

This reprinted document was written by Lois Patterson, former Town of Otisco Historian. The original handwritten document by Ms. Patterson is filed as AR-E-3-305.

MEMORIES OF THE TULLY DEPOT AND D L & W

When I was a little girl, about 1924, I lived on Lincoln St. not too far from the Tully depot. My playmate was Bobbie Cardner who received 15 cents per day from his parents. We would go to the little store on the corner of Onondaga St. and Railroad St. which is now the home of the Charles Chawgos, and spend a pleasant time choosing from the goodies on sale. I suppose that there were magazines and other wares to tempt train passengers who stopped in, but the candy counter was our main concern

There were "Knights of the Road" referred to as "tramps", who would detrain at Tully and ask for food at nearby houses. Some were willing to do work such as beating carpets in return for a handout.. One who came to our back door requested raw eggs.

In my Dad's diary for 1917, when he was Village Trustee, he noted that in March he arraigned William Brown, also arraigned Charles Bowman for vagrancy. Later he arraigned Thomas Bratanic on vagrancy and sentenced him to 30days. The town lock-up was located on Lincoln St. and I think the jailer was Grover Rowley.

There was a big hotel on the west corner of Onondaga and Railroad Sts. Although Prohibition was in force, occasionally someone would be seen tottering down the street after leaving the hotel. When I was old enough to go to school, Onondaga St. was a no-no due to tramps and drunks. I had to walk up to East Main St. and then down to the intersection at Route 11.

About the only time I got to see the interior of the depot was when we went to the State Fair. The D L & W delivered us to the Jefferson St. Station, Syracuse where we transferred to a special Fair train.

Mike Dempsey, the station agent, also lived on Lincoln St.

My grandfather, Joel King, used to meet the mail train every day. He pushed a big-wheeled cart with the out-going mail from the post office, to be loaded on the train, and returned with the incoming mail. Later Grant Selover used a horse and wagon for the same job.

There was an affluent produce buyer, James Slayton, (whose former home is on the corner of Onondaga and South Sts.) who had an automobile. When he took a trip to Philadelphia he shipped his car on the D L & W so that he would have his own transportation in the city. He and his wife and son also arrived by train.