

Register of Old Buildings
Macon County Historical Coordinating Council

Address: 600 Powers Lane
 Legal description: E. J. Brown's Subdivision of part of
 Lot 10
 Assessor's Sub. of part of the W1/2 of SE1/4 Sec 15-16-26

Date of original construction: 1913 - estimate, assessor's office.

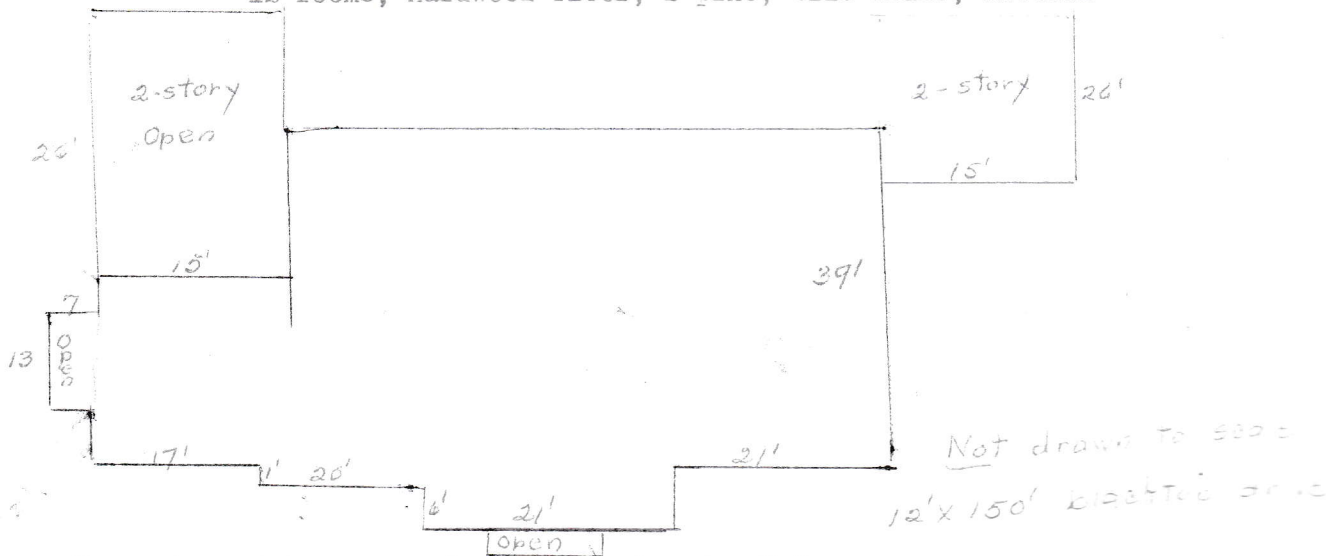
Name of original owner: Dr. Everett J. Brown.

History

1. An incomplete chain of title follows. (Source: Macon County recorder of deeds office)
 - June, 1931 Trustees of will of Everett J. Brown.
 Lot 1 to Wm. M. and Grace G. Wood.
 - March 21, 1961 Grace G. Wood inventory.
 - Aug. 13, 1961 Robert J. Wood (son of Grace G. Wood)
 - Aug. 15, 1961 Robert J. Wood and Florence G. Wood, his wife,
 et al to Joseph Ankenbrandt and Marion An-
 kenbrandt.

2. Data from available city directories follows:
 - (In 1911 Everett J. Brown, M.D. lived at 440 W. Macon.
 - 1914 to 1929 Everett J. Brown, M.D.
 - 1930 Mrs. J. J. Brown
 - 1935-1960 W. M. Wood and on Grace Wood.
 - 1965- Joseph Ankenbrandt, M. D.

3. Data from the Macon County Assessor's office follows:
 - Bldg. Class B - family dwelling
 - 2 story, 14 rooms, 5 bathrooms, 1 2-fixture toilet room
 - Wood frame construction, brick exterior
 - Mansard roof, medium pitch, slate
 - 2 porches, brick flooring
 - 12 rooms, hardwood floor, 2 pine, tile walls, kitchen



Present owner's name: Joseph Ankenbrandt, M.D.

History Cont'd.

4. In conversation with Dr. Jack Brown (December 3rd, 1974), this son of Dr. and Mrs. Everett J. Brown, builders of the house at 600 Powers Lane stated -
- a. That the house was designed by Perkins of Chicago and that they moved into it on his brother Anson's second birthday in March, 1913, moving from their former home at 440 W. Macon Street.
 - b. That the house at 600 Powers Lane has an identical floor plan with that of the Ewing (Condon) house at 505 Powers Lane, with the exception that the 600 Powers Lane house was on a larger scale, (and was built a year later.) Both were designed by Perkins. Both, having been built in pre-air conditioning years, had large two-story porches at both ends of the rear side of the house for greater summer comfort. In the case of Dr. Brown's family, one of the second-story sleeping porches was for the children, the other, for the adults. The first floor porches were both living porches, with both overlooking the gardens in the ravine at the south side (rear) of the house.
 - c. The exteriors of the two houses differ greatly, 505 Powers Lane being of Italian villa or Italian renaissance style and the one at 600 Powers Lane, of Georgian style.
 - d. That he always thinks of the house at 600 Powers Lane as his mother's rather than his father's, for she was from Moss Avenue, Decatur, where her home overlooked a valley. This site overlooking a ravine was much to her liking, and in those days when gardeners were more readily available, the ravine was always well cared-for, with flagstone paths, flower beds, and neatly trimmed shrubs, in contrast to the natural growth in the ravine today.
 - e. That the basic structure of the house is unchanged, that it was extremely well-built and would be difficult to modify. This was his response to my remark that someone had said some of the rooms presently are used to serve purposes different from the original plan. This, he agreed, was likely; but not basic structural change. In other words, it is his belief that the house has high integrity in terms of its original construction.
5. See attached -
- a. Biographical data on Dr. Everett J. Brown, the builder and first occupant of the house at 600 Powers Lane:
 - (1) An 1893 biography - Portrait and Biographical Record, Lake City Publishing Record, Lake City Publishing Company: Chicago 1893 pp 344, 345.
 - (2) Nelson, Hon. Wm. E., Editor, History of Macon County. The Pioneer Publishing Co., 1910 pp 67, 68, 69.
 - b. Obituaries-
 - (1) Dr. Everett J. Brown, Decatur Review - 8/30/20.
 - (2) W. M. Wood, Decatur Review - 7/28/56.



EVERETT J. BROWN, M. D., whose office is located in Rooms 1 and 2, of the Hawthorth Block, is one of Decatur's native sons of whom she may well be proud. A man of marked ability, keen intellect and unquestioned skill in his profession, he has gained a reputation extending far beyond the limits of this community. His father, Josiah Brown, was also a physician, well known in this community. He was born in Whitby, in the Province of Ontario, Canada, and when a young man removed to the South. He was graduated from the Medical College of Augusta, Ga., and then came to Macon

County, Ill., accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Sarah E. Brown, and their two children. For two years he engaged in practice in Maroa, and in 1860 came with his family to Decatur, where he was successfully engaged in the practice of his profession until his death, May 7, 1889, at the age of sixty-two years. His widow is still living in this city. She had a family of seven children, four of whom are living: Dr. Warren F., of Tacoma, Wash.; Lillie A., wife of Charles R. Murphy, of Decatur; Everett, of this sketch; and Frederick A., who is engaged in the practice of law in Tacoma, Wash. Dr. Josiah Brown was one of the pioneer physicians of Decatur, one of its most highly respected citizens, and built up a large practice.

The birth of our subject occurred on the 20th of January, 1865, in this city, where he has always made his home. His literary education was completed by his graduation from the High School. He began clerking in a drug store at the age of sixteen, and on attaining his majority he entered the Chicago Medical College, where he pursued the regular three-years course, graduating from that institution in the Class of '88, with the degree of M. D. A few days later he took an examination, winning the second rank in a class of twenty-five, and was admitted to hospital practice in the Cook County Hospital, where he remained for about a year, when he was called home to take care of his father's practice. His plan was to have remained in the hospital for the full term of a year and a-half, and then, returning home, to enter into partnership with his father, but, his father's death occurring at this time, this intention was frustrated.

On October 1, 1891, was celebrated the marriage of the Doctor and Miss Rebecca C. Brown, of Jacksonville, Ill., daughter of Dr. Lloyd W. Brown, President of the Central Illinois Savings Bank, of Jacksonville. The union of the young couple has been blessed with a little daughter, Rebecca Alice, who is the joy of the parents' home. They reside at No. 332 West North Street, and have a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

Fraternally, the Doctor is a member of Chevalier Bayard Lodge No. 189, K. P.; is Treasurer

of the Capital District Medical Society, and a member of the Macon County Medical Society. He is Medical Nominator and Examiner for the Equitable Life Assurance Society for the counties of Macon, Sangamon, Logan, Shelby, Menard, Christian, Piatt and Moultrie, and is also Examiner for ten other companies and three fraternal insurance orders, including the Mutual Life of New York; the Aetna, of Connecticut; and the Mutual Benefit, of New Jersey; and is Assistant Secretary of the Illinois State Medical Society. The Doctor has made considerable original medical and scientific research, and has contributed largely to current medical literature.

Dr. Brown is recognized as one of the rising young physicians of Decatur, his thorough preparation, combined with his natural skill and ability, having won him an enviable reputation among his professional brethren, as well as with the public, which accords him a liberal patronage. In his political views the Doctor is a Republican, having supported that party since attaining his majority. He and his wife hold membership with the Presbyterian Church.

*Portrait and Biographical
Record, Lake City
Publishing Company:
Chicago 1893 pp 344,
345*

For more than twenty years Dr. Everett J. Brown has engaged in active practice at Decatur. By diligent attention to his profession he has built up a practice which extends all over central Illinois and has acquired a reputation in his profession which is not confined to the limits of the state. The respect in which he is held by his brethren is shown by the fact that at the present time he occupies the position of treasurer of the Illinois State Medical Society and is ex-president of the Decatur Medical Society. These honors came without solicitation on his part and as a just recognition of one who has devoted his life to the alleviation of the ills of humanity. Dr. Brown comes well by the talents which have gained him his present honorable position. His father, Josiah Brown, was for thirty years a leading physician of Decatur and the mantle which he gracefully wore rests easily on the shoulders of his son.

Dr. Josiah Brown was born at Witby, Canada, July 24, 1827, and was a son of Abraham and Bethsheba Brown, descendants of Quaker parentage of New England. Early in life he decided to become a physician and all his studies were pursued with that object in view. The death of his father when the boy was twelve years of age threw him largely upon his own resources. But after acquiring the necessary funds by teaching school, he matriculated at the Augusta Medical College, Georgia, then one of the leading medical colleges of the country, and, after graduation, began practice at Gaylesville, Alabama. There he was married to Miss Sarah E. Brown. Removing to Illinois, the Doctor lived for two years at Maroa and then settled permanently at Decatur in 1859. He departed this life May 6, 1889, sincerely mourned by the entire community. He was a Mason, a republican, a member for more than twenty-five years of the Presbyterian church and an able and successful physician. His widow is still living. Six children were born to Dr. and Mrs. Brown: two children of whom died in infancy; Minnie S., who died in 1881 at the age of eighteen years; Warren, a practicing physician of Tacoma, Washington; Everett J., whose name appears at the head of this biography; and Frederick A., a practicing lawyer of Chicago.

Everett J. Brown is a native of Decatur, born January 20, 1865. He was educated in the public schools and graduated from the Decatur high school at the age of eighteen, in 1883. He studied medicine under his father and also in the medical department of the Northwestern University of Chicago, graduating in 1888. He was interne at the Cook County Hospital in 1888-9, and took a post-graduate course of six months in the general hospital at Vienna, Austria, in 1898. He again took a post-graduate course in the New York Polyclinic and Post Graduate Hospital and in 1908 visited Europe a second time to become acquainted with the most advanced ideas of the leading minds on medicine and surgery. Few men, as indicated above, have ever shown a greater interest in their chosen calling and no pains or time have been spared in the effort to solve the difficult problems that face the physician in his daily practice.

Since 1889 Dr. Brown has been actively engaged in practice in the town where he was born, except when pursuing advanced studies in New York city or Europe. He makes a specialty of internal medicine and is associated with Dr. Cecil M. Jack, under the firm name of Brown & Jack, his biography appearing elsewhere in this volume. The practice of the firm increased so rapidly during the last few years that larger accommodations became necessary and a handsome building was erected on West Prairie avenue opposite the Young Men's Christian Association, into which the firm moved in July, 1910. Here fourteen rooms are occupied, consisting of office and reception rooms, consultation rooms, laboratories, operating rooms, X-Ray room, dressing rooms and every possible requirement that modern minds have devised for the reception and treatment of patients. These offices and accessories are conceded to be among the finest and most complete that are to be desired and visitors are surprised at the facilities there available. The reputation of Dr. Brown has made his services in demand all over central Illinois as consultant in many cases requiring the best skill possible to secure.

D. Brown has been twice married. His first marriage was with Rebecca C. Brown of Jacksonville, Illinois, in October, 1891. Mrs. Brown departed this life February 22, 1906. Three children were born of the union: Rebecca Alice, Lloyd and Everett Anson. On the 1st of October, 1908, Dr. Brown was united in marriage to Miss Jane Jack of Peoria, Illinois. One son, Francis Jack Brown, is the result of this union.

Dr. Brown is a member of the Presbyterian church, as was his father before him, and also belongs to the American Medical Association, the Illinois State Medical Society, the Mississippi Valley Medical Society, the Tri-State Medical Society and the Decatur Medical Society. Although his extensive practice makes heavy demands on his time and strength, he holds membership in the University Club of Chicago and in the Decatur and Country Clubs of Decatur. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias, whose principles of fidelity to promise and friendship in time of need he has many times exemplified.

The Doctor is a living example of the beneficent effect of right education and high ideals in the development of a useful and helpful career. In a striking degree we see here exemplified the refining influence of the home and the inviting field which is open in a free commonwealth to those who are rightly prepared and capable of bearing its honors. The position which has been attained by Dr. Brown has not come by chance but has called for years of patient study and faithful performance of duty as it appeared from day to day. No one knows this better than the practicing physician who gives a large part of his time to patients from whom he can expect small financial recompense or none at all. Yet he gives as freely and as conscientiously in such cases as if the patient were in the most affluent circumstances. Dr. Brown has endeared himself to people in all walks of life by his courteous manners, his liberality in support of all worthy causes and his skill in his profession. Hence he is usually recognized in central Illinois as among its most desirable citizens.

*Nelson, The Hon. Am. E., Editor
History of Macon County, The
Pioneer Publishing Co., 1910
pp 67, 68, 69*

600 Powers Lane



DR. E. J. BROWN DIES AFTER LONG ILLNESS

Aug. 30, 1920

Hard Work On Exemption Board Cause of Break-down—Funeral Wednesday.

Dr. Everett J. Brown, one of the best known physicians of Illinois and a life long citizen of Decatur, died at his home, 600 Powers Lane, Monday morning at 10:10 o'clock after a long illness.

In the death of Dr. Brown Decatur loses one of its most valuable citizens, a man who had grown up here and who had seen the community change from a country village to a modern city.

WORKED FOR HOSPITAL

Dr. Brown himself always took an active interest and a share in promoting the welfare of his city. He was one of the few who, in the early days of the hospital movement, shared with the few women led by the late Mrs. Hagerman the belief that Decatur should some time have a real hospital and who worked faithfully many, many years to start a fund which should and did ultimately grow into the great institution now known as the Decatur and Macon County Hospital.

Dr. Brown was one of the first, if not the first, active physicians in Decatur to encourage, actively and persistently, those women who finally bought a tract of ground in what was then an old brick yard lot, which is now Park Place. Dr. Brown encouraged them, women to make the investment and through his career he was one of the most liberal and consistent donors and supporters of the hospital which is known throughout the country as one of the best.

ON EXEMPTION BOARD

Dr. Brown's patriotic service on the exemption board during the years of the war, when he gave long days and nights of the hot and cooling summer of 1917 was one of his most conspicuous and arduous contributions to the service of the nation in that time of stress.

Day after day, week after week, month after month, Dr. Brown served with his associates, John Allen and C. A. Ewing, in this exacting and often distressing work of selecting men for service in the army. With no compensation except the feeling of service given to his country Dr. Brown persisted in this work until he was worn out. It is believed that the strain of his work on the exemption board led to the break-down which ended in his death.

STOOD FOR BEST

Dr. Brown was a believer in his community, in the best things in his community, and no effort which stood for the betterment of conditions here ever appealed to him in vain either for financial or personal help.

He was a liberal supporter of the Y. M. C. A., the Y. W. C. A. and of the First Presbyterian church.

He was an earnest advocate of the establishment as soon as possible of a tuberculosis sanatorium at the Decatur and Macon county hospital and he was a friend to all the advanced ideas in health and hygienic policies affecting the community.

al Society and other organizations and clubs.

The funeral will be held Wednesday at the residence, 600 Powers Lane. The exact hour of the funeral will be announced later.

THE DECATUR REVIEW

Decatur Loses Prominent Physician

August 31, 1920



Dr. E. J. Brown

BROWN FUNERAL WEDNESDAY AT 3

Many to Attend From Out of City.

The funeral of Dr. Everett J. Brown will be held at 3 o'clock Wednesday afternoon at the family residence, 600 Powers Lane. The services will be conducted by Rev. C. E. Jenney and Rev. W. H. Penhalligon. The interment will be in Greenwood cemetery.

Sub-acute sclerosis of the spinal cord, a "hardening of the tissues of the spinal column," was the technical name of the cause of the death of Dr. E. J. Brown. Dr. Brown knew the nature of the trouble. He also knew that it was, under present medical knowledge, incurable, and he studied its progress in his own case with much interest.

Numerous telegrams have been received by the family and there will be many here from distant points to attend the funeral.

Hidden on the Lane

Take a drive down Romans Lane and you will probably never see it — the house at Number 600.

A wooded retreat in the heart of the city, virtually hidden from the road and all neighbors by two acres of trees and vines and wild flowers.

A wooded retreat for Dr. and Mrs. Joe Ankenbrandt and their seven children, who have lived there for the past eight years.

Balconies at the front and back of the two-story brick house and four screened-in porches, two downstairs and two up, help to bring the out-of-doors inside.

And the porches are not just for decoration. During the summer, the Ankenbrandts use one for a breakfast-lunch-and-supper room and, Mrs. Ankenbrandt says, the family lives in the other downstairs one. One of the upstairs porches serves as a nightly campground for the children.

The out-of-doors was first brought indoors in 1913 when the front hall was paneled with oak from trees once standing on the property. The late Dr. Everett J. Brown built the house for his family.

All the rooms in the house are large with high ceilings and most have glass doors

leading outside and to other rooms.

The style of the furniture varies throughout the house with England, France, Italy, America and even Japan represented.

"I don't have any strong inclination to collect any one period," Mrs. Ankenbrandt said. "I like the mixture. I feel comfortable in it."

The living room is spacious with various areas of furniture and a baby grand piano around the sides and a smaller cozy grouping around a large brick fireplace.

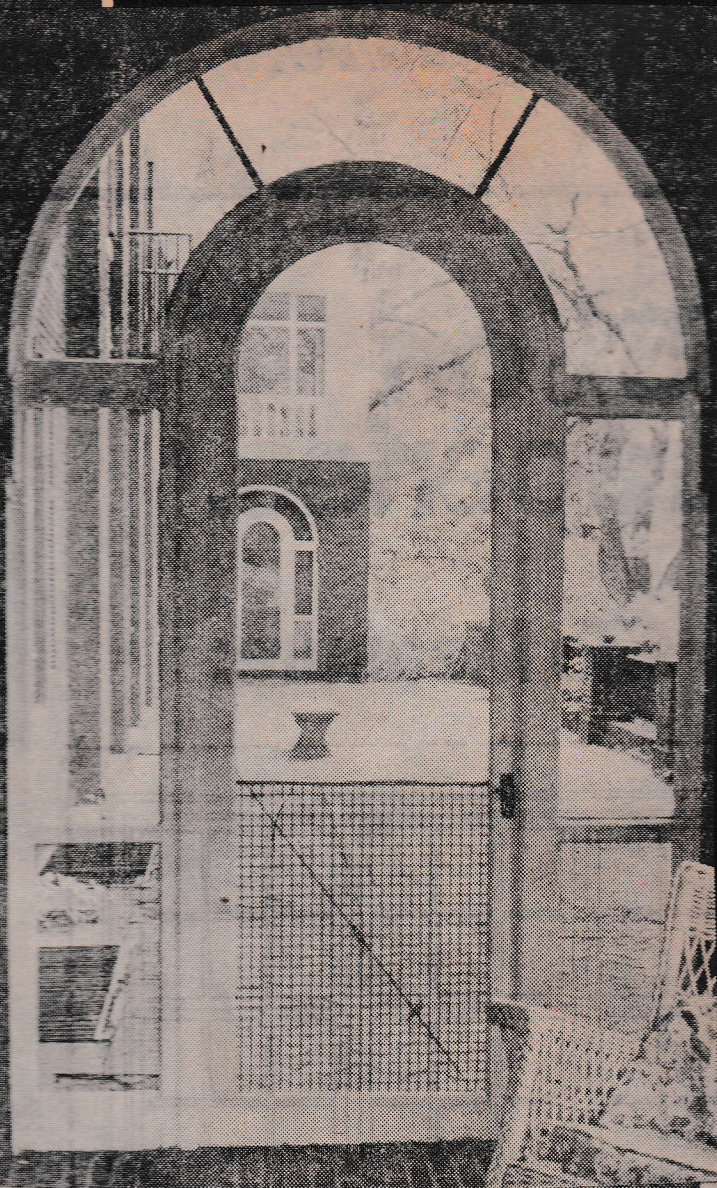
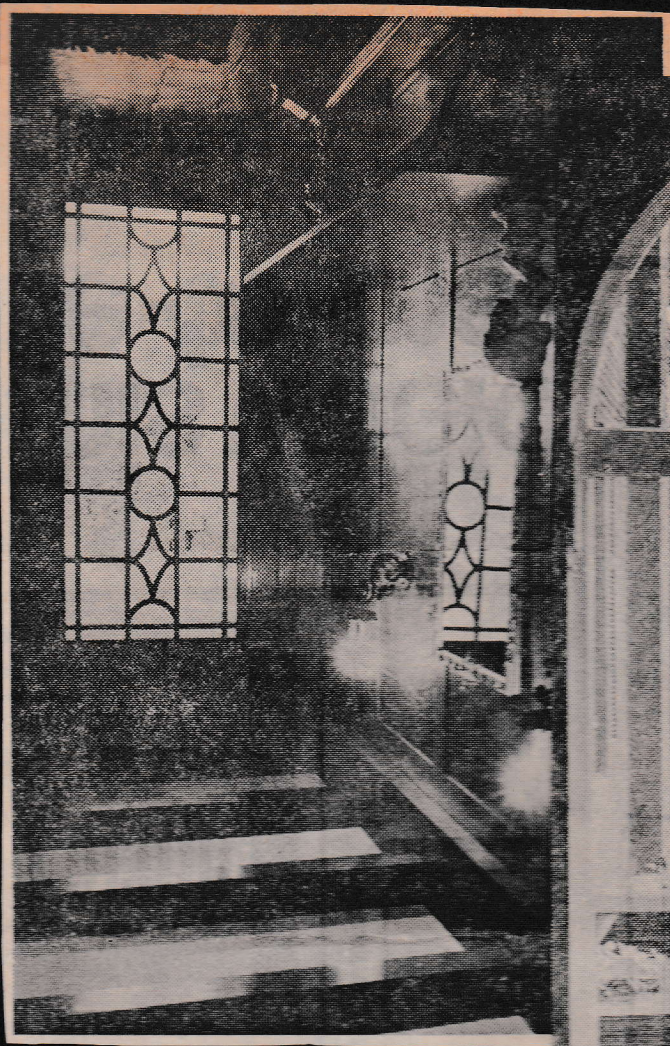
Paintings, drawings and sculpture, betraying varied tastes in art, highlight the large rooms.

Most of the art objects are pieces the Ankenbrandts have collected during their vacation trips, but some of the work has been created by a local artist — Mrs. Ankenbrandt herself.

Some of her pottery work is displayed on the hearth and mantle top and several of her drawings hang in the dining room.

Another work of art dominates the dining room — a long (very long — long enough for the whole family plus a few) wooden table, hand carved by a local furniture maker, the late Joseph Kalapis.





Hazelrigg, Ankenbrandt, Jones Win Board Posts

By Ron Ingram

Two independent candidates and one candidate endorsed by United School Action (USA) were victorious in a field of 13 candidates in Saturday's Decatur Board of Education election.

William A. Jones, 31, of 552 S. Church St., a newscaster for WAND-TV, led all candidates with 5,900 votes.

Jimmie H. Hazelrigg, 41, of 110 S. Woodale Ave., president of Hazelrigg's Plymouth dealership, ran second with 4,522 votes.

Dr. Joseph Ankenbrandt, 42, of 600 Powers Lane, an orthopedic surgeon, ran third with 4,240 votes. He was a USA-endorsed candidate.

In fourth position was Riph M. Monts with 3,318 votes. Benjamin Leader, the other candidate endorsed by USA, finished fifth with 2,667 votes.

Erwin W. Allen, endorsed by a segment of USA, finished sixth with 2,549 votes. The split in USA ranks over endorsements, with part of the group withdrawing and endorsing Allen in the last week of the campaign, may have caused the failure of that group to carry the election.

USA endorsed candidates swept to victory in 1969 and 1970 and currently comprise the Board of Education's four-man majority.

That current majority is comprised of John E. Fick, board president; Mrs. Betty Ploeger, Larry Hamilton and William D. Weaver.

That there was no clear-cut issue in this year's campaign also may have been a factor in the election. In 1970, busing students to achieve racial balance was the overriding issue on which Fick and Weaver were elected. Both favored the plan.

Remaining candidates in the order of their finish were:

Theodore Bates, 1,059; Robert T. Mueller, 602; Steve J. MacGregor, 445; Mrs. Mary McCain, 371; Ray S. Bass III,



William A. Jones



Jimmie H. Hazelrigg

313; Donald R. Thompson, 281, and Charles W. Cribbs, 185. Total votes cast were 9,045.

"I feel my major concern will be to upgrade the image of the board," Jones said. "Many people here at the Keil Building (election headquarters) tonight have indicated they hope I can do this."

Candidates were elected this year on personalities and who the people felt could do the most for the board, Jones said.

"I hope I can cause unity among the board members," he said. "And I hope the people will be able to listen to me and I will be able to listen to what the people have to say."

There will continue to be a faction maintained on the board, Jones said, but he declined to state what the split would be. The old board was divided four to three with the majority on one side and retiring board members T.W. Schroeder, W. Robert Schwandt and E. H. Dansby Jr. on the other.

Hazelrigg said the first thing he feels the board should do is list educational priorities and then number them as to what order they should be carried out. He hopes the board can sit down and work out these priorities as a unit.

"It was obvious this year that the community wasn't voting cut and dried on any issue," Hazelrigg said. "It was more on personalities and some of the things the candidates may have said. It is evident the people did not want to continue the way we were going with the old board."

Hazelrigg said he appeals to USA and Keep Improving



Dr. Joseph Ankenbrandt

board must work together to accomplish the goal of quality education.

"We must work toward the implementation of the facilities study or some modification of it and support for our educational system," he said. "I hope for more opportunity for tranquility and quiet among the board members."

"The issues were not as emotional this year as last," Ankenbrandt said of the race. "People appear to have voted independently rather than as a block."

Dr. Ankenbrandt said it is possible USA will disappear. The issues this year were different and not as clear as in the past, therefore there was less action on the part of both USA and KIDS, he said.



Dr. Joseph Ankenbrandt

Dr. Joseph Ankenbrandt, 42, of 600 Powers Lane is an orthopedic surgeon who has lived in Decatur for 10 years. He attended parochial schools in Cleveland, Ohio, and graduated from St. Louis University School of Medicine. The Ankenbrandts have three children attending French School, one at Woodrow Wilson and three at Stephen Decatur High School. Dr. Ankenbrandt is a member of the Chamber of Commerce education committee and United School Action. He feels some of the district's schools are inadequate and facilities need to be looked at. He also feels more cooperation is needed between the board, administration and teachers. Sun., 4/4/1971

omes Tour May 11 to Show Six Homes



Junior Welfare Association "Bouquet of Homes" tour will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 11. A hospitality room will be open for tea and refreshments in First Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Mrs. Gene Kessinger, general chairman, says proceeds will be used toward the group's pledge of \$1,500 to Millikin University's building fund for a fine arts auditorium and physical education center.

Homes open for the tour are:

Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Ankenbrandt
400 Powers Lane

Students from the University of Illinois come each year to study and sketch this home as a good example of true Georgian architecture.

Frank W. Perkins, a well-known Chicago architect, designed the home around 1914-15. Much of the wood used in the house came from the land cleared for the building.

The entrance hall is paneled in oak and has a floor of English quarry tile. True craftsmanship is evident in the detailed carving of the woodwork, radiator covers and window seats, and in the molded plaster panels in the family room.

Many of the original light fixtures remain, the most lively being the carved rosewood scones in the formal dining room.

Screened porches and a terrace surround the brick structure and afford a lovely view of the wooded ravine.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Beaman
2415 S. Angle Ct.

A panoramic view of the lake awaits guests of this contemporary hillside home. There is a slate floor, planter and "frog stone" as you enter through the spindle doors.

The living room is designed in conversation areas with many built-ins. Mementoes from traveling can be seen throughout the house.

The lamps in the living room are metal wallpaper, print rolls and the wall arrangement above the sofa is composed of fabric printing blocks from France.

An aggregate patio has its own small pond and makes a lovely setting for out-of-doors entertaining.

Wallpaper has been used most effectively in the bedrooms, hallway and on the paneled doors. A balcony overlooking the lake is accessible from the bedroom level of the house.

Mr. and Mrs. William Beall

1620 E. Martin Dr.

This home is one of contemporary design in a rustic setting, situated in a secluded wooded area of towering oak trees along with two other homes designed by Mr. Beall.

The slate path that leads to the house continues as an entry hall into the living area where exposed beam ceilings and large windows give a further touch of nature within the house.

A corner fireplace with raised hearth serves both the living and dining areas. A bookshelf wall gives warmth and color and provides an entertainment area with a built-in stereo. The contemporary furnishings are accented with charming antiques.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Campbell

449 Timber Dr.

This new home, designed for beauty and comfortable living, has a transitional exterior of old brick and clapboard.

The family room is lined with rich paneling finished in a briarhorn hue that creates a perfect backdrop for the country Spanish furniture. Deep pile carpeting gives a luxurious feeling to the main floor rooms.

The kitchen, done in soft greens coupled with old brick, presents a Federal approach to a new culinary scene.

The spacious master bedroom is decorated in pale restful green, and features an enormous walk-in closet.

Wallpaper enhances the bathrooms and sets the motif for the daughters' bedrooms, one done in a circus theme and the other in an old-fashioned girl theme.

Mrs. Edwina Funk
83 N. Country Club Rd.

Ten acres of wooded grounds overlooking the lake provide the setting for this gracious home with a Swedish motif. Rough hewn beams add a touch of old-world charm to the living room and kitchen.

Further points of interest in the kitchen are the Swedish prints and a corner fireplace. The Swedish tile designs on the dining table are particularly interesting.

The paneled den is covered with cherished family pictures. Beautiful antiques give an understanding of appreciated heritage.

Dr. and Mrs. Arthur Simon

15 Montgomery Place

A love of flowers and birds is evident both inside and out of this Georgian colonial brick home. Flowers abound during the spring and summer months on the spacious grounds.

A marble patio is screened and furnished with bamboo and wrought iron furniture accented with a floral print of powder blue.

Birds and flowers adorn the interior in prints and wallpaper. Antique chairs with needle point seats, hand embroidered maps and needle point panels are highlights in the beautifully appointed rooms.

The owner's love of fishing and hunting is evident in the masculine study.

The very old coach lanterns that flank the entry way add charm to a gracious home.

Hospitality Room
250 W. Decatur St.

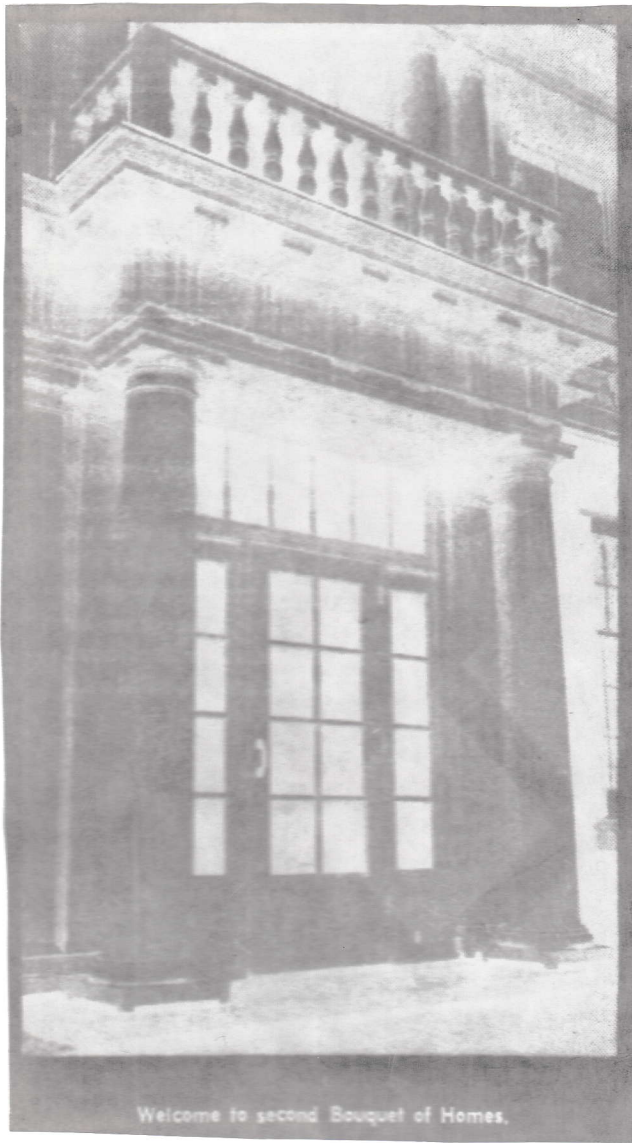
This opportunity to relax and enjoy a cup of tea is included in the \$2.50 cost of the ticket. After visiting the hospitality room, guests are invited to tour the church.

Dedicated in November, 1965, First Lutheran Church is one of the most interesting structures in Decatur. The church was designed by architect Charles Stade of Park Ridge, Illinois.

A blend of traditional and contemporary is achieved through the use of modern materials and design. Tortured brick is used extensively for the interior and exterior walls of the church.

The sanctuary has a vaulted, exposed beam ceiling with beams that point to the altar as the focal point of the church. The altar, pulpit and cross are of carved African mahogany. Oak chairs designed by the architect, take the place of the traditional pew in the sanctuary.





4/30/1967

Dr. and Mrs.
Joseph Ankenbrandt
500 Powers Lane

Students from the University of Illinois come each year to study and sketch this home as a good example of true Georgian architecture.

Fredrich W. Perkins, a well-known Chicago architect, designed the home around 1914-15. Much of the wood used in the house came from the land cleared for the building.

The entrance hall is paneled in oak and has a floor of English quarry tile. True craftsmanship is evident in the detailed carving of the woodwork, radiator covers and window seats, and in the molded plaster panels in the family room.

Many of the original light fixtures remain, the most lovely being the carved rosewood sconces in the formal dining room.

Screened porches and a terrace surround the brick structure and afford a lovely view of the wooded ravine.

W. M. Wood, 85, Civic, Industry Leader Dies

July 28,
1956

Former Head Of Mississippi Valley Structural Steel

W. M. Wood, nationally known Decatur industrialist and former head of the Mississippi Valley Structural Steel Co. here, died at 5:20 a. m. today.

He had been ill for several years and was taken to the Decatur and Macon County Hospital Friday from his home at 600 Powers Lane.

Mr. Wood was a leader both in industry and Decatur civic affairs since coming to Decatur in 1902.

His community work was given special recognition in February, 1952, when he was named "honored member" of the Decatur and Macon County Community Chest at the organization's 29th annual meeting. The citation was made on the basis of his "lifetime of service to the community."

He was a member of the committee which organized the Chest here in 1922 and he served on the board of directors of the organization from 1923 to 1929.

He was a member of the board of directors of the Decatur YMCA for 38 years, from 1909 to 1947, and was a member of the advisory board since. He was on the YMCA finance committee 30 years and vice president of the board 12 years. Special recognition was given his service to the YMCA at a dinner in 1954.

In 1918 he was chairman of a campaign to raise \$135,000 in Macon, Piatt, Moultrie, Shelby and Christian counties for YMCA work in the Army during World War I, similar to the U.S.O. program of World War II.

Millikin Board Member

He served as a member of the board of managers for James Millikin University in 1914 and 1915 and was one of three persons who directed a campaign to raise \$490,000 for the school's endowment fund in 1919.

He also was active in Boy Scouts, serving as president of the local council from 1918 to 1923, a member of the executive committee from 1918 to 1926 and for many years a member of the national council.



W. M. Wood

In 1919 Mr. Wood was appointed to the Decatur Sanitary District board of trustees, from which he did not retire for 34 years, in 1953. He was president of the board from 1935 until his retirement.

He also had been president of the Fairlawn Cemetery Association board of directors, of which he was a member for 40 years from its organization in 1913, and was a member of the board of directors of the Citizens National Bank.

He held 50-year membership pins in three Decatur Masonic orders, Macon Lodge No. 8, A. F. & A. M., Macon Chapter No. 21, and Beaumanoir Commandery No. 9.

He also was a long-time member of the First Presbyterian Church, where he served as a member of the church session, and of the Decatur Club.

Mr. Wood began his business career as an assistant engineer with the Indiana Bridge Company at Muncie, Ind., in 1890. He was one of the four founders of the Decatur Bridge Company here in 1902. The name of the company was changed to the Mississippi Valley Structural Steel Company, in 1922 when the company acquired the Christopher & Simpson Iron Works Company, of St. Louis.

Retired in 1948

From 1902 to 1918 Mr. Wood was treasurer and chief engineer of the company. In 1918 he became president of the firm, serving until 1943, when he became chairman of the board of directors and was succeeded to the presidency by his brother, R. D. Wood. He retired from the board in January, 1948.

Always active in organizations which had to do with his work, he was a member of the Illinois Manufacturers Association and the American Institute of Steel Construction. He served on the advisory board and was a director of the Illinois Manufacturers Association. He was a director of the American Institute of Steel Construction from 1922 to 1946. He was vice president and treasurer of the group from 1922 to 1927 and in 1927 was named president for a two-year term.

In 1940 he represented the National Association of Manufacturers on a committee to make recommendations for labor-management relations which were submitted to the

Congress of American Industry in New York.

In 1933 he was a member of the fabricators code committee which helped in setting up the NFPA code.

In 1929 he was named by President Herbert Hoover to a committee to study and make recommendations for promotion of economic progress. He represented steel manufacturers on the committee.

William Melville Wood was born Feb. 3, 1871, near Richmond, Ind., a son of William Henry Harrison and Sophronia Darnall Wood.

His father was a civil engineer and bridge builder and his grandfather was a bridge builder.

He attended high school in Muncie, Ind., and attended DePauw University, Greencastle, Ind., from 1888 to 1890. He was a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity there.

Mr. Wood was married Sept. 21, 1898, in Muncie, to Grace Clyne Gayman.

He leaves his wife and five children, Miss Margaret Wood, Robert J. Wood, Mrs. Charles P. Lippert, Jr., the former Mary Frances Wood; and Mrs. William F. Hubble, the former Emily Jane Wood, all of Decatur, and David C. Wood, Flint, Mich. One son, William Melville, Jr., died in 1941. There are 15 grandchildren.

Mr. Wood also is survived by two sisters, Miss Marion and Miss Charline Wood of Decatur, and a brother, R. D. Wood of Winnetka, Ill.

Services will be at 4 p. m. Monday in the Dawson and Wadoff Funeral Home. Burial will be in Fairlawn Cemetery. Friends may call at the funeral home after 5 p. m. Sunday.