

Lewis-Mahar.

At three o'clock Thursday afternoon, Dec. 30, occurred a very pretty wedding at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mahar, of East Dewitt, when their oldest daughter, Gladys Ruth, was united in marriage to Fred Morton Lewis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry C. Lewis of St. Johns.

The house was decorated in pink and white caranation. The bride wore white crepe de chine and carried an arm bouquet of lilies and caranations. The ring service was used, the Rev. G. S. Northrup officiating.

After the ceremony dinner was served by Miss Kathryn Losey, after which Mr. and Mrs. Lewis departed for Grand Rapids and Grand Haven. After Jan. 10 they will be at home at 405 Church street, St. Johns.

Only the immediate families were present. Both Mr. and Mrs. Lewis graduated from the St. Johns high school with the class of 1917. Mrs. Lewis is one of Clinton county's most successful teachers, while Mr. Lewis is a city mail carrier in St. Johns.

Mankey

Funeral Cards from the Scrapbook of C. Harry Moon

Now owned by Eleanor Moon McKinney (1984)

Helen Mankey- Jan. 17, 1871- Jan. 19, 1955

D. E. Chandler Funeral Home, Jan 22, 1955 1:00 p.m.

Rev. Harry Moon Oak Ridge Cemetery

Pallbearers: Joe Pung, Frank Pung, Earl Avery,
Charles Buchlin, Miles Becher, Otto Witt.

Mankey

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

Fred H. Mankey- Nov. 29, 1869 - March 18, 1955

D. E. Chandler Funeral Home, March 21, 1955 2 p.m.
Rev. C. Harry Moon Oak Ridge Cemetery
Pallbearers: Joe Pung, Frank Pung, Earl Avery
Sylvester Hengesbach, Miles Becher, Otto Witt.

Mankey

Marriage of Floyd Hamer and Lucile Mankey Announced

Dewitt—Announcement has been made of the marriage of Miss Lucile Mankey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Mankey, to Lloyd Hamer of Dewitt. The ceremony took place Monday, June 27, at the home of Rev. Wm. W. Robinson, Goshen, Indiana.

Mr. and Mrs. Hamer took a motor trip through northern Indiana and western Michigan. They will reside at their home near Dewitt.

Mrs. Hamer is a graduate of Michigan State Normal College and has taught in the public schools of Eaton and Clinton counties.

Mr. Hamer attended St. Johns high school and Lansing Business College.

1783

DR. G. H. MANN DIES SUDDENLY

Retired Dentist Had Been
Confined to Home for
Two Weeks

Dr. George H. Mann, 71, a retired St. Johns dentist, died suddenly Tuesday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock, after suffering two weeks from a heart complication. On November 8, Dr. Mann visited a former dental office and spent some time working there. Since that time he had been confined to the house.

Born October 17, 1871, at Corona, L. I., he came with his parents to the vicinity of Ann Arbor when a small boy, and there received his high school and college education in that city. He graduated from the dental college of the University in 1895 and for a brief period practiced in Belding.

He came to St. Johns in 1896 and three years later on October 28, 1899 was married to Etta A. Alward. They immediately went to live in the home where he died on East State street. For about four years he was associated with his brother, Dr. Thomas S. Mann and then established an office of his own where he practiced for over 30 years.

In 1934 Dr. and Mrs. Mann went to their farm near St. Johns to spend the summer and due to circumstances, remained there for several years. The last several years they have been living here. Dr. Mann was a member of the several orders of the Masons, including the Knights Templar, and had for years been a member of the St. Johns Methodist church.

Besides the widow, he is survived by two brothers, Dr. Thos. S. Mann of St. Johns, and Albert Mann of Detroit, and three sisters, Mrs. James Quincy of Ann Arbor, Mrs. Lizzie Kilson of Detroit, and Mrs. Beulah Noyal of Jackson.

Funeral services will be held from the Osgood funeral home in St. Johns Friday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock. Rev. H. W. Ellinger officiating. Burial will be made at Mt. Rest.

Couple Pledge Vows In Lansing Ceremony



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM A. WESEMAN

SHARRON'S gown was styled with a fitted bodice featuring a bateau neckline finished with a double fold of white taffeta forming a cuff collar. The long sleeves were finished in deep points over the wrists. The bouffant skirt of lace over layers of tulle fanned into a chapel train. A matching lace plateau edged in tiny scrolls of pearls held her fingertip veil of imported French illusion.

She carried a white prayer book topped with a white yellow throated orchid and cascading English ivy. Her pearls and matching earrings were a gift from the groom.

The bride and her father were preceded down the aisle by identically gowned attendants, dressed in rich fall shades of taffeta. They wore matching head bands of little medallions with circular veils and carried muffs with cascading mums in harmonizing shades with contrasting satin ribbons.

Chantilly type lace over white taffeta was chosen by Miss Sharron March, 600 E. Howe Ave., Lansing, for the bridal gown she wore Saturday evening, Sept. 14, when she exchanged vows with William A. Weseman of St. Johns.

The ceremony was solemnized in double ring rites read by the Rev. E. L. Wolt, in Christ Lutheran Church, Lansing.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter March, Delavan, Wis., formerly of Rural DeWitt, are the parents of the bride, and Mr. and Mrs. Allen Weseman, 808 S. Lansing St., St. Johns are the parents of the groom.

Wilson High School in St. Johns, with the class of 1955. Sharron graduated in 1957 from Elkhart University.

Honored guests at the wedding were the bride's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Barnes of Lansing.

On Friday evening a dinner was given by the groom's parents at Eyer's Steak House, Lansing, for 23 members of the wedding party, preceding the rehearsal.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter March
request the honour of your presence
at the marriage of their daughter
Sharron Kay

to

Mr. William Allen Weseman
Saturday, the fourteenth of September
nineteen hundred and fifty-seven
at seven-thirty in the evening
Christ Lutheran Church
122 South Pennsylvania Avenue
Lansing, Michigan

Reception following ceremony
Olive Grange Hall

March

10/3/65

Markham



MRS. LARRY T. FOUNTAIN

Newly Wed Larry Fountains Will Make Home in Lansing

DeWITT — Mr. and Mrs. Larry T. Fountain, who were married Saturday afternoon in the Valley Farms Baptist Church, will live at 710 N. Chestnut St., Lansing.

Formerly Miss Julie Ann Markham, the bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Markham of DeWitt. Mr. and Mrs. Orley J. Fountain of DeWitt are parents of the bridegroom.

Lace appliques distinguished the bride's silk taffeta gown which featured long sleeves, a sheath skirt and a chapel train.

Miss Margaret Hawe of Lansing, the bride's attendant, wore a floor-length sheath gown designed with an emerald green bodice and mint green skirt.

Ronald K. Grant served as best man. Ushering were Steven C. Markham of DeWitt, brother of the bride.

A reception followed in the

DeWitt Memorial Building.

The newlyweds are honeymooning in northern Michigan.

Marshall



DEWITT REMEMBERED — What do you get when you mix 27 Woodruffs and a drop-side wagon? A really great photograph. Courtesy photo.

Coin details Woodruff family

By KEN COIN

Several years ago the late Ralph Woodruff shared this family photo with me for copying. It was taken about 1906 and shows a reunion of the DeWitt Woodruffs and some "distant relatives". He wasn't sure just how distant but he thought they were the owners of the Daisy Air Rifle Company.

The background of the photo may be mere coincidence but I think it was planned. It is the house now owned by Bob and Sandy Hill at 402 W. Main, and

was the pioneer home of Riley J. Woodruff, an uncle to the two gentlemen standing beside the wagon; Mart T. and Clayton C. Woodruff.

The family of Worcester and Betsy (Kent) Woodruff came to Michigan in 1832 from the town of Lysle in Broome County, New York and settled in Farmington. In 1837 they came further into the interior and settled at the then promising site of Grand River City (the Ingersoll family's planned Athens of the West) now Delta Mills. Worcester died the following year (Aug. 16, 1838) and the widow Betsy, with her young children, moved the following year to DeWitt. One of the Woodruff's sons, Riley J., later described what DeWitt looked like when they arrived in 1839:

"...at that time, on the north side of the Looking Glass, there stood a log blacksmith shop and a log hotel, and a large granary and horse-barn. Captain Scott owned the property at the four corners...eighty rods east of these corners, on the Grand River Road, (east Main Street) was a log house and to the west of the location of the hotel (Scott's log hotel), a son of Captain Scott (Sylvester) had built his log dwelling. Across the river, at the site of New Albany, stood a single log house. At this time the Grand River road (Round Lake Road) was the only highway through the state from Detroit to Grand Rapids and the land office at Ionia."

Just where Betsy Woodruff settled upon her arrival in DeWitt is not known but she probably had some established kinship here. The family does not appear on the 1840 census and if the family had remained intact they were probably living in the household of either Capt. David Scott or in the household of Milo Turner at the hotel in New Albany. My personal hunch is that the family split up — Betsy and her daughters becoming domestics at one of the larger households (such as Milo Turner in New Albany) and the two boys, Riley J. and Addison, apprenticed to Hiram Wilcox at his Prairie Creek sawmill (this is only my guess).

Riley later stated that in 1848, he established a furniture and undertaking business. Undoubtedly it was more along the lines of a cabinet and coffin shop located near the mill complex along Prairie Creek. The federal census of 1850 finds him living in the household of fellow cabinetmaker J.F. McKeen. His brother, Addison Woodruff, a carpenter, was living with the Lyman Hewitt family. All were located to the south of the river in New Albany.

By 1860, Riley and Addison went into partnership together and opened a general store in a building on north Bridge St. which would later become the DeWitt Grange Hall (still standing — lately the

(Continued on page 5)

Coin column cont...

(Continued from page 4)

ing — lately the Dance Hall Dairy). They remained in partnership until 1865 when Riley moved with his young family to St. Johns and purchased a store building (the first brick one in St. Johns) vacated by John Paine.

Riley married a DeWitt girl, Sarah S. Green, about 1851 and although they eventually moved to St. Johns, it was to DeWitt that they periodically returned to bury their dead children. In all, six of their children, from infants to 12 year-olds, are buried in the DeWitt Cemetery. Only two sons survived to adulthood.

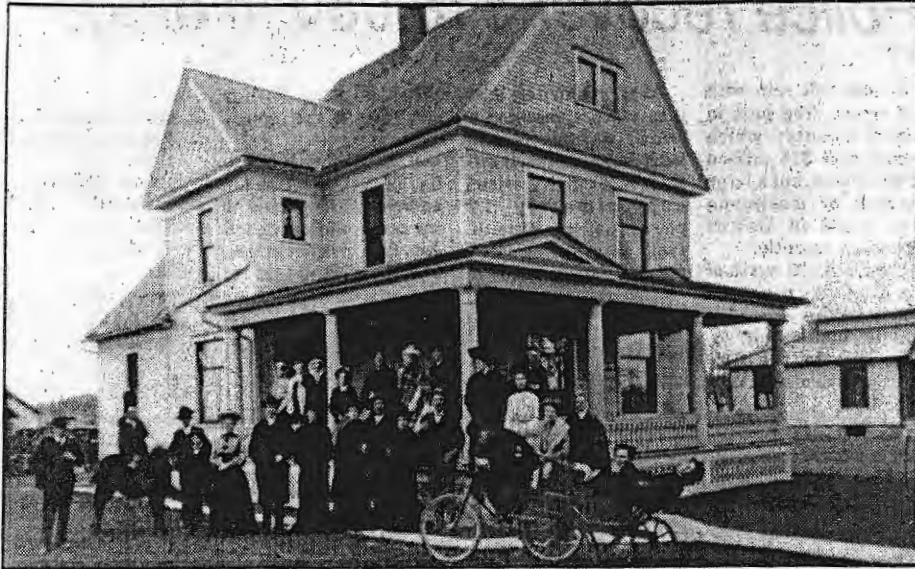
Mary Woodruff, a sister to Riley and Addison, married John C. Marshall, a blacksmith and a son of one of DeWitt's first blacksmiths, Hor-

ace Marshall. It is with this daughter that they mother, Betsy, spent her last years and died in 1883.

CORRECTION: Several weeks ago in a Christmas article I featured a winter photo of the homestead of George and Elizabeth Simmons on the west side of Airport Road. Where was my head? It is (and always has been) on the east side and is now owned by Bob and Lori Welton. Luckily, two readers with a vested interest noticed the error and questioned me. Gerald Pike phoned and Joyce (Phillips) Leach wrote to each tell me that they had grown up on that farm, and last time they checked, it was still on the east side. Joyce and her parents, Win-

nie and Edna Phillips, lived there "several" years ago. Gerald and his parent, George (the photographer) and Edna Pike lived there "many" years ago.

DeWitt remembered:



DEWITT REMEMBERED: — More Woodruffs. Same day as last week — different pose. The house pictured was the newly built home of Clayton and Clara (Lorenz) Woodruff, currently the Sirmon home at 409 W. Main, ca. 1906. Courtesy photo.

Coin continues Woodruff family saga

By KEN COIN

Addison Woodruff married Amanda Marshall, a daughter of Horace Marshall, and for the next forty years they made their home at the northeast corner of Main and Logan streets. The brick Victorian house still standing on this corner is an 1880 remodeling and enlargement of their original house which probably looked much like brother Riley's pictured last week (The Hill home at 401 W. Main).

After the Woodruff brothers dissolved their partnership in 1865, Riley moved his family to St. Johns and Addison continued this business in DeWitt. For a time he was also part owner in a foundry which operated on the southwest corner of Bridge and Jefferson streets. About 1880 he sold his store building to the newly formed DeWitt Grange and moved his mercantile business to the northwest corner of Bridge and Main. The Grange remodeled his old store building into a meeting hall which served them for the next eighty years. Although a merchant, Addison joined the Grange and became a very active member of longstanding. When he died the Grange set aside a page in their minute book for a memorial resolution and voted to drape their charter in black crepe for a period of one month.

About ten years prior to Addison's sudden death in 1901, his son Mark had taken over the Woodruff store allowing the parents a retirement to spend winters in Florida. Mark and his family moved into his parent's old home on west Main and a new retirement home was built next door (now the Sholtz home at 310 W. Main) for Addison and Amanda. Amanda remained in this home until her death in 1922.

Addison and Amanda's younger son, Clayton, who married Clara Lorenz in 1888, preferred the rural life and operated a farm in Watertown town-

ship. It was not until after the death of their father that Mark convinced his brother Clayton in 1904 to form a partnership and set up DeWitt's first bank in an old store building which stood on the east side of south Bridge street (now the south half of Terranova's parking lot). The bank remained here until 1918, when Clayton bought out his brother's interest and built a new brick structure on north Bridge where its descendant, First of America, is now located.

Around 1906, Clayton and Clara built a new home in DeWitt on the then fashionable "Maple Drive" (west Main). It was among the largest of the popular Colonial-style homes being built in DeWitt during this period and was one of the few built as a family home as most, during this time, were being constructed as retirement homes for area farmers. The Woodruffs had three children; Lawrence, Lorna and Ralph and this house remained the Woodruff home until Clara's death in 1957.

After Clayton's death in 1929, his two young sons, Lawrence and Ralph took charge of the bank just in time to confront the double challenge of both the Great Depression and the DeWitt fire of 1930. They

weathered through both and the bank continued until its merger with American Bank and Trust in 1969.

The Woodruff family has remained a constant in DeWitt for over 150 years and is one of the few if not the oldest "town" family remaining. To any would-be Woodruff genealogist out there, I have received two inquiries from your distant "kin" asking for information: Margaret E. Morrissey, 1232 W. Laster Ave., Anaheim, CA 92802 and Dorothy Davies, 5600 North Shore, Clark Lake, MI 49234 are both separately looking for you.

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

Many Guests Dine and Dance At Riley Wedding Reception

St. Johns Folks Among
Crowd at Martens Home
On April 24th

By G. F. Ottmar

Another of those occasions "that made Riley famous" occurred at the pleasant and hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Martens of Riley township Wednesday, April 24, 1928, when their oldest daughter, Regina, was married to Richard Sehlke of Riley.

Shortly before 1:00 o'clock p. m. the contracting parties arrived at St. Peter's Lutheran church in Riley where a large assembly of relatives and friends greeted them. The ceremony was solemnized by the Rev. H. Wohler, pastor of the church.

After the wedding they all drove to the home of the bride where they were received in due form by a large gathering of invited guests. About 5:00 o'clock a sumptuous dinner was served, and such eats. Noodle soup, chicken, roast beef, potatoes with brown gravy, cake and such good looking young waitresses.

Ask Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hulse, they were there, Harry and Sam Casteel set at the table side by side. Harry was dug out clean to his toes. Sam tried to keep up with him. Then there was Leo Benson. I thought he never would get full and Rollie Benson thought he was installing a furnace. and Xavior Barnhart tried to demonstrate what effect stockfood had on the appetite. This all made one think of Will Carlton. Well after all these were disposed of, there was lots left.

After supper the bowery was cleared and the dance started. The young people danced until early morning. John Krause's orchestra furnished "Old country music" in the house and all the old Germans danced as they used to do and it was the real stuff and enjoyed by all. The party began to break up after the mid-night lunch. Those who could not and those who did not care to dance visited and played cards. When the guests left they all wished the young couple much joy and happiness and left them many valuable presents.

The bridesmaids were Irma Martens, sister of the bride, and Louise McPrangel. Best men, Fred Schelke, brother of the groom, and Herman Hopp, cousin of the bride.

The bride was dressed in white georgette with silver overlace and pearl bead trimming. She wore a veil and carried a shower bouquet of bridal roses. The bridesmaids wore light green georgette and peach georgette.

Out-of-town guests were present from Detroit, Lansing, St. Johns, Grand Ledge and Toledo, O. Mr. and Mrs. Sehlke will be at home to their many friends after May 1 at their new home in Riley.

But, in whatever company he came,

His appetite stood by him all the same.

No picnic near, in weather foul or pleasant,

But Sam and stomach managed to be present.

And when, with innocent, unconscious air,

He placed himself at table, firm and square,

With one eye partly closed, the other looking

Intently at the different styles of cooking;

And when, with savage-gleaning knife and fork,

He brought himself down seriously to work,

And marched through every dish in conquering glory,

And ravaged all the adjacent territory.

Making the table for some distance round

Look like a fiercely hard-fought battle-ground,

A smile upon his placid face would fall,

As if life wasn't a failure after all.

Leonard Jastram and Virginia Marten United

By Doris Pratt

The Riley Lutheran church was the scene of the wedding last Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock of Miss Virginia Marten, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Marten of Bengal township, to Leonard E. Jastram, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Jastram of Riley. Rev. P. Coellner performed the double ring ceremony before 150 guests. The altar was decorated with baskets of chrysanthemums. Appropriate wedding music was played by Merle Radke and Mrs. Lewis Stiffler and Mrs. Edwin Boettger sang "Jesus My Truth My Way."

The bride, given in marriage by her father, wore a gown of white satin with a sweetheart neckline accented with seed pearls, shirred bodice and full skirt. Her fingertip length veil was edged with lace and fell from a beaded tiara. She carried a shower bouquet of white roses, carnations and snapdragons.

Miss Neva Marten was maid of honor for her sister, and the Misses Edna Mae Jastram, sister of the groom and Jean Miller, cousin of the bride, were bridesmaids. They wore gowns of blue, aqua and pink respectively, made like the bride's and on their heads was an arrangement of flowers. They each wore a corsage of roses and baby mums.

Albert Plak was best man and the ushers were Charles Boak and Gerald Jastram.

The bride's mother wore a black crepe dress and Mrs. Jastram, mother of the bridegroom, wore soldier blue. Both had corsages of roses and white baby mums.

Following the ceremony a wedding supper was served the guests at the home of the bride's parents. A three-tiered wedding cake made by the bride's grandmother, Mrs. Augusta Marten, centered the bride's table. Later in the evening a reception was given in the Olive Grange hall for about 500 relatives and friends.

One of the guests present at the wedding was the bride's great-grandfather, Fred Mohrke, who will be 91-years old his next birthday.

Woman ce

By RHONDA WESTFALL

Staff writer

Anna Martens and the St. Peter Lutheran Church building.

One is made of flesh and blood, living person. The other is made of bricks and mortar, wood and paint.

Both are tied together, body and soul, to help make up the congregation of St. Peter Lutheran Church, Riley. And, both are celebrating birthdays in 1988.

Congregation members of St. Peter are in the process of celebrating the centennial of the construction of the present church building on Church Road in Riley Township.

Anna was the first baby to be baptized in the new brick structure, nearly 100 years ago on Nov. 11, 1888. She was born on Oct. 11 of that year in Westphalia Township, the daughter of John and Caroline (Hopp) Rossow. Four years later, the family moved to "a big house," as Anna remembers it, on Jason Road in Riley Township.

'When we were confirmed, Alma (Witt) Hopp and myself had to sing a song together, says Anna. 'I still wonder what we must have sounded like.'

HER SHARP MEMORY of years gone by gives no indication that the still able-bodied St. Peter member is nearing her centennial celebration. She recalls many events of her 100 years as a Clinton County resident, and as a member of St. Peter congregation.

"I remember the first chicken dinner that the Ladies Aid put on," Anna says. "We didn't have a hall at the church, so we used the old Woodman Hall down at Forest Hill. That must have been in 1919 or 1920. Ladies from the south and north half of the congregation took turns furnishing the food from year to year."

Anna also recalls the confirmation instruction she received from the Rev. E. Heinecke, who served as pastor at St. Peter from 1903 to 1921. Classes were held in the back of the parsonage, with confirmands attending for a period of two years.

"If you couldn't read, you had to go for three years," Anna says. "When we were confirmed, Alma (Witt) Hopp and myself had to sing a song together. I still wonder what we must have sounded like."

Another special day in Anna's church life came when she was married to Chris Martens on Oct. 1, 1908.

on for two

celebrates centennial

"It was a nice, sunny day," Anna says.

Attendants for Anna and Chris were Herman Martens, Ben Rossow, Nora (Hopp) Flegler, and Doretta (Krumm) Witt. After the wedding, Anna and her new husband followed tradition and had a "baurery" at her parents home, including two full meals.



Anna Martens

FOUR CHILDREN WERE born to the Martens: Lona (Silm) in 1909, a baby who died at birth in 1912, Ivah (Kleuckling) in 1914, and Norman Martens in 1916. All in turn were baptized at St. Peter, and with the exception of Norman who passed away several

years ago, are still active members in the congregation.

Anna is blessed with five grandchildren, Gaylord Kleuckling, Phyllis (Kleuckling) VanLake, Gladys (Silm) Ruestman, Charles Silm, and Judy (Martens) Winn. Anna also enjoys her 11 great-grandchildren — and three great-great-grandchildren.

"We had all five generations in the Wheel Inn last week for Lona's birthday," Anna says. "We should have taken a picture of that."

STILL ABLE TO worship regularly at St. Peter, Anna was asked recently to help the church celebrate its centennial by riding in the Fourth of July parade at Westphalia, along with a float which St. Peter members had built for the 100th birthday festivities.

Sitting beside the oldest living male St. Peter member, Henry Witt, Anna rode in her 1966 Chevrolet down the parade route.

"I had a good place (at the parade)," Anna says. "I didn't have to stand, or walk, or anything."

Anna may repeat her performance at the DeWitt Ox Roast parade in August. She was a DeWitt resident for almost 40 years, moving to DeWitt in 1947 and living there until two years ago when she began staying with her children.

"She still makes her bed every morning, and helps after meals by drying the dishes," her daughter Ivah says.

When she hits the century mark in Oct., Anna expects all her family will come together for a potluck dinner, "probably ham and scalloped potatoes, and other things," she says. She celebrated her 90th birthday with a big open house, and "won't do that again."

The one thing Anna would like is a break in the hot, humid weather.

"I don't want many more of these hot days between now and October," she says. "This weather is really something else."

Anna and St. Peter — perhaps they share the centennial theme which congregation members are using in 1988, "Built on 100 Years of Love."

Myrtle Martens, 71, is leading the

Myrtle Martens Celebrates 90th birthday

The Ward family is hosting an open house to celebrate the 90th birthday of Myrtle Martens on Sunday, July 24, from 2 to 5 p.m.

Cake and punch will be served at Hope Lutheran Church on Herbison Road in DeWitt. No gifts please.

Riley Lutheran Church Scene of Lovely Schumaker-Martens Nuptial Ceremony 1938

Miss Doris Audrey Schumaker, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Schumaker of Riley township, became the bride of Lorenz Martens, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Martens, of Riley, at 1:30 o'clock Wednesday, April 20th, in the Riley Lutheran church. Rev. Fred Coellner, pastor of the church, read the service in the presence of many friends and relatives.

As Herbert Blets, of Riley, played the wedding march from Lohengrin the bridal party approached the altar which was beautifully arranged with baskets of spring flowers.

The bride was becomingly attired in a floor-length gown of white satin and lace. This was complemented by a long tulle and lace veil which fell from a lace cap. She carried a shower bouquet of pink roses and sweet peas.

Miss Rachel Warner and Miss Brownie Berlin, of near St. Johns, were bridesmaids. Miss Warner wore a floor-length gown of gold colored satin and Miss Berlin's dress was of pink taffeta and net. Their arm bouquets were similar, of snapdragons and carnations.

John Schumaker, brother of the bride, and Raymond Locher, of near Dewitt, attended the bridegroom.

About 125 relatives and friends of the bridal couple attended the recep-

tion and dinner held at the home of the bride's parents in the evening. Guests were served by immediate friends of the couple. The rooms were artistically decorated in a color scheme of pink and white, which was carried out by the use of paper streamers and spring flowers. A lovely wedding cake adorned the bride's table.

The dance held at Olive Grange Hall was attended by about 250 guests. Mr. and Mrs. Martens were the recipients of many lovely and useful gifts.

Mrs. Martens was graduated from the local high school in 1933. Prior to taking her position as bookkeeper at the Wm. Luecht and Son garage she was employed in the offices of the County School Commissioner and County Agricultural Agent. Mr. Martens is a well and favorably known young farmer. They will reside on a farm in Bengal township.

Well Known Riley Young People Are Married Wednesday

Richard Sehlke, son, of Mrs. Rika Sehlke, and Regina Martin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Martin, well known Riley township young people, were united in marriage Wednesday afternoon, April 24, at the Riley Lutheran church. Following the ceremony several hundred guests attended a reception for the newlyweds at the home of the groom's parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Sehlke will reside on the Sehlke farm. A complete account of the wedding festivities will be published next week.

Martin

YOUNG COUPLE WED SATURDAY

Alberta Martin and Norman
Irrer Speak Vows
At Fowler

Fowler—The marriage of Miss Alberta Martin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Martin, and Norman Irrer, son of Mr. and Mrs. August Irrer, took place at Holy Trinity rectory at 11 o'clock Saturday morning. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Fr. Esper.

The bride was attired in a street dress of green crepe with brown accessories. The attendants were Mrs. Wm. Barnes of Lansing, sister of the bride, and Lawrence Edinger. Mrs. Barnes wore a beige wool dress with brown accessories.

A breakfast was served at the home of the bride's parents to the immediate families. Following the ceremony the couple left for a short wedding trip.

Martin Rites Set at DeWitt

DeWitt — Funeral services will be held Saturday at 2 p.m. at the Vincent-Rummell Funeral home in DeWitt for Mrs. Isabell S. Martin, 99, of Muskegon. Rev. Daniel Kellin of the DeWitt Community church will officiate and burial will be in Chapel Hill cemetery at Lansing.

Mrs. Martin died Tuesday at 9:30 p.m. at the Parkview Nursing home in Muskegon.

She was born in Cole county, Mo. Oct. 23, 1864. She had resided in Muskegon 20 years moving there from Grand Rapids.

Surviving are a daughter, Mr. Ora Woodbury of Muskegon; two sons, Charles E. Smith and Phillip M. Smith of Largo, Fla.; 16 grandchildren, 33 great-grandchildren and 21 great-great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Donald Pratt, John Cooley, James Hamelling, Fred Gasche, Jack VanWyke and Henry Cooley.

A Deplorable Affair.

Dr. Seth P. Marvin, one of the pioneer settlers and until recently a prominent man in this county, put a summary end to his own existence, on the premises of his brother-in-law—Capt. R. Strickland—in this village, at about 6 o'clock on Monday evening last, in a fit of partial insanity. Being absent from the house at tea time, the little daughter of Mr. Strickland was sent to call him, but soon returned in great fright, saying her uncle was in the barn, seated upon a box in a stooping posture, his face presenting an unusual and alarming appearance. Assistance was immediately summoned, and the Doctor was found in the position stated, with a bed cord noosed about his neck,

double, both ends of which were fastened to a peg, some two or three feet above his head. Physicians present pronounced him dead, and the corpse was removed to the house, where an inquest was held upon it under the direction of Justice Sickels, and a verdict rendered in accordance with the facts. A razor was found upon the corpse—an unmistakable indication that the deceased was determined upon self-destruction, swift and sure. How he could thus have carried out his purpose, while sitting in a seemingly natural position, is indeed a mystery.

Dr. Marvin was a man of unswerving integrity, and, while blessed with health, a genial companion, a kind parent, and, withal, possessed of great intelligence and good sense. Although sometimes moved by passion, he nevertheless possessed a kind and sympathetic heart. He was well known in this county, having settled at De Witt when the country was marked by Indian trails only, and resided there until quite recently. He practiced medicine at that place for many years, filled the office of Register of Deeds for three successive terms, and served the people in the capacity of Judge of Probate from 1856 to 1860. The Doctor had for several years been subject to seasons of gloom and deep despondency, induced by declining health and pecuniary discouragements, real or imaginary, during which he frequently exhibited symptoms of insanity. These unfortunate visitations became more frequent and their effects more apparent, till at last suicide resulted. He removed from De Witt to Corunna in the early part of the season, and opened a drug store; but becoming weary of the ennui attendant upon establishing a new business, abandoned it to seek a new and more promising field of labor. He returned from a prospecting tour in the western part of the State a few days previous to his death, and had prepared to return thither on the (to him) fatal day. The Dr. was over fifty years of age, and leaves a wife, two sons and a little daughter by a former wife, and also two step-sons and a daughter, to weep over his tragic and mournful end.

Baker
markin



DEWITT REMEMBERED—A typical log homestead of the 1840's, this one was located on the East side of US-27 south at State Road (original settlers unknown), ca. 1920. Photo courtesy of DeWitt Library.

DeWitt in the 1840's wasn't a backwoods, dirtwater town

This is the first installment in a two-part column by Ken Coin. The second segment will appear in next week's issue.

One of the most rewarding aspects of researching local history is to be able to take something from the local history books, do some further research, and come up with the rest of the story which the books permitted.

DeWitt in the 1840's was not exactly the backwoods dirtwater town we often imagine. It offered a lot of potential for the adventurous Yankees flocking into the then, Far West. Among the typical pioneer wanna-be's, DeWitt attracted a large number of very industrious, well-educated young people, looking for the right opportunity to seize life by the tail.

Open any history of Clinton County and you're sure to find individual mention of three young girls, the Gooch sisters. (No, they weren't a Vaudville act!) They started life in the state of Maine, the pampered daughters of a successful lumber dealer, Benjamin Gooch. The War of 1812 had dealt him an unfavorable hand and trying to regain some of this former wealth, he wagered all he had left on government land in the Territory of Michigan.

The year 1834 finds the Gooch family on a packet boat on the Erie Canal, traveling through New York enroute to Michigan. The journey did not agree with the wife and mother, Lucy (Boyington) Gooch. She had the misfortune of falling overboard one night and was never seen nor heard from again. Undaunted the Gooch's pressed on. The father's destination was Wayne County where he temporarily settled. The three sisters, sticking together, soon moved further and within a few years arrived at DeWitt.

Betsey Gooch (our first sister) arrived in DeWitt just in time to gain the distinction of the being the first teacher at the first school in the county—the Goodrich school which opened about 1836 in a log hut at the corner of Schavey and Howe roads. Shortly thereafter she was wooed and wed by another rising star of DeWitt's social elite, Dr. Seth P. Marvin, who had come to DeWitt in 1835 after completing his medical studies in Macomb County. His parents, "Deacon" Calvin and Deborah Marvin made the first settlement in Watertown Township (now the Lietzke farm on Airport road) and now Seth, upon banging out his shingle, became the first practicing physician in Clinton County.

Shortly after Seth and Betsey's marriage they moved from the Marvin homestead to the new village of New Albany near the corner of Webb and Bridge street. Aside from his medical practice, Seth pursued local politics and in 1839 (when Clinton County was established) was elected the first county clerk. He went on to become county register of deeds and later Judge of Probate.

Mary Gooch (our second sister), like Betsey, was also a pioneer teacher in this county. Teachers and schools being both a rare commodity then, she taught not only in this area but also in Eagle and Victor townships. But in 1851, she caught the eye of a promising young attorney named Randolph Strickland (I suppose he could have caught her eye.) They settled in DeWitt where he had recently started his practice and built the home where Dan Matson now has his practice on Washington street. Like his brother-in-law, Seth, Randolph also stepped into the arena of politics and after several years as county prosecutor was, in 1860, elected to the Michigan Senate.

With the county seat being moved to St. Johns in 1856, the Stricklands went too and built one of the town's first "mansions" (it was located where St. Joseph's Catholic Church now stands, on the Courthouse Square). In the early years of the Civil War, Randolph was appointed by the Governor as Commissioner to Superintend the Draft and in 1863 was appointed by Abraham Lincoln as Provost Marshall. In 1868 he was elected to the House of Representatives and the Stricklands moved to Washington.

Olive Gooch (our third sister) had a less glittering life. She married her father's hired man, Stephen Hill, in 1835 and two years later they came to DeWitt, settling a homestead at the southwest corner of Lowell and Herbison roads in Watertown Township. Their beginning was not unlike that of her two other sisters but while the other sisters (and husbands) chased fame and fortune, Olive and Stephen took on the long laborous task of carving a farm from the wilderness.

Here the Hills remained for the rest of their lives, content with raising their six children and step by step, year by year improving their homestead into a productive farm.

Next week: The Rest of the Story.

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

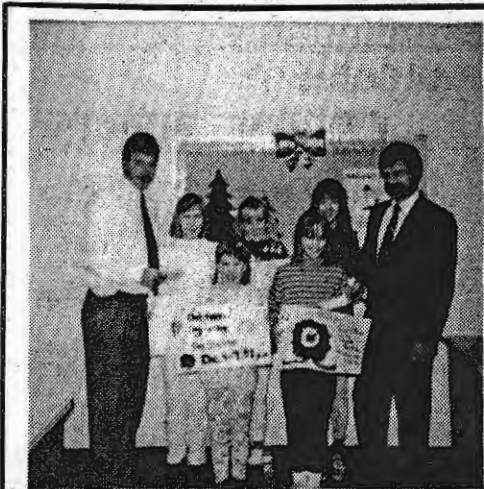
Marvin

DeWitt-Bath Review/December 14, 1992-5

Coin explains *The Rest of the Story of the Gooch Sisters*

A visit to the DeWitt cemetery will tell much of the rest of the story of Betsey Gooch. Her small white tombstone is there showing she died in 1860, at the young age of 44 years. But the real clue is almost hidden on the back side — the six children she buried within an eleven-year period; all dying at various ages from two months to nine years.

If the premature deaths of his six children weren't enough, the death of his wife proved too much for Seth Marvin. He experienced periods of deep dispondency and depression for which he could find no relief. He remarried and had more children — it didn't help. He changed careers by becoming a druggist — it didn't help. He relocated to Corunna — it didn't help. In 1864, while visiting his former in-laws at the Strickland Mansion in St. Johns, he unceremoniously went into the carriage barn, wrapped a bed cord around his neck, tied the ends to a peg above his head, then sat down on a box and by mere gravity and determination allowed himself to be strangled.



COLORING CONTEST WINNERS — The DeWitt Business Association Coloring Contest winners are (back row, l. to r.) Jessica Johnson, Nicole Piper, Amy Ruelle, (front row) Abby Fedewa and Janette Bourdan. Not pictured is Jade Zallman. DBA representatives are Bruce Joslyn (left) and Don DeRosia. Courtesy photo.

Mary Gooch was once described as "one of the bright lights of St. Johns society" and there are many glowing (no pun intended) memories written of the elegant parties at her stately home and the impressive rosters of dignitaries who were entertained there. She and husband Randolph were the cream of Clinton County society to be sure. But fame is fleeting and Randolph's poor health led him to the state hospital at Battle Creek in 1881 where he soon died. Mary remained mostly alone in the big house for the next 23 years and soon after her death in 1904 it was torn down.

For as many warm accounts that survive of Mary and Randolph Strickland there are an equal number of the not so kind accounts of their three daughters. In a nutshell — they were universally viewed as (to put it kindly) pampered and indulged. Maybe so, but at least one, Martha, perhaps just too many years ahead of her time, shocked the county with her out and out suffragette notions. She became an attorney like her father and is said to have been the first woman to appear in a Michigan courtroom as a defense attorney in a murder case. And if that didn't make one's eyebrows arch up to the hairline, when she married she was brazen enough to retain her maiden name. She was also suspected of smoking little cigars, wearing pantaloons and being paid as a public speaker. "Indecent", some said.

As to Olive Gooch — well the history books leave us feeling somewhat sorry for her. Hitched to a dirt farmer in the country, she seems to have missed out on all the fun. But going beyond where the books leave off we find that she and Stephen Hill shared a life together for fifty years. Yes, they too endured personal suffering; they buried two of their young children and a third died in the Civil War. But at the end of their lives' journey they were surrounded by children and grandchildren and every improvement to their farm was a personal triumph.

Their early home was not of mill-cut lumber like the sisters' and even their last home couldn't compare to what the Stricklands had achieved, but a memory written by their son describes the situation best: "a log shanty, its floor of split logs, with but one window and two doors, it was still home and within it hunger and want were never felt."

There's a lesson to be learned here: Things are not always as they appear — even in the history books.

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



Photo courtesy of Faye Hanson Public Library

THE WILLIAM MARZKE FAMILY OF RILEY, 1902 – Pictured (back row, l. to r.) Emma, Theodore, Martha, Albert and Anna, (front row) Otto, Marie, William F. (father) and Minnie.

Clinton County history book being republished

In 1980, several individuals under the leadership of the Clinton County Historical Society completed several years of work with the publication of an enormous county history. The original purpose was to account for what had happened in the county in the 100 years since the last major history book of 1880. It met its objective, and the 1,100 page book, already a prized collector's item, is impressive in both weight and content. Not only does it cover that 100-year span, it goes beyond that into areas of the more distant past to cover areas omitted in 1880 (and corrects a few untruths). But perhaps the best part of the book is its several hundred family histories, all written by amateur genealogists and included at no cost to the contributors.

The ink was barely dry however, when a great moan was heard across the land. There was wailing and gnashing of teeth, tearing of garments and smearing-on of ashes – in short, there were a whole lot of folks who were plain disgusted with themselves for not getting it in gear and submitting their family histories. Well, take heart – you don't have to wait another 100 years. The Clinton County Historical Society has reactivated plans for another book. So get out your pencils, scrap books, photo albums and family bible and get to work. And please, don't think you need to belong to one of the county's "old families". Histories are being accepted from any family currently living in the county or who have lived here in the past.

Often, just a simple obituary will give the basics for a good family write-up. By coincidence I happened upon one last month for William Martzke, pictured above with his children:

(June, 1904)

Killed by Horse

Lived in Riley 21 years

"Last Saturday evening William Martzke, of Riley, fed his horses some grain and then

removed some setting hens for the stable. One flew from him against the horse, which reared and kicked Mr. Martzke twice in the breast. A doctor was called and his injuries were not regarded as dangerous. On Sunday evening he began to grow worse and continued so until 1 o'clock when he died. He was conscious until death and he kept wishing that he could have seen his daughter, whom he had not seen since her wedding day two years ago, and who was coming to visit him in two weeks from her home in the upper peninsula. His sudden death came as a great shock to the family as well as the community. He was a kind father, and an upright honest man.

"William F. Marzke was born in Alt Malzhow, Stolp, Germany, Dec. 15, 1845. He served three years in the German standing army and fought one year in the French and German War. He was married to Miss Hannah Yanz and after moving to Ohio they moved to Michigan and settled on the farm where he was killed. Thirteen years ago his wife died of cancer at Orion. Seven years ago lightning struck his barn and killed one of his horses and a year later his son, Paul, was drowned at Merle Beach. At the death of his wife he was left with nine children and an aged father...Mr. Martzke was a member of the German Lutheran Church of Lansing."

Mr. Martzke has a good number of descendants still living in DeWitt and his grandchildren, I'm told, get together once a year. This should give them a good basis for a great family history. Helen, you've been elected family secretary – the others will fill in the details. Start writing!

For more information or guidelines send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Family History Forms, P.O. Box 174, St. Johns, MI 48879.

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

POPULAR ST. JOHNS YOUNG COUPLE WED

MISS MARY BOND AND LLOYD
MARZKE SPEAK VOWS AT
ST. JOSEPH'S SATURDAY

Miss Mary Bond and Lloyd Marzke, popular St. Johns young couple, were united in marriage on Saturday morning, August 26, 1933 at an 8 o'clock ceremony at St. Joseph's Catholic church. Fr. H. W. Rosebrook, local pastor, performed the ceremony in the presence of the immediate families. The bridal march was played by Mrs. Leo Snitgen, and Miss Elizabeth Parlish sang "Ave Maria."

The bride, who is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Bond, was attractively attired in a navy blue crepe gown with matching accessories and her corsage was of pink rose buds, bachelor buttons and stock. Her maid of honor, Mrs. John Martin, wore a frock of slate grey with accessories of matching shade. Mr. Martin assisted the groom, who is the son of Mrs. Edith Marzke of this city, as best man.

The bride graduated from St. Johns high school with the class of 1929 and was employed in Detroit and Stockbridge for a year before accepting her present position as bookkeeper in the D. L. Hunt insurance office, where she has been three years. She expects to continue her work.

After attending the local high school Mr. Marzke held a position in Lansing for some time and is now employed in the F. C. Burk department store.

Out-of-town people who attended the wedding were Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Dunsbach and children and Mrs. Roman Stump and daughter of Lansing.

Marzke

WED IN BENGAL

Mrs. Edith Marzke of St. Johns
and Robert Brown of Bengal were
united in marriage at the U. B.
parsonage in Bengal Thursday,
November 16. Rev. E. O. McSherry
performed the ceremony. Mr. and
Mrs. Brown will be at home to their
many friends at the farm of the
groom.

MARRIED

Albert H. Marzke, of Lansing, and Edith E. Tabor, of Olive, were married at the residence of the officiating clergyman, Rev. G. S. Northrup at 10 o'clock Thursday, Dec. 31. They were attended by Mr. Allen L. Sperry, of Bingham, and Miss Martha Marzke, of Lansing.

Marzke

Lt. and Mrs. Justin Marzke Spending Honeymoon in St. Johns This Week

Lt. and Mrs. Justin Marzke arrived in St. Johns Tuesday and are this week receiving the congratulations of their many friends and relatives. Lt. Marzke is on a 10-day furlough after an eventful past year spent in service.

On Saturday, Feb. 27, Marzke was graduated from OCS, Ordnance school at Aberdeen, Md. Sunday, the 28th, he married Miss Eunice McAvoy, a former teacher in the St. Johns schools, at Schenectady, N. Y. Their visit to St. Johns is in the nature of a honeymoon and to give the former St. Johns business man an opportunity to make final disposal of some of his affairs interrupted by the war.

The wedding ceremony Sunday was from St. Paul Episcopal church in Schenectady, Rev. Welton officiating. The couple was attended by a brother and sister of the bride. A reception was held at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. James H. McAvoy following the wedding ceremony.

Mrs. Marzke is well known in St. Johns where she served three years, from 1939 to 1942, as a teacher of physical education. During the past year she has been teaching in Fultonville, N. Y., and will return to her position temporarily. She expects to be with her husband when he is permanently assigned.

Lt. Marzke was first inducted into service in May, 1941. After receiving his basic training at Camp Davis, N. C., he was released from service because of an age ruling in November, 1941. He was again called March 9, 1942. During the past year he trained at Camp Mar, on a California desert near Barstow, and was sent to Oahu, Hawaiian Islands. He returned to the States in November after being recommended for officer's school in November.

Lt. and Mrs. Marzke are widely and favorably known among the young people of St. Johns. Mr. Marzke's long connection with the Good Housekeeping Shop as a partner and expert mechanic has taken him into the homes of most of the people of this community.

Lt. Marzke is the son of Mrs. Robert Brown of Olive.

Mar-1943
Commissioned One Day
Married The Next Day

MARZKE

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6-11-

The remains of Mrs. Marzke was brought home from Orion last Friday, where she was being treated for cancer. The cancer had been removed and she was nearly ready to come home when a throat difficulty set in and terminated her life. The circumstances attending her death are extremely sad. She and her husband came from Germany eighteen years ago and settled in Ohio. Eight years ago they came to Riley and purchased a farm, going in debt quite heavily. They worked hard and were very saving and made great calculations on making a large payment on their farm this fall. But how true the saying, "Man proposes but God disposes." Her expenses were twenty-five dollars per week while she was at Orion, aside from her last sickness and funeral expenses. She was at Orion four weeks. But the expenses would have been of small account if the mother could have been spared to come back to her little ones who needed her love and care so much. But she is gone and left a lonely home. She was a devoted member of the German Luthuren church at Lansing. She was nearly forty-eight years old. She leaves a husband and nine children, the oldest 18 and the youngest 5 years of age, an aged mother and several brothers and sisters to mourn her loss. The funeral was held at the Simmons school house Saturday and her remains placed in the South Riley cemetery. The afflicted family have the sympathy of the entire community.

NONSENSE.

A SAD FATALITY!

**Paul Martzke Drowned Friday
at Merle Beach.**

**He Plunged Overboard from His
Row Boat**

**And Being Unable to Swim Lost His
Life.**

**Water Only Six Feet Deep Where He
Went Down.**

Paul Martzke, a Riley township farmer's son, was drowned at Merle Beach about four o'clock Friday afternoon.

Young Martzke, who was twenty-three years of age secured a boat about half past three and started out to fish; he rowed across the lake to the southeast side and remarked to Mrs. Albert Whitaker and Miss Grace Heath, who were fishing from a boat in that vicinity that he had good luck the day before on that side of the lake and believed he would try it again near there. He passed them and when a few rods farther below attempted to throw out his anchor. As he did so he lost his balance and fell headlong into the water. He came up and grabbed for the boat which turned completely over and threw him underneath it. He came up the second time and succeeded in getting astride of the boat, but he had no sooner done so than it lurched to one side letting out the air which buoyed it up and it sank.

Martzke who, had by this time become thoroughly frightened called frantically to the ladies he had passed "Grace come and help me, I am drowning." Miss Heath, who is only sixteen years old, started at once to row her boat toward the perishing man but her companion feared that Martzke who was a powerful fellow would overturn their boat and insisted that the best way to render aid would be to row toward the landing and secure the help. With an awful expres-



PAUL MARTZKE.

sion of agony on his face, evidently realizing that he was beyond human assistance, Martzke sank into the water and was not seen again until his lifeless body was taken from the bottom with a grappling hook about an hour later. Dr. Sanford, of DeWitt, who had been summoned by telephone was on hand when the body was recovered but the poor young fellow was beyond resuscitation and medical skill was powerless to restore the health and life which the young man had held so lightly but a few moments before little dreaming of the danger which was to cross his path.

There were several fishing parties on the lake at the time of the accident but most of them were too far away from the scene of the trouble to render aid. Philaneous Emmons and his son-in-law, Frank Owen, were not far away it is said, but they supposed Martzke was in fun, as they thought he was bathing and paid no particular attention to him until it was too late.

The spot where Martzke was drowned was very shallow, the water being but a trifle over six feet deep and if the young man had had any experience in manipulating a boat he could undoubtedly have saved himself, but not being able to swim a stroke he was naturally nervous and very much frightened and when the boat tipped over he, no doubt, lost his head and had no idea what move would be best to make.

The sad event is said to have preyed upon the mind of Miss Heath and she can hear the agonizing cry of the unfortunate young man whenever she attempts to sleep. She feels that something might have been done to save his life.

The deceased is said to have been a bright, honorable young man and is highly spoken of by all his neighbors who deeply regret his untimely end. He was one of a large family having three brothers and several sisters and was the son on whom his father depended. His mother died about five years ago. The funeral services were held at the Simmons school house Sunday afternoon, Rev. Kramer of Lansing, officiating. Beautiful flowers were furnished in great abundance by sympathetic friends. Six cousins of the deceased acted as pall bearers. The body was laid to rest in South Riley cemetery. The funeral was one of the largest ever held in that section.

This is the first accident which has happened at the lake since it passed into the possession of Mr. and Mrs. Moore, and it calls to mind two other fatalities which occurred there many years ago and a singular coincidence in time is discovered. Seventeen years ago this coming August, Chas. Wager, a young man of 19 years, whose parents resided in the neighborhood, was drowned within a few rods of the place where Martzke lost his life and strange as it may seem just seventeen years previous to that a man by the name of Welton was drowned in only a few feet of water. He was not discovered for several hours and the cause of his drowning in such a shallow spot was never known.

Services Saturday For Edith Brown

Dies Wednesday Morning
At Memorial Hospital
After Long Illness

Mrs. Edith Marzke Brown, 62, of St. Johns, died Wednesday at 12:30 a. m. in the Clinton Memorial hospital after a long illness.

Edith Taber was born May 22, 1883, in Grand Rapids, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Justin Taber. In 1908 she married Albert Marzke, who died in 1926. In 1933 she was married a second time to Robert Brown, who survives.

She is also survived by a daughter, Miss Louise Marzke of St. Johns; two sons, Lt. Justin Marzke, in service, and Lloyd Marzke, of Alma; two sisters, Mrs. Ethel Cressman and Mrs. C. L. Shafley; and one grandson.

Mrs. Brown had lived in the vicinity of St. Johns for many years, and the greatest part of her life was spent in Bengal township. She was a member of the United Brethren church, and belonged to the Crescent club and Bengal grange.

Funeral services will be held Saturday at 2 p. m. at the Osgood funeral home. The Rev. A. L. Spafford of the U. B. church will officiate and burial will be in the De-witt cemetery.

1945

Je

Marzke

The Twenty-Third Psalm

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;
He leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the
paths of righteousness for His name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death, I will fear no evil;
for thou art with me; thy rod and
thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the
presence of mine enemies;
thou anointest my head with oil,
my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow
me all the days of my life;
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

In Memory Of
ETHEL GERTRUDE MARZKE

Date Of Birth

March 25, 1884
Riley Township

Date Of Death

July 21, 1981
St. Johns, Michigan

Service

DeWitt Area Chapel
Friday, July 24, 1981 -- 1:30 P.M.

Officiating

Rev. Gerald Salisbury

Interment

DeWitt Cemetery

Casket Bearers

John Overholt	Frederick Marzke
Richard Overholt	Vincent Moon
Robert Smith	Paul Mulford

Maxwell



MRS. DUANE M. MAXWELL

* * *

*Sharon Parks,
Duane Maxwell
Wed in DeWitt*

A candlelight ceremony in DeWitt Community church recently united in marriage Miss Sharon Kay Parks, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hershal S. Parks of DeWitt, and Duane M. Maxwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Austin of rural St. Johns.

For her nuptials, Sharon Kay chose a gown of Chantilly lace and silk organza designed with a bell-shaped skirt. The scalloped portrait neckline was accented with seed pearls and sequins.

A queen's crown of seed pearls and crystal teardrops secured her veil, and her bouquet, fashioned in the shape of a cross, was of pink rosebuds and white flowers.

Mrs. Janice Mackie was matron of honor for her sister, and bridesmaids were Alice Boice, Bethany Reed and Dess Ann Overholt, all of DeWitt.

James Hartman was best man and ushering were Bill Moore of Owosso, Russell Austin of Hickory Corners and Arthur Irish of DeWitt.

A reception for 250 was held at the Bingham Grange hall.

Maxwell



D. MIKE MAXWELL

Maxwell new aide for Gen Tel

A former St. Johns man, D. Mike Maxwell, 28, has been named executive assistant for General Telephone on the company's state headquarters staff located at Norton Shores, near Muskegon, effective April 1.

Maxwell, son of Mrs Leon Austin of Avery Road, will have a variety of responsibilities within the executive department of the company. He will report to P. A. Betty, operating vice president.

The newly appointed executive assistant joined General Telephone as a lineman at St. Johns in 1964. In 1965 he became a combinationman at DeWitt and in 1966 he was named field engineer at Owosso.

Maxwell was transferred to Muskegon in 1967 as a tariff administrator and in 1968 he was named commercial administrator-survey and development, his present position.

Maxwell is a U. S. Navy "Seabees" veteran, a graduate of Rodney B. Wilson High School, St. Johns, and a graduate of Muskegon County Community College. He was active with the Michigan Jaycee organization in St. Johns and is currently a trustee for his church.

Married, he and his wife, the former Sharon Parks of DeWitt, have two children: Steven, 6; and Kimberly, 4. The Maxwells live at 1260 Becker Road, Muskegon.

LOCAL HISTORY
COLLECTION
FILE

May

Died, at his home in Olive, January 30, 1894, Enos May, aged 76 years, lacking two days. He was born in New Haven, Ohio, in 1818. In 1865 he and his family, a wife and two sons, came to Clinton county where they have resided continuously. Ten years ago Mr. May was stricken with paralysis and about three months ago he began to decline rapidly, his sufferings for the past few weeks being very great. Out of a family of eleven children Mr. May was the only member living, with the exception of one sister in Ohio. His wife passed to the other world nine years ago, one son, Frank, died two years ago, one son Charles survives him. Services were held at the house Wednesday. Interment in the DeWitt cemetery.

Clinton Rep.

2-1-1894