

CASS COUNTY CLIPPINGS

Apr 1, 2010



CASS COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

P.O. BOX 505
201 MINNESOTA AVENUE W., WALKER, MN. 56484

Women in Industry Survey 1918

From 1918 to 1919, the Minnesota Commission of Public Safety collected information about firms employing women and about these individual female employees. This information adds to our knowledge of women in Minnesota who worked outside the home. The information about an employee includes name, age, country of birth, nationality, kind of work, wages per week, whether living at home, whether contributing to family support, marital status, whether son or husband is in war service, husband's present employment, husband's wages per week, and ages of children. A separate history sheet for married women with dependents gives employees' name; age, country of birth; marital status; family information, including child care; name of employer, distance of workplace from home; income; and relief needs. These records can be found in the State Archives notebooks: Public Safety Commission, Woman's Committee, Survey of Women in industry. The records are arranged by names of county and employer. They are not indexed. However, we have looked at some of these records and found the following names associated with Cass County communities.

Cass Lake

Northwestern Telephone Exchange: Ethel Engebretson, Mary Faherty, Kathryn Flack, Erma Kimball.

C. M. Taylor Department Store: Elva Henderson, Mary Torve, Naomi Williams.

Furniture and Variety Store: Ruby Henderson.

First National Bank: Marie Christensen, Bertha Harding

Fritz Syvelin Bakery: Pearl McDowell

Cain's Restaurant: Rose Reitter

Tedford Hotel: Clara Tysen

Great Northern Railroad: Blanche Myrhe, Emma Schulke, Ida Schulke, Carrie Simonson

Great Northern Restaurant: Edna Mayo, Emma Moritz

U.S. Post office: Dora Perrault

Utley and Itner Newspaper: Doris Utley

Ladies Furnishing Store: Kathryn McGuire

Cass County State Bank: Bertha Torsythe

F. L. Gorenflo Hotel: Anna LaVoy, Kristina Marsolec, Lillian Northbird, Olga Olson

Office of Supt of Logging: Ada Zimmerman

Northern Pine Crating: Sara Asbell, Emma Boutang, Guida Burns, Ella Carpenter, Eva Compeau, Anna Dent, Ada DeWitt, Nellie Ferguson, Anna Hanson, Amelia Houle, Mrs. James Kennedy, Flossie Kennedy, Isabelle LaGessem Florence Lilly, Gilda Nelson, Helen Pavloity, Anna Perrault, Marian Rice, Rose Roy, Mabel Smith, Clara Stoatenburg, Helena Stoatenburg, Minnie Teal, Ruby Wheaton.

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Needed: Two Members willing to serve on the Cass County Historical Society Board of Directors for the coming years. Please call Renee at 218-547-7251.

Volunteer Projects

We have some really neat projects that we'd like to have accomplished this year. If you have any expertise or just would like to be involved, please let us know by giving us a call or dropping us a note.

We would like to develop trunks filled with local history that can be used by county elementary teachers to introduce their students to local history.

History Walk

Plans are going ahead for the 2010 Summer History Walk in downtown Walker. The first walk is July 20th; the second August 10th. Both will start at 7:00 p.m. and we'll explore Front Street history.

Donations

Harold Indahl donated a collection of books to the Research area. The books are from the library of Rev. Magnus A. Peterson, formerly of Ten Mile Lake. Among the acquisitions is a four volume set of Folwell's History of Minnesota, published in 1930. It's a wonderful resource for early history of our area.

Acquisitions

While researching at the National Archives in DC in December, Cecelia McKeig was allowed to copy the photos and information collected on the Leech Lake Reservation in 1922 for an Industrial Survey. These materials are now available in our research room at the museum.

AH GWAH CHING BRICKS FOR SALE

A limited number of Ah Gwah Ching bricks were salvaged after the buildings were torn down at the site and were delivered to the county garage as promised. These bricks have been carefully cleaned. They are for sale as a fundraiser for the Cass County Historical Society. The price for each brick is \$10. They are going like hot cakes! Please contact Renee Geving at 218-547-7251 to purchase a brick.

Cass County Historical Society Board of Directors

Dan Eikenberry, Pres.
Lois Orton, V-Pres
Karen Keener
Elsie Nelson
Sue Eikenberry
Don Beadle
Alexis Hadrava - Treasurer

**The Cass County
Historical Society
Upcoming Meeting**

April 19, 4:00 p.m.

Cass County Research Center

The research center is staffed by the Cass County Historical Society at the Cass County Museum in Walker. Through the winter, research help is available by appointment. The research library, obituary indexes, newspaper micro-film, and other archival materials are accessible for a \$10 research fee for non-members.



Pine River

W. H. Spurrier Jr & Co: Amelia Gordon, Bessie Pierson

First State Bank: Helen Geary

Pine River Mercantile: clara Ackerman

Day Workers: Mrs. P. Countryman, Vera Day, Mrs. Felton, Mrs. Johnson, Myrtle Kruckow, Mrs. J. McAllister

Remer

Remer Drug: Blanche Dodge

Hotel Remer: Grace Halvorson, Mayme Korb, Josephine Redmond, Rose Redmond, Mae Toland

First State Bank: Maud Phelps

Wittwer Mercantile: Selma Wittwer

Remer Rural Telephone: Mrs. M. B. Patton, Ethel Sjoblom

LOTHROP

Lothrop was first platted in 1895 and was named for Luther R. Lothrop, a civil engineer from Maine. The village was located slightly south of the point where County Road #50 meets Highway #371.

In 1893, the Minnesota Logging Company began using the townsite as their headquarters. The winter of 1895-96 was one of great activity; nearly 2000 men were in the area and nearly \$100,000 was paid in wages, the greater part of which was spent in Lothrop. As one old-timer said, "The first time I ever struck Lothrop, the population consisted of about a thousand men, 900 of whom were drunk and the other 100 were fighting to get to the bar." Lothrop was a lumberjack's paradise, even to the brand of whiskey. Trains, loaded with logs for southern mills, clattered through Lothrop every 15 to 20 minutes. The village had a railroad station and repair shop, three hotels, several stores, one house of ill repute, one saloon and a drug store run by Dr. Wallace J. Baine, the first postmaster appointed on December 22, 1894. Dr. Baine, it was rumored, sold the "stuff" to make them sick and then doctored them until they became well, but if it was too late, he could also pronounce them dead and decide the cause of their death as he was also the coroner.

Pete Denis owned the general store. George Stanley was proprietor of the City Hotel, Fred Long owned the City Hotel Bar, Alfred Parker owned a general store. Sisler and Cowan owned the Bodega Saloon on Columbian Avenue. Michael McNichols ran the Gem Sample Room, Mrs. L. Curo owned a general store. Her husband, James, came to the Hackensack area in the 1870s. John Gillis was a lawyer, A. J. Wilson and Sam Hatfield were tonsorial artists.

Rev. Gilfillan reported holding an Episcopal service at Lothrop, the first religious service ever held there. In his report of 1895, he reported having held 14 services there, with one celebration of Holy Communion to three communicants, and that he had baptized seven infants. On May 11, 1898, Bishop Morrison held service in the schoolhouse, assisted by Rev. Gilfillan, where he preached and confirmed three people. During the winter of 1897-98, services were conducted nearly every Sunday by Mr. J. C. Small, a lay man from Brainerd, who came up every Saturday for that purpose.

When the railroad trestle was built across Shingobee Island in 1896, lumber operations moved northward. By 1900, the town was pretty dead. Dr. Baine put up a new hotel in Akeley; Pete Denis moved to Hackensack, and all that remained was the bordello and Mustache Liz.

Cass Lake, Minnesota
October 13, 1918

Dear Nellie,

Have a little story of the doings around here to write you today.

Yesterday (Saturday) the day started out with a strong wind from the west, forest fires broke out all around us, but did not get nearer than two miles out at any time.

Marshall, the Forest Supervisor, went out with a crew of men and boys. The fire whistle was blown several times for aid to go fight fire and all the afternoon, autos ran back and forth to the fire zones with men.

The fire swept very rapidly and entirely cleaned up the following farms, hay, buildings, etc.

The old Frank Carrier place, now Perrizo, Abrahamson, Bencher, part of Greenside buildings and part of buildings for others, and one or two others that I do not recall. Women and children were seen fleeing from their homes with clothing under their arms for lakes, etc. Roads were shut off with fire and intense smoke making it impossible to do anything but to save some buildings. Home Guards are ordered out (yours truly staying at home to watch the village). Spaulding had to go into a dug out at Hart's old place and let the fire sweep past him. Larson and others were saved by staying in Henderson's potato field; Ittner getting into a cave with the Greenside children and so on went the destruction.

All telephone connections were cut off to the country and long distances were also cut off, as well as telegraph. The Red Cross sent sandwiches and coffee to the fire

fighters and those who could not get in, and those who were entirely burned out were brought in and fed and taken care of at hotels, etc., here.

Brookston is in ashes and Cloquet had a bad fire. Deer River asked for fire hose but I told them that we did not have any to spare. Our fire apparatus was strung out on the streets ready to combat any fires that might break out. Fortunately nothing happened. The village was patrolled all night with Home Guards and extra policemen. I got to bed at 5:30. The wind did not go down any until morning.

Mrs. Taylor ran her car nearly all night as well as many others. Four men were seen driving about the country west and north of here, and when asked who they were by Mrs. Taylor and occupants of her car, they simply replied they were strangers. Whether there was any crookedness connected with it, is hard to tell.

Great Northern trains from the east did not get in and are not in yet. Trains from the west tied up here for the balance of the night.

Tried to get Mr. Hartley on the phone but could not get farther than Bemidji, so finally sent him a special delivery letter, mailing it in the lower yards on 36 but don't know when it will reach him.

Bridge was burned on the Soo and the passenger is not in yet. Have to build the bridge first.

J. Neils had many watchmen in his yards during the night. Today the fires are better. Men went out again this A.M. early and some of them are back. I am going out now with Andy Johnson to see what the country looks like.

Fosvig drove with Mrs. Henderson and Nels Jondahl through smoke so thick they could not see the

front end of the car to find if Mr. Henderson is all right.

Some wheat was buried and one piano left in a potato field

One Martin and his son covered themselves up in a potato field with blankets.

I packed sandwiches and helped with coffee, and sent them out in bushel baskets and milk cans.

Pretty exciting time and with the heavy wind made it look pretty bad.

Miss Watts had her bag packed ready to get out and the girls were pretty much afraid all night.

Blanche is going to try to go to work tomorrow.

No more for today

With love,

H. D. Wardner

Membership - 2010**Friend (\$100-\$249)****Individual (\$10)**

Virginia Abullarade
Karin Arsan
Francis Bean
Bob Bean
Vi Blackburn
Margaret Dewey
Karen Keener
Karen Kezele
Casey MacDonell
Steven Mecklenberg
Elsie Nelson
Frank Olson
Diane Pitzen
Tom Salwasser
Elizabeth Sauer
Erma Schantle
Arthur Shenk
Jeanette Silbaugh
Glenna Tappe
David Yde
Betty Zaffke

Benefactor (\$20 - \$99)

Charles & LaVonne Beckman
Audrey Chelberg
Leland & Dorothy Delger
Mike & Karla Elsenpeter
Dick & Donna Evenson
Jerry & Renee Geving
Alice Groth
Nancy Jacobson
Bob & Shirley Jewell
Cecelia McKeig
David Nieman
James & Leona O'Neal
Chris & Dorothy Opheim
Oliver & Virgie Opheim
John B. Risteau
Carole Sargent
Dick & Kathie Stoneking
Bob & Ann Winegar

Jim & Shirley Dowson
Dan & Sue Eikenberry
Betty Hutt
Harry Loger
Bob & Sandy Pauly

Cities & Townships

City of Federal Dam - \$50
City of Lake Shore - \$50
City of Walker - \$500

Blind Lake Township -- \$100
Deerfield Twp -- \$200
Fairview Township - \$1000
Gould Township - \$100
Pine Lake Township - \$200
Ponto Lake Township -- \$150
Powers Township - \$150
Rogers Township -- \$50
Salem Township - \$30
Shingobee Township - \$1,000
Smokey Hollow Township - \$100
Torry Township - \$50
Turtle Lake Township - \$500
Wilkinson Twp -- \$250
Woodrow Township - \$50

Business (\$50+)

Acorn Hill Resort
First National Bank, Walker
Hummingbird Press
Orton Oil Company
Little Apple Book Store

Family (\$15)

Don & Tanis Beadle
Steve & Kay Johnson
Robert & Betty Kangas
Keith & Janice Matson

Sponsor \$250-\$999

**HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR
MEMBERSHIP FOR THIS
YEAR? THERE'S STILL
TIME!**

2010 Membership

The Museum depends on your membership and donations to keep it going. Please consider your pledge for 2010 in one of the following categories. PLEASE RENEW FOR 2010.

Membership

Single (\$10) _____ Family (\$15) _____ Benefactor (\$20-99) _____

Business (50) _____

Friends (\$100-\$249) _____ Sponsors (\$250-\$999) _____ Patrons (\$1000) _____

Memorials in any amount are also welcome

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Cass County Historical Society PO Box 505 Walker, MN 56484
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Staff: Renee Geving, Director
Assistant: Jolene Safranek

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Newsletter:
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Renee Geving

Museum Phone: 218-547-7251
Winter Hours: By Appointment