

Dieter

MARRIED

Roy Dieter, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Dieter of this city, was united in marriage to Miss Mary Cook at the Catholic church in Pewamo at 8:30 Saturday morning, September 15th. They were attended by Miss Betty Killin and Mr. Harold Cook. Mrs. Dieter will be remembered as a nurse at the St. Johns hospital for several years. They will live in Lansing.

1828

Dills

6-DeWitt-Bath Review/April 11, 1994

DeWitt remembered:



THE WINTER HOME of Winfield and Ella Dills, 504 Biscayne Ave., Miami Florida. Photo courtesy of the DeWitt Public Library.

By KEN COIN

Greetings from Florida!

Undoubtedly this post card set a few jaws agape when it arrived at the DeWitt Post Office some 90 years ago. It's an impressive house by any standards. I doubt however if it's still standing - Biscayne Avenue is now Highway 1 which runs right along the beach. The house was probably replaced years ago by a big Art Deco hotel; some pink stucco thing with the work "Hibiscus" in the name.

Winfield "Scott" Dills came to the DeWitt as a young lad in the 1852 with his parents William and Maria Dills. The parents were the original owners of the large brick house at Cutler and DeWitt roads. In 1878 he married Ella Bowker, whose family had moved down to DeWitt from Isabella County in 1871. For some years they operated a farm a mile north of DeWitt (later O.K. White's farm) and in 1893 moved into the village. His business in DeWitt was livestock, buying and

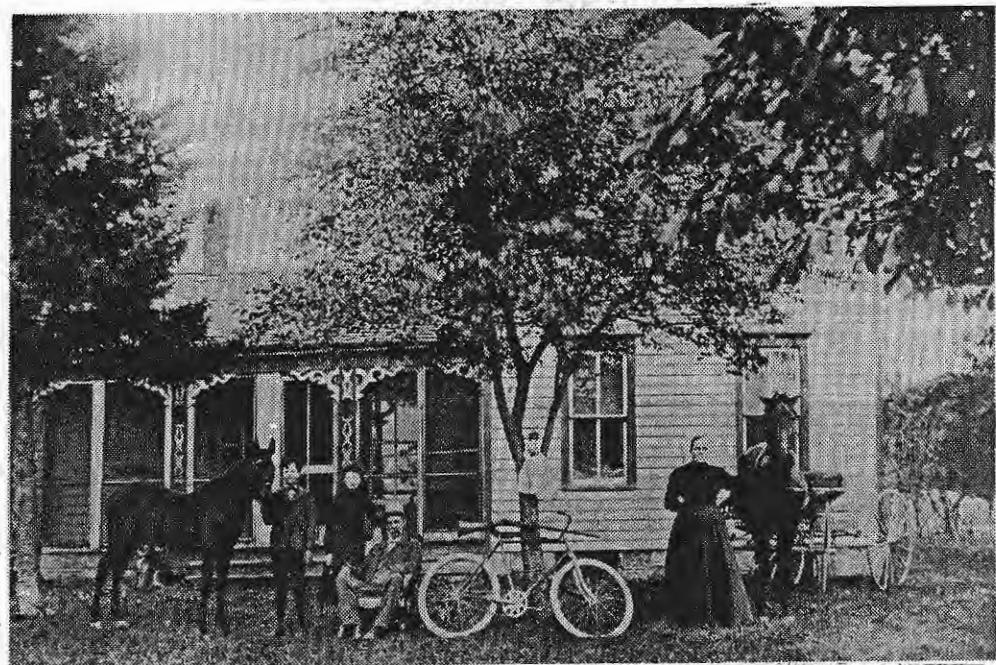
shipping, and he had a lively interest as a horse dealer.

The notion of "wintering" in Florida caught on early among DeWitt's upper crust. By the late 1890's many area couples were congregating at Orange Heights and Orlando. The Dills wintered at and ultimately retired to Miami where, early in this century, they were able to dabble in the real estate boom of that area.

While I'm here, I don't think I'll be tempted into Miami to see if the Dills' home is still standing, but, being the history junkie that I am, I secretly packed a few old photographs and addresses of some homes my great-great-grandfather built in Orlando 90-odd years ago. Maybe after Mickey and Minnie are done showing me around their place, I'll take them for a ride into downtown Orlando.

Ken Coin is a DeWitt resident and the area's primary historian. His column appears here twice monthly.

DeWitt remembered:



The Omar and Abbie (Hutchins) Dills family in front of their home, Riverside Farm, on Dill Road, ca. 1906. It was typical in that era for every portable possession of any importance to be brought out for inclusion in the photograph. Note the rifle, doll, bicycle, horse, and rig. Courtesy photograph.

Abbie Dills queen bee of 'local brevities'

By KEN COIN

My wife has a tendency to read every word of any newspaper put in front of her. When we're on vacation, why she cares to read the Bugtussle Bugle is beyond me. I rarely read the newspaper myself. "No news is good news," that's my motto.

But, stick an old Clinton Republican under my nose and it will keep my attention for hours. Often when I'm doing history research one of the last sources I use is old newspapers. Not because they are a bad source; on the contrary, they're excellent. The problem is, I'm prone to become lost in the abyss known as..."local brevities."

If you don't know what the local brevities are, you must have grown up in a cave. Picture "Chatter by Char," and add a report of everyone who visited anyone or anyone who was visited by anyone, for a whole week plus what everyone had for Sunday dinner; throw in anyone who painted a room, bought a horse, installed a toiler or fell off a roof and you have "local brevities." They were the mainstay of local society. If it wasn't printed in the paper it wasn't worth knowing (unless of course it was gossip just too delicate to print).

The undisputed Queen Bee of DeWitt's correspondents was Abbie (Hutchins) Dills. Other correspondents came and went but it was Abbie who kept the local switchboard operator hopping throughout her many decades as correspondent to The Clinton County Republican News as well as the North Lansing Record, the State Republican, and the Lansing Press.

I have not been able to determine how far back she became a correspondent. In the late 1800's, DeWitt's correspondents used pseudonyms such as "Nonsense" (Charity Pearce), "Mercury," "One-Who-Was-There," etc. Personally, I believe "Mercury" was Abbie but that's just a guess.

Abbie Eliza Hutchins was born in DeWitt July 22, 1857, the eldest daughter of Ezra M. and Helen (Hurd) Hutchins. With the exception of only a few years, her entire life was spent in the DeWitt area. In 1880 she was married to Omar B. Dills. Following their marriage they purchased "Riverside Farm" on what would later be named Dill Road in their honor. Abbie died Feb. 27, 1941. Several descendants, including great-granddaughter Sue (Sibley) Powers, still reside in the DeWitt area.

The following is a sampling of Abbie's brevities from Aug. 25, 1921:

- Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Brooks ride in a new Ford coupe.
- An 8-pound son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Wilcox Tuesday afternoon, Aug. 23. He will answer to the name of Clifton Carl. Mrs. Wilcox was formerly Miss Doris Beach.
- Harry Reed is having his meat market shingled.
- The Chautauqua held in the village for three days last week was very much enjoyed, at the close of which arrangements were made to hold a similar event next year.
- C.C. Woodruff and son, Ralph in company with Mr. and Mrs. W. Brown of Lansing started for Detroit Tuesday morning for a few days' visit.
- Mrs. Celia Lorenz and Mrs. Eva Cole spent Thursday at the home of Dr. Wheeler in Lansing, it being the ninth birthday anniversary of Elizabeth who has been ill some time. Elizabeth will spend the last of the week at the home of these ladies and would be glad to see her former playmates.

(A thank you to Thelma Grinold and her sister, Ada Dieter, for proving the old copies of the "Republican.")

Ken Coin is a DeWitt resident and the area's primary historian.

MARRIED FIFTY YEARS FEB. 22

Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Dills Of
Dewitt Observe Anniversary
With Mock Wedding

Comparatively few married couples are spared to share the joys and sorrows of wedded life together for 50 years, but Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Dills of Dewitt were granted this pleasure, when Monday, February 22, 1936, marked their 50th wedding anniversary. With 50 relatives and nearby neighbors they celebrated their golden wedding that evening.

Golden weddings in themselves are unusual and this one was especially so as five of the guests present attended their wedding 50 years ago, when Miss E. Estella Cook, eldest daughter of Emory and Almina Cook, became the bride of Jerome H. Dills of Olive, at her parental home in Riley township, Clinton county, Feb. 22, 1886. They were attended by her sister, Viola and husband, Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Pike and the marriage vows were read by Rev. A. J. Swift, pastor of the A. E. church of Dewitt.

The guests present who witnessed the ceremony 50 years ago were D. S. Pike, best man, Mrs. lug Cook Randell, sister of the bride, Omar B. Dills, brother of the groom, W. D. Brinkerhoff, nephew of the groom and Mrs. Marie Maher Hurd.

A mock wedding was staged at 3 o'clock in the evening when to the strains of a wedding march played by Miss Alice Padgett, Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Dills, attended by Mr. and Mrs. Omar Dills and accompanied by Marc D. Cutler who acted as the clergyman, took their places before the lay window where the marriage vows were read. The bridal party were attired in costumes of 50 and 70 years ago, the bridegroom wearing the same suit he wore at his wedding 50 years ago. The bride, gowned in a wedding dress of long ago and a long wedding veil looked very trim. The bride and her matron of honor carried bouquets of yellow jonquils. Mr. Cutler in his silk tie steel-bowed spectacles and clergyman's long coat made a very dignified appearance.

After congratulations were offered a lap supper was served. During the repast a beautiful bride's cake was placed before the bride to cut and serve her guests. This cake, which was put up in pyramid shape and decorated with small flags, was the counterpart of the bride's cake served at the wedding 50 years ago.

The evening was spent in playing games, music, etc. Before the guests adjourned to return to their homes an old time dance was indulged in for a short time which brought forth much laughter.

Mr. Dills said the winter they were married was an open one and the roads very bad. Their wedding trip was taken to Salem, Mich., where they visited relatives.

The bride at the close of the wedding ceremony read a poem which was very apt for this occasion entitled "Getting Along." In behalf of the guests Mr. Cutler in his very pleasing manner presented Mr. and Mrs. Dills with a beautiful electric floor lamp.

Jerome H. Dills, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Dills, was born in a log cabin in the township of Farmington, Oakland county, Oct. 21, 1850. When he was 1½ years old his parents moved to Olive township in April 24, 1852.

E. Estella Cook, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Emory Cook was born August 6, 1864 in a log house in Riley township, Clinton county, on the farm now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Marc Cutler. Mr. and Mrs. Dills with the exception of Mr. Dills early life have always been spent in Riley and Olive, and Dewitt has been his post office for 73 years.

In the year 1905, they retired from farm life and have since resided in Dewitt village. In 1907 Mr. Dills built a modern home at the corner of Jefferson and Scott streets where they now reside.

Mr. and Mrs. Dills have always been very active in grange work.

Dills grange in the early 80's. Mrs. Dills has held all the offices in the Dewitt grange except overseer, steward and treasurer and both have held many offices in Clinton County Pomona grange. Mr. Dills is at present treasurer of the Dewitt grange, an office he has held for years. Mrs. Dills has been and still fills the office of installing officer of the various granges. The installation service which she has in

Dills

HONORED ON 54TH ANNIVERSARY.

Dills



MR. AND MRS. JEROME H. DILLS
Dewitt couple who were wed February 22, 1876

GRANGE HONORS DEWITT COUPLE

member of the South Riley grange, which was organized in 1874, and her husband joined the Dewitt grange in the early 80's.

Dinner Given Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Dills On Their 54th Anniversary

Dewitt grangers honored two veteran members of their organization when a dinner was given on Saturday, Feb. 22, for Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Dills of Dewitt, whose 54th wedding anniversary occurred on that date. On account of Mr. Dills' illness the past winter it was the first time that either of them had attended grange since last fall.

Following the dinner Will Case, on behalf of the grange, presented Mr. and Mrs. Dills with a gift. Both of the guests of honor expressed their thanks and declared that the grange occupied a very warm spot in their hearts.

Miss E. Estella Cook of Riley, and Jerome H. Dills of Olive, were married February 22, 1876. After spending 20 years of their married life on their farm they retired and moved to Dewitt village in 1905. Mr. Dills, who will be 80 years old next October, has been a resident of Clinton county since he came to Olive with his parents at the age of 2 years. His wife, who is 4 years his junior, is a native of Riley and has spent her entire life in this county.

Mr. and Mrs. Dills have been active in grange work for more than a half century. Mrs. Dills is a charter

Will Celebrate 60th Wedding Anniversary on February 22nd

Thursday, February 20, 1936



Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Dills

Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Dills, prominent and highly respected Dewitt couple, will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on Saturday, Feb. 22. At the last meeting of Dewitt grange the following account of their lives, written by Agnes Pike Steinhardt, was read:

Emeline Estella, eldest daughter of Amori and Amina Cook, and granddaughter of Atwell and Lovina Simmons—Riley's first pioneers—was born Aug. 6, 1854, on one of the pioneer farms in section 26 in Riley township, Clinton county. It is now the home of her niece, Mrs. M. D. Cutler.

She attended the Simmons school and also a select school in Dewitt, taught by Mrs. Caroline Benten, then began teaching when 15 years of age. She taught at Olive Center, the VanDyke, now known as the Plowman district, the Simmons and the Kincaid schools.

Jerome Hazzard Dills was born in Oakland county, about 16 miles from Detroit, Oct. 21, 1850. In the spring of 1852, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Dills, came to Dewitt township and located on a large farm one mile north of Dewitt village, where he grew to manhood. On the evening of Feb. 22, 1878, at the home in Riley, in the presence of many invited guests, Estella Cook and Jerome Dills were united in marriage by Rev. Swift, then pastor of the Dewitt M. E. church. They were attended by Viola Cook, sister of the bride, and David Scott Pike.

Of the large number of guests present on that occasion, only four are living today. They are Maria Mahar, now Mrs. Hund; Lydia

Brinkerhoff, later Mrs. Pennell; Scott Pike and Will Brinkerhoff, then a lad of four years. The wedding trip took them to Salem, Washtenaw county, where lived many relatives at that time. I am told the winter of '76 was mild and the roads were either very rough or very muddy.

There were no paved or improved roads at that time and a two seated open carriage, drawn by two horses, was their means of travel.

They did not drive fifty miles an hour but usually reached their destination.

When the bride to be, with her parents, went to Lansing to select the wedding gown, the roads were so bad, they were compelled to stay over night and return home the following day. Mr. and Mrs. Dills lived with her parents for a few years, then moved to Dewitt village.

In 1889, they purchased a farm in Olive, just south of the Brown school house.

Here they lived for sixteen years, making many improvements on both farm and buildings.

In 1905, they sold this place to Charles Cole and in 1907 they again came to Dewitt village and erected the beautiful home where they have since resided. Mrs. Dills joined South Riley grange as a charter member in June, 1874. Mr. Dills joined Dewitt grange in April, 1882. Both have held nearly all the offices in the grange to which they were eligible. Each one has occupied the master's chair several years. Both have also held many offices in the county grange and Sister Dills has acted as installing officer in subordinate, county, and state granges.

sive ceremony, composed in verse, which she committed to memory, many years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Dills are Universalists in belief and followers of the golden rule. As long as health permitted, they were active in many civic movements which had as their object the upbuilding and betterment of manhood and womanhood and they have always been ready to lend a helping hand whenever and wherever needed.

A celebration of their golden wedding anniversary was held at their home ten years ago. It is not often that a couple are permitted to celebrate their sixtieth anniversary and we are glad that Brother and Sister Dills, whom we all hold in such high esteem, have been spared to observe this occasion.

We are glad, too, that they have remained true to the grange since they first joined the order, so many years ago. Although they are not able to meet with us often, we know their hearts are with us and the many evidences of their good works and the noble influences of the past, make us feel that they are with us when ever we meet.

Among my earliest recollections of the grange is the dignified and impressive manner in which both Brother and Sister Dills filled all stations assigned them.

Mr. and Mrs. Dills are well known and have a large circle of friends who will join with us in extending to them our heartfelt congratulations.

"Tis sixty years since vows declared
Whether fair or stormy weather,
Sixty years since they agreed
To walk life's road together.
Stalwart youth of twenty-five
Fair maid of twenty-one
And to him she is as fair
As when life had just begun.
Distinguished are they, this Sister
and Brother

Whom, to honor, we may
For few there are who can celebrate
Their sixtieth wedding day.
Exemplary lives they've always lived,
Noble precepts to others given.
And we know there waits for them
Promised rewards in Heaven.
Feb. 22, 1936.

Agnes Pike Steinhardt.

Dills

In Loving Memory

of

Estella Emeline Cook Dill

DATE OF BIRTH

Aug 6th 1854

PLACE OF BIRTH

Riley Co., Clinton Co.

PASSED AWAY AT

Re. M. D. Nichols

DATE OF PASSING

Sept. 16th 1939

AGE

10 MONTHS / YEARS 85

DAYS

ADDITIONAL DATA

Eldest daughter of
Annie ey Anna Cook
She 22, 1876 married in
marriage to Jerome H. Dill
who abandoned her, Nov 17, 1935.
Had been residing at Del Norte
since 1907.
She joined So. Riley Board
as a student member 1908.

LOCAL HISTORY
COLLECTION

FOX FIL

Services

HELD AT

DeWitt Community Church

Sept. 19th 1939

DATE

Rev. Tom Toy

OFFICIATING CLERGY

SONG SELECTIONS

Beautiful Isle of
Somewhere

RENDERED BY

Mrs Celia Blizzard
Mrs Evelyn Allen

ACCOMPANIST

Mrs Wilma Reed

Services

PALLBEARERS

Donovan C Cutler
J. N. Vernon Cutler
Neil P. Cutler
Herald S. Pike

(all grand nephews)

PLACE OF INTERMENT

DeWitt Cemetery

FRATERNAL ORDERS ATTENDING

Clinton Co Pomona Grange
DeWitt Subordinate Grange

D-15

Dills

DEATH CLAIMS AGED PIONEER

Sept. 16, 1939

Mrs. Jerome B. Dills, 85, Was
Lifelong Resident of
This County

Mrs. Jerome B. Dills, 85, of Dewitt, prominent grange member and life-long resident of Clinton county died Saturday, Sept. 16, after a long illness. Funeral services were held Tuesday at Dewitt.

Emeline Estella, eldest daughter of Amori and Amina Cook, and granddaughter of Atwell and Lovina Simmons, Riley's first pioneers, was born in Riley township, Clinton county, Aug. 6, 1854. She received her education in the Simmons school in Dewitt, then began teaching at the age of 15.

February 22, 1876, she was united in marriage to Jerome H. Dills, who passed on Nov. 17, 1938.

For many years Mr. and Mrs. Dills lived in Riley and in Olive townships and in Dewitt, occupying their late home since 1907.

Mrs. Dills joined South Riley grange as a charter member, June 11, 1874, transferring to Dewitt grange in 1882, and she had been a continuous and faithful member of the order for 65 years. She was also a member of Pomona, the state and the national granges and as long as health and strength permitted, she was an enthusiastic worker in the order which she loved so much.

Many times she acted as installing officer in subordinate, county and state granges, using the very impressive ceremony, composed in verse, which she committed to memory, many years ago. Such notables as the late George B. Horton and Mary Mayo were installed as state master and chaplin, respectively, by Mrs. Dills.

Possessed of a congenial and friendly spirit, she will be greatly missed by her many friends. During the last long illness of her husband,

she constantly attended him until her strength failed.

Since January, she had been confined to her bed, patiently awaiting the call which came Saturday evening, Sept. 16.

The funeral was held at the Community church in Dewitt Tuesday afternoon, with Rev. Toy officiating. Dewitt grange and Pomona members attended in a body.

Mrs. Leon Blizzard and Mrs. Glen Curren sang with Mrs. Donald Reed as pianist.

The pall bearers were four grand nephews, Donovan, Vernon and Neil Cutler and Gerald Pike.

A niece, Mrs. Maud Cutler, and other relatives survive.

Interment was in Dewitt cemetery beside her husband who preceded her less than a year.

Sickness Kept This Pioneer Woman Away From St. Johns Old Home Week; Parents Were the First Settlers in Riley Township

The following letter written to J. W. Fitzgerald by Mrs. Jerome Dills tells of some interesting facts about the early history of her family and the township of Riley:

Mr. J. W. Fitzgerald,
St. Johns, Mich.

Dear Sir:

I regret very much that sickness prevented our meeting with the pioneers on Wednesday of Home Coming week.

I was born in Riley township, August 6th, 1854, on the farm now owned by M. D. Cutler. My grandparents on my mother's side, Mr. and Mrs. Atwell and Lovina Simmons were the first settlers of the township. Arriving in the month of October, 1836, with the oxen and wagon, two children, the youngest three months old (my mother) a few household goods in a dry goods box, with the cow tied behind the wagon. (St. Johns at that time was nothing but a howling wilderness.) grandmother gave

the township its name of Riley.

My grandparents on my father's side, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph and Charlotte Cook, were also among Riley's first pioneers and located just west of the Simmons homestead in the spring of 1841. Their oldest daughter was the first white marriage in the township (Charlotte Cook Newman.) Grandfather was a shoemaker by trade and made boots and shoes for the whole community for several years. Thus I have the honor of being a descendant of Riley's first pioneers and a teacher in the rural schools of Riley and Olive townships from the spring of 1870 until the fall of 1875, have always been a resident of the county.

My husband, Jerome Dills, has been a resident of the county 74 years and is nearly 76 years old.

Respectfully,
Mrs. Jerome Dills,
(Nee Estella Cook)
Dewitt, Mich.

JEROME DILLS, PIONEER, DIES

Well Known Dewitt Man and
Clinton County Resident
Since 1852, Succumbs

Jerome H. Dills, 88, died at his home in Dewitt Thursday afternoon, Nov. 17, following a long illness. He was widely known and highly respected throughout the whole community.

Jerome Hazzard Dills, son of William and Maria Dills, and one of a family of four sons and one daughter, was born in Oakland county, Oct. 21, 1850.

In the spring of 1852 the family came to Clinton county and located on a farm one mile north of Dewitt village, in Olive township.

On February 22, 1876, he married Emeline Estella Cook of Elley township, where they made their home for a few years, later moving to Dewitt village. In 1889, they purchased a farm in Olive, where they lived many years, returning to Dewitt in 1907.

Mr. Dills joined Dewitt grange in April, 1887, holding various offices, and occupying the master's chair for eight years. He was also a past master and a prominent member of Pomona grange and a member of the state and national grange.

He was a man of exemplary habits, firm in his beliefs of universalism and the golden rule. As long as health permitted he was active in many civic movements which had as their object the betterment of mankind and was always ready to lend a helping hand whenever and wherever needed.

Mr. and Mrs. Dills celebrated their golden wedding nearly 13 years ago and their 60th anniversary was observed in 1936. Mr. Dills had been in failing health for several years and during the past 20 months had been confined to his bed. During this time he was tenderly watched over and cared for by his faithful companion and friends.

Thursday afternoon, Nov. 17, the call came to this aged pioneer and he passed peacefully into that "haven of rest" for which he had been patiently waiting. He is survived by his wife, several nieces and nephews, other relatives and many friends.

The funeral was held at the Community church in Dewitt Sunday afternoon, with Rev. Toy officiating. Nephews of the deceased acted as pall bearers—Will Brinkerhoff, Bert Brinkerhoff, Clare Dills, and Allen Stampfli. Mrs. Ella Blizzard and Mrs. Evelyn Current sang "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere" and "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder."

Dewitt Grange attended in a body as did also Clinton county Pomona. The Grange burial service was con-

ducted by Lewis Carpenter and Goldie Brooks. He was laid to rest in Dewitt cemetery amid many beautiful floral tributes.

Dills

DIES AT 83



MRS. ABBIE E. DILLS

Esteemed Dewitt pioneer who was taken by death Feb. 27. See story on page 1.

DEATH CLAIMS PIONEER WOMAN

Mrs. Abbie E. Dills, Born At Dewitt in 1857, Passes Away Feb. 27th

In the death of Mrs. Abbie E. Dills Clinton county lost one of its oldest pioneers, a highly esteemed woman who was well and favorably known. She passed away Thursday afternoon, Feb. 27, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Helen Stapply, Dewitt R-1, at the age of 83 years.

An outstanding leader in grange, club and church work, Mrs. Dills was also the moving spirit in the Clinton County Pioneer Society for many years. She served as correspondent from Dewitt for the Republican-News a long period, and was widely acquainted throughout the whole community.

Among the grange members attending the rites were: A. B. Cook, past master of the State grange, and his wife; Holly Hubble, chairman of the State grange executive committee, and Mrs. Hubble, chairman of the home economics committee of the State grange; also officers and members of the Clinton and Ingham Pomona granges and Dewitt grange; and four olden sheaf members, Tyier Hill of Lansing, Lewis Carpenter of St. Johns and Mr. and Mrs. Lankton.

Abbie Eliza Hutchins, the oldest of five children of Ezra M. and Helen Hurd Hutchins, all of whom preceded her in death, was born in Dewitt village July 22, 1857. With the exception of a few years spent in Lansing and Royal Oak, her entire life was spent in or near Dewitt.

She received her schooling in the Dewitt school and Mrs. Bement's select school, and taught several years in various district schools of the county.

On Dec. 8, 1880, she was united in marriage with Quar B. Dills of Olive township. To this union two children were born: Gerry William, who died Nov. 28, 1937, and Helen Stapply, at whose home she died Thursday evening, Feb. 17 at the age of 83 years.

Following the death of her husband March 23, 1934, Mrs. Dills lived at Riverside farm alone until a severe heart attack in December, 1939, necessitated her removal to her daughter's home where she had been cared for since.

She was a member of the Dewitt Woman's Club, Dewitt grange, Clinton county Pomona grange, Michigan State grange, the national grange, and a life member of Dewitt Chapter O. E. S. She served many years as secretary for Dewitt grange, Clinton county Pomona grange, Dewitt Star lodge and the Clinton County Pioneer Society. She was Dewitt correspondent for the Clinton County Republican-News at the time of her death and had also corresponded for various Lansing papers, including the North Lansing Record, the State Republican and the Lansing Press.

A member of the Universalist church of Lansing, she was a willing worker in the Sunday school and Mite Society when Universalist services were held in Dewitt.

Survivors are the daughter, Helen; two granddaughters, Ardis Stapply of Dewitt and Mrs. Foreste Langford of Detroit; 2 great-granddaughters, Kari Lee and Sidney Langford; a daughter-in-law, Mrs. Vina Dills and a step-granddaughter, Mrs. Adelaide Acre of Detroit; a sister-in-law, Mrs. Amelia Dills of Miami, Fla.; two nieces, Mrs. Ethel Allen of Flint, and Mrs. Freida Ackett of Battle Creek; five nephews, Charles Hutchins of Flint, Herbert Hutchins of Gaylord, Harry Hutchins of Grayling, Archie Hutchins of Detroit and Leon Smith of Santa Barbara, Calif., besides 14 nieces and nephews by marriage, grand-nieces and nephews, great-great nieces and nephews, cousins and a host of friends.

Funeral services were held at 2:30 p. m. Sunday, March 2, at the Dewitt Community church, Rev. Thos. A. Toy officiating. Mrs. Ella Blizzard and Mrs. Evelyn Curran sang "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere" and "Face to Face." Mrs. Beatrice Fuerstman was accompanist. Grange members formed a cordon of honor to the church and the Dewitt chapter, O. E. S., also gave their impressive last rites at the church.

Pall bearers were her nephews, Charles Hutchins of Flint, Herbert Hutchins of Gaylord, Bert Taylor and Bert Brinkerhoff of Dewitt, a grand-nephew, Francis Pike of Flint and a cousin, Clarence Hurd of Dewitt. Interment was in Dewitt cemetery. The many beautiful floral pieces and well-filled pews were mute testimony of the esteem in which the deceased was held.

Dills

OMAR B. DILLS

attending the district school, also the Bement and Pratt select schools in Dewitt village.

On Dec. 8, 1880, at Royal Oak Michigan, he was united in marriage to Miss Abbie E. Hutchins of Dewitt. They lived with the groom's parents in Olive two years, one year on a rented farm in Dewitt and in 1884 they purchased the former Julius Gillett farm on Sec. 9, Dewitt township, where they have since resided, celebrating their golden wedding anniversary there in 1930.

Mr. Dills was a member of the Universalist church at Lansing, also a member of Dewitt Grange, Clinton County Pomona Grange, Michigan State Grange, National Grange and the Clinton County Pioneer Society.

Funeral services were held at the W. H. Joy funeral home, Lansing, Monday, March 26, at 2 p.m. with Rev. Roscoe A. Walters officiating. Mr. and Mrs. Marc Cutler sang and the pall bearers were five nephews, Will, Bert and Don Brinkerhoff, Bert Taylor, Clair Dills, and a devoted friend, Lawrence Feightling. Interment was in Dewitt cemetery.

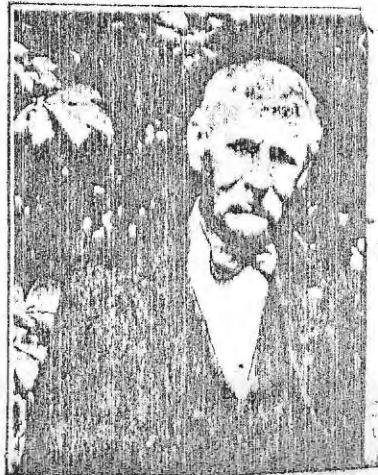
Surviving are the widow, a daughter, Mrs. Helen Stampfli of Dewitt township, a son, Gerry W. Dills of Detroit, a grand daughter, Ardith Stampfli, an aged brother, Jerome Dills, of Dewitt, three nieces, Mrs. Genevieve Taylor of Dewitt, Miss Blanche Dills and Mrs. Ella Pierce of Council Bluffs, Iowa, five nephews, Bert Brinkerhoff of Dewitt, William D. Brinkerhoff and Clair Dills of Lansing, Hugh Dills of Council Bluffs, Iowa, and Scott Dills of Miami, Florida, besides many other relatives.

Mr. Dills was a man of fine character, a kind husband and loving father. The numerous floral tributes were mute testimony of the love and respect of the people among whom he lived and worked. A good man has gone to his reward.

HOLD RITES FOR COUNTY PIONEER

Clinton Resident for More
Than 4 Score Years
Buried at Dewitt

Dewitt—Omar Benjamin Dills, 85 a pioneer resident of Clinton county, died suddenly Friday morning March 23, 1934, of a heart attack. He was the third of a family of six children of William and Maria Hilliker Dills, and was born in Farmington, Michigan, Sept. 29, 1848. When 4 years of age he came with his parents to a farm in Olive township, one mile north of Dewitt village, where he grew to manhood.



Dills

Dills

Funeral Cards from the Scrapbook of C. Harry Moon
Now owned by Eleanor Moon McKinney (1984)

Ella Amelia Dills- July 20, 1859 - Mar. 30, 1949
89 yrs. 8 mos. 10 days

Vincent Funeral Home Wed. April 6, 2:00 p.m.
Rev. C. Harry Moon DeWitt Cemetery
Pallbearers: Bert Brinkerhoff, Allan Stampfly, Bert
Taylor, Albert Mack, Russell Sibley, Kyle Brown.
Soloist: Miss Margaret Fuerstenau
Accompanist: Mrs. Henry Richards

Dills

Obituaries from the Scrapbook of C. Harry Moon

Now owned by Eleanor Moon McKinney (1984)

Services were held from the Vincent Funeral Home in DeWitt on Wednesday, April 6 (1949), for Ella A. Dills, 89, former Clinton resident, who died in Miami, Florida on March 30.

Ella Amelia Bowker was born at Mt. Pleasant on July 20, 1859, the daughter of Albert and Lucinda Bowker. The Bowker family moved to Clinton County, where she grew to womanhood.

On February 20, 1878, she was married to Winfield Scott Dills in DeWitt. To this union two sons were born, Clair B. and W. Scott. The Dills also brought up an orphan girl, May Johnson, now Mrs. Arthur Moses, of Pembroke, Kentucky.

Mr. & Mrs. Dills lived in DeWitt and vicinity until 1911 when they moved to Miami with their son, Scott. Mr. Dills passed away in 1923.

Mrs. Dills made frequent visits to Michigan until she fractured her hip for the second time, a number of years ago, being bedridden ever since.

The deceased was an active member of the DeWitt Grange and of the Clinton County Pomona Grange as long as she lived in Michigan. Members of the DeWitt Grange attended the funeral in a body.

Surviving are 2 sons, Clair, of Lansing, and Scott, of Miami; a grandson Ernie R. Dills of Charlotte; two granddaughters, Mrs. Ella C. Scott of Lansing, and Mrs. Ruth Schoen, of Miami, and seven great-grandchildren. A sister, Mrs. Ellen Hoover, and a half brother, Ernie Bowker, who was buried at sea during the Spanish-American War, preceeded her in death.

Rev. C. Harry Moon officiated at the services and Margaret Fuerstenau sang "A Perfect Day" and "The Lord's Prayer", accompanied by Mrs. Henry Richards. Pallbearers were Bert Brinkerhoff, Bert Taylor, Allen Stampfly, Russell Sinley, Albert Mack and Kyle Brown, nephews and cousins of the deceased. Interment was made in DeWitt Cemetery.

Dills

Winfield S. Dills

As the moon steals silvery into the light flakes of clouds, like a summer wind breathing softly over sleeping valleys in the quiet in the night, Winfield Scott Dills departed this life at his home in the land of flowers, in Miami, Florida, Saturday, September 29, 1923; as quietly as the sun sinks behind the mountains.

The funeral was held at the Baptist church Friday afternoon, Oct. 5, and was largely attended by a host of former friends and associates. Rev. G. H. Ashworth pastor of the Universalist church of Lansing officiated, reading from scriptures the 46th Psalms and John 14: 1-6; the theme of his discourse was development of Faith in God. Mr. and Mrs. Marc Cutler sang, Mrs. William F. Kraas, pianist. The pall bearers were William V. Case, Frank L. Hurd, Elmer Lankton, Charles Henning, James Ranney and William E. White. The floral tributes were beautiful. Burial was made in DeWitt cemetery.

Mr. Dills was born in Oakland county, Michigan, Jan. 30, 1847.

In 1852 when but a child he came with his parents William and Maria Dills to this county, locating in Olive township, here Winfield grew to manhood; reared in those days as he learned through experience, the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life.

On Feb. 20, 1878, he was united in marriage to Miss Ella Amelia Bowkar; to this union two sons were born.

Mr. Dills was a continuous resident of this vicinity and village for 59 years, and was a man noted for his congenial disposition and public spirit, one who knew the true value of friends, of whom he had many throughout central Michigan. In October, 1911, he and his family took up their residence in Florida where he passed the last 12 years of his life.

"He has gone even as golden autumn sinks into the tomb of winter."

For years he was a member of DeWitt Grange and Clinton County Pioneer Society.

He is survived by a devoted widow, whose hopes live where angels dwell, two sons Clair B. of Lansing and W. Scott Dills of Miami, Florida, three grandchildren, three brothers and a sister: Charles J. of Council Bluffs, Iowa, Omar B. and Jerome Dills and Mrs. Ella Brinkerhoff of DeWitt.

And today tears blur the vision, as eyes are focused on the new made grave and a watchful eye will keep faithful visage over all that remains of the departed.

Clinton
News

Celebrate Golden Wedding

12-18-1930



MR. AND MRS. OMAR B. DILLS

Mr. and Mrs. Omar B. Dills of Dewitt, entertained Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Hutchins of Lansing. Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Dills, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Lankton, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Brazee, Mr. and Mrs. Willis McLouth and Mr. and Mrs. Allen Stampfly and daughter Ardis, all of Dewitt, at their home Monday afternoon, Dec. 8 in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.

The afternoon was spent in visiting and recalling by-gone days. Refreshments of ice cream and cake were served by Mrs. Stampfly and

Mrs. Hutchins. Mr. and Mrs. Dills received a number of gifts to remind them of the occasion. Mrs. Dills had on the table a linen table cloth given her by her mother as a wedding gift 50 years ago, which is in excellent condition in spite of its many years of service.

Callers of the day were Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Gibbs and Mrs. Elizabeth Hurd of Lansing. Mrs. Hurd, aged aunt of Mrs. Dills, recited "Silver Threads Among the Gold," quite a feat for a woman past 80

(Continued on page 3, column 5)

DEWITT COUPLE WED 50 YEARS

(Continued from page one)
years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Dills were also recipients of a postal shower, receiving over 60 letters and cards from friends and relatives. Treasured among these were two air mail letters from California, one being from Rev. H. B. Bard, their former pastor of the Universalist church at Lansing, the other from Ralph Tyler Flewelling, now director of philosophy at the U. of Calif. Mrs. Dills was the latter's first teacher and has kept in touch with him all these years.

Mr. and Mrs. Dills are in good health for their years. Mr. Dills farmed part of his farm this year. He is 82 and his wife 73. Mr. Dills has resided within about a mile of Dewitt village since he was 3 years of age, coming here from Farmington, Oakland county, Michigan, where he was born, Sept. 29, 1848.

Mrs. Dills, formerly Abbie Hutchins, was born in Dewitt village July 22, 1857 and has spent practically her entire life here, a few years being spent in Lansing and Royal Oak. She was a teacher in the schools of Clinton and Ingham counties before her marriage to Mr. Dills and for many years has been correspondent for the Republican News. They have lived at their present home "Riverside" farm, a mile southeast of Dewitt since 1884. Two children were born to them, Gerry W. Dills of Detroit and Helen Stampfly of Dewitt township.

Dills

George Dills of Olive and a resident of this county for 16 years, died at the home of his son, Chas. Dills of Monroe county, this state, on the 20th inst. He was born in Cayuga county, N. Y., in 1802, removed to the state of Ohio in 1830 where he lived until 1838, when he removed to this county. His remains were brought to this place for interment. The funeral at the Baptist church was largely attended by the many friends and neighbors. The immediate friends of the deceased have the sympathy of a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

LAGO.

Clinton Rep.

10-30-1884

Dec. 28. 1905

VOL. XLVII—NO. 39

FIFTY-THREE YEARS

Mrs. Wm. Dills Had Lived in Clinton County

MARRIED 61 YEARS AGO

Is Survived by Husband, Daughter and Four Sons

Mrs. William Dills, a resident of Olive township since 1832, passed away Wednesday afternoon, at 4 o'clock, of old age, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Odell Brinkerhoff.

Mrs. Hilliker was born in Ledyard, Steuben county, New York, August 19, 1825. She moved to Michigan when a young lady and resided for a time at Farmington, Oakland county, where she was united in marriage to William Dills, July 4, 1844, and her aged companion, who is 85 years of age, survives her.

Mr. and Mrs. Dills moved to Olive township in 1832 and purchased a farm upon which they resided until a few years ago, when failing health compelled them to give up active labor and they removed to the home of their daughter. Mrs. Dills was a highly respected lady and one of the best known in Olive township. She was a member of the Clinton County Pioneer Society and of the Universalist church, of Dewitt, for many years.

Besides her husband she is survived by her daughter, Mrs. Brinkerhoff, four sons, Charles, of Council Bluffs, Iowa; Omar and W. S. Dills, of Dewitt, and Jerome Dills, of Olive. She is also survived by ten grandchildren and one great grandson.

Mrs. Dills was the oldest of six children, who were all living until two weeks ago when the death of her sister, Mrs. Fanny Nichols, who resided in Oakland county, occurred. The youngest of the four brothers and sisters now surviving is past 72 years of age. They are Mrs. H. R. Wilcox, of Olive; Mrs. Ella Coonley, of Detroit; Andrew Hilliker, of Bay City, and Baldwin Hilliker, of Oakland county. A family reunion was always held on Christmas until the failing health of Mrs. Dills made it impossible this year.

Dewitt

Obituary.

William Dills was born in Cayuga Co., New York, September 10, 1820. When ten years of age, he accompanied his parents to Huron county, Ohio. In 1842 he came to Oakland county, Michigan. In 1844 he was married to Miss Marie Hilliker, also of Oakland county. In 1852, they came to Olive, Clinton county, and bought 80 acres of land with but small improvement and a log house. This farm is situated one mile north of Dewitt village. From time to time Mr. Dills purchased other land until at one time he owned a large area.

He went with a threshing machine quite a number of years after coming to Clinton county, when the old fashioned horse powers were used. Like all true pioneers he met with many drawbacks and disappointments, but he did not turn back or falter by the wayside, as the fine farm and comfortable farm buildings erected by him in the past show.

In 1865, he with Vearney Pearce, bought a saw mill then standing one-half mile west of Dewitt village. They were partners in the mill about five years. They then sold out and Mr. Dills returned to his farm work. About 30 years ago he sold his farm and went to live with his daughter, Mrs. Ella Brinkerhoff, just across the way from the old homestead. He has resided with her ever since. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Dills. Five sons and one daughter. One son, Willie, passed away in childhood. Those living are Charles, of Council Bluffs, Iowa; W. S. of Miami, Florida; O. B. and Jerome of Dewitt and the daughter, Mrs. Ella Brinkerhoff with whom he lived and who so tenderly cared for him in his declining years. He is also survived by 10 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Mr. Dills was the last one of a family of ten to pass away. He was very industrious and a good manager. His motto was to drive the work and not let the work drive him.

Politically he was a life long republican and has held various important town offices. He was well known throughout the county as a man of upright character, sterling worth and fidelity to principle. He was a member of the Clinton County Pioneer society, also a member of the Universalist church. His faith was firm that some where and some time all would be united in one great family where all would be joy, happiness and love. He fully believed in the words written by Whittier:

I know not where His islands lift
Their fronded palms in air,
I only know I can not drift
Beyond His love and care.

Mrs. Dills passed away eight years ago last December. Mr. Dills always mourned her departure, but he has not mourned as one without hope, but looked forward to the meeting with his loved ones in the better land where tears and sorrows are no more. He had been gradually failing for a long time. He was patient through his illness. He quietly passed away last Wednesday, May 13th, 1914, at the ripe old age of 93 years, 8 months and three days.

Truly it may be said of him, a good man has been called home and the world has been made better and brighter by his having lived in it. His funeral was held at the Baptist church in Dewitt, Saturday, May 17th, 1914. The church was well filled with sympathizing friends and neighbors. Rev. F. C. Aldinger, pastor of the First Universalist church in Lansing, officiated. Interment in Dewitt cemetery.

Relatives and friends from away were Mrs. Eren Knight, Mr. and Mrs. Abram Carney of Bay City, Charles Hilliker of Farmington, Mr. and Mrs. John Hardinburg and Gary Dills of Detroit, Mrs. Charles Lutz of Okemos, Mrs. Pond, Mrs. Edgar Hurl, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Gibbs and daughter, Marian, of Lansing and Mrs. Lydia Penwell of St. Johns.

Dobson



**DOBSON,
WARREN E.**

Lansing

Age 92, died June 28, 1989 following a brief illness. He was born in Quincy, MI on September 21, 1896. Over 20 years of being "Mr. Pumpkin" made Warren very special to the many groups of children who visited his farm on Wood Road, following his retirement in 1961 from the Michigan Farm Bureau after 35 years of service. Extensive gardening, travel in the 50 states, and writing poetry were his pleasures. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church; the Lansing Farmer's Club, High Twelve, DeWitt Chapter #30 O.E.S., and was a 70 year member of Mt. Vernon Lodge #166 F. & A.M. of Quincy, MI. He was preceded in death by his wife of 53 years, Esther, in 1985. Also 2 brothers, Elmer and Alton; and 2 sisters, Ina and Gertrude predeceased him. Surviving are daughter, Elaine Scovill and husband, Russell; 4 grandchildren,

Roger and wife Shirley, Douglas and wife Rebecca, Kenneth and wife Amy, Jeanette Adams and husband Michael; 3 great grandchildren, Cara, Bethany and Joshua; sister, Mildred Way of Phoenix, AZ. Religious services will be conducted by The Rev. Albert L. Jeandheur, Interim Pastor at 2:30 p.m. Friday in the Molly Grove Chapel of First Presbyterian Church, corner of Ottawa and Pine St., with interment in Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens. Pallbearers will be Roger, Doug and Ken Scovill, Steve and Dan Dobson and Mike Adams. The family will receive friends in the Estes-Leadley Greater Lansing Chapel from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Thursday and Mr. Dobson will lie-in-state at the Church from 1:30 p.m. until service time Friday. Memorial contributions may be made to the First Presbyterian Church or to East Lansing Older People A.L.F.A. Program, 201 Hillside Ct., East Lansing 48823.

*State
Journal
6-24-89*

le Becomes Price, Jr.

g vows were spoken in Presbyterian church Saturday by Miss Bernice Helle, daughter of Mr. and George Leo Beadle of Yale, and Cassell Price, Jr. Rev. VanderMeulen, assisted Alfred Eddy of Yale, officiating.

Price is the son of Prof. and C. Price, 630 Snyder rd., Lansing.

Bride wore a white satin lace gown fashioned with a bodice and off the shoulder of nylon illusion with a satin collar covered with a band.

Nylon illusion fingertip veil held by a Juliette lace cap, carried a white orchid on a Bible with white satin trimmers and stephanotis.

Rev. David G. Eldredge, the groom's sister, was matron of honor. Her gown was white frostedandy over white taffeta with sleeves and a full skirt.

White organdy cap was lined with narrow ruffles and carried a colonial bouquet of white sweetpeas centered with yellow roses.

The bridesmaids, Mrs. Edward V. Andree of Yale and Miss Mary Weymouth of Yale, wore gowns similar to the matron of honor's. Their colonial bouquets of sweetpeas were centered with pink roses. Mary Elizabeth VanWinkle of Howell, cousin of the bride, was flower girl.

Robert F. Price of Louisville, Ky., was his brother's groomsman. Serving as ushers were Gilbert Bird of Flint, the bridegroom's cousin; David G. Eldredge, the bridegroom's brother-in-law, and Richard S. Bacon.

For her daughter's wedding, Mrs. Beadle chose a watermelon shade crepe dinner gown with pink accessories and pink orchids. Mrs. Price donned a dusty pink rose print dinner gown and wore an orchid.

Miss Lois Kelley, organist, accompanied Miss Hattie Elston, soloist.

A reception in the church parlors followed the wedding. Mrs. Erwin Beadle and Mrs. Archie Barth, aunts of the bride, presided at the punch bowls. Mrs. Fred Taylor cut the cake.

Assisting at the reception were Miss Kay Roehm, Miss Mildred Mobley, Miss Dorothy Stephens, Mrs. Walter VanDine, Miss Mary Jane Plumer and Miss Helen Richardson of Evart.

The couple will be at home at 400 Lathrop st. when they return from their two-week wedding trip to Lake Placid.

The bride attended Michigan State college and Boston university. She was affiliated with Zeta Tau Alpha sorority. The bridegroom attended Cornell university and is a student at Michigan State college.

Mrs. Ardene Hilly Weds Vance Lackey

(Special to The State Journal)

LAKE ODESSA -- Mrs. Ardene Hilly became the bride of Vance Lackey Aug. 6 at 2 p. m. at



MRS. EVERETT B. ARNOLD, JR.

Demaris Dotson Becomes Bride In DeWitt Church

DeWitt Community church was the scene of the wedding of Miss Demaris Margaret Dotson, daughter of William B. Dotson, R. 4, and Everett B. Arnold, Jr., Saturday afternoon. Rev. LaVern Bretz officiated at the double-ring ceremony.

Mr. Arnold's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Everett B. Arnold, 1215 N. Grand River ave.

The bride's gown was candlelight slipper satin with a fitted bodice, mandarin collar, and caps over Chantilly lace sleeves. The full skirt swept into a full cathedral length train.

Her imported French silk illusion fingertip veil was held in place by a wreath of pearl-oreange blossoms. She carried a colonial bouquet of white roses and gladioli.

Miss Greta Perry, maid of honor, wore yellow marquisette over taffeta. The gown, fashioned with a front skirt panel of ruffles, also had a hoop skirt. Her mitts and picture hat were matching. Her flowers were yellow gladioli and Talisman roses.

Mrs. Milton Stevens, bridesmaid, wore an orchid gown styled like that of the maid of honor and carried pink gladioli blossoms and pink roses.

Anne Folan, niece of the bride, was flowergirl and wore a green dress with yellow sash.

Doyle Smith was groomsman.

Norman Balmer, soloist, was accompanied on the organ by Miss Helen Moon.

Reception assistants in the church parlors were Miss Norma Decker and Miss Janet Lankford.

The couple will be at home after Aug. 19 on DeWitt rd. following a wedding trip to Gleason, Tenn.

Tenants were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Frost, Jr., of Lake Odessa.

The bride wore a yellow nylon sheer over yellow taffeta with lace insets in the skirt.

Concluded from

Dotson
den (but no other room) in the Andrew Zynda on Cambridge, from a huge tree removed from Lester Davidson, Mrs. Zynda's father, when they built the Main street bridge.

This room will be used as a downstairs playroom by small sons, David and Michael, in deference to whose fingerprints even the slipcovers have been chosen in charcoal grey. Their gay, yellow-curtained nursery windows overlook the Country Club golf course.

The Zynda's house is a large, red brick and white trim designed by its versatile young owners with the thought in mind of blending their own desire for modern with their Cambridge rd. neighbors' preference for tradition.

The result, still in the finishing process, is attractive — Georgian colonial in effect, with a marble entrance hall and a sweeping stair which will some day have a wrought-iron stair-rail. Just now it's contrived of orange crates to keep the children from falling off it.

Living in the middle of the interior decorating does not bother Mrs. Zynda at all. "It's so convenient," she says, "to be right on deck to match colors, mix paint, tell people where to put things."

Pastels predominate through the rooms, especially pink and blue. The kitchen has blue walls, a blue linoleum floor and blue chintz curtains with pink butterflies, flowers and fish. It is divided into three units with places for dining, cooking and laundry.

Other "dream-house" features are the midnight-blue dining room with grey veiling and carpet, sheer white nylon-over-faille draperies printed in silver and gold . . . the flamingo pink and white draperies in the pearl-grey living room.

IN BETWEEN

From a modern house like the Watsons' or a combination like the Zyndas', the next step is traditional. This brings us up to the attractive American ranch house being built by Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Sprowl on N. Harrison rd.

It has three living rooms. One will be huge and formal, furnished with period pieces. Another, the indoor-outdoor living room, is in the back of the house with rows of windows all around three sides. The third room is a combination library-den-guest room. And there is a large recreation room in the basement. There are also three bedrooms.

"We're thinking of our seven grandchildren," Mrs. Sprowl explains, "and want to have lots of room for them to visit us." They are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sprowl (who have four) and Mr. and Mrs. James Sprowl (who have three). All live in Chicago.

Charles Sprowl and his small daughter, Susie, are expected any time for a short visit—in the old home on N. Walnut, though, as the new one won't be finished until Oct. 1.

BUILDING, BUILDING!

Other East Lansing builders, who won't be moving in until much later, are Mr. and Mrs.

Dotson

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Drake
Hath

Obituary.

Died at her home in Flint, Mich., Sept. 6th, 1912, Leah Viola, wife of Andrew J. Hath, aged 28 years, five months and 20 days. Leah Viola Drake, daughter of Orton and Elizabeth Drake, was born in Watertown, Clinton county, Mich. She was united in marriage to Andrew J. Hath June 28th, 1905. Mrs. Hath possessed many rare and noble qualities which made her beloved by all with whom she came in contact. A sincere Christian, a devoted wife, a loving daughter and sister and a true friend to all. When but a child she united with the M. E. church of DeWitt. In 1905 she withdrew from the M. E. church and joined the Baptist church of DeWitt. She leaves besides her husband to mourn their loss, father, mother, two brothers, Lewis B. Drake of DeWitt and Edward Drake of Chico, Wash. She has gone to join her brother, Austin, who died May 12, 1911. The funeral was held at the M. E. church in DeWitt Monday afternoon, Rev. G. T. Fisher officiating. Interment in DeWitt cemetery. The casket was covered and surrounded with beautiful flowers. The attendance was very large which showed the high esteem in which she was held.

CARD OF THANKS—We desire to thank the many friends, the M. E. Aid, members of Olive tent No. 617, the members of Genesee Lodge No. 24 I. O. O. F. and the boys of the brake room of the Weston Mott factory for the beautiful, floral offerings and especially do we desire to thank the choir and the kind neighbors who assisted us so nobly in the hour of our great bereavement.

Andrew J. Hath,
Mr. and Mrs. Orton Drake,
Mr. and Mrs. Lewis B. Drake,

Dewitt Village

Drake

ORTON DRAKE DEAD.

Saturday at 1:30 p.m. at the M.E. church the funeral of Orton Drake was held. Mr. Drake died at his home west of the village on Wednesday, June 15, after a long lingering illness, at the age of 72 years, six months and ten days.

Mr. Drake was born at Utica, Macomb county, Mich., December 5, 1848, and lived on and worked his father's farm until 1875. He was married to Elizabeth Hacker of Macomb county, February 22, 1877.

The following spring they moved to the farm 1½ miles west of Dewitt, which he cleared and made into the beautiful farm home he has enjoyed these many years.

Four children were born to this union. Viola and Austin who have passed on, Edward on the old farm and Lewis, rural carrier, No. 3 Dewitt.

After coming to Dewitt Mr. Drake united with the M.E. church and while his health permitted was a regular attendant at church, and a valuable worker in the Sunday school. He leaves to mourn his death his loving wife, and two sons, Edward and Lewis, four grandchildren, Evelyn, Warren, Margaret and Lucile and other relatives and many friends.

Those who attended the funeral from away were Rev. and Mrs. Fisher from Berlin Center, L. W. Hacker and family, E. G. Hacker and wife, S. Stead and wife and Richard Sieuert and family of Lansing; F. G. Hacker and wife and Mrs. F. W. Hill of Mt. Clemens; Mrs. George Day and son Albert, of Elsie; Mr. William Stead of St. Johns; Mrs. Blanche Garlock of Mason and Mr. and Mrs. William Workman of Grand Ledge.

Rev. Mr. Fisher conducted the services, assisted by Rev. C. Seipp. The music was furnished by Mrs. W. F. Kraas, Mrs. Carl VanFleet, Mrs. Willis McLouth, Harry Moon and Mark Norris. The floral tributes were many and beautiful.

CARD OF THANKS.

We wish to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to all those who so lovingly assisted us during the sickness and death of our husband and father, Orton Drake. Especially would we mention the two ministers for their comforting words, the singers for their beautiful message in song and the many friends whose calls, flowers and kindly ministrations did so much to comfort us at this time of sadness.

Signed—The Wife, Edward Drake, Lewis Drake and Family.

Chil. Co. Rep.

6-23-1921

Driskill

Aug 2-1928

**Mary Driskill And
Howard Walker Are
Married August 1**

On Wednesday evening, August 1, at 8 o'clock Miss Mary Driskill, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Asa Driskill of Olive, and Howard Walker, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Archie Walker of Bingham, were united in marriage by Rev. G. S. Northrup at his home here. The ring ceremony was used. They were attended by Miss Helen Walker, sister of the groom, and Clyde Craft.

Mrs. Walker is a graduate of St. Johns high school class of '24 and of the Clinton County Normal, class of '25. The groom attended school in Gratiot county.

This (Thursday) morning Mr. and Mrs. Walker left for a two weeks' visit with relatives and friends in southern Michigan, Ohio and Indiana.

After returning they will make their home in St. Johns.

FIRES BUILDINGS, ENDS OWN LIFE

CHARRED BODY OF CHAS. DRISKILL FOUND IN BARN EMBERS

Insane Youth Destroys Home of Parents in Olive May 18; Inquest Held

What the workings of a disordered mind may bring forth was tragically revealed Saturday afternoon, May 18, when Charles C. Driskill, 22-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Asa Driskill of Olive township, fired his parents' farm home and buildings and then ended his own life with a rifle bullet. The charred remains of the unfortunate young man's body were found in the ruins of the Driskill barn which, like all other buildings on the place, was burned to the ground.

Last summer, after he had been working in Pontiac for a short while, Charles Driskill was committed to the Pontiac State Hospital where an examination proved him to be mentally unbalanced. Three months later, on October 17, 1928, he was allowed to leave the institution and returned to his parents' home four miles south of St. Johns. Testimony given at coroner's inquest Monday by members of his family showed that at first his mind seemed disordered but that recently he had appeared rational and there was little warning that he might commit such a deed as that which shocked the whole community Saturday.

Shortly before 2 p. m. on that day Mr. and Mrs. Asa Driskill drove to St. Johns to do some shopping. Charles remained at home where he had been helping his father shingle the chicken house in the morning. At 2:15 p. m. Forest Smith, who lives just a short distance west of the Driskill place, discovered that the house was on fire. He ran to the scene where he was joined by another neighbor, Leon Ormes. They entered the front door and Forest called "Charles," but received no answer.

Thinking that the young man had gone to town Forest and Mr. Ormes, aided by many others who had been attracted by the fire, succeeded in saving most of the household goods on the first floor.

In the meantime the barn, tool shed and chicken house were burning with nearly all contents. It became known that Charles had not left the place with his parents and a search for him, or his remains, was started. The body, burned beyond recognition, was finally found on a pile of burning hay in the ruins of the barn. After it had been removed the barrel of his father's 32-caliber rifle containing

an exploded shell, was discovered near the spot on which the body was found.

In all probability as soon as his parents had driven to town young Driskill set fire to the house, then the tool shed and chicken house and finally the barn, after which he shot himself with the rifle. Before firing the barn he turned out the horses that were in their stalls when Mr. Driskill left home. It is reported that the youth had put the well out of commission so that there would be no water with which to fight the flames.

When the body was found officers were notified and Coroner C. E. Lamb impaneled the following as a coroner's jury for the inquest which was held at the courthouse in St. Johns, Monday morning: Fred and Lee VanVleet, Arthur Gage, Burr Eaton, Ed Magner and Floyd Taber.

Asa Driskill, father of the unfortunate youth, was the first witness called by Prosecutor G. G. Hunter, who conducted the hearing in the presence of Coroner Lamb. Mr. Driskill said that his boy was in good health and in a rational state of mind Saturday morning and at the time Mr. and Mrs. Driskill drove to St. Johns Saturday afternoon. He said Charles enlisted in the U. S. Army in December, 1927, at Tulsa, Oklahoma, and was stationed at a Texas army post. Three weeks later the boy left the service, writing his parents that he "didn't like it" and telling them he was using an assumed name. Through letters, Mr. Driskill later learned that his boy spent some time in southern states and then came back to Michigan and worked in Pontiac where he was committed to the hospital as related above. Mr. Driskill stated that the boy never wanted to be crossed in any way and about 10 days before ending his own life told his father, in a fit of rage over some small matter, "I would like to dope you to death or kill you." Neither Mr. Driskill or any of the other witnesses knew of any trouble the boy had had with neighbors or acquaintances or his own family.

Others who took the stand at the inquest were Leon Ormes, John Sonier, Ernest Rall and Forest Smith, all of whom arrived early at the fire; Mrs. Howard Walker, sister of the deceased, and Deputy Sheriff Percy Patterson, who told of inspecting the rifle with its exploded shell.

After deliberating briefly the coroner's jury found that Charles Driskill came to his death by his own hand.

Mr. and Mrs. Driskill are living with a neighbor temporarily and have not made definite future plans. The loss of their buildings is partially covered by insurance.

A report that the Driskill boy was in state prison last summer instead of at the Pontiac hospital is false. The records show he was at Pontiac.

Charles Clinton Driskill, son of Mr. and Mrs. Asa Driskill of Olive township, was born May 19, 1907, near Hillsboro, Clinton county, Ohio.

His early life was spent in Ohio and Indiana.

About ten years ago he came with his parents and sister from near Grover Hill, Ohio, to Olive township, Clinton county, Michigan. He attended school at the Merrihew school and went two years to the St. Johns high school.

He passed from this life May 18, 1929, just one day before his twenty-second birthday. Besides his parents he is survived by one sister, Mrs. Howard D. Walker of St. Johns, and many relatives and friends in Ohio and Indiana.

The funeral was held Tuesday p. m. at 1:30 at Ebert's and 2:00 o'clock at the West Bingham U. B. church, Rev. Montgomery officiating. Burial at the West Bingham cemetery.

Driskill



Spec. 4 Dennis E. Dubendorf (right) of DeWitt receives the Bronze Star Medal June 20 near Tay Ninh, Viet Nam. Lt. Col. Richard Simpson, commander of the 4th Battalion of the 25th Infantry Division's 9th Infantry, pins the award on.

DeWitt soldier earns Bronze Star Medal

"For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force," Army Specialist Four, DENNIS E. DUBENDORF, 19, son of Mr and Mrs William R. Dubendorf, R-1, St. Johns, received the Bronze Star Medal, June 20, near Tay Ninh, Viet Nam.

During an attack, "he and a comrade remained behind as a part of the company's rear se-

curity." Through the attack, "although completely outnumbered, they calmly held their position and by well aimed rifle fire killed three of the enemy, including a platoon leader, and wounded three others. They broke the assault and routed the attacking force."

"Due to Specialist Dubendorf's valorous actions the mission was successfully completed and the enemy force defeated." Lieutenant Colonel Richard Simpson, commander of the 4th Battalion of the 25th Infantry Division's 9th Infantry, presented the award for the heroism in action against the enemy in December of 1967.

Spec. Dubendorf, a rifleman in Company C of the battalion, entered the Army in April of 1967 and completed basic training at Ft. Knox, Ky. He was stationed at Ft. Gordon, Ga., before arriving overseas in October of 1967.

Dunham

F-010

Mrs. Lydia Dunham.

Miss Lydia Partridge was born in New York state Jan. 31, 1832. She was married to Wm. Dunham in New York state. They came to Michigan and settled south of Dewitt village. Mr. Dunham died in 1881. About 18 years ago Mrs. Dunham left her farm and moved to this village. A few years ago, her health failed and she has since resided with her daughters, Mrs. Helen Rouse, and Mrs. Charles Treadwell. She departed this life Sunday, Jan. 9, 1916 at the home of Mrs. Henry Rouse. Mr. and Mrs. Dunham first settled on the farm now occupied by A. I. Lunham. Her home was her kingdom. She was always ready to help where help was needed and was loved and respected by all that knew her.

Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Dunham, six of whom survive: Merritt and Edwin of Rondo; Mrs. Helen Rouse and Mrs. Charles Treadwell, Irving and A. I. of Dewitt. Her daughter, Frances, died several years ago.

Mrs. Dunham was a charter member of the D. of R. and kept her membership until the last.

Her funeral was held at the M. E. church Wednesday afternoon, Rev. F. C. Alldinger officiating. Interment in Dewitt cemetery.

Dunham

THIS CERTIFIES

That on the 22 day of February
in the year 1893

Charles S. Fredwell

and
May E. Dunham
were by me united in

MARRIAGE

at St. John's. Micle.

A. J. Dunham. Rev. W. C. Allen
Minister. Chaplains.



FAMILY RECORD.

DEATHS.

William Dunham Nov. 8 1881
Frances Turgason Feb. 24 1891
Lydia Dunham Jan. 9th 1916
May Treadwell Dec. 14th 1919
Irvin Dunham Feb. 2nd 1932
Charles Treadwell Jan. 29 1935
Henry Rouse Oct. 18 1939
Emmett Dunham April 6 1864
Merritt Dunham
Irvin Brother of Emmett died Jan 2 1861
John McIntire (son in law)
Reva Treadwell Terham Feb. 1918
Ila May Treadwell Jan. 8 1986

THE

NEW TESTAMENT

OF OUR

LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST:

TRANSLATED OUT OF

THE ORIGINAL GREEK;

AND WITH

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FAMILY RECORD.

BIRTHS.

FAVE HANSON
DEWITT
MICHIGAN

William Dunham

March 13. 1829

Lydia Dunham Jan 31. 1831

Julia M. Dunham Aug. 1831

Edwin L. Dunham June 29. 1833

Frances L. Dunham Oct 13. 1835

Merrit W. Dunham Oct. 26. 1836

Asa Dunham Aug. 26. 1838

Irvin Dunham May. 19. 1840

Mary Dunham Dec. 30. 1842

Emmett G. Dunham Aug 2-1861

Julie Brother Jan 2-1861

FAMILY RECORD.

BIRTHS.

See Headwell Sept. 19. 1865

May Headwell Dec. 30. 1867

Reva Headwell Oct. 9. 1868

Ila Headwell Oct. 22. 1896

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FAMILY RECORD.

MARRIAGES.

William Dunham and
Lydia M. Partridge March 13-1852

Henry Rose and Helen Dunham

March 17, 1879

John McArthur and Frances Dunham

Oct 13, 1879

Frances Ferguson and Francis McArthur

William Dunham and Lydia M. Partridge March 13-1852
Henry Rose and Helen Dunham March 17, 1879
John McArthur and Frances Dunham Oct 13, 1879
Frances Ferguson and Francis McArthur