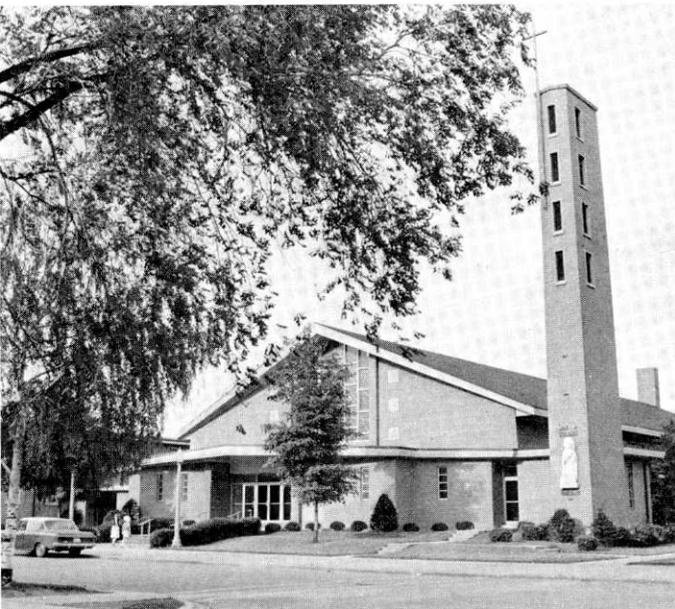


EVERGREEN PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—In February, 1946, after a few years of Fellowship meetings in homes of persons interested in bringing a Presbyterian church to the Village, a small group petitioned the Presbyterian Church Extension Board for aid and assistance. A number of students from McCormick Theological Seminary traveled many miles from the school to assist by giving the sermons. On Palm Sunday 1946, a young student just out of the Navy, Mr. Benjamin H. Sissel, became the first Student Minister, serving until May, 1947.

The corner of 89th and Francisco Avenue was purchased as a site for the future church. On April 20, 1947 the Mission became the Evergreen Park Presbyterian Church. The organization service was held at Evergreen Park Golf Club with fifty members officially joining the church.

Reverend Thomas Hill was the first minister. Edward Casper, Edward Raoul and Roy Ballantine were elected Elders, and Kenneth Haynee, Roy Elseth and Lee Ryan became Deacons. Ground was broken for the church building June 1, 1947. A new sanctuary was built in 1961, and in 1967 a church education building was added.

Reverend Roger Edmund Kellogg is the present minister. The congregation has 280 members and 130 young people.



ST. BERNADETTE CATHOLIC CHURCH—St. Bernadette Parish, a cut-off of Holy Redeemer Parish, was established by Reverend Morgan J. O'Brien, present pastor, on October 7, 1947. Some 300 Catholic families lived within the boundaries of the parish, which are 87th to 99th Streets, Western to Kedzie Avenues. Today more than 1,650 families comprise the parish.

The first Masses in St. Bernadette Parish were said on October 26, 1947 in Ketcham's Funeral Chapel, 2955 West 95th Street. They were said here every Sunday until the Quonset Church was ready on Easter Sunday, March 28, 1948. The unusual quonset church was built under the direction of Reverend O'Brien, who got his idea from the quonsets in which he held Mass as a chaplain during World War II.

During the early years, successful carnivals were held annually on the property that is now the Evergreen Plaza Shopping Center. In 1948 the rectory was completed at 2856 West 93rd Street. In September 1949 a twelve room school building was opened. In 1952, a convent was built for the Dominican Sisters who staffed the school. The beautiful, permanent church at 94th and Francisco which seats 1,200 people, was ready for services in February 1958, allowing the quonset church to be converted into a gymnasium for the youth of the parish.

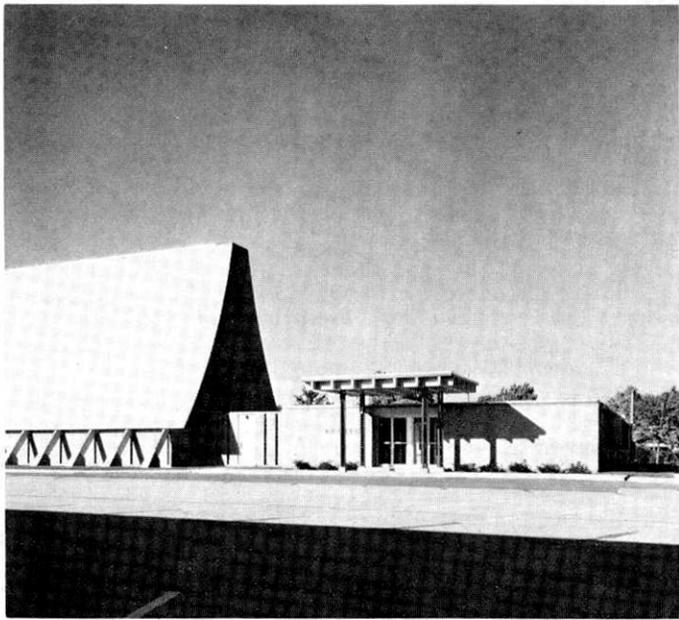


QUEEN OF MARTYRS CATHOLIC CHURCH—On June 30, 1952, Father M. Vitha was appointed to found a new parish at 103rd and Central Park Avenue in Evergreen Park. Approximately 300 Catholic families composed the new parish, which took in part of Evergreen Park, Oak Lawn, and Chicago. As the parish grew and more Catholic families moved into the area, St. Linus, St. Catherine of Alexandria, and St. Germaine were formed from Queen of Martyrs.

The pastor set up a temporary rectory at 10541 S. Lawndale Avenue where he roomed with the Verbisky family. In August, 1952, a bungalow at 10401 S. Hamlin Avenue was purchased for a rectory. During the summer months Masses were said on Sunday in the portable school classrooms at 103rd and Hamlin.

Ground was broken for the new Queen of Martyrs Church on November 9, 1952. On July 19, 1953, the first anniversary of the parish, Mass was said for the first time in the new church.

Dedication Day, October 10, 1954 came, and with it, the greatest concentration of rain in the seventy year history of the Chicago Weather Bureau. While Cardinal Stritch was dedicating the buildings, many parishioners were at home bailing out basements. Today, Queen of Martyrs Parish has 1,501 families.



BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH—Located at 3240 West 98th Street, the Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church is called "The Tent of the Lord." Its unique architecture is rich in symbolism, combining the heritage of the past with the contemporary styling of today.

The congregation dates back to 1937 when a group of 38 people gathered together in an area school to hold services and plan for a future permanent church. Reverend Fred Grothe became the first pastor of the church.

In 1943 the church building was completed at 94th and Trumbull Avenue. Five years later an educational unit was built at the site on 98th Street with plans to build a church there at a later date. In 1955, the first church was sold and services were held in the expanded educational building.

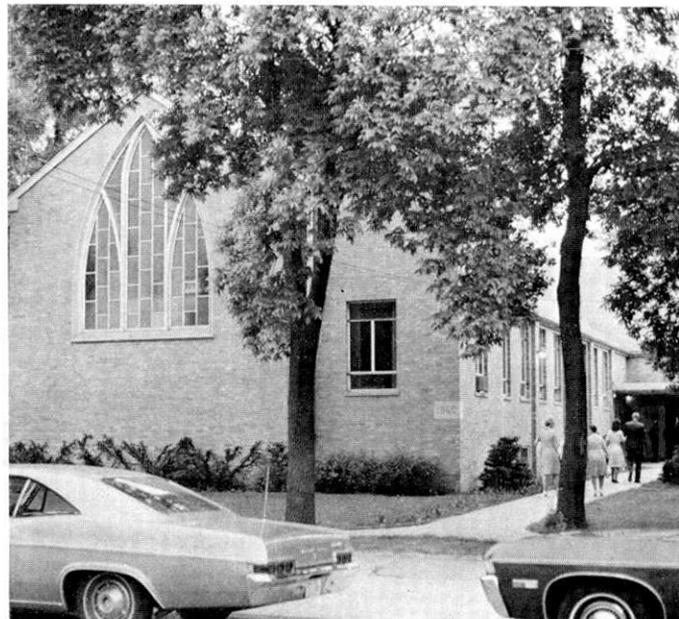
In 1958, Pastor John A. Mau came to serve Bethel Lutheran Church. Under his leadership, plans for a beautiful contemporary church were developed and bore fruit. The new church was dedicated in June, 1961. An inter-faith Sunday School class for mentally handicapped children is conducted at the church.



MOST HOLY REDEEMER CATHOLIC CHURCH—Most Holy Redeemer Parish was organized in 1941 at 96th and Millard. It was a "country" parish at first, with boundaries from 87th to 103rd, Western to Crawford Avenue. But a flurry of building after the long depression years brought a steady parade of home seekers to the gravel roads of Evergreen Park.

Father Louis J. Briody became pastor of the church in 1941. He preached his first sermon on Sunday, December 7, unaware that this date would go down in history because of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. The first church was a frame building. With typical determination and the help of many parish members, Father Briody saw the completion of a school in December, 1942.

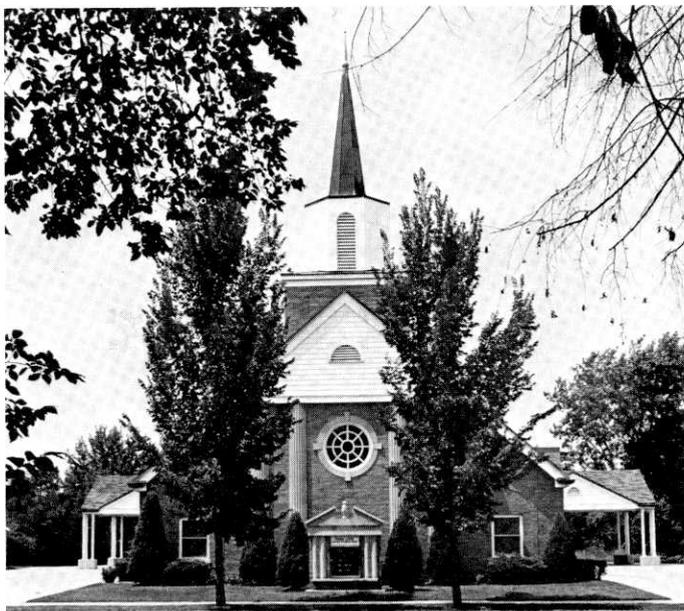
Through the years the parish continued to grow. The present magnificent church building was dedicated in 1961 with the first Mass celebrated on Christmas Day. The original frame building was razed in the summer of 1962, marking the end of an era in the history of Most Holy Redeemer Church. The present pastor, Monsignor Patrick J. Hayes, P.A., was appointed in February, 1966 and has served since that time.



BETHEL BIBLE CHURCH—Located at 3225 W. 96th Street, this church came into existence two years ago as the result of a merger. The Bethel Baptist Church, Evergreen Park, and the Grace Bible Church, 8801 S. Hermitage Ave., Chicago, voted on September 11, 1966 to merge as the Bethel Bible Church.

The Bethel Baptist Church was established in 1942 with Reverend J. J. Althuis as pastor. The first church was formerly Leppin's saloon at 95th and Kedzie Avenue. After taking off the top two stories of the frame building, the bottom story was moved to the church location on 96th Street. A brick front was added and church services began with fifteen charter members. Evergreen Park residents Mr. and Mrs. Dick Dykstra are two charter members still active in the church. The present building used by the Bethel Bible Church was erected in two phases under the direction of pastors Reverend C. M. Beerthuis in 1955 and Reverend D. L. Allbaugh in 1960.

Grace Bible Church was the result of a merger of two Chicago churches, the Englewood Gospel Tabernacle and the Beverly Grace Baptist Church. The present pastor of Bethel Bible Church was the pastor of Grace Bible Church at the time of the merger in 1966. The extensive missionary program of the Grace Bible Church became an integral part of the ministry of Bethel Bible Church.



PARK LANE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH—The Park Lane Christian Reformed Church was organized on May 27, 1953, and consisted of 85 families, numbering 382 members. The church was formed with the full knowledge, consent, and co-operation of the Christian Reformed Church of Evergreen Park, from which most of the new congregation was drawn. Substantial financial help and a deed to the new church's property were given by the mother church to Park Lane Christian Reformed Church. In March 1955, the new church building was dedicated at 3450 West Maple Avenue. Reverend Theodore Verseput was the first minister of the church. In 1957, Reverend William Verwolf became the pastor and served until 1965.

Through the years the church membership has grown to 166 families, numbering 668 members. The present pastor is Reverend Angus MacLeod, who was a missionary in Mar del Plata, Argentina for eight years before coming to Evergreen Park.

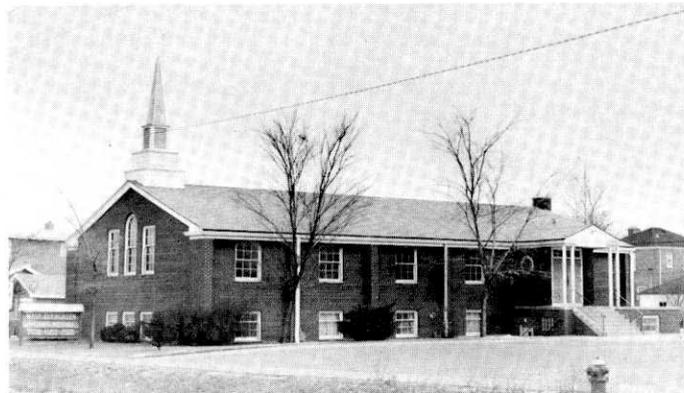
Park Lane Christian Reformed Church supports three missionaries. Reverend Ralph Baker and Miss Nancy Friend are in North Nigeria, West Africa. Reverend William Stob is in Saitamaken, Japan.



IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST—Immanuel United Church of Christ, located at 98th Street and Campbell Avenue, is celebrating its 85th anniversary this year. From 1883 until 1913 the congregation's place of worship was situated at 46th and Dearborn Street, Chicago. From 1913 until 1954 the congregation worshipped at 70th and Michigan Avenue, Chicago. On February 14, 1954, the present church building was dedicated at 98th and Campbell Avenue.

Former pastors who are still active in the area are the Reverend Dr. William L. Rest and the Reverend Dr. Paul F. Umbeck. Present pastor is the Reverend Dr. Carl Edward Berges.

In 1965 the congregation dedicated Immanuel Residences for the Elderly, across the street from the church, the first apartment building for senior citizens erected in the nation by a single congregation. In 1966, a new parsonage was dedicated.



WEST EVERGREEN CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH—The West Evergreen Christian Reformed Church, located at 98th and Crawford Avenue, is a comparative newcomer to our community. The congregation was originally organized in 1945 and was known as the Auburn Park Christian Reformed Church. By 1960, many of its families were moving to other locations and a search was begun for a site to relocate. In 1963, a purchase of the property at 98th and Crawford Avenue was made. A parsonage was built that summer at 9807 S. Harding Avenue. By January, 1964, the move was completed.

Reverend Baker was the first pastor of the new church. About half of its families were lost to other congregations in the transition. There are now about 75 families in the membership. The governing body of the congregation is a consistory of thirteen members. Reverend C. Oliver Buus is the present pastor.

ST. JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH—Just outside the Village, at 103rd and Washtenaw, St. John Fisher deserves mention because it serves many families within our boundaries. The parish started in July of 1948, with Rev. Joseph Heldmann as founding pastor. For many months, Masses were held in the basement of the Huddlestons, early parishioners, then moved to a

wooden building. In 1956, a permanent church was constructed to meet the needs of the growing area, the project spearheaded by Rev. John Kane, who became pastor when Father Heldmann died in 1951. Five years ago saw an extensive expansion of the church, which now serves well over 5,000 people. Father Kane passed away in 1966 and Msgr. Francis McElligott became pastor.



Then and Now...



95th and Western around 1935 had gas stations on the northeast and southwest corners (6 gals. for 98c). Looking northeast shows north Beverly just prairie, a "Red Rocket" street-car going south, and the bus to Oak Lawn waiting to go west. In the foreground is the village's first traffic light.



Today, from the roof of Lawn Savings, we see Morris B. Sachs, a Safeway bus heading south, a CTA bus going north, the Evergreen Shopping Plaza sign on the right, and 95th in the process of being widened one lane in the foreground west of Western.



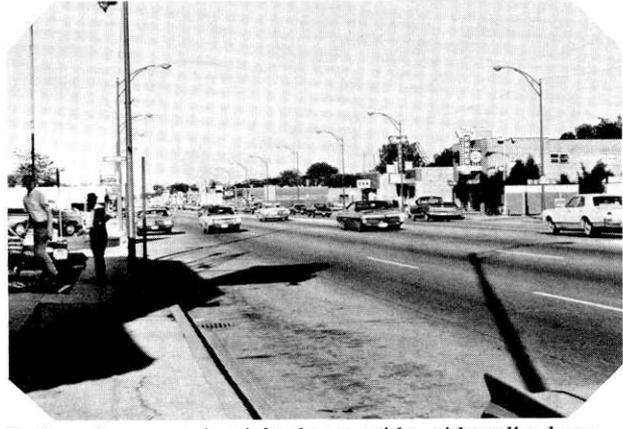
Looking north across 95th, half a block west of Kedzie, in 1937: the old post office, John Leo's IGA, Evergreen Hardware, and not much traffic.



Today at the same location: modern shops, off-street parking, lots of traffic and a very skinny sidewalk. That's progress for you.



Looking east on 95th near Ridgeway in 1920. Two lane road, ditches and bridges, and a big touring car.



Today the street is eight lanes wide, sidewalks have replaced ditches and the cars never stop coming.



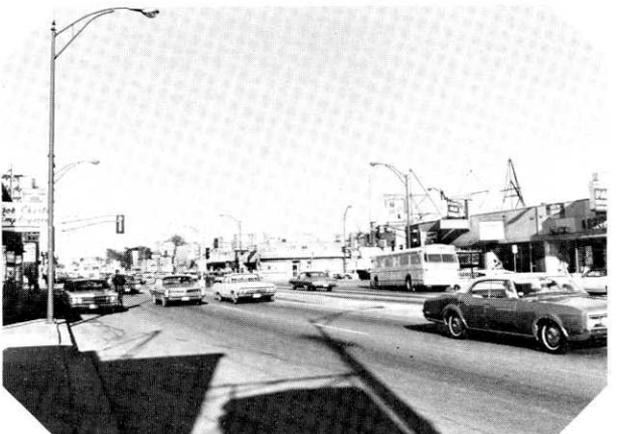
They're all Robbs, posing in front of the John Robb Blacksmith Shop at 95th and Clifton Park in 1900. L. to r. are John Jr., John Sr., James, Luella, Mrs. Robb, Mary, and George in a bundle of baby clothes in the doorway of the shop.



Today the home is still there, and still in the Robb family. The need for a blacksmith is long since gone, however, and so is the shop, replaced by a building occupied by Schaaf Glass. The echoes of hoofs are drowned out by the din going by.



95th and Kedzie, looking east from Sawyer in the 30's. To the right of the bus is Panos', which was then on the southwest corner.



Today 95th is a major highway. The bus has "grown" in size, and there are tall street lights and long traffic lights.



“I Remember . . .

The deep ditches along 95th Street had big crabs that lived in them. We'd catch them and bring them home, and my mother would cook them for supper. It was a great delicacy.

Mrs. Viola Geis Crossen

On Saturday afternoon, a train of kids pulling little wagons with wash tubs and boilers on them lined up at Teitzel's drilled well to get water to take baths on Saturday.

Mrs. Ann Fritz Claussen

My two dogs and I used to take milk from Mr. Hasse's farm on 93rd and Ridgeway to Mr. Merkle, president of St. Mary's cemetery. With a lantern, we could see to walk between all the gravestones. But one night I failed to see a grave site that had just been dug. The milk can, lantern and I all landed at the bottom of the hole. I couldn't get out, but I was able to reach up and tie my scarf around the neck of one of my dogs and send him home. It seemed like hours later, but my dad followed the dog back and rescued me from my "early grave".

Mrs. Hannah Felst Voegele

The water in the ditches used to freeze in the winter time, and we kids would skate all the way to Blue Island from the Park. Then we'd turn around and skate back. You had to have strong ankles.

Harry Leppin

Our allowance was a penny a week and we got it every Monday morning. Every once in a while, though, I would drop mine in a crack between two boards of the wooden sidewalks we had along Kedzie Avenue. It was quite a job digging it out.

Mrs. Johanna Kamp

The children walked Blind Miss Webb on her route selling cough medicine and vanilla. We would walk as far as the hill at 95th and California, and she would give a penny to us. There were wooden sidewalks part of the way.

Mrs. Ann Fritz Claussen

My family's first car was a Model-T ice truck. I drove it when I was 8 years old—but we didn't have the traffic and the speeds that we have today. Prices were different then, too, My dad bought the home I was born in for \$500. It's still standing today—at 9311 Homan.

Barney Huske

We picked strawberries that grew wild in the fields most anywhere from Trumbull to Crawford. There was plenty for everybody. And we fished in the ditches—caught pickerel that came swimming over from the Calumet River.

Albert Howell



There was quicksand in places on 99th Street when it was a dirt road. The 3 farms along the road were DeVries', Huisenga's, and my dad's. They got together and bought a freight car load of cinders, which the B&O delivered at 95th Street. I helped spread them and "modernize" 99th Street.

Frank Rosier

Not so long ago my neighbors were digging down to put a fence in, and hit an old wooden casket. Our house is located at 93rd and Turner on the property once owned by the Fritz family, who made caskets there in the 1920's. My neighbor insisted on digging up the entire casket before he'd go ahead with his fence.

Mrs. Betty Leo Banstra

My father, "Buckskin Bill" Conrad, was the first traffic cop in the Park. He worked Sundays only, on the corner of 95th and Kedzie. Just 2 lanes in each direction, but he had his hands full. He used to come home with his pockets full of cigars, given him by friends who passed.

Mrs. Lucy Conrad Wolf

A Village board meeting in 1952, when I was a trustee, was lasting pretty long. I started doodling on a pad and came up with a design for the next year's Village vehicle license. I worked in a picture of a church and came up with the phrase "The Village of Churches". I passed the sketch around and they liked it so well, we voted to use it, complete with my new "nickname" for the Park.

Ray Johnson

We all ice skated on the old lagoons that were in St. Mary's cemetery near the old office. I think they used fill from the Evergreen Plaza to fill in the lagoons when they built the Plaza.

Bob Crossen

At election time all of us kids would get free candy and gum at Hill's grocery store at 94th and Turner. The elected party would pay and we didn't care which party was elected, all the kids were there from both parties.

Mrs. Ann Fritz Claussen

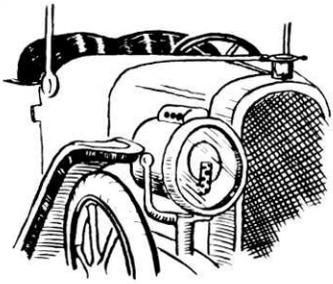
The swamp in back of Evergreen Towers bowling alley was our swimmin' hole back in the days before pools. The water must have been around five feet deep, real muddy and thick with polywogs. We used to catch them with old tin cans.

John Schurman



Test your memory. How many can you recognize from the first grade class of 1908, Evergreen Park School? For a starter, that's Viola Geis Crossen on Miss Sargeant's lap, and Delos Solterman, former postmaster, is in there somewhere.





Auto Show...

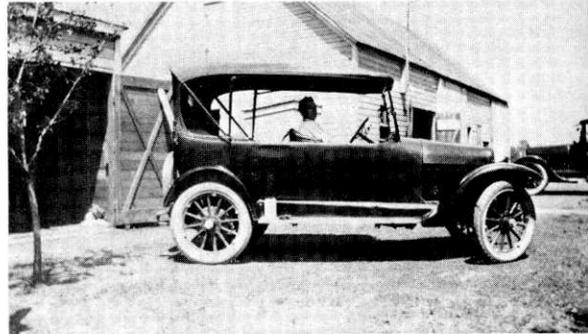
Cars were used for campaigning back in 1920, too. That's Albert Priebe, the candidate, and Marian Wolf standing by the touring car with spare tire in back.



From the wide choice of one color, Joe Voegelé picked black for his family auto. The license plate says 1924—you guess the year of the auto.



All dressed up for an open air ride in their 1912 Ford is the Geis family—Cassie, Viola, Jacob, and Anthony, with friend Joe Bappert on the right.



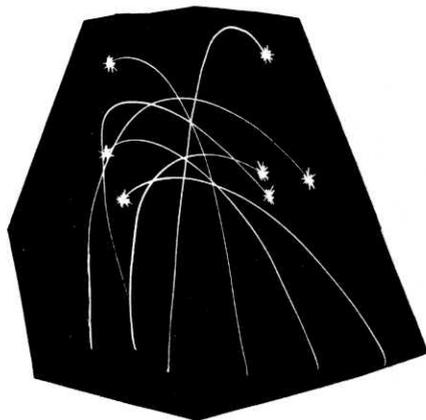
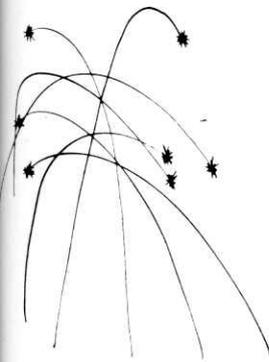
1920 is the date of this picture, so the old Maxwell, driven by William Kamp, must be at least that old.



The rumble seat brings back some great memories, and so does the Model-A. Best car Ford ever made, claim many old-timers, and it's hard to argue when you see this model still running back in 1967.

Leaving Ozinga's way back when with a load of coke in bags is a 1929 International 6-Speed Special truck and three delivery men. In the distance is the old Grand Trunk signal tower at 95th.





Celebration Schedule

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9 — OPENING DAY

All Day	Merchants Bargain Day	Local emporium proprietors recreate the "good old days" with nostalgic bargain prices.
12:30 p.m.	Pioneer Luncheon	Residents who lived in the Park prior to 1920 will be honored guests at Bruno's Restaurant, 3020 W. 95th Street.
Evening	Celebration Ball	The Martinique Restaurant, 2500 W. 94th Place, the site of the Coronation of the Jubilee Queen. State dignitaries, including Senator Ozinga, and local officials, including Mayor Klein, will be there.

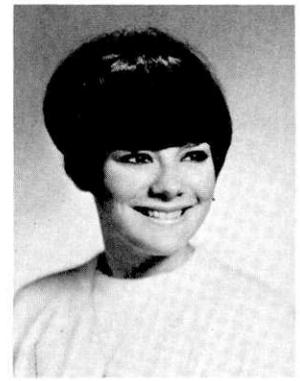
SATURDAY, AUGUST 10 — PARADE DAY

All Day	Merchants Bargain Day	More "old-fashioned" specials.
11:00 a.m.	Jubilee Parade	Starts at 95th and Crawford, proceeds to 95th and California on north lanes of 95th. Business and organizational floats, bicycle dress-up, bands. Prizes for best entries.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11 — RELIGIOUS DAY

All Day	Religious Services	Participation at individual churches.
2:30 p.m.	Band Concert	5th Army Band presents concert at Evergreen Park Community High School Football Field.
Immediately Following	Style Show	Fashions from <i>then</i> until <i>now</i> , sponsored by the Evergreen Park Junior Woman's Club, with songs by the P.T.A. Chorus.





Honored at the Celebration, and our Miss Junior Miss of Illinois this year, is Carol Intrieri of Evergreen Park.

All dressed up for a Celebration are some committee members in front of 75th Anniversary headquarters at 95th and Francisco.

MONDAY, AUGUST 12 — LADIES DAY

All Day	Merchants Bargain Days	Last chance at the trading post.
Afternoon	Pie and Cake Baking Contest	Blue Ribbons given for "Best Bakers". Baked goods donated to veteran's hospitals and retarded children's schools. In the Evergreen Park High School cafeteria.
Afternoon	Pie Eating Contest	For boys and girls ages 8 to 12 years. In the High School cafeteria.
Afternoon & Evening	Art Show	For amateur artists in Evergreen Park, young people included. Paintings, pencil and charcoal sketches, sculpture, wood carving, papier-mâché, etc. In the High School cafeteria.
Afternoon & Evening	Handcraft and Hobbies	Display of home-made items—quilts, afghans, aprons, etc.; and collections of dolls, figurines, antiques or curiosities of any kind. Sponsored by the Grandmother Club in the High School cafeteria.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 13 — PREMIÈRE DAY

1:00 p.m.	Flower Show	Horticultural display, sponsored by the Garden Club of Evergreen Park. At the Legion Hall.
8:00 p.m.	Jubilee Pageant	The première pageant performance of <i>Scene in Evergreen</i> , exciting spectacular depicting the history of the Village, with special costuming, professional lighting and scenery. Honored tonight before pageant, State Senator Frank Ozinga, Village Officials, and Jubilee Queen. At the EPHS Football Field.
After Pageant	Fireworks Finale	