

“Red Oak Couple Observed Its Golden Wedding Anniversary,” Red Oak (Iowa) Express, December 10, 1931; Pike Family Collection, 1877-present, privately held by Karen Pike Zimmerman, Indianapolis, Indiana

## **Red Oak Couple Observed Its Golden Wedding Anniversary**

### **L. B. Pike Came Here in 1881 With Bride; Lived Here Continuously.**

Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Pike, pioneer Red Oak residents, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary at their home here Monday at a family reunion.

All six children were present for the occasion and during the afternoon they presented the couple with a purse of gold, a large wedding cake, a beautiful bouquet of roses and card of congratulations. A luncheon was served after which the time was spent in games and a social gathering.

Mr. and Mrs. Pike are early Red Oak residents. Mrs. Pike came to Red Oak with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Pike, on one of the early Burlington trains in 1877 from Hartford, Conn. Her father was a mason and plied his trade here.

Mr. Pike was born in Iowa but went with his parents to New York where he met his bride. He came to Red Oak in 1881 and on December 7 of that year the couple was married. Mrs. Pike did not change

her name upon the marriage.

For twenty years Mr. Pike was a rural mail carrier in this county, working out of the Red Oak post office. He was a vice-president in the state association of carriers during his active years and in the time of his service he has witnessed the rural delivery make its most startling changes. He retired two years ago.

In the early days Mr. Pike was a mason during the summer and fall months and a printer during the winter. He worked on almost all of the early newspapers during those days. When Osborne & Murphy conceived the idea of the first art calendar, the one with ads surrounding a cut of the court house, L. B. Pike ran the first proof off on the press at the original Independent office.

Previous to that time, however, he had helped build the edifice while working as a mason.

The couple were the parents of five boys and three girls. Two of the daughters are deceased. Children present at the anniversary luncheon included: S. R. Pike, H. H. Pike, Van M. Pike, Mrs. Paul Henry, Basil Pike and George Pike, all of Red Oak.