

CRAWFORD
COUNTY

Breda •

71



30

Carroll •

Lincoln Highway

Frank Neppel's
Farm •

•
Adolph
Lenz's
Farm

CARROLL
COUNTY

GREENE
COUNTY

Chicago Milwaukee St. Paul RR

•
Manning

•
Templeton

•
Dedham

•
Rev. Starck's
Church

•
John Schultes's
Farm

AUDUBON
COUNTY

WEST CENTRAL
IOWA
5 miles

SHELBY
COUNTY

•
Audubon

71

GUTHRIE
COUNTY



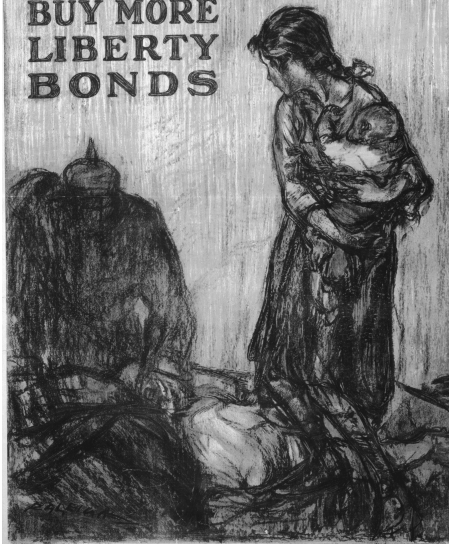
Aerial view of Templeton looking southwest in 1910. The town's late-Prohibition-era population of 428 would be its highest. *Courtesy of Elaine Schwaller*



To the Reverend Billy Sunday (left), alcohol was nothing other than “double distilled liquid damnation.” Despite his troubled Iowa childhood, he became one of its leading foes as America’s most famous evangelist of the era. In his sermons before packed tabernacles, he thrilled his audiences with energetic onstage antics. Here he demonstrates at a visit to the White House. *Courtesy of Library of Congress*

HUN OR HOME?

BUY MORE
LIBERTY
BONDS



“Fear,” said the country’s chief propagandist, George Creel, “is a rather important element to be bred into the civilian population.” To do so Creel and his counterparts at other government agencies produced copious literature casting the Germans as inhuman and bloodthirsty and hell-bent on not just defeating the Allies in Europe but crossing the Atlantic and pillaging America as well. “Hun,” as used in this poster, was one of their prized watchwords.

Courtesy of Library of Congress

Law enforcement agent Benjamin Franklin Wilson. Wilson's life was as transformed by the Eighteenth Amendment as that of Joe Irlbeck. Born in Audubon County, Iowa, just a few miles south of Templeton, he became one of the state's most respected federal Prohibition agents. He'd remain in liquor law enforcement his whole life, eventually becoming the top alcohol officer in Iowa.

Courtesy of National Archives, St. Louis, Missouri





Joe Irlbeck in 1935. From a German Catholic family, he built the Templeton rye bootlegging operation that ran stills throughout Carroll County and produced a whiskey that became renowned all over the Midwest. *Courtesy of Elaine Schwaller*

H. F. Vermeule,
Jeweler,
Templeton, - Iowa.

23-27-

MAY 18 20

Templeton, Iowa
4-26-1920.

ENCLOSURE
73/58

Attorney General Palmer,
Washington, D. C.

23-27-3
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
APR 29 320 P.M.
MAILS AND FILED DIVISION

Honored Sir, - Since writing you recently in regard to moonshiners in this locality, an agent attempted to make a capture here but fell down on the deal. He raided a bootlegger at Carrall and this outlaw telephoned the news of intended raid here, ahead, giving them time to move out and secrete their apparatus. Twenty-one stills were in operation here at the time and several hundred gallons of moonshine on hand. It will take at least five good men to handle this bunch of outlaws and carry out a successful raid. To the list of names sent you before I will add those of John Harbrie, Wm. Stangl, V. C. Schwallier, Fred Stuevic, Henry and Wm. Friedman jr. These latter parties

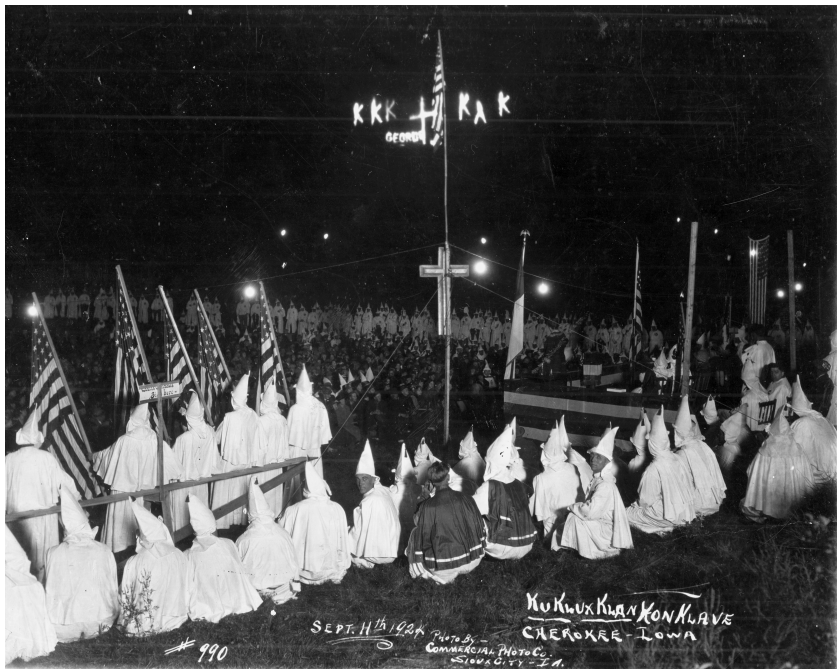
Town jeweler Henry F. Vermeule was one of the few Templeton citizens to object to bootlegging, and he was so opposed to it that he twice wrote letters (including this page of the second one he sent, on April 26, 1920) to the US attorney general naming dozens of neighbors he thought should be arrested. *Courtesy of National Archives,*



Left to right: Otto Greteman, Barbara (Reicher) Heitman, Coletta (Greteman) Reicher, Mayme Albers, Rose Greteman, and Florence (Reicher) Fox in 1914 at the Templeton Telephone Office owned by Frank Greteman. The phone network functioned as a warning system to bootleggers when federal Prohibition agents came to town. *Courtesy of Elaine Schwaller*



Republican Iowa senator and notorious dry Smith Wildman Brookhart so rankled his fellow legislators with his numerous proposals to toughen Prohibition and his constant chastisement against drinking in the Capitol that one of them inserted a limerick about him into the Congressional Record. It read: "I come from way out in Iowa / The home of corn and many an art, / Where bootleggin's so bad / It makes all of us sad / That everyone knows it but BROOKHART." *Courtesy of Library of Congress*



A Ku Klux Klan rally in 1924 in Cherokee, Iowa, eighty miles northwest of Templeton. The resurgence of the Ku Klux Klan in the early-to-mid 1920s spread throughout Iowa and the Midwest. Instead of targeting blacks, this KKK movement went after Catholics and immigrants and also sought to enforce the liquor laws, employing vigilantism if necessary. *Courtesy of Cherokee Area Archives*



V. C. Schwaller and his son John in 1905. Both men would become important Templeton rye bootleggers. *Courtesy of Elaine Schwaller*



The Carroll County Courthouse, where the first big bootlegging case in the county was tried a full five years after the start of Prohibition. Sympathy for the bootleggers was so widespread in Carroll County that prosecutors tried nearly all their cases in the federal court in Fort Dodge, Iowa, seventy-five miles northeast of Templeton. *Courtesy of the Carroll Historical Society*

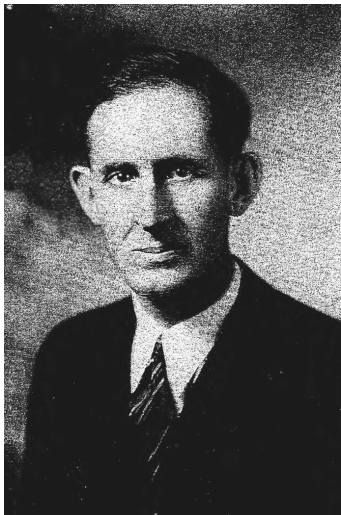
Lauretta Irlbeck in 1929,
the year she married
Templeton rye kingpin
Joe Irlbeck. Her father
was grocer and telephone-
system operator
Frank Greteman.

Courtesy of Elaine Schwaller





Monsignor F. H. Huesmann standing with his dog on the steps of the Sacred Heart Church rectory with an assistant priest. Huesmann not only gave Templeton rye's production his doctrinal blessing, he promoted the product by passing out samples and even permitted a small still to be housed in the church basement. *Courtesy of Elaine Schwaller*



Federal Prohibition agent F. H. Burris. Originally from Wisconsin, he assisted B. F. Wilson in many of his raids. He was castigated by the police chief of the sopping-wet city of Sioux City for being “too serious about liquor violations.” *Courtesy of National Archives, St. Louis, Missouri*



Templeton doctor Otis P. Morgenthaler, the town's mayor during Templeton rye's most active years, in the late 1920s through the end of Prohibition. He ordered the town's water supply turned on at midnight so bootleggers could fill up their mash tanks and run their stills. He also helped bail out his constituents when they were arrested by the feds.

Courtesy of the Carroll Historical Society

THE NEW YORK

REPORT PURCHASE FACES PSET

TURNER KEEPS OWN COUNSEL ON PATTERSON

Who He'll Support for Lieutenant Still a Guess.

BY C. C. CLIFTON.
Gov. W. W. Turner declared his personal opinion today in the Algona Advance Daily, that Governor George Patterson of Iowa, as a candidate for the Republican nomination for lieutenant governor, is the man who should be backed by the voters. The governor said he had no statement to make at this time on the lieutenant gubernatorial nomination.

"An opinion" he said, "is a recommendation for Patterson, given by a man who will be in favor of anyone but myself."

Senator Cummings, Representative Leonard Smith of Ottumwa, candidate for lieutenant governor, who Senator Turner said he would support, is a legislative leader and strongly in the Senate, but made no reply.

Senator Patterson had no answer to the question.

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'Little Brown Jug' Swings High in Templeton Street



Armed to the teeth at the far end of the street, the "little brown jug" that is being swung high in the air can be seen in the "brown jug" contest of Christmas decorations.

Seeks Duty On Lost Gem Bought in '14

The United States government last month will attempt to collect another debt on a three and one-half ounce diamond that was bought for \$100 in 1914.

Had Wain Goss, 21 J. Hill of Piquette, Ia., were not by his deceased stepson, he would not be looking for the gem, which was sold in the auction and on the market, at night between the gem was lost, according to the case in Henry, United States district attorney, who will verify the case in federal court at Ottumwa.

The government is asking \$100 for the gem, which was bought for \$100 in 1914, plus 6 percent interest, compounded annually.

Iowa Prices On Corn Top Chicago Bids

Feeders Pay 10 to 20 Cents Premium in Farm Lots.

May or June 5.
BY J. A. BINGHAM.
The heavy corn crop and the large number of bushels of corn that are being sold in the market, has caused the price of corn to drop. The price of corn in the market is now about 10 to 20 cents below the price of corn in the farm lots.

It's a Sad Story—But Tisn't True

Here's a story of the depression which has hit the town of Des Moines. It is a sad story, but it is true.

Arriving at the address given, the man took out a small package, which he handed to the woman. She opened it and found a small box containing a pair of shoes.

And Christmas Spirits Are Pleasant in the Land.

Sir Reginald's Wife Is Back in Waterloo

Turkey Hen Flees; Police Guns Bristle

Police on Page 7.
A year-old turkey hen, apparently wild at being pinned and kept by a woman, was shot by a woman in Waterloo, Ia., on Saturday night. The woman, who was named Mrs. J. A. Bingham, was shot by a woman in Waterloo, Ia., on Saturday night.

Bank Refunds Feared Likely To Halt Plan

BY FRANK WEAVER.
AT DES MOINES, Ia.—The plan of Sir Reginald's wife to buy a new house in Waterloo, Ia., has been abandoned.

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The town of Templeton celebrated Christmas 1931 by stringing up a cutout of a little brown jug of the sort in which they often sold their whiskey in as a decoration over Main Street. After an image of the provocative display was printed in the *Des Moines Register*, outraged drags throughout Iowa called on officers to finally rout Templeton's bootleggers; mostly, though, the brouhaha served to spread word of Templeton rye even farther. Copyright *Des Moines Register and Tribune Company*; used with permission