
YPSILANTI GLEANINGS

PAST SCENES and OLD TIMES

YPSILANTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY PUBLICATION

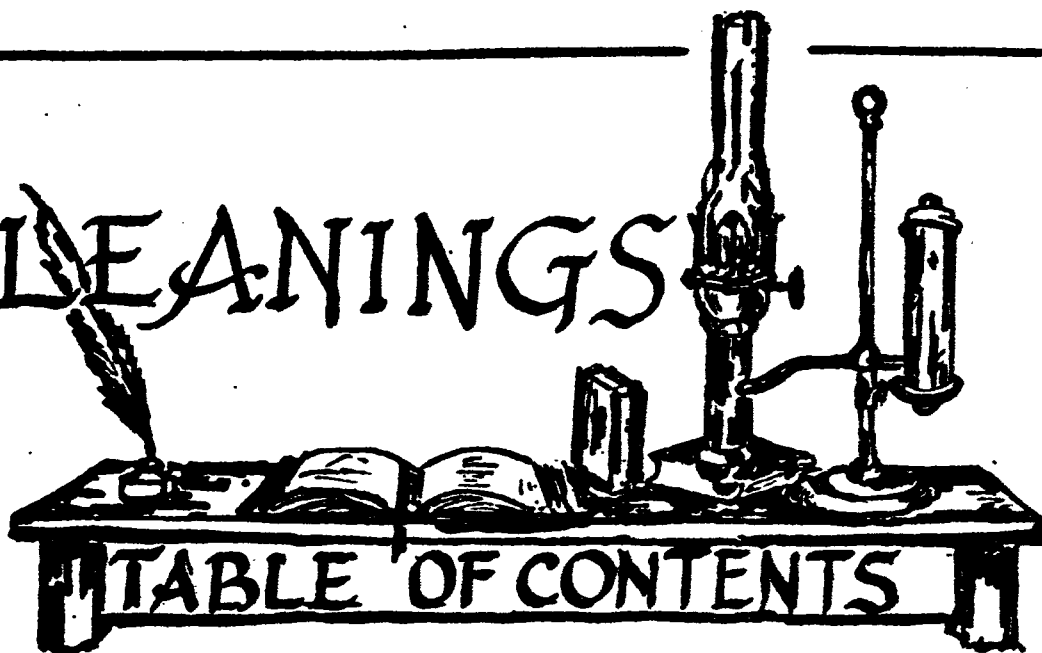
No. 58

July 1988



Ypsilanti Historical Museum
• 220 N. Huron St.

GLEANINGS



No. 58

July 1988

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

WASHTENAW COUNTY

An Illustrated History
By Ruth Bordin

This book was presented to the Archives Collection and we urge you to come and look at it.

The Book has an easily read narrative and is profusely illustrated with over 200 illustrations that were carefully selected by the author. Many are from the Ypsilanti area. The narrative tells the story of the people and the events that have changed Washtenaw County from an agricultural Community into a renowned Educational and Technical Center and some of the people who made the difference are mentioned.

The author, Ruth Bordin has long been associated with Michigan History and has served as Assistant Curator of Michigan Historical Collections at the University of Michigan and as a Lecturer at Eastern Michigan University.

From the Book Jacket:

Much more than a collection of vignettes or reminiscences, Washtenaw County is a rich chronicle of a 160 years of growth and change- A compact yet comprehensive history of an American Community.

Washtenaw County

AN ILLUSTRATED
HISTORY BY RUTH BORDIN



THE GUIDES LUNCHEON

The Museum's Administration Committee assisted by the Board Members of the Ypsilanti Historical Society entertained the Museum Guides with a Luncheon and a program at the Ladies' Literary Clubhouse, June 15, 1988.

Mrs. Herbert Cornish asked the Blessing before the guests partook of the food on the well filled buffet table. The theme for the table decorations was Ypsilanti. Various pieces of Pottery from the Sales Case were used to hold flowers and vines. Mrs. David Gauntlett was in charge of the program at which time the Society President, Mr. LaVerne Howard welcomed the guests and introduced the members of the Board and Miss Doris Milliman gave a welcome for the Administration Committee and introduced the members.

Mrs. Cornish then introduced Mrs. Marie Cimerelli who entertained the group by singing selections from popular operettas. She was ably accompanied by Mrs. Jean Schneider.

Besides those members of the Administration Committee mentioned above, the following are also members who planned the Luncheon and decorated the tables: Mrs. Newton Davis, Mrs. Don Wardell, Mrs. LaVerne Howard, Mrs. William McCarthy, Mrs. Robert Kerr, Mrs. Arthur Howard and Miss Eileen Harrison.

Doris Milliman
Chairman Administration Committee



Acquisitions

Mr. & Mrs. Don Smith

1 Wooden Butter Bowl, 1 meat or Vegetable chopper.
 1 Bible belonged to Wm. & Mary Smith
 Books: 1 Primer for children
 2 children's books.
 1 Don W. Smith Family record c191
 1 Footed Compote dish.

Anonymous

1 Shell Shaped Metal Soap Dish
 Celluloid Dresser Tray
 Small box of buttons
 Book "Good Cheer" 1890
 Dress-Decorated
 Apron-Decorated
 1 Linen Dresser Scarf
 1 Wood Powder Box

Marcia McDonald

Bottle Black Stove Polish

Mrs. Bernard Hughes

Atlas

Miss Frances Lister

2 old fashioned Ceramic Cate

Miss Doris Milliman

First Methodist Church Plate

Phoebe Miller Estate

Silver Cup; Ivory Fan; Mother Goose Stories with Silhouettes

Duance Crittenden

3 Framed Collections of Coquina Shells

Leah Sprague

Framed Silk Screened Picture

Mrs & Mrs. Don Smith

1 Bible (Cottage)

Miss Mary Liskow

Old fashioned Electric Heater c1917

Ernest Griffin

Bottle from Rogers, Weinman & Matthews

Dean Cannon

3 Record Books 1886-87 & 1874

Mrs. Lucille Nied

4 Ypsi-Dixits

Acquisitions

Norma Jean Anderson

Old Fashioned Hole Punch
Wood Plane
Old Fashioned Ice Skates

Martha Hutson

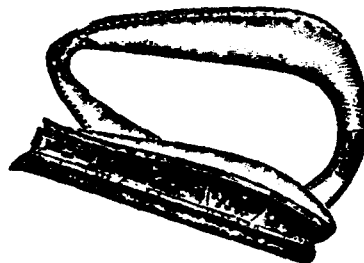
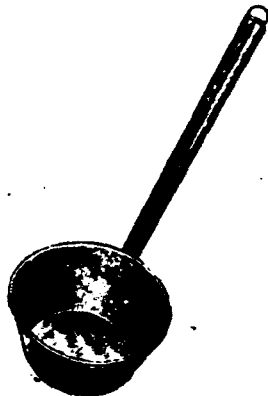
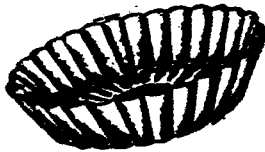
4 cans assorted powder
1 tin rouge

Mrs. Shirley Slotka

Twig of Bayberry

Mrs. Alice Jackson

2 blue dresses c1912(for twins)
2 Parasols c1920
1 Blk Parasol c 1890
1 Petticoat with Pink Lace
1 Slip with crochet
3 Pieces Handiwork



HISTORICAL MARKER

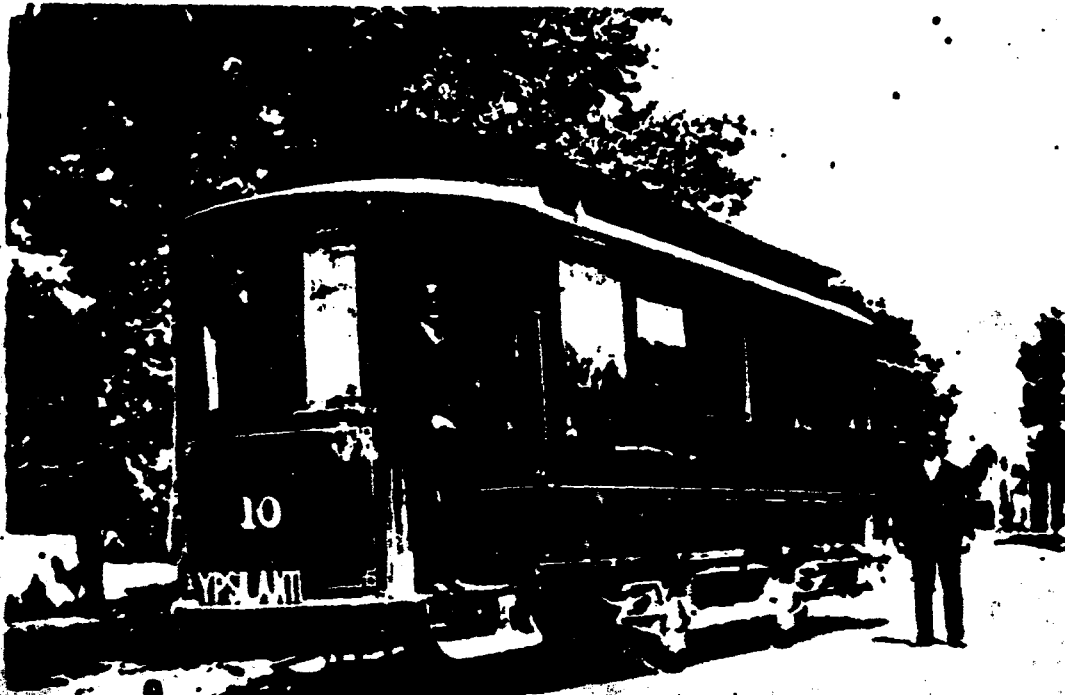
The Marker on the lawn of 220 North Huron Street is one of those chosen by the Michigan Historical Commission and was erected at its present site by the Ypsilanti Rotary Club.

The Marker, which commemorates Michigan's Interurbans, was originally dedicated May 9, 1958 as a feature of Ypsilanti's observance of Heritage Day during Michigan Week. It tells the history of Michigan's Interurbans and includes a large full colored map of Main Interurban lines in the State.

The ceremony was held at Gilbert Park (on the West Side of Park Street at Michigan Avenue) on the route of Michigan's First Interurban, The Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti. The "Ypsi-Ann" as it was called, was organized in 1890. Tracks were laid from downtown Ypsilanti to the City Limits of Ann Arbor. In December, 1890 the Line began operating using a Porter Steam Engine until 1896 when electric power was adopted.

The Line was very popular for cars ran every 90 minutes and the fare was only 10 cents one way. Before long the line extended East to Detroit and West to Jackson, and later there was a network of Inter City Railways throughout Southern Michigan.

The Automobile and Bus ended the life of the Interurban and in the Fall of 1929, the cars on the "Ypsi-Ann" stopped running. Others were forced out of business about the same time.



From the Diary of William Lambie. Mr.Lambie was the Grandfather of Foster L. Fletcher.
1889

January

1. A grand winter morning- Mr. & Mrs. Fletcher and Willie, Frank, Belle, Mrs. L and I went to the Depot to bid Anna goodbye as she left for Elkhart.
R Frank, Leah, Robert, Hattie, the two Marys and I went to Azros for dinner- a fine party of friends to rejoice in the good things of this present life.
2. Belle came home faint and weary, with cruelty and oppression to a good home to receive kindness for cruelty.
4. Mrs. L, Belle and I went up and told the Scotney Family Belle would not be a slave to them anymore the way they used her seemed to me to be slow murder. Robert went with two wagons and brought home her furniture. I think it will do more good to Belle than all the medicine in Ypsilanti.
5. Mild day, damp and misty. Mrs. L over at Azros. Went to Town in the rain. Robert gave me paper to read and was glad we got Belle out of the house of bondage.
6. Elizabeth's Birthday. Damp and mky today again. A Sermon on prayer, Short dark day.
7. Dark morning. Belle got her ten sheep and the Wagon back to Roberts. Mrs. L went Azro. Robert told us of Stephen Voorhee's death.
8. William Campbell came, Mary and I went to Town, roads very muddy. Talked with William and A Campbell regarding family affairs.
9. Dark wet morning. Frank went to the Insurance meeting. Robert and I went to Stephen Voorhees funeral, rain, snow, mud and roaring blasts.
- 10 High Winds in the night- Houses and the bridge over Niagara blown down.
- 11 Paid May Dashner \$28 for teaching- mild day- eggs down to 16¢.
- 12 Bohn Campbell and Anna came. John Miller's farm advertised to be sold under mortgage in the Sentinel.
- 14 Dark morning, Wife and I called on Mrs. Casey and then drove down to Roberts. Mary took Belle over to Azros.
- 15 Twenty above zero. Willie came walking past the window. Mrs. F and Belle met wife and went to Town.
A dark man taking too much of Robert's wood.

Lambie Dkary 1889

January

16. Wet in forenoon, dark and damp and a stormy night.
17. Some blue sky and cool breezes - went with Robert to the old home. Mrs. L, Mary and Willie went to Mrs. Stephensens.
18. Went to the old home with Robert and sawy him chopping the Willows I planted many years ago.
19. Sent three döllars to pay for the Scottish American. Chilly day.
20. Th two Marys and I went to Church and back in a snowstorm.
21. More snow. Dipped this pen in water. Mrs. L went with Azro, Elizabeth and Willie. The coldest morning this winter 4 above zero. Beautiful sunshine on a pure white world.
23. Fine morning-Mrs. L and Willie arrived before breakfast. Read of the death of Lieutenant Gov. McDaniles and others on the railroad. Mrs. L went to Uncle Williams. Received a good letter from Mrs. Brown in Glasgow. Brother Robert called-was very kindly.
25. Robert and I walked in the old woods. Burn's Birthday. Light frost and sunshine. Paid Mr. Woodruff one dollar for the Sentinel. Belle went to Ann Arbor.
27. Went to Church in a snowstorm, The two Marys, Mrs. F and Willie and I came home in a kind of blizzard. A Chicago Minister preached
28. Tramping among the pure snow, feeding the hosse and hens. 14 above zero, cloudy and damp. Mary went with Uncle William.
30. The white cow gives no milk. Azro and Robert getting ice.
31. Mild above freezing-Went with Frank to Fletchers after breakfast. Mrs. L and I went to the old home. Hattie was alone and we brought up Leah till her mother came home.

February

1. Up early to feed Azro's horses-Mild, dull and cloudy. Frank working for E. Fletcher.
2. Up early again to feed Azro's horses. Robert helping Azro to get ice, we went to Town.
3. At Church-The steeple is off the Church.
4. Mrs. L and I went to Luises Childs funeral. Paid William Scotney \$22.75 for wood for the School.

Lambie Diary - 1889

February

5. Rain in the night and bitter blasts in the morning-8 above zero. Mary went down to Roberts. Carried the clothes to Rings. Azro Came
6. Coldest yet-10 below zero at sunrise. Robert helping Azro cut ice on his pond. Brother Robert brought me some newspapers.
15. Wife and I went to Town and the Chicken Show in the Moorman Block-- Plenty of crowing and big fowls in variety.
20. The most snow this winter-Mothers 92nd birthday. Went to see her. The Detroit River full of floating ice. The Boat went through it. Called on Brother James. He seems to prosper. Found Mother confine to her bed with her mind unclouded, A grand pleasant time with her and sisters Mary and Catherine.
22. Mr & Mrs, William Campbell and Sarah came. Went to William Watling funeral.
26. Got a letter from Mc. McConachie. Jones, the old colored man who worked for us so long was buried yesterday. Elder Thompson who came to see us in 1839 with Elder Post was buried today. Got 12 photos of Wife and I for \$2. from Cooper.
27. Willie prevailed on Mrs. L to go home with him. Robert sold a load of wheat to Deuble from the old farm for 97 cents per bushel. He only got 93 cents on account of so much Rye in it.

March

1. The Catholics built a Cross on the Vault across the way. Reed brought a load of coal.
2. Robert paid \$35 for the wheat that grew on the old farm and for what grew here. Had a pleasant visit with Brother Robert and talked about buying a home for Mother and Sisters. Wrote to Brother Frank about the plan.
4. Went to the old home and found Robert had gone. Went to see Knapp.
5. Mrs. L stayed over night with Hattie and sent for Dr. Pattison in the morning and there was a babe born when Robert was away.
6. Robert came back in the morning. Mrs. L and I went to see the Babe.
7. Did not sleep well on account of Robert being so discontented and so easily deceived by worthless advertisements. Counted the hens and there are about 96.
8. Wife and I went to Detroit with a note of over \$1,000.00. Brother Frank in Detroit owed Brother Robert hoping he would pay it and grant us the pleasure of buying a home for Sisters Mary and Catherine for taking care of Mother in her old age. We did not succeed but had a pleasant friendly meeting and a good promise. Next we had a mutual admiration meeting with Sister Agnes and daughters.

Lambie Diary - 1889

March

13. Wife and I went to Roberts and had a grand walk in the woods that have waved over us so long ago. Gane's(?) house burned while he was working for Robert.
Bought a bushel of Timothy seed from Ainsworth.
25. Mrs. L went with Azro. Got 49 eggs. Robert and I drew manure from his barn and put it on the garden.
Brother Robert urged me to write Brother Frank to pay the \$1,000. note. Got seed from Moule.
28. Bleak blasts and clouds of dust as three teams scraped the Catholic grounds. Went to the old home and was sorry some cows broke the seeder.
29. A driving snow storm-Glad of any moisture after so much dust.
John Bright is dead.
31. Snow on the ground, cold wet splashing mud when we went to Church.
The Minister at the closing of the Service thought it his duty to resign.

April

1. More snow, Wild Geese flying toward Caseys. Frank and Robert went to vote in Town. 51 eggs.
4. Went to Detroit and Windsor. Mother failing but her and our sister rejoiced to learn of Robert's kindness in providing money to buy the house they live in for a home.
5. John Miller farm sold under mortgage. William Scotney took away Belle and her furniture and I am sad and weary. Silence is the language of sorrow.
Sowed Peas, Cabbage and radish.
10. Went with Frank where he frames a barn for Seamor.
11. Sowed beets and onion seed-Helped Robert to burn Willows.
Azro brought 2 bushels of Burbank Potatoes and 1 of Maine.
15. My Birthday. 18 years in Scotland and 50 in America. The 18 in Scotland seems like the greater part of my life. We learn what life is the first 20 years and then one year year is like a repetition of the ones that are past.
16. Got a letter from Cousins in Scotland. Walked with Robert over the old farm.
17. Helped Robert get 3 loads of stove wood. Planted potatoes-Like a summer day.

Lambie Diary - 1889

April

24. Will Evans sowing plaster. Thompson charged me \$6.00 for plaster Ressler got 24 dozen eggs fro \$2.90. Robert took away the white cow that broke the fences and bothered me so much. Robert robbed the field by the road with LEah beside him.
26. Brother Robert siad he had been in Detroit and bought Mother's home for her and sisters. Said he paid \$9,250.00 to Mrs. Fergus for the home.
30. Great meetings in all the States to celebrate Washington's Inauguration 100 years ago. Willie Fletcher's Birthday.

May

6. Hens break the eggs and leave the nest. Chicken lice very bad. Sold 28 dozen eggs to Wreshler(?) \$3.08.
9. Frank gave checks for \$150.00. The boys carried out the coal stove. Drove with Frank to Warners and then to Albans for 4 bushels of seed corn.
11. The City of Paris sailed the Atlantic in less than 6 days. At last a welcome shower.
19. Mr. Sill preached at Church. Azro's horse ran away, Elizabeth fell out of the Buggy but escaped being hurt. Mrs. L and I took dinner with H. Taylor-he was quiet and dejected.
22. Mary's Birthday. Mary, Hattie, Leah and the Babe went to Town but it was too cold for me even with two coats.
25. Robert and Azro built a pen to wash the sheep at Martins corner. Cold-4 above freezing. Too cold to wash sheep.

June

1. The two Marys and I went to a Church meeting. Heard sad news about a great flood in Pennsylvania.
5. Mrs. L and I drove to Pittsfield and spent a happy day with the Andree Campbells to make life a little better.
10. Fifty years since we came to Ypsilanti. James and I went to Royal Oak to celebrate the event-was with Mother an hour after. A fine visit with Mr. & Mrs. Todd. Called on Mr. & Mrs. John Lambie. Robert washed his sheep.
22. VanNotten and Fox shored the sheep-the wool looked well.
24. The two Marys went to the Children's Day at the Normal. Mrs. L called on old Mrs. Casey in what seemed like the last illness.

Lambie Diary - 1889

June

25. Got lime insect powder and sulphur to fight the vile hen lice. Some peas ready to eat.
27. Robert and Will repaired the chain pump-Norton told us of old Mrs. Caseys death. Frank and Fox brought up Anna's trunk-Whittetsay would only pay 27 for the wool.
29. Robert and family, Wife and I went to old Mrs. Casey's funeral. The old neighbors passing away bringing us near to the silent land

July

1. Robert, Will and I put Paris Green on the potatoes. Went to Town to get Anna but she did not come. Green Peas for dinner. The Robins picking our cherries.
5. Helped Robert make hay where I raked in the Hayday of my life. Murry and Chidester looked at the wool but would not give quite 30 cents.
7. Heard of the good Mrs. Green's death and next day Mrs. L and I went to the funeral. Anna arrived at the Depot last night after waiting all week for her.
10. Robert and Will got the reaper in order. Went with Robert to Mr. Conklins to see about reaping, found the old farmer over three score pitching hay.
11. Robert reaped about 14 acres of wheat for Wenzler.
13. Robert reaped the 8 acre field by Nortons corner in 4 or 5 hours where it took me 3 or 4 days to cradle and bind in my younger days
15. Robert reaping for Mr. Conklin- Will Cradling around the stumps. Girls and Willie picking cherries.
17. Frank and I went to see the new Water Works yesterday. Robert reaped the field by George Allens and part of the field west of the barn.
20. Helped mow away wheat in the old barn and was so faint and weary I could hardly walk home.
22. A great Catholic funeral across the way. Set up some Wheat. Robert harvesting for G. Voorhees. Hattie picked up cherries and the Babe laughed and rolled on the floor.
25. The boys sold the wool to Chister 278 lbs-46 fleeces at 28¢ per lb-\$77.84-Paid Robert \$28.00 on the Wool. Got in 3 small loads of hay from the Orchard. Paid VanAtten \$2.50 for Mowing. Mrs. Fletcher, Willie and Mary visiting at Roberts.

Lambie Diary - 1889

July

27. Wife had to get dinner for Anna and Hattie's Mother. Robert brought back one of his black horses. Wrote lines about Harvest.

August

1. Celebrated the colored man's day by mowing thistles and nettles on the road side. Robert reaped at B. Voorhees.
2. MR. & Mrs. Fletcher, Azro's father, Anna and I went to Detroit and had a fine sail on Lake St. Clair and spent pleasant afternoon with Mother and sisters.
7. Robert reaped for Mr. Conklin and got back at night and began his own.
12. Cleaned out the hen house. Will drew out manure. Had boiled corn for dinner.
14. Mrs. L and I went with an Excursion to Detroit and on the boat to the Ship Canal at Lake St. Clair. Called on Mother and wife sang the grand Hymn 'Jesus is Mine' to Mother and it seemed to thrill her with pleasure.
19. Mrs. L and I went to Uncle Williams and then had dinner at Robert CAMPbells, Ann Arbor. A pleasant evening and just in time to bid goodbye to Walter and Lizzie as they were leaving for New England.
22. Will plowed for Wheat--spread some manure. Mr. & Mrs. Cowell called, telling of seeing London, Paris and calling on the Hamiltons of Glasgow.
23. Mrs. Loveridge gave Mrs. L and I a ride in her carriage to Brother Roberts and round by the Normal. The girls went to Azros for supper and got ice cream--said to be "awful good".
29. Bought two plow points for Robert. Anna packing up her goods.
30. Belle and I went to the Depot with Anna. Got her trunk checked and saw her off. Brother Robert and I drove to the old farm to see about the horse pasture.

September

2. Went to the School meeting and resigned keeping the School money after being in office since 1870. Mr. LaFurge takes my place.
4. Mrs. L and I went to Pioneer meeting in Ann Arbor. Mr. Lay read of the death of 85 Pioneers during the last year--The election of Officers was over before noon but no dinner until 2 o'clock. Mr. Finley, Mrs. Pearce and Captain Allen spoke well about early times. Called on Uncle William and Robert Campbell on our way home.

Lambie Diary - 1889

September

7. Robert sold all his beans to Ainsworth. Mary went to Azros to keep feeding the Thrashers.
9. State Fair at Lansing, Brought Brother Robert's horse and put him in son Robert's pasture.
16. Dug potatoes and put them in the cellar. Went to Church Meeting where they decided to give a call to Mr. Morey of Marshall. Harvie brought his Engine before night. He finished thrashing next day before noon and went to Roberts. About 90 bushels of wheat and over 200 bushels of Oats at Roberts. The wheat light and too much chaff for seed.
21. Frank the carpenter and the scholars went to the Exposition and brought a good report.
23. Went with a great crowd to the DEtroit Exposition-A grand affair, The best I ever saw wither in Europe or America. Pleasant time with Mother and sistern and stayed over night there.
25. Paid Insley L&Furge all the school money \$265.00. Borrowed \$100.00 from FRank.
26. Mrs. L and I went to the Ypsilanti Fair-A good affair after the Exposition. Capt Allen and G. McDougal had a tussle about Free Trade.
28. Robert and famdly wnet to Mrs. Crippens funeral in Dixboro.

October

1. Paid Mr. Sherwood \$7.38 Insurance. Wrote lines about the Expositi and went to the old home and took dinner with Jeon CAMPbell and wife. Mused over gRandfather's grave and then called on Mrs. Gardener.
4. Azro's Arthur Union(former slave) brought a ladder and picked apples. A good crop and good market. Some of the spies were bountifully.
8. L. CAsey got the sotve put up in the kitchen. Azro's men pick- ing apples with me.
10. Thomas Casey and family and a drove of sheep started for Knepps. Robert and Azro helped so no apples picked. Mr. Arnold wanted Frank to rebuild his barn.
11. Helped Azro and men fill about 40 barrells of apples. Robert could get no barrells and took a load of apples in the wagon box.
14. Robert drew two big loads of cider apples to the Hillsdale Depot Mary and I gathered for home use and Anna and Sister Agnes. O my back!!!

Lambie Diary - 1889

October

19. Wrote a note to R. Campbell, Ann Arbor and Day Campbell at Fort Scott.
22. Azro heading more barrells- Wfie and Mrs. Campbell arranging about a dinner at A. Campbell's. More cider apples to Town.
24. Robert took apples to Ainsworth. Robert brought two loads of wood and helped set up the coal stove. Azro took 2 barrells for Agnes and 2 for Anna.
26. The two Marys and I, Azro and family drove up and had dinner at Uncle Andrews- A surprise party for the thirtieth anniversary of their wedding. A very pleasant time. R. Campbell paid \$22.00 interest.
28. Dug beets and heaked corn-not well- a humming in my head.
31. Was surprised to hear of the death of our brave industrious farmer friend Mr. C. Conklin. Brought beef from Azro for 5¢ and better than from the butcher at 8¢.
Lawyer Joslin and Henry Backus gone over the Mystic River.

November

2. Buried old friend C.N. Conklin. Met him 30 years ago at Church and now we meet no more.
6. Robert and I bought a búck from G. Voorhees and put him with the sheep. Paid \$2.00.
Mrs.L and I went to our good friends funeral, the last of John Geddes.
7. The Moon set beautiful in the silvery light of the morning and the sun rose still more beautiful in the golden glory of the dawn. Helped Robert's boys to load corn.
13. Robert, Hattie, Leah, Minny and Mrs. R and I drove to the Depot and saw and heard the bands at the opening at Cleary College. Heard E.P. Allen's address.
15. Received a note of thanks from Oliver Wendell Homes for lines on his Birthday at four score.
Got all the apples in the cellar.
16. Forty years since we were married, a great party, friends brought dinner with them and we all enjoyed a festive day. There were two tables of royal dainties for old and young, Presents of silver and a wardrobe. Songs and speeches. About all that earth can give.
18. Wet morning. Mr. & Mrs Fletcher went to Uncle William's and Ann Arbor. Frank brought his tool chest home. Mrs. L and I went to the old home and took dinner with Robert.

Lambie Diary - 1889

November

21. went to Town and got a grist. Azro bought a buggy.
23. Got 7 lbs of Oatmeal and four lbs of crackers in Miller's new Grocery for 50 cents, Oiled the horse harness in the sunshine.
26. Read of the sad death of William G. Brownlee. Frank hunting rabbits.
28. Thanksgiving, went to Azro's for dinner. Need ice and snow... Frank and his carpenter friends got 12 rabbits.

December

1. Robert, Azro and their younes at dinner. Belle and Anna only ones absent.
2. Great storm and some electric lights blown down. Storm on the Great Lakes.
3. Went to Mr. & Mrs. Foots Golden Wedding. There seemed to be more interest in eating rich cake than in Social friendship.
4. Went with a fine lot of friends to celebrate old Mrs. Gardener's 94th Birthday. A grand dinner, warm hearted friendship.
9. Dark day, Pleasant visit with B. Voorhees, Mrs. L and Mrs. F quilted.
11. Bright sunshine-muddy roads-Drew up some wood in the buggy. Robert and August went to buy turkeys.
18. Mrs. L, Mrs. F, Mary and Willie went to the Church Fair. Mrs. Smith Inglis' boy died same day her father died years ago.
20. Went to Roberts and saw his 50 turkeys for Detroit market. Paid our Taxes \$20.00. Robert's \$2.12.
23. Robert plunging in the mud with Turkeys for Detroit.
24. Received Christmas present from Sister Agnes. Anna arrived from Elkhart.
25. Christmas. Stephen, Robert, Azro and all the little ones came a grand day.
28. Mild weather. Sawed some wood. Hens beginning to lay.

TRIBUTE TO THE MICHIGAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION

On May 26, 1988 the 75th Anniversary of the Michigan Historical Commission was held at the Radisson Hotel in Lansing. Governor Woodbridge N. Ferris held the first meeting in his office on May 28, 1913,

The Commission was charged with Administering the Department of History and Archives and during its early years it focused on the Michigan Historical Museum, The State Archives and Historical Publications.

In 1948 the Commission established the Centennial Farm Program and in 1955 it created the State Register of Historical Sites and the Michigan Historical Marker Program.

The Commission continues to have a strong State History Program that covers thousands of State and Local Archival Records, Museum Artifacts, State Register Sites, 6000 Centennial Farms, 12,500 Archaeological Sites, 1100 Historical Markers and 35,000 Michigan History Subscribers.

The Commission is looking forward to the opening of the Michigan Library and Historical Center this Fall in Lansing.

It was my privilege to attend this meeting where speakers such as The Honorable John B. Swainson, The Honorable Richard H. Austin, Secretary of State and Dr. Martha M. Bigelow, Director of the History Bureau were heard.

It is this Michigan Historical Commission that has been responsible for several Markers in our City; On the Campus of Eastern Michigan University, on the Lawn in front of the former Woodruff School, at Prospect Park and on the lawn in front of the Museum.

Doris Milliman
City Historian

1888 IN YPSILANTI

Items from the CHRONICLE Ypsilanti's Newspaper

April 1888- New Catholic Cemetery purchased by Rev. Father DeBever.
14 Acres - \$1,400.00.

Tuesday, 4th: E.W. Grant's Planing Mill burned. Fire Department crippled by lack of water in Cistern at Congress and Washington and by bursting of hose moving to pressure necessary to force water up hill from the River- Loss \$30,000.00.

May 12th: Diary of Mrs. A.B. Norton says her husband commenced work on the Vault at the Catholic Cemetery.

October 16th: 8:15 A.M. Boiler exploded at Ypsilanti Paper Company's Lowell Plant-Jacob Slawson killed. Frank Sinkule, Engineer injured-\$20,000.00 damage.

May 18th: Reunion of 20th Michigan Infantry-150 present.

May 23rd: Martin Gremer succeeded Frances L. Stewart as Postmaster.

May 31st: Rev. Dr. Samuel Francis Smith Composer of "My Country 'Tis of Thee" assisted in marriage of L. Loring Brooks in Ypsilanti.

1889

NOvember 18th: Starkweather Memorial Chapel accepted by Highland Cemetery Association.

December 1st: 1st City Free Mail Delivery Began.

Mar 10: Fire at Ypsilanti Sanitarium. \$6,000.00 damage.

July 17th: First Connection from New City Water Plant made at house of C. Cornwell on River Street.

July 26: Article speaks on Gang of Men putting in Foundation for Standpipe at Normal and Digging trench to it up Cross Street. Rate established at \$5.00 per Family per year.

SCHOOL TOURS

We had children from the following schools visit the Museum this Spring: 2 groups from Chapelle, 3 groups fro Adams, 1 group from George and 1 group from Tyler School in Belleville.

I want to thank the following guildes whqohelped with the tours: Virginia Davis, Carroll Osborn, Betty Tunncliffe, Grace Cornish, Virginia Abos, Eleanor Lee, Charles Morrison, Lu Greger, Kathy CAmpbell, Dora Reeves, BEtty Kerr, Ann Thomas, Jerry Fouchey, Don RAcine, Eileen Hughes, Bill McCarthy and Norma Jean Anderson.

Ann McCarthy
Director

News from The Archives Office:

There isn't too much to report at this time.

I'm sure those of you that know David Gauntlett underwent surgery the 20th of June. At the present time he is holding his own and looking more like his self. He is on a general diet now and is enjoying eating solid food. Marge and the family take him some goodies in which help settle for the hospital food. He is going to therapy, doesn't have a lot of strength but will continue to become stronger. He is kept abreast of things going on here and enjoys hearing how well the Raffle is doing. A card to David I'm sure would be appreciated. St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Room 6075, 5301 Huron River Drive, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

As I mentioned the Raffle is doing fairly well. If you need more tickets just give me a call or drop a note and I'll see that you get them--PRONTO---

We have had some visitors from New York and some research for a lady from Alaska. We have been busy these hot days but next winter when I look out at the cold snow blowing around I'll remember how nice and hot it was this summer.

Be sure and visit the Museum during Festival days and see the new painted rooms, The White Room and the Display Rooms have or rather are being painted just now. They look very bright and nice.

Marge has gotten some new articles for sale in the Sales Case. So remember to check out what lovely things are there. You know it is your Sales Case. Be sure and support it.

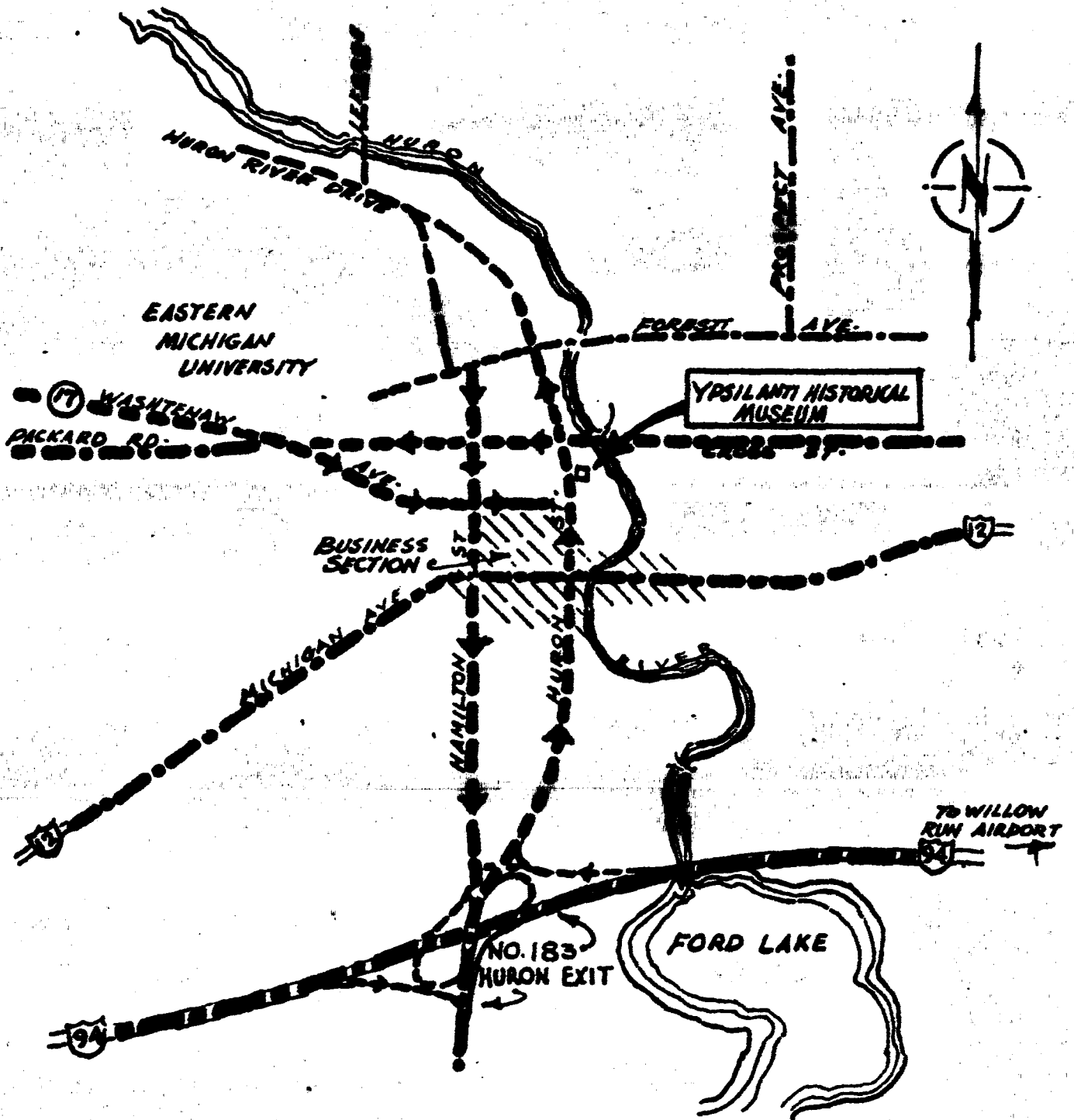
Keep smiling and we'll see you at the Festival.

Billie Zolkosky
Archivist



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2 to 4 P. M.

ARCHIVES
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