

Thus the Des Moines Speedway had its one big fling. The fans had clamored for speed, but they'd seen a bit more than they'd bargained for. Though several more events were held at the track in 1915 and 1916, the crowds fell considerably short of the 10,000 who saw the 300-miler.

J. E. Bennett of West Des Moines and Cal Bennett of Waukee, descendants of the family which owned the 100 acres leased to the speedway corporation, blame poor construction and poor attendance for its eventual disappearance. The track, which became unsafe under the effect of adverse conditions, was dismantled and the lumber sold to individuals. The spot where the track stood, just west of the present Penn-Dixie cement plant, is a quiet spot these days. Corn soon will be growing there again, just as it has the many summers since the invasion of the speed machines.—From the *Des Moines Sunday Register*, May 19, 1953 .

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## Income Tax . . . a Century Ago

The internal revenue blanks for 1865 will be made out upon an amended form. The assessors are required to ask the following questions:

Had your wife any income last year?

Did any minor child of yours receive any salary last year?

Have you included in this return the income of your wife, and salary received by minor children?

Have you any stocks, and what are they?

Is your report made on the basis of gold?

Have you bought or sold stocks or other property?

Have you any United States securities?

Have you kept any book account?

Is your income estimated, or taken from your book?

Have not the expenses, etc., claimed as deductions, already been taken out of the amount reported as profits?

Did you estimate any portion of your profits in making your returns for 1863?

Was any portion treated as worthless and, if since paid, have you included it in this return?—*The 83rd Illinoisan*, Clarksville, Tenn., May 5, 1865.

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