

# STATE OF MICHIGAN



## MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE

### Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 136

Offered by Senator Richard J. Allen  
(Representatives Armbruster, McCollough and Powell named co-sponsors)

#### A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OF TRIBUTE TO RAYMOND F. LOCHER

WHEREAS, Raymond Locher, Program Specialist for the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, is retiring on June 1, 1977, after forty-four years of dedicated service in the field of agriculture; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Locher began his career in agricultural administration in 1933, when he was employed part-time by the Clinton County Extension Agency. He was born on the Locher homestead farm in DeWitt, Michigan, on May 7, 1907, and is a graduate of St. Johns High School; and

WHEREAS, In 1929, he joined his father in partnership, operating a 450-acre livestock and

Locher

Locher

WHEREAS, In 1929, he joined his father in partnership, operating a 450-acre livestock and grain farm, and served as Clinton County AAA Committeeman from 1937-1947. In 1947, he was appointed a Farmer Fieldman for the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation for the western half of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, In the summer of 1949, the State AAA Committee appointed him a Farmer Fieldman, serving ten to fourteen counties near Lansing, and then, later in the Thumb area; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Locher served as a Farmer Fieldman until the fall of 1954, when he came into the State Office as Program Specialist in charge of the Agricultural Conservation Program; and

WHEREAS, He and his wife, Brownie, own 221 acres in Clinton County, and they have always lived on farms within a mile of his birthplace; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Michigan Legislature accord Raymond F. Locher tribute in recognition of the forty-four years he has devoted to the furtherance of agriculture in the State of Michigan, and further, extend to him warmest best wishes as he harvests a well-earned retirement; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this tribute be transmitted to Mr. Locher in testimony to the high regard in which he is held by the Michigan Legislature.

Adopted by the Senate, May 24, 1977.

Adopted by the House of Representatives, May 31, 1977.

*Thos. Thatcher*

Clerk of the House of Representatives

*Bill S. Farnum*

Secretary of the Senate



Locher

**Elizabeth Locher,  
Aged 88, Succumbs;  
Last Rites Today**

Miss Elizabeth Locher, aged 88, passed away at the home of her sister, Mrs. Mark Hill of Olive, where she had resided the past 3 years, Tuesday morning, May 10, 1932. She was born in Grass Lake township, Jackson county, Michigan, July 25, 1843.

Funeral services will be held from the residence at 2 p. m. today (Thursday). Rev. G. S. Northrup will officiate and burial will be made in the Dewitt cemetery.

*Chas. Co. Reg. News*

*5-12-1932*

# DeWitt gourmet collects 300 cook books for art

FAYE HANSON

DEWITT—One of the most unusual book collections in the DeWitt area is that owned by Mrs. Raymond (Brownie) Locher of Lehman Road. It consists of over 300 cook books. Mrs Locher has been cooking since she was a small girl; her mother, Mrs Albert Berlin, was an excellent cook and encouraged her in this pursuit.

One of her most prized cook books is a hand written one handed down to Mrs Berlin from her mother then on to Mrs Locher. It was compiled previous to 1887. It contains such quaint recipes as stone soup (you actually use a clean stone in this soup), red-clover blossom wine, carrot-wine and a recipe for hand lotion.

Mrs Locher has collected cook books in most of the states in the United States and some from Canada. On declaring one on re-entering the United States from Canada last summer, the inspecting officer told her that a Canadian cook book should be worth a million dollars. She told him if he kept the cook book he'd have to keep her. She got the book duty free!

One of the older books that doesn't have a date in it was compiled by the women of the Presbyterian Church of Morrice. It was called "Crumbs and Comfort" and called for such good old fashioned ingredients as "one good coffee cup of yellow sugar" and a "little lump of butter." Many of the recipes called for one cup of butter plus one cup of thick sour cream.

THE ADS in this book would date it before 1900. One such ad for the M.J. and B.M. Buck Co. of Lansing offered 14 pieces of furniture for \$22. This included bed, bureau, commode, spring, mattress, two sham holders, two quilts, rocker, two chairs, stand



Mrs Raymond Locher not only collects cook books—she uses them. With 300 books of recipes in her library, she is never at a loss for something new. A gourmet at heart, she never hesitates to entice a coveted recipe from any hostess.

husband, Raymond, are her chief critics and are willing to try anything once.

Many of Mrs Locher's cook-books are gifts from friends who know of her hobby.

Mrs Locher is a Sunday School-teacher at the DeWitt Community Church, a past matron of the DeWitt Eastern Star lodge and a member of the St. Johns Child Study Club.

In addition to collectors items, she has many up-to-date cook-books. Following are some of her favorite recipes:

1 1/3 c. enriched flour  
1 1/2 tsp. baking powder  
1/2 tsp. soda  
1/2 tsp. salt  
2 tbsp. sugar

Combine beaten egg, sour cream, melted shortening, and sifted dry ingredients. Mix just until flour is moistened. Batter will not be smooth. Fill greased muffin pans two-thirds full. Bake in hot oven, 400 degrees, for 15 to 20 minutes.

## MOTHER'S BUTTERSCOTCH COOKIES

2 c. brown sugar  
2 eggs (beaten)  
1 c. butter  
1 tsp. soda

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Another interesting book was compiled by the St. Johns Congregational Church in 1908 and was printed by the Republican News.

MRS LOCHER has been cooking as long as she can remember and says her older sister, Alberta, (Mrs Arnold Huhn) usually got stuck with the dishes.

She enjoys Swedish dishes and other people's cooking and is always preparing a dish to take to the home of a friend in the time of illness. She makes dozens of fruit cakes and over 50 pounds of home made candy each Christmas time.

THE LOCHERS have two daughters, Nancy Ann, a student at St. Johns High School and Martha Jean, who is a student at Brown School. They, along with

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#### CHOCOLATE CAKE WITH BLACK WALNUTS

6 tbsp. cocoa dissolved in  
5 tbsp. boiling water  
4 eggs beaten separately  
1 1/2 cups sugar  
2 c. sifted flour  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1/2 c. sweet milk  
1/2 c. butter  
1 tsp. baking powder  
1 tsp. vanilla

Cream butter, add sugar, egg yolks and stir in the chocolate mixture. Add milk, then flour and whites of eggs alternately. Add vanilla and one cup of black walnut meats. Bake in layers at 350 degrees for about 25 minutes. Frost with chocolate icing.

#### SOUR CREAM MUFFINS

1 egg (beaten)  
1 c. thick sour cream  
1 tbsp. melted shortening

1 1/3 c. enriched flour  
1 1/2 tsp. baking powder  
1/2 tsp. soda  
1/2 tsp. salt  
2 tbsp. sugar

Combine beaten egg, sour cream, melted shortening, and sifted dry ingredients. Mix just until flour is moistened. Batter will not be smooth. Fill greased muffin pans two-thirds full. Bake in hot oven, 400 degrees, for 15 to 20 minutes.

#### MOTHER'S BUTTERSCOTCH COOKIES

2 c. brown sugar  
2 eggs (beaten)  
1 c. butter  
1 tsp. soda  
1 tsp. cream tartar  
1 tsp. vanilla  
1/2 tsp. salt  
4 c. sifted flour  
1 c. nut meats

Cream shortening and sugar together. Add beaten eggs. Mix together with the rest of the ingredients. Shape into rolls and let stand overnight in refrigerator. Slice and bake at 350 degrees for about 12 minutes.

VALUABLE CO

er 5 lb. bag

Locher

### Alward Lake.

Twins were born to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Locher, Wednesday morning, Oct. 13, a son, Max Leroy, weight 7½ pounds; daughter, Maxine D., weight 7½ pounds. Mother and babies doing fine.

# Loretta Loux Max Locher

The Mary Sabina Chapel of the Central Methodist church in Lansing, was the scene of a pretty wedding which united Miss Loretta Loux of Lansing, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Loux of St. Johns, and Max L. Locher, son of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Locher of Dewitt on Wednesday evening, August 18. Rev. Thomas Toy officiated the double ring ceremony at 8 o'clock, in the presence of 100 relatives and friends.

Burning tapers and baskets of white gladioli banked the altar. Mrs. J. E. Eisenhour of East Lansing, cousin of the bridegroom, as organist played "Bridal Chorus from Lohengrin" and Mendelssohn's recessional. During the ceremony she played "I Love You Truly", "At Dawning" and "Meditation from Thais".

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, chose for her wedding a gown of white slipper satin. It was fashioned on princess lines, with small covered buttons down the back extending below the waistline, a sweetheart neckline which was outlined with tiny seed pearls, and the long fitted sleeves came to points over the wrists. The over the face veil was held in place by a crown of seed pearls, and extended beyond the train of her dress. Her only jewelry was a single strand of pearls, a gift of the groom. She carried white roses and gardenias.

Dorothy Loux, only sister of the bride, was maid of honor. She wore a bright yellow taffeta gown fashioned with sweetheart neckline, full skirt and three-quarter length sleeves. Her shoulder length veil of matching shade was held in place by feather flowers, and she carried talisman roses.

The bridesmaids were Mrs. Robert Smit, twin sister of the groom, and Mrs. Paul Abernathy of South Bend, Ind., formerly Jane Richards. They wore identical gowns of blue taffeta, fashioned with sweetheart necklines, short puff sleeves, and full skirts with insets of lighter blue chiffon. Their shoulder length veils of matching shade were like that of the maid of honor, and they carried bouquets of yellow roses.

Darlene Marie Smit, niece of the groom, was flower girl and was gowned in a floor length dress of bright yellow taffeta, made with sweetheart neckline, and puff sleeves. She also wore a veil to match her dress and carried a colonial bouquet of pink roses.

The bridegroom was attended by Donald Dellumater as best man and Kenneth Harper as groomsman. Seating the guests were Marshall Hicks and James Smit of St. Johns.

For her daughter's wedding, Mrs. Loux chose a black summer sheer with black and white accessories, and Mrs. Locher wore blue with navy accessories. Each wore a corsage of red roses.

Immediately following the ceremony a reception was held in the church. The bridal table was centered by a wedding cake topped by a miniature bride and groom, and flanked by burning tapers. Those serving the guests were the Misses Helen Wulf, Doris Spaulding, Betty

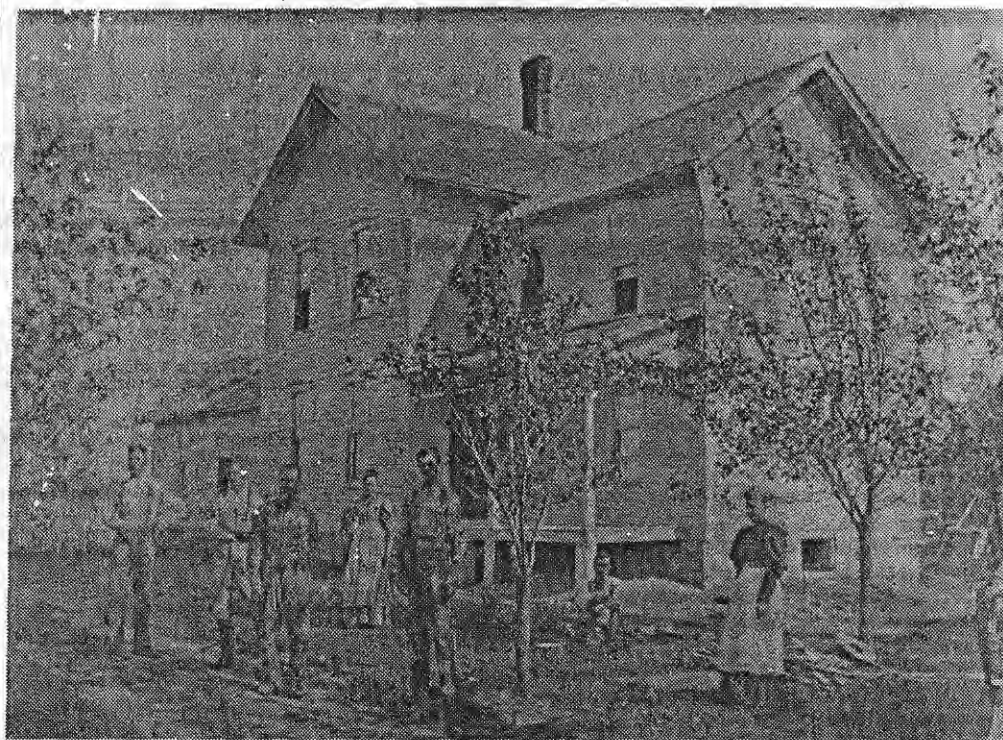
Hammoud, Iva Mae Darnell and Mrs. Dorothy Dixon.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Locher graduated from the local high school. The bride is also a graduate of Lansing Business college and is employed in the stenographic department of Auto Owners Co., in Lansing.

The newlyweds left by train on a short wedding trip to Norfolk, Va., to visit Mr. and Mrs. Dow Gillson. Upon their return the bride will continue her work in Lansing, while Mr. Locher will work with his father on the farm.

Out of town guests were: Misses Mary Vanderbasch, Neva Brandt, Mrs. Clarence Brown, Mrs. Charles Murphy, Mrs. H. P. Richards, and Mrs. Paul Abernathy, all of South Bend, Ind., Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Henderson of Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Larson and son of Columbus, Ohio, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Crampton of Jackson, also guests from St. Johns, Lansing and Dewitt.

Locher



EDWARD AND ELMA LOCHER HOME on Locher Road. Pictured (l. to r.) are Frank Locher, Loren Harris/Hill (Mark and Martha Hill's foster son), Edward Locher, Elma (Moore) Locher, John M. Locher, Mark Hill (seated by porch), and Martha (Locher) Hill. Ca. 1895, Eddie W. Locher (a California nephew), photographer.

## Coin sifts through Locher 'Box of Family Stuff'

By KEN COIN

Last week I touched on the notion of boxes of family stuff. The real incentive for that article was due to the thoughtfulness of Lana (Smit) Hardman, who recently lent me a large box of family stuff of the Locher family. It contains many years of family history research done by Mildred (Locher) Kowalk as well as a great collection of family pictures, old views and memorabilia of DeWitt and a nice collection of family letters (written in German script if there's anyone out there who could translate them?) dating back to the 1830's.

Lana was rather hesitant, fearing that she would bore me with her box of family stuff but, frankly, I haven't had this much fun since the hogs tried to eat cousin Billy. Besides enjoying the individual items, I have an underlying fascination with why certain things are saved and able to survive throughout the years.

Edward Locher came to DeWitt in 1874 to visit his sister, Martha (Locher) Hill and her husband Mark who owned a farm in Olive Township. While here, Edward purchased a small farm and then returned to his home in Jackson County. Following his marriage in 1876, to Elma May Moore, they came to DeWitt and took up residence in an old log cabin located on his property.

They continued to acquire more land, much of it still owned by their descendants. The road on which their farm was located was later named "Locher Road."

Edward and Elma had two sons: Francis Locher married Mina Bixby, a daughter of Oliver I. and Flora (Granger) Bixby. Their children were Raymond, Mildred Kowalk, Glenn, Max, and Maxine Smit. The second son, John Locher, married Fannie Norris, a daughter of Aaron W. and Frances (Blood) Norris. They had two children, Edward and Dortha.

Undoubtedly, in the years to come, the Locher Family Box will pass through many hands among many generations. Through the years there will probably be more items added; more pictures from family reunions, updates to the family tree, more obituaries and birth announcements, and, who knows, perhaps another set of ration stamps from some future war.

Like all boxes of Family Stuff it too could use a little organizing and perhaps a weeding out to allow some items which aren't "family" to go to a library or historical society or possibly to be added to someone else's box of Family Stuff. But hopefully the box will remain basically intact and remain in the DeWitt area.

But just in case it doesn't survive, while the opportunity is at hand, we'll see that many of the items, the family histories, the aged letters (translated or not), the turn of the century views of uptown DeWitt and a number of choice family pictures, are copied and put on file at the DeWitt Library as sort of an insurance policy.

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

Locher

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**LOCHER, GLENN C.**

**DeWitt**

Age 75, died Monday, December 28, 1992 in Lansing. Born November 27, 1917 in DeWitt, MI. Mr. Locher was a member of the Hope Lutheran Church, DeWitt; member of the DeWitt Masonic Lodge #272 F. & A.M.; and a member of the Clinton County Farm Bureau. He was a farmer and resident in the DeWitt area all of his life and retired from the Eisenhower Construction Company. He is survived by 2 daughters, Bonnie (Larry) Phinney and Debbie (Rodger) Brown; 1 son, Dennis (Sally) Locher; 6 grandchildren, Kelley LaBar, Kendra Phinney, Kim (Terry) Rossow, Mark Locher and fiancée, Mary Willsey and Brian and Karen Brown; dear friend, Dawn Lietzke; 1 brother, Max (Loretta) Locher; 2 sisters, Mildred (Herbert) Kowalk and Maxine (Bob) Smit; and sister-in-law,

Brownie Locher. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Elaine in 1967, his second wife, Betty in 1991 and a brother, Raymond in July 1992. Funeral services will be held Thursday, December 31, 1992 at 11 a.m. at the Gorsline Runciman Co., DeWitt Chapel, with the Rev. Toshio Okamoto, Pastor of the Hope Lutheran Church, officiating. Friends may call at the Chapel beginning Tuesday where family visitation will be from 7-9 p.m. and Wednesday from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. with a Masonic Service by the DeWitt Masonic Lodge #272 F. & A.M. at 7:30 p.m. Interment will be in the Hurd Cemetery, DeWitt Township. Contributions may be made to the Hope Lutheran Church or the Clinton Memorial Hospital in memory of Mr. Locher.

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## DeWitt remembered

# Bill Lonier brought out the best

By KEN COIN

With the death last week of Bill Lonier, DeWitt has lost one of its last vestiges of what a small town should really be like. In his unassuming demeanor, he brought out the best in us and our tiny corner of rural America.

I well remember my first haircut and, contrary to several barbers' claims, it was at the kitchen table with my mom's mixing bowl on my head and my dad shaving away anything that showed with some ancient electric clippers (sheep shears, I think) that my grandfather had passed our way. I'm certain I never properly thanked grandpa for sharing those clippers with us.

On my first few trips to the family barbershop, my initial humiliation of having to sit on the wooden "kiddie" board, which was placed across the arms of the chair, soon turned into terror as Bob Norris jerked and wrenched my head this way and that. "Sit up straight! Now don't move or I'll shave your ear off." I not only believed he meant it, I think he would have enjoyed it.

One day there was a new face at the second chair, and, if you're not familiar with barbershop protocol, number two barber does not get every other customer. Number two barber gets only those customers who don't have all day to wait for a turn at number one chair. (Yes, there is a third chair and once I actually witnessed a barber using it. But we won't get into that.) One by one as the old farmers said "No thanks. I'll wait for Bob!" I, on the other hand, jumped at the chance. I stood next to the new guy's chair for a moment waiting for him to put that dreaded board across the arms and he just patted the seat. "Hop on up here young fella. My name's Bill. You got a name?" I knew I had a friend for life.

I often envied Bill's job. He got to watch the whole world pass by his chair. He could observe it, comment on it, interact with it, or impact it when and how he chose, all without leaving the few square feet of space. And when the day was over—sweep up the hair and lock the door. But Bill was no ordinary barber. Aside from his responsibility as collector and distributor of valuable information, Bill was a veteran showman with enough good nature and love of people to carry it off superbly.

On a recent trip to the barbershop, I caught his act and thought at the time, what polish! What a gift! His customer was an older gentleman who, as we all soon learned, was not from DeWitt. "So, what brings you to DeWitt?" Bill asked, tactfully.

"My wife's from here," the gentleman answers. "She's a Hawk."

"Hmmm," Bill responded. "Likes to keep an eye on ya, does she?"

As all of us in the place were doubled over in silent amusement, the gentleman corrected the obvious confusion. "No, that was her maiden name, Hawk."

"Ohhh," Bill replied, then lit his pipe, a cue to



Bill Lonier

the rest of us to pay attention to the pro. "Well then, you must be connected to the Owl family south of town here?"

"Nunno," said the stranger, "don't think I ever heard her speak of them."

"Hmmm," said Bill in his most arid tone, "I thought the Hawks and the Owls were related some way." (Silent applause from the audience.)

In a town where lifelong residents can now get lost among the crowd, Bill's barbershop offered a refuge where we could feel at home. And not just because of the familiar red ashtray table or front door that doesn't open quite right, but a consistency that spanned generations.

My son, Sam, didn't want anyone but Bill touching his hair. The longer wait for the first chair was well worth it to both of us as I watched the two of them play out their parts. "How do ya want it today, Mr. Sam, like mine?" Bill would ask, pointing to his own bald head. (Giggle har-har) Then finish the job and again, hand him the mirror. "Think your girlfriend'll recognize ya?" (Giggle har-har) Then whip the talcum brush across his face! (Giggle har-har) Then stare at the kid's nonchalantly across the street while he sucked about four inches of the kid's neck flesh into the hand vacuum. "Sorry there Mr. Sam." (Giggle har-har) I'd already gotten my \$7 worth and hadn't even got in the chair yet.

Time is changing everything in this community and it's good people like Bill Lonier who will be remembered and missed the most.

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

Lonier

**LONIER, WILLIAM R.**

**DeWitt**

Age 52, died June 12, 1994 in Lansing. Born April 7, 1942 in Watertown Township, Mr. Lonier was the Owner and Operator of Family Barbershop of DeWitt; an avid Michigan fan; and collected antique toy tractors. He was preceded in death by 1 daughter, Brenda; father, Sylvester; and 1 sister, Marie DeSmith. A devoted and loving husband, father and grandfather, Mr. Lonier is survived by his wife of 30 years, Linda; 3 daughters, Roxanne (L.C.) Benson and Deborah (friend, Jae) Lonier, both of Lansing and Julie (Scott) Newsome of Eaton Rapids; 1 son, Thomas (Susan) Lonier of Rock Lake, ND; 5 grandchildren, Jordan and Christian Benson, Tiffany, Victoria and Amanda Lonier; mother, Florence Lonier of Lansing; 2 brothers, Joseph of Williamston and Lawrence (Kris) Lonier of Jackson; 7 sisters, Sylvia (Bing) Chancey of Quebec Canada, Frances (Anthony) Fortuna of St. Joseph, Patricia (Thomas) Flint, Elaine (Robert) Lafave, Renie (Robert) Woodard, Joanne (Ron) Davids, all of Lansing and Carol (Fred) Boughton of Indiana. The Funeral Mass will be celebrated Wednesday, June 15, 11 a.m. at St. Therese Catholic Church, corner of Turner and Randolph Streets, Lansing, with the Rev. George Michalek, Pastor officiating. Interment will follow at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery. Friends may call at the Gorsline-Runciman Co. DeWitt Chapel Tuesday, 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. where the Vigil service will be prayed at 8 p.m. Contributions may be made to the Lonier Grandchildren Education Fund.

Loomis

## DEATH CLAIMS CARL L. LOOMIS

Well Known Olive Township  
Farmer, Aged 46,  
Dies Saturday

Carl L. Loomis, 46, well known and highly respected Olive township farmer, died Saturday, July 26, at Clinton Memorial Hospital. A few days prior to his death he became ill with pneumonia, but had seemingly just about recovered when a sudden heart attack proved fatal.

Prayer services were held at the residence at 1 o'clock Sunday afternoon, followed by the funeral, which was largely attended at the Dewitt Community church an hour later. Rev. Earl M. Collins officiated, and Mrs. Agnes Schoenhals Frazier of Sturgis, sang. Burial rites at the Dewitt cemetery were conducted by the Dewitt Masonic lodge.

Carl Lloyd Loomis, son of Theodore and Adella Loomis, was born Jan. 20, 1895, at the Olive township farm home where he spent his entire life. He was married March 11, 1914, to Miss Millie Peterson, and to this union one son, Stanley, was born. He was a kind and loving husband, father and neighbor, and was loved by all.

Besides his widow and son, he is survived by his father, other relatives and a host of friends and neighbors. He was a member of the Dewitt Masonic lodge and the O. E. S. at St. Johns.

The son, Stanley Loomis, was recently inducted into the U. S. Army, and it is reported that an effort will be made to secure his release from service as he is now badly needed at home.

# MARRIED SIXTY YEARS FEB. 22

Loomis

Mr. and Mrs. Theo. Loomis  
Of Olive Township Mark  
Anniversary Friday  
1936

In observance of the 60th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Loomis, well known and highly esteemed Olive township couple, a company of 65 friends, neighbors and relatives assembled at their farm home Friday, Feb. 22. A fine dinner was served and a program enjoyed. The guests included Carl Loomis, a son of the honored couple.

Mr. Loomis is four score and 10, while his wife is two years his junior. Both are in good health. They were presented with flowers, a number of other gifts, and a purse of money.

During the afternoon Mr. Loomis was prevailed upon to relate some of the experiences of his early married life. He told how he and his bride spoke their vows at Williamston back in 1876 and started out with horses and a pair of sleighs on a honeymoon trip to Mt. Pleasant. They got as far as Round Lake and then were snowbound for three days. The next day they managed to get as far as Bridgeville but were forced to shovel snow and buck heavy drifts.

After this eventful trip they returned to set up house-keeping and have been life-long companions since that time.

Loomis

## Prominent Olive Resident Passes

Mar 15 - 1946

Mrs. Millie Loomis, 51,  
Dies Monday; Services  
Were Held Thursday

Funeral services for Mrs. Millie Peterson Loomis, 51, of Olive township, were held Thursday at 2 p. m. at the Dewitt Community Church with Rev. A. L. Spafford officiating. Burial was in the Dewitt cemetery.

Mrs. Loomis died Monday at Clinton Memorial Hospital following a short illness. Her sudden death came as a shock to friends throughout the county.

A daughter of Amelia and Corrington Peterson, Mrs. Loomis was born at Ashley on Oct. 10, 1893. She was married on March 11, 1914, to Carl L. Loomis, of Dewitt, who preceded her in death on July 26, 1941. She was known as a kind and loving mother and one who was always ready to lend a helping hand wherever it was needed.

Active in community affairs, she was a member of the Order of Eastern Star, the Olive Grange, the Clinton County Pomona Grange and the Michigan State Grange.

Surviving are a son, Stanley Loomis, of Dewitt, and a brother, Dixie E. Peterson, of Ohio. One brother and three sisters preceded her in death. Her sister, the late Mrs. Nellie Cressman, passed away little more than a month ago.

## DEATH CLAIMS AGED PIONEER

Loomis

Theodore Loomis, 87, of Olive  
Township, Succumbs  
On August 23rd

1941

Theodore Loomis, 87, Clinton county pioneer and prominent farmer, died Saturday, Aug. 23, at his home in Olive township where he had lived the past 60 years.

Funeral services were held at the Dewitt Community church at 2 o'clock Monday afternoon, following a short prayer service at the home at 12:30 o'clock. Rev. Earl P. Collins officiated, and Mrs. P. E. Stone sang. Burial was made in the Dewitt cemetery.

Theodore Loomis was born in Victor township May 2, 1854. He was the son of Benjamin and Eliza Potter Loomis and was one of 10 children. All of his brothers and sisters preceded him in death except one half-sister, Mrs. Mianie Duzenberry of Lalgensburg.

He was married Feb. 22, 1875, to Viola Adella Tubbs, who passed away Jan. 31, 1939. To this union were born two sons, Orley J., who died 24 years ago and Carl L. Loomis, who passed away four weeks prior to his father's death.

He was a kind and loving father and neighbor and will be greatly missed by all. He leaves to mourn their loss, his half-sister, one daughter-in-law, Mrs. Mollie Loomis, who tenderly cared for him during his long illness; five grandchildren, several great-grandchildren and a number of nieces and nephews.

Loomis

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Farmer, Aged 46,  
Dies Saturday 7/21

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ship farm home where he spent his entire life. He was married March 11, 1914, to Miss Millie Peterson, and to this union one son, Stanley, was born. He was a kind and loving husband, father and neighbor, and was loved by all.

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Loomis

Mrs. J. S. Loomis died in Watertown, April 22d, 1882, in her 60th year.  
She was a resident of the township about 40 years.

Large Volume of Photographs of Loomis in 1882

Michigan-News, St. Johns, Michigan, January 15 1925

## COVERED WAGON PIONEER PASSES

T. H. Lorenz of Dewitt, Former Lansing Contractor, Reached 92nd Year

Lansing, too, had its covered wagon, but its pilot has made his last stand. Theodore H. Lorenz is dead. He died Sunday at his home in Dewitt, at the advanced age of 91 years.

The deceased was for many years an important resident of Lansing. To this day prominent buildings, erected under his direction, stand as mute monuments to his life of usefulness in this city. Among the buildings erected by Mr. Lorenz is the Robert Smith printing building, the house now occupied by the Social Center, once a hospital and built originally as the residence of James I. Mead. The Universalist church was erected by Mr. Lorenz about 30 years ago. All the older buildings at the State Industrial School for Boys are also of Mr. Lorenz' construction.

The life of Theodore H. Lorenz was picturesque and in some degree adventurous. He left the home of his birth in Saxony, Germany when only 12 years of age and without his parents made his way to America in a sailing craft. It was three months from the time of leaving home until he came to a place he could call home in Pennsylvania. After the fashion those times he became apprenticed as a cabinet maker and learned that trade well.

When his time was served he received a horse and wagon from the man, to whom he had been apprenticed. With these he struck out for the west. He went first to Ohio and lived there for a time. It was in that state he met and married Elizabeth Landenberger. That was Sept. 11, 1856. The young couple started for Michigan with their effects on a covered wagon. On the creaking axles of this conveyance they came into Michigan. The old Benson house was the first sign of Lansing that they saw when

they topped the rise coming in from the south.

The Lorenz family made its home to the northwest of the then village in what is remembered by the older generation here as the "forty acres." That location is now indicated by the section of the city north of Saginaw street, and west of Pine Grove street, in that neighborhood still testified to the woods that were once there, in which children roamed for wild flowers.

Indians and bear were common when the Lorenz family settled out in that section. The back door was always left unfastened and many times the deceased and his wife arose in the morning to find Indians sleeping on the kitchen floor. Mr. Lorenz used to come down to the village after dark with his lantern and market basket. On one occasion the unsteady shadow of a stump cast by the flickering lantern was taken for a bear. In his hurry Mr. Lorenz tripped and fell and then jumped and ran all the way home; where he arrived without any of the groceries. He frequently told of this incident with great amusement to himself and his friends.

Though trained as a cabinet-maker, Mr. Lorenz early turned to building, which he long followed here. But his cabinet making ability often stood him in good stead. Frequently he was called upon to fashion a coffin of hard material for some pioneer who passed on.

After remaining in Lansing for what would be a long life for most people, Theodore H. Lorenz left here in 1914 to make his home in Dewitt. At the age of 80 years he was able to assist on the new house that was built at Dewitt for his daughter, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Lankton. For the last year or so, however, he failed rapidly and the end has been expected for some time.

The deceased is survived by six children and the widow. The surviving children are Mrs. Emma Hatchel, Miss Lucy Lorenz and Mrs. W. W. Brown. Those living at Dewitt are Mrs. Gusta Lankton, Mrs. Clara Woodruff and Mrs. Charles Lorenz.

The funeral services was held at the home Tuesday afternoon. Rev. G. S. Northrup and Rev. H. R. Strong officiated. Mrs. Grace McCormack Coon sang. Six grandsons, Harold, Roland, Randolph and Alvin Lorenz, Lawrence and Ralph Woodruff acted as pall bearers, with burial in Dewitt cemetery.

DEC 28 Feted on 50th Anniversary 1939



MR. AND MRS. E. E. LANKTON

Dr. and Mrs. Paul Cuolahan held open house Monday evening at their home, 1515 West Washtenaw street, honoring Mr. and Mrs. Lankton of DeWitt, parents of Mrs. Cuolahan, on their 50th wedding anniversary. About 45 guests were present. Among them were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lorenz of DeWitt, who were groomsman and maid of honor at the wedding 50 years ago. A gold-trimmed Christmas tree, flanked by gold candles, constituted table decorations and Christmas greens were used throughout the house.

LORENZ

## Obituaries

12-29-80

LORENZ

### Rolland 'R.K.' Lorenz, auto dealer

Lansing State Journal

Rolland K. "R.K." Lorenz, 88, a pioneer Lansing auto dealer who opened a garage in 1921 which later became the Lorenz Bros. Buick dealership, died Sunday.

He and his brother, Harold, began the garage which developed into a gasoline station and wrecker service. The Lorenz brothers also sold Franklins, White trucks, Pontiacs and General Motors trucks before opening Lorenz Bros. Buick dealership in 1923.

Lorenz was a past president of the Lions Club and a past director of the Michigan Automobile Dealers Association.

Services will be announced by Gorsline-Runciman, Lansing Chapel.



Rolland K. "R.K." Lorenz: Pioneer auto dealer died Sunday.

12-30-86



**LORENZ,  
ROLLAND K.**

**Lansing**

Age 88, died December 28, 1986. Mr. Lorenz was born May 15, 1898 in DeWitt. He started an automobile business in 1920, which became a Buick dealership in 1923, and worked until his death. He was a Lansing Lions member for 53 years and past President in 1952. He was a member of Lansing's Auto Dealer's Association and a member of the Michigan Auto Dealer's Association. He was Chairman of the Board of Port Repose Inc. in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Mr. Lorenz is survived by his wife, Rowena E.; 3 sons, John H. of Lansing, Rolland F. of Williamston, and Charles G. of Traverse City; 2 step-daughters, Merib R. Kruger of Lansing and Beatrice M. Palmer of Alma; 15

grandchildren; 21 great grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. Funeral services will be held Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. at the Gorsline-Runciman Lansing Chapel with the Rev. Norman E. Myer, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, officiating. Interment will be in DeWitt Cemetery. Active casket bearers will be Kevin Kruger, Kyle Kruger, William Emerick, David Lorenz, John Palmer, and Dennis Evans. Honorary pallbearers are John Dorsey, Thomas Locke, Paul Ruth, Edwin Miller, Walter Everhart, James Toben and Glen Larson. Friends may call at the Funeral Home beginning Tuesday at 9:00 a.m., where the family will receive friends from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Those desiring may make contributions to the American Heart Association in memory of Mr. Lorenz.

LORENZ

1104



Lotre

**MRS. THOMAS W. WALTER**

***Lotre-Walter***

DEWITT—A gown of Chantilly-type lace was worn by Miss Kathleen Ann Lotre, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Lotre of DeWitt for her Saturday morning marriage to Thomas William Walter, son of Mr. and Mrs. William B. Walter of DeWitt.

Vows were exchanged in St. Therese Church in Lansing.

The bride's gown featured a fitted bodice, long sleeves and a chapel train. She carried white roses and stephanotis.

Mrs. Richard Lotre of DeWitt, sister-in-law of the bride, was matron of honor in mint green linen. Bridesmaids, dressed in pink and blue, were Miss Mary Ellen Lotre, sister of the bride; Miss Jane Walter, sister of the bridegroom; Miss Janet Fox and Miss Ellinor Hudson, all of DeWitt.

Attending the bridegroom were Philip Walter of DeWitt, his brother and best man; Ronald Fox, Brian Tingay and Howard Schooltz, all of DeWitt and Larry Mull of Lansing, ushers.

Julie Ann Walter, bridegroom's niece, and David Lotre, bride's brother were flowergirl and ringbearer.

After an evening reception at the church hall, the newlyweds departed for northern Michigan on their honeymoon trip.

Special guests were Mr and Mrs. Frank Walter of Lake Orion, grandparents of the bridegroom.

1965



Loire

DEWITT—An Aug. 14 wedding is planned by Miss Kathleen Ann Loire and Thomas W. Walter. Their engagement has been announced by Mr. and Mrs. Albert Loire of DeWitt, bride-elect's parents. Mr. and Mrs. William B. Walter of DeWitt are the future bridegroom's parents.

Lott

Another Pioneer Gone :—Our fellow townsmen and good neighbor, Chancey Lott, is dead. Thursday, about 12 m., the people of this community were shocked when the news came that another sudden death had occurred in our midst. The deceased has been a resident of this place over 47 years and his death deserves more than a passing notice. We herewith hand the press the little information that we learned from his brother, A. Lott. Chancey Lott was born in Wayne county, N. Y., in 1819, being one of a family of eight children, of which three brothers and one sister still survive him. He married a Miss Mary Green of Oakland county 42 years ago, and she also survives him. He lived and died a democrat. He came to Michigan in 1835 and located with his father and family at Plymouth, Mich. Two years later they located at this place, 47 years ago, DeWitt then being a wild wilderness. He has lived here ever since, and, so to speak, grown up with the country. Probably there is not an old resident of the county or state but what knew Chaney Lott. He knew as much of the history of this town and county as any one. He was once connected with various enterprises at this place. He was a millwright of no small calibre. He was builder and owner of the old De Witt mills, which afterwards burned down. He was proprietor of the Clinton House at this place years ago. Not only these, but he has been called to different official trusts. He held the office of Justice of the Peace for over twenty years and was Justice at the time of his death. He was a man of considerable legal ability and many little incidents might be referred to in connection with his official life. One thing in particular, he was a good, kind neighbor and a friend to the deserving. The circumstances surrounding his demise are these. About two years ago he had what some call the gangrene, or blood poisoning, from which he never fully recovered. It is the general opinion that he drove it back into his system, and hence the real cause of his death. He was around town the day before his death and on the day of his death was around the house, and it was while walking from his chair to his couch that he fell dead. He was the father, so I am informed, of 12 children, two sons surviving him. The funeral at the Baptist church on Sunday last was largely attended by his many friends and neighbors, the Rev. Coburn officiating.

IAGO.

Chas. Rep.

8-28-1884

# First Clinton County jail had 4-inch thick walls

By KEN COIN

Yes, all this and he draws too. The accompanying sketch was done by yours truly for the library 20 years ago, (I kind of choked on those last three words) to give a clearer look at how the old jail may have appeared when it was new. The porch is a bit of artistic license - there may or may not have been one on the original structure.

For the past few weeks, I've passed along stories of former inmates of this historic hoosegow but the structures' value to DeWitt's heritage is enough to warrant some

serious appreciation by "Historic DeWitt." A jail building, 150 years old, is a true rarity in Michigan.

The subject of the jail first appears in the records in 1840 when money was appropriated by the newly formed county for an office building and for a jail and jailers residence. The building contracts were awarded to William H. Utley, a local builder whose bids were considered to be the lowest of any "responsible" bidder. His bid for the jail was recorded at \$1,078. The completion date was set for the fall of 1841 but when this was not accomplished, Seth Marvin was hired to finish the project.

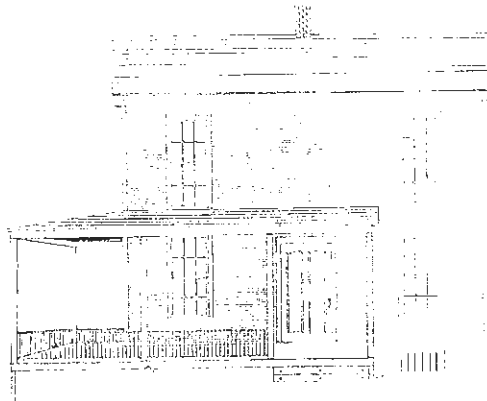


Illustration - A pen and ink drawing of what the old Clinton County Jail may have looked like in the 1840's - not far removed from its present appearance.

In 1842, the lot on Washington Street was deeded over to the county by Captain David Scott with the provision that should the county seat move from DeWitt, or should the county cease using the site for the purposes of a jail, the property would revert back to himself or his heirs. With a site secured, Marvin completed this building in the spring of 1843.

The records were not specific as to what portions of the structure were designed for jail purposes and which were left for residence, but having been in the building with an opportunity to snoop into the nooks and crannies, I believe that the southern one story portion constituted the jail cells. This portion is built like a fortress with planking on the walls, floors and ceilings. We're

not talking just inch thick planks here, these planks were/are about two feet wide and at least four inches thick, solid oak.

By my calculations, the portion left for the jailer's residence must have been the front two story portion.

Contrary to popular belief, the county sheriff did not reside here. It was usually occupied by a family; the husband being under contract as jailer and the wife as cook and laundress. There is however, evidence that the town constable may have been allowed to live here. the 1860 census shows the house occupied by Robert Daniels, constable while the contracted jailer for that time period was David Olin who lived in and operated the Clinton House tavern.

After the county seat was removed to St. Johns in 1857, the old jail remained in use by the county until 1862 when a facility was built in that town. After this date, in accordance with Captain Scott's deed, the jail lot reverted back to his heirs,

David Scott, Jr. in particular. He, in turn soon sold it as a residence to M. B. Naracon who held it a few years before selling it to Albert Lott.

Lott was a wagon maker whose shop was located on the northeast corner of Scott and Main. He was also a musician in Company H of the 27th Michigan Infantry and purchased the former jail directly after his return from duty in the Civil War. It remained his home until his death in 1896.

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

# Dewitt

Lott

## Obituary

Miss Ervilla B. Preston was born in Linchlean, Chenango county, N. Y., January 12, 1838. In the year of 1850 she accompanied her parents to Dewitt, Clinton county. She was united in marriage to William Lott, also a resident of Dewitt, December 15, 1865. Two sons were born to them, one of them passing away in infancy.

Mr. Lott passed away 18 years ago.

Two years last spring she accompanied her son and family to Dewitt village where she has since resided. She passed away Saturday night, September 5, 1914, from a complication of diseases incident to old age.

She is survived by her son, one granddaughter, Merle, and several nieces and nephews. She was the last one of a family of six to go. She was a kind wife, mother and neighbor, loved and respected by all who knew her. She was a hardworking woman as long as she was able to work. She has been poorly for some years but has been kindly cared for by her son and his wife. She was a member of the Pioneer society and was a pioneer in the true sense of pioneering. Having lived in Clinton county 64 years, she has seen great changes take place.

Her funeral was held at her late home Monday afternoon, Rev. W. H. Thompson of Lansing officiating. The casket was covered with beautiful flowers. She was laid to rest beside her husband in the Wilsey cemetery.

"Weep not that her toils are over  
Weep not that her race is run,  
God grant we may rest as calmly  
When our work like hers is done.  
Till then we yield with gladness  
Our treasurer to him to keep,  
And rest in the sweet assurance  
He giveth his loved one sleep."

## Card of Thanks

We wish to thank all who kindly assisted in any way during the sickness, death and burial of our mother and grandmother.—Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Lott, Merle Lott.

Lott

#### IN THE REBELLION.

##### Albert Lott Contracted a Disease Which Carried Him Off.

Albert Lott, a pioneer of Clinton county died at his home in East DeWitt, Sunday, as the age of 69 years. He had only been ill for a few hours and death was caused by a disease contracted during the late rebellion. Mr. Lott is survived by his wife, a son, Lee Lott, and a daughter, Mrs. Milo Walker, of North Lansing. The funeral service was held in the Baptist church at DeWitt at two o'clock yesterday, and was in charge of DeWitt Lodge, No. 272, F. & A. M.

**Mrs. Matilda Lott**  
Mrs. Matilda Lott, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Milo Walker, 208 W. Jefferson street, Friday morning. Mrs. Lott was a member of the O. E. S. of DeWitt. She is survived by her daughter, Mrs. Walker, and her son, Lee, of Prescott, Mich. Funeral services will be held at the Baptist church at DeWitt Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Interment will be in DeWitt cemetery.

Lott

# Loretta Loux Max Locher

The Mary Sabina Chapel of the Central Methodist church in Lansing, was the scene of a pretty wedding which united Miss Loretta Loux of Lansing, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Loux of St. Johns, and Max L. Locher, son of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Locher of Dewitt on Wednesday evening, August 18. Rev. Thomas Toy officiated the double ring ceremony at 8 o'clock, in the presence of 100 relatives and friends.

Burning tapers and baskets of white gladioli banked the altar. Mrs. J. E. Elsenhour of East Lansing, cousin of the bridegroom, its organist played "Bridal Chorus from Lohengrin" and Mendelssohn's recessional. During the ceremony she played "I Love You Truly", "At Dawning" and "Meditation from Thais".

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, chose for her wedding a gown of white slipper satin. It was fashioned on princess lines, with small covered buttons down the back extending below the waistline, a sweetheart neckline which was outlined with tiny seed pearls, and the long fitted sleeves came to points over the wrists. The over the face veil was held in place by a crown of seed pearls, and extended beyond the train of her dress. Her only jewelry was a single strand of pearls, a gift of the groom. She carried white roses and gardenias.

Dorothy Loux, only sister of the bride, was maid of honor. She wore a bright yellow taffeta gown fashioned with sweetheart neckline, full skirt and three-quarter length sleeves. Her shoulder length veil of matching shade was held in place by feather flowers, and she carried tulle roses.

The bridesmaids were Mrs. Robert Smit, twin sister of the groom, and Mrs. Paul Abernathy of South Bend, Ind., formerly Jane Richards. They wore identical gowns of blue taffeta, fashioned with sweetheart necklines, short puff sleeves, and full skirts with insets of lighter blue chiffon. Their shoulder length veils of matching shade were like that of the maid of honor, and they carried bouquets of yellow roses.

Darlene Marie Smit, niece of the groom, was flower girl and was gowned in a floor length dress of bright yellow taffeta, made with sweetheart neckline, and puff sleeves. She also wore a veil to match her dress and carried a colonial bouquet of pink roses.

The bridegroom was attended by Donald DeHannater as best man and Kenneth Harper as groomsman. Seating the guests were Marshall Hicks and James Smit of St. Johns.

For her daughter's wedding, Mrs. Loux chose a black summer sheer with black and white accessories, and Mrs. Locher wore blue with navy accessories. Each wore a corsage of red roses.

Immediately following the ceremony a reception was held in the church. The bridal table was centered by a wedding cake topped by a miniature bride and groom, and flanked by burning tapers. Those serving the guests were the Misses Helen Wolf, Doris Spaulding, Betty

Hammond, Iva Mae Darnell and Mrs. Dorothy Dixon.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Locher graduated from the local high school. The bride is also a graduate of Lansing Business college and is employed in the stenographic department of Auto Owners Co., in Lansing.

The newlyweds left by train on a short wedding trip to Norfolk, Va., to visit Mr. and Mrs. Dow Gillison. Upon their return the bride will continue her work in Lansing, while Mr. Locher will work with his father on the farm.

Out of town guests were: Misses Mary Vanderbasch, Neva Brandt, Mrs. Clarence Brown, Mrs. Charles Murphy, Mrs. H. P. Richards, and Mrs. Paul Abernathy, all of South Bend, Ind., Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Henderson of Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Larson and son of Columbus, Ohio, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Cramp-ton of Jackson, also guests from St. Johns, Lansing and Dewitt.

Loux

Lowell

### **Aged Resident Of Watertown Center Died Saturday**

**Watertown Center**—Othman W. Lowell died at his farm home in Watertown Saturday morning, after a long life passed in this vicinity. Mr. Lowell was 85 years of age, and had lived nearly his entire life in this county.

Mr. Lowell was married when quite young and he and his wife, Jeanette had lived together 65 years at the time of his death. There are six children surviving, Herbert J., and Clark D., of Watertown, C. G. Lowell of San Gabriel, Calif., Mrs. John Cramer of Shaftsbury, Miss Jennie and Miss Mattie of Watertown.

Chas. Co. Rep.

11-1-1923