

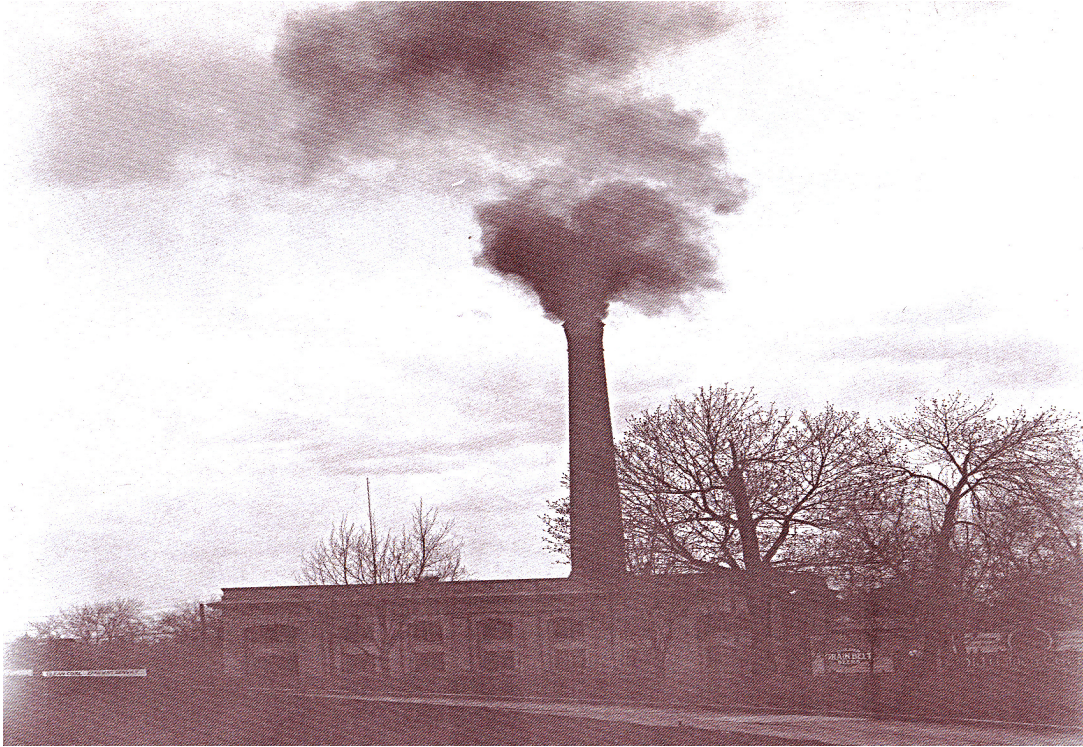
*Pieces of Iowa's Past*, published by the Iowa State Capitol Tour Guides weekly during the legislative session, features historical facts about Iowa, the Capitol, and the early workings of state government. All historical publications are reproduced here with the actual spelling, punctuation, and grammar retained.

**THIS WEEK: 1907 and 1908 Executive Council report (excerpt)**

**BACKGROUND: From the 1909-1910 Official Register**

Transactions of the Executive Council  
**REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 1907  
AND 1908 (in part)**

April 16, 1907—Contract executed with Bolton Transfer Company for drayage and cartage for state departments. Contract made with Smith, Wetherell & Gage for plans, specifications and supervision in the construction of paper warehouse, on basis of three per cent of cost. Said architects were directed to ask for bids for construction of the same. Architect O. O. Smith directed to prepare additional necessary plans for completion of Historical Building and ask for bids.



*The paper warehouse was located on the north side of Grand Avenue, in front of the power plant, and to the west of the old Historical Building (now the Ola Babcock Miller Building). Both the paper warehouse and the old Historical building were designed by O. O. Smith.*

May 15, 1907—Custodian directed to build sidewalks, authorized by the Thirty-second General Assembly, about the capitol square. Contract for construction of paper warehouse awarded to H. W. Copperthwaite and Oleson for the sum of \$6,337.00.

June 15, 1907—Contract awarded to Joe Kirscher & Company for granite steps at east entrance to the capitol at \$5,545.

September 28, 1907—Custodian McCurdy was directed to get estimates of cost of removing the glass floor under the dome, first story of the Capitol Building, and placing a suitable rail about the opening and to call upon State Architect H. F. Liebke for his opinion in writing as to whether the removal of said floor would in any way weaken the building.



*The opening in the first floor rotunda was completed about 1915*

November 15, 1907—Contract awarded to the Flower City Ornamental Iron Works for construction of stairway between the first floor and basement in the east wing of the Capitol building, at \$1,000.00