
** Clarion **

BAY COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY VOL.13 NO.2 MARCH 1991

MARCH MEETING

We will meet on Tuesday, March 5 at the Bay Co. South End Library on Lafayette beginning at 6:30 p.m. Following the business meeting we will resume planning of reprinting the back issues of "Chips and Ships". During our February meeting we were able to find at least one back issue of each of our publications. Questions which were surfaced at that time included the following:

Should we edit out some of that which was included in original issues, but does not appear to be of importance now, or should they be copied "as is"?

Which type of publication should we develop ?

What will it cost for each type of publication we are considering ?

How will we be able to get the work done ?

Anyone who might have suggestions for these concerns or any other pertinent questions please bring them to the meeting, or send them to us at Box 23 in Essexville, MI 48732.

SOCIETY BUSINESS

We wish to request that anyone who borrows publications from our library please return them at the next society meeting. When you are unable to attend that meeting, please call our librarian, Lottie Harrington, and make an alternative plan with her. Her number is 892-3662. This will allow more of our members to use our collection.

Dues for 1991 should be remitted at this time. This will be your last issue of the Clarion if you do not renew. The dues of \$5.00 per person/\$7.00 per family are to be sent to Box 27 Essexville, MI 48732.

Ken Johnson has sent us the first draft of the computer lists of those cemeteries in Bay Co. which have been read by society members. They are done alphabetically by surname both by a complete list of all names read and by cemetery. The cemeteries read were out county with no Bay City cemeteries included. We see the need for further readings to be done, but there are no plans for that to be done at this time. The lists have been turned over to Lottie Harrington who is heading the committee to review them and make recommendations for any necessary modifications and their maintenance. We again invite input from society members either at a meeting or through the mail. Anyone with an interest in working with Lottie on this committee should contact her at the above number.

Our delegates to the Michigan Genealogical Council, Hilda Taylor and Ruth Staudacher, reported on two issues of a political nature which are of high significance to those of us who are into genealogy. The issue of the Supreme Court decision which prohibits one who wants to publish archival material from so doing unless the author has given permission even if that author is deceased was reported to you in our November issue. We remind you to support pending legislation to correct this situation by urging your Senator and Representative to support S 2370 and HR 4263 if you have not as yet done so.

A new issue of a perceived serious nature speaks to the relatively new problem of the **LEGAL** falsification of the birth record of a person who is adopted or born by artificial means. When this is done there arise serious consequences of both a genealogical as well as a medical nature. An extract from an article in the New England Historic and Genealogical Society "Nexus", Volume VII, #1 states, "It seems that the government has an obligation to refrain from affirmatively and deliberately deceiving people about their ancestry", and "at the very least, **THE LAW SHOULD REQUIRE THAT EVERY FALSIFIED BIRTH CERTIFICATE SHOULD BEAR A SYMBOL OR NOTATION THAT IT IS SUCH.**" We plan to take action on this issue at our March meeting, and encourage your input toward our action.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Michigan Genealogical Council meets next on Thursday, 14 March at the Library of Michigan at 9 a.m. The meeting will open with a guest speaker, who will be Mr. Curt Witcher from the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Since that is one of the foremost genealogical centers in the country his message should be of interest to us all. Delegates from our society are Hilda Taylor and Ruth Staudacher, however any member is welcome to attend. You may contact either of those ladies if you are interested in going to the meeting in March.

20 March: Annual conference of the Michigan Chapter of the Palatines of America at Day's Inn of Lansing. Registration information from Milton Frey 2311 Frederick Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008.

26-28 April: Annual conference of the Ohio Genealogical Society in Toledo. Information may be obtained by sending a SASE to the society, P.O. Box 2625, Mansfield, OH 44906.

19 May: Annual workshop of the French Canadian Heritage Society of Michigan at the Mt. Clemens Public Library in Mt. Clemens from 10a.m. to 4 p.m. No admission charge.

24-26 May: Seminar sponsored by the Ontario Genealogical society at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. You may get further information by writing to Seminar '91 Committee, PO Box 2012, Kingston, Ontario, Canada K7L 5J8.

15-17 Aug.: The Federation of Genealogical Societies and the Allen County Public Library will offer "An All American Conference" at the Grand Wayne Center in Fort Wayne, Ind. Request information from 1991 FGS Conference, Conference Chair, 900 Webster Streer, PO Box 2270 Fort Wayne, IN 46801.

19-21 Sept.: The annual seminar of our Michigan Genealogical Conference, "Logging Relatives", at the Flint Holiday Inn. More information will be coming later.

Were you aware that each county and many towns in New York State has an appointed historian? Since New York has sent a great many of our ancestors to Michigan these folks and their resources may be of assistance to you. Their hours vary so it is important to find out when they are open if you want to visit their center.

We have recently learned from the MGC Newsletter that the fire which greatly damaged the Lansing area LDS Church in September has been classified as arson. This was their second fire in two years, and there was damage to a microfiche machine, computers, a desk and some of the cabinets in their genealogy room. Most things can be replaced except for some of their family histories

The pedigree sheets in this month's Clarion was provided us by Mr. Donald Dolsen. We appreciate the contribution, and remind you that we would like to print yours. This may help you and/or others in researching family lines.

The following is provided by Ruth Staudacher and from the Penn Pal, the newsletter of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the Palatines to America. Since the reunification of Germany the U. S. Postal Service advises us of new requirements for mail to Germany. Addresses in the former West Germany should now have a "W" at the start of the city line. An example of this would be " W-7000 Stuttgart 1". Addresses in the former East Germany should have an "O" at the beginning of the city line, not an "E". The German word for east is "ost", thus the "O". Finally, the country line in the address should be "Federal Republic of Germany", not West or East Germany or Germany.

Ancestor Chart

Name of Compiler Donald F. Dolsen
 Address 513 So. Hampton St.
 City, State Bay City, Mich.
 Date 19 Feb 1991

Person No. 1 on this chart is the same person as No. _____ on chart No. _____.

Chart No. _____

b. Date of Birth
 p.b. Place of Birth
 m. Date of Marriage
 d. Date of Death
 p.d. Place of Death

4 Charles Isaac Dolsen
 (Father of No. 2)
 b. 28 Mar. 1857
 p.b. New Albany, Ind.
 m. 19 Feb. 1878
 d. 23 Aug. 1930
 p.d. Bay City, Mi.

2 Charles A. Dolsen
 (Father of No. 1)
 b. 18 Sep. 1889
 p.b. Cleveland, Oh.
 m. 23 Sep. 1913
 d. 9 Jun. 1963
 p.d. Detroit, Mi.

5 Ellen Rael
 (Mother of No. 2)
 b. 7 Jan 1856
 p.b. Ravenna, Oh.
 d. 9 Mar. 1926
 p.d. Detroit, Mi.

1 Donald F. Dolsen
 b. 24 Aug 1922
 p.b. Bay City, Mi.
 m. 17 Feb. 1945
 d.
 p.d.

6 Joseph C. Fetter Sr.
 (Father of No. 3)
 b. 30 Jan. 1867
 p.b. Seneca Falls NY.
 m. 28 Nov. 1888
 d. 14 Mar. 1941
 p.d. Bay City, Mi.

3 Ethel L. Fetter
 (Mother of No. 1)
 b. 16 Jun. 1889
 p.b. Bay City, Mi.
 d. 18 Jun. 1930
 p.d. Bay City, Mi.

7 Louisa Radford
 (Mother of No. 3)
 b. 26 Jan. 1870
 p.b. Bay City, Mi.
 d. 27 Oct. 1904
 p.d. Bay City, Mi.

Bernadine E. Gwizdala
 (Spouse of No. 1)
 b. 20 Aug. 1920 d.

8 John S. Dolsen
 (Father of No. 4)
 b. 6 Apr. 1819
 p.b. New Albany, Ind.
 m. 3 Sep. 1845
 d. Nov. 1867
 p.d. Vicksburg, Miss.

9 Elizabeth E. Perry
 (Mother of No. 4)
 b. 23 Mar. 1821
 p.b. Utica, Clark Co. Ind.
 d. 5 May 1878
 p.d. Cleveland, Oh.

10 Michael J. Rael
 (Father of No. 5)
 b. 1827
 p.b. Ireland
 m.
 d. 22 May 1897
 p.d. Cleveland, Oh.

11 Bridget C. Johnstone
 (Mother of No. 5)
 b. 1831
 p.b. Scotland
 d. 29 May 1901
 p.d. Cleveland, Oh.

12 Frank Fetter
 (Father of No. 6)
 b. 1838
 p.b. Germany
 m.
 d.
 p.d. Seneca Falls, NY.

13 Katherine Brown
 (Mother of No. 6)
 b.
 p.b. Germany
 d.
 p.d.

14 Isaac Radford
 (Father of No. 7)
 b.
 p.b. England
 m.
 d.
 p.d. Bay City, Mi.

15 Elizabeth Coles
 (Mother of No. 7)
 b.
 p.b. England
 d.

16 Gilbert Dolsen
 (Father of No. 8,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)
 b. 1783-1784
 m. Ont. Can.
 d. aft 1868

17 Mary Elizabeth
 (Mother of No. 8,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)
 b.
 d. May 1868 Decatur Co. Ind.

18 William C. Perry
 (Father of No. 9,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)
 b.
 m.

19
 (Mother of No. 9,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)
 b.
 d.

20
 (Father of No. 10,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)
 b.
 m.

21
 (Mother of No. 10,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)
 d.
 b.
 d.

22
 (Father of No. 11,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)
 b.
 m.

23
 (Mother of No. 11,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)
 d.
 b.
 d.

24
 (Father of No. 12,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)
 b.
 m.

25
 (Mother of No. 12,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)
 d.
 b.
 d.

26
 (Father of No. 13,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)
 b.
 m.

27
 (Mother of No. 13,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)
 d.
 b.
 d.

28
 (Father of No. 14,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)
 b.
 m.

29
 (Mother of No. 14,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)
 d.
 b.
 d.

30
 (Father of No. 15,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)
 b.
 m.

31
 (Mother of No. 15,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)
 d.
 b.
 d.



Library of Michigan

MICHIGAN SOURCES OF PROOF

PRIMARY SOURCES are defined as contemporary and/or government records made at the time of the event by the parties involved. These records are deemed acceptable sources in proving relationship from one generation to another.

1. Birth Records Michigan official records began in 1867.
Available from:
2. Marriage records* a) County clerk of the county where the event occurred.
b) Michigan Department of Public Health,
P.O. Box 30035, Lansing, MI. 48909.
3. Death Records *Usually recorded near the date of each county formation
the present.
4. Census Records a) Territorial Census (federal) available 1820 and 1830.
b) Federal Census available 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880,
1900 and 1910. Note: Census indexes are available for
1820, 1830, 1840, 1850 and 1860 for the entire state.
Indexes are located in major Michigan libraries.
c) State Census were taken in 1834, 1845, 1854, 1864,
1874, 1884, 1894 and 1904. Note: Only fragments of
these remain. For availability send self-addressed
stamped envelope to Michigan State Archives, 717 W.
Allegan, Lansing, MI. 48918.
5. Probate Records Wills/estates (testate-with will; intestate-without
will); Guardianships; Lists of heirs and relationship;
Name changes and sometimes transfers of real estate.
Records begin at the formation of the county and are
found in the Probate Court where the event occurred.
6. Land Records and Plats Purchase and sale of property often shows residency and
marital relationship. Available from the county where the
land was owned. Records may be maintained by the Register
of Deeds.
7. Tax Records Taxes were paid on property owned on a yearly basis.
Records are available from the time of the county's
formation. Records may be located in the Register of
Deed's and/or Treasurer's office in county where the land
was located.
8. Military Records Records include muster-in- and muster-out, pay vouchers,
pension papers and military bounty land warrants (before
1856) for: WWI (1914-1918); Spanish-American War (1898-
1899); Civil War (1861-1865); Indian and other wars
(1816-1898); Mexican War (1845-1849); War of 1812 (1812-
1815); Revolutionary War (1775-1783). Records are avail-
able from the National Archives and Records Service,

(continued on next page)

8th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC, 20408 or Michigan History Division, 717 W. Allegan, Lansing, MI. 48918. Indexes of Michigan Civil War soldiers are available at most major Michigan libraries.

9. Church Records Church records often contain birth, death, marriage and funeral information of their membership.
10. Cemetery Records Actual records of church, city or township sextons.
11. Mortuary Records Actual records of funeral homes may include death date, burial date, location of interment, obituaries and miscellany.
12. Burial and Transport Permits Found in village, city and township halls or county health departments. Information varies from death date to personal comments.
13. Court Records Civil, criminal, divorce and naturalization records begin from formation of the county and may be located in circuit court or superior court where the event occurred.

SECONDARY SOURCES are any sources in print that do not come from a contemporary or government record. These records are not acceptable as proof.

1. Bible Records Dated and/or undated. Include a photocopy of the page showing the publisher, date of publication and the actual pages showing the names, dates and events. Identify current owners of the Bible when known.
 2. Obituaries Dated and identified, when known, name of newspaper and location. Most libraries contain copies of local newspapers. The Library of Michigan has extensive holdings of microfilmed Michigan newspapers which are available through interlibrary loan.
 3. Newspaper Clippings Dated and identified, when known name of newspaper and location. Clippings may include anniversaries, biographical sketches, awards, marriages notices, reminiscences, etc.
 4. Family Histories/ Genealogies, Published When submitting this type of material include a copy of the title page, photocopies showing direct ancestral descent and state location of the book. The Library of Michigan has a large statewide collection. Local libraries may have some local genealogies.
 5. County Histories/ Portrait & Biographical Histories, Published Almost every county in Michigan has at least one county history with biographical sketches. The Library of Michigan has every Michigan county history printed. Some local libraries will have county histories for the local and surrounding counties.
 6. City/County Directories The Library of Michigan has an extensive statewide collection of directories. Local libraries may have local directories.
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7. Personal Papers Unpublished written data include letters, diaries, journals, reunion records and manuscripts. Include dates when known.
8. Tombstone Inscriptions Submit photographs or transcriptions of the stone. The Library of Michigan has an extensive collection of tombstone recordings.
9. Atlas/Landowners The Library of Michigan has an extensive statewide collection of landowner plat books. Local libraries may have local plat books.

Many of the above sources refer to the Library of Michigan's extensive statewide collection. You are encouraged to visit the library of your city, township and county as well as the Library of Michigan. Most libraries provide very limited research by mail.

All genealogical societies welcome members and guests to their meetings. Contact the Library of Michigan for the names of societies in your area.

This document was prepared by the Michigan Sesquicentennial Certificate Committee (1989) to assist applicants. It has been reprinted to aid the beginning researcher who is seeking a Michigan ancestor.

The Library of Michigan is located at 717 W. Allegan, P.O. Box 30007, Lansing, MI 48909. It is open 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

Please contact Carole Callard, Special Collections Librarian, at (517) 373-1390 for information regarding the Special Collections of Genealogy and Local History.

MICHIGAN GENEALOGICAL COUNCIL

The Council is a confederation of most all of the genealogical societies in the state. It has been serving us for almost the last two decades, and will be marking its 20th anniversary next year. The Council's support of our endeavors include a variety of activities. The most notable of those being the annual fall seminar which will be held in Flint this year. Another fine contribution to the field is the publication of a quarterly newsletter from which we obtained the above information from the Library of Michigan relating to sources of proof in genealogy. Anyone wishing more information about the Council may contact the Council at the Library of Michigan at the address listed above. We will continue to provide material about the Council, its activities and newsletter reports in future issues of the Clarion.

QUERIES

Info re: Moses and Almira Bellmore Rich. Their children Alice, b. 22 Feb. 1870, Frank, b. 22 July 1879, both in Bay City, and Lillian, Rose and Violet. Help will be appreciated by Mrs. Arlettia Fyfe 2601 4th. Ave, Great Falls, MT 59401.

Info re: George Close, Art Smith, Barron families in the Bay City/Reese/Munger area ca 1900. George Close had a daughter named Bertha who married Solomon Smith, and they lived in Inmark(?) Twp., Tuscola Co. around that time. Send any info to Margaret M. Lentz at 2141 Cloward Way in Bremerton, WA 98312.

Info re: John Blair b. ca 1860, son of M/M James C. and Margaret (Foster) Blair who came to Buffalo, N.Y. from Scotland. Please send any info to Ronald McCauley, 201 Trealout Dr., Apt. 17, Fenton, MI 48430.