

ALBUM OF YESTERYEAR



Eighty-two years have passed since Charles R., Jabez T. and William H. Moon purchased this building (right) in Albany for \$600, dismantled it and had it re-erected (for another \$600) on the east side of North Hackley Street in Muncie, south of the tracks of the Chicago, Indiana and Eastern Railroad (later the Pennsylvania Railroad). Into it was moved the Moon Brothers Machine Co., which the brothers had begun in a barn owned by their father, Elkanah Moon, at 1319 E. Jackson St. The company operated until the mid-1930s, making special machinery and tools as well as gears, hubs, flywheels and brake drums for the many automobile models of the era. After the Moon Brothers firm discontinued operations, the building had other uses: headquarters of Jordan Trucking Service, a garage for Indiana Dairy Marketing Association (Producers Dairy, a block north on Broadway at Hackley, now the site of Ed's Warehouse) and, since the 1960s, by Muncie Power Products Co. (originally Muncie Parts Manufacturing

Co.), whose manufacturing complex is across Hackley Street to the west. The railroad to the north of the buildings was dismantled in the 1970s. Above, workers at Moon Brothers Machine Co. pose for a photograph in front of the plant on North Hackley Street. From left are brothers Charles R. and Jabez T. Moon; their father, Elkanah; William T. Moon (another brother); three unidentified machine shop employees, and Ardith Moon, nephew of the three brothers and grandson of Elkanah. Both photographs, made in 1912, were furnished by Jack Moon of Kennard, now retired. His grandfather, Abraham E. Moon, was Ardith Moon's father. A.E. Moon was not involved with his brothers in the machine shop but worked at Warner Gear Co. (predecessor of Borg-Warner Automotive, Transmission Systems) and finally at Maxwell Motor Co., New Castle auto manufacturers, before retirement. Ardith Moon ran a garage in New Castle. Jack Moon was an automobile body specialist before retiring.

