

May 6, 1920 - Dunlap Reporter

"The Henningsen Engineering Co. of Omaha has had a force of Engineers busy this week here in town establishing grades, looking over the proposed extension of water works with the view of submitting an estimate of the cost of these improvements. A landscape engineer has also been busy taking pictures of the hill at the hotel going down to the depot and will submit an estimate on the cost of beautifying and improving this. The old wooden steps going down to the depot are also to be replaced with new cement steps. We are informed that the city council are expecting to call a special meeting soon for voting on the extension of the water mains and we urge all the voters in Dunlap to come out and vote on this improvement that is so badly needed."

September 23, 1920 - Dunlap Reporter

"The new cement steps leading down to the depot near the Jensen Hotel were completed this week and oh, what an improvement! We knew the battered old wooden tressle that had been there forty years, was an eye sore, but little did we realize how bad they really looked until they had been removed and the fine new cement steps put in. Perhaps an improvement of this nature [is] a little high at present but it was worth every cent it cost from an improvement and safety standpoint. As well as being so tacky looking, the old ones were really dangerous."

HISTORIETTES TRIVIAL

BY J. DEE ELLIS-

TOPOGRAPHY-NO. IX

Our town has changed greatly in appearance since pioneer days, but of the changes perhaps that of topography has been the slightest. However, there is one hill in Dunlap that has had more than its natural share of ups and downs.

One slightly cynical Dunlap phiosopher has noted that when the towns along our little valley were laid out, they were almost certain to be plotted upon some rough hill or hills near the railroad, the inference being that this rough, poor land was good enough for a townsite, but that the better, more level land was to be saved for farms. Be that as it may, he has the sites of Denison, Arion, Dunlap, Woodbine, Logan and Missouri Valley to support his con-

Dunlan is laid out on two fingers of high land stretching out into the valley until they touch the railroad. Our main street crowns the north a lawsuit, or a threatened lawsuit, finger, and at its tip drops abruptly and the town paid some money to to the railroad yards. This steep hill, the man's mother. Another result he town's first business center, has had a great deal of wear-natural along the edge of the hill so that and man-made.

In the early days it was nearly perpendicular, and a flight of stairs ead down it to the depot. Teamsters drove through the lumber yard to get to the depot, or through the north end of the railroad yards.

street toward the depot. One man wagon onto the sidewalk. ran down the stairs, but the other But as the town grew older beauty decided to take a short cut and went became more desirable. The hill had over the top of the hill. He fell, its face lifted, and the streets of and struck the bottom so hard he the town were given a hard, new was killed. The other man ran on finish. The hill, like Dunlap, has in the dark and caught the train out achieved something of permanancy.

of town, unconscious of his partner's

The body was found the next morning. Following is the coroner's report:

"Inquest on the Body of William Kinney, Nov. 21, 1876. Now at this time comes E. A. Nims, Marshal of Dunlap, and notified me that there was a man dead at the R. R. Eating House, and requested me to hold a coroner's inquest. I therefore issued a venire and placed the same in the hands of F. P. Eaton, constable, for service, who summoned the following gentlemen, to-wit: S. J. Patterson, Jesse Ettinger and C. D. Mitchell, who were duly sworn as a coroner's jury, who, after examining the body and witnesses found that said William Kinney came to his death by falling from a bank near the steps leading from Dunlap to the depot. Signed. L. G. Tubbs, Justice of the Peace and Acting Coroner."

As a result of this death there was was that the town erected a fence another such accident would be avoided.

Nature treated this hill roughly. For years rains carried dirt from the hill down onto the railroad tracks, and the section men carried away many carloads of dirt. At one time the fence that formerly stretched On Nov. 20, 1876, two men were across the hill hung 12 or 15 feet eating their way through Dunlap above the earth. The entire road and in the evening left the freight at the bottom of main street was train they were riding to come up worn down so low that for years it town for a few minutes. Hearing was possible to back a wagon up to the train whistle as it was leaving the sidewalk in front of the posttown, the two men rushed down the office and roll a barrel from the

The Dunlap Reporter, October 13, 1932



