Looking Backward
Fifty Years Ago
February 2, 1877
February 3, 1927 State Center Enterprise
An immense corn crib has been built near the depot by J.W. Brackett of Marshalltown.
Nichols and Brewer are building a farm house for Jos. Schilling and we believe have a contract for one to be built soon for J. Gutekunst. The building season opens early.
There is considerable building planned for the coming season. Henry Pfanz will build a large house and so will one of the Hilleman's. Other buildings are talked of but we are not able to give the particulars.
We carelessly neglected to mention last week, that S.W. Morgan canvassed the town in the interests of the library association and secured the names of thirteen men who are willing to enter the organization of life members.

Forty Years Ago
February 3, 1887
C.W. Brinshall has put up a telephone line from the store to his residence on the north side of town and he can be called to dinner without the trouble of sending a boy after him.
W.F. Tunnell is here from Kansas City for the purpose of helping to close out the business of Tunnell Bros. in this place.

Twenty Years Ago
January 31, 1907
At a meeting of the board of directors of the State Center Farmer's Creamery Association held Saturday, C. Hansen was re-elected as manager. He had expressed his desire to be released, in fact had filed his resignation with the board, but they were unwilling to let him go and finally secured his consent to remain.
Saturday the advisory board of the Chautauqua association closed a contract with the Midland bureau of Des Moines, for $1,100 worth of talent, for the first assembly to be held in this place beginning June 29th and closing July 7th.

Ten Years Ago
February 1, 1917
Representative W.N. Gilbert escaped from his duties as legislator long enough to make a short trip to State Center Saturday.

State Center Businesses advertising in this issue
January 27, 1927 State Center Enterprise
Elmer Benson, The Dependend Store; The Green Room—Confecional, ice cream, cigars, periodicals—Bert Merrill; State Center Enterprise; The Enterprise Pub. Co.; Central State Bank; Star Theatre; The First Savings Bank; Brinshall Bros.; A.A. Dockum, Chiropractor; Albert Ansline, insurance.

Business and Professional Directory
January 28, 1937 State Center Enterprise
Byron M. Bienborn, M.D.—Physician and Surgeon; A.D. Woods, M.D. W.A. Bienborn, D.S.; E.W. Kimpston, D.D.S.; J.W. Banks 1886–1937—Mechanics, Physician and improvement operator. General repairing, saw filing, wood and iron lathe work and upholstery all parts. (Note: This is good for a chuckle.)

Mrs. Delia Benson passes at Lamoille
January 28, 1937 State Center Enterprise
Mrs. Delia Benson, a resident of Marshall county since 1869, died at 11 o'clock Thursday night at the home of her daughter, Mrs. J.O. Bissett, at Lamoille.
She was born Delia Rosamund of Fohnsack at Danielthum; Brunswick province, Germany, Sept. 22, 1852 and her parents, William and Augusta Bohnsack, died when she was 12 years old. In the spring of 1869 she obtained permission of her guardian and the state to go to America with the family of her friend, Reka Kuencke, and others from the province. In June, 1869, they settled in Marshall county near State Center, where others from Brunswick had emigrated.
On Dec. 31, 1871, she was married to Thomas Benson, a civil war veteran from Wisconsin who had moved to Iowa. They began housekeeping on a farm a mile north and a half mile west of Lamoille where they lived 19 years and where three children were born to them. James, Ernest and Delia. After the death of James in 1889 they rented the farm and moved to Lamoille.
Mr. Benson died in September, 1919 and Mrs. Benson was the last of her immediate family and the last survivor of the Brunswick province group that came over from Germany in 1869. She is survived by her daughter and a son, Ernest Benson of Marshalltown, four grandchildren and four great grandchildren.
The funeral was held at the Community church at Lamoille, of which she was a member at a 1 o'clock Sunday afternoon in charge of Rev. R.K. Youngdahl of Marshalltown, assisted by Rev. George LaBouy. Burial was in the Lamoille cemetery.