

Brimfield

Oral

History

Project



Steve Howe

Interviewed 28 October 2021



H.E. (Harland "Scout) Pemble's Merry Go Round c.1900's [probably 1920's] *(photo from Brimfield Baseball Association's Sesquicentennial Calendar 1986)* Harland Pemble was Steve's maternal grandfather.

H. E. Pemble's merry-go-round has contracts for the following picnics, the Old Settlers' at Brimfield, Harvest Home at Yates City, Home Coming at Williamsfield and big picnic at Hanna City.

Mrs. John Cook and daughter Mar-

county is being discussed. Line Superintendent H. E. Pemble with Assistant Sollenberger and a force of men has the extension about completed. The poles were hauled down the first of the week by the new subscribers, and the instruments will soon be installed.

The Brimfield News ,page 1, Brimfield, Illinois on Thursday, November 13th, 1924 retrieved online from Brimfield Advantage-Preservation.com

Brimfield Telephone Company

Brimfield Tel. Co. T

Extends Its Service South East To An Include Edwards.

The Brimfield Telephone Company is reaching out south east and is building a line into Edward's Station. For some time past a number of citizens in that vicinity have been asking for service, and the company at a recent meeting decided to comply with their request. The line now running down south to the Nick Schaub neighborhood south west of Kickapoo will be taken in to Edwards and will add eight new phones to the plant, including the grain elevator and feed mill at Edwards. A number of others will no doubt ask for phones when the service is established. Quick service courtesy given at any hour day or night because of the expansion of the Brimfield plant, which is considered everywhere as a model country exchange, and is a standard of comparison wherever telephone service in this vicinity is being discussed.

Superintendent H. E. Pemble and Assistant Sollenberger and a force of men has the extension about completed. The poles were hauled down the first of the week by the new subscribers, and the instruments will soon be installed.

Joe Schaub hauled the poles in his big Nash truck.

The new subscribers are: George Hanlon, John Hanlon, Herbert Hanlon, Wilbur Case, John Wickman, Dan Taylor, Edwards Milling Co., Roy Faggotte manager, C. E. Hurst.

It may be of interest to subscribers to know that free service with the Elmwood Exchange is furnished all subscribers to the Brimfield Exchange, and that for 10c any one may reach any person on the Williamsfield and Princeville exchanges. Elmwood, Laura, Monica, Oak Hill, Edwards and Olin are all served free by the Brimfield Telephone Company. It costs only 15c by number or 20c for a personal call to Peoria from Brimfield at any time day or night.

Six grain elevators are subscribers to the Brimfield plant, namely Brimfield Elevator Co., Laura Elevator Co., Jackson & Son and the Monica Elevator Co., J. W. Maher at Oak Hill, and the Edward's Farmer's Elevator Co. Thus the farmer subscriber with grain to sell may get the market from six dealers whenever he wishes to call.

The operators are Mildred Littlefield, chief; Cleo Tucker, Wilma McCoy and Marguerite Porter, assistants; Mrs. Tillie Schillock, night operator. Harlan Pemble is line man, and George Sollenberger, assistant.

The officers of the Company are Henry A. Blundy, president; Addison Pacey, vice president; John Rusk, treasurer; and Henry Memler, secretary and manager.

The directors of the Brimfield Telephone Company have elected Harlan Pemble as superintendent of office and lines, in place of H. B. Bowman who resigns to become a jolly farmer man. The change takes place February first. Mr Bowman has been with the company for five years, and retires with a splendid record for faithful and efficient service. Harlan has been Mr. Bowman's helper and right hand man for the past two years, and the promotion is a recognition of attention to duty and capable service. Jesse Emery will have the place vacated by Mr. Pemble. The telephone operators remain the same. The Misses Ethel Forney and Mildred Littlefield have charge of the day service, and Kenneth Yoakam night man, substitutes, Cleo Tucker and Pearl Hamilton. Mr. Bowman will be associated with his father-in-law, L. G. Cady in conducting the farm adjoining town. The troubles that trouble the trouble man will make no trouble for him, and on the sweaty seat of the flying gang will pursue his cheery way, his perspiring brow fanned by the gentle breezes, and his soul at peace with all the world. Happy man. Who wouldn't quit a telephone job for the farm

"elected Harlan Pemble as superintendent of office and lines...Harlan has been [the past] helper and right hand man for the past two years..."

The Brimfield News, Brimfield, Illinois, page 4 Thursday, January 29th, 1914 retrieved online Brimfield Advantage-Preservation.com



Brimfield Fire Dept: L-R Chas. Huey, Jas. Harker, **Harlan Pemble**, Foster Miller, Geo. Sollenberger, On Engine Ted Dungan, Charlie McCartney, Lester Baysinger, WF Harding, Grover Talmage, Frank Hamilton (*photo from Brimfield Historical Society retrieved from Brimfield Public Library*)



Illinois School for the Deaf, Jacksonville, IL

(retrieved from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Illinois_School_for_the_Deaf
Created 2009) *This is the old school, not the one Steve attended.*

Crocker's Phillips 66 Features Service For Your Car

This efficient station is ready and willing to serve you. They endeavor to care for your car in a manner you will appreciate. For real service, stop at the Crocker's Phillips 66 Service in Brimfield, phone 446-3124, featuring Phillips 66 products.

The regular patrons of this station

never have to worry about their car being properly serviced. They know that, this station employs only competent men. In this Town and County Review, we assure the readers of the best in loyal service if they stop at the Crocker's Phillips 66 Service Station while they are in Brimfield

for greasing, gasoline, tires, battery and oil check, minor tune-ups, and 24 hour wrecker service. Stop at Crocker's Phillips 66 Service and sample their friendly service. We believe you will become another of their regular customers.

Crocker's Phillips 66 ad-*The Princeville Telephone*, Princeville, Illinois, page 11, Thursday, April 17, 1975; advertisement found in *1970 Chieftain* Brimfield High School Yearbook;

CROCKER'S SERVICE

Brimfield, Illinois

Phone 446-3124

24 Hour Towing Service



JULY 13, 1972

Offers Classes In Sign Language

ill. Steve Howe will conduct classes in
It sign language Tuesday evenings be-
ld beginning September 5 at 7:30 p.m. in
St. Paul's Lutheran church in Brim-
t- field.

ng Anyone in the community interested
se in learning the language of the signs
is welcome to come. Cost of the text-
book to be used is \$5.

Steve is well-qualified to teach this
class, being a graduate of Illinois
School for the Deaf in Jacksonville

X Interested persons should call or talk
5 with Steve, 446-3694, to assure them-
selves a book for the lessons.

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Brimfield, IL
(photo courtesy of KmHanks); article-*The Princeville
Telephone*, Princeville, Illinois, Page 5, Thursday, July 13th,
1972, retrieved online Brimfield Advantage-
Preservation.com



Steve Howe, center,
with Rodney McKown
(left), Ed Mathews,
Duane Dunne.

Brimfield High School Boys
Basketball 1979, (photo
courtesy of Clint McKown)



Steve Howe on his bike in front of Sherman's
Pharmacy, *Peoria Journal Star*, unknown date
in 2015, found in Brimfield Library: The year
the Brimfield High School boys' basketball
team WON the state championship!



Rebuilding Steve's House: The Brimfield Community at Work

Photos courtesy of Steve Howe, copied by Clint McKown



Part of article in 2009 Peoria Journal Star, found in Brimfield Public Library's Brimfield Historical Society collection, donated by Janet Bledsoe



The Finished Gift

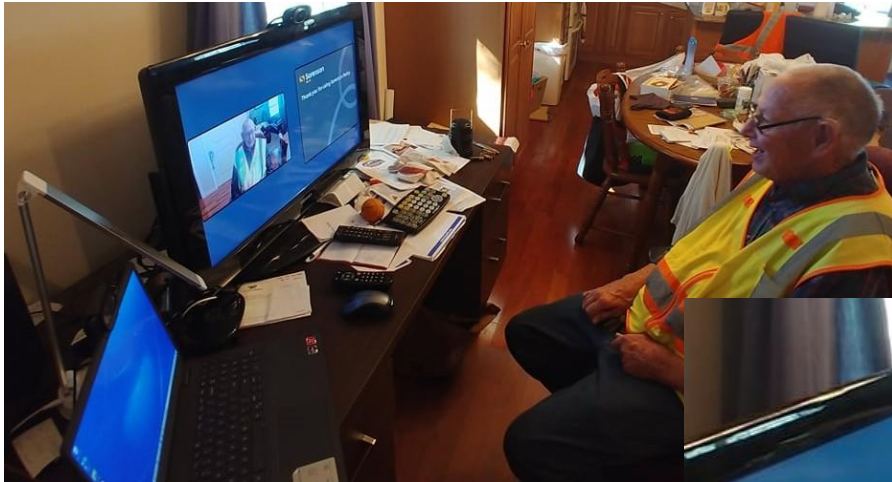
Steve Howe's house in
Brimfield, Illinois
*(photo courtesy of Clint
McKown)*



Welcome Friends in Sign Language
at Steve Howe's house in Brimfield,
IL
(Photo courtesy of Clint McKown)



*(photo courtesy of
Clint McKown)*



Video Phone in Steve's home.
Steve can receive and make calls those who sign and those who don't, using a video screen and interpreter.
(photo taken by Clint McKown)



“Brimfield is my HOMETOWN.”

Steve Howe