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Paving of Kirkwood sought for many years

Tucked away on the fourth page of the April 19, 1909, edition of the *Bloomington Telephone* was a small news item which said, "Kirkwood Avenue is not to be paved — at least not next week — for the council heard pro and con last night, and decided to refer it to a committee of a whole for investigation."

The major petitioner for the paving of Kirkwood Avenue was Charles Booth, whose residence was at 429 E. Kirkwood. But his cause was considerably watered down by his attorney, Henry Lee, who said at the council meeting that the petition was, "merely an expression of citizens for paving in a general way, and they had asked for it only as far as Walnut Street, as they thought the council perhaps had



Looking back

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other plans for the square."

As far back as 1885, the *Bloomington Progress* had referred to the deplorable condition of Kirkwood Avenue. Said the newspaper to those who were lukewarm about progress in that direction, "... let them attempt to walk to the new college buildings after the next rain."

It should be noted that by 1906 the university was having a con-
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