

North Main Street, looking North from State Street - 1940s



Taken in 1902 from the Rockford Brewery, this photograph shows the excursion boat *Illinois*, on the left; the Library under construction at left center and the waterworks on the right.



Nelson Hotel

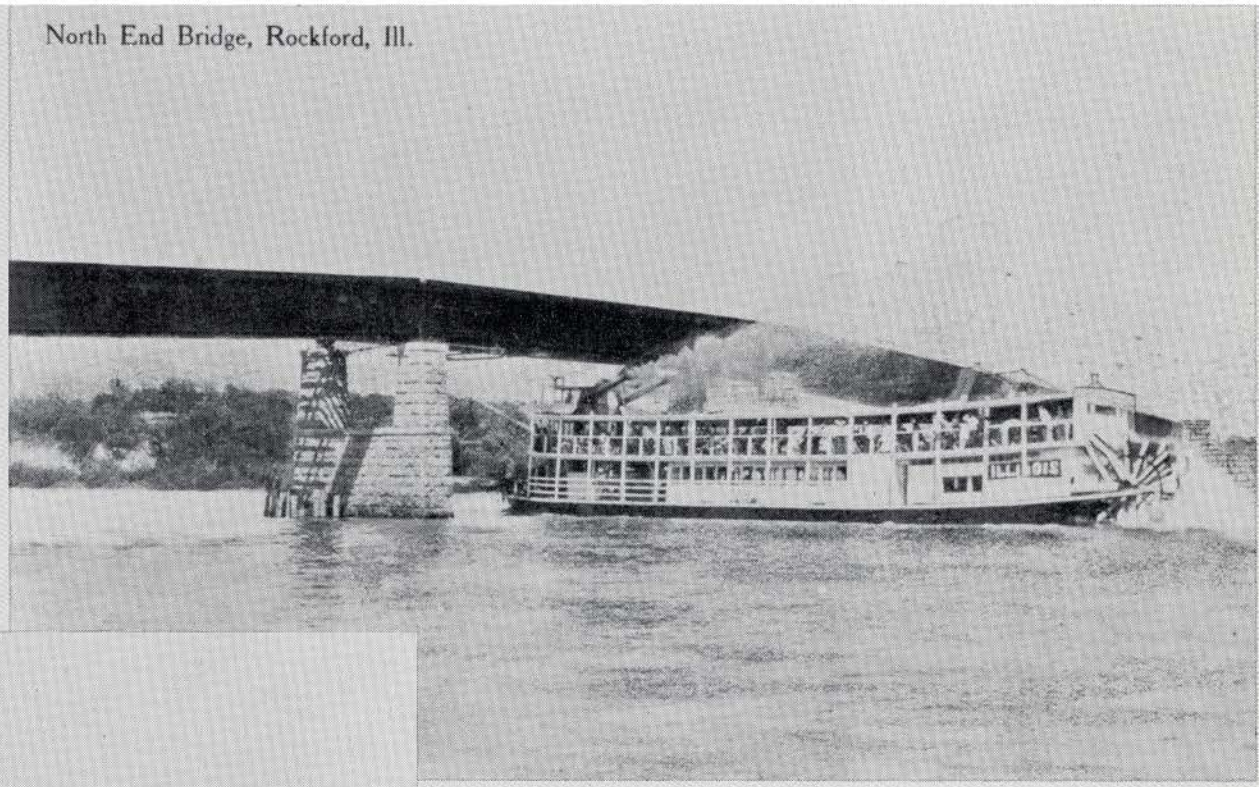


West State Street from Main Street - 1890

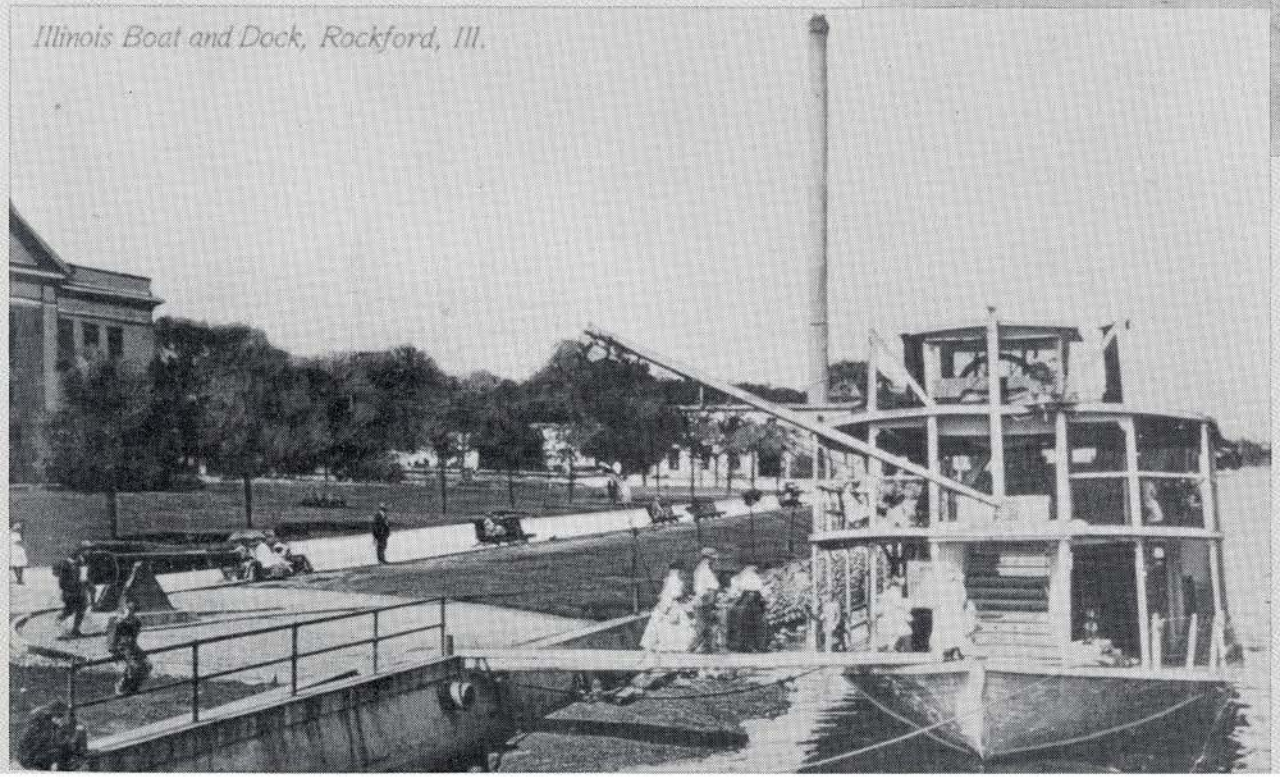


South Main Street Looking South - 1890

North End Bridge, Rockford, Ill.



Illinois Boat and Dock, Rockford, Ill.





Courthouse - 1917



Rockford Mass Transit - 1920s st



Daily Gazette office - 1890



Downtown Rockford - 1940s


TOM MOORE
10¢
CIGAR
HENRY
GEORGE
5¢CIGAR


Winnebago County Court House,





This view of West State Street, Rockford, east from Main Street was taken in 1875. The building in the foreground is the Second National Bank Building, since replaced by the Rockford National Bank Building, and was the early home of the Rockford Insurance Company.

June 15, 1908

#4. ROCKFORD ELECTRIC COMPANY.



#71. ROCKFORD ELECTRIC COMPANY, September 1, 1908.




NO. 5-R
OCT. 23-09



No 79- ab-i

WINDOW TRIMMING,

ROCKFORD ELECTRIC CO. ROCKFORD ILL.


No 140 ROCKFORD ELECTRIC CO.
ROCKFORD, ILL. MAY 11-10.



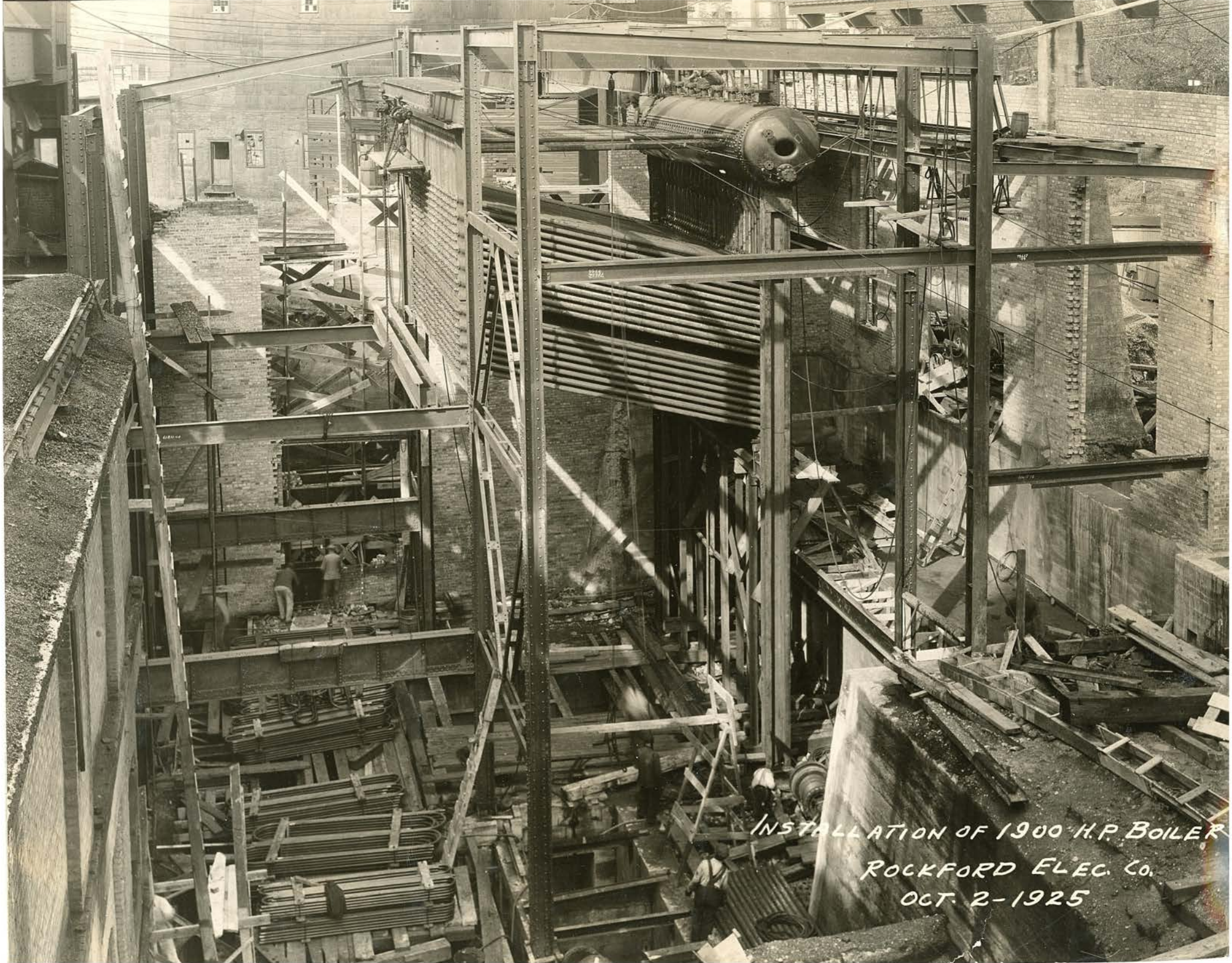
No 124 Rockford Electric Co.
Rockford Ill. Mar. 29-10.


Nº145 ROCKFORD ELECTRIC Co.
ROCKFORD ILL. MAY 13-10.



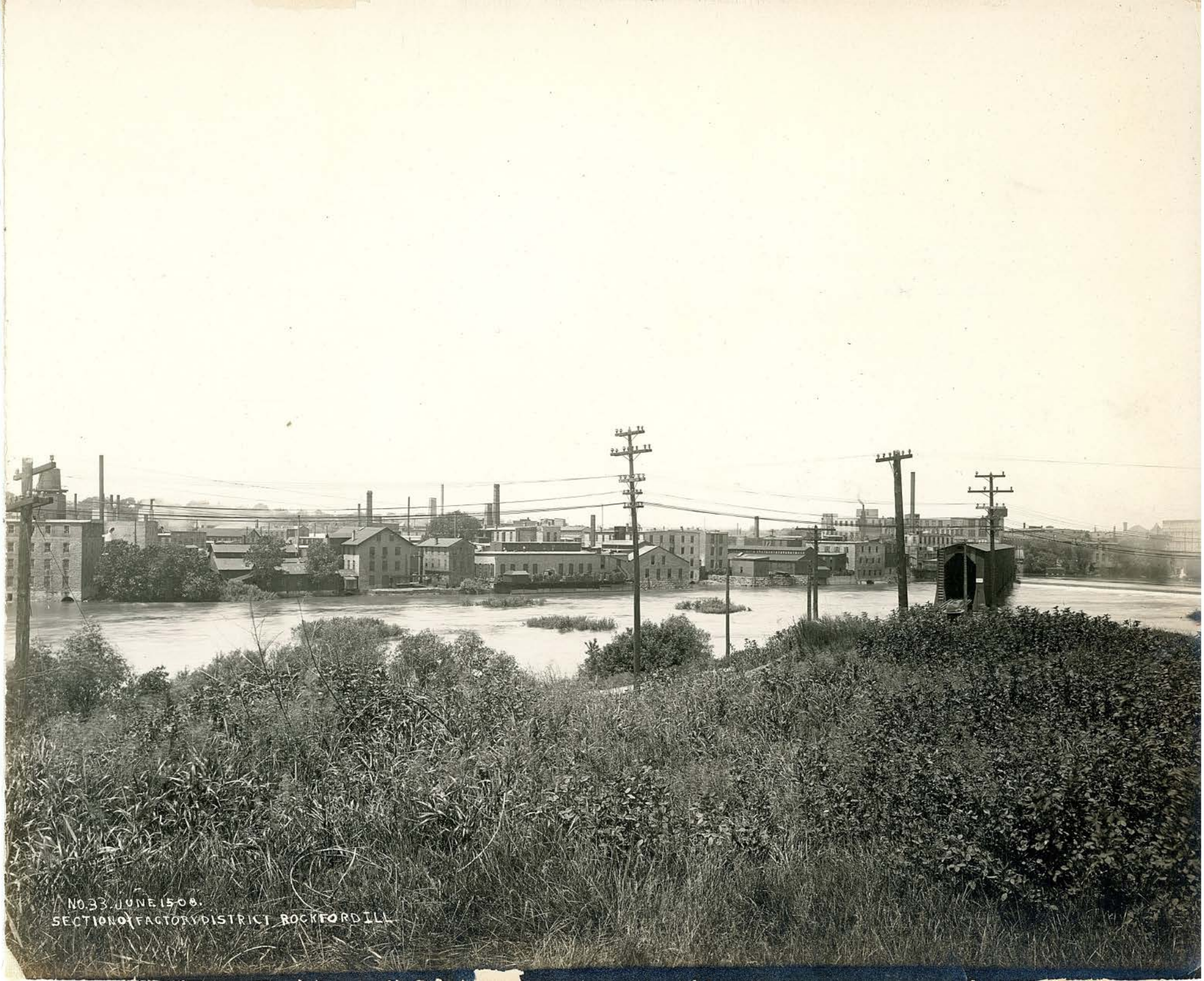
No 177 ROCKFORD ELECTRIC Co.
MAY 27-10 ROCKFORD, ILL.

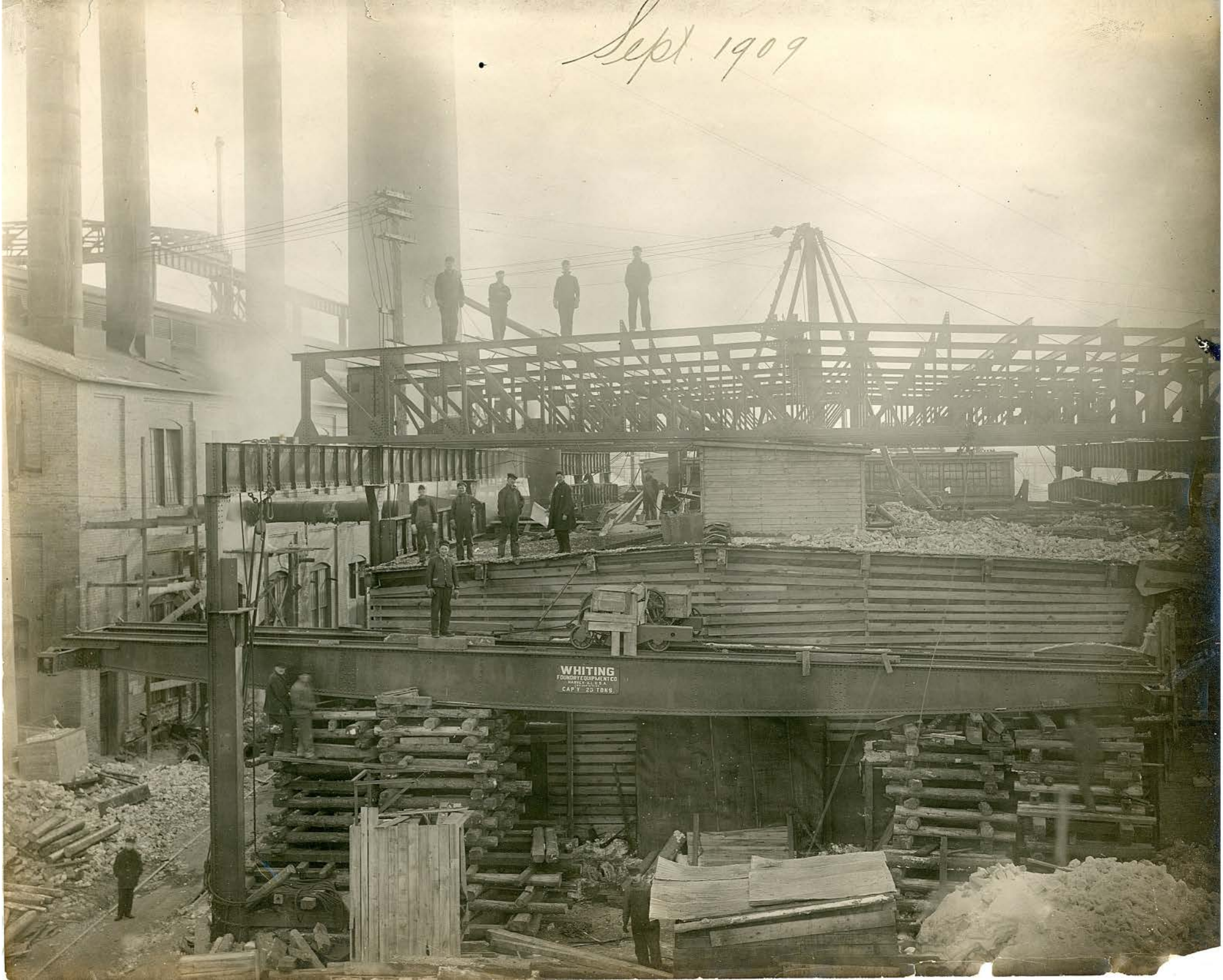

COR. MGR'S. OFFICE · ROCKFORD ELECTRIC CO
ROCKFORD ILL.


INSTALLATION OF 1900 H.P. BOILER
ROCKFORD ELEC. CO.
OCT. 2-1925


THE
WORLD'S LARGEST
ELECTRIC METER
This giant meter was manufactured by the Sangamo Electric Co. Springfield, Ill. in 1928 and is an enlarged reproduction of the standard residential type meter displayed here,
Much progress has been made in the past 20 years in the development and perfection of electric meters due to constant research and scientific study,
These meters are as intricate as the finest watch,
Large Power Installations
Diamonds Saphire Stones
Rockford Electric Co.
Latest Type


WATER POWER SHOWING EDISON STATION
ROCKFORD ELECTRIC CO. ROCKFORD ILL.

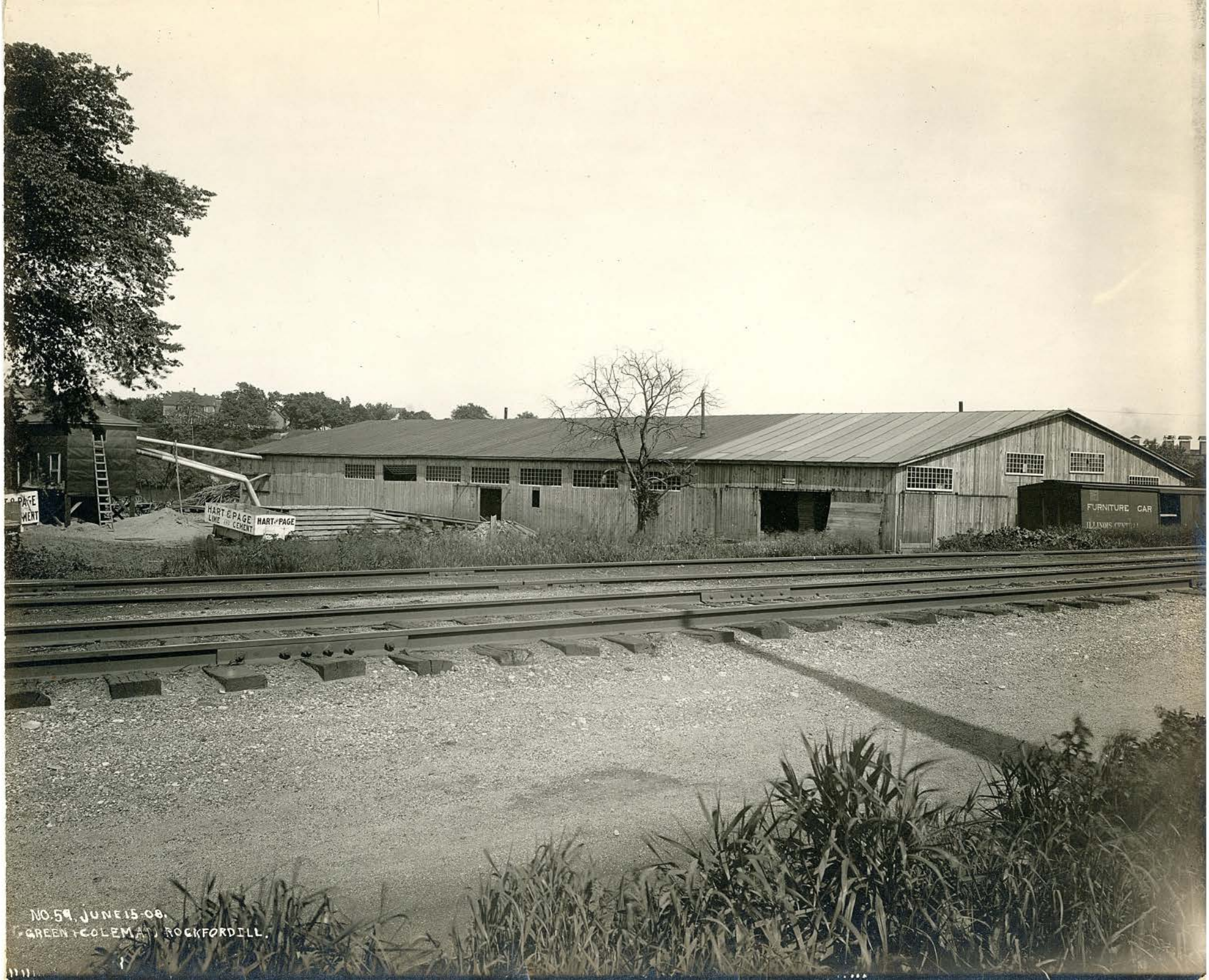

NO.33. JUNE 1508.
SECTION OF FACTORY DISTRICT ROCKFORD ILL.


Sept. 1909
WHITING
FOUNDRY EQUIPMENT CO
CAP'Y 25 TONS.




INTERIOR GREEN & COLEMAN
ROCKFORD, ILL. JULY 31ST 08.


NO89 INTERIOR GREEN & COLEMAN
ROCKFORD, ILL. JULY 31ST 08.


HART & PAGE
LIME AND CEMENT
HART & PAGE
FURNITURE CAR
ILLINOIS CENT
NO. 59, JUNE 15-08.
GREEN & COLEMAN, ROCKFORD ILL.



DENTIST SIGN, EAST STATE, ST. ROCKFORD, ILL.

No 81 - May 1-08


INTERIOR GREEN & COLEMAN
ROCKFORD, ILL. JULY 31ST 08.



Made in Rockford Show - 1913


THE
MILLER-SANTEE CO
J. S. JOHNSTON
ROCKFORD S.
QUICK-PRESSION
Plumber


SOILED
TABLE SPREADS
AND TOWELS
at
EDUCED PRICES
SPECIAL AT
69¢
These wanted
especially reduced to
98¢
McCALL PATTERNS
SOUVENIR
2 for 5¢


CENTER
FIRE INSURANCE
MARCH




LIGHT'S GOLDEN JUBILEE
LIGHT'S GOLDEN JUBILEE
1929


LIGHT'S GOLDEN JUBILEE
2000 YEARS
of changes in lamps with no improvement in the light source, a flickering flame
50 YEARS
of development in electric lamps, 75 times the light for the same cost
NATIONAL MAZDA
LAMPS
LIGHT'S GOLDEN JUBILEE
LIGHT'S GOLDEN JUBILEE


1930



1919


EMPLOYMENT
ROCKFORD TOOL CO
GENERAL OFFICES
ROCKFORD MILLING
MACHINE CO.



Rockford World Furniture Co.

WHOLESALE MANUFACTURERS

Furniture

Rockford, Illinois

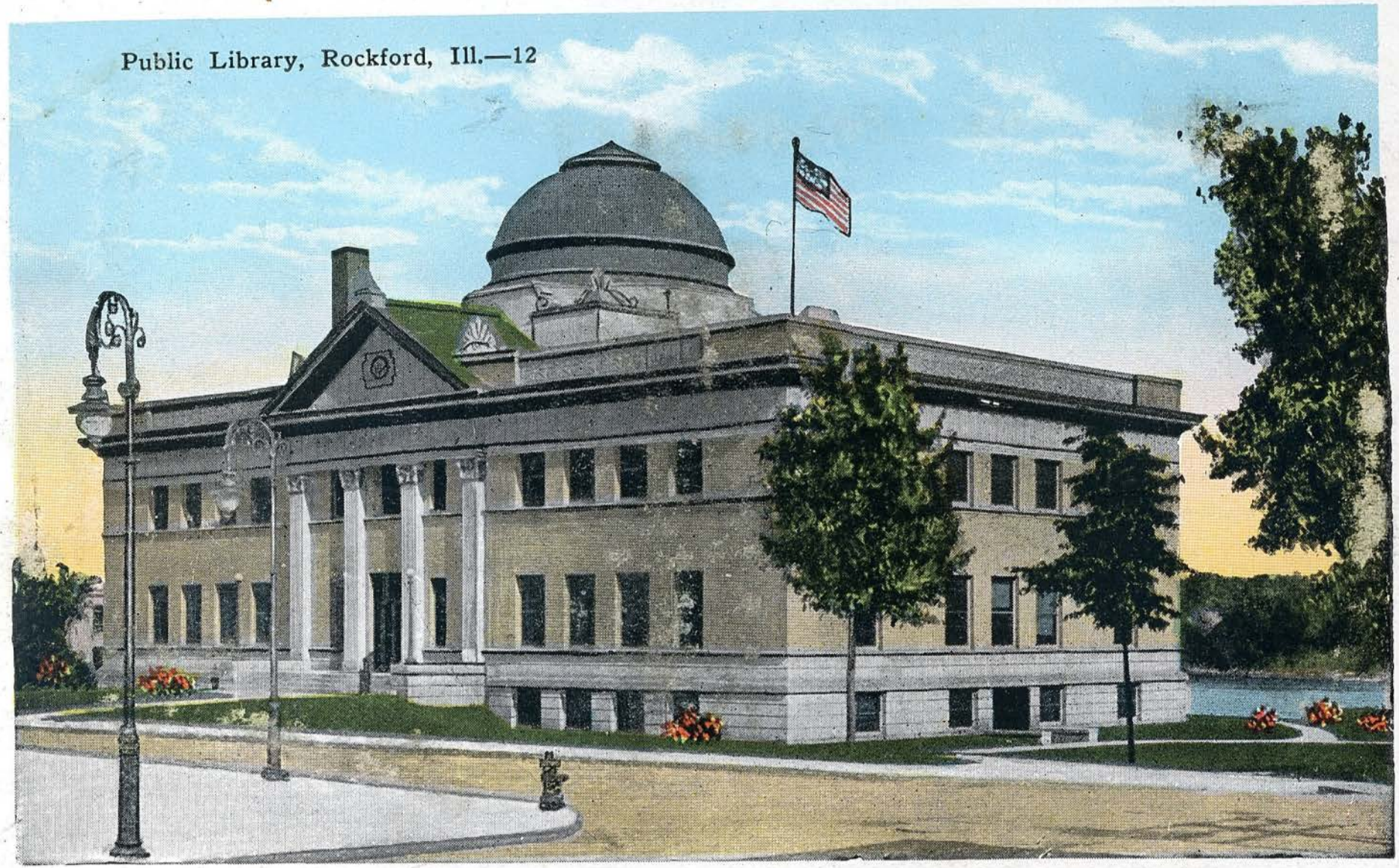


THAYER ACTION COMPANY

MANUFACTURERS OF

HIGH GRADE GRAND AND UPRIGHT PIANO ACTIONS

ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS,


Public Library, Rockford, Ill.—12



Landstrom Furniture

CORPORATION

The ROCKFORD CABINET COMPANY

ROCKFORD ILLINOIS



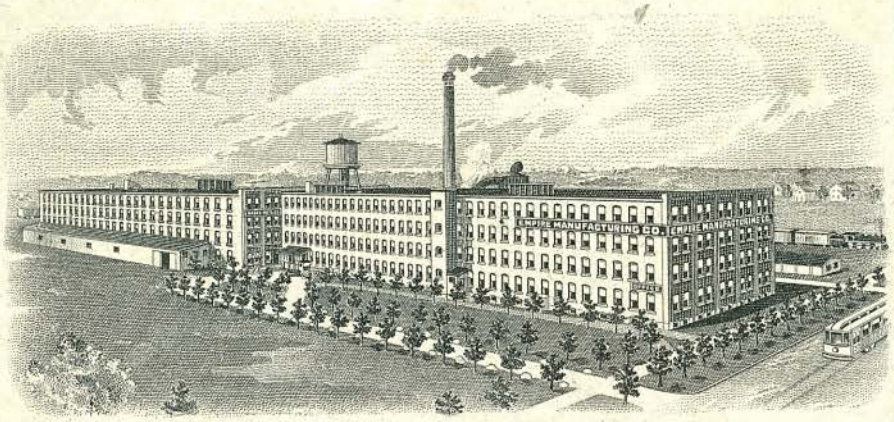
MECHANICS MACHINE COMPANY

Clutches
Transmissions

Gear Sets
Universal Joints

AUTOMOBILE PARTS

ROCKFORD, ILL.



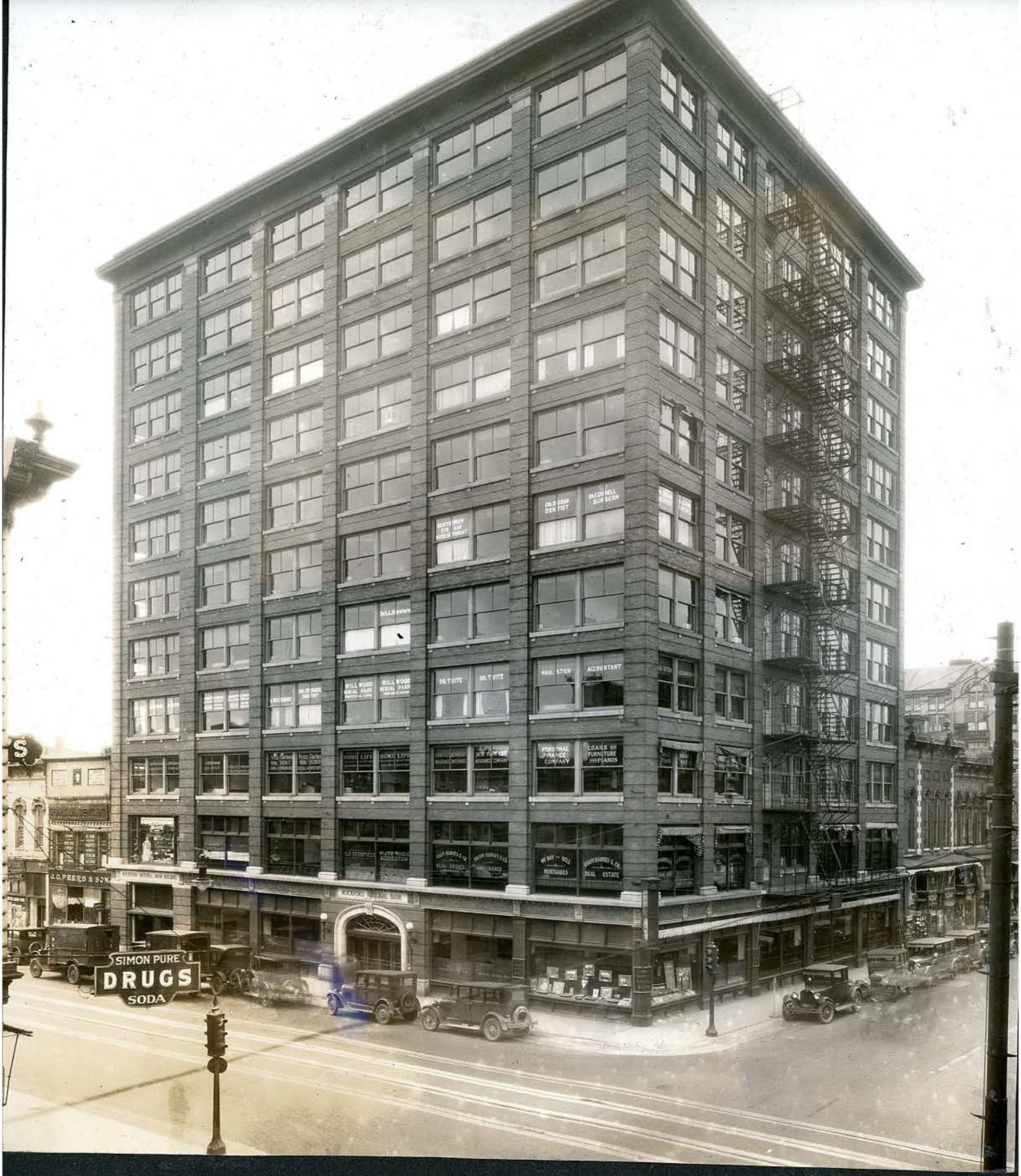
The Empire Manufacturing Co.

EMPIRE MANUFACTURING CO
DINING & BED ROOM
THE EMCO LINE FURNITURE
ROCKFORD · ILLINOIS

MAKERS OF

HIGH GRADE FURNITURE

ROCKFORD,
ILLINOIS



THE ROCKFORD NATIONAL BANK

UNITED STATES DEPOSITORY

CAPITAL & SURPLUS $ 1,500,000.00



J. H. RYERSON, PRESIDENT
H. W. LEECH, V. PRESIDENT

F. D. KEELER
CHAIRMAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

J. S. RANDALL
SECRETARY AND TREASURER

ROCKFORD BRASS WORKS

MANUFACTURERS OF

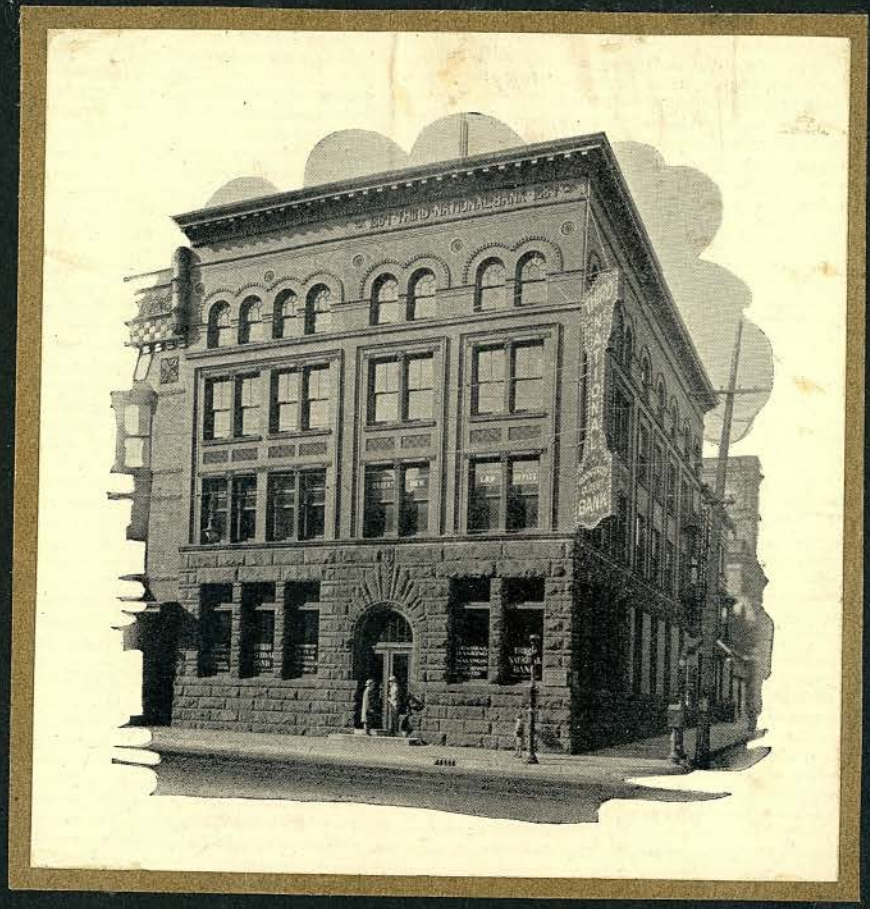
BRASS GOODS FOR

PLUMBERS, GAS & WATER WORKS

ROCKFORD, ILL.,

TELEPHONE MAIN 1303
" " MAIN 1304

FOUNDERS & FINISHERS OF
BRASS, BRONZE &
ALUMINUM CASTINGS



CAPITAL $ 500,000.
UNDIVIDED PROFITS $ 400,000.

OLDEST BANK IN ROCKFORD

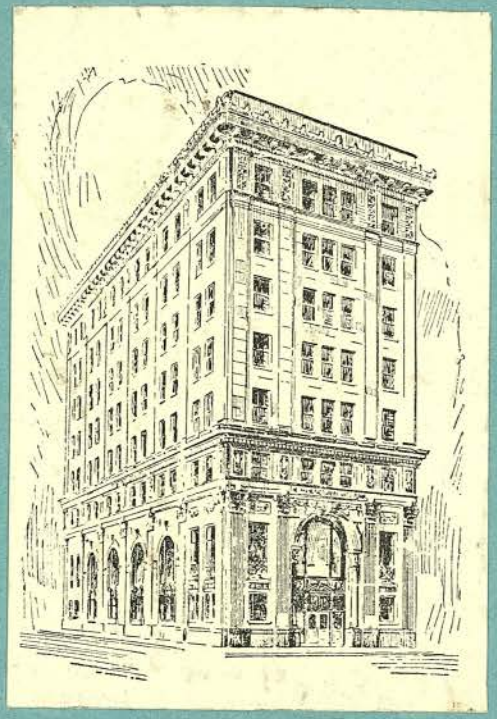
THE THIRD NATIONAL BANK

G. C. SPAFFORD, PRESIDENT

M. A. KJELLGREN, VICE PRESIDENT
J. WESTERBERG, VICE PRES. & TRUST OFFICER
E. E. THAYER, CASHIER

W. A. DENNIS, ASST. CASHIER
R. L. FOSBERG, ASST. CASHIER
B. J. EASTON, ASST. TRUST OFFICER

ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS





The Manufacturers National Bank

N. F. THOMPSON, President.

AUG. P. FLOBERG, Vice President. H. A. TAYLOR, Vice Pres. & Trust Officer.

A. R. FLOBERG, Vice President. H. A. CONKLIN, Cashier.

E. J. HINZ, Assistant Cashier.

R. A. PETERSON, Assistant Cashier.

H. R. LEAMAN, Assistant Cashier.

H. P. HELM, Assistant Cashier.

Rockford, Illinois





Rockford Mitten & Hosiery Co.

MANUFACTURERS OF

WOOLEN HOSIERY, BLANKETS & WOOLEN PIECE GOODS

INCORPORATED 1881.

Wm H. ZIOCK, PREST. & TREAS.
Wm H. ZIOCK, JR., VICE PREST.
ROY ZIOCK, SECY.

Rockford, Ill.

NEW YORK OFFICE
93 WORTH ST.
ROOMS 613-614

WILLMANNS BROS. CO. MILWAUKEE.



TELEPHONE MAIN 163

HESS & HOPKINS LEATHER CO.

MANUFACTURERS OF

HARNESS, HARNESS PARTS, COLLARS AND RIDING SADDLES.

TANNERS OF

HARNESS, COLLAR & SKIRTING LEATHER.



"THE BANK OF PERSONAL SERVICE"

11679

The Commercial National Bank of Rockford

O. B. HARDING, PRESIDENT
J. A. BOWMAN, VICE PRESIDENT
J. D. TAYLOR, CASHIER
B. D. HOGFELDT, ASST. CASHIER

CAPITAL STOCK $ 200,000.00
SURPLUS $ 50,000.00

Rockford, Illinois.



Form 1504

The Sundstrand Engineering Co.

ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS



Sundstrand Machine Tool Co.

ENGINEERS – MANUFACTURERS

LATHES, MILLING MACHINES AND SPECIAL MACHINERY

ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS, U.S.A.

CABLE ADDRESS
SUNTOOL
LIEBER'S LATEST
CODE



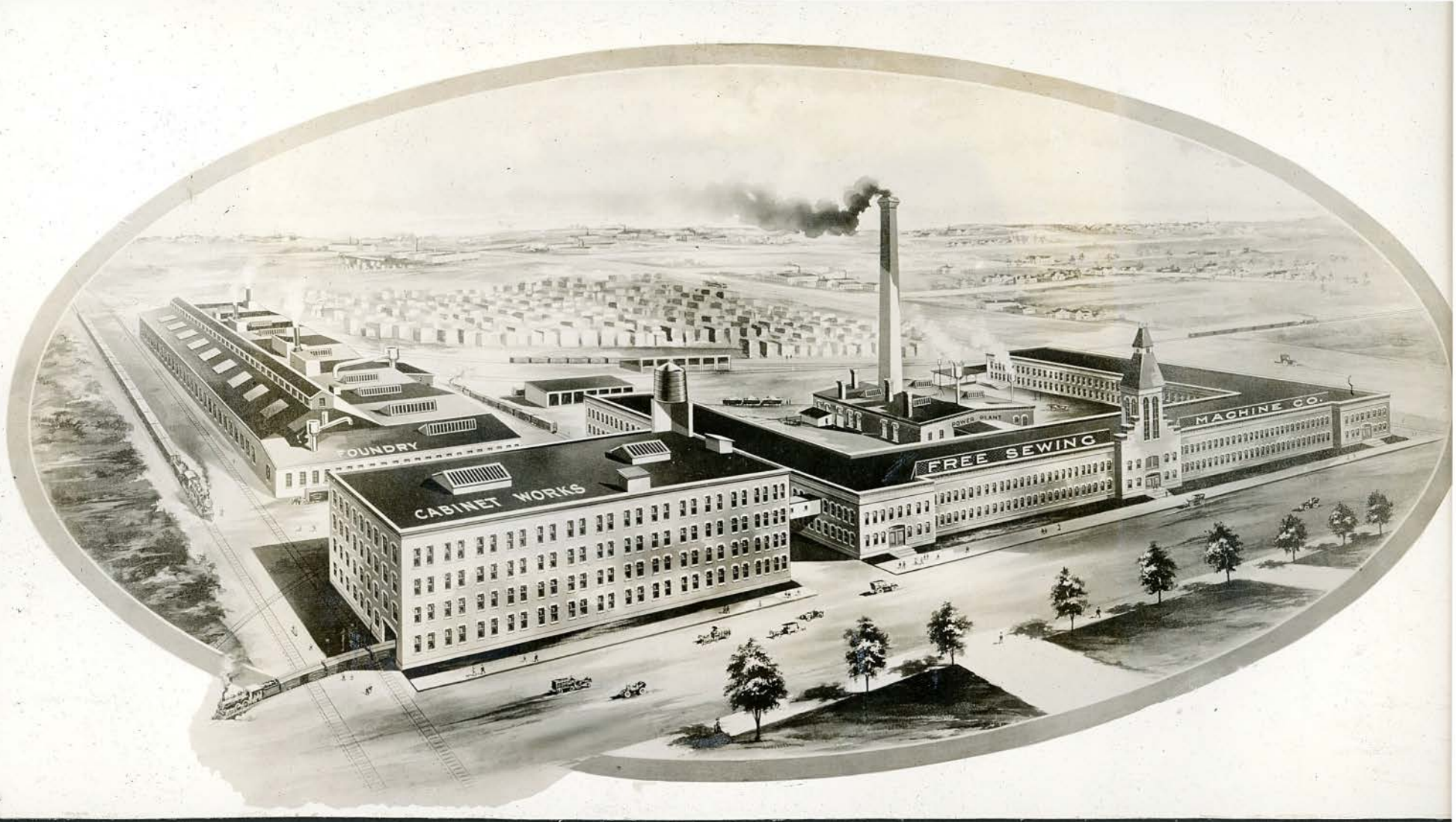
COTTA TRANSMISSION CORPORATION

Manufacturers of

Cotta Transmissions

Positive or Dental Clutch System

ROCKFORD, ILL.

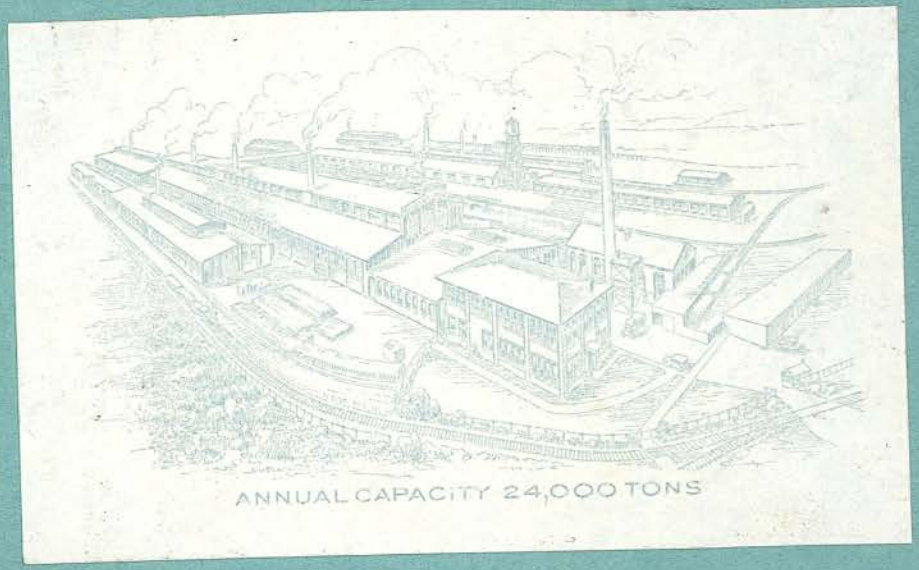


FREE SEWING MACHINE CO.

MANUFACTURERS OF

HIGH GRADE SEWING MACHINES

ROCKFORD, ILL.



ANNUAL CAPACITY 24,000 TONS

Rockford Malleable Iron Works

ESTABLISHED 1854
INCORPORATED 1890

Rockford, Ill.

W. A. FORBES, PRES. & MANAGER
G. O. FORBES, SECY. & TREAS.
F. C. RUTZ, V.P. & ASST. MANAGER
N. J. SCHMIDT, ASST. TREAS.



NELSON KNITTING CO.

MANUFACTURERS

The Old Original Rockford Socks

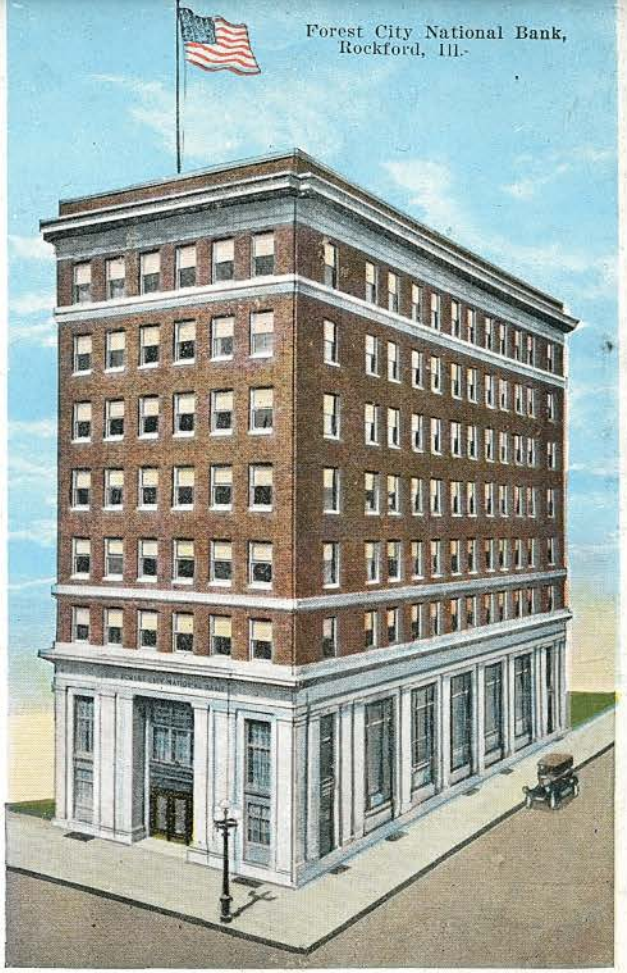
NEW YORK
ROOMS 613-614
93 WORTH ST.

FACTORY & MAIN OFFICE

ROCKFORD, ILL.

DIRECT ALL CORRESPONDENCE
TO MAIN OFFICE

A.S. RUHL, PRESIDENT
WM. H. ZIOCK, VICE PRESIDENT
O.S. RUGG, SECRETARY
F.J. GINDERS, ASS'T. SEC'Y.
T.J. FLODEN, TREASURER



Forest City National Bank,
Rockford, Ill.

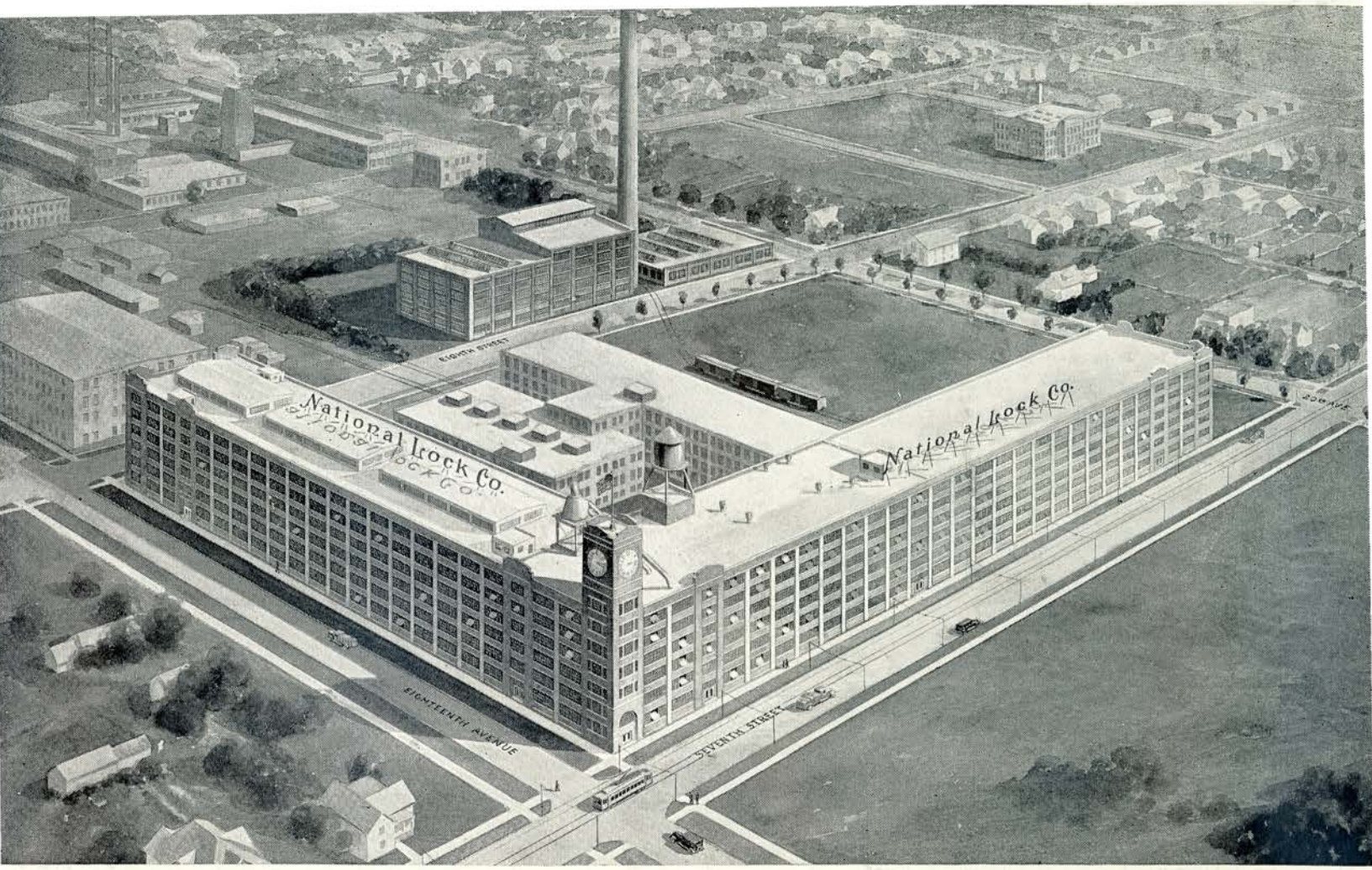


FOREST CITY NATIONAL BANK

CAPITAL $300,000.
SURPLUS AND UNDIVIDED PROFITS OVER
$250,000.

JOHN D. WATERMAN, Chairman
R. B. SPOTTSWOOD, President
E. H. KEELER, Vice President
E. E. BRUMBAUGH, Vice President
THOMAS L. SIZER, Cashier
ERNEST G. ATKINS, Assistant Cashier
EARL BREYVOGEL, Assistant Cashier

ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS.



PLANT OF THE

National Lock Co., Rockford, Ill.

National Lock Co.

MANUFACTURERS OF THE

Rockford Line of Hardware

Rockford, Illinois U.S.A.



ROCKFORD LUMBER & FUEL CO.

201 East State Street

ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS

BRANCH YARDS
Beloit Lumber Co., Beloit, Wis.
Whitewater Lbr. Co., Whitewater, Wis.

T. D. REBER, President
JEROME BAKER, V. Pres.
E R. RUNDQUIST, V. Pres.
E. H. KEELER, Secy. & Treas.
E. M. KELLEY, Ass't Secy. & Treas.



A-2736

GENERAL OFFICE EQUIPMENT CORPORATION

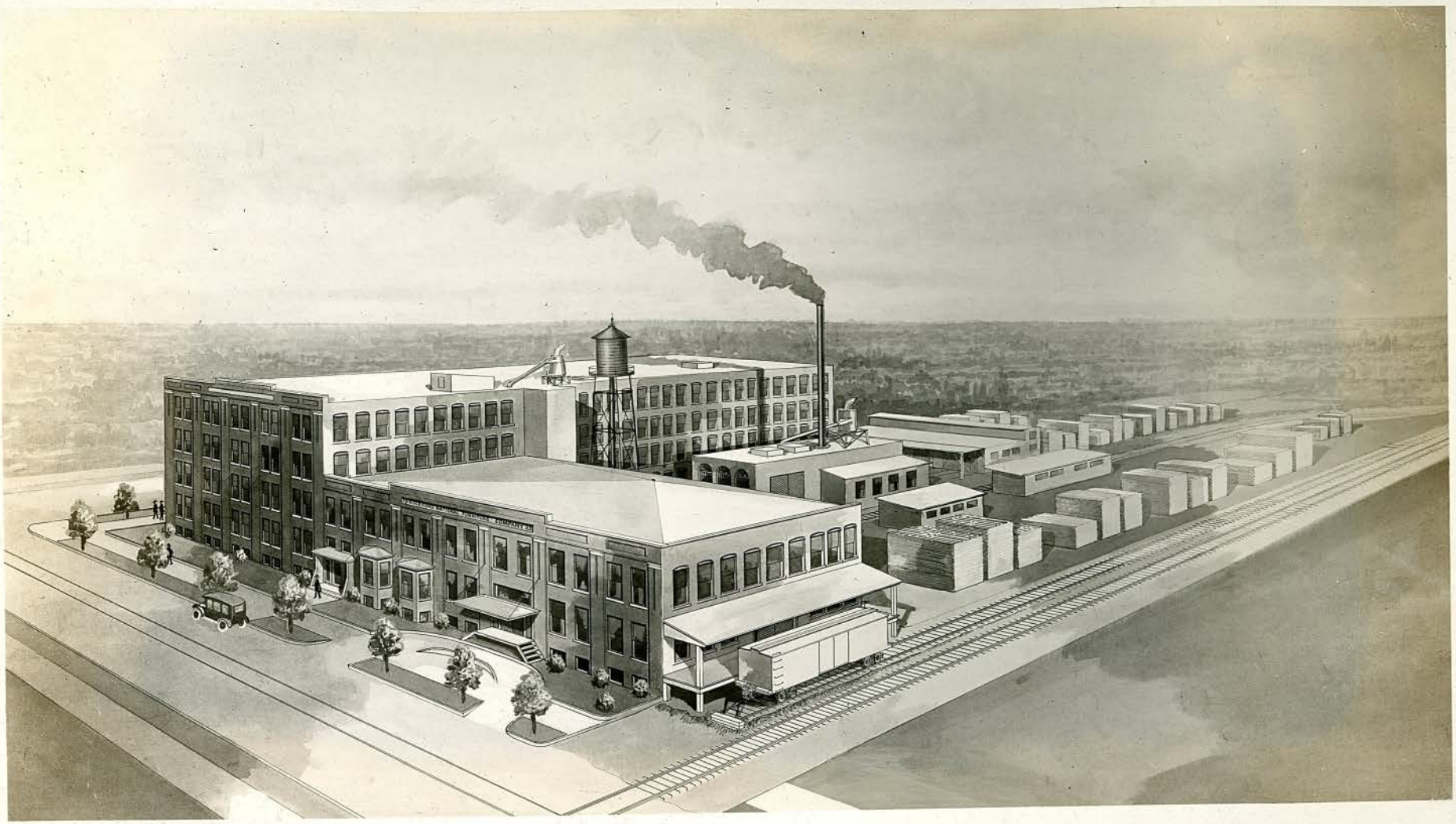
EXECUTIVE AND GENERAL SALES OFFICES

NEW YORK, N. Y.

Sundstrand

DIVISION

WORKS:-ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS



ROCKFORD FURNITURE NATIONAL COMPANY

HIGH GRADE FURNITURE MANUFACTURERS

ROCKFORD, ILL.



SWEDISH AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS $400.000.00

ROCKFORD, ILL.,



ROCKFORD LBR. & FUEL CO. ELECTRIC SIGN

NO. 54. JUNE 15-08. ROCKFORD ILL.

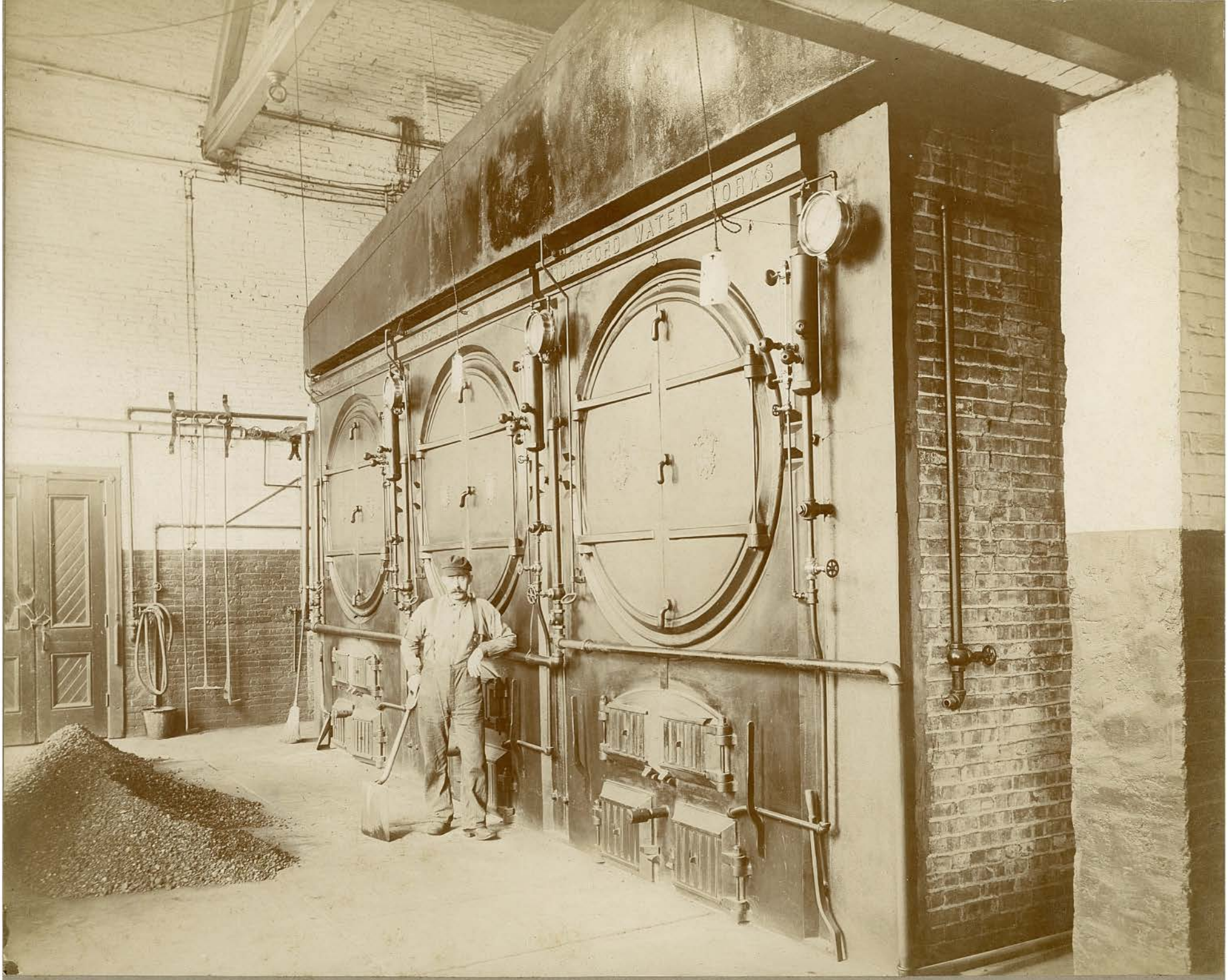

E. F. PENDERGAST & CO.
MANUFACTURERS AGENTS FOR INCANDESCENT TUNGSTEN TANTALUM LAMPS
MANUFACTURERS AGENTS FOR TELEPHONES MOTORS
PENDERGAST
SOLD HERE


ROCKFORD
WATCH CASE
COMPANY

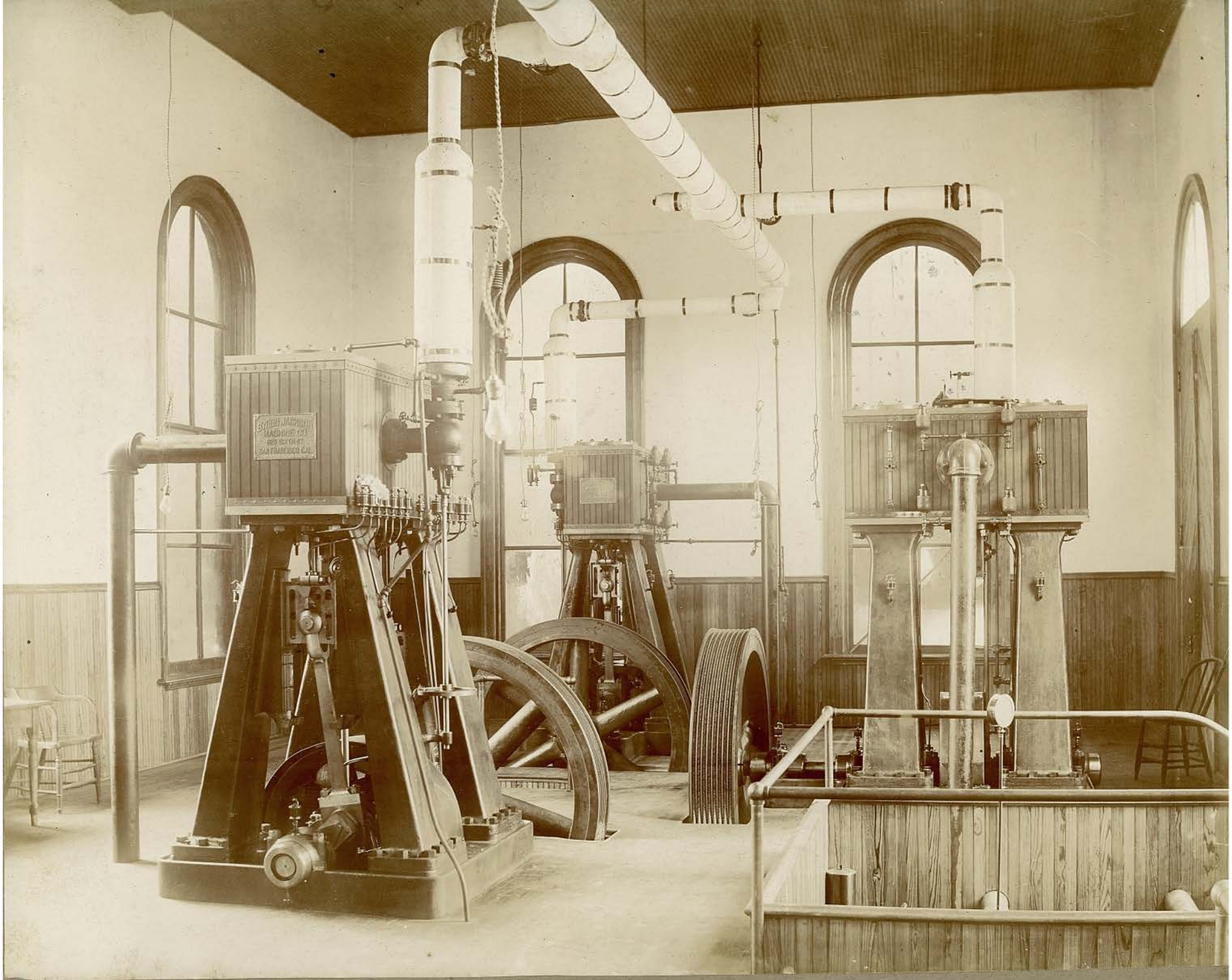

SAFETY WASHER
EASIEST RUNNING WASHER ON EARTH JACKSON MFG. CO.
ROCKFORD ill.
MADE IN ROCKFORD ILLINOIS
WATER LINE
SAFETY WASHER
JACKSON MFG. CO.
WATER LINE
SAFETY WASHER
JACKSON MFG. CO.
WATER LINE
SAFETY WASHER
PAT. JULY 12, 1910.
JACKSON MFG. CO.
ROCKFORD, ILL.



WATER WORKS Ca. 1900



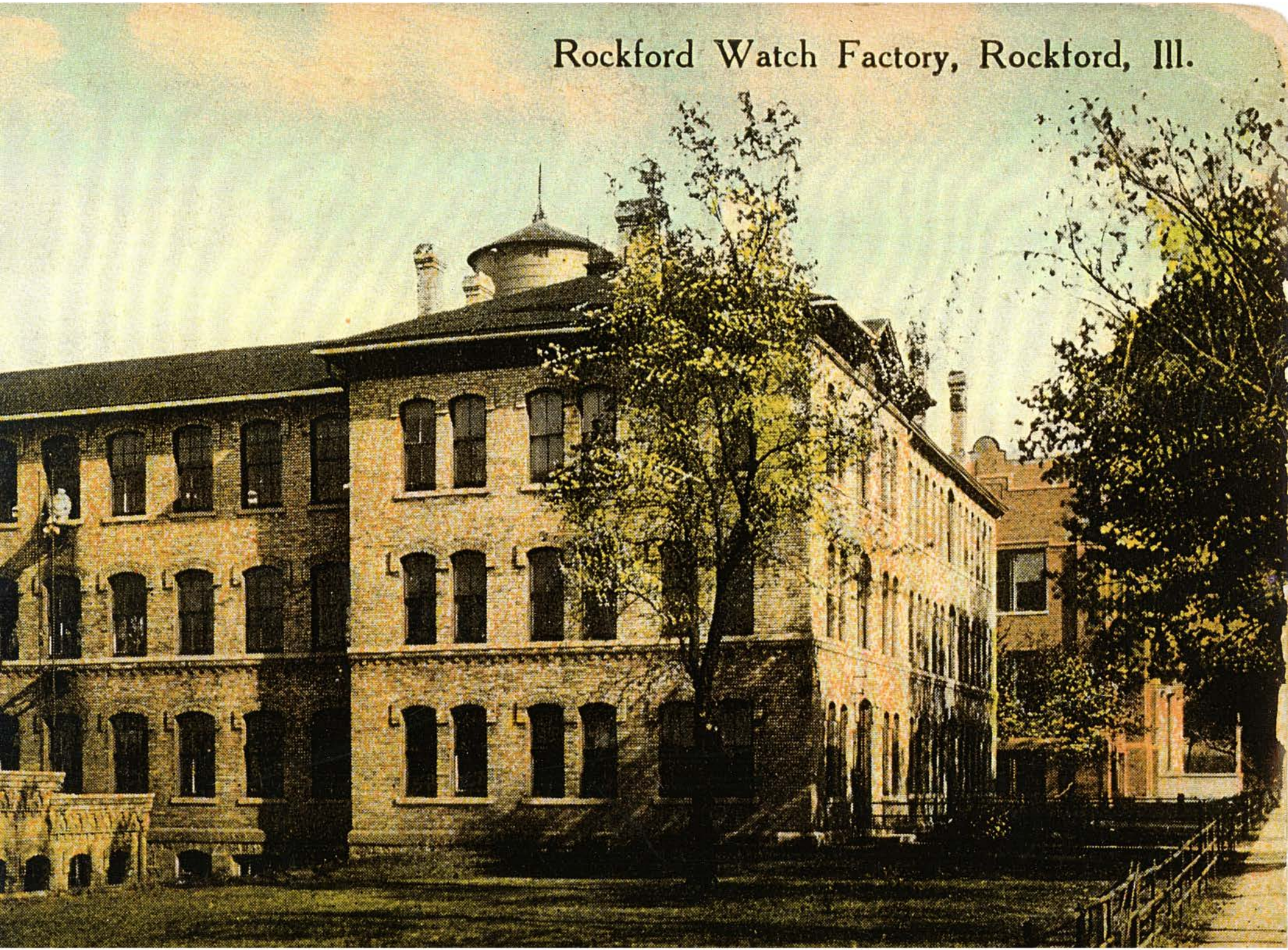
WATERWORKS : BOILERS ca. 1900



WATERWORKS: Pumps ca. 1900



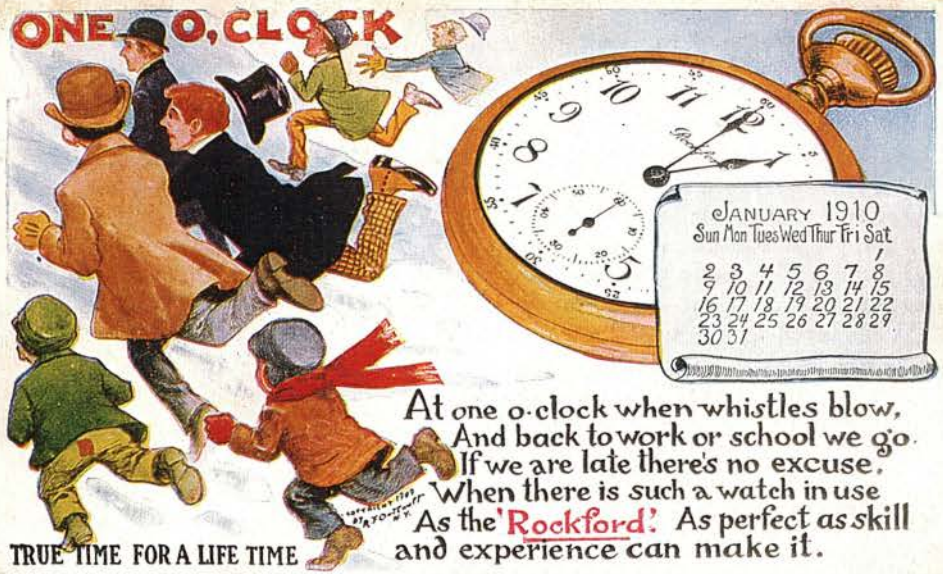
WATER WORKS : Filtration ca. 1900


Rockford Watch Factory, Rockford, Ill.



This month the hunter takes his gun
And goes out hunting just for fun.
He lies in wait to trap his game.
The 'ROCKFORD' never does the same.
It never lies, it doesn't wait
It's perfect and its up to date.

TRUE TIME FOR A LIFE TIME



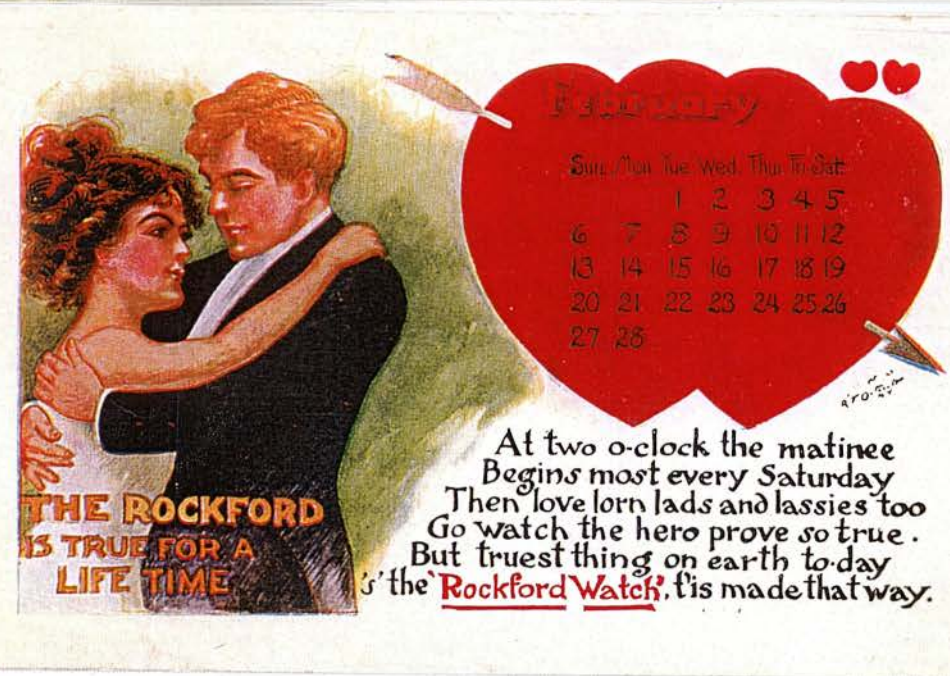
At one o-clock when whistles blow,
And back to work or school we go.
If we are late there's no excuse.
When there is such a watch in use
As the 'Rockford.' As perfect as skill
and experience can make it.

TRUE TIME FOR A LIFE TIME



Ask Santa Claus to bring to
You A Rockford watch it's
always true. The best that
modern skill can do in watches

TRUE TIME FOR A LIFE TIME



At two o-clock the matinee
Begins most every Saturday
Then love lorn lads and lassies too
Go watch the hero prove so true.
But truest thing on earth to-day
is the 'Rockford Watch', t'is made that way.

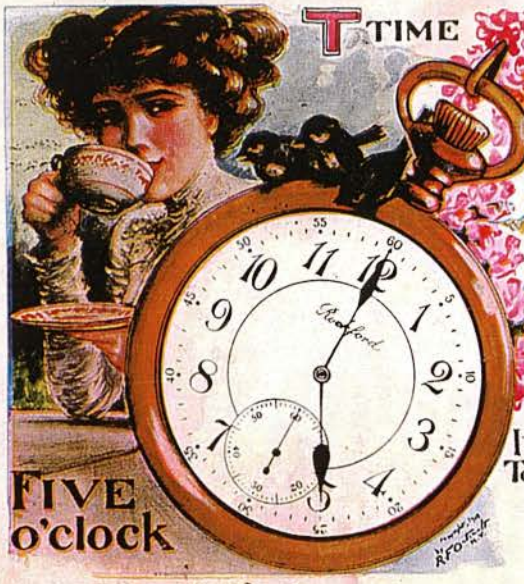


March-1910

Sun.	Mon	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Only a baby, yet with a Rockford he can have . . .
TRUE TIME FOR A LIFE TIME

At three o. clock the baby goes
Dressed in his fluffy lacy clothes
To take a ride out in the park
And watch the birds fly until dark.
But Time flies too and baby soon
Will be a man and know the boon
of A "Rockford Watch" like other men.



T TIME

FIVE o'clock

May-1910

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

TRUE TIME FOR A LIFE TIME

If you want to be prompt to a T.
To a show, or where e'er it may be
There's a time piece thats true,
I will spell it for you
R-O-C-K-F-O-R-D.



April-1910

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

4 o'clock.

This April Fool
has missed his train Because his watch is slow.
And he goes splashing in the rain Because he
doesn't know That if he had a "ROCKFORD"
watch, He'd never miss a trick. The Rockford is an
honest watch. It does n't miss a tick.
TRUE TIME FOR A LIFE TIME



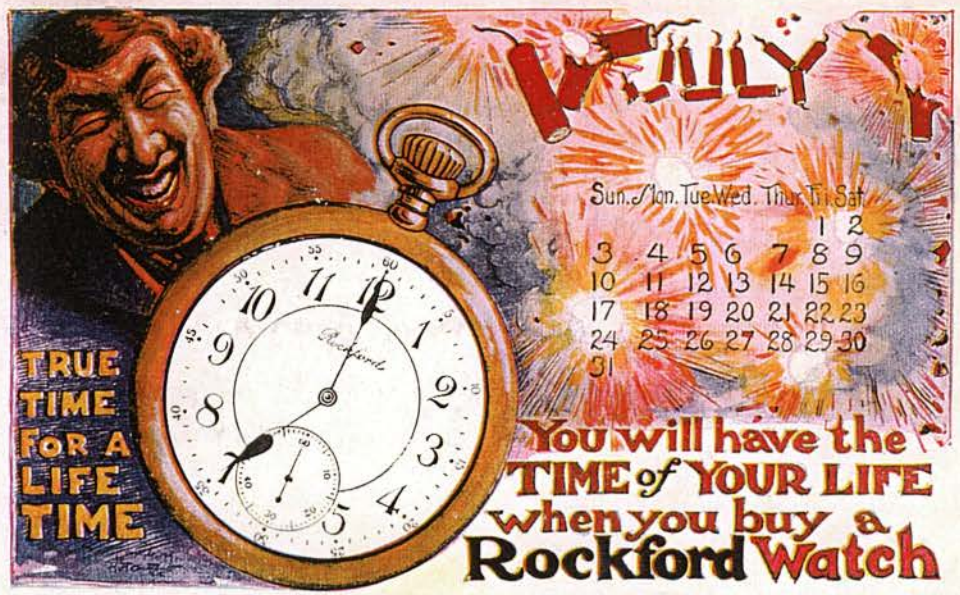
TIMES HAVE CHANGED
BUT THE ROCKFORD
WATCH NEVER
CHANGES

June-1910

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

The Longest day in all the year
(The 21st) is almost here.
But there is not a day so long
The Rockford watch will e'er go wrong

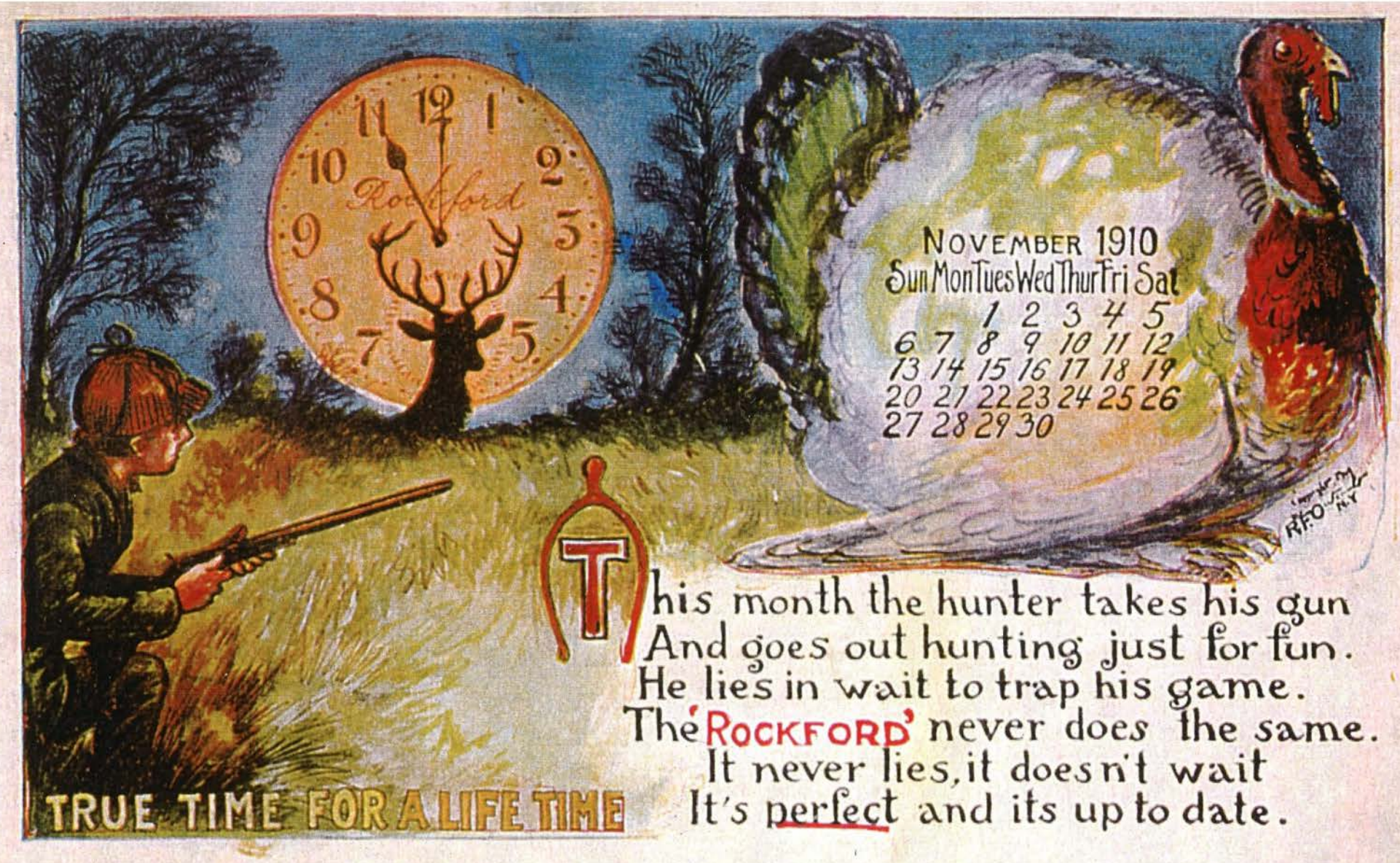
TRUE TIME FOR A LIFE TIME


JULY
Sun. Mon. Tue. Wed. Thur. Fri. Sat.
1 2
3 4 5 6 7 8 9
10 11 12 13 14 15 16
17 18 19 20 21 22 23
24 25 26 27 28 29 30
31
TRUE TIME FOR A LIFE TIME
You will have the TIME of YOUR LIFE when you buy a Rockford Watch

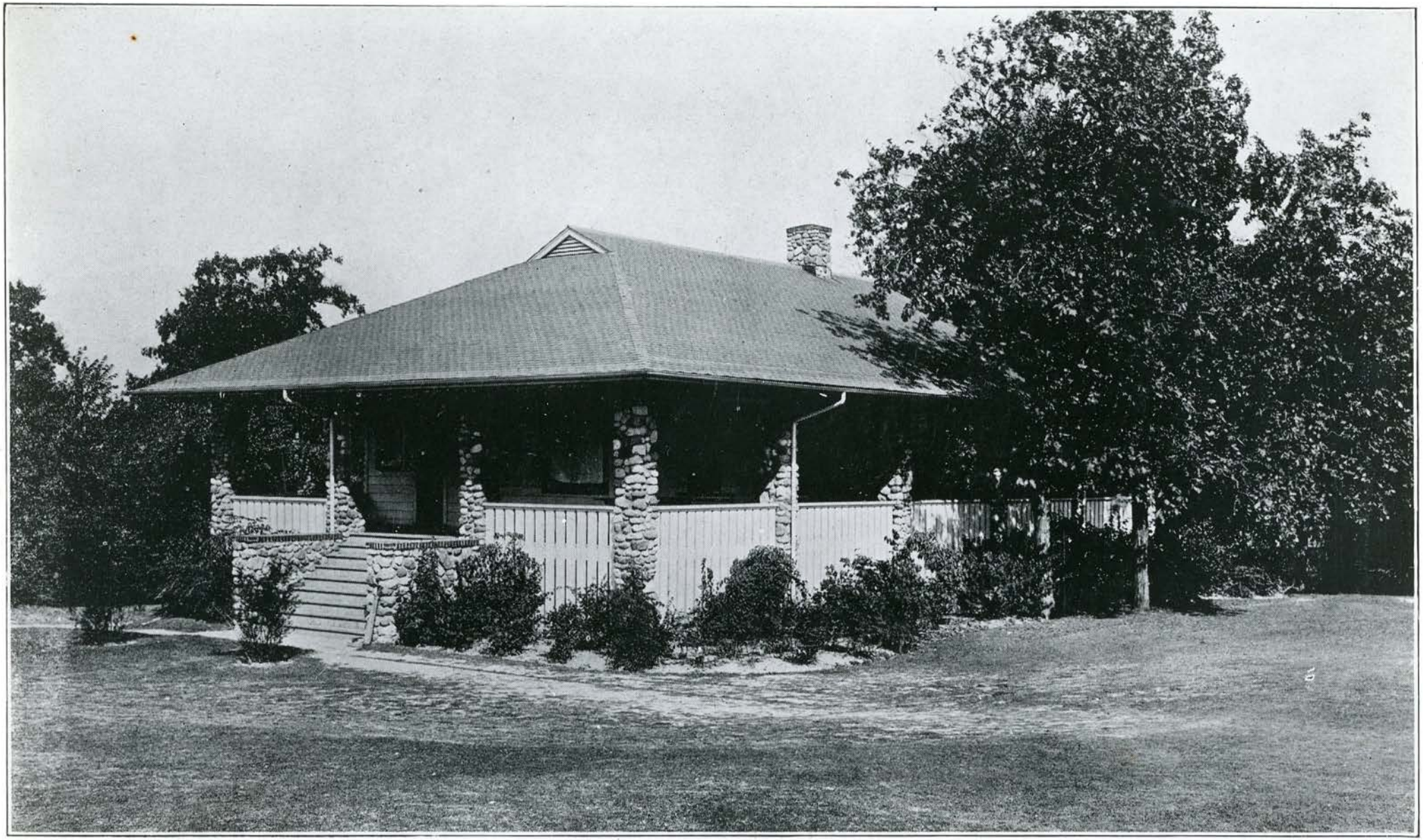

R-O-C-K-F-O-R-D Spells Perfection
true time for a life time
September-1910
Sun. Mon. Tue. Wed Thur Fri Sat
1 2 3
4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30
SCHOOL TIME 9 o-clock
DONT BE LATE TO SCHOOL GET A ROCKFORD WATCH
ITS NEVER LATE


August-1910
Sun. Mon. Tue. Wed. Thur. Fri. Sat.
1 2 3 4 5 6
7 8 9 10 11 12 13
14 15 16 17 18 19 20
21 22 23 24 25 26 27
28 29 30 31
TRUE TIME FOR A LIFE TIME
In the good old summer time
At morning, noon or night
When e'er you see a Rockford watch
You know the time is right.
It is made to tell the right time


YOU CAN TELL A ROCKFORD EVERY TIME BY IT'S NAME;
IT CAN TELL YOU EVERY TIME BY IT'S SUPERIORITY
THE ROCKFORD WATCH WILL STAND THE TEST
A ROCKFORD WATCH IS MADE THE BEST
October
Sun. Mon Tue. Wed. Thur Fri. Sat.
1
2 3 4 5 6 7 8
9 10 11 12 13 14 15
16 17 18 19 20 21 22
23 24 25 26 27 28 29
30 31
THE BEST JEWELERS SELL IT
10 o-clock
TRUE TIME FOR A LIFE TIME


Rockford
NOVEMBER 1910
Sun Mon Tues Wed Thur Fri Sat
1 2 3 4 5
6 7 8 9 10 11 12
13 14 15 16 17 18 19
20 21 22 23 24 25 26
27 28 29 30
R.F.O.
TRUE TIME FOR A LIFE TIME
This month the hunter takes his gun
And goes out hunting just for fun.
He lies in wait to trap his game.
The 'ROCKFORD' never does the same.
It never lies, it doesn't wait
It's perfect and its up to date.

1917



Golf Shelter, Sinnissippi Park





Fire: Goldman Store, 7th St.
ca. 1890s



No 8 V. May 1st/08

SO. MAIN ST. ROCKFORD, ILL.

Loyal soldier on guard anew

Old soldiers never die, they just change sentry posts.

Rockford's oldest soldier, on guard since 1877, has left his glassed-in retreat in the foyer of Winnebago County Courthouse's main entrance and finally is back where he belongs, on duty under the skies.

This time his post is in a triangular tract which Greenwood Cemetery Association donated for a mini-park. The site is at Auburn and Main Streets.

A gift initially of the Grand Army of the Republic Auxiliary, the statue once stood on a pedestal surrounded by a fountain standing guard in front of Rockford's old courthouse. R-Star 9-4-84

When the current building went up, the statue went into storage, then was resurrected for the courthouse foyer where it became the object of abuse.

Graffiti often covered the soldier's proud exterior. Part of the musket he holds vertically in a position of ease was broken off. Concerned members of the Rockford Council of New England Women donated a glass panel to shield the Union soldier from predators and detractors.

Those same New England descendants are still concerned, now that he's out in the open.

But Rockford sculptor Gene Horvath has overseen the new installation, which includes a three-tiered base with the soldier standing on a Corinthian column from Rockford's original main library building. As architect Dan Lindberg designed it, the Union soldier's head will be 18 to 19 feet above ground.

If that doesn't protect him, Rockford Park District police will. The park district is responsible for maintaining all of this new mini-park.

Incidentally, the park is near the old Camp Fuller area, where Rockford area volunteers encamped on their way to Civil War battles.

So welcome back, Union Soldier. Historically, you've come home again.

This Civil War Soldier statue is currently in front of Memorial Hall (2026)

Soldier, 'Symbol' touched up

By Alice Hrnicek
The Register Star

A subdued statue and a blazing orange sculpture will be dedicated once finishing touches are placed on them after being moved to new homes.

The Civil War statue, a tribute to Union soldiers, was moved from a glass case at the Winnebago County Courthouse to the southwest corner of Greenwood Cemetery at North Main and Auburn streets.

Guy Fiorenza, president of the Main and Auburn Business Association, said the dedication date should be decided at the association's Thursday morning meeting. The celebration has been scheduled for Nov. 11, Veterans' Day. However, because the installation was completed by the end of last week, an earlier ceremony may be planned, he said.

"We've been concerned about the weather in November," Fiorenza said. "We thought maybe we would have a program earlier and see if we could tie it in with the Veterans' Day celebration later."

David Wiemer, assistant parks director, said the statue was transferred because of community interest. R-Star 9-5-84

"Symbol," a sculpture designed by Alexander Liberman, recently was moved from the downtown mall to Sinnissippi Park, where Area Erectors Inc. expects to finish welding it together today. JoAnne Baker, Rockford Park District deputy director, said she anticipates a dedication ceremony once the sculpture is repainted and lighting is installed.

"Symbol" was moved at a cost of $48,000. Rockford residents, who viewed the sculpture as they walked or pedaled past on the bicycle path, had mixed reactions to the artwork that has been a source of controversy since being brought to Rockford.

Jackie Dean, 13, 150 Rose Ave., said, "I like it. It reminds me of Rockford. It's a little different, and Rockford's kind of weird."

Greg Stevenson, 23, 3610 Bently Drive, reacted differently.

"I think it's a waste, really," he said. "It's not natural. I would rather have a natural environment. I would rather see a tree there."

Wiemer said transferring the soldier statue cost between $33,000 and $35,000.

Of that, $20,500 is being paid through a Community Development grant and the rest is being supported through donations.

The statue rests on top of a Corinthian column taken from the old library building. The column stands on a round, three-tiered limestone base, which is surrounded by a circle of brick.

(See next photo)


A TIMELESS TRIBUTE
TO EVERY SOLDIER



Rockford Electric Co. Office ca. 1910



Roller Coaster, Central Park Gardens ca 1928



Roller coaster, Central Park Gardens ca. 1923



CENTRAL PARK GARDENS
AMUSEMENT PARK3200AUBURN
MAIN ENTRANCE. DEDICATION
MAY 24 1921 1926

Rockford Electric Co. float, Health parade, May 17, 1919



Rockford Electric Co. float, Health Parade, May 17, 1919




RETAINING WALL FOR COAL STORAGE
ROCKFORD ELEC. CO
SEPT. 25-1925



200-R. Court House Square Rockford, Feb. 24, 1914



GIRDER BRIDGE
STATE ST. LOOK-
ING WEST. 1899

President McKinley's Death, 1901




KEYT
LIVERY
SON.
RUBING
SCRAP IRON
DYNAMOS
LEATHER &
GENERAL
No 200 ROCKFORD ELECTRIC CO.
OCT 5-11. ROCKFORD, ILL.



E. State St., unpaved. (undated)

W. State & Main, looking East ca 1885

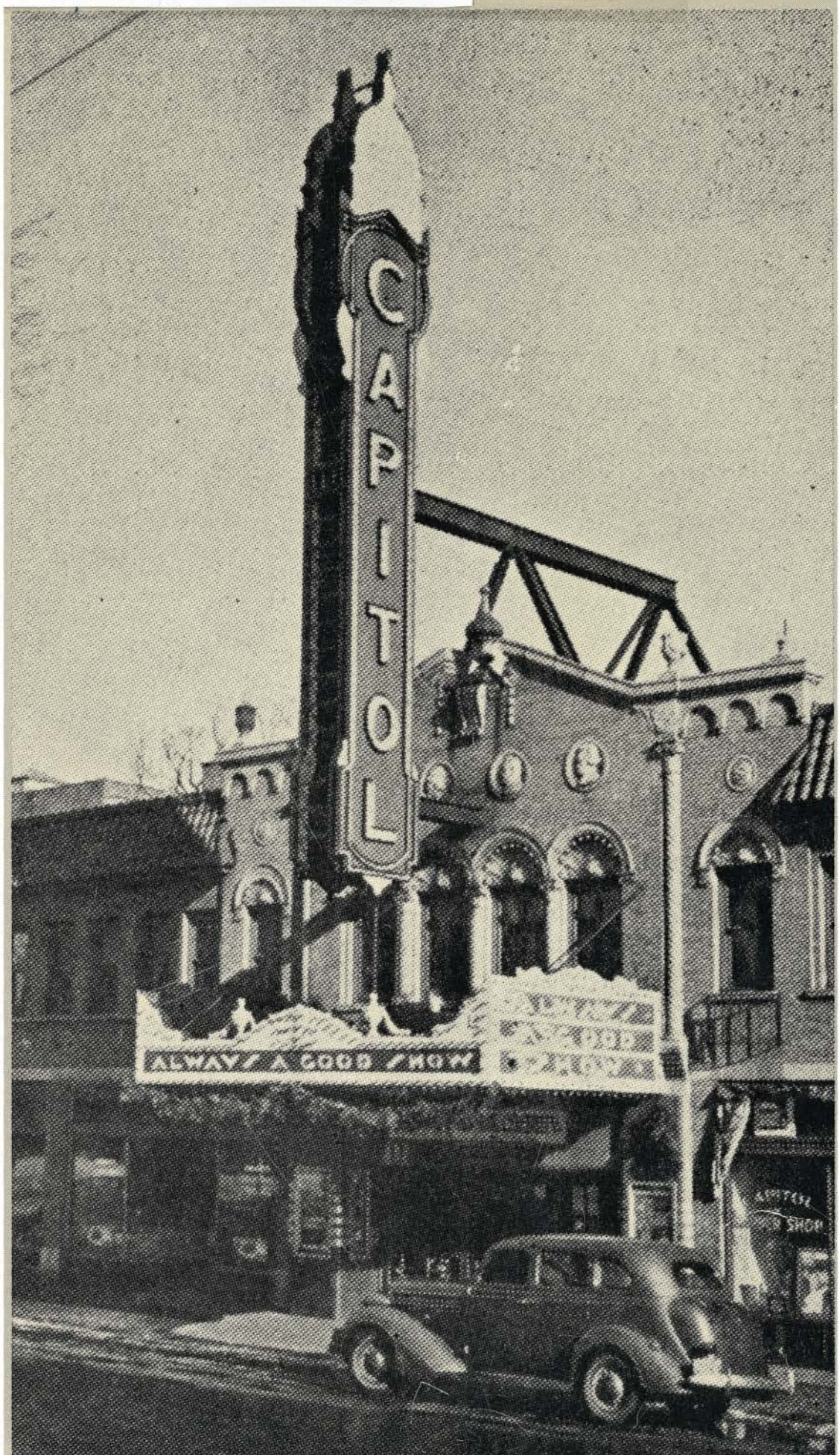


Nelson Hotel ca. 1891




HONCUT HALL
1894
S.N.D.S MULLIN
DRY GOODS & GROCERIES
NOTARY PUBLIC

Capitol Theater
South Main
1940's





Looking northeast from the courthouse in the 1890's, with North Church Street in the foreground, the First Baptist Church is at the left and at the center on North Main Street is the Winnebago Street Methodist Church.



Looking East from Wyman Street and Chestnut Street - 1885