

(N.B. - Vocabulary development is necessary in the following writings inasmuch as content was written for general information.)

OAK CREEK -- THE CITY, ITS HISTORY

W. J. Mountin

We live in the city of Oak Creek. What do we mean by the title city of Oak Creek? How did Oak Creek become a city? What kind of government does our city have? How does the government serve us? These are questions that citizens of the city of Oak Creek should ask themselves. Likewise, students studying our community in the schools must become better informed about the city in which they live in order to become better citizens when they assume the responsibility of membership in the community. (This study can apply to students who live in the city of Franklin, because Franklin is a city just like Oak Creek; but, for purposes of our study, we are describing the city of Oak Creek.)

In order to answer the questions that we ask about our city, we should read about its history back to the days when it was a township and then when it became a city and how Oak Creek as a city has developed. We will look at our city in the following ways:

1. Its History
2. Its Government
3. Its Geography

First, we will look at the history of the community of Oak Creek. (We refer to the delightfully written "History of the Oak Creek Township" by Mrs. Meyer.)

When the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 was established, it provided for the manner of government of all the territories of which Wisconsin was to be a part (read about the Northwest Ordinance in your American history book).

As parts of the territory became states, these states were divided into counties which were further divided into areas called townships. The surveyors who came measured the land so that it was easy to distribute the land to the settlers when they moved into Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio. The surveyors laid out the measurement of land into squares, 6 miles on each side or plots of 36 square miles. Each township was then divided into 36 squares, each one mile long and one mile wide. Each square became known as a section of land. When the settlers came, they found a section of land or part of a section which they wished to buy from the government. This is the manner in which land was distributed in the Northwest Territory. When you look at a map of Wisconsin that shows the townships and counties, you won't find perfect townships 6 miles square because of the rivers and lakes which become the borders of some of the townships or counties. (Look at the map of Oak Creek or Franklin to see how these townships are almost square.)

As the townships became settled with people, it was necessary to build roads. The federal government required settlers to follow the section lines when they built the roads and that the owners of property on each side of the section line share in providing land for the road right-of-way. Some settlers wished to buy only a quarter section of land or 640 acres, so it was necessary to divide each section into smaller pieces of land until the plots of land were the size settlers wished to buy. Along these roads villages or cities grew. As the land was divided, the roads became streets and the plots of land were divided into lots. Wisconsin became a state in 1849 and began to take over the responsibility of distributing land. Early land settling was known as homesteading. Of course, as the population grew the county and the township governments began to play an important role in establishing schools, roads, right-of-ways for the railroads, collection of taxes, and many more

services. This is part of the story of how Oak Creek was formed as a township and the way it looks today when we examine a map of the city. When you examine the map of the city, you also see some roads such as Highway 32, or South Chicago Road, twisting and turning rather than following a section line. I wonder why?

When you examine a map of our city, you will find that how we described the forming of a township is the way Oak Creek was established (show a map of the principal streets and section lines for Oak Creek). Notice the checkerboard of streets; and, if you measure, you will find that these are squares, although not perfect. A study of the geography of our city will tell you why some of the streets were not formed to create a perfect checkerboard (place second transparency over the first transparency to see the formation of streets and other roads). See where South Chicago Road is. Then notice how the city grew and became settled by nonfarmers or residences of city people. These local roads were placed the way they were for what reasons? Notice how the city's newest road, I-94, was built as much in a straight line to the city of Milwaukee through Oak Creek as possible. The land for this highway was acquired in the last 15 years so does not follow the history of our community. You can do something else with the map of the city of Oak Creek. You can measure distance along the principal highways and streets if you remember that those roads are one mile apart. For example, it is one mile from College Avenue to Rawson Avenue, one mile from Rawson Avenue to Drexel Avenue, etc. Likewise, it is one mile from Highway 41 to 13th Street, etc. You may also learn the numbering system which we use to find the location of our homes today, such as the address for Oak Creek Junior High School which is 9330 South Shepard Avenue. The numbering system for Milwaukee County begins east and west at Howell Avenue and north and south at the Kinnickinnic River approximately (in the city of Milwaukee). Then our numbering continues

from these points either east or west, north or south (see transparency for the numbering system for residents in the city of Oak Creek and Franklin).

As we look back over what we have just read, we notice that this shows how a community grows. We started as a large territory and then, by land measurement, we divided this area so that people could acquire land for settling as the settlers moved westward across our great country. We also see that this division of land provided for setting up units of government and a proper distribution of land; but we next see that, as communities change from farming to cities, the division of land is being divided from acres to blocks and from roads to streets. Here is a question to think about: Will all of Oak Creek be divided into streets some day?

HISTORY OF THE OAK CREEK TOWNSHIP

By Mrs. Alfred J. Meyer

Starting from the Wilderness in About 1835

On a bronze tablet affixed to a stone marker on the east side of North Chicago Avenue, a short distance north of College Avenue, is the first indication that we have been able to find of visits of white people in this area which was later the village of Oak Creek. The inscription on the bronze tablet reads as follows:

Green Bay Road
Pioneer Road
Chicago to Green Bay
Established by the Federal Government of 1832

Some three years later, in the summer of 1835 to be exact, white people passing along this road (first known as the Military Road because it was laid out by the federal government for the transportation of military supplies) stopped along this road, supposedly in this section, to make their homes and start the first white settlement for this community. Some of them brought their families.

In 1836 the settlement became more active. In that year came James McCreedy, Joel Hayman, Thomas and Luther Rawson, John G. Haight and several others. The base of their supplies was, at this time, Milwaukee. Considering the state of roads and also early means of transportation, perhaps by oxen and crude carts and, in many cases, afoot, it seemed a long way off indeed to go for their food and supplies.

By 1842 there had perhaps not been more than forty families located within the limits of Oak Creek or Oak Creek Village. There is marked on the old map a depot and A. J. Grover's store. Sometime later, though, there were no platted villages; there was a saw mill, a post office, and a store or two, and a number of somewhat comfortable residences in the township of Oak Creek.

Description of Oak Creek Township
Quotations from an Atlas Dated 1878

This section was the last of the civil divisions of Milwaukee County to assume an independent position of the "powers that be" among the other townships surrounding Milwaukee. It was separated from Lake township by the authority of the county commission about 1841. The boundaries of Oak Creek were as follows:

On the north by College Avenue
On the south, Racine County
On the east by the Great Lake Michigan
On the west by Franklin township

This made its southeast corner the most easterly portion of the county, about 160 acres of it being Section 31-Town 5-Range 23 East as the lake extends about 4 miles outward at this point. See map.

The sale in this township began in October of 1838, about four years after the sales in some other parts of Milwaukee County. Of those purchasing land during the first year, some were Jasper Dibley, Luther Rawson, Joel Higgins, John Quincy, G. Carpenter, and George A. Cobb.

A large number of claims had been occupied before this, as early as 1835. Among those folks were Joseph Dibley, Elkanah Dibley, Moses Rawson, Jasper Fowle, Joel Higgins and a few others located in the northeast part. Some brought their families with them.

In 1836 the settlement became more active. In that year came James McCreedy, Joel Hayman, Thomas and Luther Rawson and John Haight, to name just a few.

There were financial discouragements in 1837 and 1838 which did retard the settling of this new township to quite an extent so that by 1842 there were not more than some forty families within its limits.

The first town meeting was held on the first Tuesday of April in 1842 at the home of Mr. J. J. Mason with Asa Kinney as moderator. At this first

meeting it was voted not to fix the salaries of officers until after the election. Also, it was brought up at this first meeting that Luther Rawson have the power to use all necessary means to keep the dogs from disturbing any meetings held at the schoolhouse hereafter. When came the election, it was formally recorded that Luther Rawson had received six votes for "dog whipper".

After closing the polls, it was voted to pay the town officers \$1.00 a day and \$1.25 for school purposes and that all fines be not less than \$1.00 nor more than \$10.00. The fines were to be collected by a "justice of the peace". Half of this was to go to the complainant and the other half to the commissioner of roads or highways. The officers elected at the first meeting were:

Supervisors: E. D. Phillips, Chairman
George Cobb and Jeremiah McCreedy, Members or
Side Supervisors
William Shaw, Town Clerk
Leonard Stockwell, Treasurer
Leonard Stockwell and Asa Howes, Assessors
Commissioners of Highways: George Cobb and Jonathan Leonard
Commissioners of Schools: Asa Kinney and Edward Phillips
Fence Viewers: L. Stockwell, Luther Rawson and Jarvis Chadwick
Constable and Collector: John J. Mason
Sealer of Weights: John Fowle

At the meeting the following year after 1843, there were but 47 votes cast; and, as late as 1846, a town meeting voted but \$60 for the annual pay of the officers and contingent expenses that might come during the year. They voted for the support of paupers but \$25.

The names of some of the early leading settlers found in the old atlas were many family names still familiar in this area; to name a few, Bethel, Baetke, Dittmar, Fink, Fowle, Franke, Guenther, Goelzer, Joerg, Hayman, Hess, Honadel, Joerres, Kolbow, Leonard, McCreedy, Maass, Haas, Rawson, Schmidt, Schauer, Frieschmann, Hauerwas, Vanselow, Mahr, Meyer, Arsand, Zimdars, McDonald, Wohlust. Many of the earlier settlers either discontinued or moved away at the time of these first records.

Earliest Railroads

The Chicago Milwaukee and Green Bay Road was built in the fall and winter of 1854 and 1855. The first train passing over this new railroad went through on February 1, 1855. This section on the map was then called the Milwaukee Branch of the Chicago and North Western. This railroad went through the Luther Rawson farm. The first depot was located at the intersection of Chicago Road crossing the Chicago and North Western road and was then called Oak Creek Depot. There was no other record. In early years, there was a depot on this railroad at the border of Racine and Milwaukee counties. This depot was called the County Line Depot. Later, about the year 1902 or 1903, a second line of this North Western Railroad was built to the west between Nicholson and Howell Roads to be used as a freight line only.

The Chicago Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad is now called the Milwaukee Road. It was on May 15, 1872, that land was purchased from the Goelzer family in Oakwood Village for the building of the railroad. At that time this first railroad was called "The Wisconsin Union Railroad". A single track at this time, it lay to the west of the village with the depot located at the Oakwood spot. A new double track was built on August 30, 1906. This track was located on the east side of Oakwood Village. The depot was then moved to the new double tracks where the operators, William Smith and Nick Mitchell, served for many years. The farm women and others who lived along the new tracks being built often boarded and fed the men working on that project. At that time, all the building of tracks was dependent on men and mule power, if you please. Thus, it took many a weary day to build this railroad, the Chicago Milwaukee and St. Paul.

Besides the Oakwood depot there was Lake Station where folks could board trains to go to Milwaukee to spend a day. A new milk train also was an event and a convenience. Do you remember?

Post Offices

Klondyke: It was told to me by Mrs. Edwin Hauerwas that her grandfather Mr. Raash, who lived at the corner of Drexel and 13th Street with Gus Borchardt, was the first man in Oak Creek to go to the railroad crossing on Drexel "to pick up the mail bag" as it was tossed from the train and to bring it to the post office called Klondyke where folks came long distances to get their mail and, later, perhaps their weekly newspaper. His grandson Arthur Borchardt was sent to pick up the mail bag later on.

Paynesville: A post office also was set at Duerr's Tavern on Kilbourn Road which served this area of Oak Creek. A man called a postman would go to Oakwood Station and bring the weekly mail; folks would call for it at the Paynesville Post Office.

Oakwood: As the mail bags were tossed from the passing train, they were taken down to the prevailing post office either on the north side, Studer's Store, or on the south side, the Goelzer place. It all depended on whether it was a Republican or a Democratic administration. There you got money orders, stamps, and post cards for one cent and up.

Somewhat later came the Rural Free Delivery (R.F.D.). I understand each route to be a 25 mile circuit and of about 100 families. Among those early carriers were Louis George, Joel Hayman, Frank Grover, Frank Meyer, and Henry Gutknecht. Mr. Leo Joerg was postmaster for many years.

Carrollville: The first postman was Mr. Frank Gassenhuber, grandfather of Alois Gassenhuber. He would go to the Paynesville Post Office, the residence of Otto Duerr -- Mr. Duerr had already picked up the mail at the Oakwood Depot -- and would bring it to Carrollville where folks would come to pick up their mail. The first postmasters were Mr. Martin O'Herrin and Mr. Denison. Mrs. Loretta Takach then served as postal clerk and as postmistress from 1928 to 1960, retiring after 32 years of service.

Villages

As far as I could find there were but two villages in the town of Oak Creek. They were Carrollville, located on the North Western Railroad near Lake Michigan, and the village of Oakwood, located on Oakwood Road between South 13th Street and Howell Road.

Industries

In the early years, there were some five plants located in Carrollville employing many people. They were the United States Glue Company, the Galaway Coke Company, the American Tar Products, the Hydro Carbon Company, and the Lake Side Distillery of Carrollville of which a Matt Hamas was in charge. Farmers came from far and wide with great large barrels on horsedrawn wagons to haul feed for their cattle. This feed was a by-product of the whiskey made at this distillery. Every morning there would be a long caravan of the huge barrel wagons coming down the often muddy roads. The cattle ate this hot, fragrant, and juicy food fresh from the distillery with great relish.

In Oakwood there were a number of industries which started with the post office. First, there were two large buildings, Henry Studer on the north side and the Goelzer family on the south side. The Goelzer building housed the residents of the Goelzer family on the second floor. The first floor was a tavern at one time, a butcher shop, and a part time post office.

The Henry Studer place was a large general store. The old-fashioned tavern had large pool tables and card tables about where the men played a few games when the wives did their shopping for groceries, dry goods, and material for a new dress or apron. The families' living quarters were on the floor above, and the third floor housed the Grand Ballroom with side waiting rooms, etc. Many delicious meals were served on the second floor

dining room. This was truly a "tri-level" home in every sense of the word. The Otto Davis Company was a well drilling industry for many years. The Hoppe Meat Company located in Oakwood was in business for many, many years. There was a large lumber yard owned by Henry Rothe. Later it was run by Walter Orth.

Also, there was a creamery built in July, 1902, which is still standing. Among those early butter makers were first a Mr. Hansen and later Mr. Albert Borme.

An industry not to forget About one-half mile west of Oakwood Village was a well-known saw mill operated by William Schumacher and his four sons, William, Herman, Emil, and Ernest. Farmers brought their logs from the woodlands to be sawed into lumber, piled, and seasoned before being used by folks for houses and barns. It was a large setup. These brothers also owned a threshing machine complete with steam engine and water wagon, and they did custom work for the farmers in the area.

Gus Borchardt at Klondyke had a blacksmith's shop and was an implement dealer. The common machines of that time were the sulky plow, grain seeder, binder, etc. Wagon makers were Leo Goetch on Kilbourn Road and Carl Koehne.

By and large, farming was the main industry. A farmer had to know many trades to help him succeed in his life.

Transportation

For heavy hauling, I would imagine some oxen and heavy carts were used in the earliest woodlands. Horses came into use about the early 1840's. Teams of horses drawing heavy wagons became popular. These wagons were later called lumber wagons, and they really did lumber along as many of us can attest. We broke no speed laws either. They were used mostly to haul produce from farm to city and to bring feed for the livestock.

For light travel came the popular spring buggy or spring wagon, with one or two seats, used to go visiting among friends and neighbors and for the women to do their weekly food and supply buying that was not available on the farm.

A new era came with the event of the new-fangled top buggy. How proud were those owners to go riding with a snappy horse and buggy to visit friends and relatives. You could make 20 miles in only four hours. Or a young man would use it to call on his sweetheart to go "a courting". If you happened to be in higher society, there came the famous "surrey with the fring on top" with a high stepping team of horses.

Sports

Sports of that time may largely have been horseshoe playing, some nine pins games, croquet for women and girls for out on the lawn, and perhaps baseball. I do not know how far back baseball was played. However, in the early 1900's there was the Oakwood baseball team who played for some 18-20 years at the Meyer's sheep pasture against teams from throughout the area. The men on the Oakwood team were from this area. Later Edward Hoppe led a team of younger men. They also played for quite a few years.

In the fall of the year came the popular shooting matches and poultry raffles sponsored by local tavern keepers.

In winter months pool playing was a popular sport which only men played then. The pool tables were mostly at taverns, and, of course, not a lady could enter therein. The game of "66" was a popular card game for the older men. When the men did take the ladies for a treat of soda water, they were served in the waiting room reached only by the ladies' entrance.

Early Schools

In 1840, a school house for District Number 1 (in the northeastern part of Oak Creek and South Milwaukee) was started but, for lack of funds, was left unfinished. School was held in the log home of William Shaw. In 1871, there was a two-story brick school erected at 10th and Rawson which later burned to the ground. There was in those early years another school for District Number 2, located on Rawson and Nicholson Road, called Rawson School which stood for many years. The school was called Rawson for Luther Rawson who donated the land.

Otjen School District Number 4: located on South Chicago Road between Ryan Road and Drexel Avenue.

Green Lawn School District: built during the early 1840's.

Oakwood Road School: built on Oakwood Road near Nicholson Road.

Scanlan School: located on Chicago Road south of Oakwood Road. This school was built on the L. Scanlan farm.

Hillside District: located on Ryan Road near Howell Avenue.

Berka School: named for Mr. Berka who gave the land to build the school on. This school was later called the Hickory Grove School. It was located on South 13th Street between Puetz Road and Drexel Avenue.

The Kilbourn School District: was located on South 27th Street between Rawson and Drexel. It was a joint school for Oak Creek and Franklin.

Oakwood Grade School: a joint district in both Oak Creek and Franklin. It was located between Oakwood and Ryan Roads on Highway 41.

Oakwood High School: This school was established in 1895. It was the only known high school to be built in the country in the state of Wisconsin. In the year of 1920, the high school was discontinued and used as a grade school.

Early Churches

The first of any church organization being formed in this new community was that of a Baptist church in the year 1842. An excerpt from the original minute book of that early church reads: Oak Creek Milwaukee County W.J. April 1, Anno Domini 1842. The Baptist brethren and sisters were residents of the village of Oak Creek. They met at a school house for the purpose of uniting together in church relationship. Later on the breaking up of this organization in 1851 led the way to the beginning of the oldest church that still exists, the Congregational Church. The time of this writing was 1876.

St. Matthew's Church. Located on Chicago Road, it was first organized in 1841. On September 1, 1968, they celebrated their 127th anniversary. A bit of history follows in connection with this. The founders of this church came in the years 1838-1840. They bought the land from the government for \$1.25 an acre. In 1836, Wisconsin became a territory and was nothing but a vast wilderness with really nothing but trees -- as yet untouched by the ax of a white man. Only Indians and wild animals inhabited the land.

The founders of this church came to this area when only a stage road (Chicago Road) ran through this area. The winding course of this road around trees and bends to avoid swamps can still be seen. Some of these bends have never been changed, and people driving on it years after wonder at the crookedness of this fine drive. They say it is a "'remnant of pioneer days', all that is left to remind us of that wilderness. The forests are gone, the Indians are gone, wild animals are gone, the old settlers are gone, and there are left only the few crooked bends in the road." There are just a few remaining original settlers, according to government records.

Reverend Patricius O'Kelly was the first pastor in 1841 of the St. Matthew's Catholic Church. In 1839 and 1840, mass was said by the first pastor Reverend Patrick Kelly and was held in the house of John Flynn and Thomas Caveney. The real founding of St. Matthew's was in 1841 when a little log church was started and finished in 1842. There is no doubt that the oldest congregation in the diocese of Milwaukee is St. Matthew's. ←

St. John's Lutheran Church. Although the first formal organization of St. John's Lutheran Church took place in October of 1843, the history of this church and its first members goes back to an earlier date. That makes it indeed one of the oldest Evangelical Lutheran churches in the state of Wisconsin. Actually, the original members on Kilbourn Road came from various areas of Germany and settled in the vicinity of Oakwood, town of Oak Creek, in 1836. This location was twelve miles from Milwaukee.

In those days there were thick, dark virgin forests covering this area; and, in the midst of this, Indians were common. First services were held in the Daniel Goelzer log cabin for many months. The first church was built of logs in October, 1843. Pastor Schmidt was the first pastor.

Salem Evangelical Church. This church was located on South 13th Street or the old New Road. In the year of 1840, a handful of folks from Milwaukee gathered to organize the former United Brethren Church. They held services in the Berka School which was later called the Hickory Grove School, as mentioned before. The earliest preacher was Reverend Koch. In the year of 1858 the first Salem Evangelical was built. A new church was built in 1900 which burned many years later during a storm. In 1952 that congregation built a new church at the corner of

13th Street and Puetz Road. It was called the Oak Creek Community Church. Since then it has been changed to the Oak Creek Community United Methodist Church.

St. James Catholic Church. This church was located on Kilbourn Road between Rawson and Drexel Avenues. St. James was founded in 1857 as a mission. Early settlers, William Fischer and Peter Stephan, each donated one and one-half acres of land to build that first mission and to plot a cemetery on the east side of Kilbourn Road.

Father Polack served at this time at St. James Mission. On June 25, 1946, they became a parish, and a new church was built across the road with Father Drabinowitz being their pastor for many years.

Recreation

In those far off pioneer days, paid entertainment was not so much in evidence, for to think of going to the far off city to the theatre or opera was almost impossible until the advent of the North Shore Line. Then folks could drive to a stop crossing and put up their horse and buggy at a nearby farm while they caught a North Shore car that would take them to the city for an evening of enjoyment. Although this didn't happen very often, it was still a thrill. The horse who waited patiently in some barn was also happy when they returned late at night. There were also neighborhood house parties with games and fun. In these old fashioned homes, kitchens were large enough for dancing, which they often did. With a fiddler or accordion player in the corner, old and young joined in the square dances and Virginia reels as well as the waltzes and two-steps.

Picnics were held throughout the summer starting with the big school picnic, an all day affair held on the last day of school.

Folks from all over gathered for the Fourth of July picnic at Stubers Grove during the day and for a dance following in the evening. It seemed no time at all till the sun was beginning to come up and the fun was over for another year. The folks danced to the music of the grand old Frieschmann Band. Many other picnics and dances were held at the Jake Willms place and the Adam Hauerwas park.

The famous Kermis Feast was held in October at Klondyke. One of the highlights of later dances which were held at the old Munsinger Hall was when the fine Princess Mandolin Bank from Milwaukee came to play. Another renowned band in the area was the famous Hillside Cowboys.

Then the community neighbors got together to help each other. Many barn raisings took place in the area, always several of the men helping to make that great task lighter. After the long, hard day's work came the thrill of seeing that mighty framework in place and, as a final touch, an American flag was put in place at the highest peak. A most hearty meal prepared by the wives always followed. The dance under the summer sky at night made the day complete.

Now I must close with this thought for the good simple folks of those early days, a tribute to neighbors:

"Just neighboring, not fussing round
Nor saying much, but satisfied to
Understand that if needed we'd all lend
a helping hand."

Thank you.

OAK CREEK -- THE CITY, ITS GOVERNMENT

W. J. Mountin

You have read about the history of the government of the township of Oak Creek. The history of the city of Oak Creek is very recent -- in fact, Oak Creek has been a city only since 1955. In order for a township to change its government to that of a city, the laws of the state of Wisconsin are followed. The city receives its charter or right to become a city from the state laws. Every local unit of government, the county, the village, the township and the city, is a part of the state government. The laws that create these governments come from the constitution of the state. In 1955, a law was passed by the Wisconsin State Legislature that enabled the government of Oak Creek to become known as the city of Oak Creek. The city, as a result of this law, was given certain powers to act as a fourth class city. For example, the city was to form a police department and fire department of its own. The charter that was provided for the city describes the rules of city organization and lists the powers of the city and the services that the city must perform (see a copy of the charter or laws for cities in the State Constitution in the Wisconsin Blue Book). The city of Oak Creek is now providing services, as the city grows, that were not provided to the people as a township. Following is a description of services that the city provides to its citizens.

The center for the city government of Oak Creek is the Oak Creek City Hall, 8640 South Howell Avenue. The legislative body for the city or the unit that provides laws for the city's operation is the city council; the city mayor is chief administrator. The offices and

services to carry out the laws of the city are provided in the positions of city assessor, city clerk, city treasurer, city attorney, and city engineer. The city also provides the services of a police department, fire department, city planner's office, health department, and water department. Committees and special services are found in the positions of building inspector, electrical inspector, and plumbing inspector. A sewer and water commission, civil service commission, safety commission, and police and fire commission also operate. The elected offices are that of mayor, aldermen or city council members, city clerk, judge and city treasurer. The other offices are appointed by the city council and/or the mayor. Why are some offices elected and some appointed? You will find the answer to this question as you read and study the descriptions of these jobs and the responsibilities of each city official.

A board of education operates the city school system. It is called a city school system because it receives authority for funds through the city council.

The political organization for the city of Oak Creek is a mayor-council type of government. It is the oldest and most popular form of city government. The people elect the mayor and the council members. (Your textbooks in citizenship and civics will describe the organization completely for a students of city government.)

The articles of incorporation, which a city receives from the state, along with the city charter give power to a city to operate as one. A chart of city functions shows the manner of service and regulations as provided by the mayor, common council, the various commissions, boards and appointed officials operating in the city government. The larger

the city the more officials and commissions needed to operate properly.
What are the responsibilities of the commissions in a city? What are
the jobs of the appointed officials? Explain the duties of the
elected officials.

C I T Y G O V E R N M E N T

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Common Council (Legislative)

- 6 aldermen from 6 wards

Mayor (Executive)

- city clerk
- city treasurer

Municipal Judge (Judicial)

- traffic court
- claims court

COMMISSIONS, BOARDS, APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Civil Service Commission

Appointments:

- assessor
- building inspector
- plumbing inspector
- street superintendent
- city engineer

Police and Fire Commission

- fire chief
- police chief

Plan Commission

- director of planning

Safety Commission

Recreation Department

- recreation director

Board of Appeals

Sewer and Water Commission

- utility superintendent

Library Board

Electrical Board

Board of Education

(members are elected and dependent upon city council for budget approval)

Health Department

Special Officials:

- civil defense director
- weed commissioner
- city forester

Appointed officers and commission members are selected by one of the following methods:

1. Common council approval or mayor appointment only
2. Board appointment
3. Commission examinations

GEOGRAPHY, YESTERDAY AND TODAY,
OF THE CITY OF OAK CREEK AND NEARBY AREA

W. J. Mountin

A map of the city shows that water drainage is provided by two rivers and their flood basins, the Oak Creek and Root River. Oak Creek meanders through the community in a general easterly direction to Lake Michigan. The creek begins in a low marshy area and ends with its mouth in Grant Park in the city of South Milwaukee. Root River rises in the city of Franklin and runs along the Racine County - Milwaukee County line for several miles before meandering south through the city of Racine to Lake Michigan. The area one mile inland from Lake Michigan is higher than the land further inland except where Oak Creek cuts through to Lake Michigan. (Why is the land elevation higher in places near the lake?)

In the formation of Lake Michigan in prehistoric days, this was the lake bank. The continuous washing and splashing of waves built us this bank for a great distance inland and, consequently, the higher shoreline in Oak Creek. Some geologists believe that the low marshy areas extending south from Milwaukee to Racine County were part of a great inland marsh of past centuries. Through drainage of the area, farmlands were developed and, more recently, housing subdivisions have been built. This change in geography has led to the existence of less truck farming in the area, although the general disappearance of farming has been caused by the increased urban growth.

In the future the geography of Oak Creek will be changed more by the development of new expressways, industries, and additional housing. What will the community look like by the year 2000? You, as students, will be able to grow up with your community.

(A suggested activity to brief students on general knowledge of Oak Creek.)

FIFTY FACTS FOR OAK CREEK

What do you know about your city or community?

1. What are the city limits of Oak Creek? North _____ East _____
Be brief. South _____ West _____
2. How large is the city (sq. mi.)?
3. Where are the city laws made?
4. Is Oak Creek larger than Franklin?
5. How much larger is Oak Creek than South Milwaukee?
6. What is the population of Oak Creek? (approximate)
7. How many aldermen are there?
8. How are the Oak Creek city aldermen elected?
9. Who is responsible for the operation of the school system?
10. Where are taxes collected in Oak Creek?
11. Name the city official who determines property valuations and assessments for tax purposes.
12. Who maintains the road in front of school (Puetz Road)?
13. Who maintains Howell Avenue?
14. If I wished to get a bicycle license in Oak Creek, where would I go?
15. Name five responsibilities of the city of Oak Creek.
16. What does the City Council have as a responsibility to the District Board of Education?
17. Name six city officials.
18. What county lies to the north of Oak Creek?
19. Name a federal highway that runs through Oak Creek.
20. Name a state highway that runs through Oak Creek.
21. From where does the city of Oak Creek get its taxes? (one source)
22. Name three services provided by the city of Oak Creek.
23. Who owns the park (Miller Park) behind the Senior High School?

Fifty Facts for Oak Creek (cont'd.)

24. Is Oak Creek part of the metropolitan sewer commission service area?
25. Is Carrollville a separate village from the city of Oak Creek?
26. Does the City or Board of Education operate the recreation program?
27. How does your family pay for trash collection?
28. How does your family pay for fire protection?
29. What is the name of the mayor?
30. What is a city ward?
31. How are your family's property taxes determined?
32. Where does the City Council meet?
33. What class city is Oak Creek?
34. What is meant by your description of the class of the city of Oak Creek?
35. What is the name of the next larger governmental unit than the city of Oak Creek?
36. What city lies to the north of Oak Creek at Howell Avenue?
37. Was the city of South Milwaukee once part of what is now the city of Oak Creek?
38. If you needed assistance in determining the valuation of your land, what city official would most likely help you?
39. Can you build a home anywhere in Oak Creek? If yes, why? If no, why not? Be brief.
40. If you had a question regarding a communicable disease in your home, what city official would you likely call?
41. Where in the city of Oak Creek do you pay income tax?
42. Did the city build the tennis courts?
43. How do you pay for a sidewalk in front of your home?
44. What is the city building just west of the Milwaukee Road tracks on Puetz Road?
45. If I lived at 3720 West Ryan Road, what city would I live in?
46. Does the shopping center across the street from the High School pay taxes to the city of Oak Creek?
47. Who, besides the individual taxpayer, owns land along Oak Creek its

Fifty Facts for Oak Creek (cont'd.)

48. How old must you be to become a citizen of Oak Creek?
49. What unit of government is responsible for the construction of free-ways through Oak Creek?
50. Who owns the land on which Oak Creek Senior High is situated?

UNIT ON CITY OF OAK CREEK

OBJECTIVES

PART I - HISTORY

Students will be able to write a history of Oak Creek after

1. reading and answering questions on early and recent history; or
2. making a picture booklet on early Oak Creek; or
3. examining a picture and a chart reprinted from 1876 Atlas of Milwaukee County; or
4. interviewing one of the following:
 - a. someone from the City Planner's Office
 - b. someone from the Oak Creek Historical Society
 - c. the Oak Creek city librarian -- or
5. visiting the Oak Creek Historical Museum.

PART II - GEOGRAPHY

Students will be able to locate City Hall, their homes, the Junior High, the Senior High, the fire stations on a map.

Students will be able to name the two rivers found in Oak Creek and identify their source and mouth.

Students will be able to list the differences in geography that have occurred through Oak Creek's history by:

1. reading the material and examining maps and answering the questions on the accompanying worksheet; or
2. viewing pictures and maps and completing worksheets; or
3. making a map of Oak Creek; or
4. interviewing the city planner.

PART III - GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION

Students will name the three branches of city government, the names of the positions and the names of the people in the positions. Students will identify what job is done in each branch and how each branch is filled by:

1. reading about Oak Creek's city government and completing worksheets; or

2. viewing pictures and completing charts; or
3. making a geometric shape (pyramid) and listing the three branches of government on the sides; or
4. participating in one or all of the following simulation games:
 - a. Curfew - a community action game
 - b. Mayor - the city problem-solving game
 - c. The Alderman Game

PART IV - EVALUATION

(A short reading unit)

EARLY HISTORY OF OAK CREEK

Early Settlement

In the summer of 1835, settlers first came to what is now Oak Creek to farm the land. By 1836, the settlement became more active. Some of the first settlers were James McCreedy, Joel Hayman, Thomas and Luther Rawson, and John G. Haight. Around 1840, the first schools and churches were built. By 1842, there were at least forty families living in Oak Creek Village.

No formal government, however, was established (set up) until 1842 when Oak Creek became a township. The first town meeting was held then. They elected officers to manage the new township.

Growth of Oak Creek

On February 1, 1855, the first railroad passed through the township of Oak Creek. With the coming of the railroad, several industries developed. Among these were the glue, coke, carbon, and tar manufacturers. Other businesses were a distillery, general store, tavern, and a butcher shop.

As these industries and businesses grew, more and more people came to live in Oak Creek. By 1955, the township was ready to become a city.

Fill in the blanks below:

1. Oak Creek was first settled in the year _____.
2. The first town meeting was held in the year _____.
3. What happened at the first town meeting? _____

4. What effect did the railroads have upon the growth of Oak Creek?

5. List eight early industries and businesses found in Oak Creek in its early history. _____

6. Do you think that the railroads had some effect on the growth of the population of Oak Creek? Did industries and businesses have an effect on the growth? Please answer below in at least three sentences. _____

ANALYZING THE NEWSPAPER

Answer the questions below in complete sentences.

1. What does annex mean?

2. Why did the city of Milwaukee try to annex Oak Creek in the 1950's?

3. Why did many people in Oak Creek feel that a town government did not have enough power or authority to run a city?

4. How long has Oak Creek been a city?

(Refer to newspaper clippings from the Oak Creek Pictorial on early city of Oak Creek history circa 1956-58.)

GEOGRAPHY OF OAK CREEK

Rivers

A map of Oak Creek shows that there are two rivers in Oak Creek: the Oak Creek River and the Root River. Can you locate them on the map?

The Oak Creek River flows through the city in an easterly direction. The river's source (beginning) is in low marshy land. Its mouth (end) is in Grant Park where it drains into Lake Michigan.

The Root River's source is found in Franklin. The river runs along the Racine County line on the southern boundary of Oak Creek. It then flows into the city of Racine where it then drains into Lake Michigan.

Farmland

Some geologists (scientists of the ground) believe Oak Creek's land was part of a marshy area (swampy). When settlers came, they developed the land for farming by draining the land. Recently, this was done again in order to build homes. This led to a change in geography in Oak Creek's land from marshy to a drier land.

In the future, the geography of Oak Creek will continue to change by the development of new expressways, industry, and additional housing.

GEOGRAPHY OF OAK CREEK

W O R K S H E E T

1. On a map locate the Oak Creek River and the Root River. Place arrows to point in which direction each flows.
2. Then place an (S) at the source of each river and (M) at their mouths.
3. Write a description of marshy land. Please answer in three sentences.
4. Write a description of farmland. Please answer in three sentences.
5. What kind of changes do you think the expressway makes on Oak Creek's geography? Please answer in three sentences.

(OBTAIN A MAP OF THE CITY OF OAK CREEK TO USE IN MAP STUDY)

READING A MAP OF OAK CREEK

1. Find on a map of Oak Creek these places:

Junior High
Senior High
City Hall
Police Station
Fire Department (Stations)
Your home (if you live in Oak Creek)

2. In which direction would you travel to get from 27th Street to the lake?
3. If you live on Fifth Avenue between Puetz and Ryan Roads and you want to go to City Hall, what is the shortest route?
4. What do the numbers that are listed along the southern and eastern boundaries mean?

CITY GOVERNMENT TODAY

There are more than 14,000 people who work and live in Oak Creek today. For the most part, they are friendly people. They recognize the need to cooperate with one another. Yet it takes good organization to keep things "going" in a city. "Oak Creekans" rely heavily on their modern city government to keep things running smoothly and fairly. Let us look at today's city government. We will see how it is similar and yet different from the original city government of 1955.

The people of Oak Creek still believe in the idea of representative government. Thus, the city is still divided into districts. Today there are six districts in the city. Each district has about the same number of people living in it. Today, the people of each district elect one alderman to represent them. Thus, today there are six aldermen. Do you know the name of your alderman? When the aldermen meet together the group is still called the Common Council. All of the people in the city are represented when the Common Council meets at the City Hall. The Common Council enacts ordinances that govern the whole city. The aldermen also decide what services the city should provide. They must also raise money through taxes to pay for these services.

Under today's city government, the people still hold a city-wide election to select a mayor. He is the chief executive of the city. He represents all of the people. The mayor must execute or carry out the laws passed by the Common Council. He has the various

departments of the city to help him do the job. From time to time the mayor points out problems which have been overlooked. When this happens, he will often call these matters to the attention of the Common Council or all of the people in the city. Sometimes he tells officials of the state and nation of the problems facing our city.

Three other major officials of the city government are elected. One of these is the city attorney. This person handles the legal affairs of the city.

Two other elected people handle the city's money. One is the city clerk. He or she is responsible for control of the city budget. The other is the city treasurer. He is responsible for collection of taxes within the city. These taxes go to the city, county, and state. They are also used for city schools. The treasurer also receives any other money that is due the city.

Today, many of our city "servants" are appointed. In fact, the number has increased greatly as the years have passed. This is because the people have called on the city for more and more services. At the same time, the city has grown in size. More and more people have come to live here. With the growth of population, more services were needed. The chart on the following page shows a few of these services.

OAK CREEK PROVIDES

PUBLIC SERVICES AND FACILITIES	AGENCY WHICH MEETS NEEDS
<p>Protection of: Person, property, and civil rights</p> <p>Person and property from fire</p> <p>Health and prevention of disease</p>	<p>Police Department and Courts</p> <p>Fire Department</p> <p>Health Department</p>
<p>Provides for: Water system</p> <p>Sewage Disposal</p> <p>Election service</p> <p>Building inspection</p> <p>Recreation</p> <p>Education</p>	<p>Water Department</p> <p>Sewer and Water Commission</p> <p>City Clerk</p> <p>Department of Building Inspection</p> <p>Recreation Department</p> <p>Oak Creek Public Schools</p> <p>Oak Creek Public Library</p> <p>Milw. Area Technical College</p>

The City Hall and the Municipal Building both house offices of the city government. These buildings are located on Howell Avenue and Puetz Road. The elected officials and the heads of many city departments have offices in these buildings. However, you will find city officials and employees serving "Oak Creekans" in all of the districts of the city.

Oak Creek's city government has been run with efficiency. The elected officials, employees, and citizens of our community can share the credit for our effective local government.

ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Write a theme answering this question: What do you think Oak Creek would be like today if it were part of Milwaukee and not a separate city?

2. Describe how you picture Oak Creek in its early days.

3. Write a letter to your alderman stating your feelings about the issue presently before the Council banning the driving of autos on certain Oak Creek city streets.

CITY OF OAK CREEK / EXPERIENTIAL

PART I - History and Geography

- A. Students set up interviews and tape them or write letters to one of the following:
 - 1. someone from the City Planner's Office to find what changes have been made and what changes will be made in Oak Creek in the future;
 - 2. someone from the Oak Creek Historical Society to gain further information on early Oak Creek;
 - 3. the librarian to get the history of the library and what are its plans in the future.
- B. Students visit the Oak Creek Historical Museum and write a report or present an oral report.

PART II - Organization of Oak Creek's Government

- A. Students participate in one or more of the following:
 - 1. You be the Mayor - City Problem Solving Game by Search Simulation
 - a) Problems that students examine in the game:
 - 1) locating a shopping mall
 - 2) aid in settling a labor dispute
 - 3) discuss the inadequate stadium facilities
 - b) Time allotted -- 3-4 class periods
 - c) Players:
 - 1) individual
 - 2) in groups of 2-6 players
 - d) Game has assignments to aid in evaluating
 - 2. The Game of Alderman. Teacher's Guide, The American, p. 103
 - a) Objective: Helps students to appreciate the complexities involved in democratic government
 - b) Players: entire class
 - c) Time allotted -- 1-2 class periods

d) Items discussed:

- 1) stopping heavy traffic in residential area
- 2) location of new expressway
- 3) location of new swimming pool in park
- 4) budget vs. new parking lot
- 5) need for alley lights
- 6) city incinerator
- 7) building a new museum

3. Curfew: The Community Action Game - Search Simulation

- a) Demonstrate community action and
- b) Ways in which young people can influence local government
- c) Time allotted -- 4 class periods
- d) Players:
 - 1) individuals
 - 2) entire class divided into groups of two
- e) Game has material (assignments) to aid in evaluating
- f) Visit City Hall

PICTURE STUDY ON CITY OF OAK CREEK

PART I - EARLY HISTORY OF OAK CREEK

The picture and chart (teacher has copy) have been taken from an 1876 Atlas of Milwaukee County. This picture is an artist's idea of what a farm looked like in 1876. It appears that the artist drew the picture in a way which the farm owner wanted it to look.

Answer all of the following questions with complete sentences:

1. What kind of farming do you think the farmer in the picture did?
2. What in the picture lets you know this is not a picture of a farm today?
3. According to the chart, what occupation was held by most of the people who lived in Oak Creek in 1876?
4. From which countries did most of the people in Oak Creek emigrate or come from?
5. Why do you think they came to settle in Oak Creek?

PART II - RECENT HISTORY OF OAK CREEK

Examine pictures in the newspaper and answer questions.

(Copies of the pictures referred to in this section should be available to teachers at the time of instruction.)

Picture A

1. What was this building used as before the year 1956?
2. What role did the building play in the town of Oak Creek?
3. Where was it located? Where is it located now?
4. Why do you think this was a good location for the building in early Oak Creek?
5. How many rooms do you think this building had?

Picture F

1. What was this building used as before it became city hall?
2. Is this the same building that was used to hold town meetings?
3. What change was made in the job Arthur Abendschein had when Oak Creek became a city?

Picture G

1. What is seen in this picture?
2. What are some good things that the Power Plant has done for Oak Creek?
3. The city of Milwaukee wanted the town of Oak Creek to be annexed (added) to the city of Milwaukee. Why do you think Milwaukee wanted Oak Creek to be a part of it?

Picture H

1. What is the name of this group?
2. What is the group doing in the picture? Why are their hands raised?
3. Are any of the people in the picture still holding an office?
4. How many members are there in the group?
5. What is the group's job?

COMPARING MAPS (GEOGRAPHY)

Please refer to the three maps -- 1) the Oak Creek Village Map; 2) the Town of Oak Creek Map; 3) the latest Oak Creek City Map. (Copies of these maps are to be available to students.) Study the maps and answer the questions which follow.

1. Which map least looks like the Oak Creek you know today? Explain your answer.

2. The names printed on the Oak Creek Village Map are interesting. This map was made in 1876. Why do you find names of people printed on the map instead of street names?

3. What is the source (where a river begins) of the Oak Creek River?

4. What is the mouth (where a river ends) of the Oak Creek River?

5. What are the boundaries of Oak Creek?

6. What is the length of Oak Creek from north to south? Convert your answer to miles.

7. What is the distance (in inches) between each of the following:
 - a. College Avenue and Rawson Avenue: _____
 - b. Rawson Avenue and Drexel Avenue: _____
 - c. Drexel Avenue and Puetz Road: _____
 - d. Puetz Road and Ryan Road: _____

ORGANIZATION OF GOVERNMENT

Look at each of the following pictures (pictures are in teacher's hands). For each one, tell:

1. what the position (job) is;
2. what duties the position has; and
3. how the person is chosen to fill the position.

Sometimes you'll be asked to list the names of the people who serve certain city positions. Note the picture numbers you should look at. The numbers of each picture should be filled in where they belong on the chart.

C H A R T O F O F F I C E R S

VOTERS OF OAK CREEK

LEGISLATIVE

Picture Number _____
Name of Position _____
Duties _____

Names of People Serving Position:

How Chosen? _____

EXECUTIVE

Picture Number _____
Name of Position _____
Duties _____

Name of Person Serving Position:

How Chosen? _____

JUDICIAL

Picture Number _____
Name of Position _____
Duties _____

Name of Person Serving Position:

How Chosen? _____

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BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

How Chosen? _____

Identify the Boards and Commissions
below by looking at the pictures:

- Picture Number _____ . _____
- Picture Number _____ . _____
- Picture Number _____ . _____
- Picture Number _____ . _____
- Picture Number _____ . _____

PROJECT UNIT ON CITY OF OAK CREEK GOVERNMENT

PART I - History

A. Make an historical picture booklet showing:

1. Early settlers of Oak Creek:
 - a. their homes
 - b. the town hall
 - c. transportation
 - d. businesses - general store, tavern, butcher shop

PART II - Recent History

A. Make a small newspaper with about five or six articles and three or four ads. The date of your newspaper is January, 1965 -- ten years after Oak Creek became a city. This is a special issue in honor of its ten year anniversary as a city.

PART III - Geography

A. On a map of Oak Creek, show the two rivers in Oak Creek -- the Oak Creek River and the Root River.

1. Place arrows in the direction in which they flow.
2. Show where the mouth of the river begins.
3. Show into what lake do they drain?

B. Make your own map of Oak Creek.

1. Make a 6" square on a piece of paper.
2. Draw horizontal and vertical lines through the square; each should be an inch apart.
3. Identify the directions (North, South, East, West).
4. Each line that you have made an inch apart inside the square is a major street in Oak Creek. Write in their names.

From West to East

27th Street
13th Street
Howell Avenue
Pennsylvania Avenue
15th Avenue
Chicago Road
Lake Michigan

From North to South

College Avenue
Drexel Avenue
Rawson Avenue
Puetz Road
Ryan Road
Oakwood Road
County Line Road

5. In the northeast corner is South Milwaukee -- that is east of Pennsylvania Avenue and midway between Drexel Avenue and Puetz Road. Erase that section.

6. Locate these places on the map:

Junior High
Senior High
City Hall
2 Fire Stations
Your Home (if you live in Oak Creek)
Police Station

C. Plan a City:

1. Using boxes and by making geometric shapes out of construction paper for the buildings.
2. Plan your city on scrap paper first and get it okayed by the teacher.
3. Draw your city on poster board using the squares and rectangles made in step one for the buildings in your city.

PART IV - Organization of Oak Creek's Government

A. Make a chart showing Oak Creek's government.

1. Include the three branches of government.
2. Indicate who holds each office in each branch.

B. Or....Make a pyramid out of construction paper. On each side, give the following information:

1. List a branch of city government.
2. What position or office is in that branch?
3. Who holds that office at present?
4. What job is done in that branch?
5. How did the official get his/her job?

C. Identify Oak Creek's city officials (by pictures--if available).

1. Give their names.
2. What are their positions in government?
3. Which of these men represent your district?

Name _____

Date _____

TEST ON CITY GOVERNMENT

Listening:

Read questions 1 and 2. Now listen to the recording. After hearing the recording, you will be given time to answer the questions.

1. Which of these two statements is true? Put a check mark (✓) in front of the statement that is true.

___ Oak Creek's land is mainly used as residential.

___ Oak Creek's land is used for industrial, residential, and commercial purposes.

2. According to the recording, which item below was not said about Oak Creek. Put a check mark (✓) in front of the correct answer.

___ located on Lake Michigan

___ near the city of Milwaukee

___ spreads out for 28 square miles

___ has a zoning plan

* * * * *

On Recording

The city of Oak Creek is located on Lake Michigan and spreads out for 29 miles. It is near the city of Milwaukee and can therefore enjoy the advantages that a big city offers.

Oak Creek provides a balanced mix between industry, residential and commercial land uses. It has a number of fine schools, seven of which have been completely rebuilt or newly constructed since 1959.

Oak Creek has completed a plan that states how the land will be used in Oak Creek. This is called zoning.

Test on City Government (cont'd.)

Reading a Diagram:

Ten services or ways in which a city government helps a citizen are listed below. Next to each number, write the name of the city board or commission responsible for that service.

3. _____ You hear police calls on your radio.
4. _____ A summer recreation program for children is available.
5. _____ You have water in your faucets.
6. _____ City parks are clean and pleasant.
7. _____ A robbery is investigated and the thief is caught.
8. _____ A fireman puts out a fire in a home.
9. _____ Books are available for you to borrow and read.
10. _____ You want to build a place to run your business.
11. _____ An explosion has occurred and you need assistance.
12. _____ You need someone to come and repair a broken water main that is flooding the street.

CITY PLANNER

Does the zoning

Lays out and plans streets

POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION

Inspection of buildings

Protect citizens

Give emergency assistance

Battling fires

Control traffic

Fire prevention classes

Radio and communication systems

Enforce laws

LIBRARY BOARD

Hires the head librarian

Plans the budget to buy books

Maintain library building

Hires people to work in library

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Maintain parks

Develop recreational facilities

Provide recreational facilities

BOARD OF WATERWORKS & SEWER COMMISSION

Maintain plant operation

Purify water

Maintain water mains

Test on City Government (cont'd.)

What's in a Reading:

Read the following paragraph. Then select which title is best suited for the paragraph. Put a check mark (✓) in front of the correct answer.

The first town meeting was held on the first Tuesday of April in 1842 at the home of Mr. J. J. Mason. At this meeting, it was voted not to fix salaries of officers until after election. After the closing of the polls, it was then voted to pay the town officers \$1.00 a day and \$1.25 for school purposes and that all fines would not be less than \$1.00 nor more than \$10.00. Also, at the first meeting it was brought up that Luther Rawson have the power to keep the dogs from disturbing any meetings held at the school house.

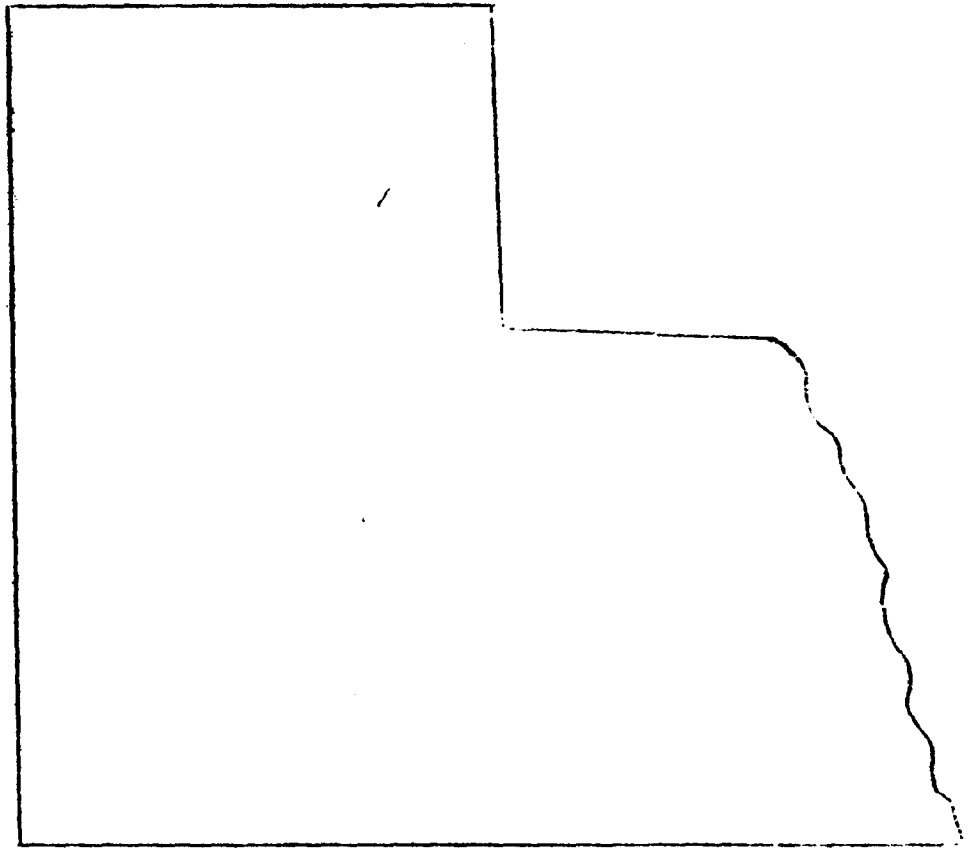
15. _____ Luther Rawson's New Job
_____ The First Town Meeting
_____ Election Night

Do You Remember?

Put a check mark (✓) in front of the correct answer.

16. In Oak Creek's early years, the land was:
_____ farm land
_____ marsh land
_____ desert land
17. When people settled in Oak Creek, they developed the land into:
_____ farm land
_____ marsh land
_____ desert land
18. The mouth of the Oak Creek River is in:
_____ Franklin
_____ Lake Michigan
_____ Root River

Test (cont'd.)



19. What is this shape? _____
20. What is on the north side? _____
21. What is on the west side? _____
22. What is on the east side? _____
23. What is on the south side? _____