

Easton

**REED, WILHELMENA M.**

**St. Johns**

Born August 11, 1905 in Riley Township, daughter of Frank and Reckie (Marten) Easton; died June 13, 1995 at the age of 89. Mrs. Reed was a member of St. Peter's Lutheran Church and DeWitt Community Church. She taught school in DeWitt, Bath, Ovid and St. Johns area schools for several years and was a member of the Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel. Preceded in death by her husband, Lloyd; and a son, Paul. Surviving are 2 daughters, Mrs. Joseph (Nancy) Miller of St. Johns and Mrs. Jerry (Kaye) Schafer of Midland; 1 daughter-in-law, Mrs. Emily Reed of Grand Haven; 14 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren. Funeral services will be held Saturday, June 17, 11 a.m. at the Gorsline-Runciman Co. DeWitt Chapel, 111 S. Franklin, DeWitt, with the Rev. Jeffrey Helmssoth, Pastor of St. Peter's Lutheran Church, officiating. Interment will follow in DeWitt Cemetery. Friends may call at the Chapel beginning Thursday 2 p.m., where the family will receive friends from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. and Friday, 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. In remembrance of Mrs. Reed, those desiring may make contributions to the Hazel I. Findlay Country Manor, 1101 Scott Road, St. Johns 48879.

## THOMAS J. EASTWOOD

Old Resident of Clinton Co. Dies at  
Home of Daughter in Watertown.

Thomas Jefferson Eastwood, son of Eliza and Alfred Eastwood, was born January 2nd, 1844, in Utica township, Macomb county, Michigan. When quite a young man he came to Clinton county where at the age of 24 years, he was united in marriage with Miss Della C. Webster of Dewitt. To them were born two daughters, Mrs. Rose M. Hunt Booth, of Dexter, Michigan, and Mrs. Lillie B. Hunt, of Watertown, with whom he had made his home since the death of his wife, which occurred March 11th, 1905, and at whose home he passed away Tuesday morning, November 18th, at the age of 69 years, 10 months and 18 days.

He was one of a family of twelve children of whom one brother, William, of Holly, Michigan, and four sisters, Mrs. Anne Grinold, of Watertown, Mrs. Jane Whitney, of Lansing, Mrs. Fannie Neve, of Pierson, and Mrs. Eliza E. Neve, of Pierson, together with his two daughters, two grandchildren, Kenneth A. Hunt, of Dexter, Michigan, and H. Raymond Hunt of Watertown and several nieces and nephews, are left to mourn their loss.

Nearly all his life was spent in Clinton county near the home in which he died, and where he leaves a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

### Card of Thanks.

We wish to express our sincere thanks to the kind friends and neighbors, for the beautiful floral offerings and to the singers and the minister for his comforting words, during the death and burial of our father.—  
Signed, The Family.

Eastwood

## YOUNG COUPLE WED AT CAPITAL CITY

DARTHEA EATON AND FLOYD  
ROSEKRANS TAKE VOWS  
ON JUNE 20TH 1933

The marriage of Miss Darthea A. Eaton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Burr M. Eaton of Olive township, to Floyd U. Rosekrans, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Rosekrans of Bingham, took place in Lansing, Tuesday morning, June 20, at 11 o'clock at the M. E. church with Rev. John Vickers officiating. They were attended by Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Rosekrans of Grand Rapids.

The bride was becomingly gowned in a blue chiffon dress and wore a blue picture hat and white accessories. She carried a bouquet of yellow roses and blue delphinium. Mrs. Rosekrans wore a dress of pale green silk organdy with white accessories. She carried a bouquet of yellow roses.

Mrs. Rosekrans has been a successful school teacher in Clinton county for the past four years. Mr. Rosekrans is employed by the Sears, Roebuck Company in Lansing. After a trip through the east they will be at home at 929 Cleo street, Lansing.

Mr. and Mrs. Burr Eaton entertained about 150 relatives and friends at a reception for the pleasure of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Rosekrans at their home Friday evening. The bride and groom were recipients of many lovely and useful gifts. Refreshments were served. Out-of-town guests included Mr. and Mrs. Leo Phippeny and Mr. and Mrs. King Serviss of Owosso and Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Rosekrans of Grand Rapids.

**Mrs. Irving M. Eaton**

Alvira Taber was born on February 10, 1848, in Olive township, Clinton county, Michigan, and passed away March 4, 1923, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Gertrude Pearce of Dewitt, with whom she had been spending a few weeks.

She was the daughter of Sally M. and Moses D. Taber, who were among the first settlers of Olive where Mrs. Eaton spent nearly all her life.

June 9, 1867, she was united in marriage with Irving M. Eaton, also of Olive township. To this union five children were born: Mrs. Emma Devereaux and Mrs. Gertrude Pearce, of Dewitt; Clell I. Eaton, Burr M. Eaton, and Ella M. Eaton, of Olive. She is survived by her five children, twelve grandchildren and eight great grandchildren one brother, Wilbur Taber of Bingham and a number of nieces and nephews. The funeral was held from her late home in Olive Wednesday, March 7, the Rev. Carl Seipp, of Dewitt, officiating. Interment in South Bingham cemetery by the side of her late husband.

**Pearce—Eaton Wedding.**

Married at the home of the bride's parents in North Olive Wednesday, July 25th, 1900, Miss Gertrude Eaton, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Eaton, and Varney Pearce, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Varney Pearce, of South Olive. The ceremony was performed in the presence of only the nearest relatives by Rev. J. N. Buell, of Dewitt. The bride was attired in white silk and carried white carnations. The groom wore the conventional black. They were attended by Miss Josephine Pearce, sister of the groom, and Clell Eaton, brother of the bride. After congratulations a bountiful dinner was partaken of. The happy couple took the evening train enroute for Petoskey amid a shower of rice.

Easton

## Lloyd B. Reed And Wilhelmina Easton Married Saturday

Lloyd Byron Reed, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Reed of Bingham township, and Miss Wilhelmina, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Easton of Dewitt, were united in marriage Saturday afternoon, December 28, 1929. The ceremony was performed by Rev. G. S. Northrup at his home in St. Johns. The bride and groom were attended by Mildred Weismiller and E. J. Niernala, both of Lansing.

Mrs. Reed is a teacher in the public schools of Jackson while her husband is engaged in the dairy business at that city. They will reside in Jackson.

Eddy

Mrs. Isabella Eddy died at her home in South Riley, Thursday November 1, of paralysis, aged 70 years.

Deceased had lived in Clinton county for over 60 years, and was one of the earliest settlers. She is survived by four children, Mrs. Charles Harris, Lansing; Mrs. Capt. Rogers, Texas; Mrs. Charles Rademacher, California; and W. M. Eddy, of Lansing.

The funeral was held Saturday afternoon, Rev. Ernest Bourner Allen, officiating.

# Church's Valentine

## Trip to England Rewards Edmonds' Long Service

By JUDY McQUEEN  
State Journal Special Writer

The special valentines presented to Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Edmonds this year were best wishes—and a gift check which will allow them to take a long-awaited visit back to England.

Mr. and Mrs. Edmonds, custodians at Central United Methodist Church, were feted at a surprise Valentine dinner at a local restaurant commemorating their 15 years of service to the local church.

More than 300 members and friends attended.

The Edmonds will be flying to London to visit relatives, then on to Bedford. They will leave in late July or early August.

### 'THIS IS LIFE'

Mrs. Edmonds (Muriel) received a corsage from the Wesley Bible Class, and the Woman's Society presented a "This is your Life" style program.

The story included details of the Edmonds' trip to the United States years ago on the ship "Queen Elizabeth."

They came to be nearer to their daughter, the late Mrs. Barbara Dinstbier, who had married a U.S. serviceman and moved to America.

Because Mr. Edmonds was over 50 and not an American citizen, finding a job was difficult in the beginning. After both he and his wife had worked at various occupations, they were hired as custodians of Central United Methodist Church in 1956.

Now, Mr. and Mrs. Edmonds reside at King Arthur's Court, where they have made a home for their three granddaughters, Sandi, Elaine and Lisa Dinstbier.



Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Edmonds  
Anticipating Trip . . .

The tables for the surprise dinner party were decorated with red and white carnations and Valentine hearts.

### CONTRIBUTIONS

The Rev. Robert Betts, acting as master of ceremonies for the program, related several instances of valuable contributions in time and service the Edmonds have made to the church.

Dr. Howard Lyman, senior pastor of the church, made the presentation of two travel bags and a round trip ticket to England.

Rev. Charles Grauer, the third minister of the church, who was unable to attend the dinner because of a church youth retreat, sent his best wishes.

The Edmonds say this Valentine gift will be among their most treasured memories.

Edmonds



Eldridge

#### ELDRIDGE-CARY

A quiet wedding ceremony was performed at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Tremper of St. Johns at 8:00 o'clock Wednesday night when Andrew Eldridge and Mrs. Blanche Cary, of Dewitt, were united in marriage. Mr. Eldridge is the uncle of Mrs. Tremper. Mrs. Eldridge has been with the State Welfare commission at Lansing. Mr. Eldridge is a half owner of the Norris Hardware company of Dewitt where they will make their home. Rev. G. S. Northrup performed the ceremony.

# HOLD ELDRIDGE RITES DEC. 1ST

Dewitt Business Man Since  
1912 Succumbs To  
Brief Illness

1922

Dewitt—Andrew L. Eldridge, only son and one of a family of four children of Darius and Lucinda Eldridge was born Jan. 8, 1879 in Bengal township. His entire life was spent in this county. He was first united in marriage to Miss Ola Parks of Eagle who died in 1910, leaving him with a young daughter three years old. In 1912 Mr. Eldridge moved to Dewitt where he entered into the hardware and implement business which he was still operating at the time of his death. Dec. 6, 1922 he was united in marriage to Mrs. Blanche Wetherell. To this union one daughter, Carol Louise was born.

Thanksgiving Day Mr. Eldridge was taken ill and after a brief illness of pleural pneumonia, died Tuesday morning, Nov. 29, aged 53 years. Besides his widow he is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Ellis Gregg of Lansing and Carol Louise at home; one grandchild; one sister, Mrs. Clarence Turk of Lansing; a cousin, Frank Eldridge of this place; other relatives and a host of friends. Mr. Eldridge was a member of the Dewitt F. & A. M., and a member of Dewitt Chapter O. E. S. He was a prominent and highly esteemed citizen who will be missed in all business and social activities in the community.

The funeral was held from his late home Thursday afternoon, Dec. 1 at 2 o'clock. The services were conducted by Rev. G. S. Northrup of St. Johns and Carl Harris, Christian Science reader of Lansing. Burial in Dewitt cemetery. The Masonic order gave the full burial service at the grave. Relatives were present from Mason and Fowler, also Mr. and Mrs. Earl Gregg of Toledo, O. The many beautiful floral pieces silently told the high esteem in which he was held in this community.

## CARD OF THANKS

We wish to thank all those who so kindly assisted us through the illness and death of our husband and father and also for the beautiful floral tributes.—Mrs. Blanche Eldridge and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Gregg and family, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence E. Turk and family.

—Adv.

Eldridge

Eldridge

## ELEVATOR MANAGER AT DEWITT PASSES

CONDUCT FUNERAL SERVICES  
SATURDAY FOR FRANK  
ELDRIDGE, AGED 70

Frank E. Eldridge, 70, manager of the Breisch elevator at Dewitt, and a resident of Clinton county most of his life, died at Clinton Memorial hospital Wednesday night, Nov. 9. Last rites were held at 2 p. m. Saturday at the Eberts funeral home. Rev. G. S. Northrup officiated, with burial in Mt. Rest cemetery.

Born in Bengal township July 15, 1868, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Eldridge, he was married Sept. 16, 1896, to Miss Cora Havens of Bengal. They resided in Cleveland, O., 20 years and moved to Dewitt 21 years ago.

Besides his widow he leaves a brother, William Eldridge of Schoolcraft, and two sisters, Mrs. Adam Brockman of Olive, and Mrs. Arthur Kellogg of Bengal, in addition to other relatives and many friends.

**Walter C. Ellis**

Walter C. "Happy" Ellis, 73, 5425 Cutler Road, DeWitt, died Monday September 15, 1975, at his home, where he has lived for the last 15 years. His funeral was held at the DeWitt Area Chapel on Friday, September 19, with the Reverend Lindsey Patterson officiating.

Burial was at East Lawn Memorial Garden.

Mr. Ellis is survived by his wife, the former Inez Dinkins. They were married in Tennessee on March 6, 1921. Mr. Ellis was born in Tennessee on November 22, 1901, the child of Robert L. and Ruth Harper Ellis.

He was a member of the Kimberly Downs Church of Christ, and the Quarter Century Club at Oldsmobile, from where he retired in 1961.

Also surviving are his five daughters, Mrs. Anna Sue Williams, DeWitt, Mrs. Frances Reist, Lansing, Mrs. Carolyn Peake, Grand Ledge, Mrs. Carlene Reagan of Perry, nineteen grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren. He leaves one brother, Robert Ellis, who lives in Kentucky, and five sisters, Clara Perry of Lansing and Quincie Peery, Ivy Bevell, Lois Johnson and Agnes Deaten, all of Tennessee.

Ellwanger

Alice Gray Ellwanger, wife of Robert J. Ellwanger, died at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Grey of Traverse City, Tuesday, December 17, 1907, aged 35 years four months and 20 days, after an illness of five days of rheumatism of the stomach and heart. The deceased was born September 28, 1872, in Traverse City on the same farm where she died. In 1904 she was united in marriage to Robert J. Ellwanger, a former resident of South Olive. Soon after their marriage they moved to this village where they remained two years. While in this vicinity Mrs. Ellwanger gained many friends by her quiet and unassuming manners, being a great lover of home and home ties. The funeral services were held at her old home Thursday, December 19, at 10 a.m., Rev. Mr. Chase, of Old Mission, officiating. She was laid to rest in Oakwood cemetery, Traverse City. She leaves besides a devoted husband, a kind and loving father and mother, six sisters and three brothers and other relatives to mourn her death.

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**MARRIED.**

William Ellwanger of Olive township and Miss Cora M. Jones, daughter of Charles Jones of Bengal were married Wednesday morning at the Methodist Episcopal parsonage. They were accompanied by Daniel Ellwanger of Olive and Miss Emma Seeger of DeWitt. Since the death of her mother three years ago Miss Jones has been housekeeper for her father in Bengal. After a few days spent with relatives in Grand Rapids, they will reside on the groom's farm east of DeWitt.

## TWO MARRIAGES MAKE RELATIONSHIP TANGLE

PROMINENT BENGAL AND DEWITT  
PEOPLE ARE THE PRINCIPALS.

There is a marriage tangle with Bengal and DeWitt well known residents as the principals in which a father becomes the brother-in-law of his daughter; a sister becomes the mother-in-law of her brother; one man's father-in-law becomes his brother-in-law; a woman's sister-in-law becomes her mother and if each couple has children one man's grandchildren will be his nephews and nieces and—But, whew! what's the use of prophesying on the future—good night!

The tangle was brought about through the marriage of Charles Jones of Bengal township and Miss Emma E. Ellwanger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ellwanger of DeWitt, and the marriage of her brother, William Ellwanger, and Mr. Jones' daughter, Miss Cora Jones.

Mr. Ellwanger and Miss Jones were married December 24, and reside on a farm in DeWitt township.

The marriage of Charles Jones of Bengal and Miss Emma E. Ellwanger and which brought about the tangle in relationship, took place Thursday, January 15, at the Methodist Episcopal parsonage in St. Johns, Rev. J. H. Wilcox officiating. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Halsey of Olive were present, Mr. Halsey and Mr. Jones being brother and sister. Mr. and Mrs. Jones are residing on his farm, section 22, Bengal, where Mr. Jones was born in 1862, and where he has always lived. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Jones, who came to that section in 1856. His bride has a pleasing manner and is a competent trained nurse.

All the parties are well-known in the communities where they reside and the best wishes of their many friends are extended to them in their new relationships.

Ellwanger

Funeral Cards from the Scrapbook of C. Harry Moon

Now owned by Eleanor Moon McKinney (1984)

William Ellwanger

Jan 16, 1889 - May 29, 1946

Vincent Funeral Home, Sun. June 2, 2:30 p.m.

Rev. LaVern Bretz DeWitt Cemetery

Pallbearers: Carl Seeger, John Lerg, Albert Youngs,  
George Sloat, Arthur Magsig, Alger Sibley.

In Memory of  
Daniel Ellwanger

Date of Birth  
November 24, 1892

Date of Death  
April 22, 1966

Services  
VINCENT - RUMMELL  
FUNERAL HOME  
Monday, April 25, 1966  
2:30 p.m.

Clergyman  
Mr. Herbert N. Barrett  
Christian Science Church  
Lansing, Michigan

Interment  
DeWitt Cemetery

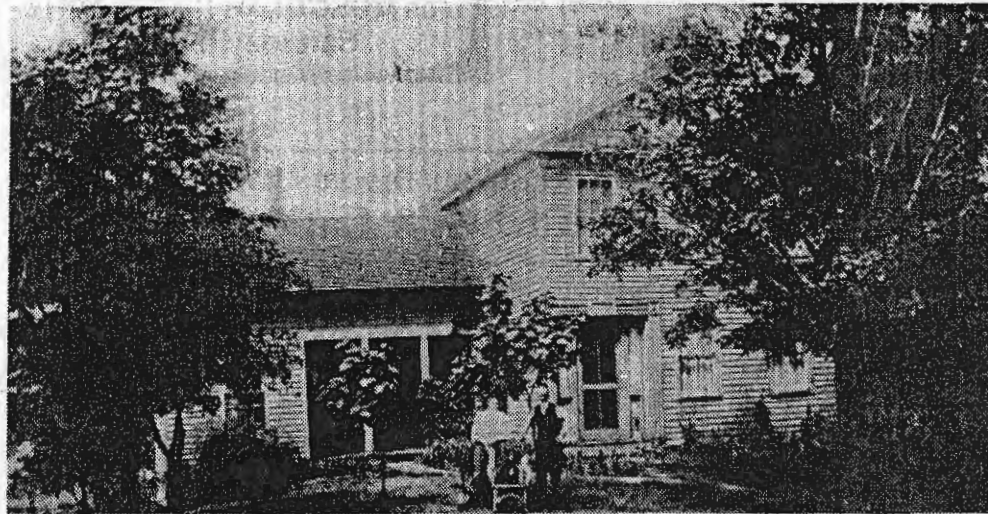
Bearers  
Howard Shaffer      Earl Miller  
Thomas Staub      Glenn Locher  
Clyde Lapham      Gerald Lapham

FOX  
LOCAL HISTORY  
COLLECTION  
FILE

Ellwanger



Mar. 8 '93



**DEWITT REMEMBERED** — The Foreman-Emery House, one of early DeWitt's first and finest homes, it burned in the late 1920's. William and Alma (Foreman) Emery pictured. Ca. 1915. C. Jutting photographer. Photo courtesy Bob Wilcox.

## 'New Albany' was the money pit of 19th century DeWitt

By KEN COIN

In DeWitt's earliest days most everything of any consequence was located south of the river in a village called "New Albany". I've been fascinated by the history of this town since I first heard about it in grade school. It is bothersome when writing about early DeWitt to continually have to give an explanation everytime I use the term "New Albany", yet I don't think it's fair to just say "DeWitt" because for over a decade the area we now know of as simply DeWitt on the south side of the river, was its own entity, with its own identity and a history which, for that first 10 years of this area, far outshined anything that was happening on the north at Capt. Scott's settlement.

The house pictured above represents the very best of what made New Albany stand apart from DeWitt — money (or at least the presumption of it). Unfortunately, it is one of the few structures which stood in New Albany that I know next to nothing about until the 1870's. But its history goes back much further than that.

Unlike Scott's settlement to the north, New Albany was based on New York money; money which didn't really exist but in the 1830's that didn't seem a problem. The village of New Albany was owned by George T. Clark of Rochester and lots in his "paper village" were bought and sold sight unseen by other New York speculators. This particular lot was at the corner of Rochester St. and a short jog on the Pontiac-Grand River Road. We would know it today as the corner of Webb and Bridge streets and if we were standing on that corner now, we would be looking west at the home of Dan and Marlene Matson.

This lot was one of the few in New Albany which was developed by a residential structure and based solely on the style of the building as compared to other area buildings, this house would have been built about 1840. My personal guesses as to who may have built this imposing home at that early date include: one of the Turner brothers (George Clark's agents here at New Albany), Dr. Seth Marvin or Dr. Levi

Jennison. The architectural detail surrounding the front door is very similar to that on the Klaver home across the street.

Now, to the family who for so long made it their home — Samuel Foreman was among the very earliest settlers of this area, coming here with his wife, Catherine Roberts, in 1836. They settled temporarily on a homestead south of DeWitt but soon moved to Watertown township. Their daughter Alma (pictured), in 1865, married a returning Civil War soldier, William Emery (pictured) and they too established a farm in Watertown.

William Emery was born in 1843 in Albion. Just when he came to DeWitt or who his parents were, I don't know, but I suspect that his family's farm was where I now live, east of DeWitt.

In 1872, Samuel and Catherine Foreman sold their farm and moved to this rambling old New Albany house in DeWitt. It was their "retirement" home. Their children continued farming in Watertown for some time but eventually William and Alma Emery came to DeWitt too and moved into the old house to look after Alma's father. Catherine Foreman died in 1882 and Samuel followed in 1898.

Some people may still remember this old house as the home of William and Alma Emery. They continued to live here until William's death in 1917 and Alma, (sort of on and off) until her death in 1921. Their children included: Earl, Park and Clifton Emery and a daughter, Maud. Maud married Charles Wilcox of Olive township, a son of James and Harriet Wilcox.

As to the descendants of Maud and Charles Wilcox, well, that would fill the rest of this newspaper. Suffice to say that thirty years ago, before the influx, if everyone in DeWitt had to form a line and count off "One, Two, One, Two..." all the "Ones" could easily have been Wilcox's.

(A thank you to Doris Wilcox for her information about the picture and about the Foreman's and Emery's.)

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

Emery

C.R. July 19, 1917

Obituary.

Wm. Emery was born in Albion, Michigan, March 25, 1843, and died July 11th, 1917. He came with his parents to DeWitt in 1861. In 1862 he enlisted in Company A, 23rd Regiment, Michigan Infantry, and served his country for three years. He was married to Alma Forman September 3, 1865. Four children were born to them. One son, Earl, passed to the better land February 10th, 1902. His wife and three children survive him. Mrs. Maud Wallace of DeWitt, Park Emery of McNeal, Arizona, and Clifton, of Salt Lake City, Utah. Two sisters, Mrs. Matilda Rose of Willow Springs, Mo., and Mrs. Harriett Chamberlain of Balfour, N. D.

He was a kind father, husband and neighbor and will be greatly missed by his family.

Sleep, dear loved one sleep.

Life's rocky steps are past.

In pastures green, by waters still.

Thy tired feet rest at last.

His funeral was held at his late home Friday afternoon. Rev. G. T. Fisher of Delta, a very dear friend of the deceased, officiating. Rev. W. H. Thompson sang some beautiful selections. Interment in DeWitt cemetery.

Card of Thanks.

We wish to thank all who assisted us in any way during the sickness and death of our dear husband and father, and we appreciate the beautiful flowers contributed, and the pastor for his comforting words and for the sweet singing by Rev. W. H. Thompson.—Mrs. Wm. Emery, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Wilcox, Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Emery, Mr. and Mrs. Parke Emery.

Ennest

LADY BEEN A RESIDENT OF OLIVE  
FOR FORTY YEARS.

Mrs. Geo. A. Ennest died at her home in Olive township, Wednesday evening, October 32nd, of typhoid fever, after an illness of five weeks, at the age of 62 years.

Elizabeth North was born in Ulster county, New York, January 25, 1840. She was the fifth child of Benjamin and Harriet North, being one of a family of five sons and five daughters, of whom the deceased was the first to be called to the higher life. When about 18 years of age she came with her parents to Palo, Mich. Three years later she was married to Geo. A. Ennest and came with her husband to Olive township, where for forty-one years she resided.

The first eighteen years were spent on the farm where Plum Huntoon now resides and was cleared and improved by this pioneer couple.

For twenty-two years, up to the time of her death, the farm, on which stands the hotel known as the Halfway house, was her home. Two sons were born, Delbert S. and Leon D., now grown to manhood.

The funeral was held from the house, Rev. McGregor officiating. Interment in Olive cemetery. A large number of friends at the funeral and the numerous floral tributes testified to the high esteem in which she was held in the community.

She was a faithful wife, devoted worker and genial kind hearted neighbor. Besides her husband and two sons she leaves an adopted daughter, Mrs. E. E. Engstrom.

The non-resident relatives who attended the funeral were: John North of Fenwick, Robert North of Lake Odessa, Henry Barrows of Palo; Sanford North and wife together with Mrs. Eckhart and niece of Vickeryville and Wm. DeHart and wife of Mt. Pleasant.

# YOUNG COUPLE WED AT CHURCH

ERNST

## Melba Ernst Becomes Bride Of Edwin Mohnke In Riley Ceremony

On November 2, 1932, a beautiful fall wedding was solemnized at the Riley Lutheran church when Edwin Mohnke, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Mohnke of Bengal township, took as his bride Melba Ernst of Riley township. The ceremony was performed by Rev. F. Coelner, pastor of the church. They entered the church to the strains of Mendelssohn's wedding march, played by Esther Luecht. The procession was escorted to the altar by Master Dennis Irer, cousin of the bride and groom and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Irer, acting as ring-bearer, attired in a white wool crepe suit, carrying the ring on a satin pillow, and little Miss Neya Martens, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Martens, and cousin of the bride and groom, in the role of flower girl carrying a basket of flowers. She was dressed in a delicate shade of green crepe.

The bride wore a white satin dress trimmed with fur and wore a veil which terminated with a train. She carried a bridal bouquet of chrysanthemums and "baby mums," gathered with shower of ribbons. Doris Schumaker and Rosina Martens, friends of the bride, were bridesmaids. They wore pink silk crepe gowns, ostrich trimmed, and carried bouquets of pink and white snapdragons. Herman Mohnke, Jr., brother of the groom, and Carl Ernst brother of the bride, attended the groom. The church was tastily decorated with autumn leaves, chrysanthemums and fall flowers. The home also was nicely decorated.

Out-of-town guests were Harold Gable and sisters Dorothy and Mrs. Gerhart Gable of Pigeon, Mich., Miss Gwendelyn Ernst, sister of the bride and Mr. and Mrs. William Lemmine and son of Ionia.

The groom is a very successful and promising young farmer in this community. The bride is a charming young lady with several accomplishments. They will make their home on a farm in Bengal township, section 33.

On Thursday preceding the wedding, the neighbors pleasantly surprised the bride-elect with a kitchen shower at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Stiffler, with whom Melba has made her home since the death of her mother several years ago. On Sunday evening the young people of the church gave her a surprise shower at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Schumaker, Miss Doris Schumaker acting as hostess. In each case light refreshments were served by the hostesses. Many useful presents were given.

Mr. and Mrs. Mohnke will be at home after a short time in their new home. A wedding dance was enjoyed by many of their friends at the Fowler opera house the evening of the wedding.

# George Estes, First Male White Child Born In This City, Dies

Estes

Funeral Services Conducted  
For 79-Year-Old Pioneer  
Resident April 17th

In the death of George A. Estes Sunday, April 14, St. Johns lost a resident who literally "grew up with the town." The first male white child to be born here, he spent his whole life, nearly 80 years, in this city, and watched the development of the town from its earliest backwoods days.

Tradition has it that the first white child born in St. Johns was the daughter of one Charles Cobb, the event occurring in the summer of 1855, the child dying the following year. On Oct. 3, 1856, a son, George A. Estes, arrived at the home of George W. Estes one of the original pioneer settlers here.

When George was born the rail way had not been built to St. Johns. At that time the young village consisted of a hotel, store and sawmill. George was upwards of two years old when the first locomotive chugged into town. He attended the first school, located at the corner of Walker and Mead streets on land now occupied by the Episcopal church. Among his play fellows were Indian boys, and he often saw bear and deer on the edge of town.

As a young man George learned the printer's trade which he followed until poor health made a change of occupation necessary. He then became a horse dealer, buying and selling many fine driving horses. At one time he served as city marshal and in later years conducted a draying business.

On June 28, 1894, he was united in marriage to Mrs. Eliza Valen-

time. She passed away in the spring of 1911 and in 1912 he married Miss Eva Loomis of Pewamo.

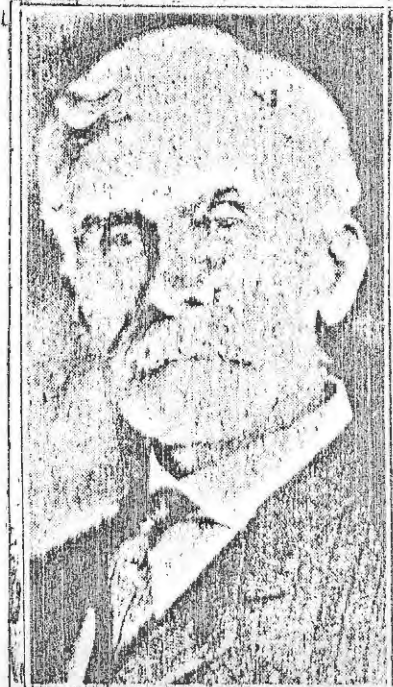
For the past several years Mr. Estes was in failing health and unable to work. He was taken to the hospital last week and passed away at 1 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

Besides his widow he leaves two brothers, Louis of St. Johns, and

Charles of Brooklyn, Michigan; five nephews, two nieces, other relatives and many friends.

Funeral services were held at 3 p. m. Wednesday at the Osgood funeral home. Rev. W. H. Prescott officiated and burial was made in Mt. Rest cemetery.

The Estes family were early DeWitt pioneers before removing to St. Johns



GEORGE A. ESTES

Everett

7-3-89

### A mother-daughter veterinarian team

Helen Everett Wood, 91, will be celebrating the Fourth of July with her daughter, Dr. **Margaret Everett Kimball**, and her granddaughter, Dr. **Edie Kimball Earl**.

Edie has just completed her first year in the small animal veterinary business. Edie and her mother are the only mother-daughter veterinarians in Michigan.

Helen retired from the State of Michigan several years ago. Some may remember that Helen was the editor for the "Michigan History" magazine during the 1950s.

Exelby

### YOUNG LIFE CUT SHORT

**WILLIE EXELBY DIED TUESDAY  
AGED NINE YEARS.**

Willie Henry Exelby died at the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. James Exelby of Wight street Tuesday evening, 10:30 o'clock of Brights disease. He has been sick for about nine weeks and was nine years of age. His grandparents moved from Olive to town a short time ago and up to his illness he had been a regular attendant in the second grade at school. He leaves a father, mother, three brothers and two sisters all of Olive. The funeral will be held from the West Bingham church today at 2:30 o'clock, Rev. R. S. McGregor officiating. The burial will be in the West Bingham cemetery.