

Bloomington reacted to reports of rabies

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posed to be a sign that neither had poison in it.

A month later the dreaded symptoms appeared - irritability, excessive thirst and convulsions. Only 20 minutes after the doctor had administered morphine young Lamkins mercifully died.

Toward the end of the 19th century across the Atlantic, Louis Pasteur experimented with a serum made from the nerve tissue of mad animals, and in 1903, Adelchi Negri's work led to the diagnosis of rabies under the microscope.

THEIR DISCOVERIES came too late for Lamkins, but in 1909 more than one Monroe Countian owed his life to the two European scientists. By the winter of 1907-08, Indiana had one "Pasteur physician," a Dr. Victor Keene of Indianapolis. He charged \$100 for his services.

In February of 1909 the Bloomington *Telephone* reported that "Negri bodies" had been found in the brain tissue of Indiana University English Professor H.T. Stevenson's collie, who licked his master's hand and bit Professor Will Aydelotte. Stevenson went to Cincinnati and Aydelotte to Indianapolis for Pasteur treatments.

Less than a month later, 17-year-old Lyman Dunlap Jr., son of a county commissioner, rammed his hand down the throat of a cow that seemed to be choking. It was an ill-advised act, since the cow had been foaming at the mouth for several days. In the rescue attempt, young Dunlap had scratched his hand. He went to Indianapolis, too, after a university

laboratory determined that the cow was rabid.

I N M A R C H the *Telephone* reported that Stevenson was shortly to return from Cincinnati. Only two weeks later, Buster, the bulldog mascot of the Emanon Club on Kirkwood Avenue, suddenly had a change of personality. Normally a placid, lazy dog, he turned into the terror of the neighborhood. The victims were Joe Neill, the mail carrier who often put the club's letters in Buster's mouth, students Bruno Taylor and C.A. Wilcox and six dogs, including lawyer Roger Lee's great dane.

On April 23, after Buster had died, the *Telephone* asked, "Is Bloomington to have an epidemic of hydrophobia. . . . In as much as it is known that other dogs have been attacked by this same canine, it can be seen with what alarm the situation is viewed."

The mayor's response was to issue an emergency order that all dogs running loose on the street were to be wearing muzzles. Otherwise they would be captured or shot. The *Telephone* painted a verbal picture of the Bloomington police running around like the Keystone Kops, chasing everything on four legs that moved. Some persons complained that the muzzles were useless, because many of them were too loose to be effective.

Meanwhile, after two more Bloomingtonians were bitten by a mad dog that "ran amuck," physicians and university personnel expressed the opinion that more drastic action was needed at once.

Next week: Bloomington survives the rabies epidemic