



THE STARK COUNTY STORY

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Canton, Ohio

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feet floor space it was advertised as the largest factory in the world devoted to the manufacturer of dental furniture. The plant was equipped with extensive lumber yards on the 12 acres of land on which the building was erected. A private railroad switch connected with the Pennsylvania main line. Great attention was paid to the selection of the woods used, and to their finishing in an artistic and elegant manner.

About the time the new plant was built, young Stuart W. Carnes became connected with the company as salesman for its products in the Philadelphia area to help work his way through the Medico Chirurgical College of that city, from which he graduated in 1897 with the DDS degree. He noticed that the dental chairs used at the schools and dental offices in the vicinity of Philadelphia were non-Canton makes. The year that he graduated he made the highest record of sales in the history of the company to that time. While young Carnes was visiting his family at East Sparta after his graduation, Mr. Case frequently drove down with his carriage and team of two horses and finally signed a contract giving Carnes most of the eastern states on commission. Dr. Carnes was with the company 11 years, becoming vice-president in 1906.

The company was at that time making chairs, cabinets, tables, engines and electric switchboards for dental offices, a more complete line than any other company. On Dr. Carnes' recommendation, Mr. Case joined the Dental Trade Association. Dr. Carnes reorganized the sales organization bringing about results that swamped the company with orders. He resigned in 1908 to head up the Canton Cutlery Co.

By 1909 the Harvard Dental Co., with capital increased to \$100,000, had added to its products mouth lamps, hot air syringes, sterilizers, gold annealers, water heaters, fountain cuspidors, and dental laboratory benches and supplies, including pyrometer furnaces and air pumps. It was estimated that a third of the dental offices in the United States had Harvard equipment.

For a generation Mr. Case was one of the most active and public-spirited civic leaders of Canton. His mansion, now the home of the Canton Art Institute, built in 1900-1901 on the plans of Architect Guy Tilden, became a social center, Mrs. Case entertaining extensively. The ballroom on the third floor was the scene of Canton's most elaborate social affairs. Mr. Case became a director of the Canton Public Library and served as president for 14 years. He served as a director of Aultman Hospital and was president of that institution for five years. The present Kobacker building was erected by Mr. Case for Klein & Heffelman, following their fire of 1918, and this was their location, with L. R. Zollars added, until the business was closed. Mr. Case indulged in painting as a hobby. An interest Orated by his wife. The use of his mansion by the Canton Art Institute carries out the frequently expressed wishes of Mr. Case. Mr. Case died in the fall of 1932, but Mrs. Case lived until October 3,