YMCA game, invented in 1891-92 by James Naismith as a boys and men’s game. He was attending YMCA College in Massachusetts. At first a “Soccer Ball” was used, tossing it into a box placed on the floor. Later, bushel baskets (peach baskets were excellent) were suspended from the wall and a larger ball developed. Innovation came forth to develop the “Metal Ring.” History, maybe legend, says some officials objected to only the “metal ring” as sometimes it was difficult to determine if the ball passed through the “hoop.” Innovation again with development of the net: same basics used today. The back(bang)board (now plastic glass) is conjecture by the writer. In the beginning the basket was nailed to a building wall, thus a backboard. When the “metal Hoop” was developed and placed on a pole, innovation again with boards placed behind the basket. The ball cover was made of leather with 6-8 stitched seams, a rubber inner bladder placed inside (similar to rubber tire inner tube before tubeless tires) and the leather was laced together tightly as possible (similar to football lacing). Quite

apparent ball was more difficult to handle and dribble than present day ball. Keep in mind, much of earliest era (before 1900 through near 1920 in Iowa) basketball was played outside on dirt ground. The country schools had only outside limited playground equipment and most of small rural towns had similar to very little more equipment. Consolidation of country schools with nearby town schools began near 1912 with many consolidations through mid-20's – Collins 1920 – with the new high school building completed December 1921 that included a gymnasium for basketball, similar date as other nearby communities and likely throughout the state.

In 1892, Naismith's classmate, Kallenberg, came west to Iowa and became YMCA Director at the University of Iowa. Kallenberg promptly taught students the new basketball game. On April 26, 1893, the Cedar Rapids YMCA and Iowa City YMCA played the first basketball game in Iowa in Close Hall (Housed YMCA and YMCA) gymnasium: Admission=15 cents. Score: Iowa City – 12; Cedar Rapids – 2. The rules of the game: **Center Jump after each basket – this continued to 1934 for girls rules and to 1937 for boys rules**, designated player shot all free throws and only one substitute player for each team. Basketball generally started in larger towns with YMCA's. The earliest communities with **boys'** basketball teams were Ft Dodge (1897), West Waterloo (1898), Ottumwa (1899), Boone, Sioux City, Cedar Rapids, Davenport, Mt. Pleasant, Oskaloosa by 1903. The earliest communities with **girls'** basketball were Dubuque (1898), Muscatine (1904), Washington (1904), Ottumwa (1906), Albia (1909) and Mystic (1909).

February 7, 1921 Colo Won Two Games from Collins. Friday night the two basketball teams from Collins came to Colo to play. The girls' game was quite close during the first half. The boys ran good race nearly all thru the game. The lineups were as follows:

Girls' Lineup: Lois Witmer (24), F; Iona Crabb (23), F; Catherine Ozman (23), JC; Ila Crabb (22) SC; Thelma Oswalt (23) G; Leola Stratton (22), G.

Substitutes: Velma Jones for Iona Crabb. Halftime score Colo 5, Collins 4. Final 13 – 8. Baskets: Whitmer 3-2, 1-1 = 5 points; Crabb 1 –1 = 1. Jones (?).

Boys' Lineup: Jim King (F); Lowel Halterman (F); Harold Gearhart (24) (C); Lowell Carver (22) (G); Chambers (G). Halftime score Colo 12, Collins 11.

Final Colo 28, Collins 17. Baskets: King 5; Halterman 2, Free throws Carver 3. Before the game with Collins, eight boys, dressed in clown suits of blue and white, gave several stunts to amuse the people. They played leap frog, football and basketball. Then the high school boys quartette made its first appearance and sang "I Ain't Nobody's Darlin'" and "On, Oh, Colo!"

February 7, 1921 High School Girls to Hear Lecture The high school girls of Story county are invited to attend a course of lectures given in the high school gymnasium by college instructors, in regard to life after high school days. College careers will be encouraged. These will be given Friday night, February 24th, and Saturday morning, February 25th.

March 1921 Baseball Team Members: Leonard (Tuffy) Clement, 2nd base; Lowell Carver, c, (22); Lowell Oswalt, p-of (21); Jerry King, of; Floyd (Speck) Atwood, of (22); Harold Gearhart, 1st base (24); George Gingles, 3rd base (23); Harold (Curly) Carver, of (24); Ronald Richardson, of (22); Wayne Heintz, ss-p (24); Paul Shearer, of; Ralph Hattery, of (24).

May 12, 1921 Graduation Exercises The Senior Class of the Collins High School will be graduating on Thursday evening, May 19th. Exercises will be **held at the Church of Christ**. Members of the **graduating class** this year are: William F. Ball, Irene L. Chambers, Herman Dulany, Ila May Johnson, Lowell L. Oswalt, Coral B. Patterson, Irene B. Shenkle, Johanna Tracy, Nina H. Wade, and Aileen Witmer. They have chosen for their class motto "We'll Find a Path or Make One." Class colors are Jacque Rose and Peach. Class Flower, Tulip.

The Junior and Senior Reception was held last Wed., May 4th at the Wm. Sinnott home. Class exercises will be held tomorrow, Friday night at the Church of Christ. On Sunday evening, May 15, the Baccalaureate sermon will be delivered at the Church of Christ by Rev. Paul M. McDade. Last of all the Commencement Exercises will be held Thursday evening, May 19th at the Church of Christ, followed by the Annual Alumni Banquet which will be held immediately after the Commencement Exercises.

Insert 2003: The only graduating class with graduates who had their entire twelve years schooling in the 1909 building 1909 plus 12 = 1921). The new school building construction was completed December 1921 and building placed into use January 2, 1922. The 1909 building continued as the elementary building for grades 1-6.

May 19, 1921 Senior Class Exercises The senior class of the Collins High School entertained the public with their class "Nigh Exercises" on Friday evening, May 13 in the auditorium at the Church of the Christ. The following program was given: Class Song; Class Roll Call; Salutatory – Henry Dulany; Class History, part one – Johnanna Tracy, Part Two – Nina Wade; Class Poems – Ila Johnson; Class History – Aileen Witmer; Songs – high school group; Our Athletics – Lowell Oswalt; Class Will – Irene Chambers; Advice to Undergraduates – William Ball; Gifts to Class – Coral Patterson; Valedictory –

Irene Shenkle; Song by high school group. For the conclusion of the program the class served ice crème and angel food cake in the basement dining room. The evening entertainment was a well prepared affair, bringing the people of the community together, drawn by one common interest, the school.

On Sunday evening, May 15th the **Baccalaureate** sermon was delivered by Rev. Paul M. McDade, at the Church of Christ. The sermon was a literary triumph; a wonderful discourse.

The **commencement** exercises are to be held tonight, Prof. Swain of Iowa City, delivering the address.

August 11, 1921 School Route Drivers The sealed bids for drivers on the different school routes have been received and following is a list of the contracts let: Route No. 1 Hugh Fertig, Route No. 2 Lowell Carver, Route No. 3 U. Dodd, Route No. 4 Tom Jones, Route No. 5 H. W. Johnson, Route No 6 Blank – (No. 6 has not been let as probably Route 6 and 7 will be made one.) Route No. 7 Sid Atkinson, Route No. 8 G. F. Holland, Route No. 9 W. L. Duesbury, Route No. 10 Wm. Luing. **(Insert 2003: All buses pulled by a team of horses [2])**

John Mills received the contract for Janitor for the coming school year. John was janitor last year and proved very satisfactory.

August 11, 1921 Teachers for the coming year: School will start in Collins Monday September 5th. The teachers have all been carefully selected with the exception of one. Following is the list of teachers for this year: C. W. Kirk, Supt.; Miss Emma Grove, of Iowa City – Principal - Mathematics and Latin; C. C. Rodgers, of St. Paul Min. - History; Miss Lena Van Cieve, of Colorado Springs, Colo - English; Miss Elizabeth Smyle, of Ames - Physiology, Physics and General Science; Miss Opal Durham of Ames - Domestic Science and Music; Miss Anna Sharplee, of Bloomington, Ill. - First Primary; Miss Iva Swalwell of Collins - Second Primary; Miss Pearl Wax of Spring Hill, Kansas - Third Grade; Miss Hazel Holmes of Collins - Fifth Grade; Miss Ina Marmon, of Des Moines - Sixth Grade; Miss Nellie Claver of Collins - Seventh Grade; Miss Clara Signs of Collins - Eighth Grade.

September 1, 1921 The Collins School will begin Monday, Sept. 5, and on that day all boys and girls, young men and women from Collins and Collins township and other parts will be expected to be on hand at 9:00 A.M. Although the new building is not complete, school will be opened just the same. Collins will have a school in a few weeks, second to no consolidated school in Story County.

November 29, 1921 School Board Meeting Motion made and seconded that **School Building be accepted from M. A. Floyd on his General contract completion** and a warrant for \$11,380.47 be drawn as final payment on same. Motion made and seconded that bill from **McGrew Electric Shop** for \$412.11 be accepted and warrant for same be drawn for **final payment**.

Chronology of School Consolidation and new School Building Construction – Brief Summary

February 16, 1920 Petition for consolidation placed on file at Story County Court House

March 25, 1920 Election for Directors for the Collins Consolidated Independent School District

April 5, 1920 School Board Meeting for organizing the **Reorganized Collins Consolidated School Board**

April 14, 1920 School Board approves bid for School Bonds for amount of \$125,000.

May 29, 1920 Public vote on proposal for sale of \$125,000 of bonds for building new school building

May 31, 1920 Bond Sale Proposal passed.

September 20, 1920 Four of the rural school buildings have been moved in and placed south of the existing 1909 school building. These four buildings were used for lower elementary grades during 1920-21 school year and September 1, 1921 through December 31, 1921.

December 16, 1920 Public Notice for bids on construction of 69 x 109 foot, 3 level school building. Project architect Thorwald Thorson of Forrest City, Iowa.

January 12, 1921 School Board accepts M. A. Floyd Co. of Minneapolis, MN bid of \$72,649.95 for general contract.

January 21, 1921 School Board accepts M. F. Binzhof of Marshalltown, Iowa bid of \$18,998.50 for plumbing and heating and accepts McGrew Electrical Co. (address unknown) bid of \$2,535.36 for electrical work.

March 1921 School building construction begins.

April 1921 through November 1921 Building construction with monthly payments to contractors based on construction work completed and acceptable to project architect. (Specific information on construction progress was not located.)

November 29, 1921 School Board accepted building and contract completion of M. A. Floyd, general contractor. Final payment = \$11,380.47. Also accept completion of McGrew Electrical, electrical work contract. Final payment = \$412.11. The new building construction completed enabled the Junior High (7th and 8th) and High School to move into the new building and **begin classes**

January 2, 1922.

December 13, 1922 School Board accepts completion of M. F. Binzhof Co. Plumbing & Heating contract – Final payment = \$3,550.69.

January 1922 New Building Occupied – The School Staff, Board Members and Students promptly began moving supplies into the High School building after construction contract completion and building acceptance by the School Board on November 19, 1921. This 69 ft. x 109 ft (north – south - facing west), 3-level fireproof construction provides additional 22,563 square feet area for the recently formed Collins Consolidated School District. This District includes all of Collins Township plus a 2-mile south and 4-mile east-west area in far northwest corner of Jasper County.

The new school building facilities included: One-half basement lower level with modern gymnasium (for this period) with hard wood floor and adequate size with seating on both ends and west side, east side is building wall, home economics classroom and kitchen area, boys combined restroom/adjacent athletic shower/locker room, girls combined restroom/adjacent athletic shower/locker room; Middle level consists of superintendent/secretary office, large shop room/library room, 7th grade classroom, 8th grade classroom; Upper level consists of auditorium with stage along south end above gymnasium with music room and classroom on north end of auditorium, also science classroom, 2 other general purpose classrooms and principal office. **(Insert 2004: See August 29, 1940 entry for updated building information.)**

(Insert 2003: The 1921 High School building site location was 60 to 70 feet directly north of the existing 1909 building. 1956-57 gymnasium (east-west direction) with stage along north side was constructed between 1909 south grade school building (located on site of elementary building constructed late 1990's) and 1921 High School building on the north. The north and south exterior walls of gymnasium were adjoining the existing Grade and High School Buildings.

(Insert 2003: First renovation of High School building was late 1950's after new gymnasium was constructed in 1956-57. Lower level gymnasium converted to all-purpose room and middle level floor built above gymnasium for classrooms. The building served as Junior High/High School to July 1983 when Collins-Maxwell school districts merged. The building continued as Junior High building for Collins-Maxwell Community District to mid-1990. A bond issue was voted that included razing the 1921 building and constructing new elementary school adjacent to south side of gymnasium built in 1956-57. The 1909 buildings of the Collins Independent School District was razed in Mid-1980's and the 1921

building razed in mid-1990's; Each building providing education facilities for nearly 75 years.)

January 1922 High School opened the 1922 calendar year in the new Junior High/High School Building. This is special event for all students. The Junior High-High School (grades 7 through 12) move into new building with much more space and facilities. The elementary grades (1 through 6 *Kindergarten was added in 1942) have 2 levels of 3-level 1909 building for use. High School continued to use lower level for agriculture and manual training/shop classes. The gymnasium area of the 1909 building was converted to shop use (woodworking and mechanics).

March 1922 Baseball Team Members: Wayne Heintz, p (24); Lowell Carver, c (22); Harold Gearhart, 1st base (24); Leonard (Tuffy) Clement 2nd base; George Gingles, 3rd base (23); Curtis Marsh, ss (25); Ronald Richardson, of (22); George Marsh, cf (24); Ralph Hattery, of (24); Floyd (Speck) Atwood, of (22); Lowell (Buzz) Atwood, of (25); Harold (Curly) Carver, of (24).

May 1922 Graduation Class: Floyd Atwood, Lowell Carver, Ila Crabb, Ethel Dulaney, Esther Holland, Doris Morrison, Mildred Mullihan, Ronald Richardson, Genevieve Sinnott, Leola Stratton, Harold Vasey. (Insert 2003: First graduating class from the newly-constructed school building.)

December 13, 1922 School Board met at School House to confer with **Architect Thorwald Thorson**, of Forest City and **M. F. Binzhof** plumbing and heating contract. Board authorized final payment to M. F. Binzhof Co., heating and plumbing contractor, showing a balance due of \$3,550.69 for final payment. **(Insert 2003: Cause for extensive delay of final payment is unknown.)**

(Insert 2003: School Building Project Cost Summary: General contractor (M. A. Floyd Company) = \$72,649.95; Plumbing and Heating (M. F. Binzhof) = \$18,998.50; Electrical contract for wiring and fixtures (McGrew Electrical Company) = \$2,535.36; Architect building plans and building inspection (Thorwald Thorson) = \$4,449.32; Legal and bonding company fees = \$1,495.00; Gas = \$721.59; Curtains = \$398.00; Chairs = \$720.00; Laboratory = \$126.00. Several other incidental costs of approximately \$27,000.00 = slightly over \$129,000.00 total project cost.

The above December 13, 1922 paragraph and Insert 2003 are included in this Part I Era as they are the conclusion of the high school building project.

“The Way it Was – Those Earliest Years”
Brief View – Collins Town and Township Community

Wm. Parker was the first property owner resident of Story County in Collins Township – 160 acres in Sec. 33 and 34 October 1849. The town of Collins began a mile northeast of the present location about 1875. A post office was established and a **school built**. In 1881 the Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad line was built about one mile south and a depot built on the S ½ of NW ¼ of Section 21 Collins Township. The town of Collins moved to NW ¼ section 21; present day site. The town incorporated in 1882, post office relocated here, 8 businesses and school begins. A 2-story wooden structure school building erected in 1884. Collins population was near 275 in 1890.

During the very early era of pioneer settlement of Collins Township, 8 country schools were built (late 1860 through 1870's), teaching grades first through eighth. They were located 2 miles equal distance apart, thus, no students beyond 2 miles distance to school. Walking was customary mean; no cars in this early era. The names and locations of the 8 country school districts were: #1 – Gravel Point – SE corner Sec. 2; #2 – Kennedy – NE corner Sec. 9; #3 – North Western/Blossom Ridge – NW corner Sec. 8; #4 – Franklin – SE corner Sec. 18; #5 – bypassed, sub-district; #10 created for Town of Collins Independent School District; #6 – Willow Creek – NE corner Sec. 23; #7 – West Point – NE corner Sec. 35; #8 – Union – NW corner Sec. 34 and #9 – Mt. Olive – SE corner – Sec. 30.

Water System – Town of Collins

October 16, 1902 - The city water well, W. H. Hoar Well Drilling Contractor for 8” well for 200 feet, reduce to 6” for next 200 ft. to depth of 400 feet if needed: Price at \$1.25 per foot first 100 feet, \$1.50 per foot, 2nd 100 feet with casing included in price. The council met in special session to accept drilled well. It is 275 feet deep, has 225 feet of water and tested 21 gallons per minute pumping rate.

October 23, 1902 - National Construction Co. began construction of waterworks system, laying foundation for a huge reservoir. Contract amount = \$6200.

November 13, 1902 – The engine in place and ready for pump jack. Eleven fire plugs have arrived. (Insert 2003: No comments on water lines.)

December 23, 1902 – City council accepts waterworks plant.

April 3, 1913 – Public Notice. All persons are hereby notified to immediately clean up all alleys, barnyards and other places where rubbish and manure have accumulated. Out-houses and pig-pens must be kept in sanitary condition. No vehicles or other obstructions will be permitted in the alleys. Don't let chickens run at large. A violation of any of these things invites a

fine. Let this notice be cheerfully complied with. A. F. Heinrich, Mayor, Collins, Iowa

August 5, 1926 New water well 384-foot depth completed – replaces 1902 well.

December 22, 1927 Construction completed on new water tower, 100-feet high and 50,000 gallon capacity. Bond issue passed earlier was \$6500 (Insert 2003: No comments on water lines.)

Roads and Streets

September 9, 1897 – Road South (now Highway 65) is graveled for 2 miles, and Road East toward cemetery graveled for 1/2 mile – Roads previously dirt.

November 21, 1901 – Sidewalks are built in the Denniston addition and 600 loads of gravel on Denniston and Pentz streets, costing \$350 (previously dirt).

May 8, 1902 – Pay for future street work is .30 cents per hour for man and team – .15 cents for man.

October 16, 1902 – Prominent farmer says you can tell when they get into Collins. The roads outside town are bad; inside town they are B – A – D.

June 25, 1908 – Local neighborhood folks are getting more accustomed to the automobiles. October 27, 1898: A wagon propelled by gasoline engine passed through Collins Monday.

June 17, 1915 – A plan for parking autos on business streets is becoming popular; they are parked in the center of the street with front and back facing business stores.

March 22, 1917 - Collins and Melbourne jointly purchased road oiler.

November 10, 1927 – Town council made tentative plans for graveling nine additional blocks of streets. When done, nearly all streets will be graveled. (Insert 2003: Streets previously dirt.)

January 1935 – It is stated the contract for constructing an “overhead bridge crossing” on Highway #65 over the Milwaukee Railroad tracks will be awarded this month.

August 24, 1939 – Concrete paving for Highway #65 from Colo to south Story County line (3 miles south of Collins) is **completed**.

April 16, 1959 – Work on Collins Main street starting with construction of curb and gutter followed by asphalt surface on street. (Insert 2003: First hard surface street)

(Insert 2003: 3 miles south of Collins to the Jasper-Story county line: The first 2 miles of county road going west was dirt road until 1938, when the road was graveled, the grading on Highway #65 was under way for concrete paving in 1939. A county road one mile south was dirt until mid-1940's. Also old Highway #30 (Lincoln Highway) had many “mud holes” in 1915 era. Quite apparent county road improvement was incremental over many years.)

Telephone

June 11, 1896 – The city council granted Iowa (Union) Telephone company the right to erect and maintain poles and wires on streets of the city.

October 21, 1897 – Telephone connections were made with Collins and the world beyond this afternoon. The office of the Iowa Telephone Company is in Fred Leonard's hardware store, from which place you can talk to the people of the surrounding towns and adjoining counties.

April 14, 1898 – The telephone rates were reduced April 1. A full three minutes talk to Des Moines now costs but 25 cents, to Rhodes, 20 cents, to Nevada 20 cents.

October 24, 1901 – A phone company has been formed here for the purpose of putting in a telephone exchange. The company is composed of F. A. Leonard, W. H. Thompson, C. L. Fish, Fred Graef and J. Lingenfelt, all enterprising business men of Collins, and their purpose is to put in an exchange and run lines into the country, **giving the farmers the same convenience that the town citizen has.** They ask a twenty-year franchise from the city and the council has ordered a special election to determine the question.

November 21, 1901 – The Telephone Franchise proposal carried 48-1.

January 19, 1903 – The Collins Telephone Company now serves 152 patrons, 76 town and 76 country. These are party lines, generally 5-8 users per line. Each user has a specified ring such as; 2 rings(R),

3-R, 4-R, 5-R, 1 long and 1 short R, 1 long and 2 short R, 2 longs and 1 short R.

January 28, 1909 – Farmer Phone bills to be paid quarterly.

April 7, 1927 – The Collins Telephone Co. is sold to Central Iowa Telephone Co. headquarters at Traer, Iowa.

1980 update - Telephone company now part of network of stations managed by General Telephone Co., headquarters at Grinnell, Iowa. The phones are now private or serve private lines with direct dialing. The local operator, called "Central" of the early days, is eliminated. Pearl Torry, Cora Crabb, Bessie Dodd, Grace Perrin and Frances Gilley are central operators still living in Collins.

Lighting

October 4, 1897 – Council permits any resident wishing to place a **Gas Light Generator** in the street or alley in a manner as not to obstruct general traffic.

March 23, 1899 – F. A. Leonard has a new lamp on exhibition that is attracting considerable attention. It is called the White Light Gas lamp and is well named. Gasoline is used in this lamp with perfect safety.

May 8, 1902 – Committee on Street Lamps (Thomas Holmes, Paul Stevens, H. J. Patterson) reported had purchased lamp that has tested satisfactory for \$12.00. Committee authorized to buy 2nd lamp. It was made the duty of the "town

marshal” to light lamps and care for them. (Insert 2003: Do you recall the popular song, “The Old Lamplighter?”)

March 25, 1915 – A special meeting of the town council for the purpose of completing arrangements for **electric lights** – rates comparable to other towns similar to Collins. Proposal will be put to public vote. **Proposal defeated.**

July 2, 1925 – C. E. Lookingbill sold the Collins Electric Company to Iowa Railway & Light Co. Mr. Lookingbill has owned the light company for the past several years. (Insert 2003: Date company established not known)

Update 1940-41 – Iowa Electric Light & Power serves town of Collins and part of the rural area. The Rural Electric Coop (U. S. Government sponsored) is planning to build in rural areas not served by Iowa Electric. (Insert 2003: The southwest corner of Collins township and far northwest corner of adjoining Jasper County received electricity in 1946-48. Great day in country.)

Power

During the early era of pioneer settlement, the largest two sources of power were humans (including both men and women) and horses. All farms had windmills for help in pumping water, primarily for livestock. Around 1900 small gas engines became available. NO electricity, thus no pressure water systems, only wood/coal for home heating and cook stove for all cooking and canning - including summer, ice box and cave for food preservation. Air conditioning was opening the doors and windows. Farm mechanization came in the early 1920's. The early tractors were low horsepower, often 10-15 HP – drawbar and 15-25 HP – belt pulley and steel wheels. Other machinery also small size.

“The Way it Was – Those Earliest Years” Brief View – Schools in Iowa and Story County

Iowa – 1830 – one school in the state and was private. 1858 the township units were ruled 6 miles by 6 miles with schools every 2 miles, thus 9 schools in a township. 1901 there were 12,620 country schools – 1921 – 429 consolidated schools (Collins consolidated in 1920). 1932 there were 9,280 country schools. 1955 – 4,140 local schools. 2001 there were 374 local schools and 40 country schools, largely Amish and Mennonite.

Story County – 1853 – 6 country schools. 1875-68 country schools. 1900 – 2 high schools (Collins high school had 9th and 10th grades with 11th added in 1905 and 12th added in 1908). 1920 – 15 high schools. 1940 – 10 consolidated schools and 1960 remained 10 schools. By 2000, there were 7 community schools.

School Board Members – Collins School

Incomplete Listing of Board Members 1898-1907 (Information is lacking from 1882 – 1897)

School Board Members – Collins School Incomplete Listing of Board Members

1898-1907 (Information is lacking from 1882 – 1897)

1898-99 School Board Term

Dr. Knepper Albert G. Armstrong Oscar F. Heinrich

1899-1900 School Board Term

Dr. Knepper Albert G. Armstrong Oscar F. Heinrich

1900-01 School Board Term

Dr. Knepper Albert G. Armstrong Henry Angelo

1901-02 School Board Term

Dr. Knepper Albert G. Armstrong Oscar F. Heinrich Henry Angelo

1902-03 School Board Term

Charles L. Fish John Hattery Oscar F. Heinrich

1903-04 School Board Term

Charles L. Fish John Hattery Dr. Robertson

1904-05 School Board Term

Charles L. Fish John Hattery Dr. Robertson

Information is also lacking for School Board for the 1905-07 term

1907-08 School Board Term

President – James F. Lingenfelter Board Member – Samuel S. Hanson Board Member – Charles L. Fish Board Member – John Hattery Board Member – Henry C. Denniston

1908-09 School Board Term

President – James F. Lingenfelter Board Member – Charles G. Vasey Board Member: S. S. Denning Board Member – Henry C. Denniston Board Member – Samuel S. Hanson

1909-10 School Board Term

President – James F. Lingenfelter Board Member – Charles G. Vasey Board Member – Henry C. Denniston Board Member – Samuel S. Hanson Board Member – Oscar F. Heinrich

1910-11 School Board Term

President – James F. Lingenfelter Board Member – Charles G. Vasey Board Member – Henry C. Denniston Board Member – Samuel S. Hanson Board Member – R. C. Robertson

1911-12 School Board Term

President – R. C. Robertson Board Member – Charles G. Vasey Board Member – Henry C. Denniston Board Member – Samuel S. Hanson Board Member – Oscar Anderson

1912-13 School Board Term

President – R. C. Robertson Board Member – Charles G. Vasey Board Member – Henry C. Denniston Board Member – Oscar Anderson Board Member – Curt Campbell

1913-14 School Board Term

President – R. C. Robertson Board Member – Charles G. Vasey Board Member – Henry C. Denniston Board Member – Oscar Anderson Board Member – Dr. S. Franklin Richardson

1914-15 School Board Term

President – R. C. Robertson Board Member – Charles G. Vasey Board Member – Henry C. Denniston Board Member – Dr. S. Franklin Richardson Board Member – Curtis R. Wick

1915-16 School Board Term

President – Curtis R. Wick Board Member – R. C. Robertson Board Member – Charles G. Vasey Board Member – Henry C. Denniston Board Member – Dr. S. Franklin Richardson

1916-17 School Board Term

President – R. C. Robertson Board Member – Charles G. Vasey Board Member – Henry C. Denniston Board Member – Dr. S. Franklin Richardson Board Member – Ralph E. Marsh

1917-18 School Board Term

President – Charles G. Vasey Board Member – R. C. Robertson Board Member – Henry C. Denniston Board Member – Ralph E. Marsh Board Member – B. Leroy Mead

1918-19 School Board Term

President – Charles G. Vasey Board Member – R. C. Robertson Board Member – Henry C. Denniston Board Member – Ralph E. Marsh Board Member – B. Leroy Mead

1919-20 School Board Term

President – Charles G. Vasey Board Member – Henry C. Denniston Board Member – B. Leroy Mead Board Member – William H. William H. Holmes Board Member – Clark Chambers

1920-21 School Board Term

President – Charles G. Vasey Board Member – Henry C. Denniston Board Member – William H. William H. Holmes Board Member – Thomas H. Carver Board Member – Bradford Stevens

1921-22 School Board Term

President – Charles G. Vasey Board Member – Thomas H. Carver Board Member – Henry C. Denniston Board Member – William H. William H. Holmes Board Member – Bradford Stevens