

YPSILANTI GLEANINGS

PAST SCENES and OLD TIMES

YPSILANTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY - PUBLICATION -

No. 53

April 1987

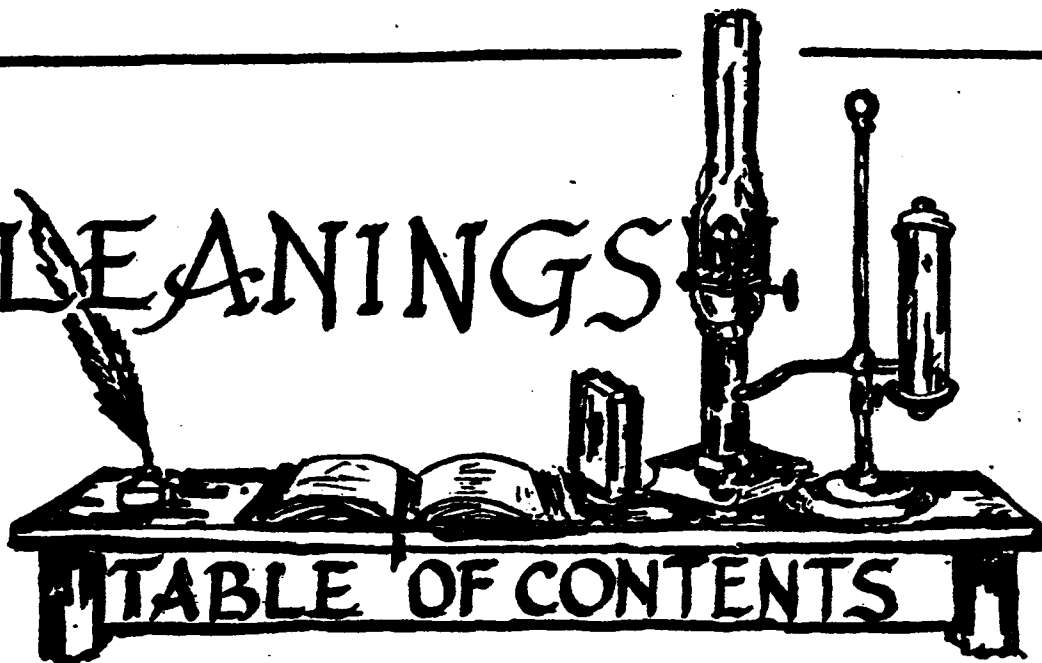


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GLEANINGS



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Miscellaneous Events

"Ypsilanti Gleanings-Past Scene and Old Times" is published quarterly for members of the Ypsilanti Historical Society.

Contributors: Doris Milliman, Historian
Billie Zolkosky, Secretary

Cover Design and Table of Contents designed by
Arthur J. Howard

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Office of Ypsilanti Historical Society is at
220 N. Huron Street
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

Lambie Diary-1885

January

1. Went to Detroit and over the icy river. Called on James and family. Mother is her 87th year, found her well and intelligent. Pleasant meeting with Sister Agnes.
3. Robert and Belle took Anna to the Depot to return to her teaching at Elkhart.
5. Robert and I brought up 20 lambs and 10 wedders. Robert brought up a ton of coal. John Quirk gave me a note for \$40.00. Received a letter from the Duke of Argyle-Hurray
12. Sold the wool to Chidester 531 pounds \$135.40. Paid Mr. C \$27.28 for his share. Azro got 10 sheep.
16. Robert took Belle to the Normal in a snow storm. Sent a letter to the Duke of Argyle.
19. Pure white snow, Belle walked to the Normal when it was 21 degrees below zero.
26. Coal stove went out, clock stopped, 2 above zero. Read of Irish demonstrations trying to blow up Westminster and the Tower of London.

February

1. Took a horned sheep for Mutton. John Campbell and Mrs. Hewens came to visit.
10. 8 below zero-cold bitter blasts like a Dakota blizzard. A severe time for old people. Read of the death of Gordon on the upper Nile and the Fall of Kartoon.
18. Paid for cutting and chopping 30 cords of wood. Exchanged 4 bushels of wheat for flour.
20. Mother's Birthday. She is 88.
21. Went to Azro's for dinner along with Mr. & Mrs. Frank Fletcher, it being the 25th Anniversary of their wedding.
28. Paid Fox for chopping 52½ cords of wood. Frank and Mr. C went off in the Cutter, the first time Mr. C has been out riding this winter.

March

3. Went to Town with Azro and a group meeting at Archie McNichols. Went to young Mr. Swift's (Newton) funeral.

March

6. Mrs. L went to Church Social. Mrs. John Ratfon, Mrs. I. N. Conklin and C. Collins died this week. Fox wants work when I have none to give him. Dora and Charle Fletcher met with a sad accident on the Railroad killing the horse, breaking the buggy and hurting them.
9. Robert took John Campbell and Frank to the Station on their way to New Orleans.
17. Wife and I went to Alfred Allen's funeral. Got a paper frpm John and Frank in New Orleans.
28. Drew \$80.00 out of the Bank, loaned Robert \$40.00. Settled with Fox.
31. Fox moved away from the old farm house.

April

1. Robert had a party and danced in our old farm house against my will.
12. Too cold to plant trees.
15. My birthday- three score and four. Brother Robert has had his corner house moved. D. Gardener came. Robert began to plow in the old orchard.
18. Sheep and lambs not doing well. Carried 14 pails of water to the cows and sheep.
21. Set out strawberried. Sowed clover seed in the orchard, south of the new home.
24. Turned the sheep and cows out to pasture. Mr. Jenness was buried. Mr. Brinkerhof died, old friends passing away. Brother Robert gave me \$50.00 for mother.
27. Three more sheep died after all our care. Planted gooseberries, grapes and flowers. Went to Detroit and gave Mother \$50 in gold from Robert. My sisters told me my faults but I would think more of them if they would knit me a pair of stockings.
30. Azro came at night to tell us Elizabeth had a son. Making me a Grandfather- Heavenbless the little stranger.

May

1. Mary and I sold eggs and bought bonnie flowers from Mr. Childs. Weary walking and working two farms. J. Campbell came telling of another girl. Mary and I went to see Elizabeth and the baby boy. William and Andrew Campbell came.

May

5. Frank took about 100 bushels of Mr. C's wheat to Deubel Mill at \$1.00. A fire at the Depot, Haskell Bakery and several other buildings. Belle and I went to the Normal and I was introduced to Willets and others. Heard Belle on the platform in Willets class.
11. Paid Eva Dancingberg \$20.00 for teaching. Hens and wicked roosters scratching up the peas. Marked and planted potatoes. Frank and the tinsmith put up eavestroughs.
13. Frank bought a special Oliver chilled plow.
16. Made a yard to keep the hens in. Fire in Pattison's office. Mary and I took the clothes to Rings. Belle and I had a weary time driving the sheep out of the oats. Aunt Emma, the babe and her father came.
23. Borrowed \$40.00 from brother Robert. Paid Mr. Vantage for pew rent and Azro \$7.00 for the pig.
26. Brother Robert and Aunt Eunice, Mrs. Finley and Professor Abbott of the Agricultural College made us a pleasant visit. Brother James wrote he had settled difficulty between Mother and Frank.
27. The boys and Azro drove the sheep to the river at Mr. Fletchers (old Addison, end of South Grove Street) and washed them getting back by noon. Robert and I cut the lambs tails- 11 rams.
30. Mr. C and I went to the Decoration of the Soldier's graves and heard part of Mr. Whitman's address. Azro and Elizabeth came and the wee boy slept with his arms above his head.

June

1. Mrs. L and her father drove to the old farm in Augusta. Thompson's men finished painting the new home.
6. Belle up before 4A.M. getting breakfast for Robert and some young folks going to Whitmore Lake.
12. Robert cultivating the corn. Like to curse the cut worms which are in our corn.
18. 70 years since Waterloo. Wife and I went to Detroit and Canada. Young Inglis and I to the Scotch games at Recreation Park, like the running and jumping but did not think much of Highland men and the Bagpipes.
19. Frank, Peter Van Ellen and Stockdale shored the sheep.

June

22. Belle came home with a sore heart because Bellows would not sign her paper when she was so factful and 19 others signed it.
Frank thinks there was 85 sheep shorn, two died after the shearing, 20 lambs, 103 total. Long winters, maggots and cheap wool make sheep farming discouraging.
24. Wife and I went to hear young orators at the Normal and Belle got her Diploma from her true friend Willets in spite of Bellows. Sold a sheep to Otto for \$2.00.
30. Mrs. L's birthday and she had a sore shoulder. Dr. Kinne came to see her. Mr. C and I went to the Sanitary meeting at the Baptist Church.

July

1. Dr. Kinne came again, Mrs. L no better. I worked in the Hay all day, got in a few loads. Belle milked the cows.
2. Mr. C, Ann, Mary and I went to see the Four Paws Show and his 17 or 20 elephants, a grand array of carriages, men and horses.
4. Mary, Anna, Elizabeth, Azro and the wee boy went to Azro's fathers. Robert and a girl went next. Went to Town at night, lots of guns and firecrackers.
7. Mr. C and Mrs. L went to Andrew and William Campbells. Andrew arrogant to me last time.
Good crop of timothy hay, got in several loads.
9. Frank, Robert, T. Casey, two boys and I worked getting in a good crop of Hay on the old farm. The pig that cost \$7.00 died.
10. Cousin Robert Hamilton from the celebrated Ryelanside along with his friend Mr. Martin from the Dykes came to see us and go back to Native Scotland. Took them to brother Roberts and our cherished old home and it kind of revived my long cherished plan to seeing Scotland again.
16. Young Mr. Bagot was killed playing ball. Mary, Belle and I rode up to Geddesburg.
Jerome came with his reaper, he reaped and Robert and I set up shocks. Very warm.
23. Mrs. Andrew Campbell came. Got in all the wheat and a good crop. So overcome with the heat I am unable to rejoice. Just weak and weary and oppressed.
24. The boys sold the Wool to Chidester but he did not say what it came to yet.

July

28. Helped Robert load manure. T. Casey helped too. Frank and Mr. C to Augusta. I hewed in the garden. A noisy group of young people came at night.
30. Stepped on a nail, very painful. 97 in the shade.

August

1. Settled with Frank. He gave me a check \$100 for the wool.
6. Anna and Mary went to Augusta. It rained so heavy they did not return. Great change in the weather-56 in the morning.
8. President Grants burial day. Mary and I went to the Opera House and heard Mr. Springer give a fine address on life and death of Grant.
11. Robert and I bound oats. Frank went to the races.
13. Mrs. L, Anna, Mary and I went on a Sunday School Excursion to Detroit and Grosse Pointe.
17. Robert and I bound more oats. H. Reed cradled.
25. Belle and I went to Farmers picnic at Whitmore Lake and enjoyed one of the sweetest of summer days.
Went to old Mr. Platts burial with William Campbell.
26. Ann left for her School in Elkhart. Mr. C and I went to Ann Arbor and heard Judge Cooley, Governor Alger and President Angel give a welcome to the American Association of Science.
29. Robert plowed and I spread manure. Went to Town. Brother Robert and family returned from sight seeing and pleasure trip. I saw the green earth and blue sky at home.

September

2. Mr. C, Mrs. L and I went to a pleasant Pioneer meeting at Mr. Platts. Read some of my verses.
5. Mr. C, Mrs. L and I went to the hold home in Augusta. Walked to Town and got the last \$50 out of the Bank.
7. Rode with Frank to his work at Gills near Cherry Hill. Belle and I cleaned wheat for seed.
9. Wet day-Went to Mrs. Wilsons funeral. Eunice and Aggie Inglis came to visit.
12. Took Mrs. L to the Depot and her and Aggie Inglis left for Detroit. Drove up the cows from the old farm and milked them as usual. My son that finds so much fault with me came to supper (Frank).

September

21. Helped to dig and pick up Potatoes. Got a wagon box and a half.
23. Frank, Mrs. C, Mrs. L went to the Sate Fair. Robert, Belle and I dug all the potatoes.
24. Mary, Elizabeth and I went to the Fair and left the wee boy with Mrs. L.
28. Robert and I cut corn. Mrs. C and Mrs. L went to John McDougals. Frank's birthday.
29. Uncle William, Mrs. C, Wife and I went to burial of Mr. McCarthy. Another old farmer fades away. Friendly meeting at John Campbells. A good turn our of Augusta friends.

October

2. Cutting corn. Mr. Quirk paid his note \$42.36. Paid insurance of old and new homes \$5.96.
6. Went with Frank to Uncle Williams where he is working on the House of Stones. Heard of old Mr. Thompsons death.
8. Mr. McConachie, Mr. C and Mrs. L wnet to Andrew C Campbells. Mary, Belle and I picked apples. The crop is poor in quality-low in price.
12. Gathered apples alone in the fornoon. Mary, Belle and Robert helped in the afternoon.
16. Drove Frank to Mr. Cadeys. Took 6 barrels of apples to the Depot to ship to Sister Agnes. Got 6 barrels from Ainsworth.
19. Robert went with Frank to Cadeys. Went to the old home and picked a few grapes. Ainsworth offered \$1 a barrel for Russets. Took 8 barrels of Russets in Mr. C's barrels and got 10 more barrels.
27. Jerome brought his engine and we had good help thrashing. 116 bushels of wheat and 247 of oats on the hill farm and 200 at the old farm.
29. Robert Campbell of Ann ARbor paid \$33.00 interest and gave note for \$300. Mr. C, Senior gave his note for \$250. Robert went to Reeds sale. Ainsworth loaned me a packer.
31. Mr. C, Robert Ring and I repacked the apples. Drew up pumpkins.

November

1. Robert took Belle to her School at Mr. Rooks. Potatoes rotting. Frank raised a house for Everetts. T. Casey worked on the Hill farm.

November

4. Robert Ring and his boy picked up cider apples.
6. Robert drew 36 barrels apples to Ainsworth.
12. Robert and T. Casey drawing wood to Reynolds. Too wet to sow clover seed.
15. Robert took care of the wee boy while Elizabeth was gone. William Campbell brought fine quarter of beef.
18. Saved beef bones and salted beef. Drew pumpkins. Lots of showers.
21. Paid the Ferman for husking \$7.00, Ring \$4.50, the boy 75¢. Nearly 500 bushels of corn.
24. Drew cornstalks to the old barn and put the sheep in the field. James Woosley and the German husked. Put 15 bushels of apples in the cellar.
26. The two Marys, Mr. C and I went to pleasant Thanksgiving at William Campbells.
28. 492 bushels of yellow corn on the side hill field. 224 on the field below the bridge.
30. Went with Mr. C to Stoney Creek burying ground and then to John Campbells.

December

1. Two Marys went to old Mrs. Ridenours funeral. Wife and I went to Harvey James with honey and \$2.00 for helping th thrash. The road past the old Moon Farm where we first farmed in America "like the slough of despond".
3. Exchanged 4½ bushels of wheat for 140 pounds of flour and got wool twine. Mr. C, Wife and I went to Mrs. Gardeners to commiserate her 90th birthday. Good Dinner and party of friends. Rēad a few lines and A. Campbell and friends gave her a present.
5. Big change in the weather, heavy snow. Robert and I waded through the drifts and fed the sheep under the old barn and housed the young cattle.
9. Robert drew up a load of coal. The boys set up the coal stove. Heard of the great Vanderbilts death and old Mr. Fletchers sickness. Mrs. L had headache from coal stove.
12. Frank paid \$100 for wood sold to Reynolds. Went to Town to see about School Money and Taxes.

December

14. Frank and I went to old Mr. Fletchers funeral. Another brave strong pioneer laid under the cold snow.
15. Robert and Hones at the old farm. Paid J. Miller \$20.00 for an outhouse at the School.
19. Mary and I went to Town and paid \$19.22 for taxes.
23. Went to Town and found Anna and A Christmas box from Sister Agnes.
25. Wife and I went to the Episcopal Church. Very few worshippers. The minister read the sermon very fast. My old friend William Post getting very feeble. Oyster dinner for some.
28. Sold eggs at 20 cents. Received an invitation to our Roberts wedding on Saturday. Paid Robert \$40 all I owed him for working.
29. Robert got some furniture from Brother Robert who is able to help the needy. Loaned Mrs. L \$100 to pay \$90.00 interest to Robert on note she kept for him several years ago.
31. Mrs. L, Anna, Mary, Elizabeth, Belle, Frank and I went to our Roberts wedding. Great party, grand dinner and it was almost too much for me. What ails this head of mine? —

News from the Historian's Office:

It is always good to hear from Historical Society Members, especially those from out of town. We recently heard from Mrs. Helen Kirk Wright, who had noted her father's name (J.P. Kirk) in the article about "The Hiker" monument in the last issue of the "Gleanings". Mr. Kirk was a prominent lawyer and a member of the 31st Regiment that is commemorated on the statue.

Genealogy queries have recently been received from several States: Minnesota, Idaho, New Jersey and Washington asking for material on ancestors who once lived in the area. Due to the resources here, we are able to furnish information.

Two graduate classes from Eastern Michigan University Department of Preservation and History have been utilizing our material the past few weeks. The local history topics that have been chosen by some of the students include Hotels and Taverns; The Opera House, Depot Town, Early Mayors and the Railroads.

Does anyone have a picture of the Horse drawn car that once took passengers from N. Washington Street at Cross Street to the Michigan Central Railroad Depot? We would like to have one.

A book entitled Buildings of Ypsilanti written by and given by Denis Schmiedeke, a local Architect, is an account of the many types of Architecture in the City including homes, churches and business places. The book will become a part of a 70 volume series entitled Buildings of The United States.

This enormous undertaking is co-sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities, The Society of Architectural Historians and The Oxford Press.

Denis Milliman

DID YOU KNOW

That Ypsilanti has a Historical Cannon?
We do, and it is located in Prospect Park
on Prospect Street. According to references
in the Archives, it was given to the G.A.R.
(Grand Army of the Republic) which was an
active organization at that time.

The following article is quoted from the local
newspaper, October 30, 1954.

An old landmark on the east side is the large cannon that stands
in Prospect Park.

It was given to Carpenter Post G.A.R., on the advice of Mayor
Oliver E. Thompson, who had worked for two years to obtain it.
The weapon is an ancient coast defense gun from Fort McClery,
Kittery, Maine. Mayor Thompson found it there in 1900 and on
hearing it was to be replaced by a large gun, he applied for
it. It took two years of correspondence, because of government
red tape, to get it assigned to Ypsilanti. Then the War Depart-
ment decided not to give any more guns. However, Ordinance
Sgt. J.E. Wolf, of Fort McClery, managed to convince the depart-
ment that the cannon had been promised to Ypsilanti before that
order was made.

The cannon arrived here in 1892 after Station Agent D.M. Damon
secured a special transportation rate from the Michigan Central
Railroad.

City Engineer William Blanchard designed and made wood end frames
from which the present carriage was cast in iron.

The next problem was to get the cannon to the Park, then just
being developed. John Engel, a depot merchant who also die
teaming hitched an eight-horse team to the piece and carried
it to the foot of East Cross Street hill-where it stalled. A
huge city stonecrusher with tractor wheels came in handy as a
means of solving the difficulty.

The cannon has been a subject of cameras for over 50 years. It
weighs about 10 tons and has a 10 inch barrel.

Ypsilanti residents, especially those on the East side, have
long accepted it as a memorial to Mayor Oliver E. Thompson,
who worked so hard to obtain it.

It was the source of controversy during the scrap drive at the
time of World War II. Members of the salvage committee made
the mistake of suggesting the cannon be scrapped for the war
effort.

A storm of protest broke from irate residents who knew and
valued the history of the giant weapon.

The cannon is still held in high esteem. This spring, a group
of scouts gave it a fine new coat of black paint.

Submitted by the Ypsilanti City Historian
Doris Milliman

News from the Museum Gift Shop:

A sale on all Gift Shop items is now in progress through May 30th. All items are 10% off the ticketed price.

We continue our practice of NO DISCOUNT on Archive materials and books (such as the Atlas, Colburn, etc.)

Come in and take advantage of the sale. Some Easter items are available.

Support your Historical Society and Museum.

SCHOOL TOURS

The Museum offers tours for school and youth groups from October through May. May is our busiest time because the weather cooperates and the school groups can often combine their visit with a walking tour of parts of the historic district of Ypsilanti.

Reservations for these tours must be made two weeks in advance. Contact 483-1876 or 487-5595. We have found that children profit most when a visit to the Museum coincides with their study of Michigan History, early crafts, clothing, furniture, schools, etc. Last year (1986) over 400 Children of school age toured the Museum. We have found that third grade children and beyond seem to be the most ready for our Museum experience. We are happy to make the Museum available as a source of enrichment for the school curriculum.

Marge Gauntlett

Acquisitions

Mr. Denis Schmiedeke

Book written by Mr. Schmiedeke
on the Old Buildings of Ypsilanti

Mrs. John Barr

Jewelry Holder; pen nibs; Evening
bags; Carpet Sweeper; Hair orname

Flossie Bennett and
Hazel Stitt

Scrap books of the Ypsilanti Wome
Federation Club; Miscellaneous,
1945-48; 1949-50; 1955-59; 1968-6
1973-75.

Elnora Miller

Complete set-Service for 1 of
dishes from the Eastern Star.

Dean Smith

Picture of Cleary College and
faculty.

Miss Frances Warren^o

Pair of her Father's Baby Shoes
Several Historical Pictures

Calvin Peterson

Council Minutes 4/8/48

Della Flusche

Copy of Ypsilanti Galop

Updates from Board of Director's Meetings

Tuc Pointing has been completed in the basement. When additional electrical work is completed, painting will be done. Bill Ealy has spent several hours cleaning up in the basement.

Stairs to basement and upstairs (rear) are to be returned to their original structure for safer access. We are waiting for one more bid in order to present them to City Hall.

Arthur Howard reported Lewis House repairs, painting and cleaning has been completed after a fire that occurred this winter.

It was decided to paint the White Room and Display Room, then the first floor will be almost completely redone.

A Sesquicentennial flag was purchased for the Museum.

Dominio's Pizza of Ann Arbor has offered a 1948 Tucker and driver for the Heritage Festival Parade. It will be on display Friday and Sunday also at the Ypsilanti Historical Museum.

Discussion to be held on having a Cash raffle as we have had the last two years during Festival time, to be settled at next Board Meeting in April.

MEMORIES

The Ypsilanti Historical Society extends its sincere sympathy to Mr. & Mrs. William McCarthy in the recent loss of Ann's Mother, Catherine McDermott.

We are also remembering Eileen Harrison in the loss of her sister, Amy J. Harrison.

We were sorry to hear of the death of Mrs. Charles (Marion) Alban who was a member of the Society for many years.

Billie Zolkosky

Lewis House events in 1986

On June 2nd we had an attempted break-in damaging the outside grade entrance to the cellar. The prowler however did not enter the cellar as a second door which was locked prevented it. The cost of repairs was \$304.70. Our insurance covered all by the \$100.00 deductible.

A new furnace was installed during the fall by "Al Walter's Company" at a cost of \$2,065.00. This figure included a new flue liner in the North Chimney which should prevent condensation in the Chimney causing the plaster to fall off the wall in the upstairs bedroom.

On the night of September 10th, an arsonist set fire to the rear kitchen door causing considerable damage from fire, smoke and water. Had it not been for the fast action of our next door neighbors the fire could have been disastrous. Cost of repairs were \$7,589.67 of which we only paid the deductible of \$100.00. Aside from the inconvenience and extra labor of the Lewis House Trustees we perhaps gained from the fire as we have two new rear doors and door frames, cupboards cleaned and two coats of paint on the dining room and kitchen.

New curtain rods and curtains have been installed on the Kitchen window and door. Billie Wardell made the curtains.

Two groups used the facility during the year; however we will make an effort to interest more use of the house in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur J. Howard
Trustee and Reasurer

February 23, 1987

BUTTONS

The Batway Button collection is presently on display at the Museum. There are over 14,000 in the collection.

One of the earliest mentions of button making as a trade occurred during the middle 13th Century. Young men of legitimate birth and more than 17 years old could become apprenticed to a button maker providing he paid one tenth of his wages to the King. These rules were established by a Frenchman Etienne Boileare. They remained in effect until the time of the French Revolution.

Every substance known in the arts and trade is found in buttons. Match Books, Stamps, and pressed glass are are nothing in diversity compared to buttons.

Bone is the oldest material used. China or porcelain buttons were made in tremendous quantity in America until 1910. Few, if any, have been made since.

In the 1880's young girls were known to place shank buttons on a string and call it a "love string". But organized collecting as a hobby goes back only to 1938.

Button are measured by lines. Forty lines make one inch. All 1/8 to 3/8 buttons are dimintive, sometimes called tiny or trim.

Two thirds of all buttons made before 1820 were made for men.

At the time of the Civil War, the Army had buttons, but did not have uniforms.

The men wore regular suits but the usual buttons were replaced by brass buttons marked G A R.

Here are a few clues to help you classify buttons:

BALL: Any spherical button especially of smooth glass.

BAROQUE: 18th Century

PAPERWEIGHT TYPE: Transparent plastic resembling paperweight.

JET: Closely related to coal.

GUTTA PERCHA: Hard rubber, black and shiny.

TOLE: Painted tin originated in Wales in 1600.

A button with a 4 way metal shank tells you it was made in Europe.

ORAL HISTORY

Thanks to the installation of special quarters in the Museum basement, progress is being made in proper indexing and filing of the tape recordings which recount interesting events in the lives of Ypsilanti residents.

Following the advice of staff members at the Michigan Historical Collection in the Bentley building of the University of Michigan North Campus, the tapes are being preserved in wooden, rather than metal files. The audio industry is still too young to determine the life of tapes but, through arrangements with the Bentley Staff and with the Audio Visual Department at Eastern Michigan University, duplicates of most of the tapes have been made. The originals are being preserved but with restricted use.

Indexing requires that nearly all have to be played and notations made as to the contents so that researchers may readily find desired material. The indexing at this time is about half done and new tapes are being added to the 60 already available.

The index cards are kept in the archives area for convenient reference.

There are two recorders available and suggestions as to additional persons to be interviewed are always welcome.

Arrangement can also be made for families to obtain copies of the tapes.

Eileen Harrison
Chairman of Oral History

**Ypsilanti's Heritage Festival
On the Way Again**

August 21,22 and 23rd brings all the fun, color and excitement of Ypsilanti's yesteryear Festival back to Depot Town and Riverside Park.

Colorful flags, tents, artists and craftsmen will line the Huron River in the park. The Franzen Bros., old time circus will thrill all comers in Frog Island Park.

Loads of activities like a horse-shoe pitching contest, Marble Tournament, a Children's Talent contest, Antique costume fashion show and free entertainment on the dock in Riverside Park are planned for fair-goers.

The Wallenda's high wire act will be a stellar attraction. The Northwest Territories Association will be encamped at the south end of Riverside park for all who delight in creative anachronism.

Parades, battles, fife and drum groups, country music, jazz, quilts, antique steam and gas engines, food-all this and more on tap for our Sesquicentennial Celebration.

Invite everyone home for Michigan's 150th Birthday.

Contact Ypsilanti Visitor's and Convention Bureau for brochures and schedules 482-4920.



News from the Archives Office:

Spring is here as I look out the window, the sun is shining. flowers are blooming, herb garden is coming up but oh, I must get back to work.

We are looking for suggestions on ideas for a float for the 4th of July parade, (workers too). I am sure some of you would enjoy putting your energy into building one. We would keep it in tact and use it in the Festival Parade in August also. So think about it and give me a call at the office and I shall get the information and your name to the proper chairman for follow-up.

DUES INFORMATION

Dues are due January 1st of each year.
They are as follows:

Single	\$3.00	Business	\$50.00
Family	\$5.00	Life Member	\$100.00

Where else can you get a bargain like this?

If you are not a member and would be interested in joining fill out the bottom of this sheet and mail it to the Office or stop by the Office. Remember, Office hours-9:00 A.M.-12:00 Noon, Monday through Friday.

Billie Zolkosky

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Single	\$3.00	Business	\$50.00
Family	\$5.00	Life Member	\$100.00
Contributing	\$10.00		

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Checks payable to Ypsilanti Historical Society
220 North Huron Street
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Would you enjoy working at the Museum? Yes

The Society is a non-profit organization.

TO: Newsletter, Ypsilanti Historical Society
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

FROM: Washtenaw County Historical Society
c/o Ellen Prosser, 1831 Alhambra, Ann Arbor, MI 48103

COPY for YOUR NEWSLETTER

ALIENS AND SCOUNDRELS....Scandal--Intrigue--Comedy--History!

A new Michigan historical play, Aliens and Scoundrels by Ellen Prosser, will be produced in Ann Arbor June 3 through 6 at Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre in the Michigan League on the campus of the University of Michigan. Washtenaw County Historical Society sponsors the production as a sesquicentennial treat and invites historical groups to join the fun.

The comedy's central figure is the "boy governor" of Michigan, Stevens T. Mason, who at 19 was appointed Secretary of the Territory of Michigan. To watch him struggle to make Michigan a state is to be privy to the antics of seasoned frontier politicians, and Prosser treats them all with insightful humor. Prosser, after 3½ years of research, presents a play that laughs respectfully at our Michigan forebears. What could be more fun than the Toledo War in which no one gets hurt but so much gets changed?

Ms. Prosser holds an M.A. in Theatre from the University of Michigan and won a John Gassner Memorial Playwriting Award from the New England Theatre Conference. Aliens is directed by Ala Faik, Ph.D., Theatre, the U. of M. The set is designed by Alan Billings, head of scenic design at the U. of M. The production is mounted with grant funds from the Michigan Council for the Arts and the cooperation of the "Celebration '87" Sesquicentennial Events Committee of The University of Michigan and the Ann Arbor Civic Theatre.

Theatre: The Lydia Mendelssohn, Michigan League, University of Michigan
200 Fletcher at West Washington.

Group discount, \$1/ticket, 20 or more. Handicap access.
Entire house, same price. Specify main floor or balcony.
Evening prices: June 3, 4: \$8; June 5, 6, \$9. Sat. Matinee, \$7.

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2200 Fuller Road, Apt. 1202B, Ann Arbor, MI 48105

[--END--]

Aliens and Scoundrels

- comedy -

by Ellen Prosser

FROM THE PLAY —

"I am the hunter and Lucas the fox, yet he chases me."--Stevens T. (Tom) Mason, Michigan
 "I love canals—the digging, water, horses—the tolls."--Robert Lucas, Ohio Governor
 "We are fast approaching A HORRID BORDER WAR!"--Major Benjamin Franklin Stickney, Toledo

"If you want to be Governor...settle the boundary, get rid of the Indians, and come into the Union with a slave state...." --Andrew Jackson, President, to Mason

SHHHhhh...it's scandal!
 ...it's intrigue!
 ...it's comedy!
 ...IT'S HISTORY!

Can Tom, 19, rash would-be Governor, outsmart seasoned politicians? Ohio's Governor Lucas would rewrite history to feed his own ambition. Land speculator Stickney would redraw a boundary to promote his greedy dream. Andy Jackson and Lewis Cass would entertain the Indians.

HORRENDOUS plot!
 Mason vs. Stickney and Lucas
 Detroit--Capitol of Michigan
 US Treasury with surplus
 Ohio/Michigan war on the boundary

A SESQUICENTENNIAL TREAT....

Directed by Ala Faik, Ph.D., Theatre, University of Michigan

Scenic Design - Alan Billings, Head, Scenic Design, Theatre Dept., University of Michigan
 Costume Design - Kharia Al-Attar, M.A., Theatre, Costume, University of Michigan
 Lighting Design - Douglas Mueller, M.F.A., Theatre, Lighting (May 1987), U. of Michigan

-- About the Playwright --

Ellen Prosser researched in Michigan and Ohio for 3½ years before writing Aliens and Scoundrels. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, Ms. Prosser has lived in Michigan since 1953 and has an M.A., Theatre, University of Michigan. Her play, She Brought Me Violets, won a John Gassner Award from the New England Theatre Conference, was produced in Ann Arbor in 1982. Ms. Prosser received a Jules and Avery Hopwood Award while attending U. of M.

ALIENS AND SCOUNDRELS - A Sesquicentennial Celebration of Michigan History

Produced by the Washtenaw County Historical Society. With support of the Michigan Council for the Arts. Co-sponsored by The University of Michigan Celebration '87 Committee with funding from the Michigan Council of the Humanities. With cooperation of Ann Arbor Civic Theatre.

June 3-6, 1987

Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, Ann Arbor

For tickets, fill out this coupon. Mail with check and stamped self-addressed envelope to Pauline Walters, Washtenaw County Historical Society, 2200 Fuller Rd., Apt. #1202B, Ann Arbor, MI 48105.

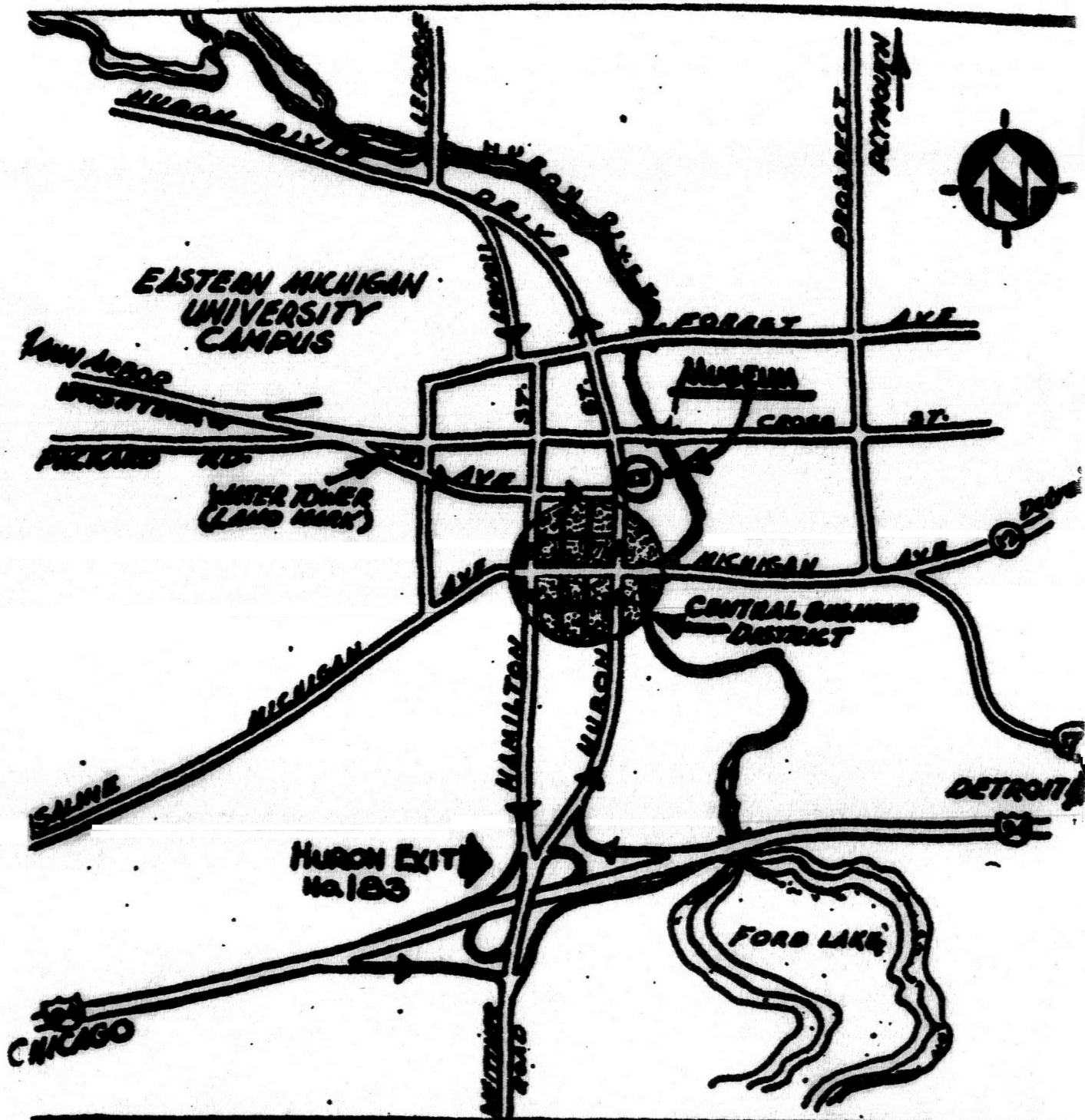
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	No.	Balc/Main Fl.	Price	Totals
Wed., June 3, 8 pm	_____	_____	\$8.00	_____
Thurs., June 4, 8 pm	_____	_____	\$8.00	_____
Fri., June 5, 8 pm	_____	_____	\$9.00	_____
Sat., June 6, 2 pm	_____	_____	\$7.00	_____
Sat., June 6, 8 pm	_____	_____	\$9.00	_____
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