Our only clues to the creator of this photograph album is shown by the first page. Three individual pictures are above a picture of the house at 810 Poplar St., Ottawa, Kansas. The caption says “Welcome To Our Home.”

The left picture is that of Luke J. Hoffman and in the middle is Hulda Henrietta Hoffman. The picture to the right is unidentified. Both Luke and Hulda attended Ottawa University. Hulda was in the Academy from 1908-1912. She is listed as a freshman at Ottawa University in 1912-1913 but isn’t listed after that. Luke is in the Academy from 1910-1913. Luke went on to graduate from Ottawa University in 1917.


pg. b – “Justice here” shows the Franklin County Courthouse, “water” is the water pipe, upper right is Tauy Jones Hall

pg. c – “an old relic” is the first gymnasium at Ottawa University, “alma mater” is the administration building at Ottawa University, the river would be the Marais de Cygnes

pg. d – the artist (Luke Hoffman) is airbrushing a picture, First Baptist Church of Ottawa

pg. e – top left is the faculty baseball team, the bottom picture shows Teddy Roosevelt during his “whistlestop” at the Ottawa train depot.

pg. f – OU MayDay 1914 – shows the annual celebration. Golden Hall was May Queen in 1914. One shot shows girls dancing around the maypole. Another shows the queen arriving in a cart drawn by a “coolie.” There is a shot showing the queen and her court.

pg. g – An Ordinary Occurrence – 3 pictures of a train wreck identified as Missouri Pacific railroad. Everybody works shows two pictures of the trenches being dug for the new gymnasium at Ottawa University.

pg. h – Shows scenes around Kansas – top left is the capitol building in Topeka; top right two photographs may be from a football game, one shows the band; two in the middle are labeled “O.U. Baker Football” and shows a band marching down a street and a group of people walking down a road; First Baptist church of Linwood, Kansas; a woman driving a team of horses with a man on top of the load of hay; “Lost” shows 3 people standing near a large stone building.

pg. i – Shows pictures of women in various cities. L. Vander Linder, Amoy, China; two ladies at a library table labeled “Chicago”; A. M. Hughes wearing a hat in Wyoming; Kansas City written under a photograph of four women; another picture (possibly of the same women) standing on and before a stone wall.

pg. j – The page is labeled “Indiana” – top left shows a man holding a small girl, captioned “H. Miller & Helen”; a street scene labeled “Edwardsville”; an older woman wearing a light colored blouse and dark
skirt labeled “A. Miller”; bottom left shows a large sow lying down and labeled “A Hoosier stand-by”; bottom right has a young child and a dog sitting outside near a building captioned “Shure Mike.”

pg. k – page is labeled “Illinois” and part of the middle and right side have been cut out; picture of cattle in a pasture; a butcher shop “Ham what I am”; horse labeled “Texas”; “Did you ever” shows 3 men sitting on the ground along with an older woman, four women and a young boy are standing behind them.

pg. l – this is the other side of the cutaway page. The picture at the top left is cut and may show part of the procession of the May Day celebration; far right is a picture of a man labeled “Bell”; below that is a small picture of 3 children captioned “701 Oak”; bottom right shows the Maypole dancers.

pg. m – Captioned “Ottawa” – top left shows the Charter Day digging of the trenches for the new gymnasium at Ottawa University; far right shows the 1908 memorial gate; bottom right shows part of a wall of the new gym “Beginning new gym”; “Corner stone” shows a man in academic cap and gown applying mortar to a stone; pictures of two young boys captioned “Byron Z” and “Merlin” Also captions “Son of Homer Miller” & “Edward H. Miller – 6 mo. old” refer to a missing picture.

pg. n – There is a picture of a house at 920 Cedar street, Ottawa, KS; a picture of a young woman and a small child captioned “Sis & I – days ago”; Two women and a man standing behind a baby buggy near the OU administration building captioned “Wanda”; a picture of a small baby sitting up captioned “3 months old.”

pg. o – “Edith gets married” is the caption for a picture showing 3 men in suits and two women; a picture of a man holdings a small baby with a woman standing by is captioned “First picture”; in the center is a picture of a small girl which has been cut out of a larger picture, is labeled “Hulda”; lower left shows a dog balanced on two bicycle wheels which are mounted onto an iron stand “Dow’s dog”; a small picture of a dog and cat on a porch is labeled “Friends – cat & dog”; a shot of a woman standing being a man sitting with a baby is captioned “Elva Mae gets bigger”

pg. p - upper left photograph shows a smiling baby in a baby carriage “Elva Mae Zimmerman”; “Illinois group” shows a group of 13 men, women, and children posed outdoors; below that is a different group of people identified as “Bicknell, Indiana”; a very small photograph of a man in a graduation cap, possibly Luke Hoffman.

pg. q - top left photograph shows the 1st Baptist church of Bicknell, Indiana; top right shows a group of people outside in coats and hats, captioned “Sunflowers”; bottom right shows a woman wearing a striped bodice and carrying a coat over her arm, captioned “Myra”; a photograph of a man with a woman on both sides is captioned “thorn & two roses”; an outdoor picture of four women near a rock cliff captioned “Men taboo.”

pg. r – the two left pictures are missing. The caption for the top one is “Gordon Lee Hoffman,” the handwriting is similar to Luke Hoffman’s when he signed artwork in the OU yearbook; the captions for the other missing picture are “7 weeks old,” “Oil”, “Magnates I may be”; top picture is blurry, captioned
“3 families – including dolls” shows two small children with women holding them with dolls in the background; bottom middle shows a baby “Floyd Johnson”; bottom right shows a white, frame church with 3 people standing by it captioned “Mother’s home church”.

pg. s – the upper left shows the headstone for Johann Hoffman; upper right photograph shows a woman with three children and is captioned “Sam’s family”; bottom left shows a man with the girl from the upper photograph, captioned “Sam & Britann”; bottom right shows Brittann on a pony. caption “Jack & Lorenz above” may refer to the family shot.

pg. t – This page focuses on the baby Edward. top left shows a man holding a baby captioned “Edward 6 weeks”; middle picture shows a woman standing behind a girl holding a baby labeled “sister holds Buddie”; right picture shows a wicker baby carriage with a baby and the caption “Edward 7 mo. old”; bottom picture shows a man and a woman sitting on the ground each holding a child with a girl standing behind them, captioned “Two boys & Elva”

pg. u – top left picture shows a baby in a metal wagon which has the name “Forward Coaster” on it, captioned “Raymond sits up – 7 mo old”; top right “Raymond looks up” shows a baby in a wicker baby carriage; bottom picture shows a young boy and a baby playing on the ground in front of a barn; missing picture is labeled “sun – frowns”

pg.v – most of the pictures are missing from this page. The one left shows a boy sitting on the ground eating an apple in front of a wicker baby carriage. A baby is watching him, captioned “Raymond kids sister”. Other captions are “Mt. Sterling, Ill.”, “graduate 1927”, “rough riders” (may go with Mt. Sterling picture); and “Daddy out”.

pg. w – has 2 pictures “Raymond & buggy” shows a baby in a wicker baby carriage and “satisfied” shows the baby smiling while sitting on the ground next to another baby. At least two pictures from the top are missing.

pg. x- All the pictures on this page are missing. Captions are “Nimrod- but”, “no hunter,” “Helen gets ‘Brown’”, “Including Dolly,” “Mamma’s baby, and “the whole family.”

The rest of the album was never used.
Ottawa is the Best Town on A The map

786 Locust st.

786 Popular

Justice House

Alma Mater

At and main
Dutch Friends

She's Spending Summer in K.C. '12

Lord's message

Ain't got no marbles

First B. Church

The Artist

Rush - The Baby
Gordon Lee Hoffman

Three Families—Including dolls.

7 weeks old

Magnates—maybe

Floyd Johnson

Mother's Home Church
Raymond—"looks up"

He kodaks faces

Raymond—sits up
7 mos. Old

Sun-browned
Raymond Kids Sister

Graduate - 1927
Rough Riders

Let's Eat

Daddy Out
Nimrod— but

no Hunter

Helen gets “Brown,” Including Dolly

Mamma’s Baby

The whole Family