

FRANK B. LUCHSINGER

Frank B. Luchsinger is a prominent figure in financial circles of Green county and this part of the state as president of the First National Bank of Monroe. He has materially furthered the progress of agriculture in Wisconsin and is one of its leading stockmen. He was born in Monroe, February 20, 1879, a son of John and Elsbeth (Kundert) Luchsinger, and represents one of the old and prominent families of Wisconsin. A review of the honorable career of John Luchsinger, who died a decade ago, may be found elsewhere in this work.

Reared in his native city, Frank B. Luchsinger had the advantage of a high school education and was graduated in 1898. Entering the field of finance in 1917, he was elected a director of the First National Bank of Monroe and became an officer of the bank, assuming the duties of vice president in 1922. Five years later he was called to the presidency and since 1927 has remained at the head of the bank, adhering to a conservative policy which has made this strong and reliable institution a vital force for development and advancement in the district which it serves. He is a director in the Wisconsin Bank Shares Corporation. He has long been regarded as a shrewd, farsighted financier and is also prominently identified with business interests of Monroe as a partner in the Luchsinger Monument Works. Investing a considerable portion of his capital in land, Mr. Luchsinger has become the owner of several desirable farms, given over to the raising of blooded horses and cattle, and one of his finest properties is the Cold Springs farm on the Monticello road. He has one hundred and forty head of Holsteins, constituting one of the largest and best dairy herds in this section

of Wisconsin. As a breeder and trainer of notable racing stock he is widely known and from his stud came Peter McKinney with a record of 2:01 $\frac{3}{4}$, winner of the world's championship for harness horses in 1929.

The word fail has no place in the vocabulary of Frank B. Luchsinger, for he belongs to that class of men who are destined to win success in every direction in which their inclination leads them. Progressive and public-spirited, he has exerted his efforts as readily and as effectively for the general welfare as for his own aggrandizement and headed the Monroe Water Works Company from 1904 to 1907. For many years he occupied the presidency of the Green County Fair Association and from the second year of its founding has served as president of the Monroe Country Club. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias.

On Christmas day of 1901, Mr. Luchsinger was united in marriage to Miss May Ludlow, a daughter of Henry and Lida (Conde) Ludlow. On another page of this work is printed the life story of Henry Ludlow, who passed away in October, 1923. His daughter May was graduated from the Monroe high school and attended the University of Wisconsin for two years. Soon after her marriage she went with her husband to New Mexico and Arizona for the benefit of the latter's health, the couple spending five years in that part of the country. Since their return to Monroe, Wisconsin, in 1908, Mrs. Luchsinger has taken an active part in social work in the state. She served as president of the Wisconsin Woman's Relief Corps in 1920-21. In the latter year she was appointed to the board of the Grand Army Home for Veterans near Waupaca, Wisconsin, by Governor Blaine and has since received reappointment from Governors Zimmerman and Kohler, being the only woman member of the board. Mrs. Luchsinger has also filled the position of chairman of the Red Cross Chapter of Green county since its organization at the time of the World war. She has been a member of the Monroe school board for several years and a member of the library committee during this period. Moreover, she belongs

*There is still a monument
to this horse by the barn*

to the Monroe Woman's Club and the Monday Club and also has membership with the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Pythian Sisters. Her efforts as a social welfare worker have been attended with excellent results and she has long enjoyed an enviable reputation as one of the leading and most highly esteemed women of her community.

VALUABLE MARE

DIED FRIDAY

May 21-1921

Luchsinger's Great Saddle Horse Succumbs To Indigestion.

Miss Cliff, the valuable black saddle mare owned by F. B. Luchsinger of this city, died about 9 o'clock Friday night from indigestion which appeared in the attack last Sunday. The animal seemingly improved under the attention of Veterinarian Roub and trotted, apparently greatly improved, when taken out to the pasture on Thursday.

At about noon on Friday she was taken with another attack and in spite of the heroic efforts made by Dr. Roub and Mr. Luchsinger, who remained constantly with her from beginning to end of her final sickness, were unable to bring about the desired relief which meant the saving of her life.

Those who love animals and especially horses are able to appreciate the loss of this valuable animal and to sympathize with Mr. and Mrs. Luchsinger, for the animal was not only a champion of her class but bore a gentleness and intelligence that was almost human and held a warm spot in the hearts of her owners. The animal will be remembered as the black of the two shown late years at the Green County Fairs coupled with Diamond McDonald with Mr. and Mrs. Luchsinger in the saddles. The animals were related but Miss Cliff was the more valuable of the two. Mr. Luchsinger speaking of "value" said it was not a matter of money, but speaking from that viewpoint her value could not be estimated because she could not be replaced. Her class as champion coupled with her fine disposition, gentle as a Shetland pony, proud bearing and gameness could not be replaced by any amount of money; he would not know where to look to find one like her and his position is appreciated by horsemen, especially so in Missouri or Kentucky where they know and value good horses.

Miss Cliff was 11 years old and owned by Mr. Luchsinger for seven years. She was a daughter of Rex McDonald, the greatest saddle horse in the world and his best daughter. Miss Cliff held the grand championship of Missouri as a three-year-old and the grand championship of Iowa as a five-year-old, titles she won in competition with the greatest horses of the time appearing in the contests. The Missouri title was won against a large field where \$25,000 in prizes were up. Miss Cliff never appeared in contest that she did not win the blue ribbon and in the Iowa title-winning appearance was not only named grand champion in her class but a winner over all breeds shown. She had won \$9,000 in prize money in the past six years.

Dr. Roub, our veterinarian, stated he never attended a gamer animal. Twenty minutes before death and at the end of nine hours of intense suffering, she again got upon her feet only to drop again under stress of great agony. During the afternoon there were times when only the voice of Mr. Luchsinger caught her attention and when he spoke to her she would turn her head his way, brush his knee with her nose and open her eyes as it to say: "I thought you were a friend, why don't you do something?"

Miss Cliff was wrapped in her blankets and buried this morning in a grave dug beneath an apple tree on the Luchsinger place at the southwest portion of the city.

May Luchsinger

Lions Club assists the blind

The Lions Club of Monroe, which has become well known in the community for its role in the Lions City Band Minstrel Show, observed its 30th anniversary in 1971.

Allions Club first existed here in September of 1936 but was disbanded during World War II. The present club was re-constituted in 1946 and chartered 21 years later in 1961, with the late Stewart F. Kingston as its first president.

The main project of the club is to provide aid to the visually handicapped, with funds from the Minstrel Show and from the annual Light Bulb Sale, used to finance this community service which includes providing eye glasses, participating in the Eye Test program, an Eye Bank Project, and supporting the Wisconsin Lions Camp near Ashland.

Members of the club donated a new shelter house in Lincoln Park to the City of Monroe after its completion in 1971. During recent weeks, they have

provided a Play Lot in a park area near St. Clare Hospital, near the Water Tower, to be known as the Tower Play Lot. The club has provided approximately seven pieces of playground equipment, geared chiefly to preschool children.

The lot is located on land belonging to the Water Department of the City. A sign which includes the Lions emblem, made by members of the Park and Recreation Dept., has been installed at the play area.

The club also helped to build the Band Shell in Twining Park.

The Monroe club has donated thousands of dollars to projects involving civic, commercial and other community projects during its 22 years. Other fundraising projects for their activities have included water dip stands and horse-pulling contests.

Presidents of the local club, in addition to Kingston, 1961-62, have been Archie Myers, 1962-63; Forrest Kubly, 1963-64; Pat Connors Jr., 1964-65; Nate

Goetz, 1965-66; J. T. Eiler, 1966-67; John Brown, 1967-68; William Gyre, 1968-69; Doran Zwygart, 1969-70; Robert Bauer, 1970-71; Dr. John Irvin, 1971-72; Raymond Fritz, 1972-73; Kurt Schwager, 1973-74; Perry Foxworth, 1974-75; Leon Schroeder, 1975-76; Dr. John Luber, 1976-77; Donald Seelachlag, 1977-78; Dr. Robert Smith, 1978-79; Charles Mathias, 1979-80; David Seelachlag, 1981-82; Delbert Krupke, 1982-83; and Allan Holtschoppe, 1983-84.

The late Russell Pien was the first president of the earlier

Lions Club, in 1936, followed by Roy F. Zoner, now in Florida, who was named president in 1937.

Charter members of the Lions Club are John A. Amman, Virgil Brunkow, P. J. Connor Jr., William Gyre, Sherman Hodgson, Dr. John Irvin, Lester M. Johnson, Forrest L. Kubly, Lowell Markwardt, Charles Mathias, Archie Myers, Dr. John Luber, Frank Brand, Nate Cupler (deceased), Joseph C. Dearth, Charles Fug, Nathan Goetz, Dr. Dwan Mings, Bernard Purwell, Donald Rupp, Dr. Jack Holbeite and Henry Tachy.

Dr. Robert Smith, Monroe is the zone chairman and is chairman of the Eye Bank Committee. Lester M. Johnson is a past District Governor and is also a past International Director.

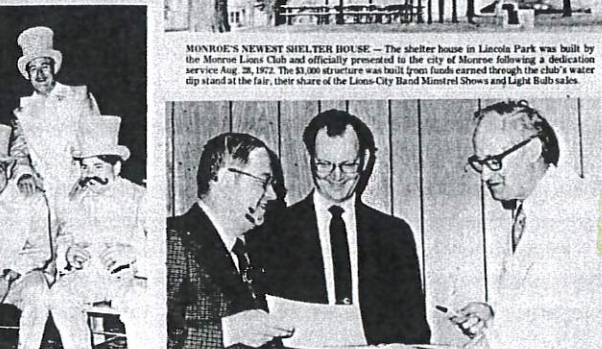
Present officers are Allan Holtschoppe, president; C. Ed Blise, first vice president; Raymond Montgomery, Brownson, second vice president; Randall Karlen, third vice president; George Hultizer, secretary; James Walsh, treasurer; Darrell Cherry, Lion tamer, and Delbert Hertz, tall twister, and Delbert Krupke, immediate past president. Directors are Lee Kubly, William Sperry, James Curran, Carol Jones, Joe Rast and Richard Newcomer.



WAS NATIONAL WRC PRESIDENT — The many acts of kindness toward others remain a monument in memory of Mrs. May L. Luchsinger, Monroe native, who was born May 9, 1874, and died Oct. 14, 1956. On Dec. 25, 1940, she was married to Frank B. Luchsinger, who died in 1940. She held various local, state and national offices, among them Past Chief of the Pythian Sisters, member of the Board of Education, director of the Milton College Foundation, director of the First National Bank, honorary life member of the Women's Club, past regent of the D.A.R., state president, national inspector and national president of the R.W.C., director and life curator of the State Historical Society, and member and secretary of the old Board of Managers of the Grand Army Home for Veterans at King, Wis. Income from a trust fund provided by the estate of Mrs. Luchsinger was used to equip the chapel at the Grand Army Home, located on the main floor of the Burns-Clemons Infirmary there. Mrs. Luchsinger contributed liberally to other library, museum and other projects for the home. On various occasions, when state checks were late, she sent her personal check so that employees could be paid on time.



THEY HIGHLIGHT MINSTREL SHOW — The end men keep things moving at a fast pace for the Lions Club City Band Minstrel Show held every other year to raise funds for community projects. Their faces become familiar to the thousands who attend the shows. Left to right are: Seated — "Zeke," Charles Mathias, "Lum," Forrest Kubly, "Hubbard," J. T. (Duke) Eiler, and "Willie," William Gyre; Standing — "Tex," Archie Myers; Interlocutor, Charles Fug, and "Clem," Dr. Robert Smith.



MONROE'S NEWEST SHELTER HOUSE — The shelter house in Lincoln Park was built by the Monroe Lions Club and officially presented to the city of Monroe following a dedication service Aug. 28, 1972. The \$3,000 structure was built through the club's water dip stand at the fair, their share of the Lions City Band Minstrel Shows and Light Bulb sales.



LIGHT UP FOR THE BLIND — With aid to the visually handicapped a main project of the Lions Club, an annual light bulb sale is held to finance the project. Pictured planning the 1973 sale are, left to right, Rolfe Karlen, co-chairman of the sale, with Leo Nack, center, chairman of the Eye Care Committee of the Club, and Dr. Robert Smith, chairman of the club's Eye Bank Committee.

Monroe Commandery organized in 1922

The Monroe Commandery No. 48, Knights Templar, was organized at a meeting on April 25, 1922, in the Masonic Hall, Monroe, attended by Dr. L. A. Moore, A. R. Neuschwander, Jacob Conspeler, G. H. Kandler, Ed Good, F. A. Schriener, L. H. Kohl, A. D. Geigel, R. D. Gorman, Marschal Lewis, Jerome Schwatzer, F. J. Sietman, John D. Gorman, Jacob Karlen, Charles Bolander and Robert L. Roe.

The first named chairman and R. L. Roe, acting secretary. Tellers appointed were Gorman and Gempeler and Dr. L. A. Moore was elected to serve as the first commander.

A dispensation was received from the Grand Commander of Wisconsin to open and hold a Commandery of Knights Templar, to be known as Monroe Commandery No. 48, on May 19, 1922.

Prior to the organizational meetings, the men from Monroe, Brookhead, Judy Moore, Brownson and South Wayne, attended the convocations of Janesville Commandery No. 2, which had been organized Sept. 11, 1865.

During the first regular meeting of the new Commandery, the following officers were elected: Frank A. Starior, generalissimo; F. J. Sietman, captain general; A. R. Neuschwander, senior warden; J. H. Schwatzer, junior warden; Harold T. Tuttle, prelate; J. H. Doeberl, treasurer, and C. B. Bolander, recorder. Appointive officers were Louis H. Kohl, Ray Young, Charles Kohl and John Eiler.

Dr. L. A. Moore was the first Mason of Monroe to be elevated to a 3rd Degree Mason, and O. N. Johnson, formerly of Monroe, presently residing in San City, Ark., was the second. Knights Templar sponsor in charity of their own known as the Wisconsin Knights Templar Educational Fund, a fund used to purchase hearing aids for indigent Wisconsin residents.

That charity is sponsored in addition to the National Foundation for the Blind and the National Educational Foundation.

Present officers are Robert Faith, commander; Arthur Tschudy, generalissimo; Everett Wild, captain general; Sam Rabb, prelate; Jerry Brooks, junior warden; James Thacker, senior warden; Marion Laube, recorder; William Miller, standard bearer; Owen Beckman, sword bearer; Kenneth Frydenlund, in medical corps and from 1917 to the end of World War I, distinguished himself in front line active duty with the 2nd Division, earning the French Croix de Guerre citation and Purple Heart. He was also a charter member of the Monroe Kiwanis Club and an honorary member of the Rotary Club.

CAST OF "THE MARK OF THE WOLF," ORIGINAL PLAY — Members of the cast of the Harriet Aronson's original play, "The Mark of the Wolf," presented by the Monroe Little Theatre group in 1959, are shown in the above photo. Left to right are: Gene Bolander, as Gernar Troben, lord of Wolf Castle; Miss Dorothy Nommensen as Sheila, lady of mystery;

Paul T. Schulz, as Weylan, captain of the guard; Mrs. E.R. Blair, grooms; Trebeck's nurse, Miss Freda Green, as the old woman, and Betty Schulz, daughter of Paul, as prodigal reader. The play was directed by Mrs. Paul Patterson. Among other prize-winning plays written by Dr. Aronson was "The Song," a Greek fantasy, which was directed by Mrs. Blair.

Theatre Guild active

On May 23, 1970, 31 persons met at the Monroe Community Center for the purpose of organizing a local theatre group. Mrs. John Leo Norlin presided at this meeting, which formed committees to solicit funds and members, go through the formalities of organization, and read plays for future productions.

This was not the first community theatre group to function in Monroe. In the early 1930's the Monroe Dramatic Club presented many fine productions. The Monroe Little Theatre group, which placed second in the National Dramatic tournament held in Beloit on March 20, 1934.

The Dramatic Club later that year formed the nucleus of the present Theatre Guild was held July 20, 1970, at which time the following officers elected: president, Ted Shepherd; vice president, Dan Parsons; secretary, Ed Larson; treasurer, Charles Fox. With less than six months of the initial meetings, the Theatre Guild put on its first production, "The Desk Set," directed by Vera Mey.

The success of the first play increased the membership and gave Guild members incentive to progress to more difficult productions.

During that first winter, workshops were held and groups met frequently to read plays. Members with little or no experience in Theatre Guild learned "the ropes" from the more experienced members.

In the years following, two major productions and an evening of one-act plays have been undertaken. In between 800 and 900 people have attended each production, most of which have been held in the Monroe Junior High School. Attorneys have been made to give Monroe area theatre

store scenery and props, and conduct workshops.

As Monroe Theatre Guild prepares for its fourth season, it boasts of almost 150 members, many of whom were involved in the recent production, "Hubert the Wand," presented at Monroe Junior High School on October 3, 4, and 6.

Returning soldiers who were ill or injured were allowed \$3 per week for two weeks by the government, and then \$1.50 per week for two weeks, and were then turned over to 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6.

Beautiful sets designed and built by Wayne Sroessner.

The current Guild board is headed by president Mrs. Kenneth La Vore Meyer. Long-range goals include acquisition of a suitable "home" in which to hold plays.

Relief Corps oldest patriotic organization

O. F. Finney Woman's Relief Corps No. 24, the oldest patriotic organization in Monroe, celebrated its 88th anniversary May 29 of this year. On May 29, 1983, 12 women responded to the call to organize a Woman's Relief Corps here, with the meeting called by the national president.

The women were Miss M. R. Twining, E. C. Schabel, O. D. H. Beyer, N. A. Glascock, C. Arnold, C. Wetzel, C. C. Chase, M. Sicking, S. A. Sicking, J. Thorp, E. Solomon and M. W. Petch.

The Corps was named in honor of Capt. O. F. Finney. Mrs. Twining was named the first president and Mrs. Petch, secretary, with dues set at \$1 per year, remaining the same throughout the years.

At the close of the Civil War, calls for help were received to assist the needy and sick. The National WRC was organized as the Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic. Records show that 99 per cent of the members had a relative in the G. A. R.

When the war ended, some members made large batches of muffin bread in their homes, others distributed it and helped care for the sick and their families. Relief given here included a cord of wood costing \$2.50, clothing, groceries, flour, potatoes, and a wash board and tub. Members were assessed 25 cents when funds ran low, and they also gave support to raise money.

Returning soldiers who were ill or injured were allowed \$3 per week for two weeks by the government, and then \$1.50 per week for two weeks, and were then turned over to 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6.

They make weekly and supply color bearers with flags for parades for Memorial Day services, contribute to the Grand Army Home at King and the V. A. Hospital at Madison. For 17 years, they provided snack boxes for indigent leaving for service. For the O. F. Finney Corps No. 24 is a living monument to its most dedicated and to the late Mrs. May L. Luchsinger, who took an active part in the turning over of the building to the National Headquarters Museum in honor and in memory of the Grand Army of the Republic at Springfield, Ill. Mrs. Luchsinger served as National President of the Woman's Relief Corps in 1942, and had also served as president of the local Corps for the 1920's.

When the Grand Army of the Republic Post ceased to exist years ago, the Relief Corps organization continued as a group, carrying out their work.

Present officers of the local Corps are Miss Hedwig Perlmutter, president; Mrs. Garrett Reel, senior vice president; Mrs. Edna Lindsey, permanent president; Mrs. Eldora Zumbach, secretary; Mrs. Ernest Zumbach, treasurer; Mrs. Herman Stuessy, conductor; Mrs. Louise Kaderly, captain, and Mrs. Jacob Strassler, nurse. Mrs. Floyd Matzke, assistant conductor; Miss Leah Maske, assistant guard; Mrs. Fred Schott, patriotic instructor; Mrs. Clara Miller, press correspondent; Miss Helen Zimman, musician, and Miss Carl Ault, Beatrice Mulligan, assistant guard; Mrs. Fred Schott, patriotic instructor; Mrs. Clara Miller, press correspondent; Miss Helen Zimman, musician, and Miss Carl Ault, Beatrice Mulligan, assistant guard; Mrs. Fred Schott, patriotic instructor; Mrs. Clara Miller, press correspondent; Miss Helen Zimman, musician, and Miss Carl Ault, Beatrice Mulligan, assistant guard.

Meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month in IOOF Hall. The Corps has 155 members.

FIRST DEATH — The first Argle death was Joseph Elderly, who was the first person buried in the Old Cemetery in 1850.

List of Articles as having a possible historical value.

In the basement the cradle was used for all of the children of Arabut Ludlow. The little sled was used for myself in the early 1870s. There is also some bed room crockery and a bread box which were in use at the time that this house was built.

In the first floor store room the high ~~chair~~ chair was also used by all of the children of Arabut Ludlow.

In the safe in the Dinning room are some old books and papers, also some very old teaspoons as well as a few table spoons that were brought west by the Conde family. There are too one half dozen teaspoons with a round top and marked with A.C. which were made from coin silver and were given to my mother as a wedding present.

Old pieces among the jewery is a black and white cameo pin of the very early 1870s, an Aqua Marine set ring of a slightly earlier time, both of which are in the original settings.

There is a set of tan and white cameos (new settings) which belonged to my grand mother Conde before they came west. also a bow knot pin and a gold lead pencil which were sent her during the time of the Gold rush to Calif. in 1849. These were made in Calif. at that time and are of the soft gold. The old gold watch was my fathers.

In the dinning room the small dinning table belonged to the original furniture of this house. Most of the articles in the large china cabinet are old. Those marked were so marked by my mother and so refer to her people.

In the library the old book case and desk is also part of the original furniture. The clock was a wedding present to my mother and the bronzes are old. In the closet off of this room are some odd books. The picture of the three horses over the fire place was always there.

In the sun room the desk is a hand made desk and was made for my grand father when he was first made president of the monroe bank. The mahogany octagonal table was made by a Mr. Baggett of Monroe in 1857 and was the first Directors table of the First National Bank of Monroe.

In the long room: The black walnut music cabinet was the first music cabinet to be brought into Green County, the picture above it was painted by Mrs. Lida Ludlow, the picture over the piano was painted by Mr. Will Woodworth (a Monroe man). The marble (dark) candle sticks on the Mantle were brought to this country from Europe by mothers family in the late 1700. The picture on the west wall was painted by Mrs. A.S. Abbott. The lounge on the south was sold by Mr. A. Ludlow as not good enough for the new house. The round table was made by Mr. Wittmer of Brodhead, Wisc. The Harvey Young picture also the water color, both on the south wall are valuable.

In the north west room the two old chairs were also of the early set of furniture.

In the hall the hat rack and two chairs with it were put in at the time the house was finished.

In the uper hall or rather on the landing the chair was a part of the Italian exhibit at the World's fair in Chicago in 93.

The desk in the uper hall was brought west by the Ludlow family in the early thirties.

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In the hall the hat rack and two chairs with it were put in at the time the house was finished.

In the upper hall or rather on the landing the chair was a part of the Italian exhibit at the World's fair in Chicago in '93.

The desk in the upper hall was brought west by the Ludlow family in the early thirties.

*Naturally there are many things that I have not listed.

The pottery and vases are numbered and listed, the list and mother's book of clippings are in the large book case in the library.

The bed room furniture and most of the old chairs were bought at the time the house was finished.

Some old papers may also be found in the trunks in the attic.

March 4, 1937

May R. Riehsinger

This list is made to bring to the attention of any historical society
articles that might be overlooked or not understood and more may be
added in writing as it may come to my mind.

NOV 13 1936

Wm. B. ...
COUNTY JUDGE