



**MILK CARRIAGE** - George Taylor stands next to a milk carriage from the Kingston Dairy. According to Taylor, the milkman would rarely ride on the carriage. The milkman would carry the milk bottles to the homes while the horse pulling the carriage was trained to stop at certain points and allow the milkman to get more bottles. (Post Photo/Rich Johnson)



**CATCHING THE STAGE COACH** - This is another of the many carriages at the Debi Sue Manor near Harveys Lake. This stage coach has been restored and is one of the favorites of its owner George Taylor. (Post Photo/Rich Johnson)

## Carriages

(continued from page 1)

Senator Sordani. The 1890 Buckboard Surrey is a beautiful sight with its craftsmanship and style.

That is not the only carriage in which a politician rode. One of Taylor's more notable carriages is an open stage in which Theodore Roosevelt rode around the St. Louis Exposition in 1904.

The sleighs and carriages all had little devices that made them special. Like a table, one sleigh could be made longer just by adding a leaf. When completely assembled the sleigh would be 26 feet long.

There are many others that look as though they only have one seat. However upon closer examination Taylor will show you that a seat can be moved backwards and another seat will pop up, making it a two-seater.

Maybe the one carriage that had the most little "perks" was the road coach. Taylor likes to compare this to the motorhomes of today. The coach, which could seat 18 pas-

sengers, carried a water tank, speaking tube, a refrigerator area, bottle box, a drawer for silverware, cups, and, of course, a toilet seat.

Some of Taylor's other notables include a Studebaker carriage dating back to 1890, a milk wagon from Woodlawn Farm Dairy, a presidential Lindau from the 1870's, an actual stage coach and his oldest item — a Pung sleigh from the early 1700's.

Many items went along with the sleighs and carriages. When heading out in the cold, one must remember to take the charcoal foot warmer. When venturing forth in the rain, don't forget the umbrella and the wheel cover to protect the ladies skirts when they get on and off the carriage.

Back in the early days of this country, breaking down was also a problem. To help there was the appointment kit, which is an old-time tool box. The kit came complete with horse shoes, nails, and

all the items needed to fix a wheel.

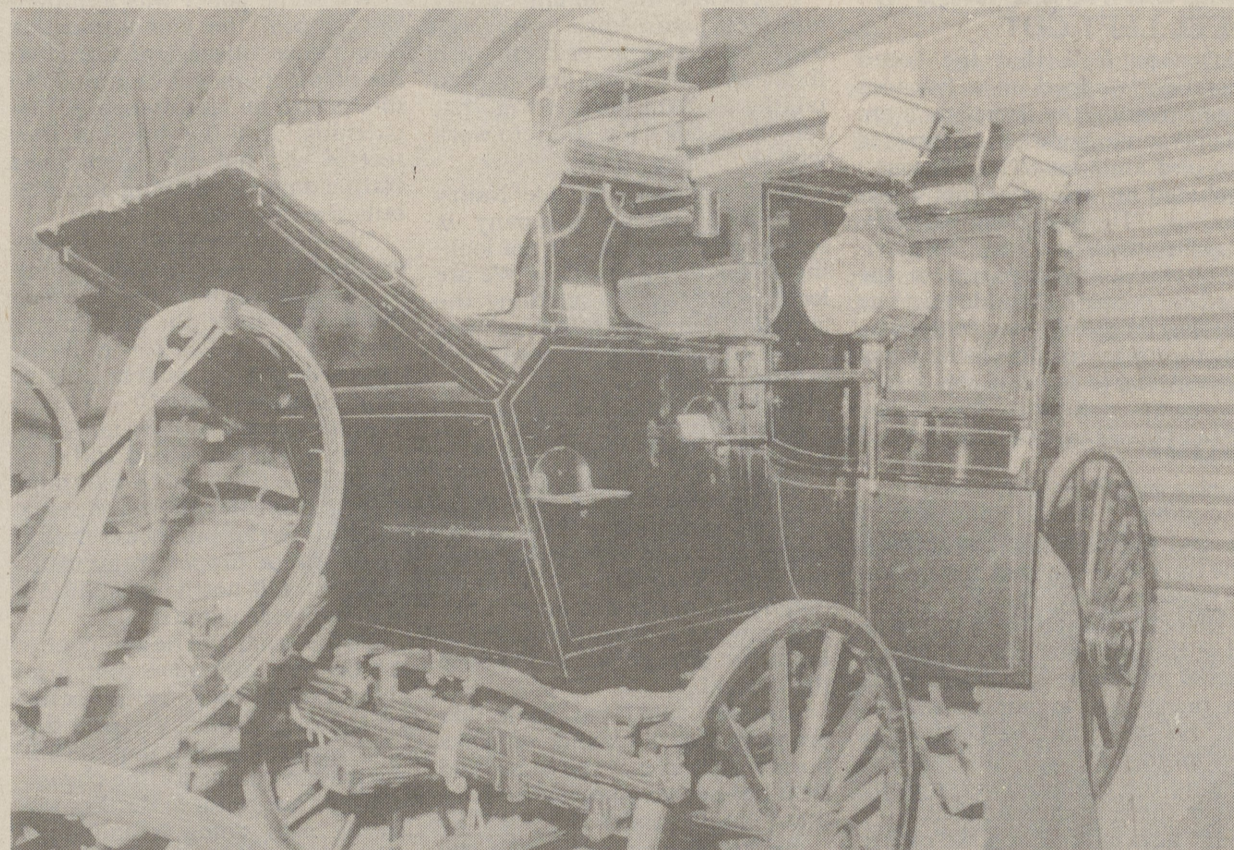
Taylor does not limit his collecting to vehicles. He also has the whips, harnesses, hitching poles, tools and other items that go along with the carriages and sleighs.

Taylor says he gets a lot of pleasure from his collections. There was a time when he owned driving horses to pull some of the items, but he has since gotten rid of the horses and uses what time he has to work on the antiques.

He says, however, that he doesn't spend a whole lot of time with them. This man leads a busy life as he helps neighbors, works with various charities and, when he gets the time, with his carriages.

"I spend as much time as I am available," said Taylor. "At my age the best thing to do is maintain a positive attitude and live every day to the fullest."

Taylor certainly does that, and seeing him and his carriages will help put a smile on almost any face.



**TAKING A TRIP? TAKE THIS** - This road coach is compared to today's motorhome because it comes equipped with a water tank, refrigerator area, drawers for silverware and cups and a toilet seat. This carriage seats 18 and often needed four to six horses to draw it. (Post Photo/Rich Johnson)

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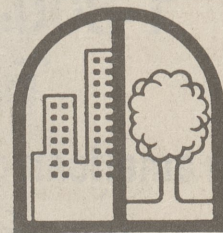
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