

Register of Old Buildings  
Macon County Historical Coordinating Council

Address: 2300 East Eldorado St.

Date of original construction: Ground broken - Feb. 16, 1929.  
Occupied - April 19, 1930.

Name of original owner: A. E. Staley Manufacturing Company.

History:

See the following attachments:

- October 27, 1928 - D. Review - Clear Site for Staley Building.  
June 15, 1924 - A. E. Staley Started Starch Business to "Get off the road".  
Nov. 27, 1910 - Starch Works to Employ 200.  
June 10, 1934 - 25 Years' Growth of Staley Company.  
March 10, 1937 - Staley Plant Ends 25 Years in Business Here.  
(Library file)  
October 4, 1935 - Forerunner of the A. E. Staley Co. Review.  
Dec. 19, 1935 - First Dam in Lake Project. Review.  
July 7, 1929 - Herald - Centennial Number.  
Copies of pages from an A. E. Staley Mfg. Co. brochure with photographs and data on the new office building.  
October 12, 1930 - Staley Engineer Explains Intricate Lighting System (lights on the office building tower).  
Feb. 11, 1968 - Illinois Sesquicentennial column, Sunday, Decatur Herald and Review. Soybean Introduced.

New Era of Farming

- October 27, 1940 - Tino Costa portrait of A. E. Staley, Sr.  
August 4, 1962 - Sunday Herald and Review - Illinois Sesquicentennial column, Staley, ADM Milling Industry Survivors.  
December 16, 1928 - Start Work Soon on New Staley Office Building.  
December 27, 1940 - Obit, A. E. Staley, Sr.  
December 27, 1940 - Editorials, Herald and also Review.  
Feb. 25, 1967 - Obit, Mrs. A. E. Staley, Sr.  
August 12, 1975 - Staley Heirs to Get \$66 Million, Review.  
October 29, 1975 - Bank Named Trustee of Staley Trusts (Herald).  
Sept. 7, 1969 - Bears Born 50 Years Ago When A. E. Staley Hired Halas. Sunday Herald & Review.  
June 2, 1968 - Forrest Kyle column - Baseball Dominated Early Sports Scene - one of the Illinois Sesquicentennial columns.  
1962 (probably) - a release on the occasion of the Staley Co.'s fiftieth anniversary, entitled Staley - Chicago Bears - Halas Connection, 11-typed pages.

Present owner: A. E. Staley Mfg. Co.



The Staley Building is a beautiful example of Modernistic architecture. This style is defined predominately by the ornament applied to the building. It is of a rectilinear character and contributes to the verticality of the structure. Such simple motifs as zigzags, chevrons, fluting, and reeding appear in low relief. This building looms over Decatur as if it were a piece of natural cliff.



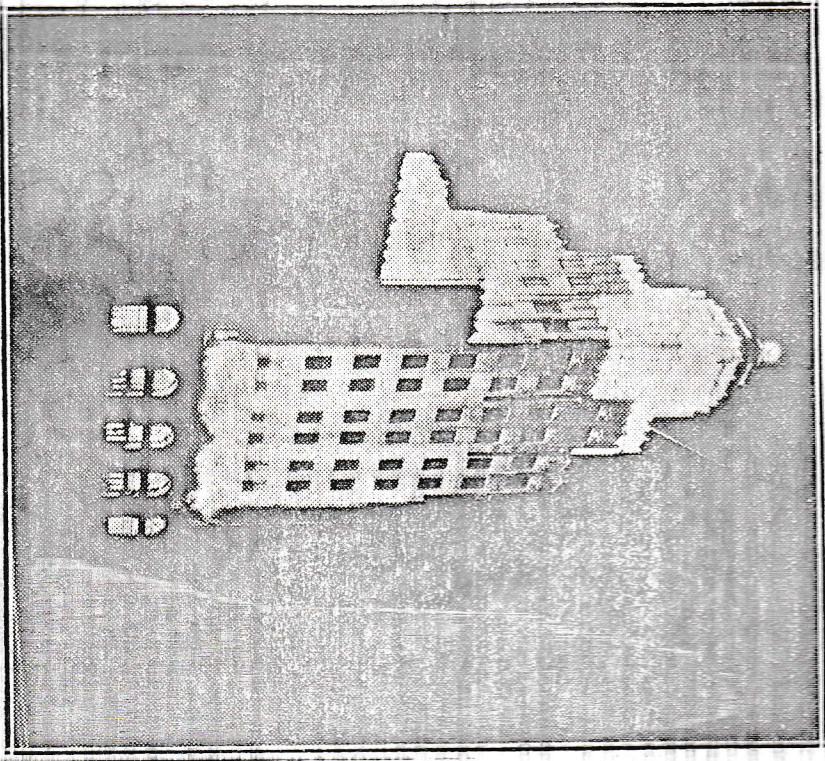
Architects - Aschauer and Haggoner  
of Decatur  
Landscape artist - Jans Jensen  
of Chicago

Before architectural treasures can be saved, they must be discovered and recognized. The inventory which follows begins this process, but the sites need exploration and examination to determine their full merit and potential to be saved.

From Preservation in Decatur, prepared by a team of students in the Environmental Planning Workshops, Dept. of Urban and Regional Planning, University of Illinois at Champaign - Urbana, under the supervision of Professor F. J. Hall

Account of the  
Decorative Illumination

## Another Night View



The most elaborate lighting system in the world makes the Staley Administration Building stand out at night like a fairy castle.

# Staley Engineer Explains Intricate Lighting System

### Describes Apparatus Used in Making the Colors On 120 ft. x 50 Administration Building.

"How do the lights on the Staley Administration building work?" is a question being heard time and again. With it are numerous guesses, many of which are far from right.

In the October number of the Staley Journal, John C. Kuhns, electrical engineer for the company, who had charge of the installation of the lighting equipment, describes the apparatus which gives Decatur the best-lighted building in the world.

He says: "The growth of floodlighting during the last few years has been rapid; and while many beautiful effects have been secured with the use of white or amber floods; and although some limited results have been attained by outlining or flooding certain parts of the buildings with contrasting colors; and in a few instances where color lamps have been used the colors have been changed by switching from one color to another; yet it remained for Staleys to seize, with characteristic audacity and decision, upon the idea of mobile lighting with its infinite variety of tints and shades to add the exquisite finishing touch to that masterpiece, the new administration building.

All of the leading manufacturers of floodlighting equipment were eager to make the installation and many valuable ideas were contributed by practically every one of them. Finally the revised proposal of the General Electric company was accepted. Probably the chief factor of this selection was their system of control equipment which was a further development of the Thyatron tube control which they had successfully applied to the elaborate stage and interior lighting of the Civic Opera building in Chicago.

#### THE SYSTEM.

The system as now installed consists of 194 copper floodlighting projectors, white, red, blue, and amber, twelve neon vapor tubes, one 3000 watt twenty-four inch revolving beam, and the Thyatron control equipment.

The projectors are distributed and mounted as follows: Nine 1000 watt and six 250 watt projectors are mounted on the third floor level above the entrance flood the front of the tower from the third floor to the eleventh with white light.

The east and west sides are white lighted to the eleventh floor by three 1000 watt projectors on each side of the sixth floor level and six 1000 watt projectors on each side of the eighth floor level while the north face of the tower is also lighted to the eleventh floor level by six 1000 watt projectors, three mounted on the northwest corner of the roof of the north wing and three on the northeast corner of the roof of the east wing. These wings projecting on each side of the tower to the north furnish a location so that the projectors can be directed against the north wall of the tower.

#### STATIONARY.

All of the above lighting is stationary. The mobile effects begin at the eleventh floor where the set backs of the eleventh floor at the corners enable the placing on the roof of the tenth at each corner of ten 1000 watt blue and six 1000 watt red, two 1000 watt and two 500 watt amber lensed projectors. The projectors are proportioned so as to secure uniformity of light intensity, the lower efficiency of the red and blue accounting for the necessity of using more of them than of the amber. These four colors operate simultaneously and are one of the four differently timed cycles of operation.

The twelfth floor has set backs at the center and at these centers on the roof of the eleventh are mounted two 1000 watt red and two 500 watt white projectors. The red is constantly and is washed out by the higher intensity of the white light as it brightens, returning as the white dims, this constituting another one of the four cycles.

# Staley Engineer Explains Intricate Lighting System -- Card 2

The thirteenth floor is set back all around and the center is operated similarly to the twelfth, alternating red and white on a different timing, but it has four red, 1000 watt and four 500 watt projectors, as the area lit had here is larger than for the twelfth floor.

### THE CORNERS.

The thirteenth floor corners as defined by the tall columns of the flying buttresses are each lighted by three 1000 watt blue, two 1000 watt red, and two 500 watt amber projectors which constitute the fourth of the variously timed circuits.

Back of the stone grill work of the fourteenth story or observation tower are mounted nine neon vapor tubes directed against the white domed ceiling so that the reflected orange glow penetrates the interstices of the stone lace, this adding to the rich tone of the architecture.

In the cupola are mounted three more neon tubes which cast a glow on the gold tile roof except as the beam from the powerful revolving beacon washes it out in passing.

### PROGRAM.

The program of changing colors is entirely automatic, the only manual operation being the closing of a few switches to start and the opening of the same switches to turn off the lights. The operating mechanism is contained in a small cabinet only a few feet square which in many respects resembles a large radio set. While the electrical theory back of the control is rather involved the actual mechanical operation is very simple, the only moving mechanical parts being the rotors of the phase shifters, resembling small motors, which are driven from small telechron clock motors through a train of small brass gears.

The infinite variety of shades produced are secured by the blending of the three colors, red, blue, and amber in varying intensities. The intensity of the light from any color depends on the voltage applied to the filament of the lamp. This voltage is controlled by passing the alternating current supplying one color of lamps through a coil wound on an iron core. This coil, known as a reactor in power line work, is connected in series with the lamp so that the

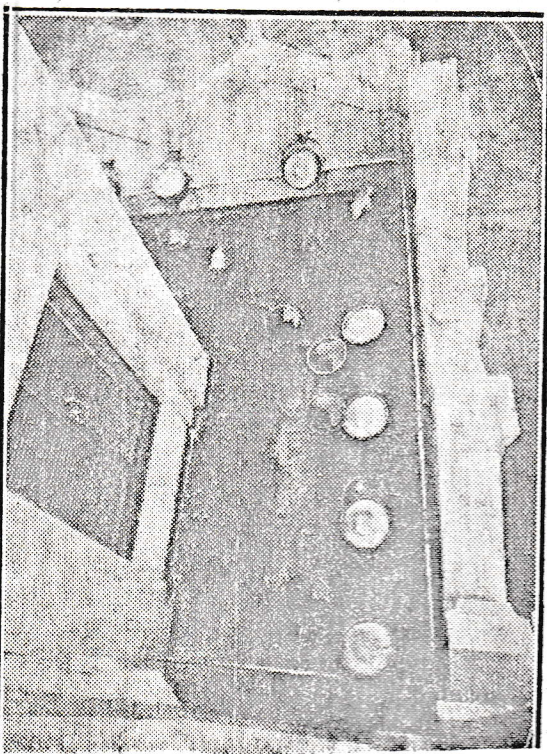
lamp cannot burn until direct-current is passed through another coil, wound on the same coil, neutralizing the choking effect of the alternating current. By regulating the strength of this direct current the alternating current voltage can be controlled so that the lamps burn anywhere desired from full brilliancy to dark.

The source of the controlling direct current is the Thyatron tubes, two for each controlled circuit which take alternating current and convert it to direct current. The supply of direct current to the reactors from these rectifying tubes is controlled by varying the potential of the grid of the tube. The grid potential is controlled by the phase shifter, referred to before. As the armature of the phase shifter is turned by means of the timing gearing the lamps brighten slowly to full brilliancy then slowly back to dark again. At time a certain color is held at full brilliancy for a few seconds by means of an ingenious stop on the timing gear, while the remaining colors continue their variations, this throws the cycle for its portion of the building into a different relation to the rest of the timing cycles thus securing a greater variety of combinations over the whole mobile area so that we do not have the same complete set of color combinations repeated before twenty-two and one-half minutes.

While the great number of projectors, give a connected load of 180 kilowatts, the fact that some of the circuits are always dimmed reduces the average load to about 140 kilowatts.

The installation was made entirely by Chief Electrician Broadbent's crew of electricians under Foreman Ray Wylie. The men of this force were Eddie Lashenski and Harrison Blades, electricians, and their helpers Otto Schikowski and Tom Clanton. Much of the success of the operation is due to the skillful and conscientious work of this group. Many valuable suggestions were contributed by them and when the completed job was inspected by the General Electric company's engineers, they found nothing to criticize and much to praise.

## Floodlights at Staley's



Copper reflectors with red, blue and amber lenses, placed at various floor levels and shining in different directions, furnish the colored light of the Staley office building.

From The Staley Journal.

### NEW STALEY COOK BOOK

*August 29, 1928*

Contains 75 Recipes for Using Corn Products, All Tested by Experts

A new Staley cook book, in full colors and containing more than 75 recipes for everything from beans to candy, has been issued by the company. The cook book contains 30 pages bound in a substantial cover. Each recipe bears the indorsement of Grace Viall Gray, home economics expert and radio lecturer on cooking. Footnotes at the bottom of each page in the book give helpful household hints. Copies of the cook book are free to housewives.

Part of the book is devoted to the subject of infant feeding, corn syrup having been found particularly adaptable to milk formulas for babies. The infant feeding section in the cook book is a new one, previous books not having given space to the subject.

### CLEAR SITE FOR STALEY BUILDING

*Oct 27, 1928*

Only Six Buildings Remain to Be Removed From Tract

The tract upon which Staley's new office building will be erected is rapidly being cleared of houses. Only a half-dozen remain on the land. One was being moved Friday morning to the south side of East Eldorado street. Others, previously moved there, were being set upon new foundations.

The moved houses are to be remodelled and sold. Edward T. Cordon, real estate agent for Staley's is handling the deals.

After the office building tract has been cleared, it will be fenced. Construction of the building is to start in the spring.

# A. E. Staley Started Starch Business to "Get Off the Road"

## Had Two Outstanding Ambitions—to Be a Salesman, Then to Settle Down with Income of \$5,000 a Year; He Has Realized Both

When A. E. Staley was a boy his ambition was to be a traveling salesman and when he grew to young manhood, he was a salesman, and he stayed a salesman when he became a packer and later a manufacturer. Last year the sales of his firm were some \$12,000,000, according to the annual report of the A. E. Staley Mfg. Co., of Decatur, which he organized and which he leads as president.

### Wanted to "Settle Down."

He "traded" Decatur almost 30 years ago, by little did he dream of ever moving to Decatur and make this his home, and be such a factor in the making of this city as he is today. When he was a salesman, with Decatur in his territory, he sold baking powder to wholesale and retail firms. He remembers "May, the Grocer, South Main street," "Conklin of Merchant street," "Young Bros. & Meritts, wholesale grocers," and others who were his customers in those early days.

Selling on the road didn't appeal to Mr. Staley as a life work. As he explained it last week, he wanted "to get off the road, have a home of my own, and have an income of perhaps \$4,000 to \$5,000 a year."

### Started in Baltimore.

Baltimore was the obvious spot, and the occupation settled upon, was the packing of starch bought from the makers in bulk. That's how A. E. Staley got into the starch business.

"I rented a room for \$200 a year that wasn't any larger than my private offices at the present plant," he said. "On March 3, 1893 I made my first sale to DeKalb Bros., in Baltimore. Is asked them to give me their cancelled check when they got it from the bank and I have it yet. I thought I was going to stay in the package starch business and simply wanted the check as a little souvenir. "I had my mind made up to earn from \$4,000 to \$5,000 a year, but the first two years I almost starved. It was hard to make ends meet. But in the third year things changed and I made \$9,000 clear; in the fourth, \$17,000; in the fifth, \$33,000; in the sixth \$49,000, and so it went."

### Bought Decatur Company.

He found that he couldn't limit his income. The demand for his packed starch grew and in 1899, learning of the financial troubles of the Wellington Co., then operating a starch plant in Decatur, he came here to look it over, bought it and by 1912 had it remodeled and re-opened it with a capacity of 1,000 bushels of corn a day.

The business kept growing, meeting ups and downs, but always managing to overcome the rough spots. The package plant at Baltimore was enlarged and the products of the Decatur plant were increased. Today

The Decatur plant has a capacity of 35,000 bushels of corn a day and makes several kinds of starches, glucose or corn syrup, soy bean oil, and the by products of corn and soy beans.

Mr. Staley has a faculty of picking men to help him in the development of the business. He had it when he started out. His first employe, was W. S. Pritchard. He was a young lad getting \$3 a week when Mr. Staley came along and offered him \$3.50. He knew the lad had the making of a loyal associate and the boy needed the extra 50 cents for he was helping support his mother. When Mr. Pritchard died about two years ago, he was the vice president of the Staley Co., in charge of the Baltimore plant.

A strange co-incidence, in connection with Mr. Staley and Decatur took place when he bought the "round" home on College hill or the "round" back in the 90's when he "made" Decatur and stayed here over Sunday, he would stroll around the residence district and the Ennis site was particularly attractive to him. An ideal of a home, well kept, complete, even with a groom who took care of the stable and carriage.

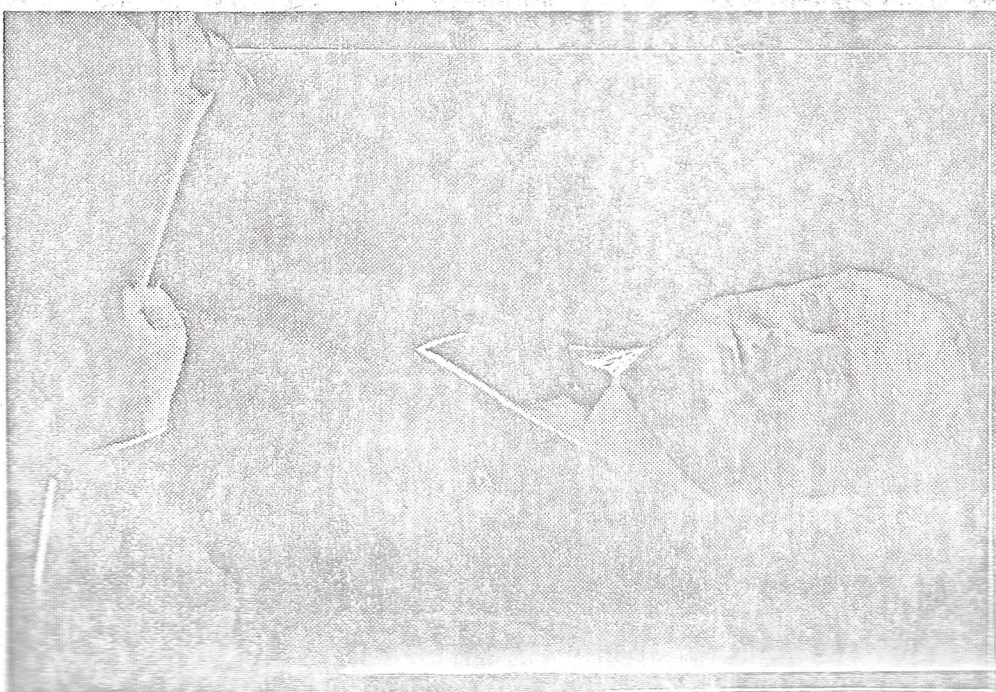
"I always thought when I looked on that home that it was the finest I had ever seen and it was ideally located," Mr. Staley said in telling of his early observations of Decatur. "I would stop and admire it and wonder if I would ever have the chance to own a home like it. That was my idea of a home."

He had no thought of ever living in Decatur then, but years later after he did move here, he found the Ennis place vacant. He bought it, and he was then in a position to spend \$82,000 on it to make it even more beautiful and attractive than it was when he first decided that he would be completely satisfied with it as it was. And instead of a groom he has been fortunate to have a chauffeur to attend to the modern method of transportation.

He was a salesman when he first saw it and dreamed of it as an ideal home but when he came back to take possession, he was a successful manufacturer, but he will never forget the incident as one of the strangest happenings of his life, a dream that certainly came true.

There's No Accident In  
His Industrial Success

June 15, 1924



A. E. STALEY,  
President of A. E. Staley Mfg. Co.

# Starch Works to Employ 200 and Grind 6000 Bushels Corn Daily

**S**O QUIETLY is one of the biggest additions to Decatur's industries being made that few realize its size or importance. Without asking anything of Decatur, without saying more than he was induced to say by inquiring and sharp-eyed reporters, A. E. Staley, head of the Staley Manufacturing company of Baltimore announced soon after acquiring the plant of the Wellington Starch works in the eastern edge of the city, that the company would expend \$150,000 in improving the plant. That was in July, 1909.

Already the Staley company has invested \$450,000 in the Decatur plant. It will invest a million more in the next two years, and it is said the total may eventually reach \$2,000,000.

### WORK OF A SUMMER.

When the Staley company took over the Decatur plant the value of land, buildings and equipment was estimated at \$300,000.

During the past summer the company has built up a plant that is one of the best in the country. New buildings already erected represent an expenditure of \$200,000, while \$100,000, probably more, has been expended in the renovation of the old buildings.

As for machinery, over \$150,000 worth of machinery has been ordered to date, with other orders being placed almost daily.

### IMMENSE PLANS.

The plans of the company seem to have no limit. Buildings already built are even now being added to, while other buildings deemed large enough a few months ago are already slated for further extension. This company not only has the money, of which there is the best of proof, but it seems to have the imagination and the vision to build that Decatur, the center of the great American corn belt, is the logical place for starch and glucose making.

Founded in 1897 in Baltimore, Md., the company first began the manufacture of starch in a small way. Eventually the concern grew until Mr. Staley saw that the old policy of buying the raw starch from other concerns and converting it into the fancy condensed Cream corn starch of commerce was economically wrong and did not produce the large profits that it should.

The A. E. Staley Manufacturing Co. was incorporated under the laws of Maryland. The new company had as its first officers Mr. Staley and Mr. J. H. Staley, president and vice president, respectively.

The new plant is a masterpiece of modern architecture and is one of the finest buildings in the city. It is a long, low building with a flat roof and is surrounded by a large area of open ground.

All of these buildings will have concrete foundations, brick walls, and reinforced concrete floors, making them perfectly adapted to the business of starch making.

# PANORAMIC



*from column 1 next page*

*To column 2 next page*



economically wrong and did not produce the large profits that it should.

The A. E. Staley Manufacturing Co. was incorporated under the laws of Delaware. The new company took over all the interests of Mr. Staley and the Staley Manufacturing Co., paying therefor in stock.

About this time a valuable site was offered the company, free of ad cost, in LaFayette, Ind., but the panic of 1907 came on and the company rejected the Indiana city's offer. In the fall of that year it came to the ears of Mr. Staley that a large and valuable plant in Decatur was for sale at a price that nowise represented the original cost of the plant. On June 1, 1908, a deal was closed whereby the A. E. Staley Manufacturing Co. came into possession of the Decatur property.

**ADVANTAGES.**

Ideally located, the Staley concern has switching facilities of the best; it is just outside of the city limits and taxes are consequently not heavy, and the Eldorado street car line will by spring run right on the east of the plant. It might also be added that Decatur has milling in transit privileges, is on the 110 freight basing rate, which means that it has a lower freight rate to the west, southwest, south and southeast than Chicago, while the east-bound rate is but one cent higher on the 100 pounds than from Chicago.

**FINANCIAL.**

The company is incorporated under the laws of Delaware, with \$1,800,000 preferred stock and \$1,000,000 common. Mr. Staley, the president of the concern, holds \$1,000,000 of this common stock and \$100,000 of the preferred stock. Eastern banking concerns in correspondence with local banks give the concern the highest rating.

The real estate holding of the company at Decatur is something over twenty acres. Sixteen of these acres were recently purchased from George R. Dedson and R. R. Montgomery for about \$25,000.

**BUILDINGS.**

The largest building so far erected by the Staley concern is a magnificent six-story table house. This building has a ground dimension of 200,000 feet and is easily the largest factory building in the city. In spite of the immensity of this building, it is to be all-berthed.

Another shaft building is the dry starch house, two stories in height, and of a ground dimension of 100,000 feet. This building is also to be all-berthed. The plan is to add story here by one end and use the building as a starch house. When this work is completed the building will have a total floor space of 200,000 square feet.

In addition, there are six smaller buildings, completely changed in appearance and general appearance of all the buildings. Every one of the buildings has been run up on a strong steel and flat roofs put on.

Every one of the buildings erected has reinforced concrete floors and every one of them is of the steel framing mill construction type. The Charles W. Gindele company of Chicago, one of the best known construction companies in the country, and a firm that has made a specialty of starch mills, has done all the building work.

**FOR THE FUTURE.**

The company is expecting to get in the foundations this winter for a number of big buildings to be erected next year. One of these buildings will be

have as its adjuncts a charhouse, a beam filter house or beam kiln, and reboil system. The gas to be used in these systems will be made by the company itself.

Foundations for a five-story syrup house, 100x100 feet, will also be put in this year, providing the weather remains good. This building, equipped, will mean an investment of \$100,000. A sugar house, 50x100 feet, for the making of grape and anhydrous sugar, is also planned. This building will be three stories in height.

All of these buildings will have concrete foundations, brick walls, and reinforced concrete floors, making them conform exactly to the buildings already erected.

**EQUIPMENT.**

All machinery is to be electrically driven and the motors used will be numbered by the score. A proposition was lately made the Staley company by the Decatur Railway & Light Co. to furnish electricity, just as the McKinley people are to furnish electricity to the Wabash. The proposition is understood to have been an attractive one and it may be accepted by the Staley people.

To describe all the machinery that the Staley people have, or will purchase, would mean nothing, except to an expert. Concerning data, however, foot up close to \$200,000. All machinery is to be the latest in the starch making line, for starch making is a business in which progress is constant.

A sprinkler fire protection has been installed. Water for this is furnished by a 12,000-gallon tank mounted on a 120-foot tower, just to the east of the main buildings. The installation of the sprinkler system alone cost \$12,000.

**1,000 BUSHELS DAILY.**

The plan at present is to get the plant in operation next spring. The grinding at first will be 1,000 bushels of starch daily and the ground 100,000 pounds of starch daily. As time goes on the grinding will be increased to 1,500 bushels of starch daily and the starch output to 200,000 pounds.

Local 90 men will be employed in the starch house of this mill will be brought here from Baltimore, but will be used right here. The plan is to show the Baltimore plant just as soon as the Decatur plant is in operation. The plant will be a great one and will give the ground starch 100,000 pounds daily.

**STARCH.**

At the present time the Staley company



**CHARLES J. SCHUSTER, Secretary and Tre**

pany is the largest seller of corn starch in the east. When the Decatur plant is completed the western field will be invaded. Thirty to forty traveling men will be kept on the road all the time. The export business to South America and to the orient will be further increased.

In addition to starch of all grades, glucose, corn syrup, grape sugar, anhydrous sugar, dextrine, corn oil, corn oil cakes, gluten, and many varieties of feed will be turned out.

**OFFICERS.**

The present offices of the company are at 421, 419 and 441 North street, Baltimore, Md. The officers of the company are:

A. E. Staley, president and general manager.

W. E. Pritchard, vice president and superintendent of factory.

Charles J. Schuster, secretary and treasurer.

All of these men are to move to Decatur in the spring.

G. W. Sawyer is in charge of the local work and will have general charge of the local plant.

**Bank Deposits Doubled**

Deposits in the national banks are more than twice what they were ten years ago. Deposits in the state banks were over \$100,000,000. It was stated at that time that the amount was in constant increase over the previous three or four years. When deposits doubled ten years ago an average of 100,000,000 was the amount. In 1918 the amount is shown to be over \$200,000,000.



The Office Building of the Staley Company.



VIEW OF Two of old building one story in height

# Manufacturing Company

Register Public Library  
Decatur, Georgia

## Further Growth Seen on Staley Firm 'Birthday'

### A. E. Staley, Sr., Now 68, Looks to Future; Act Tuesday on Big Expansion.

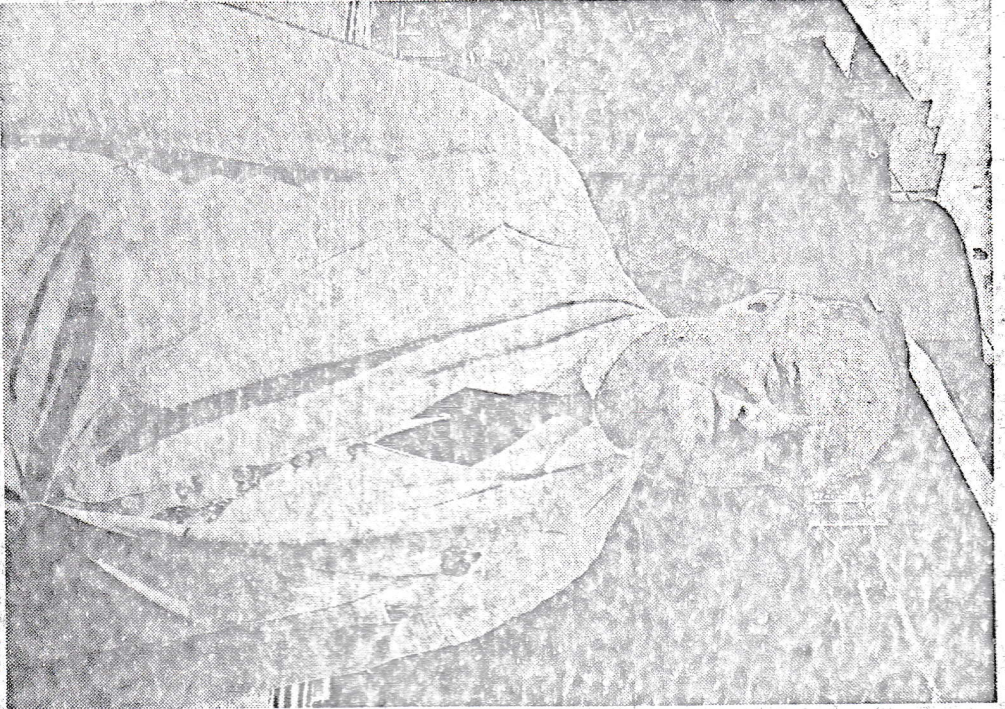
**MS-34**  
One the morning of June 5, 1909, Decatur boosters were thrilled to read in their morning paper that on the preceding day a man by the name of A. E. Staley had purchased the plant of the American Glucose company, would spend \$150,000 for improvements and probably would employ 100 men to operate it.

Today, Decatur awaits a decision to be made Tuesday by the board of directors of the Staley company whether or not another one and a half million dollars will be spent this year for new buildings to stand beside others on which millions have been spent in the last 25 years.

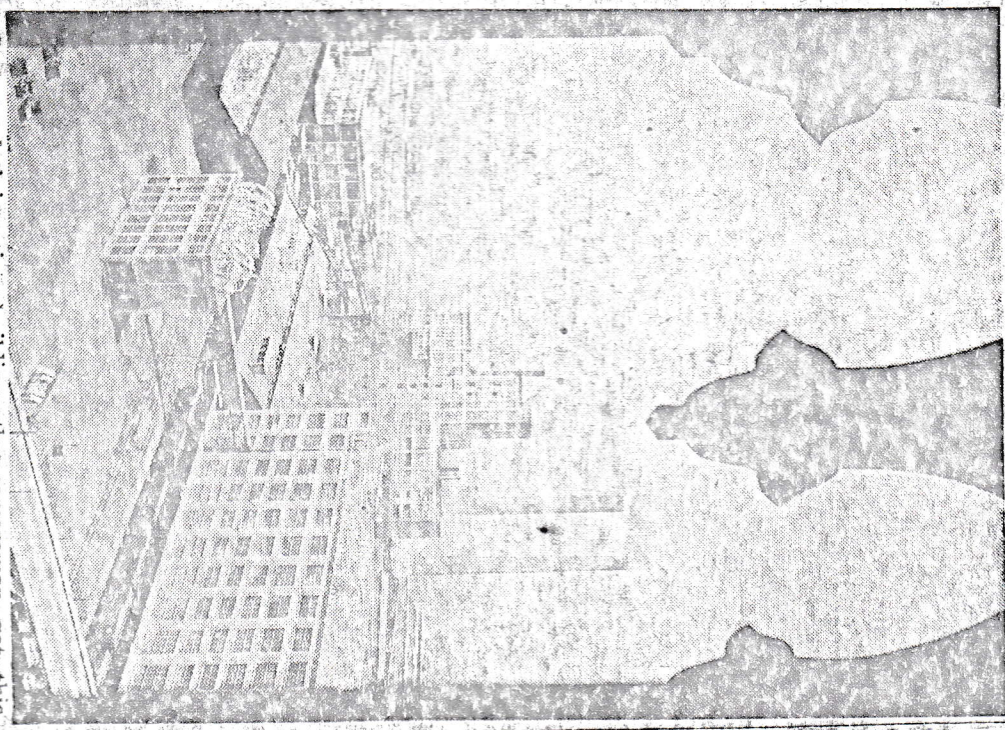
**Reporter's Prediction Surpassed**  
That news story of 25 years ago announced that the new plant about to grow up around the original mill would "be one of the most modern and up-to-date in the country." It added that "it is the intention to use the local plant almost exclusively for the manufacture of grade starch."

Today, what remains of the original building is obscured in a maze of towering structures in which a thousand men and women are employed in the production of 30 different varieties and qualities of starch, every oil, corn sugar, soy bean flour, meal, oil, feed and other products.

25 YEARS' GROWTH OF STALEY COMPANY



A. E. Staley, Sr., today after 25 years in building up in Decatur the world's largest independent corn products industry. In the background are what remains of the buildings that he bought 25 years ago and which became the nucleus of the huge plant that dwarfs and hides the original factory.



Staley administration building, the cameraman got this view of the main plant of the company as it appears today after a quarter of a century of development. Hidden by the tall buildings and smokestacks of modern construction, the original buildings shown in the opposite picture are hidden on the north side of the plant next to the Wabash railroad.

Herald and Review Photo.

Level 1 Industrial Building Company

# Further Growth seen on Staley Firm 'Birthday' ----- 2

Decatur Public Library  
Decatur, Illinois

ground for \$45,000, cash. Today the property comprises 55 buildings and about 300 acres of ground, set off by the magnificent administration building that, with its unique and beautifully lighted tower, is a Central Illinois landmark.

When Mr. Staley's name first appeared in a Decatur newspaper, it was mentioned in connection with plans for the future and for expansion that meant more employment and greater growth of the city. Throughout the first quarter century of the Staley company's existence here that association has continued in the news and still exists. Now 68 years old, Mr. Staley visions a still greater plant in Decatur and will build it now. If conditions justify the expenditure, or later when greater business stability is achieved by the country as a whole.

### Recent 'Humble' Start

The story of Mr. Staley's life and development of his industry is well known to Central Illinois, and is a saga of American opportunity and industrial development. It is a story of struggle and it is only within recent years that Mr. Staley has relinquished much of the responsibility to his son, A. E. Staley, Jr., president of the company, and the staff of young executives that Mr. Staley fathered about him and trained as he built the business.

There is one phase of location of the Staley industry in Decatur that is little known and only brought to light by the appearance last week in the "Twenty-Five Years Ago Today" column of The Herald of the story of the purchase of the American Glucose plant by Mr. Staley.

### Purchase History Recited

"The deal was consummated through the efforts of Judge E. P. Vall of Chicago and Attorney R. P. Vall of this city," the old news account says. "The reporter of a quarter of a century ago was slightly inaccurate in crediting Judge Vall

Pratt, who carried on all of the negotiations that resulted eventually in the great establishment that now carries the name of Staley and Decatur all over the world.

Originally the plant was built by Frank and R. E. Pratt as a corn oil processing business. Later a group of Pennsylvania starch manufacturers bought the plant when tragedy in the Pratt family prompted Frank Pratt to get rid of the industry. His son-in-law, Edwin C. Vincoe, was killed by gas used in one of the processes when the young man went into a tank to rescue a workman who had been overcome.

When the American Glucose company failed, a group of Decatur business men and attorneys got together to save the industry for Decatur. A mortgage on the plant was held by the Illinois Life Insurance company. Mr. Vall went to Chicago as the representative of the group and bought the mortgage.

### Formed 'Keegan' Group

But before he did this, he had assurance from W. H. Sutforn and Robert I. Hunt, long identified with grain milling in Decatur, that they would operate a starch mill to continue employment and keep the property active. But a man by the name of Staley, from Baltimore, Md., a starch packer had been interested in the property.

With the mortgage purchased, Mr. Vall telephoned Mr. Staley at Baltimore two or three times, and finally was told to come to Baltimore if he had a proposition to offer. Long distance telephoning was an unsatisfactory medium of communication then. Out of several trips East by Mr. Vall, came purchase of the plant and organization of the Staley company with headquarters in Decatur.

Mr. Vall telephoned Mr. Staley at Baltimore two or three times, and finally was told to come to Baltimore if he had a proposition to offer. Long distance telephoning was an unsatisfactory medium of communication then. Out of several trips East by Mr. Vall, came purchase of the plant and organization of the Staley company with headquarters in Decatur.

not forgotten any of the trying times he had in building the business in its early years. In his present success he can smile at the difficulties he surmounted, and view them and his achievement with a philosophic calm. It is a success on a grander scale than he envisioned at the outset.

"The success he has achieved, Mr. Staley says, is "due to dealing with my customers and employees along the line of the golden rule. I never tried to profit exorbitantly from my customers and at the same time I tried to give them an honest product."

Tells Success Maxim  
"If you think of your customers and your employes first, last and all of the time, they'll take care of you. I don't know of any enemies that I have in my organization. I have tried to deal fairly with them and I haven't taken a lot of money out of the business. What has been made has been 'plowed' back in for expansion to build up, improve and give more employment."

To a question relative to the satisfaction he has derived from his success, he replied:  
"There is no more satisfaction than that of a man who has done a whole lot less but has done it well. We can't all head big institutions, and the size of an achievement is not the full measure of success."

He has never had grandiose dreams of controlling the corn products industry of the country, he said.  
"I just wanted to be left alone in my own business and to let the other fellow alone in his."

He has never had grandiose dreams of controlling the corn products industry of the country, he said.  
"I just wanted to be left alone in my own business and to let the other fellow alone in his."

# Staley Firm First

## 25 Years In Business Here

An event little noticed in Decatur at the time but which will long be remembered will be celebrated at the A. E. Staley Manufacturing company Thursday just 25 years since the day corn was first ground there under the management of A. E. Staley, Sr.

In 1912 Decatur was a growing city of 32,000. Illinois had two million less people than it does now and produced less than a tenth as much corn. Automobiles were few and radios unheard of. Mud roads were as common in the city as in the country and hitching posts bordered every downtown street. It was before the war and prohibition and women had not yet bobbed their hair and learned to smoke. In 1912 the Staley company was called the "old Pratt mill" and the Baltimore business man who came to Decatur and talked of running it and grinding 5,000 bushels of corn there a day was subjected of some suspect.

### The Man From Baltimore.

The Baltimore business man was A. E. Staley, Sr. He took over the "old Pratt mill" from the Wellington people, and said he would soon be grinding 5,000 or more bushels of corn there a day. In December of the same year the daily grind averaged 6,000 bushels, 225 men worked at the plant valued at a million dollars, and orders for 80,000 bags were booked ahead.

Only one person now employed at the factory was there when they started "the grind," as it is called by the workers. She is Miss Helen Harder, then general office girl and now cashier of the company.

One other, J. H. Galloway, plant superintendent, missed by a month. He came to the company in April, 1912. Several men now employed at the plant were there when the grind was started but left when the works were shut down for about 18 months from June 1914 to November 1915, the longest period of enforced idleness.

The growth of the company was recorded in a recent letter sent to the stockholders of the company as the annual report. Whereas in 1912



SAW WORK START  
MISS HELEN HARDER

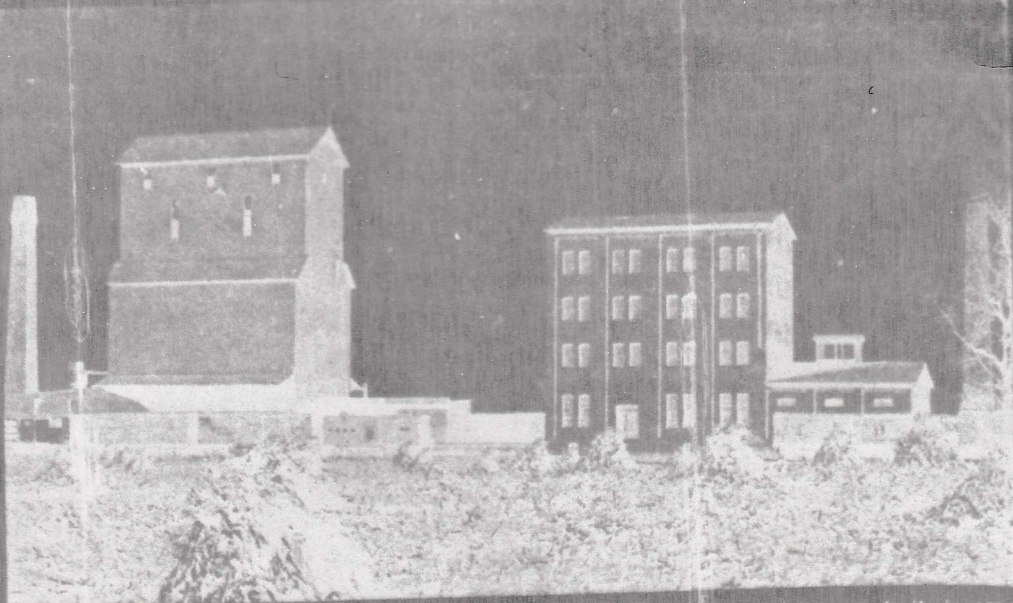
pany had 225 employees and Dec. 1, 1936, it had more than 1,700. The average daily grind of corn is not revealed but the capacity is 50,000 bushels. Twenty-five years ago there was storage room for only a few thousand bushels. Today the company has one elevator that can store three million bushels.

A quarter of a century ago the company's products were starch, corn oil, germ, oil meal and glucose. Today the various products number between two and three hundred. These of course include soybean products a line that was added in 1922 and today is vying with corn for first in importance. In 1912 the office building was a two-story frame structure, and now it is a 12-story million dollar skyscraper.

Active management of the firm is now in the hands of A. E. Staley, Jr., president. Mr. Staley, Sr. re-

March 10, 1937

### FORERUNNER OF THE A. E. STALEY COMPANY



The Pratt Cereal mill, capacity for grinding 10 cars of corn a day, was the predecessor of the A. E. Staley Co., plant having been bought by A. E. Staley in 1909 as the first unit of the Staley Co. of today.

The Pratt Cereal mill was built in 1895 by F. M. and R. E. Pratt, who had been in the grain business in Decatur since 1880. Later it became known as the Wellington Starch Works and was bought by Mr. Staley when it was known as such.

### Red Cross Roadside Stations

WASHINGTON—In a campaign to reduce the number of auto accidents along the nation's highways, the American Red Cross is planning to install roadside stations at intervals of 25 miles along the principal highways. These stations will offer to motorists a variety of services, including first aid, information, and a place to rest. The stations will be located at strategic points along the highways, and will be operated by Red Cross volunteers. The stations will be open 24 hours a day, and will be equipped with first aid kits, maps, and other supplies. The stations will also be equipped with telephones, and will be able to contact the nearest hospital or doctor. The stations will be a great help to motorists in need of assistance, and will help to reduce the number of accidents on the highways.

### Factory Goods Leading Export

#### Farm Products and Raw Materials Show Decided Falling Off.

WASHINGTON (AP)—The United States is showing less of an export surplus in factory goods and more of a deficit in farm products and raw materials, according to a report by the U. S. Chamber of Commerce. The report shows that the value of factory goods exports for the eight months ended Aug. 31 was \$1,940,000,000, compared with \$1,850,000,000 for the same period last year. The value of farm products and raw materials exports for the same period was \$1,450,000,000, compared with \$1,600,000,000 for the same period last year. The report also shows that the value of factory goods imports for the same period was \$1,800,000,000, compared with \$1,700,000,000 for the same period last year. The value of farm products and raw materials imports for the same period was \$1,300,000,000, compared with \$1,400,000,000 for the same period last year.

### REVIEW

#### Town elsewhere

... known but Decatur ... Mich. on its career ... of the western United ... now president of ... who was employed in ... factory in the late ... remembers very well ... of a carload of oak side ... to be shown in a hotel in ... about 1885.

Dealers had been going ... look at Grand Rapids- ... Decatur was the first out ... the actual home territory ... competitors. ... we took a room in the ho ... mpany as he recalled the ... lobby we had plac ... interested in furniture to ... look at the oak side ... by the Decatur Furni ... from that time when we ... with our display we ... the room the city occupied ... from all over the coun-

... O. Horton, guard at ... local bank who was ... helped to finish that ... that went to Grand ... water plant."

... Co. added Mr. ... there many years, "was ... large industries at that ... skilled workers."

... the Grand Rapids ... Decatur, "we made ... of the new ... which was scri ... the clock for ... and late ... the ... of them ... Decatur ... at the ...

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REVIEW

About Town and Elsewhere

After the burning of the De last week attempts were made electric refrigerator out of the ng. The walls were found to the workmen and the removal was postponed until the cooled somewhat.

P. Harding, of corned beef fame of Chicago, was an orphan on a farm near Ivesdale who had come originally from Ireland.

at the two chaps for whom he the farms at Ivesdale would restaurant which Mr. Harding in Chicago whenever they

Harding, who was personally round of beef at that time in stomachs, remarked to his tor were there. "I would not have come the big man that I am if down there on the farm with

granted one of the two men being the former orphan, loudly over the lunch room. "I say, sliced the meat on the farm as is slicing it here he would be able to walk off the place."

C. A. W.

of New York

ED, wiry, with a diamond stick green tie, a diamond ring on his emonds in his cuff links, John took his 75 years. But what a

For 44 years he was a mem York fire department and 17 years was head of that body. In all, the ex-chief figures ment at more than 40,000 fires. He and his men had to fight they were extinguished.

FIRST DAM IN LAKE PROJECT



Early in 1929 the A. E. Staley company realized that it would need more water than could be supplied from the regular city water supply while waiting for the big impounding dam and Lake Decatur, then being planned. By arrangement with the city council and the Illinois Rivers and Lakes commission the Staley company built the

Britain's Reversal Realizes Now That Enforced Sanctions Will Bring European War, Lippmann Declares

By WALTER LIPPMANN

THOSE who have maintained that the dealings of the League with the Ethiopian war presented a very peculiar case, a case so exceptional that it was dangerous to treat it as a "dress rehearsal" for American neutrality, will not be too greatly startled by the Hoare-Laval peace plan. They could not have been prepared, of course, for any sudden and crude repudiation of the letter and the spirit of the Covenant, but it has been highly probable from the beginning that the proceedings would take a very startling turn.



Lippmann They will almost certainly continue to be startling, even if, as is now probable, this particular plan is abandoned. For the League powers, and particularly Great Britain, have taken a line which from the outset forboded disaster or disillusionment or both. They adopted a diplomacy which promised more than they were prepared

What with France's doubtful ally, what with Malta a bridge in Mussolini's hands, the cost of defeating Mussolini might well mean such losses as to cripple the British position at sea. It was a risk not to be taken lightly.

The British may well have left the geography and climate of Ethiopia, the financial weakness of the Italian state, would in the end prevent Mussolini from carrying his imperial ambitions far enough to threaten seriously the British empire. Moreover, they too knew the danger to Europe of turning Mussolini into an enemy or of destroying him as one of the pillars, fragile though it be, of the status quo in Central Europe.

In short, like the French, the British could not look upon the immediate stopping of the Ethiopian war as a vital national interest.

The next thing to be realized is that for Mussolini and Italian fascism the Ethiopian war has become a supreme interest. It may not be Italy's interest, but it is certainly Mussolini's; if he is disastrously beaten, he is certain to fall, and if he falls, the fascists know that the Italians they have humiliated and injured will not deal tenderly with them.

There is probably not a village in

Relief Problem Far From Ended

Hopkins Sees Increased Demands Despite Employment Program

WASHINGTON (UP)—An increase in the nation's relief load during the next three months is forecast despite the success claimed for the four billion dollar employment program.

Officials expressed concern over the immediate future after rolls declined only 366,609 cases in 145 cities between October and November. "It is apparent," Relief Administrator Harry L. Hopkins said in a formal statement, "that in many cities the depletion of individual resources aggravated by growing winter needs adversely affected the relief situation."

The slight decrease in the urban relief population—from 1,770,732 to 1,604,610 cases—came when the current jobs drive already had made work for 1,737,610 of the 3,500,000 needy he listed on federal payrolls Dec. 1.

Twenty-seven cities actually reported unemployment increases. Chicago, Philadelphia, Los Angeles and 39 other centers recorded declines of 5 per cent or less. New York City, where the winter

Thursday Farm 844 Ab

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WASHINGTON come of fa lion dollars lion dollar months of agriculture

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Dour To Let

### Decatur Industrialist Provided the Spark

# Soybean Introduced New Era of Farming

By Jan Hille

Of the Herald and Review

In the early years of Macon County, soybeans and corn weren't the most important crops, but their existence has played a most important part in the history of the community.

As the county was populated, farmers found the land suitable for growing oats, barley and rye. Potatoes, several vegetables and fruit also proved to be successful.

An early history of the county notes "in the northern part of the county especially, most excellent corn crops are raised, the average yield of this cereal being 65 bushels per acre, and often far exceeding this number. Oats, barley and rye grow luxuriantly, rarely failing to yield largely. The potato and other tuberous plants are successfully cultivated, and, when free from the depredations of bugs and other noxious insects, not only afford ample supplies for home consumption, but contribute much to the exports of the country.

All varieties of grapes, berries, currants, and common garden vegetables grow well, and, in favorable seasons, produce more than enough to meet the demands of local markets. But wheat, especially the winter variety, is considered a very uncertain crop. New land and that adjacent to the timber belts produce fair crops of this important grain.

Wheat has a South. The land near the south line of the county is much better adapted to wheat raising than the other parts. The soil generally is very rich, and it is to be seen to produce the best wheat during the winter months, and during the period of drought, and having the best is generally reported from the ground and the crop.

Wheat, in the early years of the county, was raised in large quantities, and was one of the principal crops. The average yield per acre was about 35 bushels, and it was considered a very profitable crop. The soil is generally reported from the ground and the crop.

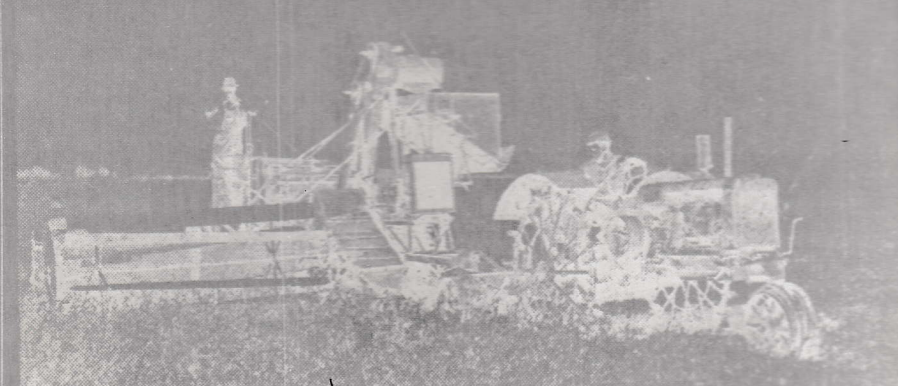
The grain, made by the farmer, was used for home consumption, and the surplus was sold to the mill. The grain was raised in large quantities, and was one of the principal crops.



The soybean was hailed as a major crop in 1934, when a team of horses and a steam engine were still used to thresh grain.



A. E. Staley Sr. in 1907



Tractor pulled combine in what was in 1938 hailed as one of largest soybean crops.

The soybean was grown in America as early as 1804 and the beans were used as a coffee substitute during the Civil War.

But perhaps it took the business mind of a man like A. E. Staley Sr. to realize that U.S. importations of 41 million pounds of soybean oil in 1911, which rose to 343 million pounds during 1916 with the first World War, meant the U.S. was destined to have a large soybean market.

What was needed was a soybean processing plant. The resulting refined soybean products.

the county, at a value of \$4,104,900.

By 1965, about 108,600 acres were harvested with a 31 bushel per acre yield, and a value of \$3,814,700.

#### Easy to Produce

Once factor which led to the soybean's popularity is it is an easy crop to produce.

Also, the soybean is adaptable to a wide variety of soils, and can be handled with equipment used for corn and grain. Another factor, which could be more important than any other, is that it gives better cash returns than wheat or oats.

Staley's persistence despite losses the first few years of processing eventually brought

Corn production rose and fell during the years as the soybean gained prominence.

In 1925, the 145,500 acres of corn harvested yielded 43 bushels per acre at a value of \$4,090,600.

The year 1935 saw 117,000 acres harvested, with a yield of 41 bushels per acre. The following year was a bad one for the corn yield, however. Statistics for 1936 show 120,000 acres harvested with a yield of only 18 bushels per acre.

#### Yield Increases

In 1937, the yield jumped to 35 bushels per acre, with 120,000 acres harvested.

By 1960, the corn yield at 35 bushels per acre picture in 1965 was

and thawing, usually ejected from the ground and dies.

However, for the last two centuries (1879 and 1880), wheat has done well in this county, the average per acre being upwards of 25 bushels, making a favorable comparison with that of other parts of the state."

The same reference later states, "In years to come, as the soils grow more compact and the science of agriculture more exact, wheat will probably be as certain a crop in this county as corn and oats are now."

Blue grass, timothy, red-top and clover were among the principal grasses grown on pastureland.

"The acreage of pasture, and meadow has been largely increased within the past decade, (the 1870's), indicating a tendency on the part of farmers to take advantage of the great facilities nature has here furnished for stock raising," the same reference notes.

**Stock Quality Improved**

"Within that time the quality of stock has also been improved, as the numerous herds of fine cattle to be seen in the good pastures, attest. The horses, sheep and hogs are of far finer quality now than they were a few years ago, showing progressive spirit and enterprise on the part of farmers in keeping with all other branches of industry.

"Of late years fruit of all kinds has received increased attention. Apples, peaches, pears, cherries and other less promi-



A. E. Staley Sr. in 1937

nent fruit have been found to do well and when carefully cultivated, yield abundant supplies.

"Soil, climate, geographical position, water supply, transportation facilities and the intelligent enterprising spirit of the people combine to make this one of the finest counties in the state."

The enterprising spirit of Macon County farmers is probably best revealed through their adoption of the soybean.

**Soybean Potential Realized**



Tractor-pulled combine in what was in 1938 hailed as one of the largest soybean crops in the county, at a value of \$4, 104,900.

By 1965, about 108,600 acres were harvested, with a 31 bushel per acre yield, and a value of \$3,814,700.

**Easy to Produce**

Once factor which led to the soybean's popularity is it is an easy crop to produce.

Also, the soybean is adaptable to a wide variety of soils, and can be handled with equipment used for corn and grain. Another factor, which could be more important than any other, is that it gives better cash returns than wheat or oats.

Staley's persistence despite losses the first few years of processing eventually brought him large profits, and the farmers of the county found themselves producing more and more bushels per acre.

In 1931, Illinois farmers had 10 times as many acres harvested as they had in 1920. A little over half, 5,000, of these acres, when harvested, yielded 37,000 bushels of beans, about 24 times as much as in 1920.

Statistics for harvested acres of soybeans in Macon County begin in 1921, when 2,200 acres were harvested.

By 1925, 10,000 acres of beans were harvested, yielding 10 bushels per acre valued at \$1,000.

The number of acres harvested fell after 1925, until 1931, but the yield per acre continued to rise.

In 1931, 10,000 acres were harvested, yielding 20 bushels per acre at a value of \$20,000.

In 1937, there were 108,600 acres of soybeans harvested in

what was in 1938 hailed as one of the largest soybean crops in the county, at a value of \$4, 104,900.

By 1965, about 108,600 acres were harvested, with a 31 bushel per acre yield, and a value of \$3,814,700.

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Soybean research continues

Corn production rose and fell during the years as the soybean gained prominence.

In 1925, the 145,500 acres of corn harvested yielded 43 bushels per acre at a value of \$90,600.

The year 1935 saw 140,000 acres harvested, with a yield of 41 bushels per acre. The following year was a bad one for the corn yield, however. Statistics for 1936 show 121,900 acres harvested with a yield of only 18 bushels per acre.

**Yield Increases**

In 1937, the yield jumped to 56 bushels per acre, with 122,900 acres harvested.

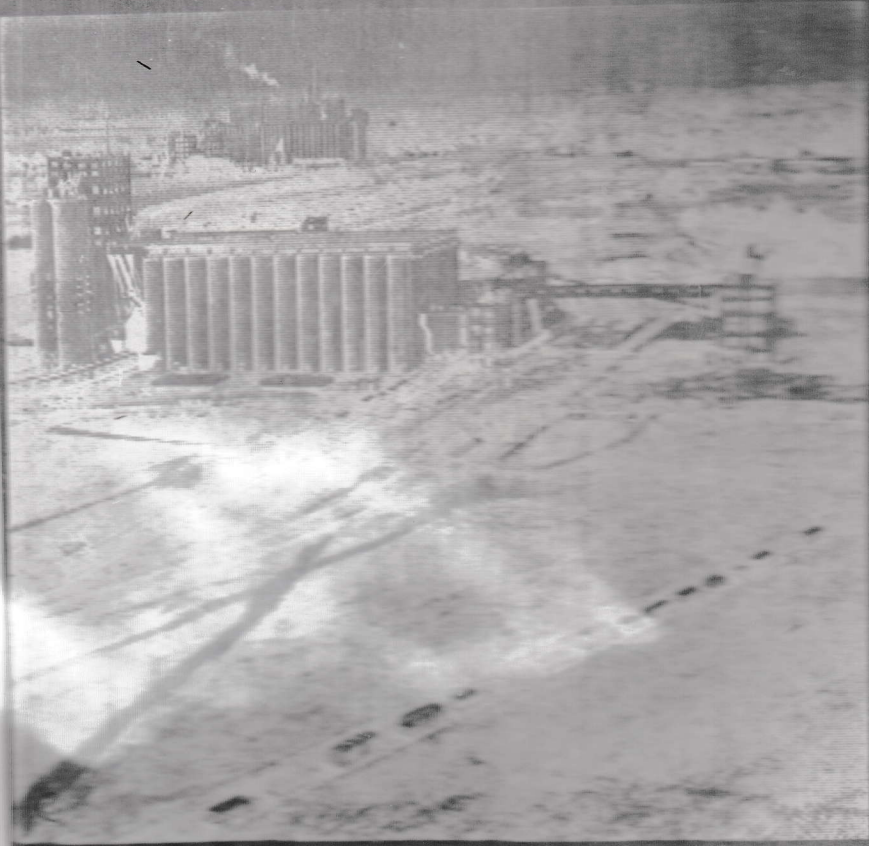
By 1941, the corn yield was at 59 bushels per acre. The picture in 1965 was quite different, however, with yields up to 109 bushels per acre then, and 132,000 acres harvested. Dollar value was at \$16,445,900 in 1965.

Then in 1966, when 147,800 acres were harvested, the yield was 88 bushels per acre, and the value \$17,069,300.

Soybean acreage harvested in 1966 was 108,100. The yield was 30 bushels per acre and the value \$3,254,000.

In 1966 no barley and rye were produced in the county, according to statistics provided by the Illinois Cooperative Crop Reporting Service.

The wheat yield in 1966 was 40 bushels per acre, with 108,100 acres harvested, with a yield of 35 bushels per acre and a value of \$12,000.



Modern combine also changed the wheat business. Storage elevators are shown in 1949.



Modern combine, cab enclosed, moves through soybean field.



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The soybean was hailed as a major crop in 1934, when a team of horses and a steam engine were still used to thresh grain.

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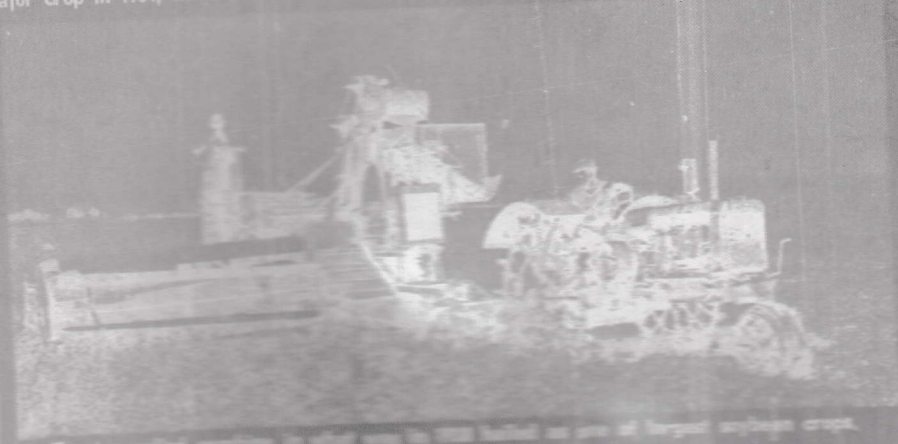
A. E. Staley Sr. in 1917

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Tractor pulled combine is what was in 1934 hailed as one of largest soybean crops.

The soybean was grown in the county, at a value of \$4,000,000 in 1934, and the beans were used as a soil improver during the Civil War.

But perhaps it took the last of the 19th century to make the soybean a staple of the county. In 1890, the yield of soybeans in the county was 100 bushels per acre, and a value of \$100,000.

In 1900, the yield was 150 bushels per acre, and a value of \$150,000. In 1910, the yield was 200 bushels per acre, and a value of \$200,000. In 1920, the yield was 250 bushels per acre, and a value of \$250,000. In 1930, the yield was 300 bushels per acre, and a value of \$300,000. In 1940, the yield was 350 bushels per acre, and a value of \$350,000. In 1950, the yield was 400 bushels per acre, and a value of \$400,000. In 1960, the yield was 450 bushels per acre, and a value of \$450,000. In 1970, the yield was 500 bushels per acre, and a value of \$500,000. In 1980, the yield was 550 bushels per acre, and a value of \$550,000. In 1990, the yield was 600 bushels per acre, and a value of \$600,000. In 2000, the yield was 650 bushels per acre, and a value of \$650,000. In 2010, the yield was 700 bushels per acre, and a value of \$700,000. In 2020, the yield was 750 bushels per acre, and a value of \$750,000.

Corn production rose and fell during the years as the soybean production.

In 1900, the 100,000 acres of corn harvested yielded 40 bushels per acre at a value of \$40,000.

The year 1910 saw 120,000 acres harvested, with a yield of 45 bushels per acre. The value was \$54,000.

In 1920, the yield jumped to 50 bushels per acre, with 120,000 acres harvested.

By 1930, the corn yield was at 55 bushels per acre. The picture in 1935 was quite different, however, with yields up to 60 bushels per acre then, and 120,000 acres harvested. Dollar value was at \$16,445,900 in 1965.

Then in 1966, when 147,800 acres were harvested, the yield was 88 bushels per acre, and the value \$17,069,300.

Soybean acreage harvested in 1966 was 105,100. The yield was 30 bushels per acre and the value \$9,254,800.

In 1966 no barley and rye were produced in the county, according to statistics provided by the Illinois Cooperative Crop Reporting Service.

The wheat yield in 1966 was 46 bushels per acre — 15,500 acres harvested with a value of \$1,243,300. There were 3,400 acres of oats harvested, with a yield of 55 bushels per acre and a value of \$133,900.



Soybean research continues



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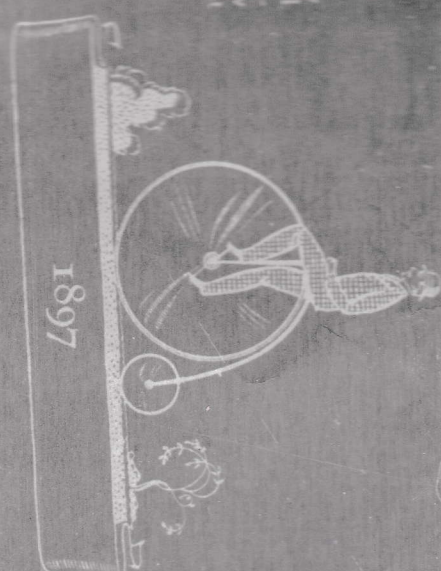


# ... and a Village "Grows Up"!

*Steward*  
*July 7, 1929, p. 10.*  
*Central National Bank*

**NO ROMANCE** in the development of a business? No romance in the "growing up" of a country village? Of course there isn't! And here are vital, living examples to prove it.

First, we will tell of the A. E. Staley Manufacturing Company's rise from a small one-man company to a concern with a capital investment of \$10,000,000. Then we will show how its growth has been interlined with that of the splendid city of Decatur.



**BACK** to the "Gay Nineties" dates the humble beginning of the Staley Manufacturing Company—to the year 1897. Back to the day when burlesque queens first braved the spotlight in tights... when ballets, leg-o-mutton sleeves and buckram lined skirts were the vogue... when the Chicago World's Fair was still fairly fresh in the minds of most of us and the Spanish American War had not yet broken out.

In this year a young man with only \$1,500 in his pocket set out to make his fortune. This young man was Mr. A. E. Staley, Founder, President and General Manager of the A. E. Staley Manufacturing Company. His initiative, courage and keen foresight have been largely responsible for the company that today bears his name.

Mr. Staley started out "peddling" corn starch. His was a one-man business—the Staley Manufacturing Company—and his product was called "Cream Corn Starch." He was enthusiastic and confident, although this was a big venture for those days and it was thought he could not succeed. But he kept on undaunted, and in time the people for miles around grew accustomed to Cream Corn Starch and it became the favorite in many households.

In spite of many difficulties, their business did prove successful—so much so, that in 1919

they added corn syrup to their line. This was later followed by expansion in other products.

This company has prospered—the name Staley and what it stands for are becoming better known every day. A tiny \$1,500 concern has increased to mighty proportions. It has spread out to embrace a thriving, growing company with 1,200 employees... a company with a capacity for a 50,000 bushel daily grind, the largest for any independent corn products plant in the world... a company whose aims and ideals are of the highest.

**O**LD settlers can recall that the Decatur of 1897 was a very different place from what it is today. Then the automobile business was in its infancy and the streets of Decatur were very few of them. High wheeled bicycles were quite the thing and no home was complete without its hitching post in the front yard. Little girls wore pinafores and drank iced tea, and every one had a parlor with one or more "what-nots" in it.

But today, beautiful homes have sprung up in Decatur, where once there were only prairie

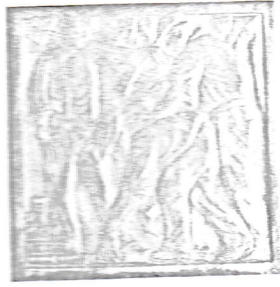
... broad highways lined with cars have taken the place of country roads with only an occasional horse and buggy trotting over them... large department stores and fine, up-to-date buildings now hold sway downtown, where formerly there was just a store or two. Even, too, many people have come to Decatur, and with their arrival it has grown from a tiny village into a modern city full of life and vitality.

But Decatur is not going to stand still now. It is up to us to make it yet larger and greater. Added wealth is coming to Decatur and with it should follow improvements that heretofore have been undreamed of... a city beautiful that holds its own with the finest... new comforts, new pleasures, and much that will make us proud to call it our own.

**D**ECATUR is interested in Staley, just as Staley is tremendously interested in Decatur. The story of the development of the Staley Company is part of the story of the growth of Decatur. This large industry has had its share in making the Decatur of today. It has provided employment for many, thus bringing more people to this city. Their earnings are spent in Decatur stores, thereby helping to produce a busy, thriving community.

And Staley owes a debt to Decatur. The operation of its plant is bound up in the lives of the people of this city. Without them the Staley Company would not exist.

So it is only fitting that the future growth of the A. E. Staley Manufacturing Company and this City of Decatur should be linked together. As one expands, so should the other enlarge, and in the years to come they should continue to help one another as they have in the years gone by.



## THE STALEY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

TWO years of planning preceded the actual construction work on the Staley Administration Building.

Ground was broken on February 16, 1929. All offices were transferred to the building on April 19, 1930.

It is 263 feet wide and the wings are 103 feet deep. The top of the tower is 217 feet high.

The foundation course of stone and the expansive entrance steps are of granite from Mt. Airy, North Carolina, near Mr. Staley's boyhood home.

The building is in the middle of a park of five acres, all beautifully landscaped.

The Staley Administration Building exhibits the first application of the automatic Thyatron controlled Polychromatic Flood-lighting System.

The beacon in the tower may be seen for twenty miles.

A well lighted and ventilated tunnel from the building connects with the general tunnel system which joins the various important factory units.

The building is entirely occupied by the administrative and clerical personnel of the Staley organization.

**A. E. STALEY MANUFACTURING COMPANY**  
STALEY SALES CORPORATION  
DECATUR, ILLINOIS

# I N S T A L L A T I O N S

ALLEGHENY STEEL COMPANY,  
Brackenridge, Pa.  
*Kitchen and Cafeteria Equipment*

ASCHAUER & WAGGONER, Decatur, Ill.  
*Architects*

BEARDSLEE CHANDELIER COMPANY,  
Chicago, Illinois  
*Chandeliers*

DOTEN-DUNTON DESK CO., Cambridge, Mass.  
*Executive Office Furniture*

DUKE MANUFACTURING COMPANY,  
St. Louis, Mo.  
*Cafeteria Equipment*

ELBROOK, INC., New York, N. Y.  
*Rugs*

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY, Chicago, Ill.  
*Exterior Illumination*

HENRY MARBLE COMPANY, Chicago, Ill.  
*Interior Marble Work*

ILLINOIS POWER & LIGHT CORP., Decatur, Ill.  
*Refrigerators*

MATTHEWS BROTHERS MANUFACTURING CO.,  
INC., Milwaukee, Wis.  
*Woodwork and Paneling*

MUELLER CO., Decatur, Ill.  
*Plumbing Goods and Vitreous Ware*

NATIONAL DECORATING SERVICE, Chicago, Ill.  
*Painting and Decorating*

REMINGTON CASH REGISTER COMPANY,  
Elion, N. Y.  
*Cash Register*

REMINGTON RAND BUSINESS SERVICE, INC.,  
Buffalo, New York  
*Filing Equipment*

RICHEY, BROWNE & DONALD, Maspeth, N. Y.  
*Browne Windows*

SANTAROSSA MOSAIC & TILE CO.,  
Indianapolis, Ind.  
*Terrazzo Floors*

SARGENT & COMPANY, New Haven, Conn.  
*Hardware*

SHAUGHNESSY BROS., Springfield, Ill.  
*Plastering Contractors*

SHAWNEE STONE CO., Bloomington, Ind.  
*Indiana Limestone*

J. L. SIMMONS COMPANY, Decatur, Ill.  
*General Contractor*

STOW-DAVIS FURNITURE CO.,  
Grand Rapids, Mich.  
*Furniture*

SWAIN AND MYERS, INC., Decatur, Ill.  
*Kitchen and Cafeteria Equipment*

THE CLEMETSEN CO., Chicago, Ill.  
*Furniture*

THE GLOBE-WERNICKE CO., Cincinnati, Ohio  
*Storage Vault Files*

THE MILWAUKEE CHAIR COMPANY,  
Milwaukee, Wis.  
*Chairs*

THE TYLER COMPANY, Cleveland, Ohio  
*Elevator Doors*

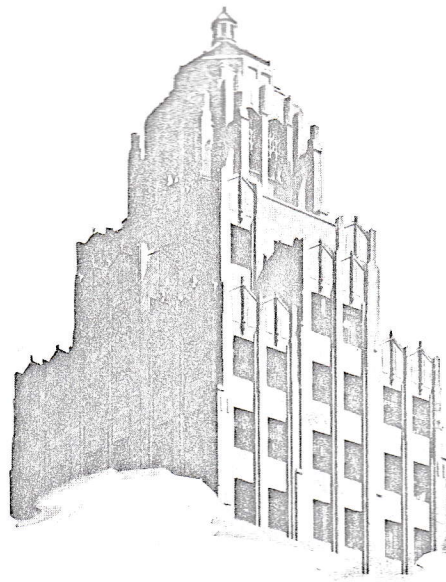
UNITED STATES RUBBER CO., Providence, R. I.  
*Rubber Tile Flooring*

WALRUS MANUFACTURING COMPANY,  
Decatur, Ill.  
*Soda Fountain*

MARY MARTHA WALWORTH, Chicago, Illinois  
*Interior Decorating*

WARREN WEBSTER & COMPANY, Camden, N. J.  
*Steam Heating System*

WHITE PLUMBING AND HEATING CO.,  
Decatur, Ill.  
*Heating and Ventilating Contractor*



## A • T R I B U T E • T O • L O Y A L T Y

ON the day this business was founded, a little more than two decades ago, Mr. A. E. Staley sat at his desk and carefully weighed its chances of survival. But the chief asset of all was one that he failed to take into consideration—his own grim and unshakeable determination that he would some day own the finest and best equipped plant in this great industry.

The early years were strenuous ones. Each week brought its own crisis. But Mr. Staley refused to recognize defeat. He kept on fighting.

In these difficult days he set for himself a code of business practices in which the interests of his customers were the very first and only consideration—and never deviated from it by the breadth of a hair.

Five years passed slowly, filled with bitter struggles—with insurmountable difficulties surmounted only by the courage of Mr. Staley and his loyal group of fellow-workers. And one day it became evident that the rough road was growing smoother. The steady growth and development of the Staley Company was definitely under way.

Other crises arose—but now they were met with a surer confidence—with the whole-hearted backing of an organization tried and tested under fire.

*From a pamphlet prepared by the A. E. Staley Company, apparently shortly after occupancy of the office building (1930); however, [3] no date is given.*

Year after year brought a record of faster, steadier progress. Until today that first, sketchy dream of Mr. Staley's is reproduced in stone and steel—the finest, most up-to-date plant of its kind in all the world.

Then Mr. Staley planned a visible and tangible tribute to the ideals that built his business—ideals so often scoffed at in this skeptical age.

→ He planned this great Administration building as an enduring rebuke to whomever

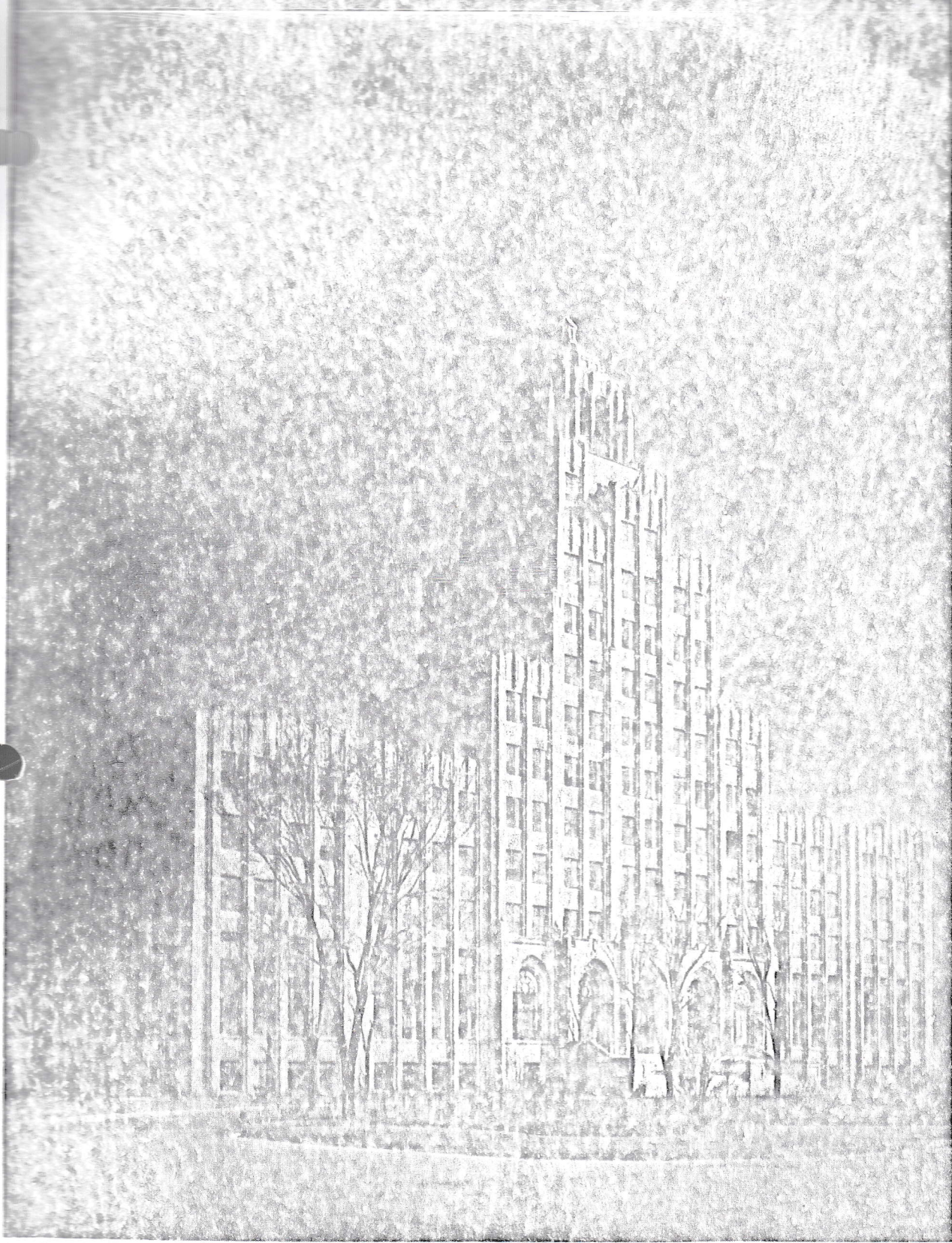
might doubt that fair dealing brings its sure return. "Erect for me," he said, "a home for this Company that has beauty and strength and grandeur."

He dedicates it first to the loyalty and faithfulness of the workers—the men and women who helped to make it a reality—second, to the customers of the Staley Company, now grown to a great army, whose trust and confidence are still the foundation of his business. ←

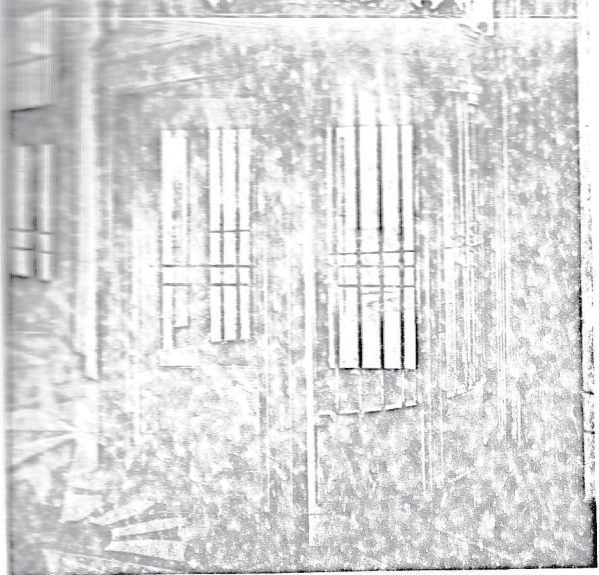


*THE MAIN ENTRANCE of the Staley Building with its lofty arched doorways suggests a dignified welcome for those who enter.*

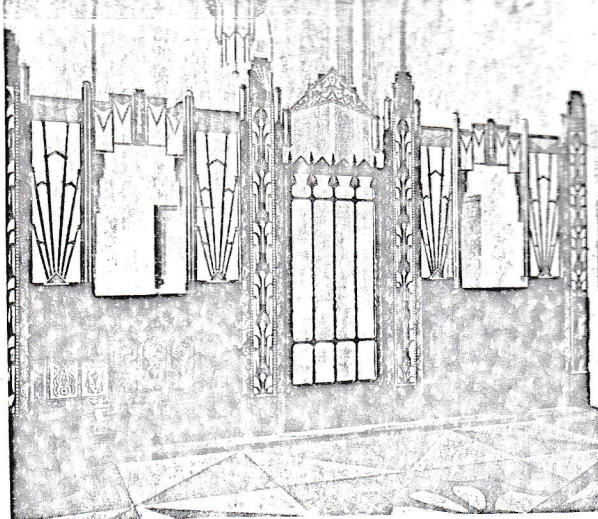




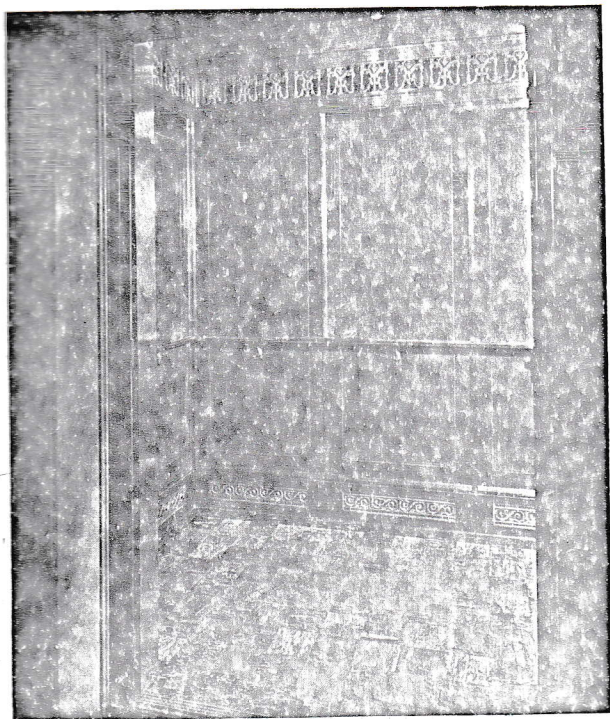
● *THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING of  
the A. E. Staley Manufacturing Company.*



REVOLVING BRONZE DOORS



LOBBY GRILL WORK



ELEVATOR CAB INTERIOR

### INTERESTING FEATURES

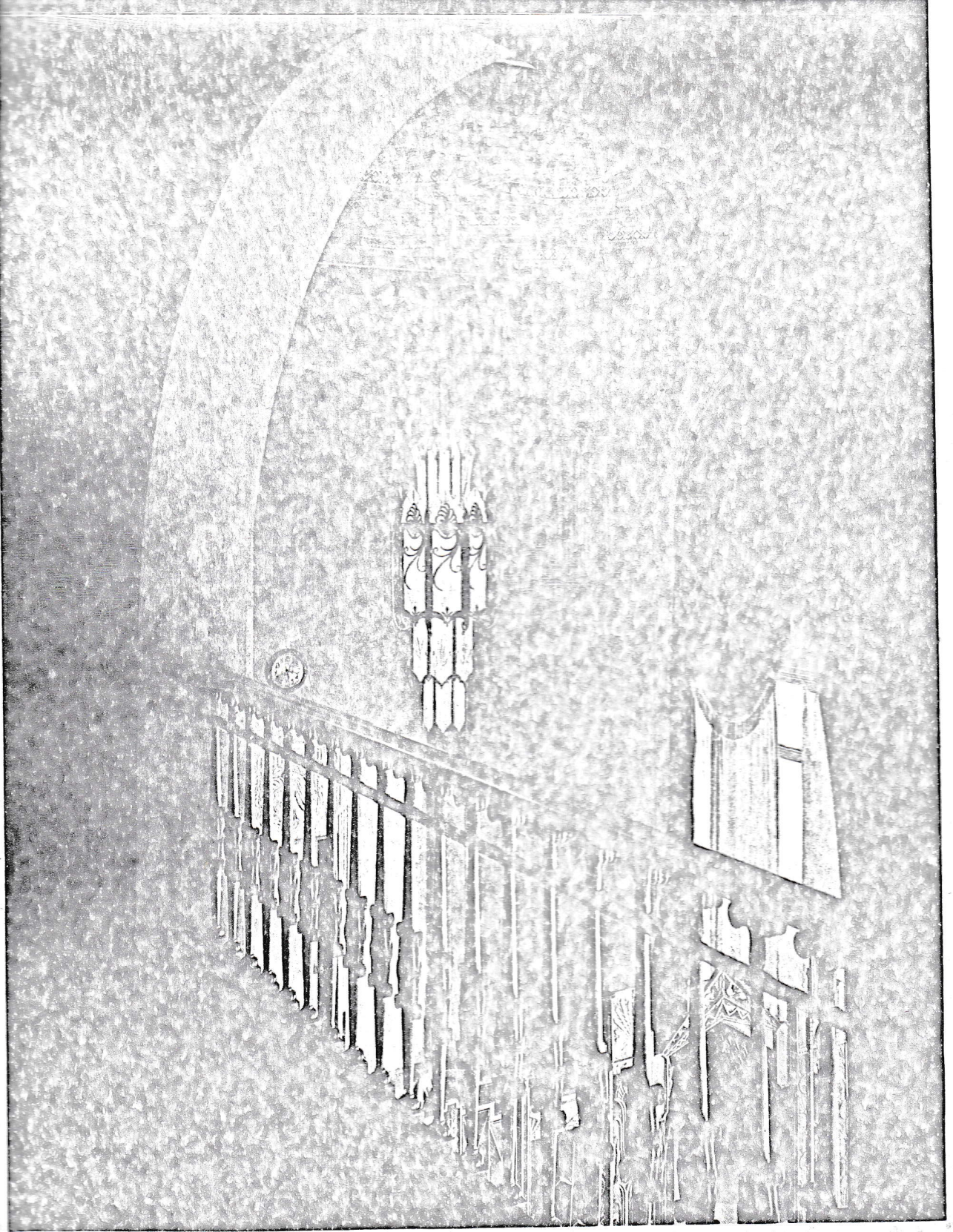
**N**OTHING was spared to make the lobby an expanse of rich beauty. From the high ceilings of gold and walnut, to the interesting design of the floor, it is replete with artistry. Walls of Roman Lava Rock furnish a soft-toned background for the balcony arches, bronze grill work, great chandeliers, and colorful settings.

Completeness is a feature. Fine offices and decorative effects are not confined to the first and second floors, but the entire building is carried out on the same scale.

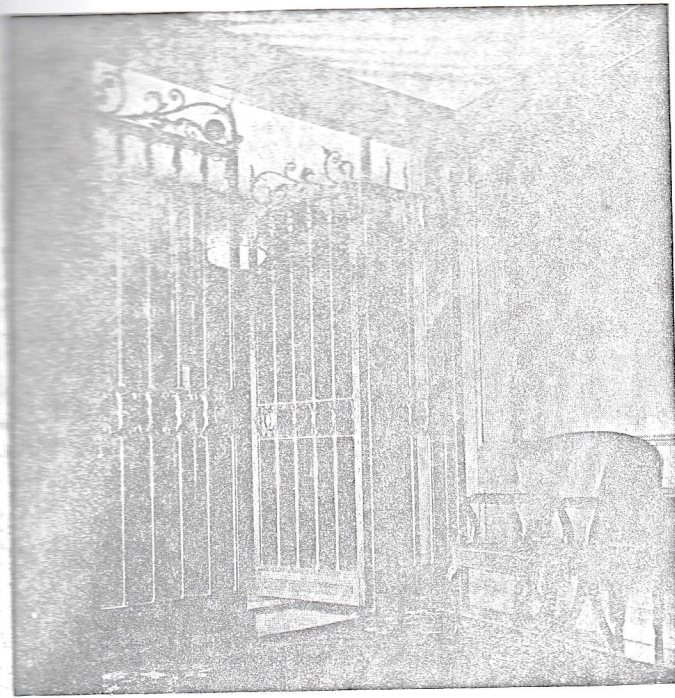
The elevator doors are particularly interesting, with their pictorial etchings in bronze. They are framed in a black marble casement. The smooth running, efficient elevators attract to the excellence of the engineering and mechanical features of the entire building.



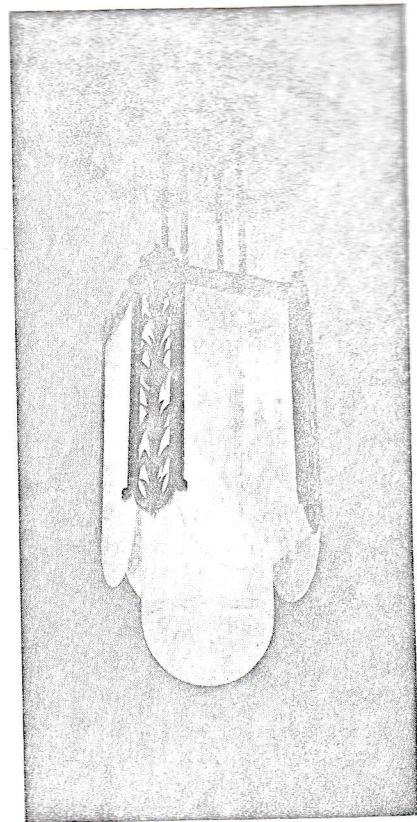
ELEVATOR DOORS



*AN ARTISTIC STUDY through one of  
the archways on the mezzanine floor.*



ENTRANCE TO EXECUTIVE SUITE



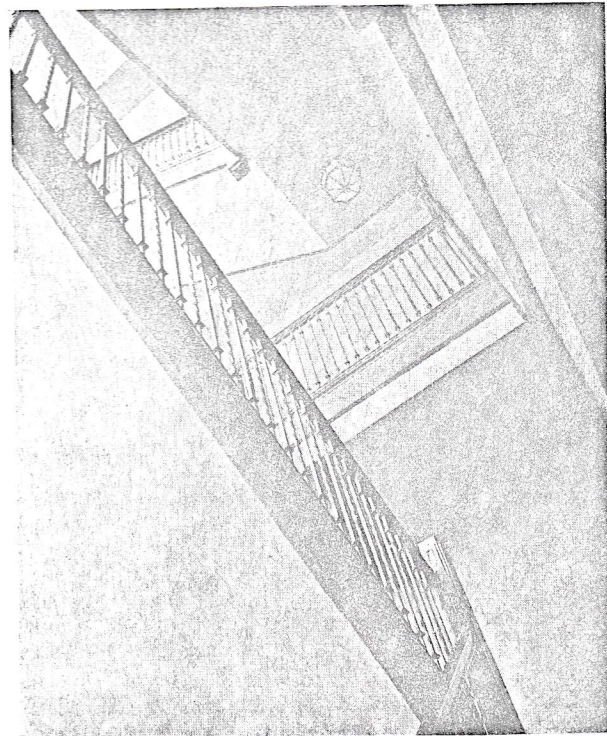
LIGHTING FIXTURES

TO PEOPLE of conservative mind the beauty and elaborateness of the Staley Administration Building is rather amazing. But modern business is departing from the barrenness of offices of other years. Art has won for itself a place in business. An environment of comfort and beauty is conducive to a speedier dispatch of affairs. Business runs smoothly and at a more rapid pace unhampered by the confines of drab surroundings and less modern equipment.

Permanency was built into the Staley Building for the Staley Company. The enduring finish of the walls—the floors—the bronze window frames—the marble trim—the granite foundation were deliberately chosen. Quality is economy in the long run. The Staley Company is a permanent institution.

Soft light through the iron grill paints a shadow pattern on panelled walls.

Graceful lighting fixtures feature a special corn motif design.



STAIR BANISTERS



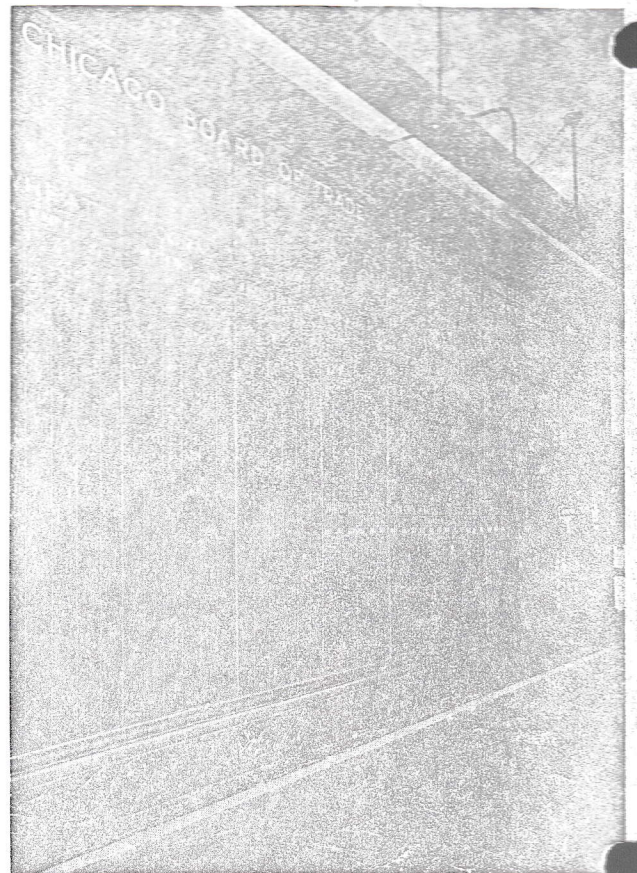
THE WARM WELCOME of the colorful.



OFFICE OF MR. H. J. KAPP

**H**ERE millions of bushels of grain are purchased for the needs of the Staley factory, and the Company's grain merchandising operations.

Quotations are marked on the grain board minute by minute. Through glass windows, grain buying executives keep in constant touch with the fluctuations of the grain market. A separate telegraph office serves the Grain Department.



GRAIN BOARD ROOM



Oct 27, 1940

A. E. STALEY, SR., assumed this characteristic and familiar pose for the portrait which Tino Costa has just completed of him. Opportunity will be given friends to see the picture as soon as a place can be found in the big Staley office building to hang it.

(Pfile photo)

ERICK: Should be Hedrick.

GO DAY IN, DAY

Processors Made Difference in Size

Staley, ADM Milling Industry Survivors

By John S. Day  
Of the Herald and Review

Only two giant grain processors remain in Decatur today, the A. E. Staley Mfg. Co. and Archer Daniels Midland Co.

But what remains is one of Decatur's largest industries, an industry which Edwin L. Huntley, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, says is largely responsible for the difference in size between cities like Mattoon and Decatur.

Although not the first processor on the Decatur scene, Staley was the first company in the country to process soybeans.

Its initial soybean plant was constructed in 1922. The plant had a capacity of 500 bushels a day, and the first year it worked only 74 days, because of the shortage of soybeans.

There were other complications as well. Soybean oil was a difficult product to sell, largely because it had never been successfully refined or deodorized for cooking.

Meal Use Uncertain

Soybean meal was almost impossible to get rid of, since farmers did not know about it and were uncertain what it would do as a feed.

Bean prices were high, too, because most of the crop was grown for seed to be replanted. In 1922 most of the soybean crop was cut and used for hay.

As a result, Staley embarked on an educational campaign to get farmers to use soybean meal as a feed.

In 1923, Staley had a soybean meal contest in which he offered a prize to the farmer who could feed his crop with the most soybean meal.

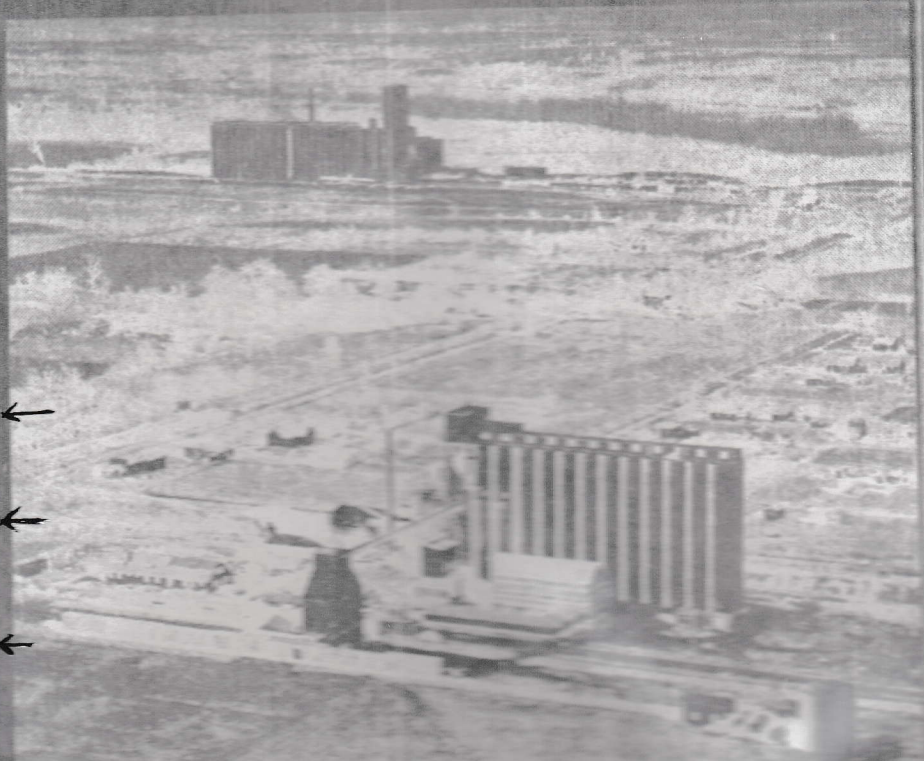
The contest was won by a farmer who used 100 bushels of meal per acre, and the prize was a \$100 cash award.

Corn Processing

Despite the fact that soybeans occupy a place of distinction in Decatur milling operations, corn processing was Staley's first business activity and is still its largest operation.

In 1888, the Staley company was organized at its Decatur plant by A. E. Staley Sr., then a corn merchant in Baltimore, Maryland, who had returned to the "old West" mill, which he had bought from the American Milling Co., a successor to the Mattoon Starbuck Co.

Three previous owners had failed, and it was an open secret that the community was



Spencer Kellogg (foreground) and ADM storage elevators became landmarks on Broadway.



Post Office Mill built in 1925 became the first Staley soybean processing plant.

Worldwide Fame

Grain Industry Left Most Lasting Mark

Initially, as a single industry, the mill left such a permanent mark on Decatur as has the grain processing industry.

It's given Decatur some of its largest factories and a worldwide claim as "the soybean capital."

Shelbarger established a mill on Broadway. Later the family established and operated large corn and wheat mills at Water and Corn Crows streets.

In 1888, the mills were sold to American Hominy Co., which scrapped the wheat operation and milled only corn.

Oratory Failed To Displace Soybean Title

Although Decatur had confidently billed itself as the soybean capital of the world since the 1930s, its claim was not always secure.

Decatur's neighbor, Taylorville, challenged the title claim in 1946, and for three years the sparring went on.

Oratory contests pitted Decatur Mayor James A. Hedrick against his counterpart in Taylorville, J. W. Spesser.

FREE!  
Helene Curtis  
Revive  
Hair  
Conditioner

Remarkable conditioner gives instant life to hair never exposed to sun or wind.

Expert  
Stylists  
at each  
Salon

Wigs Styled \$5  
Wiglets Styled 1.50  
Falls Styled 3.50

GOLDBLAT

Castro



# Grain Industry Left Most Lasting Mark

It is a fact that soybeans were the place of distinction in Decatur milling operations. Soybean processing was Staley's first business activity and is still its largest operation.

In 1909, the Staley company was unheard of in Decatur when A. E. Staley Sr., then a starch packer in Baltimore, announced that he would reopen the "old Pratt mill" which he purchased from the American Glucose Co., a successor to the Wellington Starch Co.

Three previous owners had failed, and it was an open secret that the community was expecting the new owner to do the same.

The grinding capacity in those days was 6,000 bushels of corn, about one-third of the corn and soybean milling capacity of the Decatur operation today.

There were hard times for the company, including a period of over a year in 1914-15 when the plant was shut down entirely.

## Archer Daniels Arrives

On Jan. 12, 1939, Archer Daniels Midland Co. announced that it would build a five-million bushel grain elevator and soybean processing mill in Decatur.

Construction proceeded at the plant at a great pace. Men worked around the clock, and processing of soybeans began at the plant around the middle of November 1939.

At one point during the construction of the plant, 133 storage tanks were being erected at the same time. The tanks inched upward, the progress being checked by 500 yardsticks.

ADM operates two soybean processing plants in Decatur.

In 1961, the company integrated the former Spencer Kellogg soybean crushing plant into its system.

## Spencer Kellogg Begins

The Spencer Kellogg operation in Decatur began in 1928, when the Shellabarger Grain Products Co. was incorporated. The Shellabarger operation was continued. The Shellabarger family tradition of grain processing was maintained from the time of the first mill in Decatur.

In 1928, Shellabarger Mill, which was owned by the family, was sold to the American Hominy Co. of St. Louis.

The facility was operated by the company's Decatur subsidiary until 1939 when the parent firm took over.

Spencer Kellogg closed the plant entirely in 1967, but a share of the year, ADM assumed control of the plant.

Probably no single industry has left such a permanent mark on Decatur as has the grain processing industry.

It's given Decatur some of its largest factories and a worldwide claim as "the soybean capital."

Early grain processing was largely limited to water-driven grist mills, which produced flour mainly for the consumption of the farmers who grew the wheat.

The early mills were popular because of the increasing need for refined flour and because flour was an important part of the early settler's diet.

Some of the early mills in Macon County were the King Mill on Stevens Creek, Allen's Mill on the Sangamon River, and the David Mill on Big Creek.

Another early mill was an ox mill owned by J. J. Peacor, Ninian Peacor and E. O. Smith in 1839.

Unfortunately, the mills glutted the market with corn meal, and Peacor was forced to seek other means of maintaining profits. He turned to grinding corn for the local distillery, and in so doing incurred the wrath of the church.

## Shellabarger Mills

One of the first milling companies was operated by the Shellabarger family. The family had been millers for several generations, and tradition has it that they were millers before coming from Switzerland to the U.S. Their first operation was established in 1776 near Carlisle, Pa., and the family moved to Decatur in 1867.

In that year, J. S.

Shellabarger established a mill on Broadway. Later the family established and operated large corn and wheat mills at Water and Cerro Gordo streets.

In 1903, the mills were sold to American Hominy Co., which scrapped the wheat operation and milled only corn.

Another old firm was Decatur Milling which was formed in 1888, operating a plant formerly known as the Hatfield Mill, which dated back to the 1860s and was originally engaged in linseed oil manufacture.

Records indicate that the firm went out of business in 1905, and that in 1924 another Decatur Milling Co. was established.

In 1902, three Decatur mills joined several other corn mills to form the American Hominy Co. They were the Pratt cereal mill, the Shellabarger corn mill and Sufferin, Hunt & Co.

The company was a trust operation and it went out of existence in 1924.

—JOHN S. DAY

# To Displace Soybean Title

Although Decatur had confidently billed itself as the soybean capital of the world since the 1930s, its claim was not always secure.

Decatur's neighbor, Taylorville, challenged the title claim in 1946, and for three years the sparring went on.

Oratory contests pitted Decatur Mayor James A. Hedrick against his counterpart in Taylorville, J. W. Spresser.

The high spot of the oratory was reported to have been when Taylorville attorney Charles Bliss said with tongue in cheek:

"If all the beans raised in Christian County were dumped in front of the Decatur city hall, it would take 96 snow plows to clear a way for Mayor Hedrick to reach his office before his term expires."

"If oil from the Taylorville soybean crop was poured into Lake Decatur it would make 44 tall men standing on each other's shoulders look like a totem-pole salad."

Decatur citizens didn't take the attack lying down.

Mrs. Clifford Smith, radio chairman for Woodrow Wilson Junior High School said, "Decatur, the biggest processing bean center, is the capital of the soybean world, is the same manner as Detroit is the center of the automotive industry. Instead of the one firm which produces the cars for the world."

The debate continued, but Decatur found great positive when Clinton Anderson, then secretary of agriculture spoke of Decatur as "the soybean capital of the world."

## OLDEST COLLEGE

HARVARD UNIVERSITY is the oldest college in the United States. Its first classes were held in 1638.



American Hominy Co. bought Shellabarger Mill & Elevator Co., Water, Cerro Gordo Streets.

Each styled 3

GOLDBLA

Carson

Pirie

Scott



\$5.45

Open Fry Pa

Here's the left coated cookware you have wanted. It defies even the toughest tools! No-stick, no-scour year after year.

# Start Work Soon on New Staley Office Building

Directors of Company Give Enthusiastic Approval for 14-Story Structure Estimated to Cost Approximately \$1,000,000

(Continued)

Directors of the A. E. Staley Mfg. Co. last week approved the company's projected new office building and voted an ample appropriation to finance it, according to an announcement made Saturday by A. E. Staley. Construction is assured for the early spring, and may even be started this winter, Mr. Staley said.

The vote of the directors in favor of the 14-story office structure, to be one of the tallest in the state outside Chicago, was unanimous. The action followed study of the company's last monthly financial statement which showed Staleys to be in the strongest financial condition of its history.

**Business Steadily Improves**  
The ratio of the company's quick assets to quick liabilities is 14 to one, the financial statement revealed. Quick assets amount to more than \$6,500,000. The company's business is forging steadily upward, due to intensified sales campaigns in both domestic and foreign markets, increasing diversification of products to meet new demands, and unrelenting elimination of waste from manufacturing processes.

Business in November was excellent, and will be in December also, Mr. Staley said.

**Will Cost Million**

On learning that the company is solidly entrenched financially, the directors decided that nothing should stand in the way of the new office building. Even the conservative bankers on the board of directors were convinced that the company's balance sheet justifies needed and planned expansion of administration.

The amount of money appropriated for the office building was not divulged, but is understood and generally believed to be around \$1,000,000.

The company's directors are Henry Lochhart, Jr., of Blair & Co., New York; Arnold Sifel of Sifel, Nicotans & Co., St. Louis; Charles J. Schuster of Baltimore, and E. K. Scheller, J. H. Galloway, T. C. Burwell, Raymond O. Augur, A. E. Staley, Sr., and A. E. Staley, Jr., of Decatur.

**14 Story Building**  
Plans and specifications of the new building, as prepared by Aschauer & Waggoner, Decatur architects, won the directors' approval without changes.

The building will be 14 stories in height, with Indiana limestone facing all around. The architectural feature will be a central tower surmounted by a dome. The tower will be floodlighted at night.

The building will have a series of setbacks or terraces, to insure adequate natural lighting in the offices. Elevator service will be furnished by automatic electric high-speed elevators with mechanical floor-leveling devices. A steam heating installation and an automatic ventilating system, thermostatically controlled will be provided. The building will be supplied with electricity from Staley's own power plant. The structure will be located in the tract cornering in East Eldorado and North

Director Public T. W. ...  
Decatur, Ill., 12/12/28

Twenty-second streets, east of the Staley viaduct.

**Plan Garage for Workers**  
After the building has been erected, a large garage for employes' cars will be built near it.

The company has not decided, Mr. Staley explained, whether to award a general or a cost-plus contract for construction of the office building, or to turn the job over to the Staley construction department. In any event, the department will be more or less active in the project. Staley engineers are now surveying the building site. After Christmas, railway tracks will be laid into the tract for conveying building materials direct to the job.

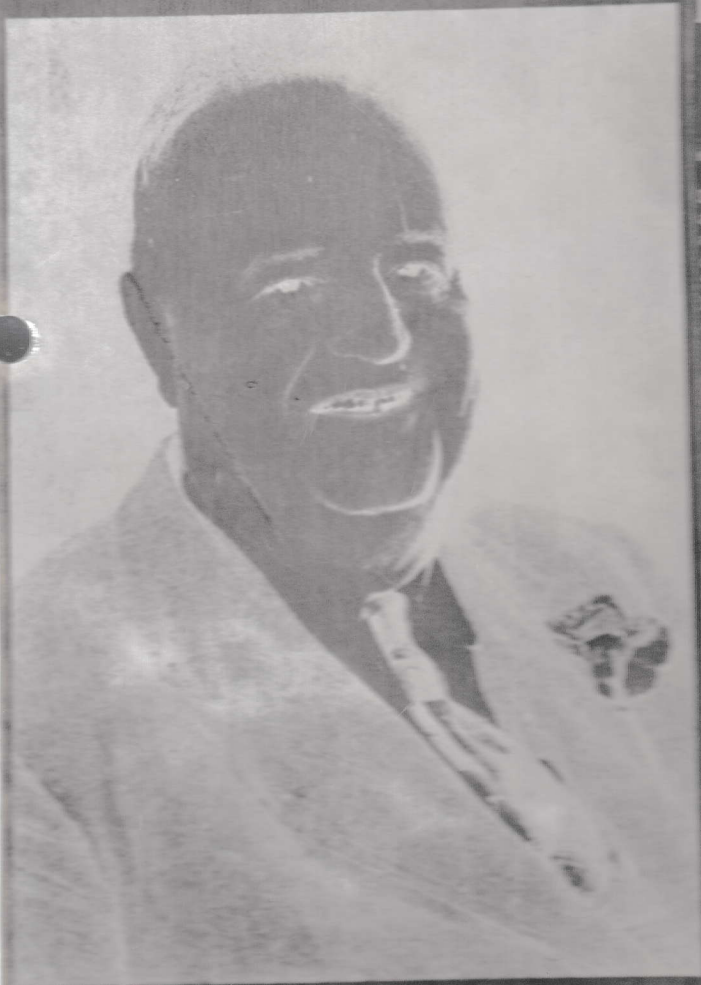
"We are uncertain when to start actual construction," said Mr. Staley, "but it is definite that actual work will be under way in the spring. We are considering beginning construction this winter, although we dislike winter work as it entails extra expense."

"At any rate the office building is assured for 1929."  
Plans for landscaping the grounds around the building are going forward at the hands of Jans Jensen, Chicago landscape artist. Mr. Jensen's plan, now in the sketch stage, provides for a veritable park in the vicinity of the building.

Dec. 16, 1928

## A. E. Staley, Sr., Dies In Florida; Funeral To Be Held Here Monday

ILLUSTRIOUS CAREER ENDS



AUGUSTUS EUGENE STALEY SR.

This is the last press photo made for which Mr. Staley posed in his office. It was taken shortly before his death.

Honorary degree from Millikin university last June.

—Special Service Staff

### Body Coming Back Sunday

A. E. Staley, Sr., died last night in the winter home at Miami, Fla. Death came to the 70-year-old Decatur grocer growing millionaire at 7:30 o'clock. His family was at the bedside. The family and chairman of the board of the A. E. Staley Mfg. Co. returned a service last week and he condition became critical Christmas Day.

Funeral services will be held in the First Presbyterian church at 10 p. m. Monday. Burial will be in the Parkview mausoleum after services in the Parkview chapel. Rev. E. E. Frank, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, will give the funeral oration.

Followers will be members of the Staley company executive committee and representative employees of the company. They are W. J. Kapp, T. C. Howell, R. C. Scherer, Dr. W. A. Knoch, E. K. Schuler and F. E. Hays, all of the executive committee. Charles Fitch, president of the Staley's club; Ray Dow, company treasurer; H. T. Morris, vice-president and manager of the food department; Bert Harbrough, grain buyer; C. E. Davidson, industrial sales manager.

The body will arrive in Decatur from St. Louis at 11:30 a. m. Sunday. Friends may call at the Dawson & Wilcox funeral home, where it will lie in state from 1:30 p. m. Sunday until noon Monday.

A. E. Staley, Jr., who succeeded the senior Staley as president of the company eight years ago, was called to Florida Saturday because of his father's serious illness. A. B. Staley, another son, flew to Florida Monday.

Had Been In Good Health  
The elderly industrialist's illness occurred unexpectedly. He had been in apparent good health while he was in Decatur during the summer and appeared at his office daily.

Although Mr. Staley was ill for a short time after a fire burned through palm trees near his Miami home in the winter of 1939 he recovered rapidly.

He had been under the care of Dr. J. M. Christie of Champaign, his personal physician, for some time, but was subject only to precautionary measures. Dr. Christie was called to Florida last Saturday and returned to Illinois Tuesday.

During the last few days while he was critically ill, Mr. Staley, characteristically, made a valiant fight and rallied several times before his death.

Staff Kept Informed  
The large staff of office and plant employees that grew as the industrialist built up a 20-million-dollar industry was kept informed regularly concerning Mr. Staley's condition during the critical period. The amiable land owner was not a friend to himself every employee. He looked at every prospect in the business as a prospective \$2,000-a-year business leader.

Although his chief interest was the business and expansion of his own industry, he also was considered a valuable member of the board of directors of the Walsh railroad.

Through the products of the company, the Staley name has become known throughout the world. Mr. Staley was a keen sportsman, both generally and in business.

Mr. Staley was an independent Democrat until 1934, when he left the party that had nominated President Roosevelt and vigorously supported Landon. His swing to the G. O. P. was announced after he talked with Landon aboard the candidate's special train from Danville to Decatur. He backed his support with a \$5,000 contribution.

It was largely through Mr. Staley's financial help that the Masonic temple was built. A few years ago the Staley family gave \$4,000 toward a diagnostic x-ray unit at the Decatur and Macon County hospital.

He was a large contributor to the Community Chest and his firm's donations since the chest was organized total more than \$75,000.

Given Two Honorary Degrees  
One of Mr. Staley's greatest interests was the grain market which he followed closely throughout his long trading career. He laughingly referred to early successes in the market as "due to a sixth sense."

Two honorary degrees were among his prized possessions. An honorary doctor of science degree was awarded him by Millikin university at its commencement last June. A doctor of laws degree was given him by High Point college, High Point, North Carolina, the previous year. A. E. Staley, Jr., accepted the High Point honor.

Staley was always open to the most humble workman in his plant and in the later years of his life he received much enjoyment walking through the factory to visit with his old friends.

#### **Elaborate Office Building**

One of the things of which he was most proud was the one million dollar Staley administrative building which he conceived. But because the protests of some of his top executives, the building has proved well-worth the cost and is well-known throughout the Mid-

It's furnishings including rugs from China and desk appointments from Tiffany's are probably the most elaborate of any building in the state Illinois.

Mr. Staley retained his characteristic traits until the end. The younger executives of the firm had a genuine respect for his opinion right up to the time of his fatal illness and often came to him for advice on matters of company policy.

One of Mr. Staley's great interests was the grain market which he followed very closely throughout his Decatur career. It was smart trading on the Chicago market which attributed to his early success here and he laughingly insisted he had a "sixth sense" concerning grain prices.

#### **Offered Market for Beans**

He is generally credited with being the most important factor in the development of the soybean industry in this country. He virtually single handed, educated farmers to the possibilities of soybeans and averse early losses, continued to offer them a market. The Staley company now is recognized as one of the largest, if not the largest, single processor of soybeans.

### **Staley Quit Democrats To Support Landon**

A lifelong Democrat until 1936, A. E. Staley in that year left the party which had nominated President Roosevelt for a second term and vigorously supported the Republican nominee, Alfred M. Lan-

Mr. Staley's swing to the G. O. P. was announced after he talked with Landon aboard the candidate's campaign train en route from Decatur to Decatur. Several other Decatur citizens interested in the Kansas governor's campaign also were aboard, including Knight Wheeler, George Hess and Edward Hayes.

"The issue is not whether we agree or disagree with our government," Mr. Staley told the group, "as long as there is assurance of continuity of policy. It is difficult to plan for future years without assurance of such contin-

#### **Contributed to Campaign**

Staley made another statement emphasizing his "highest regard and respect" for Governor Landon and declared that the nominee had "the ability to carry on the trustworthiness

### **Had Fine Homes Here and in Miami**

Back in the '90's when A. E. Staley used to visit Decatur as a starch salesman he would stroll through the residential district taking particular pleasure in a spacious home atop a hill in the west part of town.

"I always thought that it was the finest I had ever seen," Mr. Staley said in later years. "I wondered if I would ever have a chance to own one like it."

Years later he moved to Decatur. The Ennis property on College hill became vacant and, in 1913, Mr. Staley bought it for around \$20,000. He spent more than \$50,000 remodeling it.

#### **Had 26 Rooms**

Erected in the early '80's by W. J. Quinlan, the house has more than 26 rooms. It was sold to W. H. Ennis in 1881, and Mr. Ennis added the barn which the Staley later made the garage.

Hardwood was used throughout in the original construction, the floors being of walnut and oak. Much of the framework and wood work, too, is of walnut.

Its appearance was not changed materially by the Staleys. Most of the improvements made were of the interior and for the most part consisted of modernization.

Before moving into the College hill home, the Staleys, after their arrival in Decatur from Baltimore, lived in a rented house at 524 West Prairie avenue.

#### **Builds Florida Home**

In 1930, Mr. Staley went to Florida for the first time and, after that, Miami became his winter home. There he bought a three-story home erected on a built-up mango swamp. On the grounds are two additional guest houses.

Royal palms line the drive of the Florida residence and Mr. Staley also laid out a formal garden.

The Staleys frequently entertained Decatur sojourners in their Florida home. Notables, too, often were their guests. Entertained

were former Gov. James M. Cox of Ohio, the Democratic nominee for President in 1920, the late U. S. Senator James Hamilton-Lewis of Illinois, George Ade, the humorist; the mayor of Miami and other civic and business leaders of the resort state.

#### **Had Roses as Hobby**

Mr. Staley's favorite flower was the rose and there was always a red one in his buttonhole. On the "mound," which College hill is often called, there is a bush which blooms as continuously as any shrub can do in this climate, and when he acquired his Florida estate, Mr. Staley began to develop his hobby of roses on a large scale.

He set out 500 rose bushes on the grounds and during one season his gardener reported cutting more than 5,000 blooms. At the Staley office building here two roof gardens are brilliant every spring with the blooms of Mr. Staley's red and pink roses.

### **Staley Generous In Community Gifts**

Interested in the work of Decatur's social agencies, Mr. Staley was a large contributor to the Community Chest, his firm's donations since the Chest was organized totaling more than \$75,000.

It was largely through Mr. Staley's financial help that the Masonic temple was built. Of late years he had interested himself in the Decatur and Macon County hospital and, a few years ago, the Staley family gave \$4,000 toward a diagnostic x-ray unit.

# Staley in Florida Home

FATHER OF SOYBEAN INDUSTRY



AUGUSTUS EUGENE STALEY, SR.

This photograph of Mr. Staley was taken at his home in Decatur, Ga., during a drive at his home in Decatur, Ga.

was one of the last to be taken of the Decatur industrialist. It was taken especially for a special

edition of the Decatur Herald and Review soybean edition and was one of Mr. Staley's favorite pictures.

## Started Career On Farm; Father Of Bean Industry

Augustus Eugene Staley, Sr., the North Carolina farm boy who built a 20-million dollar corn and soybean processing industry in Decatur, died last night in his winter home in Miami, Fla. He would have been 74 years old in February.

Death came to Mr. Staley, at 1:30 p. m. (Decatur time). Members of the family were at his bedside.

Mr. Staley, founder and chairman of the board of A. E. Staley Mfg. Co., suffered a stroke last week and his condition became critical Christmas day.

### Father of Soybean Industry

The Decatur industrialist, whose first job was that of a railroad section hand, is generally credited with "fathering" the soybean processing industry in this country. He served as president of the Staley company from the date of its founding in Baltimore in 1887 until 1932 when he was succeeded by his son A. E. Staley, Jr.

Members of his family said Mr. Staley put up a "terrific" fight during the time he was critically ill. He was in a coma a great deal of the time.

### Parents Ruined By War

As a barefoot boy in North Carolina, the son of parents ruined financially by the Civil war, "Gene" Staley first had ambitions to become a business man.

Oddly enough, he hated farming, hated it as only a boy who has hacked at sticky clay clods on a Carolinian hillside can hate it. After his father died, young Staley, then 17, set out to fulfill his ambition to become a business man. His chief hope was to secure a job as a traveling salesman.

His first job was that of a laborer on a section gang, but within a few weeks he secured a job as a tobacco salesman for a small establishment. He worked on a commission.

Fathered Soybean Industry in U. S.

Continued from Page 1

Selling was easy for him and he was an immediate success. In addition to tobacco, his line included starch, baking powder and flavoring extracts. He also sold a few books—usually reading them while enroute to his customers.

Went to School Little

Actually these books were the only supplement to Mr. Staley's formal education gained in a few years at a country school. From the age of about 8 to 16 he attended a little country school three miles from his parents' home, about two months each winter.

It was during the years he spent peddling that he first came to Decatur, a point in his sales territory. At the time he never expected to live here.

Selling on the road, however, although he enjoyed it, was not exactly what Mr. Staley wanted. He sought a position where he could settle down, and hoped for an income of \$4,000 a year.

In his traveling, Mr. Staley had noticed that starch was easy to sell and every grocer carried it, so he set about to get into the business. He had managed to save \$1,500 from small salaries that had ranged from \$15 to \$50 a month.

Baltimore was the chosen location for his business and in a room that he rented for \$200 a year he set up a packaging outfit for starch which he bought from manufacturers in bulk form.

Kept Check for First Sale

In March of 1928, when he was 21 years of age, Mr. Staley made his first sale of his own packaged starch to a Baltimore firm. He returned the check with which the firm paid him, and the enclosed paper still is among his possessions.

The first two years were uneventful. Several times the going was slow, but he never lost heart. In the third year, however, the business prospered and he was able to pay the Baltimore firm's bill.

By the end of the year he had accumulated a good amount of money and was able to pay the Baltimore firm's bill.

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Decatur Herald

Friday, December 27, 1940.

A. E. Staley, Sr., Dies in Florida

World war, Mr. Staley, however, with his usual aggressiveness, rallied with what was probably the greatest selling job of his career and turned failure into success.

Taking \$100,000 in bonds of a company that was fast going under, he sold them to the original buyers at the firm's stock, then set to work. The plan worked and both parties were several times repaid.

Staley and more cautious men a recent year, more or less took over administration of the Staley company, but Mr. Staley never relaxed. The multitude of vice presidents, directors and other bosses always knew that he still was at the job.

Spent Winters in Florida

Each winter he went to Florida, but he made of October until the middle of May, and each winter he had a telephone bill amounting to nearly \$1,000 for calls between Decatur and Miami. Mr. Staley himself once explained:

"The boys are all right, but when they start to see those red lines they are glad to get the phone back on the job. We learn a lot from experience."

One of his last major dreams was fulfilled a little more than 10 years ago—the one million dollar administration building. It now stands as a monument to the vision of a great business adventurer.

Of English Parentage

Augusta Eugene Staley was born of English parentage on a farm near Decatur, Ga., Feb. 25, 1867. His father was William Staley and his mother, Mary Jane Ledbetter Staley. He was married to Emma Louise Staley on Dec. 14, 1898, in Balti-

# THE DECATUR REVIEW

"The Community Paper"

## A. E. Staley.

A. E. Staley represented the best in the American principle of achievement. As a young man, without fortune, he decided he wanted to manufacture starch and he built one of the finest starch plants in America and made a success of it. He pioneered in soybean processing and gave to this country a new industry and a new farm product.

It was Decatur's good fortune that Mr. Staley liked this city. His factory was a big industrial addition to the city's activities. The need of water for manufacturing forced Decatur into pioneering in municipal water supply and the creation of Lake Decatur. His soybean plant changed the farming habits in the corn belt of the nation.

Above all, Mr. Staley was a good citizen, a gracious gentleman. He was interested in the future of Decatur just as Decatur was interested in the future of the Staley business. Jovial, smiling, never pretentious, firm in his convictions, Mr. Staley won a place with all who knew him.

*Decatur Herald*  
**Editorials**

Do your automobile license buying early. The law says you must have new plates on Jan. 1.

This Old Paragraph for one would feel more optimistic if the Romanians, Bulgarians and Yugo-Slavs were Greeks.

*Dec 27, 1940*

## A. E. Staley

His biography is recited over and over again, and need not be repeated here. The stories of his personal modesty, candor and charm can be multiplied by the thousands, because every man who has met him has a characteristic, personal memory of that man.

He represented, in extraordinary degree, the great tradition of America: the tradition of unending opportunity; the possibility of success from any beginning; the glorification of success. He built his own house by creating new values—not by tearing down the house of his neighbor. The vision and the daring that made wealth for him brought well-being to tens of thousands who shared in the results of his achievement.

We are too close to him here, perhaps, to see him whole. We know him often not as the founder of a great industry, but as friend and neighbor. We know him as the big fellow who was delighted with the audience for his latest story. We call him, therefore, not as a symbol of industrial achievement, but as a man.

# A. E. Staley Became One of Most I



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The most recent picture of A. E. Staley, Sr., is this portrait painted of the industrialist in a familiar pose by Tina Costa and completed only two months ago.





ILLINOIS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1940.

Pages 9 to 16.

## Most Important Figures in Decatur



In 1909, ambitious and enterprising, Mr. Staley came to Decatur to buy a small starch plant.



Among those recognizing the industrialist's great contribution to Decatur was the location of the new plant. This was the beginning of the starch industry in Decatur.



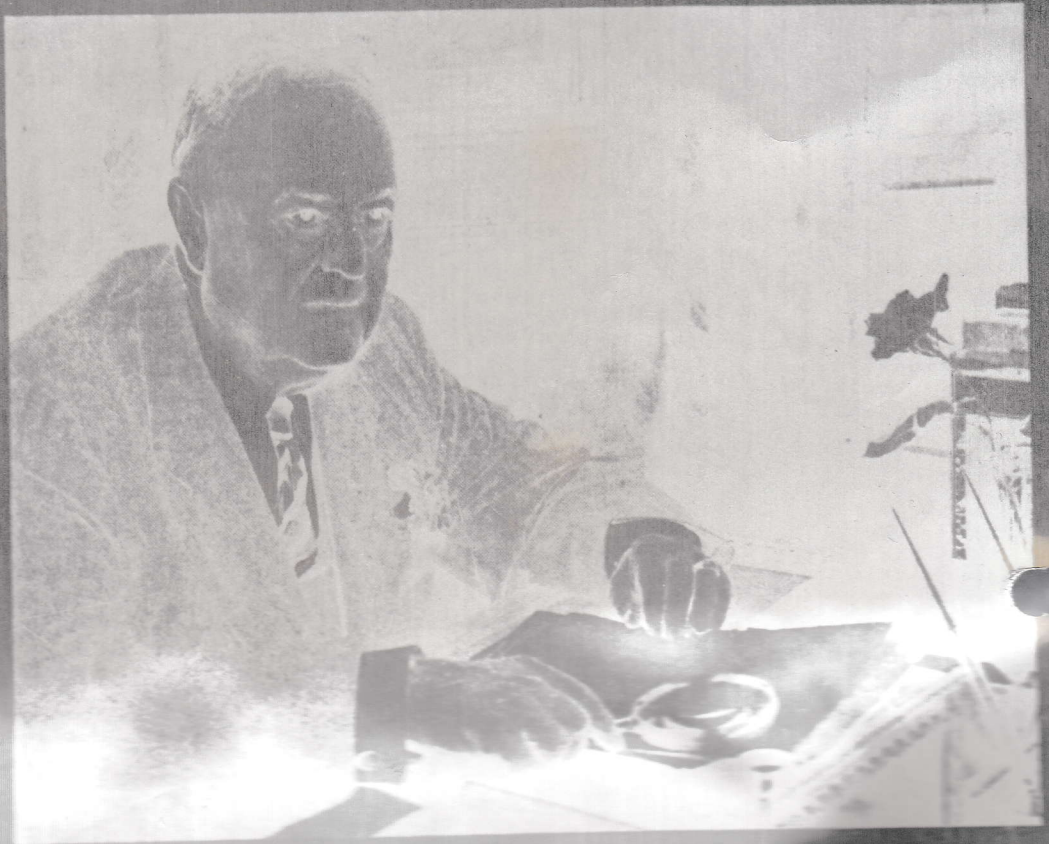
As the Decatur plant grew, Mr. Staley always planned for continued expansion. Here, he is shown wearing his customary smile.



This picture at right shows Mr. Staley the day that he announced plans

As the Decatur plant grew, Mr. Staley always planned for continued expansion. Here, he is shown wearing his customary smile.

picture of A. E. Staley, Sr., is this the industrialist in a familiar pose completed only two months ago.



This characteristic pose of the senior Staley was made during an interview in 1938, when he scoffed at the idea of re-



In 1938, at left, when the Staley vessel was completed, there was one more proud of the structure than was the man for whom it was named.

When Mr. and Mrs. Staley returned to Florida, they were photographed on the train. Mr. Staley

# Staley's Career Given Praise By Business Chiefs

## His Passing Certain to Be Felt Widely Here

Leaders of Decatur business and industry joined today with grain officials from widely-scattered parts of the country in paying tribute to A. E. Staley, Sr. Their comments follow:

**W. R. McGaughey**, president of the Millikin National bank: Mr. Staley's death is a great loss to the city of Decatur. There are many things the city enjoys today due to his foresight and aggressiveness. He was an inspiration to all with whom he came in contact. He had the rare quality of liking people and they in turn liked him.

**H. B. Gregory**, president of the National Bank of Decatur: He was one of the city's foremost citizens. I'm sure that we shall all miss his great deal.

**W. M. Archer**, of the Archer-Milford Co.: With the passing of Mr. A. E. Staley, Sr., the country has lost a capable citizen and, to those close to him, a friend and leader. His life is an example of what may be achieved by hard work and energy and should be a light beacon to others.

**Frank L. Brown**, of the Decatur Elevator Co.: Mr. Staley was a great man and a great leader and the Decatur Elevator Co. would miss his leadership and his example.

**Edw. J. Hall**, of the Decatur Elevator Co.: Mr. Staley was a great man and a great leader and the Decatur Elevator Co. would miss his leadership and his example.

**A. Everett Mueller**, president of the Decatur Elevator Co.: He will miss the great man and the great leader and the Decatur Elevator Co. would miss his leadership and his example.

in any way possible. He was a great and good man, and the members of the Fellowship club feel a personal grief in his passing.

**Charles A. Keck**, pipe fitter fireman at the Staley plant: Mr. Staley was one of the greatest men I've ever worked for. I've worked for him for 29 years. His office was open to everybody anytime you wanted to go in. If any of his employees needed help or advice, he could always get it from Mr. Staley.

**A. H. Hansen**, senior millwright fireman at the Staley plant: I haven't anything written down, see. I can only tell you how I feel. Mr. Staley was the best man I ever worked for. He treated his employer well and often asked his opinion on things. He always wanted ideas on working conditions in the plant. I've been at Staley's 22 years and he has always been the same.

**C. C. LeFevre**, of the LeFevre-Schultz & Co.: Mr. Staley was a great man and a great leader and the LeFevre-Schultz & Co. would miss his leadership and his example.

**Walter C. H. Lee**, of the Staley plant: Mr. Staley was a great man and a great leader and the Staley plant would miss his leadership and his example.

**F. M. Lamb**, of the Decatur Elevator Co.: He will miss the great man and the great leader and the Decatur Elevator Co. would miss his leadership and his example.

**E. K. Schetter**, vice president of the Staley company: I will always remember Mr. Staley as a great builder. He built dreams into practical realities. He inspired men by his own indomitable will to do worthwhile things. He has been the greatest single influence in my life and the lives of many others. A. E. Staley was a genius.

**Howard Fife**, chief chemist at the Staley plant: Mr. Staley has been an inspiration to me ever since I left school in 1912 to work for him. We all admired his leadership, his ability to make you see things straight. He had imagination. After talking to him, you couldn't help getting ideas. Everyone in the plant knew him and he was never too busy to talk to any of his employees.

**Glenn A. Moran**, president of the Staley Fellowship club: In behalf of all the members of the Staley Fellowship club I wish to extend my sympathies to the family of Mr. Staley. They have lost a wonderful father. He was a true gentleman in the true sense of the word. He was always ready and willing to help anyone in need.

## Industrialists Wire Staley Tributes

Presidents of three railroads yesterday paid tribute to A. E. Staley in telegrams received here. Adolph Mueller also wired a statement from his winter home in Miami Beach, Fla. The comments follow:

**A. P. Titus**, president and general manager of the Illinois Terminal railroad: The passing of A. E. Staley, Sr., removes one of its foremost men from the industrial scene of Illinois and of the Middle West. His career was distinguished by the integrity and broad vision that was characteristic of him. He brought to a new business the wide imagination and the untiring spirit of a true leader, and in his lifetime transformed that business into one of the nation's greatest industries. His death ends a career of extraordinary worth. His loss will be felt deeply in Decatur and the Middle West by all who knew him.

**J. L. Beven**, president of the Illinois Central railroad: Mr. Staley was more than a friend of our railroad and more than a friend of the West. He was a constructive force in Middle Western business because he was a developer of processes, looking for new crops and bigger crops providing markets for farmers and better living for us all. Stimulating production and transportation all along the line. It was a privilege to know him and to be associated with him. We of the Illinois Central shall miss him much.

**Daniel Willard**, president Baltimore & Ohio railroad: I am deeply grieved by the knowledge of Mr. Staley's death. He was an upstanding, forward-looking and mainly fair man with simple tastes. While my acquaintance with him was comparatively brief, I am enabled to recognize clearly all the qualities I have mentioned. His death will be a real loss wherever his influence has felt.

**Adolph Mueller**, chairman of the board of directors of the Mueller Co.: The passing of one of Decatur's greatest benefactors, Mr. A. E. Staley, prompts the people of this city to pause and recount his many contributions toward its welfare and progress. In the early days, Mr. Staley was a jobber of corn products and later came to Decatur to establish a factory of his own. There was always the problem of competition and other difficulties, the greatest of which was the necessary quantity of water required. Through his constant effort the Decatur dam was built which now furnishes an adequate water supply not only for the Staley plant, but for all factories in the community. Mr. Staley is a pioneer in the soybean industry and through his perseverance Decatur is now the center of this product and several million-dollar investments give employment to hundreds with good salaries. Yes, Decatur has lost a great friend.

RETURN FROM SOUTH IN '37



When A. E. Staley, Sr. returned from his Florida vacation in May 1937, he was in excellent health. He was photographed after he had greeted

old acquaintances at the plant before going to his home on College Hill. He was 78 years of age.

(Herald-Review Photo)

Pioneered Soybean Industry

Staley Leader in Getting Farmers Interested

It was under his guiding hand that the lonely soybean grower first brought his crop into one of the nation's largest crops, with billions of dollars.

Placed handful of beans "She gave me later a handful of the beans—there are larger back about a half a bushel along with her beans. Father turned them over to me to plant with."

Output Grew Enormously

"It was a slow process, and 16 or 17 years ago we had farmers in Illinois harvesting about 10,000 bushels of beans that were used for fertilizer or feed.

"Things changed in about 1922, when we started to process the beans. Even for a time after we started to process, we had trouble. We couldn't sell the products. We had to educate feeders and grain men just as we had educated farmers."

From this small start, soybean production in Illinois has grown to current proportions of approximately 45 million bushels annually, more than half the nation's production.

Was an Ardent Baseball Fan

Although A. E. Staley's first vacation was taken after he was 60 years of age, he was an enthusiastic follower of sports, particularly baseball.

During the last few years, Mr. Staley, finding himself with spare time, followed ball games by radio, a current baseball book schedule was always kept handy and showed wear and numerous pencil marks.

He was actually a fan and his favorite players always were the most colored athletes. One time during an interview on business matters, he halted the conversation abruptly with the comment:

"Dizzy Dean pitched a fine game the other day. There wasn't a man in the United States who didn't want to see him win—unless it was the nine on the other team."

At the opening of the baseball season year before last the genial industrialist named the Yankees to win the pennant and the New York team was easily successful. His favorite teams, however, were the St. Louis Cardinals and the Chicago Cubs.

It was considerably through the efforts of Mr. Staley that his company built up successful professional baseball and basketball teams for a number of years. He always took a keen interest in the competition of the clubs.

Largely Responsible For Lake Decatur

Lake Decatur's existence can be in large measure attributed to A. E. Staley.

For some 20 years the people of Decatur had considered their need of a better water supply than they had, but they had thought in terms of a supply for a city of 40,000 or 50,000. It was the great and urgent needs of the Staley company that brought plans for the present lake to a head.

The company was planning a large program of expansion but knew that the supply of water it could get in Decatur was not adequate. It went so far as to buy a

noon a meeting was held in the Decatur Club, then on the floor of the Citizens building. Present were the mayor and commissioners, members of the Association of Commerce, and other leaders of Decatur life and industry.

Preferred to Stay Here.

Those men listened to a statement by Mr. Staley. In effect, it said:

"We are located in Decatur. We would prefer to stay here. But we are going to build a plant the size of which the people of Decatur do not realize, and for it we need a large water supply. If Decatur can furnish us with the water supply we must have, we will stay here."

After that the city leaders discussed the situation. They began to think of a lake for Decatur on the scale in which Mr. Staley was thinking of a corn products plant.

The result was that the water supply company was formed which built Lake Decatur as it is today: a supply which would be adequate for a city of 150,000 people, one that will supply water for two years without rain if necessary.

Decatur was the first city in Illinois to develop such a water supply. And when it had finished, it found itself possessor of more than just a water supply. Thanks for the lake are in large measure due to A. E. Staley.

Widow of Founder Feb. 25, 1967

# Mrs. Staley Sr. Dies in Florida

Mrs. A. E. (Emma Louise) Staley Sr., 81, widow of the founder of the A. E. Staley Mfg. Co., died at 2:30 a. m. today in Miami Beach, Fla.

Since the death of Mr. Staley in 1948, Mrs. Staley lived most of the time in their home in Miami Beach, Fla. For several years before that time, Mr. and Mrs. Staley lived in Florida during the winter months.

Mrs. Staley, the former Emma Louise Thresher, was a native of Bryan, Ohio. She attended the Chicago Conservatory of Music and later continued the study of piano at Peabody College, Baltimore, Md.

The special interests of Mrs. Staley, who shared publicly with her husband, her family and her music and writing. In 1914 Mr. Staley's death, she was a constant companion and comfort to her husband, who died in the winter of that year, and she was at his bedside for the last days of his life.

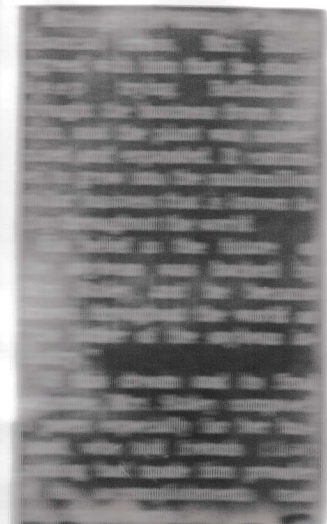
Mrs. Staley's favorite hobby was writing poetry. In the winter of 1950 she published a book of her poems entitled "The Simple Things." The book was published by the University of Florida Press. It was a collection of poems written during the years 1914 to 1950. The book was a tribute to the simple things of life and to the people who have made life meaningful.

The book was published in 1950 and was a success. It was a collection of poems written during the years 1914 to 1950. The book was a tribute to the simple things of life and to the people who have made life meaningful. It was a collection of poems written during the years 1914 to 1950. The book was a tribute to the simple things of life and to the people who have made life meaningful.

Mrs. Staley, because of her exceptional memory, could recall every word of the many things said to her throughout her life. She was a constant companion and comfort to her husband, who died in the winter of that year, and she was at his bedside for the last days of his life.

In 1948, she founded the Emma Louise Thresher Foundation at the University of Florida. The foundation was established to provide a fund for the publication of her poems and to provide a fund for the study of music.

In 1948, at the outbreak of the war, she was the business and



He dreamed, and they laughed,  
but their laugh he bore.  
He built, and they laughed,

then he builded more.  
But they do not laugh since  
they know he made

Will of the wisps become  
staunch and true.

Since they know that a cur-  
tainsone was laid

Without their wise, and with-  
out their aid.

He dreamed, and his dreams  
took goodly form.

And out of the mist a dream  
child was born.

The stars that some visions  
from Heaven sent

Take shape as a living monu-  
ment

When the heart is strong, and  
the will is bent

By using the gifts that God  
has lent.

Mrs. Staley loved the home  
where her family grew up, but  
for love of the simple things it  
reflected in another poem she  
wrote:

All though the years the sim-  
ple things have changed

Close to my heart, A little  
remembrance ever

Should be there to my heart,  
The simple things

Sweetest memory, like with  
purple and blue

In days when my old four-  
year-old

I dreamt of days to come  
when I might be

The mistress of a great estate  
I would be

And I would be with an  
army

The mistress of a great estate  
I would be

And I would be with an  
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# Staley Heirs to Get \$66 Million

By John R. Harpster

About \$66 million worth of stock of the A.E. Staley Mfg. Co. is being distributed to heirs of the late A. E. Staley Sr. under terms of a court ruling in Baltimore, Md., last month.

In the distribution five grandchildren of Mr. and Mrs. Staley Sr. will share a gross of about \$60 million, though not in equal shares.

Three children of one of Mr. and Mrs. Staley's daughters will share about \$20 million gross while two other grandchildren of another daughter and a son will receive a gross of about \$20 million each.

The stock was in three of five trusts established by the late Mr. and Mrs. Staley Sr., in 1934, for their five children.

Originally the five trusts contained 200,000 shares each of common stock of the Staley company. Following a two - for - one stock split earlier this year the five trusts contained 400,000 shares each.

The five trusts, along with two lesser ones containing 172,696 post - split shares, represented about 41 per cent of the total stock of the Staley firm.

The three trusts being distributed to Staley heirs are those created by Mr. and Mrs. Staley Sr. for A. Rollin Staley, Ruth Staley Hunt, also known as Ruth Richardson Howell, and Mrs. David Hugh (Mary) Annan.

Not yet distributed are the trusts created for A. E. Staley Jr., who died last March, and Ione T. Staley, who is the sole survivor of the five Staley

children.

Staley stock has a current value of about \$55 per share, giving the 1,200,000 shares in the five trusts a total value of \$66,000,000.

The shares in the A. Rollin Staley, Ruth Staley Hunt and Mrs. Mary Annan shares are being distributed by order of Judge Joseph C. Howard of the Baltimore City Circuit Court under a settlement reached by the heirs to them and the Mercantile - Safe Deposit &

Trust Co. of Baltimore, trustee.

Under the settlement agreement, six trusts, containing 20,702 shares of Staley stock, and two \$10,000 trusts, are to be established for minor heirs of the Staley grandchildren.

The bulk of the Mary S. Annan trust is to be distributed in shares of approximately one - third, with a value of about \$6.7 million gross each, to her children, John W. Annan, Michael S. Annan and Mary

Barbara Annan.

The bulk of the Ruth Staley Hunt trust, worth about \$20 million gross, will go to her only child, Robert E. Mueller.

And the bulk of the A. Rollin Staley trust, with an equal value, will go to his only child, Richard Seth Staley.

A court order providing for distribution of the trust established for A. E. Staley Jr. may be forthcoming in the Baltimore Court.

# Banks Named Trustee of Staley Trusts

Two Decatur banks have been named trustees of four trusts containing almost a million shares of A.E. Staley Mfg. Co. stock with a value of over \$57 million. *Oct 29, 1965*

The four trusts were among seven established in 1924 by the late A.E. Staley Sr. and his wife, Emma L. Staley, for their children.

Since the death of the elder Staleys the Mercantile-Sale Deposit and Trust Co. of Baltimore Md. has been trustee, but it has elected to resign that position for reasons not stated.

Mrs. Jane T. Staley, their only surviving child, asked in a suit filed in Circuit Court here last month that the Citizens National Bank be named trustee of her trust, containing 40,000 shares of Staley stock with a current value of about \$22.2 million.

And early this month Henry M. Staley, a son of the late A.E. Staley Sr., asked that the First National Bank of Decatur be named trustee of a 400,000-share trust established for his father, as well as two lesser trusts containing 72,000 shares of Staley stock.

The Mercantile-Sale Deposit and Trust Co. had earlier administered the three other Staley trusts, containing a total of 1,200,000 shares of Staley stock, in the name of three deceased children of the A.E. Staley Sr.

In all, the seven trusts have a current worth of almost \$58 million.

Other orders issued by Judge A.C. Werner II the Citizens National Bank becomes the trustee of the 40,000-share Jane T. Staley trust.

The First National Bank of Decatur becomes the trustee for the 400,000-share A.E. Staley Sr. trust, as well as the two lesser trusts.



# Sports in REVIEW

BY FORREST R. KYLE

## MINTUN

John T. "Jack" Mintun, 81, of 1220 E. Decatur St. died 12:05 a.m. Monday in St. Mary's Hospital. 2/24/76

Funeral services will be 10 a.m. Wednesday in Dawson & Wikoff Funeral Home, with visitation after 6 p.m. Tuesday. Burial will be in Fairlawn Cemetery. Memorials: Central Christian Church.

Mr. Mintun was born in Cisco, son of John and Etta Mintun.

Mr. Mintun was a member and deacon emeritus of Central Christian Church. He was employed by A.E. Staley Mfg. Co. for 42 years, serving for 30 years as night superintendent, retiring in 1962.

Mr. Mintun was a member of the Staley "Starchmakers" team in the early 1920s which brought the state its first professional football championship in 1921. When the team moved to Chicago and became the "Bears," Mr. Mintun chose to stay with the company in Decatur.

He was a member of the American Legion Post 105, Stephen Decatur Lodge 979 AF&AM, and was a veteran of World War I.

He married Delsie Chandler in 1924. She preceded him in death. He then married Avis Dunham in 1970.

Surviving are his wife; and brother, Lynn of Warrensburg.

A sister and two brothers preceded him in death.

# The Original Chicago Bears Lose Another Member

Another name has been erased from the dwindling list of those men who put the name of Staleys into the sports headlines when professional football was in its swaddling clothes more than 65 years ago.

Jack Mintun, who died here early Monday at the age of 81, was one of the original Staley Starchworkers — a team which George Halas coached and took to Chicago in 1921 to become the Chicago Bears.

Mintun, a native of Cisco, was the only member of that celebrated team who chose to remain with the Staley company instead of going on to Chicago when the team moved.

"Why didn't I go? This was my home," he once said, "and I worked here."

It was true that very few of the men that Halas assembled for the 1920 and 1921 teams were natives of these parts. There was Charley Dressen, who went on to become a major league manager; Leo Johnson, an all-around Millikin athlete; Ranny Young, Roy Adkins, Jake Lanum, Sid Gepford and Kile Millikin — all Millikin gridders — and likely two or three others.

Halas also enticed a flock of players from major universities such as Illinois, Notre Dame, Penn, Michigan, Nebraska, Missouri, Wisconsin, Purdue, Ohio State and Syracuse who gradually replaced most of the Decatur contingent.

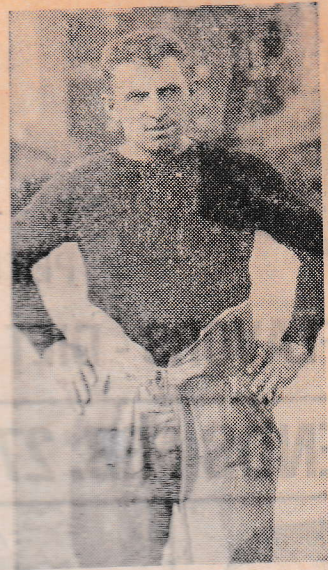
Mintun was a center on the team, sharing playing time with George Trafton, who was an all-time Notre Dame center who went on to play with the Bears for years.

Pay in those days was \$125 a game.

Halas' 1920 team won the championship of the Western Division of what then passed for a national football organization. In 1921 the team won the championship of the American Professional Football Association.

The 1921 team played its first two games at Staley Field — it's now the Staley parking lot at the corner of Eldorado and 22nd street — but Decatur simply couldn't provide enough spectators to support as expensive a team as Halas had assembled.

With the blessing of A. E. Staley Sr., plus \$5,000 from him to assure that the season would be completed, the Starch-



Jack Mintun

became the Chicago Staleys.

The next year, with no financial support from the company here, they became the Chicago Bears.

Mintun played semi-pro ball with the Decatur Indians before he went to Staleys to play.

Jack had the reputation of being one of Central Illinois' finest placekickers but, as I understand it, he did no kicking for Halas' team.

Jack didn't quit football when the team went to Chicago. He played for a Racine team in 1922-23-24 and for Kansas City in 1925 before hanging up his equipment for good.

Jack retained his robust build through the years, until surgery last year brought a drop in weight, and it wasn't hard to understand why the celebrated Jim Thorpe once said that the Staley linemen hit him harder than any other foes.

For years after he quit playing Jack looked as if he could pull on a uniform and knock a few people down.

He had a fine memory for players, too. Several years ago I was doing some research for the late Roger Treat, author of the National Football League Encyclopedia.

Treat was trying to run down the name of every blessed man who ever played in an organized pro football league and when it came to pinning down obscure names on the Staley teams for him I turned to Mintun for help. And he remembered.

And Jack will be remembered, too, as one of the original members of a famous pro football organization which has its roots in Decatur.



# Bears Born 50 Years Ago When A. E. Staley Hired Halas

By Bob Fallstrom  
Sports Editor

Forty years ago A. E. Staley hired George Halas as athletic director.

The A. E. Staley Mfg. Co. had a baseball team with Joe "Iron Horse" McGinnity of New York Giants, pitching fame as a manager. A football team and basketball team were also in operation.

Halas had been a standout athlete at the University of Illinois and for Great Lakes Naval Training Station teams during World War I.

Halas was supposed to upgrade the football team and also play shortstop on the baseball team.

Upgrading the football team was no problem. Halas rounded up quite a collection of talent. The 1920 Starchmakers won 10 games, lost one and played a scoreless tie with Akron, Ohio, in a game billed as for the "world championship."

The following November, Halas moved the Starchmakers to Wrigley Field in Chicago with a gift of \$5,000 from Staley to insure completing the season.

In 1922 Halas deflected the team "Chicago Bears." It was because the most successful in history and financially — a pro football. Papa Bear became a millionaire.

One member of the original 1920 team still lives in Decatur — Jack Wilson. He was the only player to remain working for Staley after his shift to Chicago.

Wilson, backed up George Halas at center for 1922, a great punter.

Wilson was a punter until the 1920's. He was a punter until the 1920's. He was a punter until the 1920's.

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Racine, Wis., team in 1922. Minton didn't want to leave Decatur to stay with the Bears.

He also played for Racine in 1923 and 1924 and for Kansas City in 1925.

An excellent punter, he also played a QB - good field goal in a game at Varsity. That was for the Decatur Bears. He didn't get a chance to play much for Chicago or the Bears.

The 1920 team - all Illinois State College players.

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## Dooley Hunts Passing QB; Receiving a Problem, Too

By John Clifford  
Lynch-School News Service  
Editor

Joe Dooley is looking for a QB.

Half of the Bears head coach's program has been devoted with the intent to fill strength of the quarterback position.

Joe Dooley is still looking for a QB. He is still looking for a QB.

Dooley is still looking for a QB. He is still looking for a QB.

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Joe Dooley, Decatur.

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Guy Chamberlain.

# 1925 STALEY TEAM

## Dooley Hunts Passing QB; Receiving a Problem, Too

By John Clifford  
Lindsay-Schaub News Service  
Urbana

Jim Dooley is batting 500 with God.

Half of the Bear head coach's prayers have been answered with the return to full strength of Gale Sayers, the great running back.

But Dooley is still hoping, and praying, that one of the quarterbacks on the current Bear roster will assert himself as a professional passer before the regular season opens for the Chicagoans next week in Green Bay.

Wrigley Field partisans in particular, and the professional football world in general, held its breath last November 10 when San Francisco defensive back Kermit Alexander slammed into Sayers, forcing the former Kansas Comet to the sidelines for the remainder of the season. Successful knee surgery and a will of iron have returned Sayers to the Bears at 99 per cent effectiveness.

It remains an open question whether or not an athlete ever returns to his peak following such an operation.

Even a half-healed Sayers is better than most running backs in the league. Meanwhile, Dooley has a more urgent problem — trying to decide upon a quarterback with which to open the season.

### Main Contenders

Jack Concannon and Virgil Carter are the main contenders. Kansas rookie Bobby Douglass will be tested. Veteran Rudy Bukich is listed as a player-coach.

The quarterbacks' inability to establish a consistent passing game to complement Dooley's stable of strong running backs, hampers the Bears' chances in the NFL's Central Division.

Douglass, whose blond locks and bristling attitude drew the ire of Papa Bear George Halas early in training camp, may be the answer to Dooley's heavenly thought. A left-hander who



Gale Sayers



QB Bobby Douglass

detailed Illinois in Memorial Stadium last season, Douglass provoked Halas when the Bear owner asked his rookie: "When are you going to get a haircut?" Douglass' quick reply: "When I can find a good barber."

Concannon, who fractured a shoulder in the third game last fall, finished 16th in the NFL passing department. Carter is a baby-faced Mormon who found his way to Chicago by way of Brigham Young University. The Bears caught fire under Carter who lead them to four straight victories before he fractured an ankle.

Both Concannon and Carter are rollout passers who are not scramblers. Both can throw but neither has a good arm.

### Still Needs Receiver

If Dooley finds a quarterback who can throw he is still left with the lack of a consistent receiver. Veteran Dick Gordon heads the list and he caught only 29 passes last season. Bob

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Racine, Wis., team in 1922. Minton didn't want to leave Decatur to stay with the Bears.

He also played for Racine in 1923 and 1924 and for Kansas City in 1925.

An excellent placekicker, he once booted a 58-yard field goal in a game at Wabash, Ind. That was for the Decatur Indians. He didn't get a chance to kick much for Staley's or for Racine.

The 75-year-old Minton, Staley night superintendent 30 years, retired in 1962.

Halas retired last year as Bears' coach. He's now chairman of the board.

Many of the 1920 players, including Chamberlain, Ingwersen, Lanum and Dressen, are dead.



Guy Chamberlain



Jack Minton

...and called us for the ...

In 1922 Halas christened the team "Chicago Bears." It was to become the most successful — artistically and financially — in pro football. Papa Bear became a millionaire.

One member of the original 1920 team still lives in Decatur — Jack Minton. He was the only player to remain working for Staley's after the shift to Chicago.

Minton backed up George Trahan at center for \$125 a game.

"A lot of people didn't like Halas," remembers Minton. "He has been accused of being tight-fisted. I remember he made trainer Andy Lotshaw save the soap wrappers. I always liked Halas, though.

Halas and Dutch Sternaman, who played in the backfield, were the bosses.

"Pard Pearce was the quarterback with Jimmy Conzelman (later Chicago Cardinals' coach) and Bob Koehler the other backs. Reserves included Charlie Dressen, Leo Johnson, Kile MacWherter and Jake Lanum.

"There was no platoon system, not much passing, no huddle, no linebackers. You were allowed to clip from the rear.

"In the line, Halas and Guy Chamberlain played end, Burt Ingwersen and Hugh Blacklock were the tackles and Jerry Jones and Ross Petty were the guards.

"I thought Chamberlain was the best all-around player. He was from Nebraska. How good was Halas as an end? Not as good as he was pictured, not good enough to make that all-star team of the 1920s that was recently selected. Chamberlain was better.

"We had a strong defense. The only touchdown scored against us was by the Chicago Cardinals. We lost 7-6.

"We played mostly pickup teams. The first three games were in Decatur, the others out-of-town.

"The games in Decatur didn't draw much of a crowd. A big crowd in those days was 10,000. In Rock Island they threw parts of ...

Minton ... He was ...

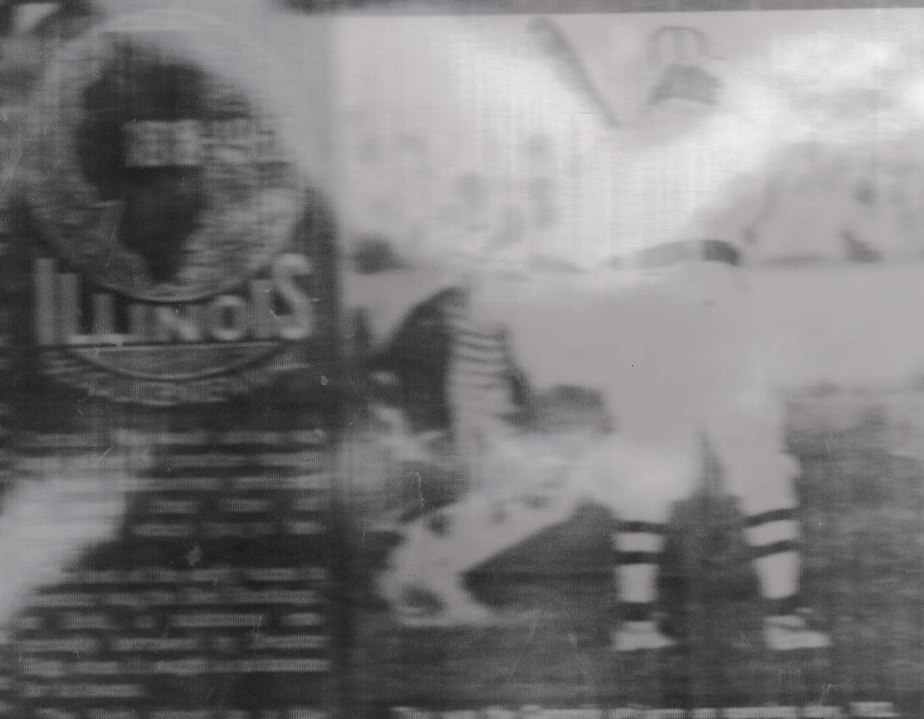
# Illinois Coach Valek Faces Year of Judgment

Horse Racing Probably First

# Baseball Dominated Early Sports Scene



The late George Smith, Center pitcher about 1912.

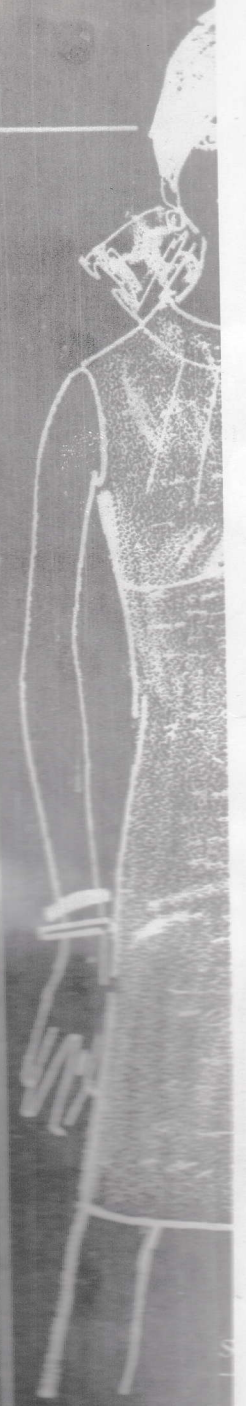


This was the Central League game in spring 1912.

The first game in a league was played in Decatur in 1881 between the Decatur team and the team from the city of Decatur. The game was a success and was the first of many to follow. The game was played on a field in Decatur and was a success. The game was played on a field in Decatur and was a success. The game was played on a field in Decatur and was a success.

The Decatur team, started the Central League in 1912. The team was successful and was the first of many to follow. The team was successful and was the first of many to follow. The team was successful and was the first of many to follow.

The Central League game in the '30s. The game was played in Decatur and was a success. The game was played in Decatur and was a success. The game was played in Decatur and was a success.



Chosen from this group, DRES... poss... Half... Petit... this

High when it sought a nickname for its team.

The Reds played on a diamond east of the Illinois Central tracks between William and North streets and was the first properly enclosed ball park in Decatur. It was built in 1880 or 1881.

One game the Reds played against Pana in 1882 almost stirred up a war between the two towns. There was much betting on the game, there were violent arguments revolving around the umpire (Charles C. Carter from Decatur) and a full-scale riot was barely averted.

**Kill The Umpire**

This headline appeared over an account of the story in the Pana Palladium:

"Experiences and Privations of a Band of Hottentots from Decatur in the Jungles of Egypt, and Their Miraculous Escape and Return to the Land of Their Fathers. A Few Words in Reply to the Puppy Carter Whose Slandorous Tongue is Steeped with Vile Infamy in His Feeble Attempt to Disrepute our Honorable Mayor E. S. Davis. Our Private Opinion of the Hoodlums and their Cranky Umpire. Publicly Expressed."

Decatur's first organized baseball team apparently was the McPherson's, named after General James Birdseye McPherson, a Union officer killed at the battle of Peachtree Creek near Atlanta.

It was customary to give baseball teams famous or fanciful names, and generals were very big just after the Civil War.

It is known that Judge William J. Johns brought baseball to Decatur. He had returned from the war, or maybe it was from college, with a knowledge of the game and organized a team.

The definite date is not known but likely was 1866. A man who recalled the team being organized left Decatur in 1867 and he figured the team had been in existence a year.

The diamond for the McPhersons was laid out by John C.M. Allison and H. Hank. The location was where, in 1923, the Wabash freight house stood.

The McPhersons could hit, for sure. A couple of practice games in 1867 were won by scores of 43-17 and 54-48 and one player, the Archer, once hit a home run which went out of the top of the diamond, through the window of a house, out a rear window and on down the road a piece.

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Decatur's second ball park was built in 1885 on the west side of Pine street at the end of West Williams, now Millikin Place. It was built by Charles Schroll, just out of high school, and Harry C. Starr, not much older.

"Capital of the firm," said the newspaper, "consisted of a large amount of nerve and unbounded enthusiasm."

The team which used the

This was the Commie uniform on opening day, 1932.

park, the Decatur Reds, started as amateurs but professionals were added when it became apparent they were needed if any games were to be won.

**First Knot-Holer**

A 16-year-old boy was arrested for cutting a hole in the park fence, thereby becoming Decatur's first homemade knot-holer.

"A screen is needed to protect the occupants of the press box from the fouls," said the newspaper.

Ball parks have changed in 83 years, and so have press boxes, but here the occupants are still ducking foul balls.

Steps were taken in 1886 for a permanent baseball organization. O.B. Gorin was chairman and directors were C.A. Ewing, Cass Cheneworth, F.D. Mueller, Theron Powers, S.D. Lyons, A.S. Kinney and L.L. Burrows.

The club was called the White Stockings, it was managed by Al Morgan and it played in the third Decatur ball park, erected on the east side of the Wabash tracks between West Main and West Wood streets.

By the next year cities in Illinois and Indiana were beginning to talk about leagues and professional ball. At the end of the 1887 season the Inter-State League was formed, consisting of Decatur, Peoria, Bloomington, Rockford and Danville in Illinois; Dubuque and Davenport, Iowa, and Crawfordsville, Ind.

By June of 1888 Decatur had

**Three-I League Formed**

thrown in the sponge and it was 12 years before the formation of the Central League brought pro baseball back to Decatur.

The Central League grew into the Three-I League (Illinois-Indiana-Iowa) and Decatur was a member of this league until it finally folded after World War II.

In the first year of the Central League Jim Jeffries, the famous heavyweight boxing champion, was brought to Decatur to umpire a game with Bloomington.

A crowd of 1,423 paid admissions and Jeffries received \$300. A reporter wrote: "It was a good game but after it was over everyone wondered what Jeffries did to earn his money."

During the more or less lull between 1888 and 1900 the Decatur Athletic Association opened a park on East William street near Jasper and two years later another was opened on North Edward near Division.

The 1894 season, incidentally, was marked by the appearance with the Decatur team (at \$5 a game) of one Joe McGinity, reportedly a sore-arm pitcher out of Kansas City. He went on to fame as a pitcher for Brooklyn when it won the world's championship in 1900. He was nicknamed Iron Man because he worked in an iron foundry in Oklahoma before embarking on a pitching career.

**Figures of Note**

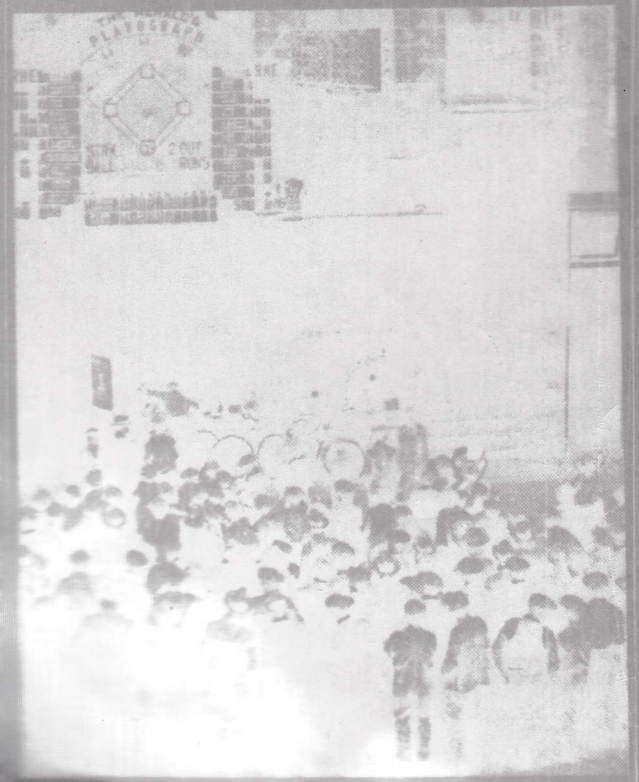
In 1919, while approaching 50 years of age, McGinity came back to Decatur and the A.E. Staley Mfg Co. to direct baseball activities. Among his players were Charley Dressen and George Halas.

McGinity was elected to baseball's Hall of Fame in 1956 and died three years later.

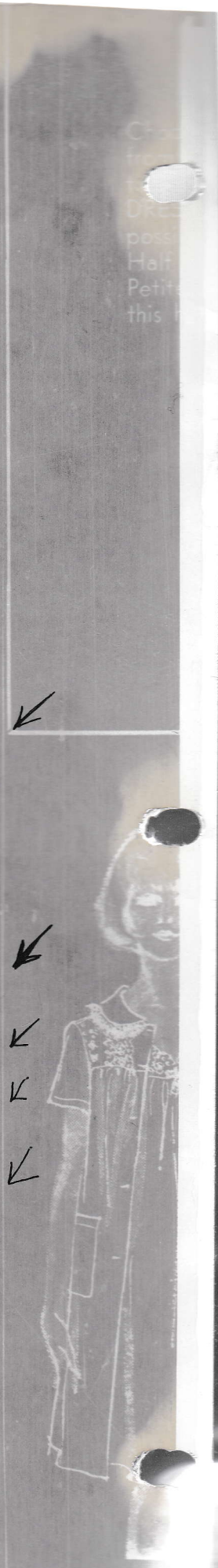
Three years ago A.E. Staley Jr., presented to the Hall of Fame at Cooperstown, N.Y., the McGinity Cup. It had been given McGinity by the 1900 Brooklyn club in recognition of his pitching and he had given it to the Staley Fellowship Club.

One other early baseball team might be mentioned, the Yellow Hammers, if only because its best player and pitcher was "Pacer" Smith.

Smith, as been recounted many times, was famous as a ball player but gained greater notoriety when he murdered his five-year-old daughter and sister-in-law and became the first man hung by his neck in Macon County. He was strung up at high noon Nov. 29, 1895.



... gives 1932 World Series action.



Some Facts - Thoughts - Records  
on the  
A. E. Staley Manufacturing Company and Football  
1919 - 1922 era

(Staley - Chicago Bear - Halas Connection)

✓ No true history of the A. E. Staley Manufacturing Company could be written without mention of the 1917-1921 era of company sponsored athletic teams.

The company, founded by A. E. Staley, Sr., in Baltimore, 1906, started its Decatur operation in 1912. The first few years were tough ones but as soon as the young company had the feel of its "feet on the ground," it began to look for ways to improve its employee relations program and means to boost employee morale.

Mr. Staley, Sr., and his general superintendent G. E. Chamberlain were both avid sport fans and both were of the opinion that one of the best ways to accomplish their purpose was through the sponsorship of good company athletic teams.

Their first venture into this project was the forming of a baseball team in 1917 under the sponsorship of the newly formed Staley Fellowship Club. It was a strong team and in its first year won the Commercial League and City Championship.

The nationally known baseball figure who played on that 1917 team was Charlie Dressen who later became a big league ball player, coach and manager and who is presently managing the Washington Senators.

For the next five years the baseball team was to grow in stature and strength. In the early 1920's it was rated one of the strongest industrial teams in the country being managed by "Iron Man" Joe McGinnity, one of the greatest of old time major league pitchers.

In 1919 the first football and basketball teams were organized. The playing personnel of these two teams were local athletes. The first football team won the Central Illinois Championship. The same Charlie Dressen who was a star of the 1919 baseball team was the No. 1 quarterback on this football team.

\* Probably written in 1962, the A. E. Staley Company's fiftieth anniversary. This copy from the A. E. Staley Mfg. Co., summer, 1946. C. Meyer

While these early teams made a good showing and had a large following, the company decided to strengthen and improve them, especially baseball and football teams. They were determined that these two teams would be among the best in the country.

In "Iron Man" Joe McGinnity they had the top industrial baseball manager in the United States.

They began to search for the right man to take over the 1920 football team. They were after a man who, by experience, was qualified to recruit, reorganize, play and coach the team.

In January of 1920 they received a tip that a young bridge engineer, then working in the Chicago area for the C. B. & Q. railroad, might be the man they were looking for. He had graduated from the University of Illinois where he had been a star, three sport man. After leaving school, he joined the Navy for service in World War I and played football, baseball and basketball with the strong Great Lakes Naval Training Station teams. He was a good baseball player, good enough to be signed by the New York Yankees. His drive, energy, pep and ambition made him a standout football star and on top of this he was a keen student of the game. He also had some experience in pro football as he played Sunday football with the Hammond, Indiana, pro team while holding down his job as bridge engineer.

The description of this prospect sounded favorable to Mr. Staley and Mr. Chamberlain. They decided on a personal interview.

The personal interview cinched the deal for all concerned. The young man was hired. His mission was to learn the starch business, play on the company baseball team, recruit, reorganize, play and coach the 1920 football team.

This young man was George Halas, present owner of the famous Chicago Bears football team. He came to work in the company's mill house on March 18, 1920.

While he was quite busy with his new job and playing a star role with the 1920 baseball team, on which he hit over 300, he was not on the job long until he started recruiting and organizing the 1920 football team.

By late August he had his team about ready to go. He had lined up top college stars from other areas. He did keep a few of the 1919 Decatur players. Included with those who stayed on were Charlie Dressen and Jack Mintun who at present is a night plant superintendent for the Staley Company.

In organizing this team, Halas did his own scouting, recruiting, and signing of players. The team was a Halas hand-picked group. Some of the better known players on the 1920 team included Guy Chamberlain, an All American from Nebraska; Jimmy Conzelman, famous Missouri star and later a famous coach; Burt Ingwersen, of the University of Illinois and present line coach for the Illinois varsity; Walter "Pard" Pearce from the University of Pennsylvania; Edward "Dutch" Sternaman of the University of Illinois and big George Trafton, one of Notre Dame's all time great centers. Other stars signed were Andy Feichtinger of Portland, Ranney Young of Decatur and Millikin University, Hugh Blacklock of the Michigan Aggies, Ross Petty of Illinois, Jerry Jones of Notre Dame, Roy Adkins, another Decatur and Millikin University star, Hub Shoemake of Illinois, Henry Shank of Illinois, Jake Lanum of Millikin and Illinois, Bob Koehler of Northwestern, Walter Veach of the 1919 Staley team and Kile MacWherter of Millikin. And he even drafted Paddy Driscoll, now coach of the Bears, for a game. Paddy at that time was a member of the Chicago Cardinal football team.

Halas' team played their first game of the 1920 season at Staley field in Decatur on Sunday, October 3, before 2,000 fans. They won this game defeating the Moline, Illinois, Tractors by a score of 20 to 0.

It was evident to the 2,000 fans who watched the Halas coached Staley team that he had assembled a real group of all star, big name football players. In their first game few mistakes showed up, but everyone agreed that if Halas could organize this group of stars into a smooth football machine, he would have one of the top teams of the nation.

That he was able to do this is proven by the record the 1920 team established.

They played 13 games, won 10, tied 1 and lost 2 (both losses were later avenged).

They climaxed their season by tying the Akron, Ohio, Indians and by so doing cinched the title of Western Division Champs of their league. They won this title at Cub Park on December 4 before 11,000 fans. The game ended in a 0 to 0 tie.

The team's overall record for the 1920 season was:

1.	Staleys	20	Moline	0
2.	Staleys	27	Kewanee	7
3.	Staleys	7	Rock Island	0
4.	Staleys	10	Chicago Tigers	0
5.	Staleys	29	Rockford	0
6.	Staleys	20	Champaign	0
7.	Staleys	28	Hammond, Indiana	7
8.	Staleys	0	Rock Island	7
9.	Staleys	3	Minneapolis Marines	0
10.	Staleys	6	Chicago Tigers	0
11.	Staleys	6	Chicago Cardinals	7
12.	Staleys	10	Chicago Cardinals	0
13.	Staleys	0	Akron	0 (Championship game)

From the standpoint of points scored, "Dutch" Sternaman was easily the outstanding player of the 1920 season, scoring 98 points out of a total of 164. During the season he contributed a total of 14 touchdowns, accounting for three in the same game on four different occasions. In addition to this, he was responsible for two goals after touchdowns and four place kicks.

The season was a profitable one for the players. Each regular received \$2,200 for three months work on the gridiron, which was a nice sum in those days. They were the highest salaried pro team in the country.

The 1920 football team did not prove to be a profitable venture for the Staley Company from a financial standpoint, and at the close of the season the auditing department records showed a net loss of \$14,406.36.



After the season closed, the football team surprised company officials by holding a players banquet for them. This was staged at the St. Nicholas hotel on Friday, December 17. Andrew Hemingway "Windy" Lotshaw, Staley baseball player and trainer for the football team, acted as MC. (Windy later became famous as a trainer with the Chicago Cubs and Bears.) He called on everyone. All the players had nice things to say about their teammates, their coach and the company they had been representing.

Mr. Staley spoke of the pleasure he had received from following the work of the team, especially during the period when his mind was heavily taxed with business matters. He told of being approached by one of the officials of the Chicago Cubs baseball club who suggested the possibility of the Staley team using Cub Park as their home grounds next season. He also expressed his strong desire to have even a better team in 1921.

These words from the big boss, that he wanted even a stronger team, was music to the ears of player-coach Halas. While he believed he had fielded a strong club in 1920, he wanted an even stronger team in 1921. Mr. Staley had no sooner finished talking than go-getter Halas was making plans for next year.

He knew he had a few players who were quitting of their own accord to go into other businesses. He also knew where the team needed strength and began to figure how many of the 1920 players he would call back for another season.

By summer time of 1921 he had his team just about all set in his mind. First lining up the holdovers from the 1920 team who wanted some more football and whom he wanted back, he began to replace the missing players with even bigger stars from the universities of the nation.

He signed eleven new men. They were All American "Chic" Harley, one of the nations greatest halfbacks, and his two teammates from Ohio State, quarterback Pete Stinchcomb and the great lineman "Tarzan" Taylor. From Purdue University, he signed Kenneth Huffine and George Bolan, both top grade fullbacks; Russell Smith from the University of Illinois; Ralph Scott, an All American from the University of Wisconsin and Lou Usher from Syracuse.

Many fans of today know of Halas' ability to pick an unknown player from some small college and have him make good. He has had several such players in the last twenty years.

He was at this as early as 1921 when he signed these players who were not known outside their own area. They were: Harry Englund, whose football experience had been at high school in Rockford, Illinois, and a couple years with the Rockford semi-pro team; Richard Barker from little Ames College; and Nelson Rupp from the small school of Dennison.

By late summer of 1921, Halas felt certain he had lined up a football team that could hold its own with the best in the land. Was he right? Just look at the record.

1.	Staleys	35	Waukegan	0
2.	Staleys	14	Rock Island	10
3.	Staleys	16	Rochester, New York	13
4.	Staleys	7	Dayton, Ohio	0
5.	Staleys	20	Detroit, Michigan	0
6.	Staleys	21	Cleveland, Ohio	7
7.	Staleys	6	Buffalo, New York	7
8.	Staleys	20	Green Bay, Wisconsin	0
9.	Staleys	10	Buffalo, New York	7
10.	Staleys	10	Canton, Ohio	0
11.	Staleys	0	Chicago Cardinals	0
WON		9	TIED	1
			LOST	1

Won the championship of American Professional Football Association

This was the first Illinois team ever to bring the National Pro Championship to Illinois.

Halas had done what few thought he could do. With the backing of Mr. Staley, Sr., he had organized a team for the 1921 season that was better than the 1920 eleven. In fact, as it turned out, they were the best in the country.

The team played the first two games of the 1921 season at their old stamping grounds, Staley Field. On Sunday, October 2, they defeated Waukegan American Legion by a score of 35 to 0. The second (and last game they were to play at Staley Field) drew 4,000 fans, the largest crowd ever to watch a football game in Decatur. In this game they defeated Rock Island 14 to 10.

In the meantime talks had been going on between Mr. Staley, Halas and others as to the possibility of moving the team to Chicago. There was a question as to whether Decatur was large enough to support such an expensive undertaking as a professional football team. There were other considerations, but this was the main factor in the final decision made in early October to move the team to Chicago.

The 1921, November issues of the Staley Journal carried this announcement:

#### TEAM MOVES TO CHICAGO

"The 1921 football squad moved to Chicago a few days after the Rock Island contest (October 10) and the players are quartered at the Blackwood's Apartment Hotel, 4414 Clarendon Avenue.

"The move was deemed advisable for the best interest of the team which can now practice daily on its own playing field, the Chicago National League baseball park, which should give it considerable advantage in being familiar with ground and light conditions."

The team made its Chicago debut as a Chicago team before 7,500 fans on Sunday, October 16. In their first game before the new "at home" fans, they defeated Rochester, New York, by a score of 16 to 13.

While the team had now transferred its home base to Chicago, it of course continued to play under the Staley name. It was known as "Chicago Staleys." Mr. Staley had given Halas \$5,000 when the team moved to insure the season being completed. Halas will tell you today that this \$5,000 was the "life saver" that permitted him and his team to go on.

Bear in mind that at this time a crowd of 10,000 was considered a large one. While salaries were nothing like they are today, the expenses of operating a pro team were big so the \$5,000 was a life saver.

At the end of the 1921 season Mr. Staley, Sr., decided to withdraw his company's sponsorship. With his best wishes, Mr. Staley turned the team over to Halas.

Halas was one of the few men in the country who at that time could vision a great future for professional football. He was not long in deciding to go on. Taking "Dutch" Sternaman in as a partner, they began to organize and lay plans for the 1922 season.

Early in 1922 a contract was signed to again use Wrigley Field. Because this was the home of the Chicago Cubs baseball team and was to be the home base for the Halas crew, he decided to name his team the Chicago Bears.

✓ So the Staley team of 1921 became the Chicago Bears of 1922. The Bears were born and "Papa Bear" Halas was on his way.

We will not take the space here to write about the past 33 year history of Halas and his Chicago Bears, not only from a space standpoint, but because of the fact that it is not necessary. Most any sport fan in the nation knows how successful the Bears have been. While the early years of the Bears, and professional football, were a struggle from a financial standpoint, the team also had its problems in getting newspaper sport sheets to give it and its games space and to convince certain college football people that the pro game was not out to kill college football.

It's true that professional football and the Bears were not on solid ground in 1922-23. Halas never lost sight of his goal - to help establish a good strong league and to give Chicago fans a winning pro football team and a sound financial organization. That he has done this is a fact known by all. He has taken his team from one that was lucky if they drew a crowd of 10,000 to the place where it is a usual occurrence for them to sell a half million dollars worth of advance tickets before the season even opens, as early as July 1.

It's interesting to know what these 1920 and 1921 Staley football players are doing today (8-1-56). We tried to locate all of them to find out. While we were not able to run all of them down, we did secure the following information:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title Or Occupation</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>City &amp; State</u>
Roy S. Adkins	Vice President & General Sales Mgr.	North American Cement Corp.	New York City
Richard W. "Dick" Barker	Representative	Curtis Publishing Company	State College, Pennsylvania
B. Guy "Champ" Chamberlain	Head of Swine Div.	Nebr. State Reformatory	Lincoln, Nebr.
James "Jim" Conzelman	Vice President	D'Arcy Advertising Company	St. Louis, Mo.
Charles "Chuck" Dressen	Manager	Washington Senators	Washington, D.C.
John L. "Paddy" Driscoll	Head Coach	Chicago Bears Football Club, Inc.	Chicago, Ill.
Harry C. "Skin" Englund	Receiving Clerk	Mattison Machine Works	Rockford, Ill.
Andrew J. "Andy" Feichtinger	Plumber	Bick Plumbing Co.	Coos Bay, Oregon
George S. Halas	President	Chicago Bears Football Club, Inc.	Chicago, Ill.
Charles "Chic" Harley - (Hospitalized)			
Lennie L. "Hi" High	Building Aid Safety Inspector	City of Los Angeles	Los Angeles, Calif.
Kenneth Huffine	Vice President & Senior Officer	Johns-Manville Corporation	New York City
Burton A. "Burt" Ingwersen	Football Coach	U. of I.	Champaign, Ill.
Leo T. Johnson	Head track coach & Chief football scout	U. of I.	Champaign, Ill.
Ralph L. "Jake" Lanum	Supervisor Refining Div.	Cities Service Oil Company	East Chicago, Ind.
Kile MacWherter	Landman	Ohio Oil Company Pipe Line Dept.	Martinsville, Illinois
John T. "Jack" Mintun	Night Supt.	A. E. Staley Mfg. Company	Decatur, Ill.
Walter I. "Pard" Pearce	Director of Physical Education	Central High School	Providence, R. I.
Manley Ross Petty	School Teacher	Crete - Monee School District	Crete, Ill.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title Or Occupation</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>City &amp; State</u>
C. Hubbard "Hub" Shoemake	Salesman	Rol-Dex Equip. Co.	Washington, D. C.
Edward "Dutch" Sternaman	President	Sternaman Oil & Supply Co.	Chicago, Ill.
Gaylord R. "Pete" Stinchcomb	Owner & President	Rae Columbus, Inc.	Columbus, Ohio
J. L. "Tarzan" Taylor			Chicago, Ill.
George E. Trafton	Real Estate Salesman, Manager	Jim Williams Co.	Los Angeles, Calif.
William Walter Veach	President	U.A. Local Union 659, Plumbers & Steamfitters	Monroe, Louisiana
Randolph "Ranny" Young	Machinist	Southern Pacific Railroad	El Paso, Texas

The following players are deceased: Hugh Blacklock, George Bolan, Sid Gepford, Jerry Jones, Robert Koehler, Andy Lotshaw, Walter C. "Red" May, Nelson Rupp, Ralph Scott, Russell Smith and Lou Usher.

The players who could not be located are: Bachmaier, Clark, Henry I. Shank, and A. Smith.

Yes, "Papa Bear" Halas and his Chicago Bears are a real live success story.

Would all of this been possible without Mr. A. E. Staley, Sr., and his company? Halas would be the first to tell you that because of them there is a Chicago Bear team today with George as head man.

So while Halas deserves all the credit heaped on him for building the Bears into the strongest organization in pro football, we must not forget the man who made it all possible, Mr. Augustus Eugene Staley, Sr., founder of the company that carries his name and who this year is celebrating its 50th anniversary.

We know of the fond memories and kind feelings Halas has for Mr. Staley and his association with his company. As long as he lives, he will never forget or cease to be thankful that Mr. Staley lured him off that engineers job back in 1919.

As we look forward, we can see nothing but good years ahead for "Papa Bear" and his team. One thing is certain. As long as Halas remains active in the management of his organization, it can't help to continue to succeed.

The Staley Company, soon ready to embark on its 51st year, looks forward with optimism for another fifty years of growth and progress. As they move along, they wish only the best for their former employee and football coach, George Halas. *Written in 1962?*