

1968  
Denune  
Avenue

# **1968 Denune Avenue**

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Also written by: Fannie Fern Ferris Denune, Ina Fern Denune, Sarah Adelaide Denune Strang, Tom Denune, and other assorted authors from newspapers and books.

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## Preface

Most of us like to savor bits of our lives. Perhaps we do this with diaries, photos, ticket stubs, programs from important events, or with a trinket. These memories are saved for eternity or until someone decides it belongs in a bin.

Sometime after a visit with cousin Judy at my parent's home, we decided that the lives of my father's two oldest two cousin's should be savored. On the day of the visit, my father shared stories and Judy and I perused the genealogy cupboard (a space approximately six feet by three feet by three feet with shelves.) After extensive research in the closet and elsewhere, and interviewing various family members; it became apparent that we did not have enough information on these two glorious ladies to fill a book. I wanted the memoir to be historically accurate. Plan "B" or maybe plan "C" became a more expanded memoir.

Privilege, yes. I've got it. The ancestors had it too. Privilege isn't always measured in wealth. I do not have wealth or at least not great wealth. This point could be argued since wealth is relative. Privilege could also be measured by one's status or self determination, freedom. We, the ancestors and I, are all white. We have never been enslaved. In fact some of the ancestors had slaves. I am not proud of this fact. Every family has a bit of shame. That is a big shame. My grandfather, Jack Denune, was never interested in the family genealogical research. He always said "If you look hard enough, you will find a horse thief." Education too is a privilege and a way to gain privilege.

Our family's story is one of privilege. The Denunes have varying degrees of privilege as in most families. I am proud of them but not proud of all of their choices.

# In the Beginning

Lies, damn lies and omissions. Not everyone is comfortable with the truth. Omissions! Perhaps that is better.

It was a sunny day when Ethel decided to make a trip to town. Mama had been sick. No one expected for her to die.

And this is where our story comes to a screeching halt. It seems that there are those who didn't know or want to know what really happened. Mama was gone. She ain't never coming back. To understand Ethel and, more importantly, her girls, you have to hear the whole story.

Ethel was the oldest daughter of Fannie Fern Ferris Denune and John "J.B." Denune. She was born in Mifflinville, Ohio; later to be called Linden and now part of Columbus, the state capitol; on May 31, 1881. Prior to Ethel's birth, Fannie had lost a son at birth, Clarence. I expect the couple was thrilled at the birth of their first daughter and thanked God that she survived. In all, Fannie gave birth to thirteen children. Ethel was one of the nine children who lived to adulthood. Ethel was strong and healthy, a survivor. She grew into a strong woman with two remarkable daughters.

Sometime after Adam and Eve, I won't make you go back that far, there were Ethel's ancestors. I won't name all of the ancestors, but a few of the more memorable. Ragnar Lodbrok died in a snake pit between 852 and 856 AD. This story is said to be a myth. It is believed to be more likely that he died while raiding the breadth of Ireland and the north-west coast of England. Rollo the Dane (born c.860, died c.932) who, with the Danish army, secured a permanent foothold in the valley of lower Seine in France and became the first king of Normandy. Rollo was also the great-great-great grandfather of William the Conqueror, also an ancestor of Ethel's. She was also a descendant of all of the Magna Charta Barons who lived in England and had descendants, who gave rights to the people, since before that time they had none; Degory Priest of the Mayflower, who died that first winter; and Mareen Duvall of Middle Plantation located in the Province of Maryland, Prince George's County, a slave owner as was his son-in-law, Dr. William Denune,

those slaves were called Sacose, Johnny Boy, Toby, Robin, Will, Tony, Peter, Mingo, Samson, Jacob, Simon, Betty, Jenny, Hester, Janu, Kate, Sary, and Jemey. Barack Obama was also a descendant of Mareen. He is the eighth great grandson of Mareen through his mother's side of the family. Mareen was Ethel's fifth great grandfather on her father's side of the family. Ethel was a descendant of two Duvall cousins who were wed. One should not leave out the women of Ethel's history, such as Lady Godiva, yes, the naked one. She rode through the streets on a horse buck naked in order to protest the unreasonable taxes her husband, the Earl of Mercia, had placed on his tenants. That woman could protest! She is not to be confused with the fine woman of Banbury Cross, who was wearing clothes. Then there was Anne Marbury Hutchinson who was one of the founders of Rhode Island. Dear Anne also stood up for the freedom of religion, the separation of church and state, and was kicked out of Boston, Massachusetts as a heretic. Other ancestors include two Campbell boys (Donald and Duncan) who lived in Scotland in about 1334 AD. Duncan was sentenced to drown in the Clyde River for stealing Colin Campbell's cattle and plundering their possessions. Colin had also been hereditary governor of the castle of Dunoon (Dunoon, Denoon, and Denune are all believed to be the same name.) The boys fled to the north and took their mother's maiden name, Denune. Ethel, a descendant of Duncan Denune. If not for the whole cattle thieving situation, Ethel would have been a Campbell. Although cattle rustling is not Ethel's story, those that came before her had an influence, be that good or bad. They contributed. She learned from them, admired or rejected what they stood for, edited out or added to one's life created Ethel, and her girls', legacy.

Ethel grew up in central Ohio in the late 1800's. It was wild and wooly before she arrived.

Before there was Linden; which is now located in the city of Columbus, Ohio; in the 1700's there was a man, Reverend John Heckwelder, who made a study of the travel system of Ohio. An excerpt of this study says, "White mans [sic] lines of travel,...followed very closely along the lines of the aborigines, who in turn unconsciously absorbed the engineering knowledge of the elks, the red deer and the buffalo." The Native American city that stood where Columbus, Ohio stands was Avhich.

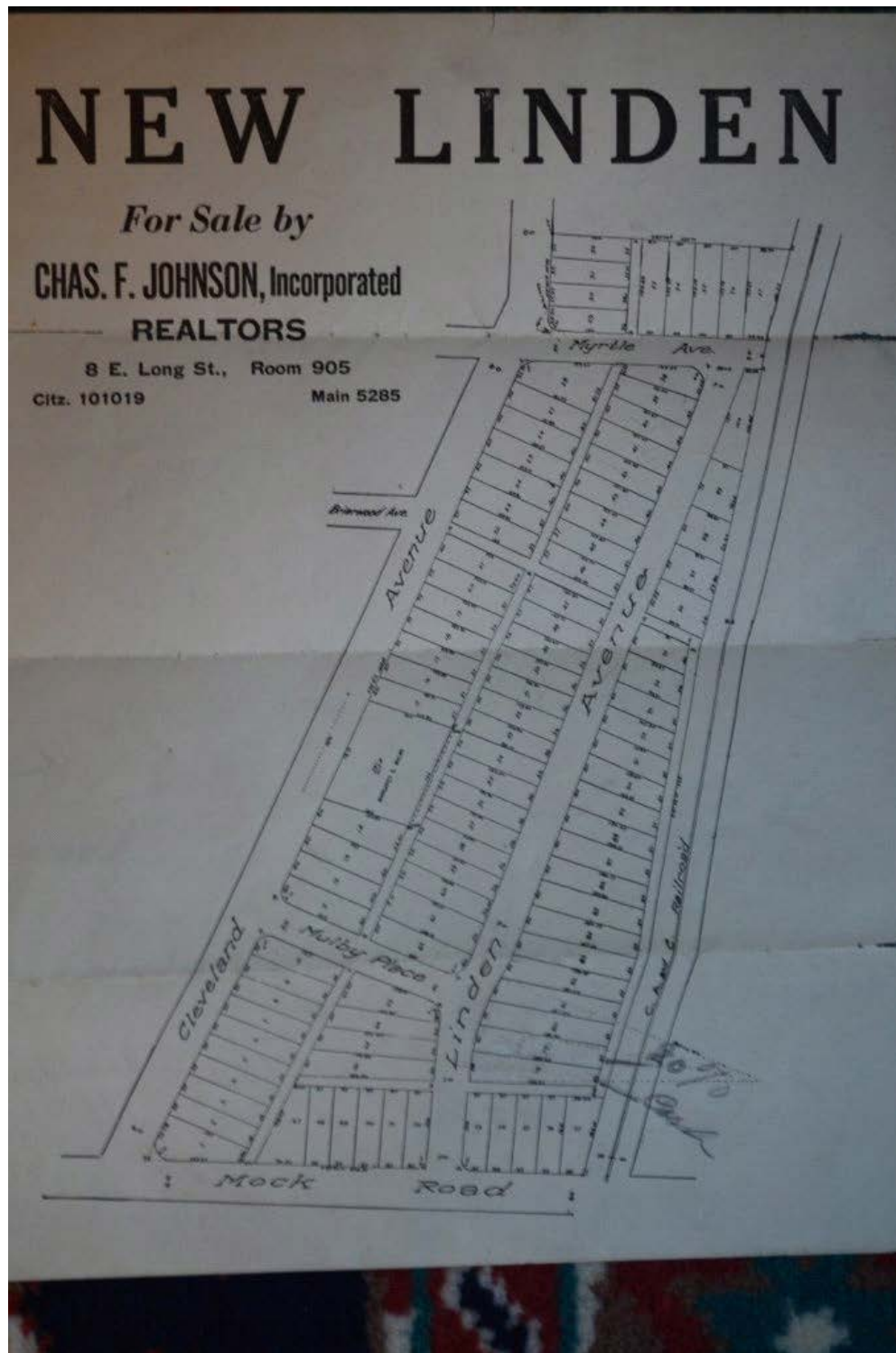
The "Centennial History of Columbus", accessed via the internet, tells us that in the spring of 1812, the town was laid out. *In June of that same year public sale of land began. Lots were purchased. The streets were all to cross at right angles.*

*The street width [was] specified ( High Street 100 feet, Broad Street 120 feet, alleys generally 33 feet.) In-lots were 62 1/2 feet across the front and 187 1/2 feet deep. Out-lots were about 3 acres each. [Forty] or so out-lots north of town were over 2 acres. Plus 1 1/2 acres [was allotted] for a grave yard to attract bidders from a distance. The public sale began June 1812.*

*A seat of government was established in 1814.*

*On February 9, 1814 [t]he 1st Toll Bridge Act authorized Lucas Sullivant and his associates to erect a toll bridge across the Scioto River at the town of Columbus. Where Broad Street crosses said river leading to the Main Street in the town of Franklinton... The said Lucas Sullivant and his associates, if any there be, and his and their heirs and assigns, are here by authorized to ask, demand and receive from passengers who may cross said bridge, the following rates of toll to-wit: for each foot passenger, three cents; for every horse, mule or ass, one year old or upwards, four cents; for each horse and rider, twelve and one-half cents; chaise, riding chair, gig, cart or other two wheeled carriage, with two horses two oxen and driver, thirth-seven and one-half cents; for the same with one horse and driver; twenty-five cents, etc.... Provided always, that all public mails and expresses, all troops of the United States and this state, with their artillery, baggage and stores, and all persons who are exempted by the laws of the state from the payment of ferriages, may pass over said bridge free from toll aforesaid; and the duty of said Lucas and others as aforesaid; their or any of their several assignees or representatives, to set up and constantly to keep up exposed to public lie view, in some conspicuous place near the gate which shall be printed or painted in fair and legible characters, the rates of toll here in above established.*

Sometime between Avich and the "creation" of Columbus, in May 1881, Ethel was born. At that time the family lived in Mifflin Township in Franklin County. In 1899 the family moved to Linden Heights. The family hailed from Linden, East Linden. Linden is currently located in the northeastern part of Columbus. The total land area of Linden is now less than six square miles.



Northeast of this map was referred to as East Linden. At the turn of the 20th Century, Linden was a booming, developing community. The Denunes lived northeast of this map by a couple miles.

# Ethel's Paternal Ancestors

The following was gathered from the Denune family's genealogical records.

(The following was written from family genealogical records. Stating in the document "authority Family Letters and Censes [sic] records" and "authority family knowledge, letters, and court records" Also written in the book Mareen Duvall of Middle Plantation by Harry Wright Newman)

*William Denune (Ethel's Great Great Grandfather) son of Dr. William A. Denune (a doctor and a colonial artist) and Elizabeth Duvall Denune inherited under English law the landed estate of his father. Shortly before 1766 he leased and sold the greater part of "Denune's Purchase", lying in Prince George County on the Patuxent river. (The land was located in Maryland. Maryland National Park and Planning Commission and the State of Maryland now own over 2,000 acres on the Patuxent River which is managed as Patuxent River Park and Merkle Wildlife Sanctuary.) This situation was becoming undesirable for residence since it lay near Govenor's bridge, a congregating place for those who indulged in drinking and gambling without moderation. It appears that the family lived in Anne Arundel County at least part of the time for in an acknowledgement of approval of the appraisals of the estate of his mother his name appears on the books of Prince George County as a resident of Ann Arundel County. He must have removed later to a location near Williamsport Maryland for his son James was born there and perhaps other children. The Denunes continued to pay taxes on "Howerton" (This parcel of land had belonged to John Howerton who had obtained the land in 1670. It is now the location of a historic plantation home named Medford. This plantation is located on the grounds of the Maryland Science and Technology Center near the intersections of U.S. Route 301 and U.S. Route 50, at Bowie, Prince George's County, Maryland.) until 1772 and John Denune enlisted as a resident of Prince George County.*



Photo of a painting by Dr. William Denune, 1735, believed to be of his daughter. The painting is referred to as *Young Girl with Cherries*. Authoritative reference for colonial paintings, *American Colonial Paintings*, by Waldron Belknap, Jr., Cambridge: Harvard University Press. 1959, lists five other paintings possibly attributed to Dr. Denune. The painting was offered for sale in *Antiques* magazine, January 1976 by William Young and Company, Private Vendors of Fine Art.

*William Denune (Ethel's Great Great Grandfather) was one of the minutemen who marched from Maryland to Boston for the battle of Bunker Hill and was one of Washington's first soldiers. There is no record of him later than the winter of 1777-1778 and it is quite probable that he succumbed [sic] at Valley Forge.*

*His older son William DuVall Denune assumed the responsibility of the family at an early age and seems not to have served at all in the war of the Revolution. He never married and outlived all of his family except his brother Elias.*

*On March 1st, 1780, John Duvall Denune ( Ethel's Great Grandfather and William Duvall Denune's brother) just a lad (believed to be 13 years of age and reported to have lied about his age) enlisted in the 6th Maryland regiment as a musician. He played the drum and fife and acted as a messenger. In the last capacity he was most valuable since he was an expert horsemen and fearless. He had many narrow escapes from death, sometimes from the English and sometimes from the Indians. An account of one of his experiences in escaping from Indians who pursued him was published in an early reader. Lucy Washington Denune Agler (daughter of John Denune) gave the reader to her daughter Lavinia Agler Cornwall who treasured it for many years. It is significant of the living conditions endured in the Revolutionary War by families only recently quite prosperous, that the records show there was ordered for John Denune immediately following his enlistment, a suit of clothes.*

Ina Denune, sister to Ethel and great granddaughter of John, wrote the following of his service in the Revolutionary War.

*I've been told by older persons of a former generation that children of Ohio pioneers read from their school readers stories concerning John Denune's scouting days. The following is believed to be one of those stories.*

*One night becoming weary and taking shelter in a thicket, he fell asleep. Snow fell during the night and when he wakened the ground was white. That was no cause for worry, but he did worry for in that snow were foot-prints, many foot-prints. He knew at once that a large band of marauding Indians had passed through and besides the direction of those prints told that they were headed for a certain American camp. Luckily his horse, overlooked, was impatiently waiting, without hesitation, John mounted. Realizing that he must be cautious, and yet out-strip the Indians, he decided upon a very dangerous but little known short-cut through the mountains, traveling as fast as safety allowed, he still found no difficulty in arriving long in advance of the enemy. The Indians finding the camp fully*



*prepared, fell back. There was no attack.*

*John Denune remained in service until the end of the war in 1783 and engaged in the battles of Guilford Court House, Camden, Siege of Ninety Six, and Eutaw Springs. He received from the government a tract of land known as Land Grant No. 1909 for his service in the Revolutionary War. The land was located in Fairmont, Virginia (now West Virginia) as part of the United States Military District. These lands were given to Revolutionary War veterans for their service.*

*John Denune was a tall man, of considerable weight in his later years, but slender in youth, with light auburn hair and blue eyes. Although he was genial and sociable, he had a high regard for conventions and was not lacking in dignity. Sarah Burrell Denune (wife of John) was delicately reared, fastidious, exquisite in taste. She was what one would call a regal person, commanding and carefully correct with great sympathy and understanding for the opinions and actions of other people. Her law and pattern of life came from within and environment had no power to influence her real life.*

*The traditions of this Denune family are French for the most part - due no doubt to the fact that both the paternal and maternal grandmothers were of the Mareen DuVall family of old Maryland. When Judge Gabriel DuVall recorded the marriage of his cousin Elizabeth Duvall of "Pleasant Grove" to Dr. William Alexander Denune, he wrote opposite the name of Dr. Denune, in parentheses "(a Scotchman)". These DuVall grandmothers were undoubtedly responsible for the fact that their grandchildren's grandchildren cling to their French traditions. [The DuValls were from France. Mareen DuVall called his first land patent "Lavall." The English and Scottish named their plantations after their ancestral estates. It is believed that Mareen was from the old midieval city of Laval, near Brittany and Normandy.] Sarah Burrell, on the other hand, was very English. Under her tutelage each granddaughter memorized and never forgot the names of the Queens of England. In that subtle way she kept alive in her family her national traditions as well as her social background for she was of royal lineage, a descendant of the Dents, Fowkes, and Brookes and Burrells of Southern Maryland.*

*This bit of genealogy believed to have been compiled by Fannie Fern Ferris Denune, mother to Ethel, ending with a quote: "This caravan of life as a marvel passeth by" Omar*

*John never developed this land and after the death of his widow Sarah Burrell Denune this tract was sold to Jacob Markell in 1850. It amounted to 144 and one*

*fourth acres. John Denune was wounded in the hand in service and the use of this hand was permanently impaired. With increasing burden of a large family, a financial depression sweeping the country, and another war with England impending, he decided to remove his family to Ohio. He overlooked the fact that in Ohio there was no slave labor available and a man with limited finances must labor with his hands for a living. In 1820 he applied for a pension and his claim was granted. According to the book Mareen Duvall of Middle Plantation John stated in his application that he was poor, had a large family to feed and was in need of support from his Government. There were family rumors that he had a drinking problem which may have begun while in the war as a lad. John Denune lived for some time in or near Franklinton west of Columbus and at that time the county seat of Franklin County. The census of 1830 records him as a resident of Hamilton Township.*

(The following records were compiled by Ina Denune, sister to Ethel. Ina also obtained some of the information from her and Ethel's cousin, Dudley Horn. His mother was the sister to John "J.B." Denune, Huldah Denune Horn, Aunt to Ethel, had contacted the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Pensions in regard to her and J.B.'s grandfather's pension. Now Huldah was said to be a force to be reckoned with and was reported to have once assaulted a banker, perhaps over interest.)

*March 3 - 1909 Mrs Huldah Denune Horn addressed a letter to "War Department, Washington D. C." asking for a record of the service of her grandfather John Denune. I enclose that letter also the gracious reply Mar. 8 - 1909, giving helpful suggestions as to whom she might contact to obtain the desired information. Immediately she wrote to the Adjutant General of Md., at Baltimore. The answer was, "no record on file;" and "Most Revolutionary companies were composed of local groups, so try the county from which he served." Not knowing which county, she wrote to one and then another. Finally, after three years of fruitless effort she received the following from The Department of the Interior, Bureau of Pensions, Washington D. C. March 12-1912.*

*Mrs. Huldah Denune Horn;  
Linden Heights Ohio,*

*Madam-*

*In reply to your request of 3 Inst rec'd 5th inst for a statement of the military history of John Denune, a soldier of the Revolutionary War, you will find below the*

*desired information as contained in his application for pension on file in this Bureau.*

*Date of application     May 2 - 1818*

*Now, December 25 -1972, over a century and a half later I feel most fortunate in being able to forward to you the enclosed copy.*

*No reference is made in the application of John Denune acting as mentioned in his granddaughter's letter. Did John or the clerk at the Pension Bureau consider that fact included among his other duties with the 6th Md. Regiment? John Denune's duties as aid-de-camp to General Washington were oft-times dangerous. It was he who conveyed the messages from one officer to another and between camps. John was not only trust worthy but an expert horsemen, could ride and guide a galloping horse with neither saddle nor bridle, entering the service before his 14th birthday, he was young and fearless. The Gen. Washington, whom he served was not George but Gen. William Washington...of the Southern Army along the mountainous frontier of the Carolinas and Georgia, here the Indian allies of the British, carried on a tricky ambush warfare, and the most fatal battles of the Revolution were fought. Those very battles in which John Denune participated, and he stated in his application.*

It is believed that Ina Denune received the answer she was looking for in December 1972 regarding her great grandfather's participation in the Revolutionary War.

John Denune died November 28th, 1838, his death resulting from injuries suffered from a fall. He was buried in the family lot on the Denune farm, near Mifflinville, Franklin County. About forty years later, his remains were removed and interred on the Denune burial lot in Riverside Cemetery in Mifflin Township in Franklin County. His grave was marked with a bronze tablet by the Columbus Chapter of The Daughters of the Revolution.

John Denune's son and Ethel's grandfather, Alexander Bond Burrell Denune (also known as "A. B." or "Burley") is pictured below at Til and Addie Denune's wedding. "Burley" is the second man from the left, standing. Til is believed to be Burley's cousin, standing on the far right of the photo. Burley's uncle, William Richard Denune, is seated to the left of Burley.



The Cabin was located on Innis Road, east of Westerville Road (Rt 3) at Mifflinville, Ohio on the north side of Innis Road. It was the site of Til and Addie's wedding.

Standing left to right: Mable Denune, Jeff Denune, Burley Denune, Katherine Denune, Dewey Denune (held by Katherine), Laurie Raymond, and Til Denune  
Seated in the middle row: Rob Denune, William Richard Denune, Silas Collinger Denune, Jim Denune, Adam Raymond, and Addie Denune

Standing in the front row: Clarence Denune, Grove Denune, Charlie Denune, Elmer Raymond, and Pearl (?) Raymond

Alexander Bond Burrell Denune (Grandfather of Ethel and son of John Duvall Denune) was the oldest of 8 children. He was a pioneer, a farmer, and one of the members of the Clinton and Blendon Plank Road Company. He went by "Burley." He married Mary Ann "Polly" Agler on December 1, 1831. They had 8 children.



A. B. "Burley" Denune





Mary Ann "Polly" Agler Denune

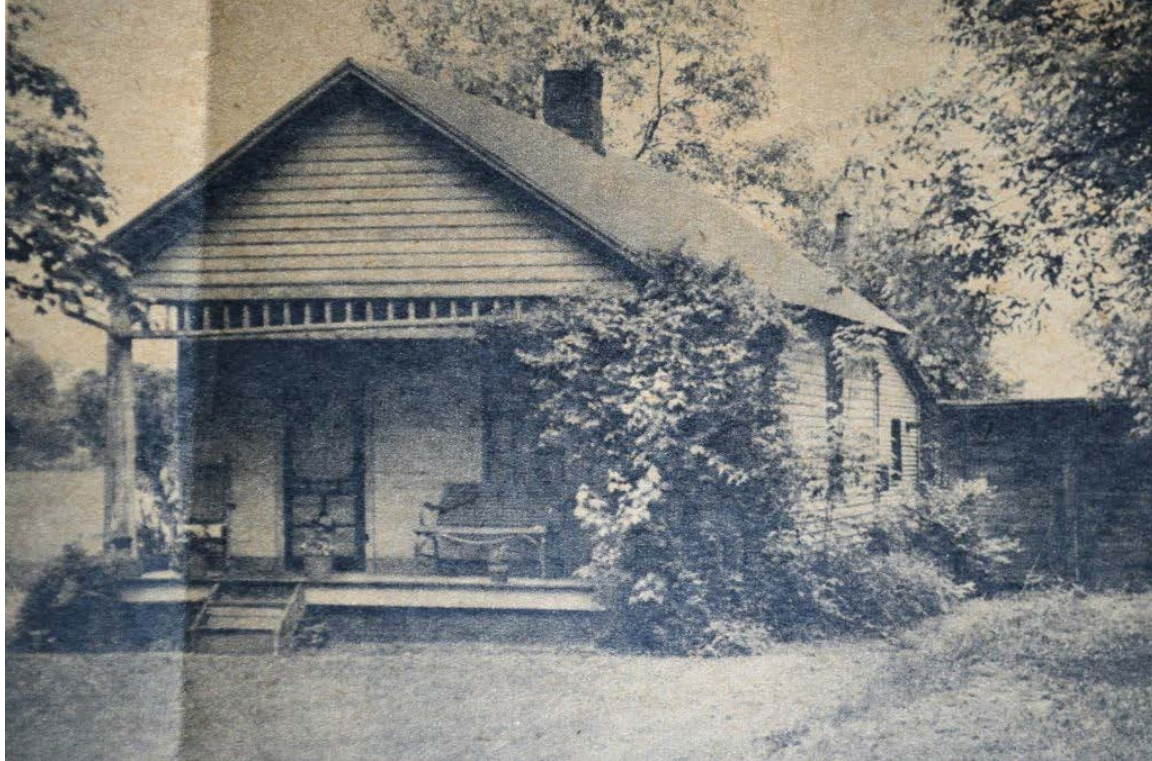


Mary Ann "Polly" Agler Denune



One of Burley's investments was in the Clinton and Blendon Plank Road Company. The following article appeared in one of the local papers:

### "The Last Plank Road"



(Article by Gilbert F. Dodds, either the Columbus Dispatch or the Citizens Journal. It was believed to have been written in the 1960's. Photo by Walter D. Nice)

*"The last plank road in Franklin County and one of the last in Central Ohio was built by the Clinton and Blendon Plank Company. It extended from the junction of Harbor Road, now Cleveland Avenue, and the Westerville Road, northward to Westerville.*

*The only relic remaining as evidence of the existence of such a road is the old tollhouse at 6779 Westerville Road, now used as a dwelling. There was another tollgate located at the crossroads at Mifflinville, which has long since disappeared. The specifications required the tollhouses be 16 feet wide, 27 feet long and 9 feet high, with a covered porch the entire width. Of the numerous tollhouses that existed in Franklin County at one time, this is the only one that remains unaltered.*



*Timber was very plentiful in those days and the building of plank roads got to be quite a fad, especially in the level parts of the state. There were once seven plank roads in Franklin County. Lumber was so plentiful and cheap-and labor likewise-that roads were considered a good investment for capital. Too, they provided better transportation for the community. Thus the incorporators often were residents for the area served by the road. This was so in the case of the Westerville Plank Road. Among the incorporators were Zenus Jackson, who served as president for a number of years; Joseph C. Zance, who served as secretary and Ralph Osborne, Eunice Clark, Norman Pinney, Burley Denune, James Jameson, Mildred Clark, C. Porter Jackson and William Phelps, both of the latter also serving as president.*

*Clinton H. Vance, now 82, who resides on the farm owned by his father Joseph C. Vance at 5187 Westerville Road, remembers using the plank road. He recalls that when he rode horseback to Westerville, John Morris, the tollkeeper, charged him but 2 cents instead of 3, the regular toll, because of the short distance he traveled. Mr. Morris was the last tollkeeper at this tollhouse.*

*The road went out of existence as a commercial thoroughfare in 1894 when it was taken over by the county, but its backers had prospered by the adventure. The tollhouse still stands today as a memorial to the pioneers who risked their earnings in a project that also benefited others."*

Burley had a son, Elias A. Denune. He had a limp. He had many sons but one of his sons, Elias, found romance at one of those tollhouses. A pretty young woman worked at the tollhouse. Her name was Sarah. Not only tolls were taken at the toll house but there was also the sale of candy sticks, and maybe other things. Elias always bought a stick of candy when he was at the tollhouse. Elias told Sarah that he would like his favorite, licorice. He asked Sarah her favorite. After considering the question most seriously she said "peppermint." The next question should have tipped off Sarah as to his intentions and perhaps it did. Elias asked how much it would be for the whole jar of peppermint candy and the jar. Sarah carefully made her calculations. Elias made his purchase of the candy and the jar but he promptly returned it to Sarah as a gift. They later married. They had no birth children but raised a young nephew, Blenn, after his mother (Ethel's Mother, Fannie) became ill.



Sarah and Elias Denune, A. B.'s son, J. B.'s Brother

Alexander (A.B. or Burley) was a prosperous farmer, having more than 1,000 acres. During the Civil War the Union Troops kept their mules on his farm when they were passing through Franklinton. The mules gave Burley's hogs hoof and mouth disease. People came from miles away to watch his hogs die. They were said to be dying like flies. Someone asked how the disease would affect him. He said, "It won't break me".

*Copied from a clipping saved and cherished for many years by a daughter [of Alexander Burrell Denune] Hulda Denune Horn.*

*-A Pleasant Affair-*

*Monday, October 12 - 1885*

*Alexander B Denune, of Mifflin Township Presents a Fine Farm to Each of his Eight Children.*

-----  
*A very pleasant event took place at the residence of Mr. Alexander B. Denune, about five miles north of the city on the Westerville road Monday morning. Each of the children were given a farm ranging in value from \$10,000 to \$15,000. The farms are handsomely located and are rich in the quality of the land. Mr. Denune,*

*when he handed the deeds to his children stated that he preferred to act as his own administrator, though he still retains nearly 200 acres not disposed of. The amounts given to the children were as follows;*

*Mrs Susan E. Temple 116 acres (South of Agler Road)*

*Mrs Swan Innis Rankin 83 acres*

*Mrs Margaret Decker 83 acres (out Mock Road)*

*Perry Denune 89 acres (Morse Road)*

*Mrs John Kiner 96 acres (North of Agler Road)*

*Elias A. Denune 104 acres*

*John B. Denune 129 acres (East Linden) [John B. Denune is the father of Ethel Denune Young]*

*Mrs John Perdue Horn of Walnut Grove Ind. 100 acres*

*The occasion was a very pleasant one and one to be long remembered.*



Above is said to have been A.B. Denune's home. (The corner of Agler Road and Sunbury Road)

The following is believed to be the memorial eulogy and remembrances from A.B. Denune's funeral:

-0- THE OLD HOME -0-

*Alec. B. [known by several names] Denune died on Tuesday May 18th, 1886 at his residence on the Westerville Road about five miles North-east of the City of Columbus. He was a highly respected citizen; he was an industrious and an intelligent farmer. He had gained a large fortune. His land was over 1000 acres.*

*He had eight children, all married, to mourn the loss of a kind and affectionate father who always rejoiced at their prosperity and was pleased at their success. His eight children all live in this County as follows:- Mrs. David Temple, Mrs. S.S. Rankin, Mrs. G. A. Decker, Mrs. John Kiner, Mrs. J.P. Horn, and C. P. Denune, E. A. Denune and J. B. Denune.*

*His funeral as preached in the McKendree Chapel by Bro. Nichols. His text was, "Abraham, Isaac and Jacob all went down to their graves in honor at a good ripe old age".*

*Brothers and sisters did you ever take time to sit down and talk over the scenes and successes of childhood? Did you ever take time to look back over the hill of life and call up the days of olden times when we were at home under the protection of a fond father and a devoted mother? Why! our earliest days were spent in a pioneer's home. The happiest days of our life! Oh, brothers and sisters, just think of the old home where were father, mother, brothers and sisters whose whole aim was to keep home happy and make life a pleasure rather than a burden.*

*Do you remember father's corner beside the great old fire place? Just let's see him sitting now by the twilight of a dim fire dreaming of the days when his boys would be men, that they would not have to stand the bitter trials of the dark dim forest or treeless prairie. He toiled days, weeks and years in cleaning up his lands and setting out his orchards. He did all these things and we know it. He did it all for us. His trials were bitter; His aim was noble. He was happy. He was a model of love, but joy was there because mother was there. Now let's just see her sitting at her work in the other corner beside that great old fire place. She was a perfect embodiment of love. She was happy because her children were there,--father, mother brothers and sisters all at the old home.*

*But let us take a thought of today. Yes, today the dim, dark forest is here, the wide expanding prairie is here, the orchards are here, the roads are here, the low murmuring rill of Alum Creek with her beautiful songs is here. What is it that is not here? Why father and mother are not here. When we were young they were*

*here. Now we are old they are not here. All we can do is to recall and look up the past; this day, we will never see it again. Are we using it well? For God will bring all work into judgment with every secret thing whether it be good or whether it be evil.*

*Now I have a word to say of George Decker [son-in-law of A.B. Denune and husband of Margaret] and myself--of a little of our travels. I wish the gates to be all opened wide that the Denunes may all pass in from the oldest to the youngest to hear what I have to say. [At that time J.B. and Fannie, A.B.'s son and daughter-in-law, would have had three children. Ethel would have been almost five years old. Her sister Lois was two and sister Ina only about five months old. Did they hear what Brother Nichols had to say about their grandfather?] Open the gates wide for we have all got the wilderness to cross.*

*A long time ago George Decker and I moved on Father Denune's Farm when the land was very new. We had to cut the trees away to let the sunshine through. We build a house,- small log cabin, for we had come to stay. We put a new rail fence all around the farm the old, old fashioned way. Well, we were proud of our new log cabin and rail fence. Why! the brambles soon grew up beside it with hazel brush and weeds made a good nesting place for mice and a lodging place for seeds, and we were very glad indeed when we could commence to burn the rails and put up a straight board fence.*

*A board fence was nice at first. The boards were straight and trim but grew warped in rain and sun. The very frost kept pulling out the nails in weather wet and dry. Why! We had to hire a man at last to keep the fence in repair. We bore away the fence and put up a barbed wire. .*

*A barbed wire fence it tore the children's clothes and make [sic] their mother scold. Yes, it tore the pocketbooks too and out rolled the money but we have all got the wilderness to cross. A barbed wire fence! Those dogs, cats, pigs and poultry and every other pest, the wild unruly children numbered with the rest--not the Denune children but the neighbors' children--Why! they made a play ground on our garden spot as if there was no fence there. But we have got another new fence and comfort is insured.*

*No dogs, cats, pigs, or poultry get through the last new fence,--a woven wire fence. O, Friends, we are far upon the way by foes surrounded every day, our hearts are full of pain and loss for we have all got the wilderness to cross, But courage 'tis the Father's hand that leads us to a better land.*



Margaret "Marg", daughter of A.B. Denune, and her husband George Decker





George and Marg Decker with their harvest

## Ethel's Maternal Ancestors

Ethel's mother, Fannie Fern Ferris Denune researched her family genealogy. She saved stories about and letters from her family. Some of the information she gathered and saved was from the Bancroft of Barrow, who lived and died prior to 1559.

It is believed Fannie received the following upon enquiring about her family genealogy.

*Authorities Drawn Upon. Not until it was too late to do so did I realize the importance of naming the authority for every statement made or name and date given. No careless work has been intentionally done. Mr. John M. Bancroft of Bloomfield, N.J., at whose house I visited in June 1906, is my authority for nearly all of the statements regarding events in the lives of the Bancrofts of this line prior to about 1750. Later ones come from family records and various other sources; they are here recorded with care and I hope that they are correct.*

A. L. Bancroft, 1841

Ohio, July 1906

The following is believed to have been written by Fannie Fern Ferris Denune (Mother of Ethel) from the records of A. L. Bancroft.

*Azariah Bancroft (Great Great grandfather of Ethel) was born 13 April 1768 at Granville, Mass. He married Tabitha Pratt (Ethel's Great Great grandmother) in 1793. She was a daughter of Gerard and Dorcas Pratt; she was born 7 March 1771 and died 29 January 1842 at Granville, Ohio. Azariah was a farmer, as nearly all the Bancrofts of that period were. When the Colony left Granville, Mass. for Granville, Ohio in 1805, he was unable to dispose of his farm and could not go at that time. In 1809 he went to Lake Lewis, now Eagles Mere a noted summer resort, in Lycoming County, Pennsylvania under engagement to George Lewis, the owner of a large tract of land which he opened up, improved, established a colony, built glass works and established the glass industry. His pay for three years was \$200 a year and provisioned [provisions] and then \$300 a year for two years. In 1814 he went on to Granville, Ohio and bought and located on a farm a mile or two south of the town. He died 25 October 1828 at Granville, Ohio.*

Fannie (Ethel's Mother) wrote at the end of this paragraph, "I should liked to have known him, personally."

*Matilda Bancroft (Ethel's Great grandmother) left Granville, Mass. with her parents when she was twelve years old for Lake Lewis, ( now Eagles Mere) Penn., where her father was employed for five years and then went on into what she called the far west, Granville, Ohio. It was a great grief to her to leave her old home because it deprived her of school advantages.*

*In later life she told her grandchildren, that, when she was young she used to be affected with the giggles and it seemed she could not stop; but, when thinking of the fact that she was only twelve years old and never again would be privileged to go to school, her silly emotions would immediately leave her because of the sadness which came to her whenever she remembered her school days were at a close.*

*Matilda was a serious child, old for her years and of wonderful perseverance. Not being discouraged, she determined to become a scholar and from that day until the time of her death, she never lost an opportunity to read good books always with a*



*dictionary at hand, which she never failed to consult when in doubt.*

*Grandma Case (Matilda Bancroft Case) was a small delicate woman about five feet in height and weighing about 85 pounds but what she lacked in stature and strength was more than made up for by her broad intellectual brow and large sparkling black eyes, and no one felt when in conversation with her that she was a small woman. She was unusually sensitive, her desires were far beyond her means, and her energetic way of over-coming difficulties was remarkable. I [Fannie] remember her telling me about a large stump in her door-yard. It was very unsightly and she could not get it removed: finally she had a flower bed made around it and with flowers and vines the old stump became a thing of beauty. This incident illustrates her whole life. The obstacles in her progress she struggled to overcome and frequently fully succeeded.*

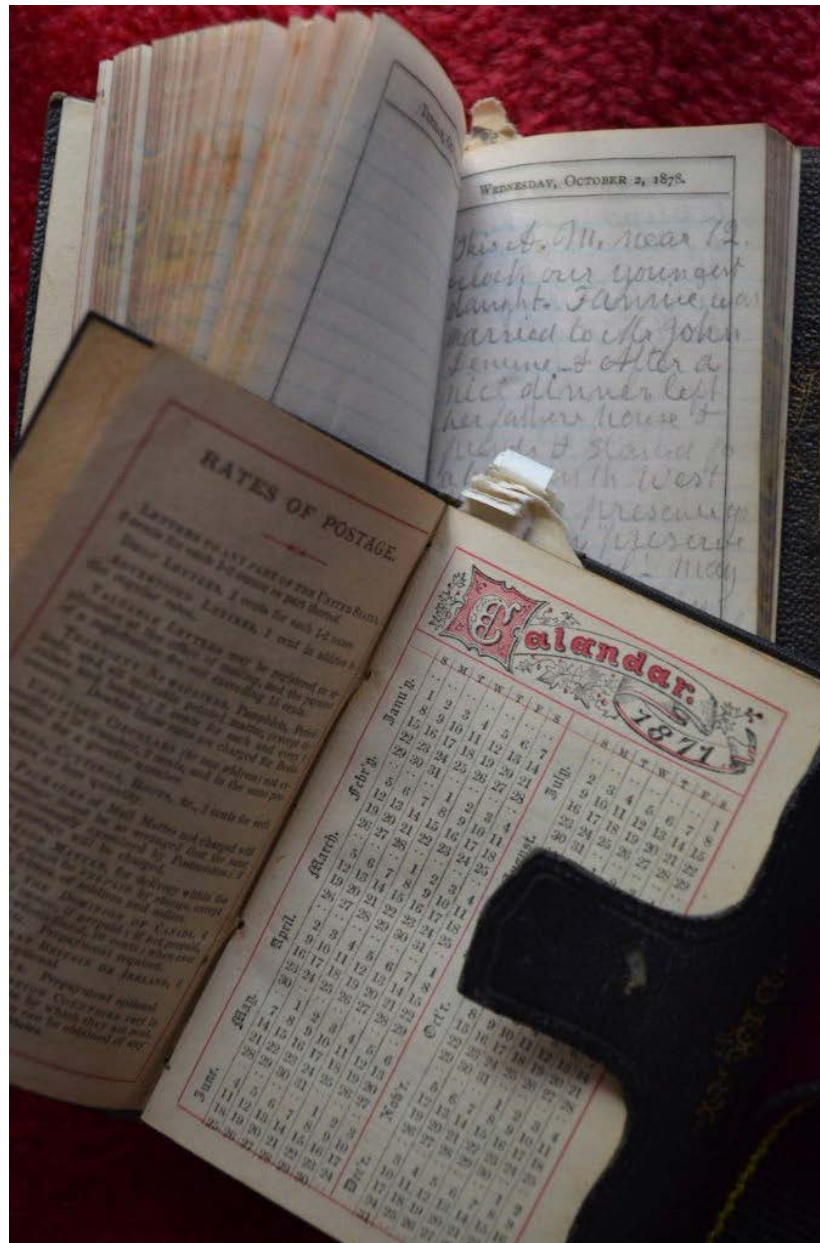


Matilda Bancroft Case



Matilda Bancroft Case

Every night beside her bed she placed a candle, some books, papers and a dictionary in case she was wakeful. In the daytime when she was sewing or knitting, her books, papers and dictionary were always close at hand so that if she tired she could rest by reading a little. A friend who knew Grandma well once said that to have Grandma Case around was like having a dictionary and [a] Bible Dictionary that could be consulted without looking for the words.



Matilda's diaries

*She was a devout Christian woman being a member of the Presbyterian Church and her faith in God's presence with his people was a source of great comfort to her.*

*At the age of twenty-two, Matilda married Lester Case, probably at Granville, Ohio. Lester, son of Job Case, moved to Granville, Ohio in 1805. Lester was well educated, a great reader and a kind and good man. Their home was on a farm about eight miles east of Columbus, Ohio. His grand-children remember how he roasted potatoes in the ashes for them, and of the choice apples that awaited their arrival. He was a soldier in the War of 1812 and she, in writing in her diary of the pension she received after his death, spoke of it as "the Lord's money," because she said, "It seemed as a gift from Him."*

*Lester Case was an Abolitionist and [is] said to have operated [sic] a station of the underground railroad. He also had a general store in Granville, Ohio. Lester sent his partner and/or trusted employee East by wagon train in order to buy merchandice [sic] for the store. [A] wagon train was used rather than [the] rail road, as it was before that era in central Ohio. The man absconded [absconded] and left Lester bankrupt. There were no laws to protect the bankrupt at that time. He was in financial trouble most of the rest of his life. His farm and other property were held in trust from April 18, 1835. It is believed he owned the property in his own right before he died.*





Lester and Matilda Case

*Grandma was always an early riser and considered it indolent and sinful not to be up and doing by five o'clock; even in the winter and at the advanced age of eighty-five years she was always up early in the morning.*

*Her daughter Mary was teaching school a short distance south of Columbus, about ten miles from their home. The day Mary died, Grandma arose much earlier than usual. Grandma did not know but that Mary was in her usual health, but she felt impressed that she must go to her. She hurried with her morning work and was getting ready to go when the messenger came to tell her of her daughter's illness. Mary died that day and Grandma said she did not often tell of the incident for fear it would indicate superstition but she considered the presentment a preparation for the shock of her daughter's sudden death.*

*People who knew her in her later life, speak of her as the most cultured woman of her community.*

*During her last illness she was very tenderly cared for by her niece Miss Amelia Bancroft. She died at the home of her brother Henry Lincoln Bancroft in Granville, Ohio 17 Aug. 1882 and was laid to rest in the Granville Cemetery.*

*Lucretia Case [ Fannie's mother and Ethel's grandmother]; daughter of Matilda (Bancroft) Case, 1797; daughter of Azariah Bancroft 1768, was born 15 December 1822 at Granville, Ohio*



Lucretia Case

*Lucretia spent her childhood with her parents on a farm about five miles north of Columbus. She has been described to me as a beautiful child with brown hair and grey eyes and a very fair complexion.*

*Like her mother, Matilda (Bancroft) Case, she was thoughtful, but where energy and perseverance predominated in the mother, patience, hopefulness, thankfulness and resignation were characteristic of the daughter. When she was six years old, she was riding with her mother and an aunt over a very rough road; as they drove along there were occasional remarks about the rough road; finally Lucretia said, "Why, Ma, you and Aunt speak about every bad place in the road but you never notice the smooth places which we have every once in a while."*

*All through her life she carried that spirit of thankfulness, never complaining at the hardships of life, but cheering herself and others by remembering only the bright spots.*

*She received her education at Granville Female College. After leaving school she taught for some time. She had a very good education and was a very devoted mother and wife, denying herself very greatly in order to give her children all the educational advantages possible. She was an earnest Christian, very quiet and unassuming in her home. The children remember with pleasure the Sabbath evenings, when mother would call them around the old fire place [fireplace] and there they would repeat together the Ten c[C]ommandments and many passages of the Scripture. Then there was the Catechism, which they enjoyed answering, and the songs that mother sang were so dear; their memory lingers yet.*



Granville Female College



Lucretia married John Nelson Ferris. John was a farmer almost all of his life. He owned a farm on Shrock Road near Cleveland Avenue. It was then called Harbor Road. He and Lucretia were believed to have married in 1842.



John Nelson Ferris, Lucretia Case Ferris, and children



Lucretia and John Nelson Ferris



Hal Ferris (Lucretia's son and Fannie's brother) in his first pair of pants

*My mother (Fannie writes of Lucretia) had the most perfect control over her expression and temper of anyone I ever knew. I never heard her speak unbecomingly. My brother Jasper, a man grown, said when she died, "I never heard my mother scold." I remember her as a mild, sweet faced and gentile [genteel]; slight, but not frail, and a little below the medium height with always a gentle dignified bearing.*

*The family moved to Colorado Springs, Colo., Jan. 1879, thinking that their health would be greatly benefited by the change. But during the winter of the second year she (Lucretia) contracted typhoid pneumonia which, on 28 April 1881 brought to a close a useful and beautiful life. Her remains were brought back to Ohio and laid to rest in Walnut grove Cemetery, Worthington, Ohio.*

A couple years after their mother's death a letter was written to Fannie's husband, J. B. Denune by Fannie's brother, Jasper. The letter read as follows:

*Colorado Springs, Col.  
April 18th 1883.(?)*

*Mr. J. B. Denune*

*Dear. Brother.*

*I received your very welcome letter two or three days ago and was very glad to hear from you.*

*We are all quite well at present. Pa has been ailing some this winter. [sic]and the little boy. [sic] (Arthur) has had two very sick spells. [sic] but he is strong and full of fun now.*

*Dell and Hal are teaming: and have been for some time: they are hauling lumber now but will get the contrgret [sic] filled in two or three says.*

*I am not doing anything now: have been running a coal mine for a man in town. til a short time ago. We closed it for the summer but will open it next fall: [sic] it does not pay through the warm weather. [sic] for it is so far from town.*

*I do not know what I will do this summer. Dell is going up the mountains he think of starting the first of next month. He is going to look for our fortune: we think it*

*may be there. and if we dont [sic] look for it we will not find it: and if we do not find it there we will not grieve much, but look some where else.*

*There will be a lively time here this summer: [sic] the mountains will be turned up side down with prospecters: [sic] they are coming out here very fast now; from all parts of the east.*

*We are having very windy weather the sand is blowing most of the time. [sic] and once in a while so bad that one can hardly be out at all.*

*The winter has been very mild most of the stock is in good condition. I helped a man kill some beef the other day that were fat and nice. [sic] and they were grass fed beef. [sic] they never had any corn.*

*I like this country better than that for we don't have to feed all winter to keep stock alive till spring: [sic] some times we have to feed two or three days when there is snow.*

*You reminded me that I had a sister Fannie: [sic] I am glad to learn that she is my sister still.*

*I have not heard from her for so long, that I thought she did not consider her self my sister.*

*It will soon be two years since I have had any word from her: [sic] I have heard of her through others, but that is all. I suppose that you know that John Heissingy is out here he has been here about a weak, he is working at the carpenter trade.*

*I will close for this time*

*Pleas [sic] write soon.*

*Respectfully*

*Jap*

It should be noted that Fannie's brother, Jasper, remained in Colorado with his parents and some of his siblings, including Dell and Hal. Jap (Jasper) worked for the railroad. On January 19, 1886, when he was in the Aspen, Colorado area, there was a terrible snow storm. The men were trapped. Some died and those who survived did so by drinking the blood of some of the dead. It was reported to be a

gruesome sight by those who rescued the surviving men. Jasper did not survive. His wife had preceded him in death and they had one young son.

The event was reported in a news paper article that reads as follows: "Buried by an Avalanche"

*Aspen, Col., Jan. 23 -- Out of eight men entombed in a cabin in Maroon Pass, by a snow slide, three were found dead and five suffering terribly from suffocation. Sol. Camp lay on his face dead. The body of Jap Farris was pinned across the back by heavy timbers. Martin Riley died five minutes after the disaster. Sol. Camp had sustained a terrible cut on his head, from which the blood flowed profusely. He became terribly thirsty, and being in the possition [sic] where he could hold his hands under his bleeding head and lift them to his mouth, he quenched his thirst by his own blood. All men alive were nearly crazy when found. All were undressed, and had bitten their hands and arms in delirium, and presented a sickening spectacle. They all may recover, but the cases of some of them are extremely doubtful.*

Another article about the incident reads as follows: "Farris [sic] Camp"

*Yesterday noon L. D. Farris [sic] and Newton Daniels arrived at Clayte's, on their way to Aspen. They looked around and asked, "Is anyone seriously hurt?" Mr. Farris [sic] received with silent grief the sad news, and said he would return for the other two boys, Nate Larison and Antonine Barnett. These are all the men up Maroon, and in a few more days the place will be deserted.*

*My (Fannie Fern Ferris) father JOHN NELSON FERRIS (Ethel's grandfather) was born in Pennsylvania January 1818. He was the son of Dennis Ferris and Nancy (Egbert) Ferris.*





Dennis and Nancy Egbert Ferris



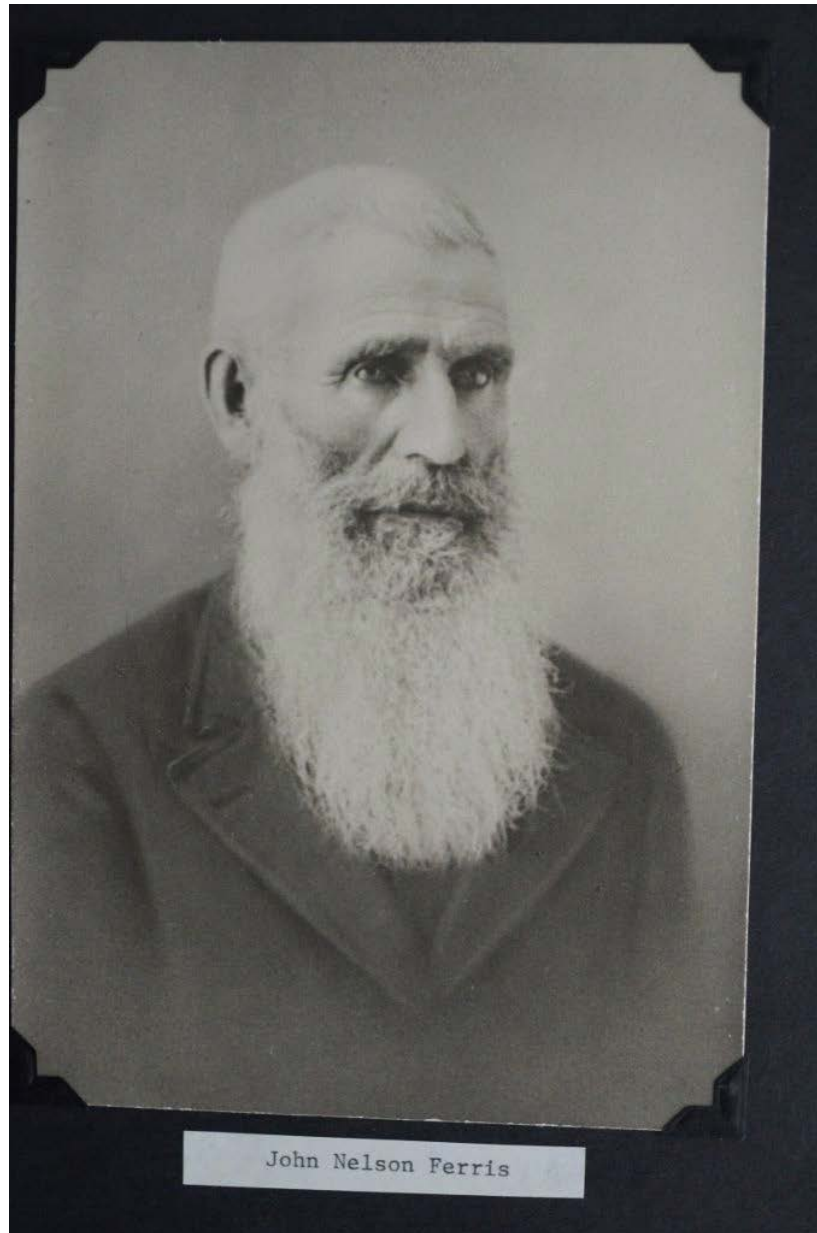
*When he was about three years old, his parents moved in wagons to Ohio. One night while they were stopping at a little town, he wandered away from his family, who were at the tavern looking and wondering at all the unfamiliar sights. At last he decided to return but could not find the way back and so began to cry. Some of the residents asked him where he was going and he replied, "I'm going to Mammy." They then wanted to know his name. His answer was, "Just Johnny." His parents in the meantime had missed him, and my grandmother (Nancy Egbert Ferris) relating the story said, "I was so frightened, I ran right out into the street without my bonnet on. At last we had the bell ring for the lost child and soon he was returned to us."*

*John Nelson Ferris became a kind and considerate father; a man of wonderful self-control and was loved and respected by all who knew him. He was a quiet man but had a way of making a lasting impression in very short sentences. Two of which he would repeat when occasion presented it's self [sic] were, "An idle mind is the Devil's workshop" and "Procastination is the theft of time". He was not a moralizer. He was modest and somewhat reserved. His father was an expert with horses. He may have inherited this from his father. When John drove to Columbus over the Plank road (now Cleveland Avenue) he had the horses groomed, the harness clean and shining and people would look and he would be stopped and have offers to buy but never sold. He also cared for the sheep, kept them looking at their best, if he happened to walk across the pasture the sheep would surround him and follow him. He would not kill or butcher a sheep. (This was observed by his sister Mary Ferris Sale and documented by her son Walter).*

Genealogical research has not yet established whether these Ferris' were descended from Guadeloupe de Ferris, Master of Horse to William the Conqueror, who came from Normandy in about 1060. Time will tell.

After the death of John Nelson Ferris' beloved wife, Lucretia Case Ferris, he remained in Colorado. John lived with his children. His Grandson, Jasper's son (also known as Jap), Arthur, remained with his Grandfather and other family members until he reached adulthood. While Arthur was young and living with his grandfather in Colorado, there were many Native Americans in nearby camps. John Ferris knew the Native Americans as the Ferris' camped out herding their sheep in sections where there were many Native American camps. It is believed that they were of the Ute tribe. The Utes were very fond of the white baby and would always ask John to take him to their camp. John always refused. One day

they came and forcibly took him with them. They reportedly laughed when holding Arthur's grandfather while others took Arthur out of sight. They told John to remain in camp and that they would return Arthur that evening. That evening they returned Arthur having made him a pair of baby moccasins. They were a perfect fit and of fine workmanship. John died in the state of Washington at the home of his son J. E. Ferris, Feb 1892 and was buried in Walnut Grove Cemetery, Worthington, Ohio with his wife, Lucretia.



John Nelson Ferris



Arthur Ferris

After his grandfather's death in 1892, Arthur stayed in Colorado with Dell and Hal as well as the Shoup family (Fannie's sister, Delia's, family). When Arthur decided to go out on his own, he found employment at several ranches and at the time of the gold rush in South Africa, he moved there, near Pretoria, Transvaal. The family last heard from Arthur when he was working his way back to the United States by boat. He was headed for Galveston, Texas and had requested to visit Ohio. To the knowledge of the family, Arthur never returned to Ohio.

Another letter was received from Fannie's family in the West. It was from her brother, Hal. Ethel's Uncle Hal. Hal's letter read as follows:

*La Center, Wash. February 14, 1902*

*My Dear Sister and All:*

*Oh, Anna I do not know how or why I have been so neglectful in writing, unless it is because it seems hard for me to settle down to my own quiet thoughts, since Lydia has been gone, and and [sic] now that my darling little boy has gone home too to be with his mama, and although I believe they ar [sic] far more happy there than they were here, yet Oh we are so lonely and miserable. Lloyd was so talkative, and so loving. I don't know that I ever went away from the house to be gone even just a little while, or Dell either, but he would kiss us good by, and lots of times when he was only going outside to play, he would bid us the same good by. And if it was Sunday or rainy days he wanted us to read to him from Stories of the Bible, or some of his other books while sitting on our laps. He always loved to be held and rock [sic]. Now it is so changed, he don't climb into our laps, put his arms around our necks, or run and hide as he hears one of us coming in for us to find, all is so miserably quiet.*

*It seems he always liked a saw or an ax, or most any tool. So on his last birthday we got an ax for him, he thought so much of it. He had told me many times not to get too small an ax, that he wanted one that would chop, so I got a three pound ax and Dell put a short handle in it for him, a little before Dell got his handle done, Lloyd put in a broken double bit handle (a straight one) it did not work well with this ax and he cut his foot a little, but not bad. He was not awkward, many people had remarked that he was so clever with an ax, but this time I was splitting cord wood, Dell was sawing not far away Lloyd was trying to help me, he would often want me to start the wedge so he could strike it while I was piling or cording a few sticks, but I did not like for him to use the splitting hammer as it was too heavy*

*(about 10lbs.) for him. Sometimes I told him not to but he would say "O papa I like to help." While I was splitting he would often stand at the other end of the "cut" or chunk and as the "cut" would begin to split open he would cut slivers for me, sometimes I would laugh at him when he didn't hit a sliver right or if he missed it, but every chance he could he would take the hammer to strike the wedges, and I let him split one "cut" open about 18 inches through I think all himself while I was rolling the others closer to the cord pile. After little I heard him telling Uncle how he had been trying to help papa, "coz papa's back hurt" which he had noticed I suppose from the way I would streighten [sic] up and put my hand on my hip, sometimes my back or my hips or both pain me a little.*

*Soon he was back near me cutting hazel bushes, I had looked at him and saw that he seemed to be enjoying himself. Presently Uncle called that it was time for him to take papa home to supper, I was working on a cut which I wanted to finish, Lloyd started to come to me, I had noticed that he was coming along walking on a log (the top of the tree I was working at) and as soon as I could pile these sticks which I had just got split we would go home. - I heard him cry out, turning quickly I saw him holding up his left hand, and the little and third fingers hanging down cut at the second joint. I went to him with "Oh how in the world did you do that." "O papa I fell down." As the little fellow explained, in stepping off the log he fell, with the ax in his right hand holding near the ax, and throwing both arms out the ax came down on the backs of his fingers, the second finger was cut a little, but not but a little, the third was cut nearly off, the little finger not quite so bad as the third but the bone was cut off in it too. It was nine miles to the only doctor we knew of, and we thought to take him so far would take so long that there would be no chance then of saving the finger, so the only thing seemed to be to do it myself, so I ran on to the house while Dell carried him on his back. You don't know how I felt, I just cried on the way to the house, it seemed that I was not equal to the task. I prayed continually for help, I was afraid I could not do it right. Lloyd did not cry much. I think he had stopped almost entirely when they got to the house, when we commenced to fix it he cried a little, and it seemed to make me nervous, I said "Lloyd now don't cry please don't cry I can't fix it if you do and I must do it." I don't think he hardly whimpered any more while dressing it I took two stiches in the third finger, took little strips of past board [sic] for splints put lots of Russia Salve on the bandages next to the finger used strips of Surgical tape to draw the little one together then pastboard [sic] splinters, salve and bandages, and when it was done so glad. I had done my best with what we had. He rested quite well slept quite a little that night. That was Monday Dec. 30.*

*Next morning I went to town (La Center) to see a man who was said to be a doctor, he told me I had done all that could be done until we knew whether or not the fingers would grow, so I thought it might be that he would get along all right. But as we were still uneasy I went again on Wednesday to La Center and telephoned to a Doctor P. L. McKenzie at Portland who had doctored Lydia the last few months of her life, and who had told me that if I had brought her to him a year sooner he could have saved her. He was quite successful where I had known of his practice for some years about West Portland. I told him of Lloyd's accident and how I had dressed it, and what I was doing to prevent inflammation, he told me that if there was no separation [suppuration] it would be all right for a week, by about that time if the fingers did not do well they would turn black and in that case must be amputated, he said if the bandages were put on well and air tight there would be no separation [suppuration], and were doing as well as could be done at present, he asked if the hand or fingers was paining him badly, which they were not, sometimes he would complain a little, at other times he said it did not hurt much. So we thought he was just getting along splendid: by Thursday night the third finger was looking quite dark, on Friday morning it was worse, Dell started to town to get a rig of some kind to take him down in.*

*I began to get his things and ourselves ready. Still he did not complain only occasionally he would say "papa it hurts it throbs" he would sit and rock in the rocking chair, sometimes one of us would hold him and read to him or he would walk about the room. Along in the afternoon a boy came and told us that one of the horses of the team Dell got had taken sick, that Dell had gone back to town again. Dell didn't come until about dark and told us that he had learned that the boat we were intending to take Saturday morning at five oclock in the morning would not go from La Center, but from below about 3 miles but that it would leave la Center that afternoon Friday that he had seen the Captain who promised to wait for us until 2 oclock, but the horse taking sick had thrown him so far behind that he could not get us there, so had gone back, then we didn't know what to do. But finally I took the lantern, (Lloyd objected a little and so did Dell thinking it a rather bad trip) I told Lloyd I would be back as soon as I could get back, it was raining and quite dark but the lantern was all right, I could see the foot board good - you see we take the floom [flume], it saves about a mile, its about three miles by the road to La Center, there is an 8 in. plank to the walk on, at the edge of the floom [flume], some places it is a little high but one don't notice the height when you can't see the bottom - and I found that there was a Gasoline Launch going to go down the river the next morning, and they would take us to the mouth of the river ( Louis river) there I could get someone to take us over the Columbia to*

*St. Helens where we could catch a boat or train for Portland.*

*We had an early breakfast, Lloyd was cheerful seemed to be feeling real well. We started about five oclock - the Launch was to leave at seven - We had gotten a new pair of rubber boots for Lloyd the first he had ever had, intended them for Christmas but the first pair were too small so I tried to change them but they had to send to Portland so that I only got them home Friday night, he liked them so much and so we let him walk a little then I took him on my back, with his good arm holding round my neck the other just over my shoulder, I carried him to the floom [flume] about half a mile. I was afraid to try to carry him down the floom [flume]. Dell thought he could so he took him on his back as I had had him - Oh. we could carry him down but we couldn't bring him back - We went about a mile I guess then went across to the road not risking to go over the highest places, and from there Lloyd walked, said we didn't hurt him carrying him.*

*O how he did enjoy the ride in the launch about 6 miles. Then we got a man in a fishing boat to take us to St. Hellens (or start for there) it was very foggy on the Columbia so it had been too on Louis River,- and soon we heard a boat whistle, now if we could only get near enough to make ourselves heard we could get aboard and not go clear to St Hellens, as the boat would blow her whistle every little while we could tell about where it was, how we did row, soon the fog lifted a little and we saw the boat crossing our boro a good way ahead of us, the man tried to halloo but he could not have been heard far, then as I was so anxious I opened my mouth, and now, I made a noise. The Captain put his head out of the window, and I told him we wanted passage to Portland, they stopped and waited for us, we got to Portland about noon, got our dinners had our hair cut, then it was just about time for the doctor to be in his office, (2:00 pm) he looked at the ends of Lloyd's finger, said he thought it would have to come off, but wanted us to go to a doctor who he said was doing more of that work than he and would be better prepared, while he would have to make some preparations, and that Dr. Jefferds was a first class surgeon, "but"- said- "I don't know him." he said "but I do know him if I didn't I wouldn't send you to him." So we went to see Dr. Jefferds.*

*On the way we saw an automobile, the first I think Lloyd had ever seen, he was so interested in it. Dr. Jefferds told us to go to the North Pacific Sanitorium the next morning. Lloyd felt very bad because Laura would find it out before he had it attended to, he wanted it fixed before she knew he had gotten cut.*

*When we left the Dr., Lloyd told me that he rather liked that Dr. he believed he*



*rather he would fix his hand than Dr. McKenzie. Well we stayed at Laura's and the next morning went to the Sanatorium [Sanitorium]. After undressing and putting on a night gown I carried him into the operating room, and laid him on the table - I had told him as near as I could how things would be what they would do, that they would give him something to smell that would put him to sleep, as the helping doctor got ready to administer the ether he asked Lloyd his name, he told him as he always to anyone asking his name "Lloyd Clarence Ferris," "and how old are you," "Seven years old the tenth day of last June." "Well you have that down pat," said the doctor, several nurses standing by looked at each other and smiled. Lloyd didn't want me to leave him I told him I would not leave my little boy, but when the doctor began cutting, things began to seem strange to me, and I started to walk about, one of the nurses looked at me and said I better go out I said 'I guessed I'd have to,' she said "go be quick," and in another room she gave me some medicine which perhaps helped anyway I was soon alright, and went back, but I could not stay it was more than I could stand. Well we stayed there until evening and then went back to Laura's, they just took off the third finger, they said they were well done up as well as some doctors would have done.*

*Monday Lloyd seemed to have a real nice time. I cautioned him several time to be careful lest he would hurt his sore hand, but he would say it didn't hurt much, he played several games of checkers with Edna and another young lady there. But Tuesday morning as I was dressing him he said "Papa my mouth feels funny or queer," I asked what was the matter he said "it felt full someway," I told him to open his mouth, he could not open it far and I said why that looks like lockjaw, he said "It was this way a little yesterday, but it didn't last long, guess this will go away pretty soon." That puzzled me, he couldn't eat any breakfast, just drank a little milk a small glass, but he did not seem to feel very bad as he went to playing checkers with the young lady, I forget her name. He didn't want me to leave him but I thought best for him not to go, after I had gone to see the doctor, he told Miss Francis - that "he was going to try to be a happy boy now while Papa was gone." I think from what she told me he meant to imply that it was because papa wanted him to be happy. When I told the doctor that my boy had symptoms of lockjaw, he said it was impossible, from such a wound as that, a clean cut, that I misstook the symptoms, but that if he was not better after noon he would come to the house to see about it, about 2:30 he came, Lloyd has a bad spell while he was there, almost a spasm, still he said it was not lockjaw, he told us what to do and at about 7.p.m. came back again, called me out into the hall - Lloy [sic] had seemed worse and I had held him most all the afternoon - and told me to take him back to the Sanatorium said he would go to the office and get some sceerum (don't know how*

to spell it) or Antitoxine then he would come back and go with me to the Sanitorium, we wrapped [sic] him up and started, he didn't want to go, but when I told him I didn't think he would have to take any more ether he did not object, he told the girls goodbye [sic], then as we were going down the steps I carried him in my arms he called back to them on the porch [sic], "goodby, goodby" [sic] When they were ready to inject the serum I told him, and what it was for, and that it would hurt when they put it through the skin, and to be a little man, and he hardly whimpered, he whispered to me with his dear little face drawn considerably "It hurts papa," "yes my dear boy I know it hurts." The doctor thanked him two or three times for being so good, well, I had a hard night of it but my poor boy had it harder, not that it was hard for me only that I just had to look on and see him suffer so and could do nothing to stop those terrible spasms, the spasm was severe rigid contraction of the back muscles bending him backward, along in the night sometime. I counted and he had eight spasms in an hour. Between the spasms he said he had no pain, but felt alright, but the spasms were terrible once he said "O it hurts so," once he said "can't you help me papa." I could hardly control my voice, sometimes well sometimes I just could not. I told him "papa was doing and having done all we knew how, and that Jesus must do the rest," and told him to ask Jesus too in his own way to help us, after a while I spoke of it again, he said "I did papa." When he felt the spasm coming on he would hold out his good hand and say "Papa papa," and I would take his hand in one of mine and put my other under his head and raise him up, and after I learned it helped him I would tell him not to try to resist or to brace himself, but to just let all holds go, relax his muscles, and it seemed to help him a good deal. The spasms were not long usually, not half a minute I don't think. As I was holding him on my arm at one time, he was just getting over a spasm. I was praying God to help my poor little boy, I did not speak aloud but he heard me. I had told him I was asking Jesus to help him most all the time, He spoke right up and said "help us Jesus. Oh dear Jesus do help us." Oh, I did think Jesus would hear a plea so earnest, from a child.

Wednesday I thought he was a good deal better. The head nurse said it really looked like the serum was going to cure him he took a little beef tea, milk and water, and said it was good. The girls were dissatisfied with Dr. Jefferds so we called in a Dr. Mackenzie, said to be the best in Portland, he advised taking off the other 2 fingers which they did about eight o'clock that evening, but from about four in the afternoon Lloyd was becoming more restless, I raised him every little while every 2 to 4 minutes, when he got over the ether, about nine the spasms were very short, but very frequent 67 in an hour and he was much weaker, his pulse and temperature had been, so they said, normal, all along and I looked at the

*thermometer occasionally myself and it was not at the fever mark, but he seemed to look so much worse about 11 o'clock or maybe [sic] 10, I asked the nurse if she noticed any change for the worse, she said she could not say that she did, but that he was an awfully sick boy. She took his temperature then, and didn't say anything, I asked what it was, she appeared not to hear, I asked again to please tell me his temperature, she partly turned from me, then said 106.2 it was almost like a shock to me.*

*I had not known that his temperature was rising, and I was very hopeful all along, for now he had lived over 36 hours since it began, and from what he said of his having the same feeling on Monday, would make it at least another 12 hours, and as it usually terminates fatally inside of 24, I had great hope for his recovery, but now I could only say, a hundred and six.two: I sat for a little while looking at him, saying to myself "Oh my boy, my boy, my little boy" Then I bent over close to him and told him - first I asked the nurse if it would do any good to call the doctor and she said "not a bit in the world, we are doing all that can be done" - that he was going to his mama, 'yes my little boy is going to leave papa but is going to his mama, mama will be waiting for you can you see mama Lloyd: "no I can't see mama", the nurse said "can you see papa," "not very well," then I said "my little boy, O my little boy," he said "Papa's little boy." "O my darling little boy." "Papa's darling little boy," and it seemed hard for him to say it, but he said it clearly and distinctly, then the nurse left the room and a young man a medical student came in and said he was going to give him some medicine, but Lloyd could not speak to him now as he most always did when anyone came who had not been there for an hour or two, this man had been in several times, Lloyd did not speak any more, the spasms had almost stopped, he was unconscious for perhaps an hour at 1:20 (so the young man said) he just stopped breathing his right hand moved a little, and he was still, then his face lit up with the brightest [sic] smile - "O look, look." I said then the happy smile was gone. The student said "That is the most beautiful death I ever saw, and I have seen lots of them." "Papa's darling little boy," was with his mama, and it was seeing her, I'm sure, that brought that happy smile, I was sure they were happy, but why was I left behind, "Oh, my boy, my boy." is the constant cry of my lonely soul, we are so lonely, so very lonely. Home has not been home since his mama went, but he did his very best to be cheerful and make it home like, but what is it now? It seems a sad and lonesome home to us now.*

*This is an awful letter, but you asked to know of his accident and life, and this will help to give an idea of his kind nature, and loving disposition, perhaps Dell will*

*write soon and tell a little more that I have left out. Have you one of his pictures taken when he was five years old? I am so sorry but I have not had any taken since. I think I will have some taken from such as I have and if you have none I might send one to you. Please let us hear from you I will try to do better and write sooner next time. I often spoke of writing to you but did not get it done. You said nothing of your folks suppose they are well. Mary must be quite a girl now, about 10 isn't she, and John is a good big boy of 12 or 13 I guess and then there is Maud and Edith, perhaps I should not mention them, they may be indignant but you tell them I am very much ashamed of the way I did neglect answering their letters. Lydia use to tell me I ought to be ashamed and I was but that didn't get the writing done, but you see I had the house keeping to do and some mending there last two years I have not done much writing.*

*Your bro.*

*Hal S. Ferris*

*La Center, Wash*



Hal, Lydia, and Lloyd Ferris



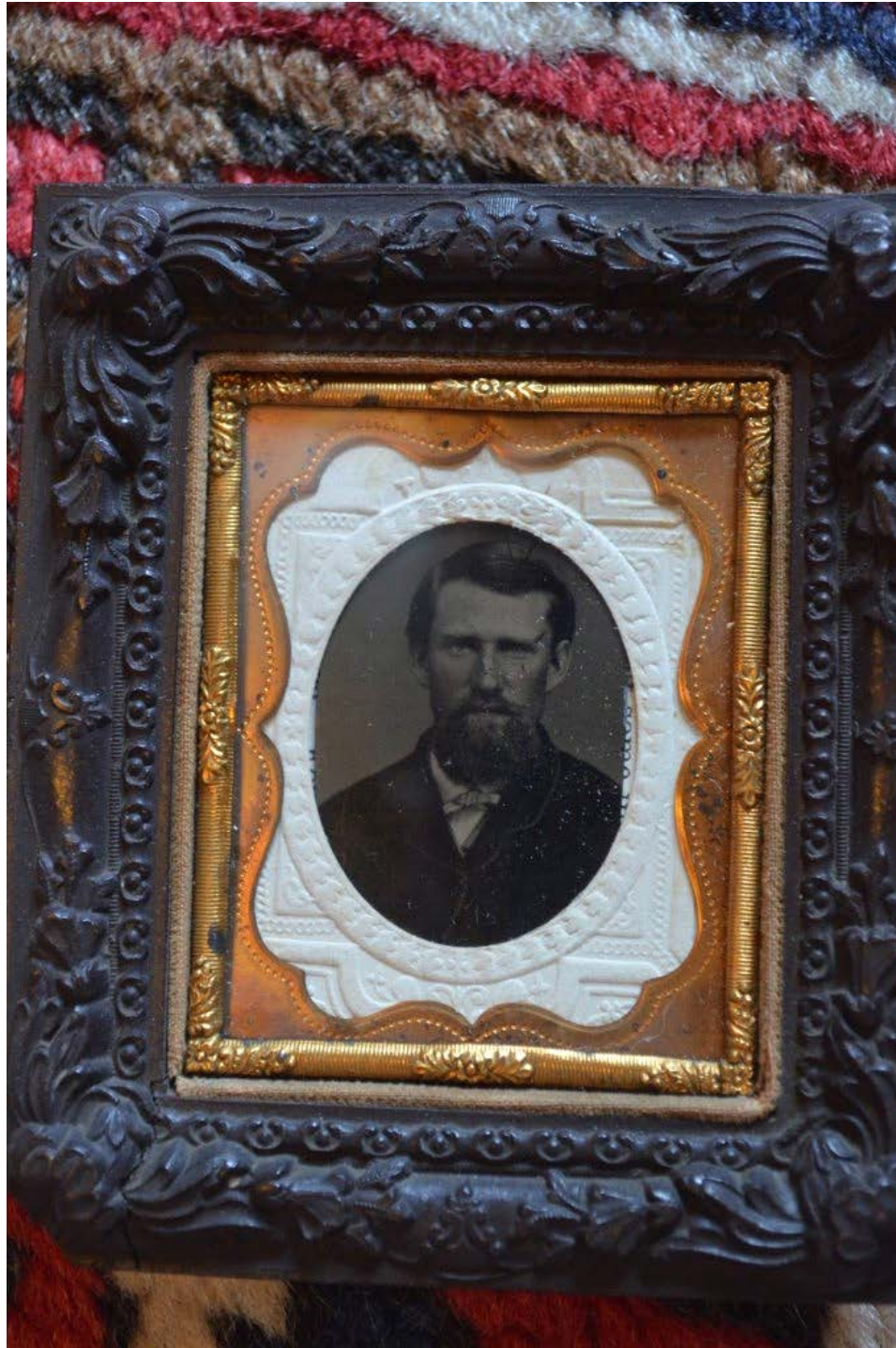
Lloyd Clarence Ferris



1905, a short three years later, another letter arrived . This one from Hal and Fannie's brother, Dell, now living in Coconut Grove, Florida. Dell wrote, "I am lonely tonight. I am all alone with God and memory." He spoke of love and remembrances, and how he and Hal enjoyed their last visit. When Hal took sick, they were setting out the plants. Dell felt the Lord needed Hal in another field. He spoke of the harsh weather in upper Florida killing all of the orange groves to the ground. Dell wrote: "I have rare pictures on memorys [sic] wall, how I wish you were here; I ment [sic] try to pull the curtain away so that you could see them. They are very precious, for they are of real human lives. Some of these lives you have not known, but you know one of them, and the others you will meet, by and by; they are all together. You will find them on the sunny banks of the river of life."

"You know when they will bound  
When the rippling sound  
Of your boat comes over the sea.  
You shall see them stand  
On the gleaming sand,  
Their white armes o're the tide,  
Waiting to twine their hands in thine  
When you reach the other side."

Poor Dell suffered much loss in such a short span of time.



Dell Ferris

Fannie had nine brothers and sisters. Some, as Fannie, stayed in Ohio. Others lived in Colorado, Washington, and Florida.

# Fannie and John Denune

(Ethel's Parents)

Fannie was a slight woman with big blue eyes and brown hair with a hint of gold. John "J. B." was slender, handsome, and hard working. He was the great great grandson of a Scotsman who traveled to America by way of France.



Fannie and John, "J.B."

Fannie was interested in the history of her family. She researched the history of her family and also documented her own history. Her daughter's, Ethel and Ina, shared this interest.

(The following section written, in third person, by Fannie Fern Ferris.)

*Fannie Fern Ferris born 1859, daughter of Lucretia (Case) Ferris born 1822; daughter of Matilda (Bancroft) Case born 1797; daughter of Azariah Bancroft, 1768. (and Tabitha Pratt Bancroft)*

*Fannie Fern Ferris was born near Westerville, Ohio 6 October 1859, where she*

*lived until she was five years old. At that time her parents moved to Champaign County, Ill. After the death of her grandfather, Lester Case, four years later, the family returned to Ohio and lived on a farm belonging to her mother, Lucretia (Case) Ferris, in Clinton Township. She attended the district school until 1875 when she went to Central College where she pursued her studies in an academic line. At this school she was a member of the Phi Delta Sigma Literary Society. During the years 1877 and 1878 she taught District School about five miles north of Columbus. She was especially fond of her Grandmother Matilda (Bancroft) Case, and a great deal of her life at home was spent in her company. Considerable sewing on her wedding trousseau was done by her grandmother, who was an expert with the needle.*

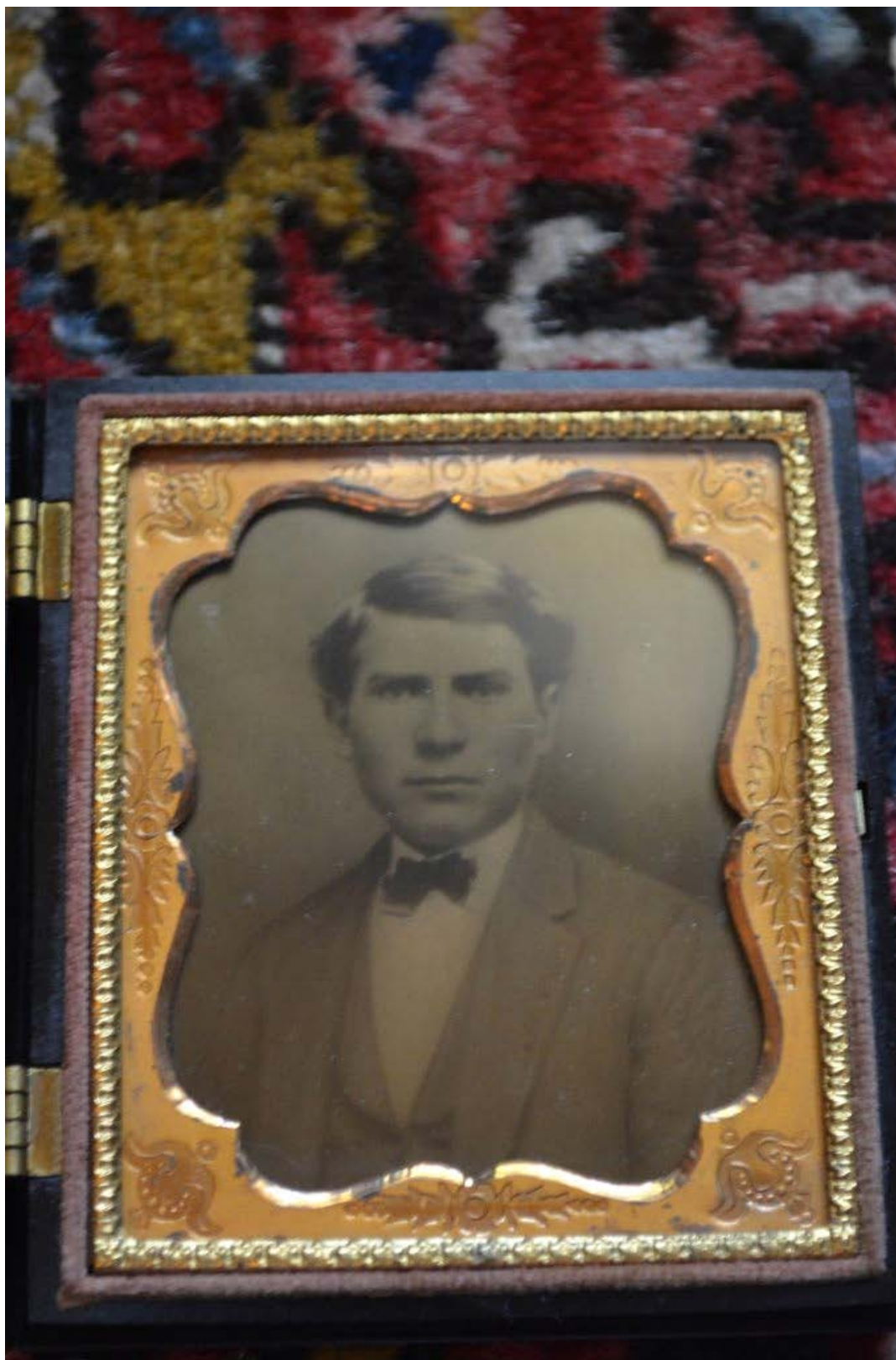
Fannie Fern Ferris and John B. Denune were married 2 October 1878. On this day Matilda, Fannie's grandmother, wrote in her diary, "This AM near 12 o'clock our youngest daughter, Fannie was married to Mr John Denune and after a nice dinner left her father's house and friends and started fo a home in the west may the preserve go with them, 'preserve from all evil.' - may it prove a happy union - may they follow thee thro life."

*John B. Denune's grandfather was a Frenchman (He was actually a Scotsman. His great great grandfather traveled to the colonies by way of Paris, France, having attended medical school in Paris.) who came to this country during the way of the Revolution.*



John Baughman Denune "J.B."





John Baughman Denune "J.B."



*He is a member of the Linden Christian Church. He has great appreciation for music and culture.*

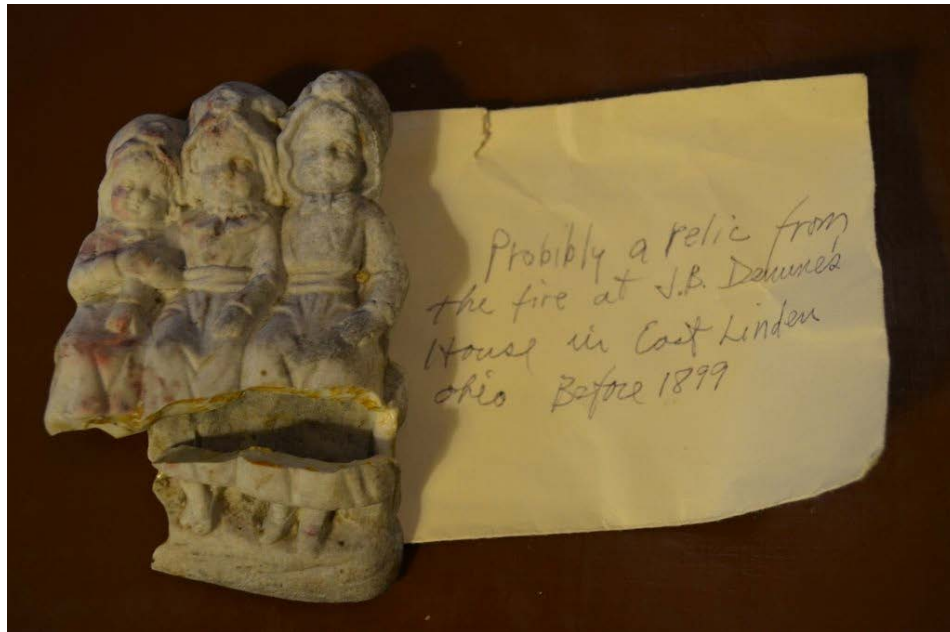
*After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Denune traveled in the West for some time and at Sedalia, Mo., she studied art and painting in oil. In 1879 they returned to their old home Franklin County, Ohio. In 1882, they went to Ada, Ohio where Mr. Denune attended school at Ohio Northern and Mrs. Denune continued her studies in oil painting, making a specialty of portrait painting. In 1883 they returned to the farm in Mifflin Township, Franklin county, Ohio, where they lived until 1888, moving to Columbus during the school years in order that their children might have better school advantages.*



Fannie and John

*In 1888 the home, which was the Lester Case farmhouse, was destroyed by fire together with many valuable relics and records of the Bancroft and Ferris families.*

*The following year they moved to Columbus but on the completion of a new home in Clinton (Mifflin) Township,-- Linden Heights, they moved there in June 1899 and have since made their home there.*



*Both are members of the Linden Christian Church.*

Fannie and John, being prosperous as they were, had several homes as well as businesses and rental properties. Before the plank road, the road to Linden, seasonally, would be quite muddy. Prior to building their home on Denune Avenue, they had a home East of Parkwood Avenue in Linden. Near this home had been their orchard and a baseball field. On Sundays, before the children could play baseball, they first had to go to church. That home burnt and their home on Denune Avenue was completed a year before their son, Jack, was born.



Baseball Players and some of the Denunes

Top row, left to right: Marguerite Denune, Ethel's sister; Adelaide Denune, Ethel's sister; Ethel Denune Young; Mike Dorsh; and J.B. Denune, Ethel, Adelaide, and Marguerite's father.

Second row, left to right: Hilda Young, Ethel's youngest daughter; Hoylande Young, Ethel's oldest daughter; the next three pictured, the Wooten girls and their father; Sam Miller; George McNabb; and Frank Rath.

Bottom row: Skeet (Clyde) Noe; ?; George McMillen; Joe Rath; John Turner; ?; and Walter McMillen.

The Denune Avenue home was their farm and country home. They had a home in the city on King Road where they stayed when the roads were impassable. It was also more convenient for the children to attend school from this location. Once the roads improved, it was no longer necessary to keep the home in down town Columbus. They also had an old school house which was Fannie's spring house. John had purchased it for her at an auction. John's son, Jack, had also been bidding on the school house and was top bidder. When John, "J.B.", told his son he wanted it for Fannie, Jack let his father take over the bidding and purchase it for his mother. It was on Westerville Road and had been built in 1905. When the schools were consolidated, the building was no longer needed. After John's purchase, he built a living quarters on the back.





1968 Denune Avenue



The Dining Room inside 1968 Denune Avenue.



Inside 1968 Denune Avenue. Parlor, Ethel and Hoylande Young are seated to the left, Ina is seated to the right.



"The School House"



John was generous and when a new family moved to town from Quebec, Canada, he let them camp on his property until they were able to establish their own home. They were the Leveque family. Leslie Leveque and his wife were hard working and resourceful. Mrs. Leveque made clothing for Fannie, Ethel, Ina, as well as some of J.B.'s sisters. Mr. Leveque was to become one of the largest owners of real estate in Columbus. In the 1940s he purchased the AIU Tower in downtown Columbus and renamed it the Lincoln Leveque Tower. At the time, it was the tallest building in Columbus.

Another Canadian traveler, "Pete the Tramp", was a welcome visitor on the Denune property. He too was from Quebec. Pete worked for J.B. in the winter and stayed in the barn. In the summer, Pete tramped around. One winter Pete took sick, he stayed in the house. Pete sadly passed away. J.B. made arrangements for a proper burial. After Pete's funeral, his family contacted J.B. to see if he had any money. They made no offer to pay for funeral expenses.



Pete



Montréal 19 octobre 1912

Monsieur

Veuillez donc si vous plaît, me  
 dire si c'est vrai la nouvelle qui a  
 paru sur un journal de Montréal  
 disant que Pierre avait légué en  
 mourant une fortune à Columbus  
 Ohio.

Comme c'est mon frère je vous  
 serais très reconnaissante d'avoir  
 des nouvelles me disant si c'est  
 vrai ou si c'est des rumeurs  
 qui sont fausses.

Espérant que vous ne léserez pas  
 ma lettre sans réponse. Je me dé-  
 tache votre très reconnaissante -  
 M<sup>me</sup> Elmire Luvillon  
 750 Avenue Papineau  
 Canada P. Q.

Letter sent by Pete's Family

Death Certificate

Peter Quevillon

Linden Heights - Clinton Township

Date of death: March 16, 1911

Date of burial: March 19, 1911

Physician: Dr. C. H. Wilson, Linden Heights, O.

Funeral Director: Fletcher Brown Co.

1122 N. High St.

Place of Burial: Riverside Cemetery

Place of Birth: Montreal, Canada

Father: Joseph Quevillon, Butcher

Cause of Death: Chronic Gastritis Hematemesis

Information By: Perry P. Denune

Name of Embalmer: Charles Baughman

Carroll Heir - N. High St.

Priest of St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church  
(New York Ave.) administered holy unction.

For: Roy R. Denune

Prepared by: Gene Herdt  
Sept 9, 1975

A copy of Pete's death certificate

A former renter of the Denune's was a man by the name of Leslie Fenton. He rented a house from J.B. and had an account at the Red and White Store, J.B.'s grocery store. When Leslie moved to California, he left owing rent and had an unpaid tab at the grocery. Leslie Fenton was to become a famous actor. In his memoirs, he did not speak kindly of J.B.. He said Old Man Denune was a mean old man.

Now J.B. was thrifty. No doubt about it. He would expect a person to pay their debt. He was also generous and community minded. J.B. provided the Evangelical United Brethern Church a place to meet on the second story of the Red and White Store. J.B. donated land and the building material to a minister from Otterbein College to build a church. The minister did not build the church to specification. He used part of the lumber to build three small houses. He sold them and left town. When having all of those homes built in Linden, J.B. took the time to count the nails. Perhaps he became more careful with how his building material was used after the experience with the building of the church. He also was known for walking around with a large roll of money in his pocket. Occasionally he would catch it on fire with an old stogie. Grandson Johnny, Jack's boy, remembers sitting on his grandfather's front porch counting his money. Brother Harry also learned to count sitting on this porch. Johnny remembers as much as \$1,500.00 rolled up in his grandfather's pockets during the Depression. For helping their grandfather, they were given a bag of candy. One day J.B. was traveling down the road in a wagon. He saw a boot in the road so he stopped to pick it up. A little further down the road was the second boot. And you know what? They fit.



Hi, Neighbor! May all the GOOD NEWS be yours!

# THE LINDEN NEWS

Printed at  
Office and Newsstand

Thursday, Nov. 15, 1972  
4th Year - No. 13

3823 Cleveland Ave.  
Phone 267-6361

The Neighborly Newspaper Of Northeast Columbus

## Flames Finish Long Career As Denune Building Torched

BY ERIC ROZENMAN

The Columbus Fire Department had to put out a fire in the old Denune building so they could burn it down.

The 30-year-old two-story wooden structure came down Nov. 8 as a training exercise for the department. Variables had tried to boost the department to the heat a day or two before, warning firemen had to save it for destruction.

Once the focal point, variety as a lumber and coal company, ice-cream parlor, grocery store and drama hall, for a more rural way of life, the building finished its career as a carry-out among streets filled with homes and new apartment buildings.

J.J. CUDWORTH, who watched the structure go up, came to see the final blaze. "We used to pasture a cow next door. It got so muddy you had to jack them up to milk them," he said.

He remembered having to pay 11 cents to replace a broken window in the building. "J.B. Denune came and saw my father about it." But Cudworth maintains the deed was done by a robber and he only took the rap.

In its final hours the structure served another purpose. "This is training actually," said CFD battalion chief Clifford Weate. "We're like carpenters, if you don't use your tools, you don't stay proficient."

FOURTEEN MEN, from different companies throughout the city, participated in the fire-fighting exercise. Battalion Chief Merle Patterson was in charge.

Chief Weate noted the blaze was also a test for a new five-inch hose. Made of polyester, with a plastic finish, the orange hose uses aluminum couplings. It's much lighter than older rubber-lined hoses with cotton material woven around it, and using brass couplings.

"It's almost like a portable water main," the chief said.

A nozzle with six settings was also in operation. "You can control your gushings and it makes fire fighting easier," Weate explained.

ONE OF THE SETTINGS on the nozzle is a fog pattern, like the light spray of a garden hose and allows him to get close to the flames.

The fine spray absorbs heat much faster and also lessens water damage to contents, according to Weate. With the new equipment one man can handle a 200-pound pressure hose, freeing others for different duties.

"The days of just opening a hydrant and saying 'I've got water' are gone," Weate explained, making practice even more necessary.

COLUMBUS HAS PURCHASE orders out on the new hose, but the

Denune building was the first chance firemen had to try it.

The old edifice had to suffer the indignity of being doused with kerosene, lit, then extinguished several times to increase training opportunities.



IT'S ALL OVER NOW -- There was no back up music as smoke and flames put an end to the 30-year history of the Denune building. Fern and Denune, Nov. 8, Columbus Fire Department members used the building blaze as a training exercise.

Before the torch was lit, the fire department had to check with a state agency "to make sure the air is right," Weate said. "We don't want to cause smoke pollution elsewhere."

He added the kerosene wasn't really necessary this day. "We could start this one with what's in there, but it would take longer."

THE DEPARTMENT'S own wire gang arrived to cut an electric line running from the building, to keep it out of the way of equipment.

Once the fire was started, and the acid kerosene smoke rolled out of the windows, firemen looking more like partly scuba divers went inside. Dressed in their special hard hats, wearing rubber boots and coats, they also had breathing masks on their faces and air tanks in metal harnesses on their backs.

Before they entered, Weate told them, "Remember, this is a training fire. Don't get hurt. This building's in bad shape."

To make the exercise realistic, one crew at a time went into action. "Since no one arrives at the same time at a normal fire," Weate said.

THE BEST DEPARTMENT spends its time in fire prevention, the chief felt. "not in fighting fires. Every run you've got the potential for death, if not from fighting the fire, from crashes with cars along the way."

Fires are all similar, but there's something a little different about each one.

Before the old building finally went, Weate noted, "There's a lot of history in it, but the only thing it is now is a rat trap."

Apartments are to be built on the site.

The demise of the Red and White Store, the Denune's grocery



In times of trouble, people from the community would come to J.B. for help. There was a couple in the community by the name of Baughman. They had the misfortune of dying from asphyxiation in their home. J.B. was approached as the couple had no family in the community. He made arrangements for a funeral and a burial. The Denunes were given the contents of the Baughman's home. Fannie was pleased that there were some antiques in the contents of the Baughman family home.

J. B. paid respect to those who had passed on in his community. He encouraged his family to do likewise. When J. B.'s grandson, Johnny, was about 10 years old, the last of the Wyandotte Indians (Native Americans), Bill Moose, died at age 99. J. B., son Jack, and grandson Johnny were 3 of 10,000 to attend his final rites. Bill Moose (also referred to as Bull Moose) was wrapped in an Indian blanket with traditional burial moccasins on his feet and an eagle claw necklace around his neck. The casket was specially built and was colored to resemble an Indian blanket. J. B. told Jack and Johnny that when he and Bill Moose were children, he was older than Bill. In death, Bill Moose was older than he.

Fannie not only enjoyed painting, she also liked to write.



A landscape by Fannie Fern Ferris Denune

She was said to have occasionally spoken in rhyme. Even on her death bed, Fannie said to her grandson, Johnny, "If I die, don't you cry." Johnny granted his grandmother's wishes and he did not cry. When the Howell Furniture Store had a poetry writing contest, Fannie submitted one of her own. The following is her poem:

### The Shawl My Great Great Grandma Used to Wear

As I look upon its splendor  
And I gaze with eyes of wonder,  
On that gorgeous thing of beauty,  
Hanging there.  
There's a solemn holy feeling  
Comes upon my senses stealing,  
For the shawl my Great Great Grandma  
Used to wear.

Chorus..... Oh that shawl my Grandma wore,  
In the bygone days of yore,  
Fills my heart with tender feelings  
O'er and o'er.

And my Grandma long since dead,  
Had that shawl when she was wed,  
And her beauty, so 'twas said,  
Was complete.  
She would charm them one and all  
Who came to Castle Hall,  
When enveloped in that shawl  
From head to feet.

Oh! the wondrous skill required,  
And the hands that grew so tired,  
Ere that garment full of beauty  
Was complete.  
Gazing backward through the years,  
Eyes that sadly fill with tears  
See that shawl around my Grandma,  
Oh, so sweet!

Oh! 'twas worn by dames so grand,  
In that distant, far off land,  
Where the Campbells and the Terrals  
Used to dwell.  
And they walked through spacious halls,  
Safe within the castle walls,  
So my stately dear old Grandma  
Used to tell.

As that shawl of silken thread  
Charmed my Grandma, long since dead,  
So my heart is filled with awe  
As I behold.  
And I have a great desire,  
And to own it I aspire,  
That shawl my cherished Grandma  
Loved of old.



The Shawl

With this poem was found a very old and yellowed, crocheted shawl. Whether that

shawl was her mother's, grandmother's or someone else's, it is hard to say, but as Fannie was very close to her Grandmother Matilda, one might expect it had belonged to Matilda Bancroft.

Fannie was a busy woman. She had an active church life, other social activities, she fed the workers of Denune Lumber lunch every day, and she fed the chickens and ducks.



Fannie and daughter, Marguerite





Fannie in the yard of 1968 Denune Avenue. The Red and White Store is in the background. It was the family's grocery store and the upstairs of the store was referred to as "the hall." It was sometimes used for community gatherings.





Fannie feeding the chickens



Fannie, John, and friends on Denune Avenue

Now much was written about JB. He was a philanthropic member of the Linden community. He was also a bit of a character. In 1924 an article was written of an interview with JB in the *Linden News*. JB was also featured in a book that he helped pay to have published about the community of Linden in 1934. They are as follows:

*THE LINDEN NEWS      Fri. Sept 4, 1924*

*J.B. Denune Relates Early History of Linden*

---

*Has witnessed growth from a few log cabins to the thriving community of today.*

---

*Tells of "Burried [sic] Gold."*

---

*Has Platted and Sold over 200 Acres of Land in Linden.*

---

*Even though New Linden is growing by leaps and bounds and business houses are springing up along the streets "Where the Three-C winds its way" and seemingly over night new houses are filling up the vacant spaces in the residence sections, yet it is difficult to find anyone in this community who has not heard of J. B. Denune, one of Linden's real pioneers.*

*We find him at his home 2066 Denune Avenue, on a hot afternoon but a few days ago, and in a reminescent [sic] mood he told us of the wonderful growth of Linden - of how vast forests had been transformed into fields of grain and orchards of fruit, and how these in turn had giving way to the onward march of progress, until today the open spaces are being built up with substantial homes, while the streets wind here and there, traversed by automobiles filled with tourists from every state of the union.*

*Mr Denune is an unusual character. As he talks a smile lights up his face and in a voice soft and pleasing, he can tell many an interesting anecdote of the early days of Linden.*

*The Plank Road*

*"Wouldn't it have been fine if the orchards and fields and forests could have been left? God must have ment [sic] for it to be that way. I can remember when there was nothing but a plank road running from Fifth Avenue to Westerville, and every night we could hear the horse drawn wagons and carriages as they rumbled along over the old corduroy road. These planks were fastened to stringers to hold them together," he explained "A bus line was operated over this road for many years. All along the highway were dense forests. But all this has changed look at the wonderful smooth paved highways of today with an almost continuous stream of traffic in both directions, and all in my lifetime."*

*Mr. Denune said that he could well remember when there was nothing but forests from Alum Creek to Cleveland Avenue and from Agler Road to Mock Road - and not so many years ago at that.*

*"There was some great sport for hunters in those days, as the woods were literally alive with wild turkeys, squirls [sic], coons and other animals. At times the pigeons were so thick that they almost darkened the sky as they passed overhead. Great sport was had in trapping these pigeons, by using stool pigeons, and from 50 to 200 were caught at one time. So many were caught that they were sold by the barrel." (Although not in the article, it should be noted that these pigeons were Passanger [sic] Pigeons, and they are now extinct. The "last", now stuffed, Passanger [sic] Pigeon, resides at the Ohio Historical Museum.)*

*"During the Civil War there was an army camp located just south of Mock Road and west of the Big Four railroad, and I can remember of a section just north of Linden that was called 'Little Virginia', because of the numerous Southern sympathizers."*

*Mr. Denune's father (actually grandfather) came to Columbus from Maryland in 1802 when there were but three houses in Franklinton, located on the west bank of the Scioto River near the Broad Street bridge. He settled but a short distance north of Linden and at the time of his death owned about 1000 acres of land. Those sturdy pioneers knew the meaning of real work and as we look at the progress of today, due credit must be given them - for it is but the result of their labors.*

*Over 200 acres in Linden have been platted in lots and sold by Mr. Denune, and many other acres were dedicated to the use of the public. He was one of the first to sell lots on a monthly payment plan.*

### *The "Pot of Gold."*

*Very few people living in New Linden today, excepting the older residents, have heard the story about the buried treasure, and we believe it to be worth telling. It concerns a real "pot of gold with a lid on it," which was buried many years ago. Where was it buried? Well, we will try to tell you, or rather, we will let Mr. Denune tell you in his own way.*

*"One of the first settlers in this section was a Mr. McCauley, and I have in my possession a piece of one of the first stakes he used in laying out his home place. It was common knowledge at the time of his death that he had buried a pot of gold about his home. There were two cellars and it was thought that the gold was buried in one of these cellars or about the fire place. One of his sons endeavored to find the gold about 25 or 30 years ago, and while excavating for it he left suddenly, leaving his tools all laying on the ground. Whether he found the pot of gold or not was never known, and for all I know it may yet be resting where it was buried years ago. The location of the home is about 300 feet east of my present home."*

*So there's the story, but it would not be advisable to start digging up the ground and marring the landscape, in search for treasure, because there would be plenty objection to that.*

*Mr. Denune has great faith in Linden, and why not when he has lived to see it develop from the first cabins to the thriving community that it is today?"*

The following is from the "book" *LINDEN, The High Class, Moderate Priced Home Section of Columbus*, a bit more like a pamphlet, paid for in part by J. B. Denune. Lewis Garrison, Publisher, Box 837, Columbus, Ohio, written in 1924.

*Mr. Denune is one of the first residents of East Linden, having been born on a farm just north of the present town site. In 1900 he began plating [sic] the town site of East Linden until a total of about 200 acres were in lots in sizes ranging from one-quarter, one-half to an acre. He sold these lots on every easy terms and offered the additional facilities of building houses on each lot when requested. He has*

*built over 400 residences to date in East Linden and elsewhere.*

*Mr. Denune started a lumber and builders' supply business about 1906, with office and yards at Denune and Fern Avenues. The facilities of this establishment were offered the residents of this section for home building. Houses were put up on easy terms on the same plan as building and loan associations-so much down and the balance in easy payments. By this means every one of his customers owned his home and not a single one failed to complete his contract. Mr. Denune has made thousands of dollars for his customers in the increase of property values, besides putting them in the enviable position of being home owners.*

*About 1910 Mr. Denune and his son, Perry, started in a small way in the grocery business on the corner of Fern and Denune Avenues, adjoining the lumber yard. The business grew and the premises were added to from time to time until at one time the firm had the third largest retail grocery store in Columbus.*

*Mr. Denune is responsible for many of the innovations and much of the progress that has eventuated in this section. In 1900 he was the first to establish the small frame school to take care of the children's education in this section. Afterwards he established the first church in this community which was the Methodist Episcopal Church. For several years he was the superintendent of the Sunday School. He afterwards inaugurated the Christian Church, being one of the charter members, a deacon, an elder and superintendent of the Sunday School. He is also one of the founders of the United Brethern Church and was the first superintendent of its Sunday School. Just recently Mr. Denune was one of the instigators of the International Bible Students' Association and now furnishes the quarters in Denune Hall for their meetings. All of these institutions are prosperous and flourishing.*

*Mr. Denune is about 68 years of age and has done more for this section of Columbus than any man living here. He has sold property to no less than one thousand people and has built probably 300 homes in East Linden, starting these people on the way to success and prosperity by becoming home owners. He is still active in business; has a host of friends and is still working for the benefit of the people in this rising district. He continues serving the people, furnishing the lots and building homes on easy terms.*



*He is the father of 13 children, 10 of whom grew up and each received a good education. All have graduated from high school and several have taken degrees at College. Nearly all of his large family live in this section with their families. He is the happy grandfather of 10 grandchildren, who are in turn receiving the educational facilities of their parents. Mr. Denune belongs to one of the oldest*

*families in this country, names more or less prominent in Revolutionary War days. His grandfather settled near this section in the early days, as also his parents. Many of his connection have been and now are prominently identified with the business interests of Columbus. Mrs. Denune was the second one of six persons from this section who joined the Mayflower Association. Five of the six were members of Mr. Denune's family.*

The following articles appeared in the local newspapers when J.B. was a State Representative and running for a second term. He served in the Legislature from 1902 through 1903 and it is believed that he may have served another term or two. One of the biggest issues of the day was prohibition. J.B. refused to vote on the Beal Bill and for that reason, he was censured. J.B. had given his word that he would take no sides with regard to the issue of temperance legislation. He understood the position of both the farmers and the Anti-Saloon league. J.B. continued to be involved in politics and in 1908 J.B. was elected as mayor of East Linden. He is believed to have been the only mayor of East Linden.



JOHN B. DENUNE.

An old-fashioned patriarch, Farmer Denune; His spirit as wild as the zephyrs of June; But Democracy's saved from bad microbes and bogies. By Father Denune with his germ-killing stogie.

Representative John B. Denune, of East Linden, was born in Mifflin township of Franklin county, January 3, 1855. He has been a farmer all his life, and a staunch believer in the Democratic gospel. Though gray as a badger he can't charge it up to his weight of years, as he began to sport white hair before he was twenty. You would place him in the seventy class from his patriarchal appearance. He married in 1878, and is the father of thirteen children. This is his first term in the legislature. He believes in the laboring man who wants work and in the man of means and enterprise, who is willing to supply that work. These are the only two classes in his judgment, that legislature ought to bother with. He has no use for either the sluggard or the man of capital who buries his wealth in a hole.

## CONTESTS

### For Place on Democratic Ticket.

#### Candidates For Representative Are Hustling.

The contests before the Democratic primaries for central committeemen are decreasing. There were but few contests in the first place, but since the entries closed John J. Irwin of the Fifteenth ward has withdrawn in favor of Edward Keppler and Joseph Falkenbach has retired from the race in the First ward in favor of Peter Mulligan.

The only contests for place on the ticket is for representative. There are seven candidates. The nomination of Representatives Edward J. Bracken and J. F. McNamee are assured, but there are five candidates for the other places. Representative Denune is a candidate for a second term, and while he is being fought some, he will undoubtedly poll a big vote because of the second term theory in the party. Oscar Ameringer, a North Side insurance agent, is making a good, clean fight and will poll a big vote, while Wayne Smith and Charles DeLong, two country candidates, are hustling for place on the grounds of their residence, and Frank Howe, who was the chairman of the late Hinkle committee, is being boomed by his friends as a strong man because of his position on taxation questions.

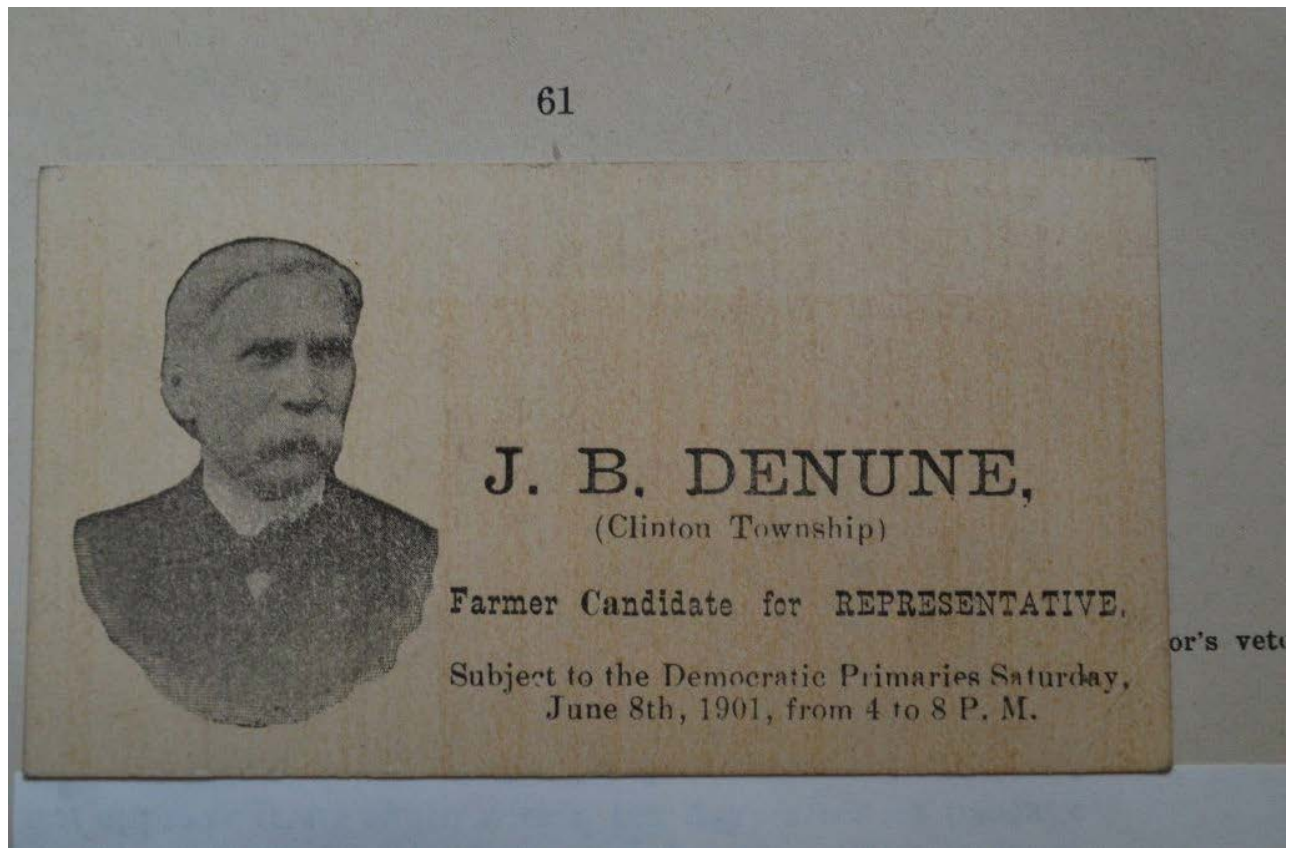
Hon. John B. Denune of Clinton township, a member of the Franklin county delegation in the last house, who refused to vote either for or against the Beal option bill, and rested under the censure of the house, which censure was afterward removed, paid his \$50 yesterday afternoon for the privilege of making a race for a second term. Having not voted at all on the local option proposition Denune hopes to catch both the liquor men and the Anti-Saloon league this fall.

#### WOODMEN OF AMERICA.

Banner camp had over 500 persons present. Rev. E. Manning Bell explained the reason for the order having 810,978 members. Hon. J. B. Denune also spoke. The next meeting occurs Tuesday evening, when a class of young men will be taken through.

North Star camp had several applications. Arrangements are to be made

Articles from the newspaper when J.B. was running for State Representative. J.B. was a religious, church going man with a religious wife. He was also a farmer and had many farmer constituents. It was beneficial to the farmer to sell their grain in order to make alcohol.



J.B.'s card when running for State Representative



# DENUNE MUST VOTE ON THE BEAL BILL

Rules Speaker of the House Before He Can  
Vote on Any Other Question—May Be Set-  
tled Amicably.

One of the principal topics of conversation about the house after adjournment Wednesday was the position in which Representative Denune now finds himself.

Mr. Denune will not be allowed to vote on any question, so the speaker has ruled, until he has voted on the Beal bill.

Mr. Denune says in defense of his action in not voting that he made promises to take no part in the temperance legislation, either for or against the bills. He says that he is well aware that he could have remained away from the house and

dodged the issue, but preferred to remain. The matter will come before the house Thursday and an effort be made to straighten the affair out so that Mr. Denune will be restored to his privileges as a member.

## Tour of Inspection.

The finance committee of the house left Wednesday evening on a tour of inspection of the state institutions. The first stop will be made at Lancaster and from there Oxford, Athens, Gallipolis, Cincinnati, Dayton and other cities will be visited. The trip will consume about a week. On the return of the committee work on the general appropriation bill will be rushed.

the use of any existing free public hospital established

# DENUNE REFUSES TO VOTE.

Immediately after the opening of the house in the afternoon discussion of the Beal bill was resumed by offering of an amendment by Stage of Cuyahoga, changing the punishment for Sunday opening by fixing the minimum fine at \$25 instead of \$50 for the first offense and for each subsequent offense changing it from \$200 fine and imprisonment from 10 to 30 days to \$200 or imprisonment from 10 to 30 days, or both. The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Stage of Cuyahoga then submitted an amendment providing that the question of local option shall be voted upon at general instead of special elections. He briefly defended this as in the interests of economy. Beal, the author of the measure, spoke against the change, saying it would destroy one of the essential features of the bill, and materially weaken it. On an "aye" and "nay" vote the amendment was laid on the table. Denune of Franklin refused to vote. He was called upon for

an explanation. He said he had given his word to take no sides and would keep it.

His remarks were hissed from the gallery, and on motion, it was announced that if there were further hissing, the gallery would be cleared. A motion was then made and carried that Denune be barred from other voting in the house until he is willing to vote on the amendment. Speaker McKinnon announced it would be enforced. Denune endeavored to speak and was declared out of order.

An amendment by Pollock of Stark, raised the number of petitioners necessary to call an election from 25 to 40 per cent. of the voters of a municipality. Price raised the point that the Stage amendment having been laid on the table, it carried the bill with it, and therefore there was nothing to which an amendment could be offered. The chair sustained him. The Stage resolution was then taken from the table by viva-voce vote and voted on directly. The amendment was lost.

shall not exceed six months.



JOHN B. DENUNE.

An old-fashioned patriarch, Farmer Denune; His spirit as solid as the sepia of June; But Democracy's saved from bad microbes and bogies.  
By Father Denune with his germ-killing etologies.

Representative John B. Denune, of East Linden, was born in Mifflin township of Franklin county, January 3, 1855. He has been a farmer all his life, and a staunch believer in the Democratic gospel. Though gray as a badger he can't charge it up to his weight of years, as he began to sport white hair before he was twenty. You would place him in the seventy class from his patriarchal appearance. He married in 1878, and is the father of thirteen children. This is his first term in the legislature. He believes in the laboring man who wants work and in the man of means and enterprise, who is willing to supply that work. These are the only two classes in his judgment, that legislatures ought to bother with. He has no use for either the sluggard or the man of capital who buries his wealth in a hole.

## HON. JOHN B. DENUNE, Linden Heights, O.

The editor of The Herald takes great pleasure in introducing to its readers Hon. J. B. Denune. The heroism of his character and life is romantic but true and real. His friendliness is ardent and unselfish. Those who know him feel his great heart throbbing in sympathy for all men. He is our peace maker and mediator between neighbors and no man who knows who would venture to speak unkindly of him. In politics he is a Democrat, and was elected to the Legislature in 1901 and 1902. He belongs to that type of statesmen who are born to be elected and serve in honor. The happiness of home and the prosperity of his com-



monwealth is not for sale at any price. To him can be confided the greatest interests of individuals, society and state and the trust will not be betrayed. He is an intelligent Christian gentleman whom to know is to love and honor. Was raised in Franklin county, educated in the public schools. Read law two years. Six years' school director and justice of the peace three years. Is a member of the M. E. Church and W. A. W. M. W. A. A. I. O. F. Mrs. Denune is a refined lady of culture. They have a large interesting family of children.



## The Children of Fannie and John

(As written by Fannie identified with \*. The children are taken out of birth order.)

It should be noted that 4 of Fannie and John's children did not survive to become adults. The specific causes of the infant's deaths is not known. Infant death was not that uncommon in the late 1800's or the early part of the 20th century. The most common causes of death at time were influenza, tuberculosis, and enteritis with diarrhea. The first of Fannie and John's infants, Clarence, is reported to have died the day he was born. The second, Chester, was eight months old. The last of the infants to perish was Catherine. She was eight days old. Lois, on the other hand, was seventeen years old. She, like her mother had contracted rheumatic fever. Fannie survived. Sadly, Lois did not.

*1. Clarence C. Denune was born in Mifflin Township 18 May 1880, died 18 May 1880. \**

*3. Lois Denune was born 8 February 1884. She entered the Columbus Public School at the age of 6 years and in the fall 1898 of she entered the Central High School of Columbus, Ohio. She died 2 June 1901. \**



Lois

*9. Chester Case Denune was born in Mifflin Township 4 September 1894 and died 4 May 1895. \**

*11. Catherine Denune was born in Mifflin Topwnship 16 April and died 24 April 1897. \** Fannie wrote the above of Clarence, Lois, Chester and Catherine.

### The children who survived to adulthood

## Lynn Lafayette Denune

*13. Lynn Lafayette Denune was born in Clinton Township 16 October 1899. He entered the Linden School in 1903 and is now (1913) in the Seventh Grade. \* Fannie wrote this of her son Lynn.*

Two sentences, that is all Fannie had to say about her youngest living child. Jack, and by gosh he was a Jack, he didn't care much for his given name, Lynn Lafayette. Jack was a character despite his mother's limited comments in writing about her children. As a child, Jack had long beautiful chestnut, ringlet curls. His mother loved those curls. His sisters, as one would expect, teased Jack about his long, beautiful curls. Jealousy? They would say "Jack, Jack hairs as long as the tail of a cat." At the age of 8, Jack had just about enough. Most boys had their hair cut by the time they were Jack's age. It was time. He made a trip to the barn and with the help of sheep sheers snipped off those lovely curls.



Jack

School was fun for Jack. He rode the bus with his oldest niece, Hoylande, Ethel's daughter. He told stories of his ability to compute math problems involving many figures. Despite his abilities, he bragged of his niece and how smart she was in not only math but in all of her subjects.



Jack is second row from the top, third from the left.



Jack and Hoylande

Jack and his older brother, Perry, slept in the attic of 1968 Denune Avenue. There were gaps in the attic ceiling where the cold would come in. As Perry was older, there were many times when Perry would come to bed when Jack was already sleeping. While Jack slept, Perry would lift Jack from the warm spot in the bed, and crawl into the space formerly occupied by young Jack. Perry was returning late as he had gone courting. Jack was tickled by Perry's love life. Perry would come to bed and tell Jack, "I'm in love." Jack would add, "again", in sharing this story, as Perry would frequently tell Jack he was in love.



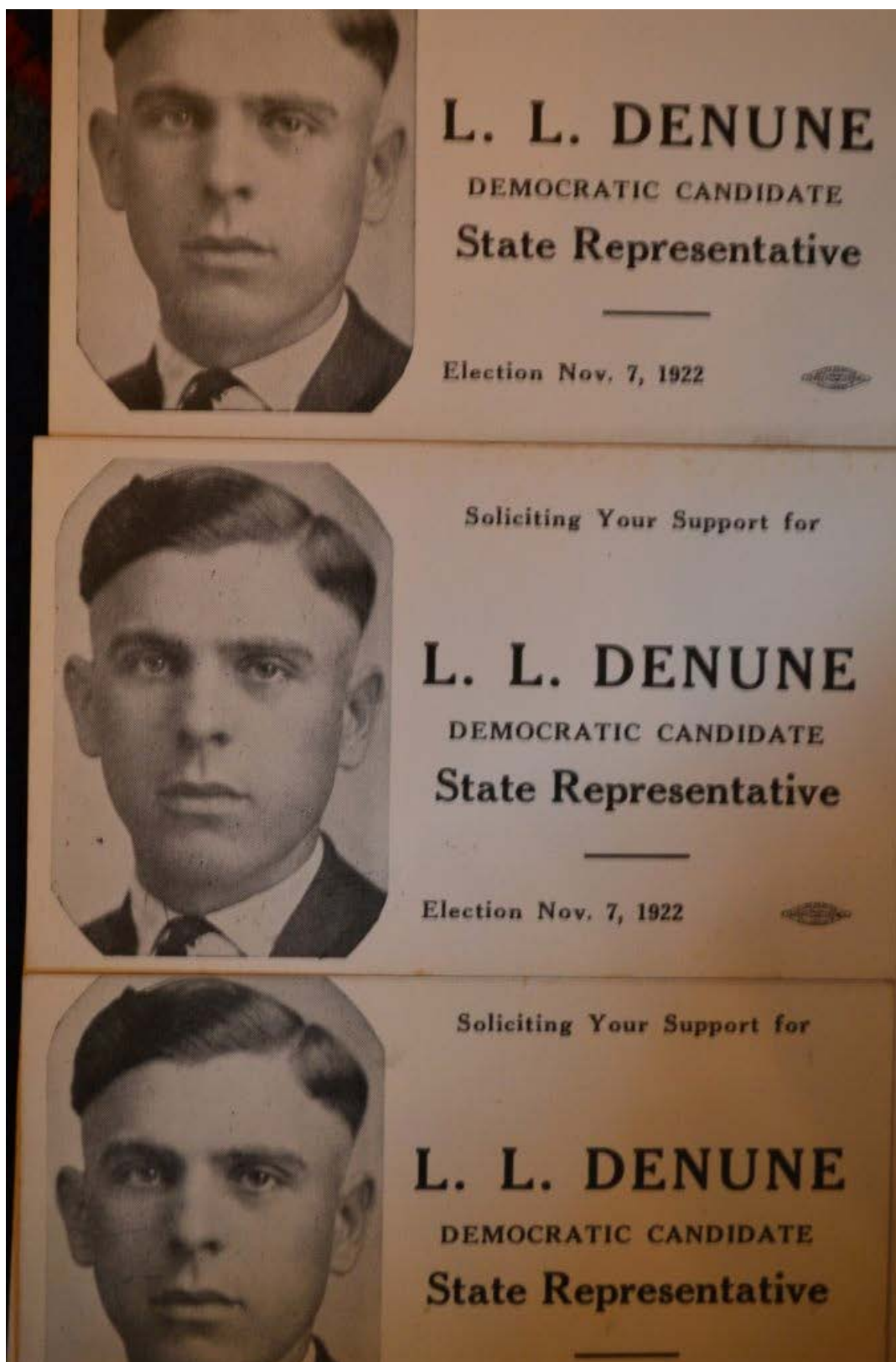
Jack



Jack

Jack also ran for the Ohio State Legislature as did his father and older brother. Seven legislators were selected. Jack came in eighth. Everyone needs to make a living and Jack was resourceful. Jack was a bit of a wheeler-dealer. He bought and sold things throughout his life.





Cards that were printed when Jack ran for State Representative

On one occasion Jack was given the opportunity to empty the M. C. Lilly Company building. It is suspected that there was some type of court order for the company. Jack was happy to help. Jack and a team of men worked day and night to empty the building. Jack used the dividing walls of the building to construct a building on Paul Avenue in order to store lumber and other things from the eight story building. It contained lodge regalia, carrying cases, scrap, lumber and other things. On the way home from this job, Jack stopped by a local bar and took in one of his treasurers from his purchase. As a prank, he opened the wooden box and out jumped a paper mache skeleton. A man, who had had a bit too much to drink, was frightened and broke up the box and skeleton. All that survived was the skull which was used in magic shows performed by Jack's youngest son, John.



Jack's son John with the skull

During the Depression, in the 1930's, Jack had the opportunity to purchase the Gahanna Bank. There was no Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Times were tough. Jack paid \$3,500.00 for the bank building and its assets, which included \$175,000.00 debt to the bank from borrowers. Jack offered to take fifty cents on the dollar from those who owed the bank money. Some took Jack up on his offer. There was a man who owed the bank \$1,300.00 to the bank. Jack offered to take \$150.00 to clear the debt. The man still refused to pay. Later the man came into some money and the courts required that Jack be paid in full. The Franklin County Sheriff owed the bank about \$150.00 and Jack canceled the debt. Jack accepted produce for some of the debts and another debt was canceled for a new 1937 Westinghouse refrigerator. The bank vault was sold for scrap. Some of the molding and other things were removed from the bank in order for Jack to rent the building to the Community News. The newspaper remained in that building for many years.

As his father was a developer in Linden, it was not a surprise that Jack should choose a career in real estate. His most famous clients were the parents of Agnes Moorhead, an actress. They purchased their first home in Columbus from Jack. Murray Lincoln, of the Farm Bureau Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, later named Nationwide Insurance, also purchased his first home from Jack. During World War II Murray asked Jack to write an article on the business of farming, the question in the article being, "Should the government pay a farmer to grow or not grow certain crops?" Jack wrote the article. It is said that Murray was not happy with the conclusions of the article as Jack said "Farming is like any other business. If you can't make it, you should get out." It was clear that Murray believed in farm subsidies and Jack did not. Jack once received a subsidy check, which was promptly returned. Murray became quite successful, working for the Roosevelt administration in Foreign Aide and Agriculture. He helped develop the CARE Program. In 1960 Murray was the head of the Food for Peace Program for President Elect John F. Kennedy. In 1961 the task force urged the United States to expand its global food program to give or sell at a reduced rate, surplus food to the poorest nations. The Murray D. Lincoln Commemorative Award is issued by the National Cooperative Business Association. A bronze metal is part of the award. On the back of the metal is a quote by Murray, "People, have within their own hands the tools to fashion their own destiny." Perhaps Jack and Murray would agree with this statement.



Jack at Niagara Falls



As an adult Jack mostly wore a wool cap, Red Wing boots, khaki pants and a similarly colored khaki shirt. Sometimes he would wear a vest and a thin black tie. That would be "formal wear" for Jack. He had a suit. He called it his "going to the races" suit. It was a small plaid or hound's tooth of black and orangish-brown wool with large lapels. No one remembers him wearing that suit.

Unlike the rest of his family, Jack was not a religious man. As an adult he never attended church. He would say "the church wants the same thing I want, power and money. My mother was the most wonderful person I ever knew and she could not walk on water." When he was a young man, Jack made deliveries for the family grocery store. While making deliveries, he observed things that may have helped form his feelings about religion. He shared horror stories of the Catholic Church, abusive nuns, and nuns nursing their babies in a private room. He also shared stories of nuns starving a young boy. He said that the boy had been given a bowl of food. The young boy did not eat what had been offered to him. The boy was never offered any other food, only the bowl of food he had not eaten. The young boy died.

When Jack was living on Fern Avenue, around the corner from 1968 Denune Avenue, he was asked to join the Ku Klux Klan. Jack declined the invitation. Jack reported that the Klan then burned a cross in his yard on Fern Avenue.

Although not a romantic, there came a time when Jack fell in love. Barbara, the prettiest of the Thomson girls, was working at the Red and White store, JB's grocery. Barbara was born in Kentucky. Her father had emigrated from Ontario, Canada. He was an undocumented immigrant and reported that he was from Corey, Pennsylvania. Barbara's great aunt lived in Corey and it seemed an appropriate location to claim. Barbara was friends with Jack's niece, Hilda, Ethel's youngest daughter, and another young woman by the name of Sophia Brous. Sophia's mother was Scottish and had a brogue. Sophia went to Hollywood to work in wardrobe. She was one of those who chose clothing for the James Dean, Rock Hudson, and Elizabeth Taylor movie "Giant" as well as other notable films. Hilda maintained contact with their friend and Barbara became quite busy raising her children. Barbara loved to read biographies. She was also a staunch supporter of a woman's right to reproductive choice. It was clear that she had seen the horrors of a young woman in trouble without safe options. Barbara was beautiful, a hard worker and a good cook. She was also a religious church goer. She wore orange on St. Patrick's Day. Jack and Barb, as Jack called her, were married by Jack's brother, Perry. The night of their wedding there was a bell ringing at their

home. The tradition at the time brought friends and family members to the home of the newlyweds. They rang bells and made a general ruckus at the home of the betrothed until they would come out and gave the "ringers" some kind of edible treat. She and Jack had three children and near the birth of their second, they moved into their newly built home across the street from 1968 Denune Avenue.



Barb and Jack



Barbara Thomson Denune



Jack and oldest son, Harry





Jack and Barb's boys, Johnny and Harry

Late one evening in 1927 an unexpected caller arrived at the home of Jack Denune. It is believed that the caller may have first gone to the home of J.B., across the street. J.B. was a justice of the peace. He would have been the obvious choice for this particular caller. J.B. was a very "early to bed, early to rise" man. Perhaps J.B. had been in bed. Maybe the caller knew Jack was J.B.'s son and he thought Jack could be helpful. The caller, Noah Burns, age 42 arrived with his young daughter. He told Jack that he wanted to confess to a horrible crime. Jack told the man he did not want to get involved and suggested he find a minister. Mr. Burns confessed to Pastor Elbert Sheldon. It was reported that the confession was proceeded by a stirring sermon to confess one's sins. Mr. Burns was one of several men involved in murder of Detective Charles S. Thurston who worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad. The Detective was the brother of a famous magician, Howard Thurston. (When Howard Thurston came to town to perform, he had elephants and other animals in his act. J.B. would provide the hay for the animals.) Detective Thurston was checking the seals on the train cars when the train robbers shot him. One of the other robbers, Sharkey, died in the 1930 fire at the Ohio State Penitentiary. Three hundred and twenty two men died in the fire. It was the worst fire in Ohio's history. Sharkey's screams were said to have been heard above all others. The prison was said to be haunted. The site of the former prison is now the Arena District in Columbus, Ohio.



Jack and Barb's youngest, Margaret and Johnny

## Blenn Bancroft Denune

*12. Blenn Bancroft Denune was born in Clinton Township 18 July 1898. He entered the Linden School and at present time (1913) is a student in the Eighth Grade. \* Fannie wrote this of her next to youngest son.*



Blenn



Fannie also had little to say of Blenn, perhaps for different reasons than her stories of little Jack. In 1901 Fannie became very ill with rheumatic fever. Her next to oldest daughter, Lois, also was afflicted. Ethel, Fannie's oldest daughter was twenty years old at the time of the rheumatic fever. It is believed that Ethel helped care for her mother and her sister. The two youngest children, Jack and Blenn went to stay with their Aunt Sarah. That being said, Blenn did not want to return home after his mother recovered. Lois was not so lucky as her mother. There would be no recovery for Lois. Blenn cried for his Aunt Sarah. There, he and Jack were the only children as Sarah had no birth children. Blenn was given oranges and other luxuries that were not available to him with all of the other children on Denune Avenue. It is not known whether Jack was given oranges. It is expected that Jack would have been in the "terrible" 2's at that time. Maybe he did not get any tasty oranges. Jack was happy to be back home. Blenn was happy to remain at Aunt Sarah and Uncle Elias's. Some years later Fannie wrote in Blenn's autograph book, "Forget slights, hurts and stings and remember on whatever happiness brings."



Blenn and Minnie the horse

Blenn was very active in high school activities, earning a letter in track and



football. He was in the Thespian Drama Club and performed in a number of plays. In his senior year play, he performed at the Hartman Theater. He was also in the Watuga Assembly Debating Club. He attended Ohio State University in 1918-19 and during World War I, was a member of the Students Army Training Corps. He received an honorable discharge from the United States Army on December 12, 1918.



Blenn

In keeping with his family's ideals, Blenn was very community minded in adulthood. He was a Scout Master for 3 years, a secretary of the Linden Civic Association (1919-1922), president of the Linden Business Association in 1932, the director of the Linden Kiwanis for 3 years and its 2nd Vice President in 1931, and a member of the Linden area Ration Board (Tire and Mileage) in World War II (1944).

As his father, Blenn was very involved in the church. He was Superintendant of the Clinton Township Young Peoples' Conference from 1919-1925 and president of the Linden Church of Christ C. E. Society in 1922. He served as acting Chaplain of American Legion Post #182. He was an elder of the Linden Church of Christ from 1923-52 and the chairman of the board of elders from 1945-52. He was the teacher of the Young Friends' Bible Class from 1922-50, one of Columbus' largest young peoples' Bible Classes. He was on the Publicity Program of the International C. E. Convention in Cleveland, Ohio in 1927. He wrote a feature article in "The Lookout", a paper for the Church of Christ International Sunday School in 1926. Pictures of Blenn's class appeared in Columbus newspapers and international church journals. Blenn was president of the Loyal Men and Women's Bible Class of the Rich Street Church of Christ in 1960 and 1961 and treasurer in 1970.



Olive and Blenn

Blenn had a kind and gentle nature. Blenn met the woman to be his wife, Olive, while on a date with Barbara Thomson (brother Jack's future wife) at a party on Schrock Road. He became husband of Olive and the father of a girl and boy. He too was in the real estate business and for a brief time ran an office supply store. When he was older, he traveled with his son to Dunoon, Scotland. The ruins of Dunoon Castle is located in this town. In 1334 Colin Campbell had been made the hereditary governor of the castle at the same time Duncan Campbell stole the cattle of Colin and was sentenced to drown in the Clyde River. Duncan fled with his brother, Donald, and they took their mother's maiden name. Duncan was the eleventh great grandfather of Blenn. It was believed that the name "Denune or Dunoon" ended with the maternal line of Duncan. Blenn had returned to his ancestral home. While on his visit to Dunoon, Blenn was given the key to the city, a fitting tribute to this fine man.



Blenn

## Clara Marguerite Denune

10. Clara Marguerite Denune was born 13 May 1896 in Mifflin Township, Franklin County, Ohio. [She] Entered the Linden School in the fall of 1902 and graduated in 1910, entering the Nile High School in the fall of that year, where she is now (1913) taking third year work. She is also a student of the piano under Miss Myrtle Brown. \* Fannie wrote this of her daughter, Marguerite.



Marguerite holding the ball



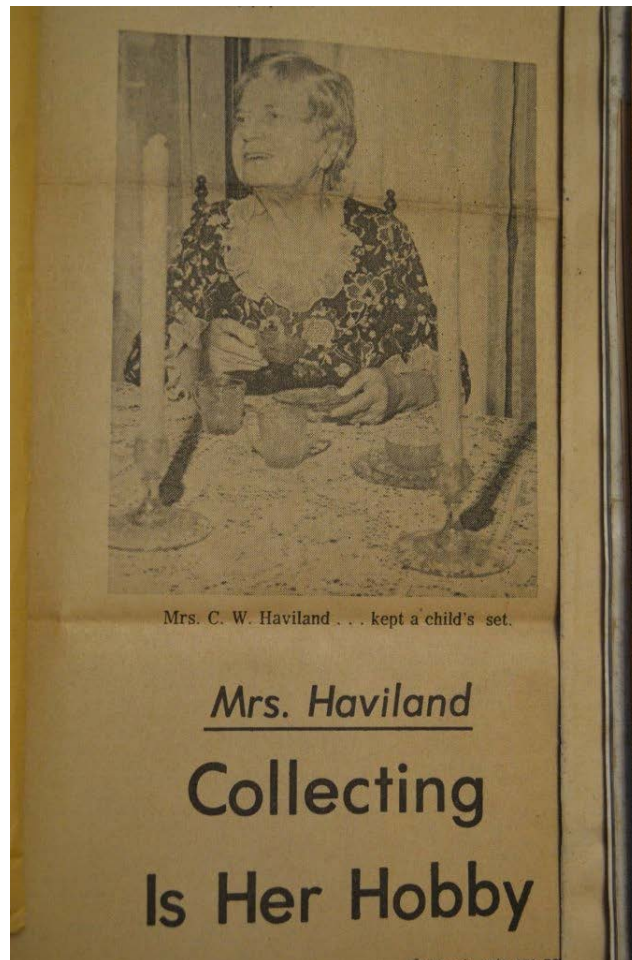


Adelaide and Margurite



Marguerite

Marguerite married Clyde Webster Haviland in 1918. Clyde was in charge of Campbell's Soup accounts west of the Mississippi. They, with their two children, lived in Santa Monica, California. Though she lived far from the rest of the Denune family, when she would return for a visit, her older sister, Ina would corner Marguerite to fill her in on the family drama. Marguerite was a collector of depression glass and loved to go to thrift stores to look for treasures.



Marguerite appeared in a local paper regarding her collection of depression glass

Clyde and Marguerite paid \$9,000.00 for their house in Santa Monica. It was a large, comfortable home with a large porch across the front. Many years after living in their lovely home, it was sold for \$1,500,00.00 to a news man. It later sold to one of the actresses who was in the popular television program, *Charlie's Angels*. It was also used in a movie called *Monster Squad*.



## Sarah Adelaide Denune

8. *Sarah Adelaide Denune was born in Columbus, Ohio, 23 May 1893. She entered the Linden School at the age of Six Years. In the fall of 1906 she entered the North High School of Columbus, taking the Latin Literary Course, from which she graduated in June 1910. She has shown marked ability in drawing, pastel work and china painting. In September 1910 she entered the Ohio State University, taking the Arts Course, and successfully passed her Freshman Exams. At the age of 12 years she united with the Linden Christian Church.*

*On February 14, 1912 she married Ralph Sherman Strang. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Strang and was born in Columbus, Ohio, 23 December 1887.*

*Paul Denune Strang, son of Ralph Sherman and Adelaide (Denune) Strang was born January 14, 1913. \* Fannie wrote this of her daughter, Adelaide.*



Adelaide



Adelaide and her sister Ina were quite close. There was never word of a feud between the two sisters. In Ina's records of the family genealogy she wrote, in about 1971, much of the following of her sister's life and family:



A friend, Ralph, and Ina

*From High School, Adelaide matriculated at Ohio State University, but later with four quarters of accredited work, she decided upon marriage. As yet, only 18 years of age, on Feb 14-1912, St. Valentine's Day, she married Ralph Sherman Strang, the son of Edward Sherman and Clara Winkler Strang. The wedding was at the home of the brides' parents Mr. and Mrs. John Baughman Denune. Here, with the large rooms opened and thrown together, a very spacious effect was produced which added much to the beauty of lavish floral decorations and lights. In the recess of a bay-window and extending almost to the ceiling were two intertwining hearts, completely massed with golden daffodils. Candles stood on either side. The whole was softened by palms and other greenery. This was the setting for the wedding ceremony which was solemnized by Rev. H. Newton Miller. Here stood the minister as the bridal party approached, and here the vows were spoken.*

*The bride wore no veil. The dress in princess style, ankle length, was without train. Heirloom chantilly lace, richly mellowed with age, formed the cameo necked yoke of the bodice, while pointed ruffles of this same lace fell from beneath the bell-shaped sleeves. The gown was of gros-de-londre, specially brought from France. The rose, turquoise and buff threads of the fabric were woven so as to give the impression of changing color. It was exquisite and elegant, and was in fact, a replica of that which fashioned the bridal gown of a great-grandmother, another Sarah, Sarah Burrell, the belle of Queen Ann Town Maryland, who married Jan 14-1798 John Duvall Denune, a hero of the American Revolution.*

*Sarah Adelaide Denune was a very regal bride and her wedding was an occasion long to be remembered. And now - she would start her life's journey or rather life's journeys with Ralph. -For as Ruth said to Naomi, "Whither thou goest, I shall go"; "Where thou dwellest, I shall dwell;" "Your life, shall be my life;" "Your joys shall be my joys;" Adelaide had determined to do likewise, little realizing where this would lead her. So it was - they moved from city to city - Columbus Ohio; Madison, Wisconsin; Cleveland, Ohio; Dayton, Ohio and then journeyed to Paris France.*

*In 1927 Ralph S. Strang was appointed as "Director of European Sales for Warner and Swazy" whose headquarters were at Cleveland, Ohio. From Paris, as a center, they traveled to many countries of Europe, in fact, to most of them, even to Russia. This relationship continued until World War II, at which time the U. S. Government took over all output of factories engaged in the manufacture of war machinery and tools. While in Europe, Paris, France was the residence of the*

*Strang family. Mr. Strang's business required much traveling often necessitating lengthy periods from home. After having enrolled Paul and Jane (Ralph and Adelaide's children) in suitable schools, Adelaide found it quite possible to share these trips. Their longest stay was, I believe, when they went to Russia. At that time the great factories at Karkoff and Novgorad were being constructed by the Russians. These were for the manufacture of trucks, tanks and other heavy machinery; I read, quite recently, that 85% of highly automatic equipment installed in these factories had been built and shipped by a company located at Cleveland, Ohio, U.S.A..*

*World War II necessitated their return to the United States. (What Ina did not say is that Ralph and Add left Paris in their new Chrysler the day before the Nazis invaded. They drove to Spain. They had great difficulty purchasing gasoline for their vehicle. They returned to the United States by ship, leaving the new Chrysler on the dock. Paris fell to the Nazis on June 14, 1940.) High Wyndam, because of its proximity to Washington D.C. and business centers of the East, was now purchased as a home.*



Add and Ralph at High Wyndom





Add at High Wyndom

*Adelaide was not permitted to go to China at the time of Ralph's first trip with Donald Nelson; some years later they moved to Shanghai, only returning to America, after the Communists had taken control of that city. During the following years, Ralph held various appointments, some were government assignments, others with private commercial companies.*

*In answer to a letter concerning their travels and Ralph's employment, his widow, now living in San Diego, California, writes as follows. "The first time Ralph went to China he was an appointee of the Government and accompanied Donald Nelson. China had been granted a loan by the United States for its industrialization. Donald represented the Government politically while Ralph headed up the industrial side. He was to determine what equipment and machinery would be needed for factory efficiency, also, the amount required together with the probable cost. In China I forget what his title was ( his printed cards for his various situations are with my records at High Wyndam; his Chinese name given him by his Chinese co-workers was " Never to be forgotten". He had the rank given so that if taken by the enemy, he had the right to the same consideration that a military Colonel has, 'the international right to demand,' whether he gets it or not. Peking fell to the Communists, which brought this*



*project to an end. I don't remember what Hunt Company called his position in China (That is all with the records at High Wyndam). In actual job designation he was head of the Hunt Co's Machine Tool Department. Now that conditions seemed more settled in China we decided to move to Shanghai. Toward 1949 the Communists were in power at Shanghai also. We realized it would be dangerous to remain longer and made arrangement for space on the first available flight to San Francisco. Lucky indeed we did for the passengers on that plane were the last Americans permitted to leave China for several years."*

*Soon after the return from Shanghai, the government appointed Ralph to head the Machine Tool Department of the E.C.A. with headquarters in Athens, Greece.*



Adelaide



Ralph in China



*In Greece, Ralph was a government Appointee. He headed the Machine Tool Branch of the E.C. A..*

*Nor did Adelaide realize that the journeying would never cease until at last she would accompany Ralph on that most difficult of all journeys - their homeward journey - when she would bring Ralph that he might lay in peaceful slumber, among loved ones at Riverside. Ralph Sherman Strang, suddenly and unexpectedly, Dec. 23 - 1950 in Athens Greece; completed his life's journey. Ralph Sherman Strang died Dec 23- 1950 Athens Greece. (he was in a bank lobby)*

*There were two reasons for the flag draped coffin. The "Colonel" honor was one and being a high ranking Government Appointee was the second. I have the flag with my things in the big room. (the school house) The school house was the old school that J.B., Adelaide's father, had purchased many years before for his wife, Adelaide's mother, Fannie. Adelaide and Ina had each lived in the school house. Adelaide also stored many of her belongings from her travels in, what had been, the class room of the school house. It was a large room in the front of the building.*



Ralph and Adelaide



Adelaide and Ralph



Adelaide



On their travels Adelaide collected many momentos. She loved art, creating and collecting.



A painting by Adelaide  
(With Permission of Mary Frances Daugherty)



A Painting by Adelaide Strang



A Painting by Adelaide Strang

She met many interesting people on her travels, writing stories of their times together. She enjoyed philosophizing with her brother, Perry, and she also spent time with Ezra Pound on her travels in Italy. One would expect there were many conversations of the politics of the times.

Below are photos of some of Add's collections:







Adelaide completed her life's journey in a nursing home in California. Add shared stories of her travels with the nursing home staff. The staff appeared to think her stories were fiction, as a result of her dementia. Her ashes were sprinkled off the coast of California in Emerald Bay.



## Perry Perdue Denune

*7. Perry Perdue Denune was born in Mifflin Township 13 April 1891. He entered the Columbus Public Schools in 1898 and in 1899 entered the Linden School. In the year 1903 he passed the Boxwell Examination and entered the Columbus North High School. He graduated from that school in the Year 1908 having completed the Latin Literary Course. He was known among his teachers as an exceptionally good student of history and mathematics.*

*At the age of 14 he was baptised into the Christian Church. In August 1911, at the age of 20, he opened a grocery in East Linden, where he is doing a good business at the present time (1913.)*

*He married Mable Freta Holdcroft, daughter of Roswell and Dessis (Campbell) Holdcroft, July 31, 1912. She was born in Athens County, Ohio, 6 October 1894. \* Fannie wrote this of her son, Perry.*

The following accounts of his life and his next three marriages are a combination of writings by Perry's sister, Ina and his grandson, Tom Denune.

*Perry ran the family grocery until 1913. He left Linden to attend Hiram College and get away from the family drama. While studying for his BA at Hiram, Perry served as minister at the Church of Christ in Bristol, Ohio from 1914-1919. Perry and Mable had two sons: John Roswell, born November 24, 1913 and Wilbur Lowell, born April 1, 1917. When Wilbur had just turned one year, his mother, Mable died April 15, 1918 of Tuberculosis.*

*Within a year of Mable's death, Perry married the couple's friend, Ethel Mayhew McCartney, a recent widow of Cyrus McCartney, who had died in France during World War I. Coincidentally, Perry had been the minister that officiated the marriage of Ethel and Cyrus. After Mable and Cyrus's deaths, it appears sorrow brought Perry and Mable together. Perry and Ethel Mayhew returned to Columbus where he resumed running the Denune grocery store in Linden (1919-1921.)*

*Happiness was not to follow his marriage to Ethel, as scarcely a year later, an accident occurred. While Ethel was handing candy to her two little stepsons, John and Wilbur, she backed up too close to an open gas burning fire place. Her long dress burst into flames, spreading rapidly. Neighbors frantically rolled her in a carpet to put the flames out, but sadly, her burns were so deep and extensive that*

*doctors and nurses could offer no help. Ethel died the following day and was buried with others of the Mayhew family in northern Ohio.*

*Perry then started a Masters of Sociology at Ohio State University in 1921. On September 5, 1922 he married Agnes Drury (born December 14, 1890), daughter of Rev. Augustus Drury and Sophia (Brookwater) Drury of Springfield, Ohio. Agnes had earned a BA from Otterbein College in 1914 and a Masters of Sociology from Ohio State University in 1916. She was also a student at Brokebrake Theological Seminary 1911-1912 and the University of Chicago, summer 1916 and had been a missionary to the Philippines 1918-1919 with the United Brethern Church. Perry and Agnes had one daughter, Agnes "Ronnie" Fern Denune, born July 19, 1927.*

*Both Agnes and Perry pursued long teaching careers at Ohio State University in Sociology. Agnes taught in the department through 1948. Perry earned his PhD there in 1927 and went on to become chairman of the Sociology Department from 1940 to 1950. Interestingly, both teachers were known for their sociology courses on marriage and family. Perry was an early pioneer during the beginning of Sociology as a social science and was a strong defender of it being a "real science." He served as President of the Franklin County Chapter of the Red Cross, Executive Secretary of the Ohio Welfare Conference, 1928-1933 and a member of the American Sociological Society, American Association of University Professors, American Association of Social Workers and the National Conference of Social Work.*

*His PhD dissertation took him to southern Ohio studying a remnant group of Native Americans. While getting use to driving a new Model T Ford along a country road, a hornet flew up his pants and started stinging a sensitive area. The car careened out of control, off the road and into a creek bed. To everyone's surprise, no one was hurt except for Perry's painful stings and his strong sense of pride.*

*Like Perry, Agnes was very active with community organizations. She was on the board of the Franklin County Council of Churches, Columbus and Franklin County Y.W.C.A., Columbus and Franklin county League of Woman Voters, the Woman's Club of Ohio State University and numerous others.*

*Both Perry and Agnes were strict parents to John and Wilbur. Their parenting style was by the book and both boys grew up rebellious as a result. John ran away*

*once and got as far as Saint Louis. He was punished with a leather strap. Wilbur took to secretly smoking cigarettes behind the garage. He had to sneak into back windows of prohibited movie theaters and when a small plane crashed down the street, Agnes and Perry refused to let them go see it. On the other hand, their parenting style was totally different with daughter Ronnie (Agnes.) The boys thought she was too spoiled and became jealous as a result. Ronnie remembered her brother, John tying her to a chair once in the kitchen. It seems all her needs were catered to by her adoring parents. Her mother even started a sorority in Upper Arlington when Ronnie wasn't invited to join the existing ones. At the time, they lived on the corner of Bedford Road and Tremont Road next to Perry's sister, Ina.*

*Perry never met a stranger. He loved to talk which made him a great professor. He was well read, opinionated, loved lively debate and had an amazing photographic memory. He use to remember the details of meals he ate, where he ate then and what day of the year it was. He cared about people and their social institutions. His work was dedicated to understanding our human relationships, a life interest he shared with his wife, Agnes.*

*His sister Adelaide, remembered debating with Perry about predestination. Did we have "free will" or was life pre-determined. Add painted a lovely oil painting of a boat on a river with dangers and opportunities on either side, symbolizing one traveling through life, in memory of her discussions with her brother.*

*Upon retirement from Ohio State University, Perry taught one more year at the University of Arkansas and one more at Otterbein College. Then Perry and Agnes moved to Santa Rosa, California to a ten-acre ranch on the edge of town. Perry devoted his time to gardening, tending his small fruit orchard and thoroughly enjoying exploring northern California. Perry also gave frequent sermons at the First Presbyterian Church in Santa Rosa. On a cruise up the Alaska Passage, Agnes experienced congestive heart failure and died soon after returning home on September 14, 1952.*

*By this time Perry was well known in his family for quickly moving to remarry. He wrote to a dear friend and asked her to marry him. She had been a fellow student years before at Hiram College. Her name was Clara Ethel Quillin, now widowed from Rev. James Redden Keeling. Clara had shared babysitting with Perry's first wife, Mable, many years before. Clara was a very jovial sort, always happy, cheerful and loving. She often made a sweet "chortling" sound as she talked. She*

*remembered Perry was "full of himself", so to speak, and wrote back that, while he was a "conceited ass", she would agree. Clara would be Perry's forth wife. The two of them spent many happy years together, traveling across the country to see family in Ohio and enjoying life in Santa Rosa.*

*Perry died on January 19, 1969 in Santa Rosa of a heart attack while undergoing an operation for cancer. He is buried in Union Cemetery, Columbus, Ohio along with his third wife, Agnes. His fourth wife, Clara, moved to be with her son in Kansas and died in 1977.*



Perry

According to Jack, Perry's youngest brother, "cold coffee killed Perry". Who's to say that isn't true. One would expect a little caffeine could be helpful in keeping up with 4 wives. No time for hot coffee.



## Elias Earl Denune

6. *Elias Earl Denune was born in Mifflin Township 24 February 1889. He entered the Columbus Public Schools in 1895 and in the fall of 1899 he entered the Linden School, From which he graduated in 1903. He entered the Columbus High School in the fall of that year and continued his studies until the spring of 1907, when he took up the study of elecution under Prof. Fox of the Capitol College of Oratory and Music; he also studied for the Civil Service and passed the examination for Railway Mail Clerk in the spring of 1908. During this time his father had been doing business as a Contractor and Builder and Elias worked with the men during his spare time. While thus engaged he conceived the idea of saving the retailer's profit by buying direct from the manufactruer, and in order to do this induced his father, in the fall of 1908, to establish what is now known as the Denune Builders Supply Company, with J. B. Denune as proprietor and Elias as General Manager. This business is now (1913) in its fifth year and is steadily growing to larger proportions.*

*He married Ethel May Selby, daughter of Alfred Watson Selby and Clara (Benham) Selby, November 10, 1909. She was born in Covington, Kentucky, August 1889.*

*Both are members of the Linden Heights Church of Christ.*

*Claribel Fern Denune, daughter of Elias Earl and Ethel (Selby) Denune, was born June 19, 1912. Died 19 June 1912. \* Fannie wrote this of her son, Perry.*

Elias, like his father, had an entrepreneurial spirit. When he saw an opportunity to save his father money in the construction of housing in East Linden, he suggested that his father start his own builder supply company. As his father, he was interested in pollitics. He too ran for and was elected as Ohio State Representative. Like his mother, he was a collector. He collected paperweights.

(From a "book", a bit more like a pamphlet, titled *Linden* paid for in part by J. B. Denune. Lewis Garrison, Publisher, Box 837, Columbus, Ohio; written in 1924.)

*E. E. Denune, general manager of the Denune Lumber and Supply Company, is a life-long resident of Linden, having been born on a farm in Mifflin Township in what is now the village of East Linden. He has been interested in the lumber and supply business for the past 14 years, having been associated with his father in the Denune Builders' Supply company while still a law student at Ohio State*

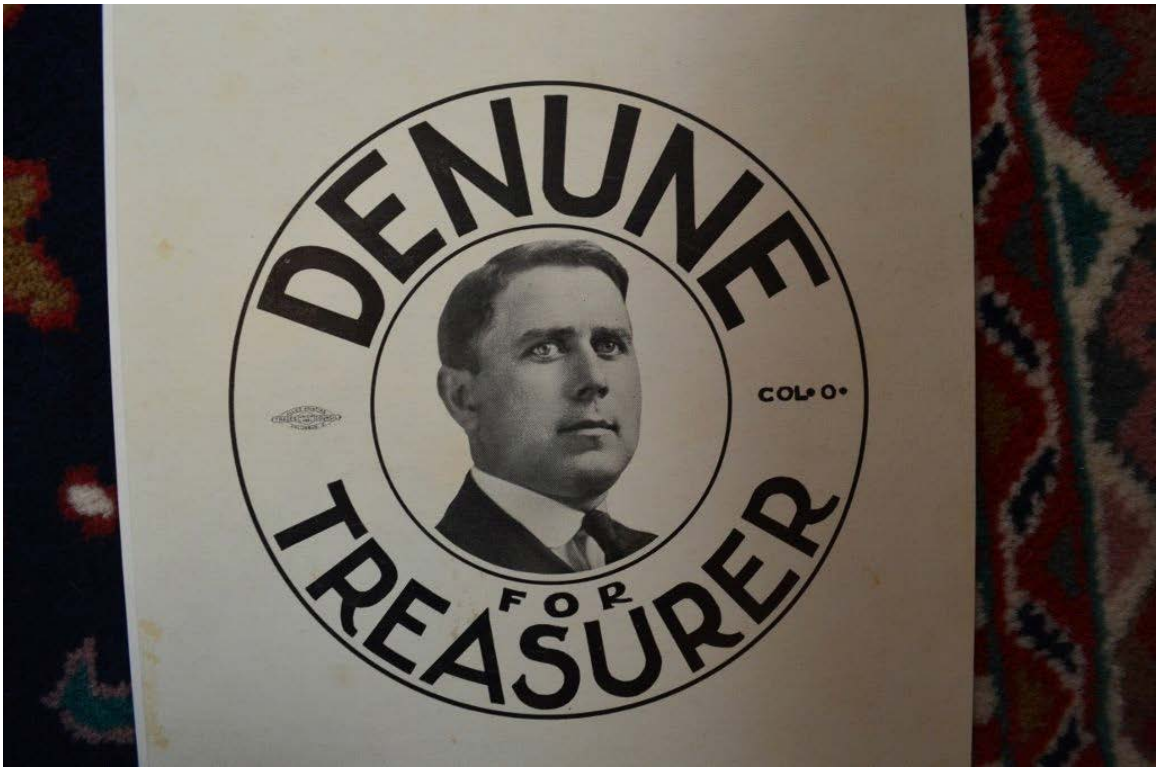
*University. A year ago he organized the present company with office and yard on Denune Avenue at the C. A. & V. R. R., handling a complete line of lumber, roofing, brick, sewer pipe, drain tile, builders' hardware, lime, sand, cement, stone, building block, paint, oil, varnish, glass, coal, etc. Mr. Denune is a councilman of the village of East Linden and also served a Representative from Franklin County in the 83rd General Assembly. Officers of the company include J. B. Denune, president; E. E. Denune, vice-president and general manager A.W. Selby, secretary L. L. Bale, treasurer.\**



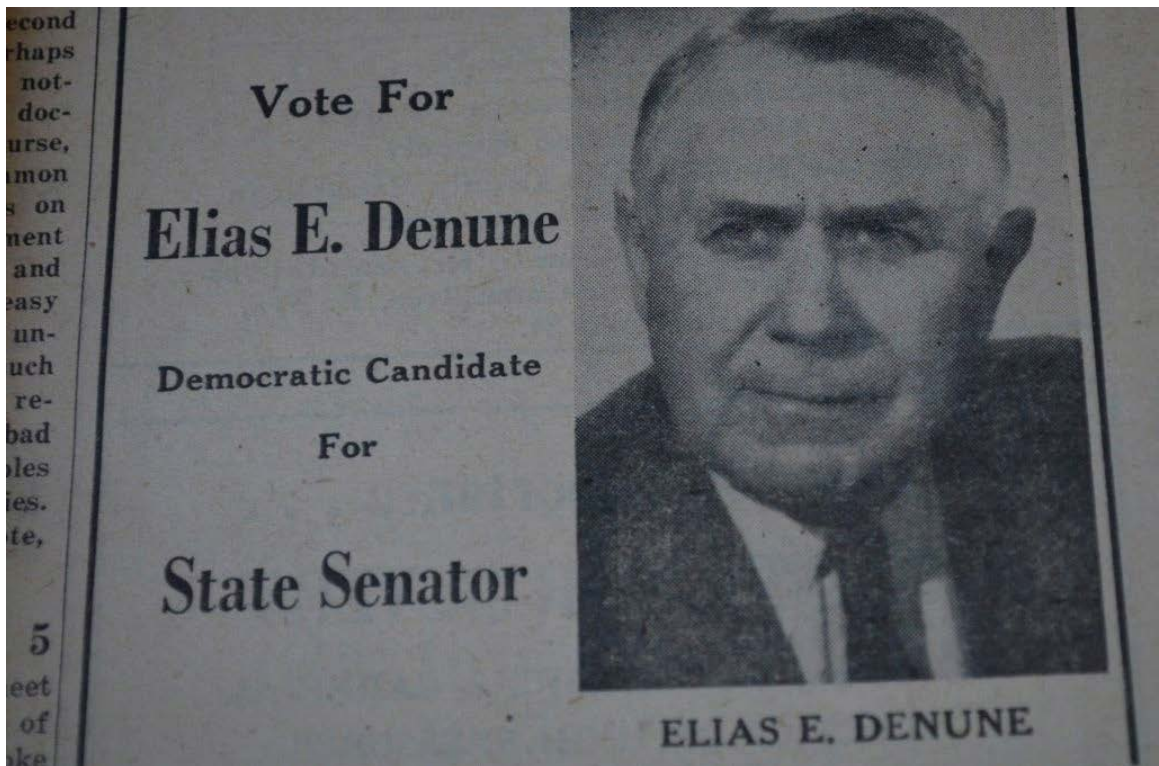
Elias and his paperweight collection



Elias



Political advertising for Elias





## Elias

Elias was quite a business man, handsome and civic minded; he lived catty-corner from his father's home on Fern Avenue, and next to the Red and White Grocery. Later he became an Ohio State Representative and a farmer; is there anything he couldn't do? While farming in 1901, Elias boasted of the two headed calf born on the family farm. Upon the death of the calf, it was stuffed and put on display. One could "visit" this fine specimen for 5 cents. The, not so true, story was that the two headed calf lived two days, two hours, and two minutes. The calf remained in the family for about another 30 or 40 years. Elias' nephews charged 10 cents to see the calf at their school carnival. Inflation.



Elias, the two headed Calf and its Mama

After World War I Elias purchased a large quantity of German bank notes. It was unlikely that the Germans could pay off these notes after losing the war. Later there was a rumor that the notes might be paid off. Elias went to speak with his younger brother, Jack. He told Jack that he had an offer of \$700,000.00 for the notes. Jack told him to go back and confirm the sale at once. Elias told Jack that he was holding out for \$1,000,000.00. The word then came back that they would



not be paid, they became worthless. Elias wallpapered a bedroom with the notes and called it his million dollar bedroom.



Some of Elias' German Bonds



Believed to be Elias and Ethel on their honeymoon

It would seem Elias had it all, a lovely wife, a son and a daughter. Sadly, not all things were right in the Denune household. Ethel had a bout with melancholy. She was prescribed some type of elixir from her doctor in order to remedy the problem. One morning Ethel said to Elias, "Do you think you could carry me from the garage to the house?" No one knows his reply but that evening it would be apparent. When Elias returned from work, Ethel was not in the house. He went behind the house and into the garage. There she was in her house dress, hanging. She had fashioned a noose of bailing twine. Jack's two youngest children remember it well. Johnny was age 10 and Margaret, age 5. They were on their porch when Elias came running down Fern Avenue, screaming. Johnny was later told by Ethel Denune Young that Elias was able and did indeed carry his wife from the garage to the house.

## Roy Rutherford Denune

*5. Roy Rutherford Denune was born in Mifflin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, 26 August 1887. In 1891 his parents moved to Columbus, Ohio. He entered the Columbus public schools in the fall of 1893 and attended there until the Year 1899. In that year he entered the Linden public school and graduated from that school in the Year 1901. He passed the Boxwell Examination and entered the Columbus Central High School in the fall of 1901. He graduated from that school in 1906 having completed the Latin Literary Course. He successfully passed the Civil Service Examination for Post Office Clerk November 21, 1906 and on the First of April 1907 accepted an appointment as clerk in the Columbus Postal Service.*

*His parents are often complimented because of his quiet, gentlemanly behavior. He is a member of the Linden Church of Christ. \* Fannie wrote this of her son, Roy.*



Roy and Elias

Roy was small in stature. He was soft spoken and kind. In adulthood, he is remembered wearing a dark suit with a white shirt and a small bow tie. Upon completion of his high school courses, as Elias, he took the civil service exam and began a career at the post office. He became Head of Registered Mail and remained in his employment for 70 years. This is believed to be a record for the U.S Post Office.



Roy

Roy married Ethel Brobst, who was rumored to have had a greater interest in one of Roy's brothers but feelings were not reciprocal. It should be mentioned that in Ethel's diary in 1911, She wrote "Perry and I went to Ghlroyds to a Valentine party in the evening." By June of that same year Ethel began writing of dinner with Roy. Roy and Ethel were married October 13, 1913. In her senior years, Ethel kept her hair dyed dark brown. She wore dark red lipstick and dark red blush. Although Ethel had socialized with the Denune family since she was a girl, recalling in her diary of going in a carriage to Ethel and Elias' home on Aberdeen Avenue for dinner as well as going to other events with Ina and Adelaide, there was no love lost between Ethel and the Denunes. One might expect she spent years harboring jealousy of the Denune's as she swore, "No Denune would ever get a penny of my money." When she died, she did not will her husband her home. Instead, she left him a life estate in order that he could remain in the home until his death. The home was to be inherited by Ethel's family.



Roy and Ethel "Roy", as she was referred due to the number of Ethels in the family



Alone, Roy cooked for himself. He believed that he could cover all of the food groups by eating cheesy hot dogs and apple sauce.

When Roy was well into his 80's, thugs broke into his home. They beat him. Roy was left blind in one eye and with a broken hip. After convalescing, Roy returned to his home with his cat, Kit. Kit was a large fluffy grey striped cat with significant white markings. She had the biggest, most beautiful green eyes of any domestic cat. Kit did not mind that Roy required the assistance of a walker after he was assaulted. Going for a "carry" around the house with Roy was a joy for Kit. Roy would place Kit's straw basket with handles at the top, beside his walker. Kit would hop right in and off they would go.

Roy was generous. He donated money to a number of charities, two being Cat Welfare and a Native American Tribe. Upon his death, there were concerns as to who would care for Kit. Cat Welfare was contacted. They were unable to help. Kit spent the rest of her days in the loving care of one of Roy's brother Perry's granddaughters.

## Ina Fern Denune

*4. Ina Fern Denune was born in Mifflin Township 6 Jan. 1886. At the age of five she entered the Eighth Avenue public school of Columbus, Ohio and on 16 June 1899 was graduated from the Fifth Avenue School of that City. The next fall she entered the High School and, after four years of study and completing the Classical course, received her diploma from the Columbus High School. The next two years were spent at home, during which time she took up the study of elocution under Miss Elsie Mae Coates of Columbus, Ohio.*

*In September 1905 she registered in the Arts College of the Ohio State University. Here she continued her study in Greek Literature and Art under Josiah R. Smith and Dr. Arthur Hodgeman. She also took considerable French, having Professor Benjamin Bowen. These studies were her specialties altho she also studied Mathematics, Geology, several courses in English Literature, American History, Political Science, Psychology; these being the most important. She is at present (1908) in Senior Year and if all goes well will receive her degree in June 1909.*

*So much for her school days. In appearance she is a blonde with hazel eyes, of slight figure, weighing about 97 pounds. Her favorite color is Lavender and she is fond of society and good times. \* Fannie wrote this of her daughter, Ina.*



From the left : Ina, Ethel, Lois, and two cousins



Ina and Ethel Denune Young

In 1909, Ina's brother, Roy, had moved into his own home. He wrote Ina on September 2, 1909. He wrote her on a 4" by 5" card. He wrote, "My Good Gal! Where did she go to I was over home. Tuesday morning with this and you has gone to some Man forsaken place. Home are you. I is all right. Living alone is great fun. I wish I was married, no I don't for I would have to work harder. I too stingey to buy letter paper. I don't want any goodbye. Look for another letter tomorrow. Roy R. Denune" Roy did not move far. He wrote from Linden. Perhaps he was home sick.



Ina

While still in high school, Ina wrote the following paper. She was a young woman ahead of her times.

*Ina F. DeNune    March 5 - 03*

### *Woman's Rights*

*As I am to talk to girls this evening I will speak of something that concerns us. It will be of our rights and priviledges. Now we all know that woman is man's equal. And according to the idea of a few of our greatest men she is superior. To express their opinions I will use the old German saying in the words of Birns in one of his poems. God's practice hand he tried on man and there he made the lassie. And you are all aware that women surpass men in morals, intellect and reason. Statistics show this. The proportion of men in our penitenturies and workhouses to*



*that of women will surely convince you of this fact.*

*Women has proved in countries where education is permitted her, that her intellect is at least equal to that of man and if one considers the average age of boys and girls upon finishing their school work they are superior.*

*In India the women are considered only as property and are bought and sold. Her duties to her husband are set down by law. Her obedience as a wife extends to anything the husband may command. She is not allowed to be educated, at all, because of one of the last educated natives of the time explain it, "She is not qualified for the society of the other sex." True she is not qualified for the society of her own husband. But why not? The fault is caused by the national religion. Hinduism makes it a crime for a woman to learn to read and write. The prejudices of the natives in general against female education are very strong. They are not only alarmed at the idea of innovation but also fear the consequences which would follow. One Hindu expressed his reasons for prohibiting education among the women of her own nation by saying "It would be impossible for us to keep our wives in subjection if they were educated. They would no longer make us brick and mortar. If they were educated it would not be necessary to keep them in subjection because they would be governed by reason, judgement and common sence and would yield a reasonable obedience in those things in which a husband's will ought to have the preference.["]*

*India is not alone in its suffering. Among the Chinese and Japanese although education is not prohibited to so great an extent, the husband has about the same authority over his wife. In fact in almost any country or nation women is not treated as man's equal but is placed below him in one or more respects.*

*In the U.S. the women have no reason to complain on account of not receiving the same educational advantages as the men because in our country the women have exactly the same opportunities as the men. They are allowed a college education, they are permitted to teach in public institutions as well as others, they have the right to hold property, they have the right to hold a few offices, and sundry other privileges which are hers so long as she remains single.*

*But when woman marries she looses [sic] the majority of these rights,[;] she is under the control of her husband, he has the entire control of the income from her realty if he wish[es] to use it, should she earn money with her own hands after their marriage, he may collect the wages. Of course he can not dispose of her property without her consent but what is the use of having it if she has no legal control of*

*the income? What good will it ever do her? Timothy Walker says that the theory of our law degrades woman almost to the level of slaves.*

*The only remedy for these evils is womans suffrage,[,] it is only fair that this should be granted us. Did not our forefathers fight on account of taxation without representation [-] why then do they not realize that we are placed in exactly the same position? Why do they stand with such indignation because we ask for what is our due? They do not hesitate to hold us responsible for the laws when made, but they do not give us any share in making them,[,] w[W]e cannot so we cannot hold any law making office. We are required to contribute our share in the way of taxes but have no voice in spending them. If the men were to endure all this it would be true political slavery but for us custom teaches them not to regard it as such. Now there are well educated people who say that this is right, who say that is unwomenly for us to even wish to protect ourselves by voting, and probably some of the most refined and enlightened women would be the last to desire a change which would involve them in the turmoil of politics.*

*What would we girls think if we were denied the right to vote in our class organizations. Would we not immediately organize to obtain our rights? Do you think we would pay our assessments if we did not have something to say about how it was to be spent? If we could not vote for who we wanted for Pres, V. Pres, Sec, or Tres, but simply abide by what the boys say, do you think we would stand back and say uncle. Does everybody like to go to class meetings and vote and discuss matters like that? No! I doubt if any one of you would put up with it for more than one day before you would organize to obtain your rights. And yet women allow this every election and do not rise against it.*

*Then there are some people who say that we are not capable of managing a government that we are not qualified to make laws to tax ourselves. But - I will leave it to say of our teachers of Pieria (In Greek mythology Pieria was the wife of Danaus. They had fifty daughters. The fifty daughters married fifty sons. The daughters were instructed to kill their husbands on their wedding night. All obeyed but one.) is not managed as well as Philergian. If we do not spend our money as judiciously as the boys.*

*With regard to the political rights of the women of this and various other stated form a positive exception to the general doctrine of equality.*



Ina

Is it any wonder that Adelaide was Ina's favorite? Adelaide was high society and good times incarnate. In the '20s, Ina traveled to Europe both to attend the Fontainebleau in France where she took classes in French diction and conversation, and to visit with her sister. Ina and Add were close, a bond and a coalition. From their birth until their death they were close. Ina was close to her sister Marguerite, as well, but due to the great distance to travel for a personal encounter, they usually communicated by mail. When Marguerite would visit from Santa Monica, Ina would corner her to tell her of the family drama. It may come as a surprise, but it has been said that before Add or Marguerite dated and then married their husbands, Ina had dated both Ralph and Clyde.



Ina on the right

Dear Ina, interesting and interested in all things. She was the keeper of ancestral memories. A life long learner, she was fluent in French, embracing that culture most, along with her sister Adelaide. How they loved France. They both loved the finer things.

Emotional! This quality was strangely left out of the list of Ina's attributes by her mother. Ina was quite emotional. On one occasion, her nephew, Johnny, was playing in the yard of 1968 Denune Avenue. Mama had not been gone long. Ina came out to yell at Johnny because he had broken a branch from one of the shrubs. She said "Johnny, go back to your own yard", which was across the street. Johnny said "It's my Grandpa's yard and I can play in the yard if I want to." That only seemed to make Ina more irritated. She then threatened to break the fruit



trees that Jack had just planted in his back yard. When Jack, Johnny's Dad, returned from work, Ina jumped from atop the stone wall to attack Jack. Jack took her out to the street and gave Ina a toss to the ground from her attack hold. A young man who had been playing with Johnny and the others hung around Johnny's house for a long time, afraid to go home. Ina continued to rant in the front yard until the wee hours. J. B. came out of the house advising, "Ina, people can hear what you are saying." Ina raged until about 1:00 am.



Ina on the porch of 1968 Denune Avenue

Ina taught school for many years. In the course of her teaching she became particularly attached to one of her students, Richard McCann. She maintained contact with him and upon his return from World War II, with shrapnel in his leg, she offered to send him through law school. For that he was quite appreciative. Richard was also friends with Adelaide's son, Ina's nephew, Paul. Paul had married his mother's good friend. There was a bit of an age difference. Ina had hoped that Richard would ask for her hand in marriage. This was not to be. Richard met and married Virginia. When they were leaving on their honeymoon, Ina jumped in the back seat to go with them. This was a strange situation to say the least. Ina bought a house from her brother, Perry, where she, Richard, and Virginia lived. Sometimes Ina would cry at night and Richard would come comfort her.

When Ina was much younger, it was rumored that she had an affair with one of her first cousins. Throughout her life, Ina was obsessed with weddings as well as what should be purchased for wedding gifts. It is sad that she never had one of her own.

Ina was heart broken when Mama died. Fannie was loved by all. She was a pillar of the community and there were about 200 people who came to her funeral. Ina wrote what appears to be the eulogy. It read as follows:

*"Fannie Fern Ferris was born October 6, 1859 in Franklin County Ohio. She was the daughter of John Nelson Ferris and Lucretia Case Ferris pioneer residents of this state.*

*On the 3rd of October 1887 she was united in marriage with John Baughman Denune also a resident of Franklin County. To this union thirteen children were born and nine of these survive their mother.*

*Mr. and Mrs. Denune would have completed 58 years of wedded life on the third of October of this year.*

*A woman whose whole heart was in her home, her family and her religious work, Mrs. Denune's death is keenly felt by her husband Hon. John B. Denune, her sons Mr. Roy R. Denune, Mr. Elias E. Denune, Prof. Perry P. Denune, Mr. Blenn B. Denune and Mr. Linn [Lynn] L. Denune and by daughters, Mrs. Norville Finley Young, Miss Ina Denune, Mrs. Ralph Strang of Paris, France and Mrs. Clyde W. Haviland of Santa Monica California. She also leaves sixteen grandchildren; a brother, Mr. Delbert Ferris; a sister, Mrs. George Hanawalt and many friends.*

*Mrs. Denune's ancestors were of New England Colonial stock, notable not only in the military activities of early days but in the Educational and Cultural development of this country. Only recently there came to the notice of historians a remarkable Colonial document concerning the first organized and incorporated effort to promote mining in what is now the United States, signed by Thomas Buttolph one of her ancestors and dated 1655.*

*Mrs. Denune was a member of the Massachusetts Society of Mayflower Decendants and few indeed are the Historical Societies of this country to which she was not eligible for membership. In glancing over her family tree one meets many names notable in the history of our country such as Case, Pratt, Bancroft, Lincoln, Grant, Hays, Dewey, Ball, Spencer and Allerton. She was a descendant of*

*Degory Priest "The Pilgrim;" and of Deacon Samuel Chapin "The Puritan." Her ancestors had faught in the Colonial and Indian wars, in the Revolution, and in the War of 1812. The roll of The Ancient and Honorable Artillery of Boston carried the names of numerous ancestors not a few of whom were officers. Through her descent from Thomas Gardner, first governor of Cape Ann Colony, she was kin of Benjamin Franklin, Nathaniel Hawthorne and Wendell Phillipps; and through her descent from John and Mary Drake Bissell, she derives a heritage from the most powerful Barons of Magna Charta [Carta] fame, from the great house of the Plantagenents; English and Contintental Royalty and kinship with Sir Francis Drake and Sir Walter Raleigh.*

*Her parents, worthy custodians of religious and cultural traditions, reared their children in a Christian home where moral teaching and example developed habits of Christian living which were never neglected.*

*Mrs. Denune was a charter member of the Linden Church of Christ and an active worker in the United Brethern Church of East Linden being a member of the Ladies Aid Society of the latter church.*

*For more than 60 years she had been actively engaged in Christian Education, teaching in the public schools or in the sabbath schools. From her birth to her grave she has known only Christian environment, Christian interests and Christian works. She loved beautiful, traditional and historic associations. An artist of uncommon ability her landscapes and portraits always called forth spontaneous appreciation.*

*Everything she did she did magnificently and in a large scale.*

*Her great and numerous collections of historic objects of art and interest indicated a deep and serious appreciation that was no single track hobby. She loved life, growing things, plants and flowers and this was not the least of her interests. She loved children particularly.*

*If ever there was a perfect companion in married life she was that - always devoted to the happiness and success of her husband. Never neglecting this, her most vital interest and joy, she also accomplished in a multiplicity paths more than many people do in a single one -*

*Truely we will miss her."*



Fannie

Ina also wrote her father the following poem upon the death of her mother

*To My Father*

*My mother has come to the Throne of Heaven  
With tranquil smile and hands at rest.  
To such as she is honor given-  
The pure in heart are ever blest.*

*The mother of Christ will be her friend,  
She welcomes her most tenderly-  
An host of angels above them bend,  
And cherubs chanting, "Jubilee."*

*The sky is blue and blue her gown,  
a star upon her breast has strayed.  
Enthroned on high she is looking down.  
She knows we grieve and low are laid.*



*For 'tis we below who are forlorn-  
We miss her where she use to be.  
We should not weep nor even mourn  
Her crown is Peace - her soul is free.*

*She can the universe survey  
And follow in its path of light.  
A million years are as a day-  
An endless day that has no night.*

*But we who weary struggle on  
Beneath this grief so hard to bear.  
We too shall one day find that dawn-  
Her gentle life will lead us there.*

*For she the victory has won,  
Her eyes can vision ecstasy,  
Can perfect beauty look upon,  
Can read aright the mystery.*

*Now life and death she understands-  
'Twas death which did the answer give.  
It placed the key within her hands-  
We live to die - but die to live!*

*Our life on earth is but a dream-  
We sleep now tho we know it not.  
Our joys and sorrows, all 'twould seem  
Are preludes to our life's real plot.*

*Yet those who live this life with zest  
Who fill it full of pain and love  
Are even so prepared the best  
For that grandly glorious life above.*

*Thy Kingdon come, Thy will be done:  
'Twas she who taught me thus to pray.  
Oh God on High! Thy will be done-  
Let come what must - This still we say!*



J.B. in one of his seal skin hats, photo from a ten cent store photo booth.

Ina lived at home at 1968 Denune Avenue until the death of her father in April 1939. Ina had just turned 53 that January. Papa's death was quite a shock. Ina and Ina's oldest sister, Ethel, both lived at home. It was just the two of them. They did not get along, before or after his death. For Papa there would always be a commotion between Ethel and Ina when he would return from work. They were fierce competitors.

In her father's will, Ina was left "the school house" that J.B. had purchased for Fannie, Ina's mother. Ina left the family home after her father's death and moved to "the school house."

Upon the death of her brother, Elias, in 1956 and seeing family members at his funeral, Ina rekindled a friendship with Jack's side of the family. It is believed that there was bad blood between Ina and Jack's family since her attack of Jack in the front yard of 1968 Denune Avenue, perhaps even earlier. Denune grudges were not always short lived.



Ina and Ethel Denune Young

Ina and Add spent time together at the school house. Ina made grape jelly from the grapes which grew on the property. They stored their belongings and everything "Denune" from their former home on Denune Avenue in the school room portion of the school house. They spoke French to one another, particularly when they did not want others to know what they were saying. Ina visited Add when she lived in Europe and they both would stay at Add's home "High Wyndom" in Alexandria, Virginia. Later in life, Ina traded the school house for High Wyndom. It is suspected that money exchanged hands in this transaction. High Wyndom was prime real estate which was not the case for the school house. Adelaide made a mosaic depicting the school house from bits of broken glass from the driveway. It hung over the mantel of the school house.



The School House

Add's son, Paul and his wife, Edith, continued to live at High Wyndom. In order for them to afford to do so, some of Adelaide's treasures from her travels were sold to antique dealers in the area. On one of Add's final visits to High Wyndom, Adelaide was gathering some of her belongings and had planned to return to Ohio with an expensive French painting believed to have been painted by Alfred Sisley (1839-1899). Nephew, Johnny had driven her. She found the painting. Her son said he had wrapped it in brown paper for her and had put it in the trunk of the car. Upon her return, old magazines, not the painting were found in the brown paper. Adelaide was quite upset and returned to Johnny's car in order to inspect. There was no painting in the car. Her son had tricked her.

Add would put advertisements in the paper in order to have people drive her across the country. One young man that had driven her, stayed with Add at the school house for a while. Following the advertisements, there were a series of robberies at the school house. Family treasures from the school room area were taken. Family members tried to assist in securing their belongings and some of the things that had formerly been at the school house were found, for sale, by a local antique

dealer. The dealer did not offer help in locating the criminals. Sometime later, Perry's grandson, Tom, received a telephone call from a woman disclosing the name of the criminal. He had been one of the men who drove Add out west. He had seen the belongings in the large classroom of the school house. The caller had found Tom's name, Denune, in a telephone book. Little was recovered.

On one occasion, Ina was upstairs at the school house. Her nephew, Johnny, Jack's son, was by for a visit. Ina hollered from upstairs. Johnny came in and followed her voice. Ina had broken her ankle. Johnny carried her down stairs and took her to the hospital. Ina was quite happy to have had a visit from Johnny.



Ina

When Ina lived with Richard and Virginia, Perry's son and family lived next door. In the evening, Tommy, Perry's grandson, would have cocktails with Ina, Richard and Virginia. On one occasion, Richard and Virginia were away. When the postman had found that the mail had not been collected for some time, he was concerned. He advised Tom. Tom had a house key. Upon entering the home, Tom found Ina, dehydrated, on the steps. Tom called the hospital squad. Tom stayed with her at the hospital. She had gall stones two inches across. On her 90th birthday Ina told Tom that she was angry that she had lived that long. Ina died some ten months later, November 11, 1976. She did not see her 91st birthday.



## Ethel Denune

2. *Ethel Denune born in Mifflin Township 31 May 1881, attended private and district school until nine years old, then moved with her parents to Columbus. Graduated from Eighth Avenue School, Columbus, Ohio in June 1894. Attended North High School and graduated June 1898 completing Latin Classical Course. Entered Ohio State University in the year 1898; divided course leading to A.B. Degree in five years. She married Norville Findley Young, D. D. S., 31 May 1902. (Fannie wrote this of her daughter, Ethel.)*



Lois Denune and Ethel Denune



A Painting of Ethel by her mother, Fannie Fern Ferris Denune  
(Used with permission of Mary Frances Daugherty)



Ethel



*Dr. Young is the son of Elizabith (Taylor) Young and Simon Kruson Young born near Caldwell, Ohio 24 March 1874. He graduated from the Ohio Medical University with degree D. D. S. June 1900. Simon Kruson Young was the eldest son of Hon. Wm. J. Young; b. 19 Feb. 1837, d. 22 June 1898. He was 2nd Lieutenant, Company 6, 176 Reg. O.V. Civil War. Hon. Wm. J. Young, son of Wm. Young; was b. at Lippits Factory Six Miles from the City of Providence, R. I. 27 March 1815; m. Jane McCan 1836; d. 25 May 1882. He was a Farmer and Tobacco Merchant and represented Noble County 1872 to revise the State Constitution. He was known as a man of great tact. Wm. Young settled in R. I. before the Revolution, removing to Ohio in 1825. He was a Scotch nativity and was a cotton manufacturer operative in the first cotton mfg. erected in the United States. (Fannie wrote this of her son-in-law, Norville.)*



Norville





Program from Norville's Commencement



Ethel



Ethel Denune Young and Hoylande

Norville and Ethel had two daughters. Hoylande was born June 26, 1903. Hilda was born March 20, 1905.

Ethel, the oldest child of Fannie and JB, knew how precious was life, education and growing up in a family of great station. At the age of 20 Ethel lost her closest sister, Lois, to Rheumatic Fever. Mama was also sick at the time but the younger, more frail, Lois, succumb to the illness at the tender age of 16. Ethel helped care for those at home. The youngest two boys, Jack and Blenn, had been cared for by Aunt Sarah. Expectations are that Ethel was deeply saddened by the loss, and a sense of loneliness prevailed. Ethel threw herself into her studies at Ohio State University. As for her mother, and her foremothers, education was valued, expected and not taken for granted. She completed her degree at OSU and in the process of completing her studies, met a young man. He too was from a fine family in Marietta. This man, Norville Findley Young, was of good breeding and suitable for Ethel. Norville graduated from Ohio Medical University in the Dental Department. Commencement Exercises were held at the Great Southern Theatre, Tuesday evening 8:00 pm, April 24th, 1900.

While still attending OSU, Ethel married Norville. As was the custom, it is believed that they were married in the family home on Denune Avenue. They were married on May 31, 1902. Two years and one month later their first child was born, a daughter, perfect in every way. Less than two years later, their second child, another girl, was born.

For a while, Ethel made her home with Norville and the girls but that arrangement did not work well for Ethel. It is difficult to say the reason for the separation but Norville then made his home at the dentist office at the RKO building on Gay Street in down town Columbus. Ethel returned to the family home with Mama (Fannie), Papa (J.B.), Jack (Lynn), Marguerite (Rite), Adelaide (Add), Perry, Elias, Roy, and Ina. The house was crowded by today's standards for a 5 bedroom home. Perry and Jack slept in the attic. Who knows? Perhaps all of the boys slept there.

Norville was a hard working man. After Ethel left him, he lived a meager lifestyle in his office. Ethel was described by her younger brother, Jack, as a "man hater." The girls, still quite young, were able to visit their father when he would come on Sundays. He brought ice cream for the girls and extended family members. He also brought each of the girls \$20.00, a handsome sum for the early 1900's. An undisclosed amount was provided to Ethel on a weekly basis. Norve, as he was called, was Jack's favorite brother-in-law. Now, one would expect that Norve, as Jack's his first brother-in-law and Ethel was his oldest sister, was his only brother-in-law for a long while. Jack was a wee bit older than the girls. He was born in

1899, Hoylande in 1903, and Hilda in 1905. One would expect he would have felt more like a sibling than an uncle to the girls. Norve was a friendly man with ice cream.

It is said that Ethel played up to her father, "Papa" as she called him, seeing that she and her girls were well cared for in the family home. Papa was generous with the community and his family members. He gave his children money. He probably gave more to Ethel as she had the obligation of her children. He gave her \$1,000 occasionally to help out with the girls.

Ethel liked to shop for her girls and for antiques. Many times Ethel would offer things that she had purchased, for sale to her mother. Ethel would save all of the receipts, it is assumed, in order to ensure these belongings would be hers upon the demise of her mother.



Hoylande, J.B., Fannie, and Hilda

Ethel was college educated, having an A.B. Degree from Ohio State University. She did not have her doctorate but she believed that one should skip a masters degree and go straight for a doctorate in order to save time. She valued education



but she did not enroll her oldest daughter in school until she was 8 years old. It is suspected that the girls had quite an education from their mother while at home. Both Hoylande and Hilda began their formal education the same year, 1911 (ages 8 and 6).

As Ethel's youngest brother, Jack was not much older than her daughters. He rode the bus to school with Hoylande. He bragged about his math skills but he remembered Hoylande helping everyone on the bus with difficult math concepts. Jack loved his nieces. He never said it, you could just tell when he spoke of them. Particularly Hoylande.



Ethel Denune Young

According to Jack, Ethel was said to walk down the street like she thought she was a movie star. She dressed her beautiful daughters in starlet fashion. They were frequently seen in beautiful white sailor outfits with white wool stockings. Ethel had beautiful photos taken of her daughters in order for their beauty to be captured for all eternity. Jack thought their stockings would be very hot and uncomfortable. He felt sorry for the young girls. One supposes it is the price one pays for beauty. There is always a price to pay.

One of Ethel's young nieces exclaimed that "Ethel use to scare her to death." When Ethel's niece was a young child, Ethel pinned an FDR pin on her cap. This made the young girl's father mad. She thought that perhaps that Ethel's domineering personality overwhelmed her.



Hoylande, Hilda, and Ethel



Hoylande and Hilda



Hoylande and Hilda

The girls also had occasions when their mother would take them to the local amusement park to swim in the large pool. It was far more pleasant than those wool stockings. They also took a trip to Washington, D. C. and Monticello, providing the girls with a well rounded education.



Hoylande and Hilda





Hoylande and Hilda



Hilda and Hoyland

The hustle and bustle of Denune Avenue was not exclusive to humans. There were chickens, kittens, a large dog and a small dog that may or may not have lived at the home. While sitting on the porch, J. B. enjoyed making a large "whoop" sound and the small dog would chase the large dog around the yard. On one occasion this was not so funny. The large dog dropped dead with no warning.

Death was no stranger to Denune Avenue. Sadly Norville did not live to see his daughter's early graduation from College. Norville was afflicted with epilepsy. When he became gravely ill, he came to live at the family home on Denune Avenue. While on his death bed, the family gathered. When Norve began moving, perhaps having a seizure, Ethel smacked his foot and said "quit moving." Fannie said to Ethel, "Ethel, he's dying." Norville passed away in 1917.

Following Norville's death, Ethel's brother's, Perry and Elias, went to clean his office/apartment. Amongst the trash in rolled oats boxes they found \$50,000.00 in cash. There was quite a stir at the bank when 36 year old Ethel came to deposit the cash.

She had completed her most important life's work. The girls were grown. After the girls were emancipated, as if any of us ever really emancipate, Ethel remained on Denune Avenue with Mama, Papa and Ina, the rest of the siblings having married and moved on with their lives. Rumor has it, things were not always copacetic between Ethel and Ina, fierce compeditors for Papa's attention.

Ina lived at home at 1968 Denune Avenue until the death of her father in April 1939. Ina had just turned 53 that January. Papa's death was quite a shock. Ina and Ina's oldest sister, Ethel, both lived at home. It was just the two of them. They did not get along, before or after his death. For Papa there would always be a comotion between Ethel and Ina when he would return from work.

Ina knew what happened in 1936 when Mama died. Ethel had packed 48 big packing crates to be sent to her daughter, Hoylande, in Chicago. These things were family treasurers. One of them was a large brass candelabra that was Mama's. Ethel had no right, but who was to stop her. Fannie, Ethel's mother's possessions belonged to J.B., Ethel's father. They were not hers to take. She had Papa wrapped around her little finger. Papa wrote Ethel checks now and then for \$1,000.00, probably to help with the girls. Following his death Ethel sharpened a 14 inch spoon into a dagger. This was believed to be for self defense as were the brass knuckles belonging to Ethel. Who were they to defend against? Ethel slept

with the brass knuckles under her pillow after her father's death. Ina disappeared. Several days had passed before it was discovered that Ina had gone across the street to the Red and White Store. She was living above the store in "The Hall." The Hall, for all practical purposes, was a large open meeting room above the store. It was also said that Ethel locked the doors to 1968 Denune Avenue following Papa's death. Living arrangements would never be quite the same for Ina. It is believed that with Papa gone, Ina was fearful of Ethel.



Ethel's brass knuckles, location of the dagger is unknown

Upon Papa's death, in what the family referred to as "The Divide", Ina inherited the school house on Westerville Road. The school house had been built in 1907 before the schools in the area were consolidated. The school house was purchased by J. B. in the '30s for Fannie as a summer house. He had added on to the back of the school house in order to make it into a home. It is not known when precisely Ina moved to the school house but it is expected that it was not long after the death of her father. As one would expect in a family such as this; "The Divide", aka the will, was contested by brother Jack. Jack believed that a disproportionate sum from the inheritance went to Ellias and Ethel.

Perhaps J.B. did not want his belongings to be distributed equally between his children. It was said that J.B. told one of his younger children, "You're younger. You have more time to make money." Prior to J.B.'s death, he invited his children

to his home in order to let them know what possessions were to go to each of the children. J.B. blindfolded himself in order to point to various possessions and dictate which children were to receive which of the belongings upon his death. The blindfold did not fit. J.B. was able to peek from beneath the loosely fitting fabric. It is said that his more valuable possessions were to be given to Ethel.

Following the death of J.B., Elias had control of J.B.'s safe. That is where J.B. kept the mortgages for the homes he was selling in East Linden. J.B. had financed these mortgages. Elias took those mortgages from the safe in order to collect the money that was owed to J.B. from these mortgages. The money from the mortgages should have gone into the estate.

It appears that Ethel wanted everything. All of the contents of 1968 Denune Avenue. Two months after J.B.'s death, Ethel drew up an affidavit at that time stating the following:

#### AFFIDAVIT

The State of Ohio  
Franklin County, SS:-

Now comes Ethel Denune Young, of 1968 Denune Avenue, Columbus, Ohio, and being first duly sworn, deposes and says that she is the owner of the following personal property, to wit;

All the furniture and furnishings formerly belonging to the late John B. Denune, deceased at the above address, No. 1968 Denune Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

Affiant says that the above named personal property was given to her by the late John B. Denune, deceased, during his life time and more especially during the last two years of his life.

And further affiant saith not:

---

Sworn to by the said Ethel Denune Young, and signed in my presence this 19th day of June, 1939.



---

Carl H. Young, Notary Public,  
Franklin County, Ohio.

It is believed that the court, as Jack, concluded that the other seven children of J.B. were not dealt with fairly and it is expected that the above affidavit did not help Ethel's case. The court's ruling confirmed this assertion. The siblings of Ethel and Elias were each granted another \$2,500.00 in "the Divide." Roy, J.B.'s oldest son, did not want to take his check. Roy was not in favor of contesting the will. Roy was a peace maker.

Ethel and Ina did share a common interest, genealogy, like their mother. Ethel spent more time and money on securing the connections of the past. Ina wrote of her siblings and their "issue," the off springs, the kids or one's children in more common terms. She wrote of all of them and their descendants - at least all of them but Ethel, Hoylande, and Hilda, it would seem.

Ethel, on the other hand, wrote genealogists and others, in the United States as well as in Europe. She had volumes of letters that she had received from her research as well as copious notes. She paid for the help of many of the researchers. Due to the economic expense as well as the time spent on such research, Ethel did not always choose to freely share the information.

An article appeared in the *Columbus Dispatch* on December 19, 1926 next to an advertisement for "Stylish Stout Corsets." It read: "At a recent meeting of the Massachusetts Society of the Mayflower descendants, Mrs. John B. Denune, 2066 Denune Avenue and her daughters, Mrs. Norville F. Young and Miss Ina F Denune were elected to membership. They are in the line of descent from Degory Priest, one of the few Mayflower passengers whos marriage records appear in Leyden, Holland."

Another article appeared on August 31, 1921 in the *Noble County Leader*. It was titled: "*Mayflower Membership.*" It read as follows: "*At a recent meeting of the Massachusetts Society of Mayflower Decendants, Miss Hoylande Denune Young and Miss Hilda Pearl Young, 2066 Denune Avenue, Columbus, Ohio, were selected to life membership of that society. They are in the line of descent from Degory Priest, a signer of the compact, and one of the few passengers whos marriage records in Leyden, Holland. He failed to survive the famine and hardship of the first winter and was buried in that historic cemetery which the*

*surviving Pilgrims planted in corn the following Spring in order that the Indians might know how few they were in number.*

*The past year has been memorable in the tercentenary celebration of the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers. President Harding having recently visited Boston and Plymouth to participate in that event. The Society of Mayflower Decendants numbers among its members such destinguished men as Ex-President Taft and Vice President Coolidge. Misses Hoylande and Hilda Young are daughters of Norville Finley Young, a practicing dentist at Columbus, Ohio, whos family were early pioneers and residents of Noble County and Caldwell."*

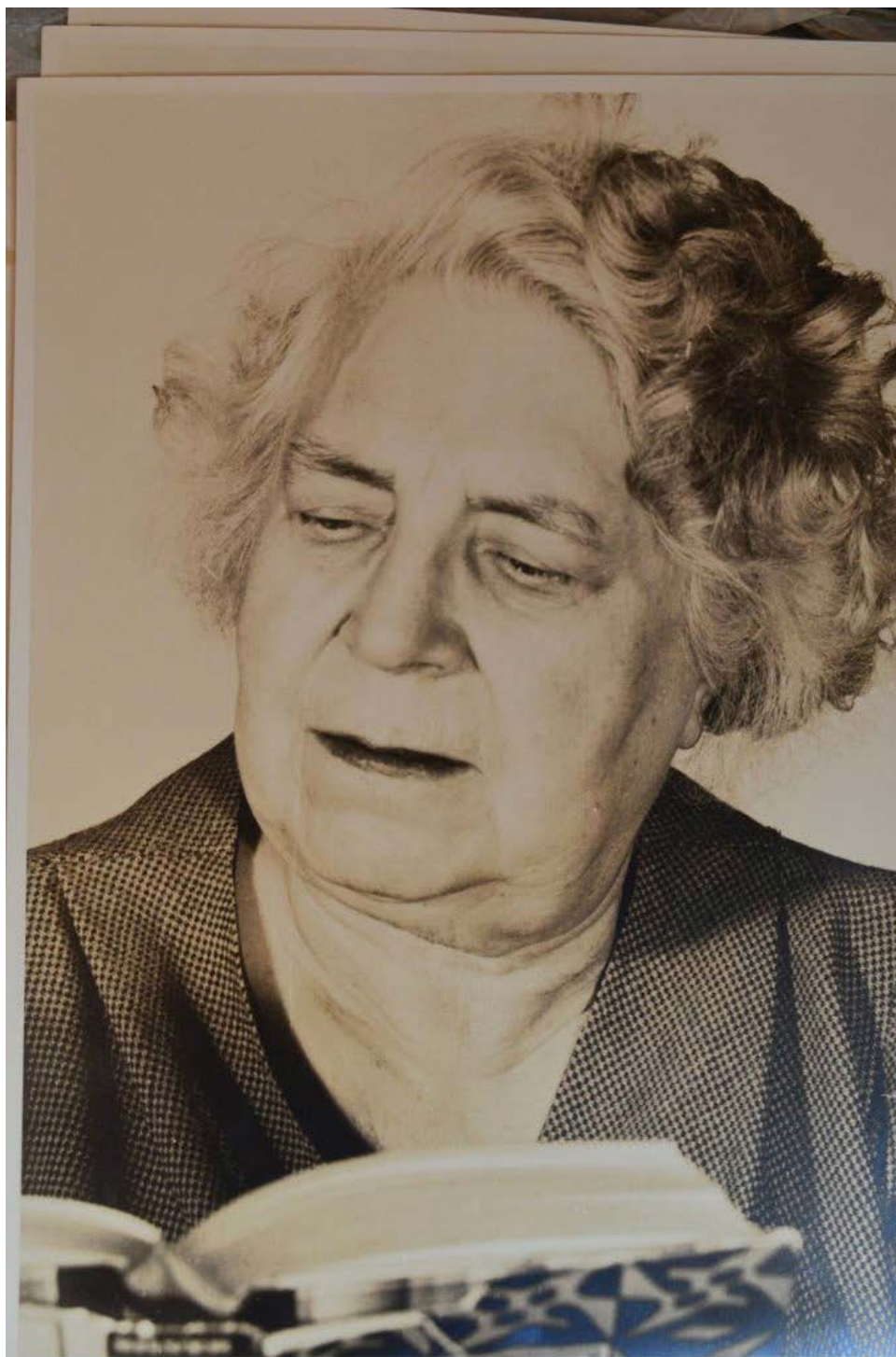
There is no doubt that Ethel was proud to be a member of this society along with her daughters. As the "gate keeper" to the history of the Denunes, Ethel remained in the Denune family home most of the rest of her life.

Throughout the years other family members came to live on Denune Avenue for brief periods. Adelaide's daughter, still under age, married an Italian noble while the family was living abroad. Ralph and Adelaide had the marriage annulled and she was sent "home" to Denune Avenue. Once an adult, she returned to Italy in order to, once again, marry her true love. She was a romantic like her parents.

Jack's son Harry had a falling out with his father. Harry had taken the tractor out in the wee hours of the night in order to pull the car out from the middle of the farm where it was stuck in the mud. Harry had little brother, Johnny, and girls along on this "adventure." Jack was angry. He threw Harry out of the house. Harry left to rent a room at the Metz family home. The Metz's son was a friend of Johnny's. Although Johnny was not thrown out, as a protest, he left. Ethel welcomed Johnny to move to Denune Avenue. The visit did not last long.

Ethel also gave economic support to Harry when he wanted to go into the motorcycle parts business. She provided him with the start up money of three thousand dollars in about 1947. At one time Harry was the largest independent supplier of motorcycle parts in the USA. Ethel had made a wise investment.

In Ethel's senior years she stayed with her daughter Hilda on several occasions. It is believed that these extended visits were as a result of Ethel having difficulty taking care of herself or maybe just a long visit. Ethel clearly enjoyed the company of her daughter. In Ethel's senior years, she went on a trip around the world with Hilda. Ethel died while staying with Hilda in Arizona in 1965.



Ethel

## Hoylande Darrell Young

*1. Hoyland Darrell Young, b. Friday 26 June 1903 at Blendon Heights, Franklin County, Ohio. A winning child, serious, pleasant and industrious. She entered the Linden Public Graded School in Sept. 1911, was passed or promoted to the 5th Grade Feb. 1912 with a grading of excellent in studies, habits and deportment, at the age of Eight Years. (Fannie wrote this of her first grandchild, Hoylande.)*



Hoylande





Hoylande

Hoylande was a natural when it came to all of her studies. She had an aptitude for math and science. When in high school, girls were not offered the same chemistry classes or advanced math classes, as were the boys. Francis Rudy, son of Dr. Rudy, pushed Hoylande to take a boy's chemistry class. It has been said that the girl's chemistry class was full and that is why she took boy's chemistry. Nonetheless, she took "boy's" chemistry and excelled. Hoylande graduated from North High School in 1917. Hoylande completed first grade through her degree at Ohio State University in the Department of Agricultural Chemistry in 10 years. Hoylande graduated from Ohio State University with a Bachelors of Science in Chemistry in 1922.





Hoylande : Clearly the youngest in her classes



In a letter dated November 14, 1919 from Chicago, Illinois, Hoylande wrote her mother. There is some question as to whether the date is correct as Hoylande would have only been 16 years old. She would not have completed her degree at Ohio State University. One is reluctant to question, as Hoylande's attention to detail would far surpass most. She wrote of having been in Columbus a couple of weeks prior to the writing of the letter. She had cleaned out the safe deposit box at the Buckeye. She made mention of an old money belt, rotted with age and smelly with ancient perspiration. She pulled it apart and found no hidden jewels or money. She threw it out, questioning why her mother would have kept it. She found a broken cup marked "155 years old" and enquired of its history. She advised her mother that there was an abstract of title and list of the possessions that she would not send unless requested by her mother. She found clippings and papers that she was sending to her mother by parcel post. She asked, "Who was L. D. Ferris? Was he a brother of Jap? I have rather a mania for dating things. I notice some of the clippings are undated. Perhaps you know what the dates should be. For example when was Jap F. buried in the Maroon Pass snowslide?" It is expected that this sad story will remain a curiosity with time.

Hoylande graduated from the University of Chicago with a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry in 1926. Her dissertation was written regarding stereoisomeric bromoimino ketones. Hoylande was twenty two years old.



Hoylande



From 1926 to 1930 Hoylande was employed by Van Schaack Brothers Chemical Works as a chemist in the lacquer industry. In 1930 Hoylande was offered a position at the College of Industrial Arts of Texas State College for Women in Denton, Texas. Hoylande accepted the position where she taught nutrition and biochemistry. Hoylande found this work environment to be less welcoming than her previous place of employment in Chicago. She continued to teach in Texas until 1934. She returned to Chicago after she was offered a job at Michael Reese Hospital in research. After accepting the position, she arrived at the hospital, they discovered that she was a woman and they rescinded the offer. From 1934 to 1938 she worked as a consultant. Pure Oil hired Hoylande in 1934 as an Industrial Chemist. As part of her employment she agreed to work with Cary Wagner in writing a book on refining petroleum. They were given 18 months to complete this project. This was difficult as the Illinois Law prohibited women from working more than 40 hours a week. She talked Pure Oil into giving her a key to her office which gave her more time in the office. The project was interrupted by World War II and the book was never published. Her employment ended at Pure Oil in 1942. In 1942 Hoylande accepted a position at The University of Chicago as a Scientific Librarian with the Office of Scientific Research and Development at the Toxicity Laboratory. She remained in this department until 1945 at which time she was reassigned to a top secret project.

She was reassigned to the Metallurgical Laboratory to The Manhattan Project. She was not allowed to leave the country while working on this project. Only a limited number of people were to have information on this project. Many did not know everything for security reasons. For some time Hoylande slept in the hall of her apartment so that she would have an exit plan if someone were to break in to obtain this sensitive information. An article was later written about Hoylande entitled "Can a Girl Keep a Secret?" The specifics of this article could not be located.

Hoylande was one of 70 scientists who signed the Szilard Petition, a petition that was sent to the president of the United States regarding use of the newly discovered "resource." Prior to this petition Albert Einstein and Szilard had sent a letter to the president expressing concerns about the scientific research and upcoming developments. The petition read as follows:

*July 17, 1945*

*Discoveries of which the people of the United States are not aware may affect the*

*welfare of this nation in the near future. The liberation of the atomic power which has been achieved places atomic bombs in the hands of the Army. It places in your hands, as Commander-in-Chief, the fateful decision whether or not to sanction the use of such bombs in the present phase of the war against Japan.*

*We, the undersigned scientists, have been working in the field of atomic power. Until recently we have had to fear that the United States might be attacked by atomic bombs during this war and that her only defense might lie in a counter attack by the same means. Today, with the defeat of Germany, this danger is averted and we feel impelled to say what follows:*

*The war has to be brought speedily to a successful conclusion and attacks by atomic bombs may very well be an effective method of warfare. We feel, however, that such attacks on Japan could not be justified, at least not until the terms which will be imposed after the war on Japan were made public in detail and Japan were given an opportunity to surrender.*

*If such public announcement gave assurance to the Japanese that they could look forward to a life devoted to peaceful pursuit in their homeland and if Japan still refused to surrender, our nation might then, in certain circumstances, find itself forced to resort to the use of atomic bombs. Such a step, however, ought not to be made at anytime without seriously considering the moral responsibilities which are involved.*

*The development of atomic power will provide the nations with new means of destruction. The atomic bombs at our disposal represent only the first step in this direction, and there is almost no limit to the destructive power which will become available in the course of their future development. Thus the nation which sets the precedent of using these newly liberated forces of nature for purposes of destruction may have to bear the responsibility of opening the door to an era of devastation on an unimaginable scale.*

*If after the war a situation is allowed to develop in the world which permits rival powers to be in uncontrolled possession of these new means of destruction, the cities of the United States as well as the cities of other nations will be in continuous danger of sudden annihilation. All the resources of the United States, moral and material, may have to be mobilized to prevent the advent of such a world situation. Its prevention is at present the solemn responsibility of the United States-singled out by virtue of her lead in the field of atomic power.*

*The added material strength which this lead gives to the United States brings with it the obligation of restraint and if we were to violate this obligation our moral position would be weakened in the eyes of the world and in our own eyes. It would then be more difficult for us to live up to our responsibility of bringing the unloosened forces of destruction under control.*

*In view of the foregoing, we, the undersigned, respectfully petition: first, that you exercise your power as Commander-in Chief, to rule that the United States shall not resort to use of atomic bombs in this war unless the terms will be imposed upon Japan have been made public in detail and Japan knowing those terms has refused to surrender; second, that in such an event the question whether or not to use atomic bombs be decided by you in the light of the consideration presented in this petition as well as all the other moral responsibilities which are involved.*

The above was signed by Hoylande Young along with Leo Szilard and 68 fellow scientists. The letter was not seen by the President or the Secretary of War before the first bomb was dropped.

In 1946 Hoylande was hired by the Argonne National Laboratory as the first female Division Director. Her office measured 9' by 6'. She remained at Argonne until her retirement in 1964.

While at Argonne she served on many committees.

On February 14, 1946 an article appeared in the *Chicago Tribune* entitled : "U. of C. Chemist to Speak to the Six-to-Niners Group." She addressed the University of Chicago college club in a talk on "*Modern Alchemy*." She provided editorial assistance for the National Nuclear Energy Series. In 1956 she became the first woman Chair of the Chicago Section, American Chemical Society. She was a fellow of the American Institute of Chemists, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and an active member of the Atomic Scientists of Chicago.

In 1959 Hoylande was named as one of the city's most distinguished business women and professionals by the *Chicago Tribune*. She had made runner up in 1956. Sister Hilda had also been nominated that year.

In 1963 Argonne established the Hoylande D. Young Lecture Series in her honor.

She was active in the National American Chemical Society Women's Service

Committee, a national honor society for women in chemistry, Lota Sigma Pie.

Now none of this sounds that sexy or for that matter, small talk for a dinner party. Hands down Hoylande would be the smartest person in the room at your average dinner party, family picnic or reunion.

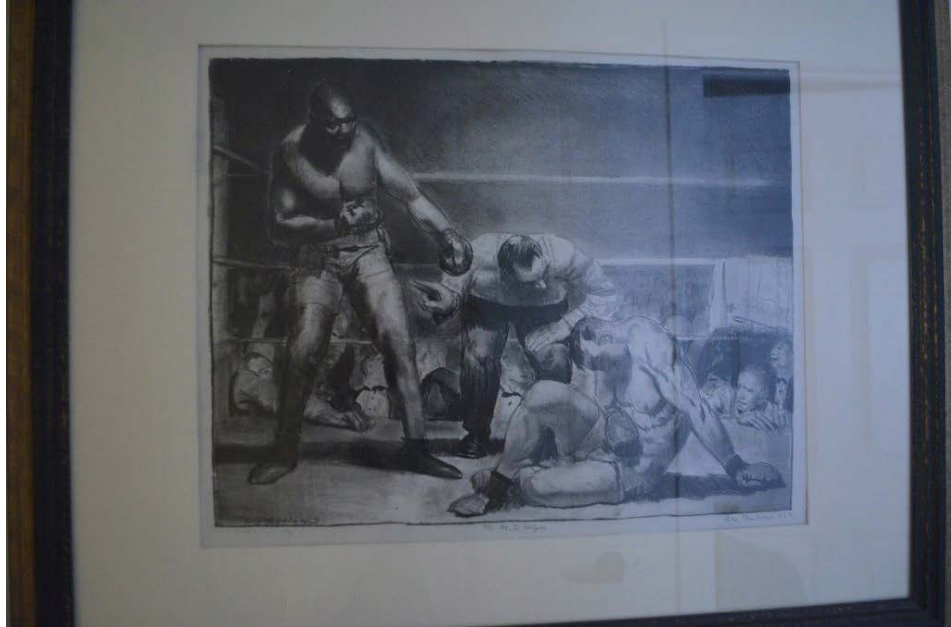
Hoylande worked very hard for her accomplishments. Despite all odds, she was a very successful chemist. At what price? While working on the Manhattan Project she was not allowed to leave the country. As a librarian for the project, she knew all of the secrets. She slept in the hall of her small apartment while working on the project, for her, and the nation's, safety, in the event someone would break in to her home. She was studious and hard working since she was a young child. Upon her graduation from Ohio State, the newspaper wrote, Hoylande was said to love little children. Family rumors were of a love, Steve, a co-worker. They were engaged to be married. He was said to have grown weary of waiting for this remarkable lady. He married another. Hoylande kept his photo prominently displayed in her living room throughout her life. It was later discovered that Hoylande had married Steve Mash in 1936. No additional information is known about their marriage. Was the marriage annulled? Perhaps time will provide this answer. Throughout Hoylande remained in contact with Steve's niece, one of her namesakes. A much younger cousin was told by Hoylande that there was only one thing she would have done differently in her life, married younger.





Hoylande

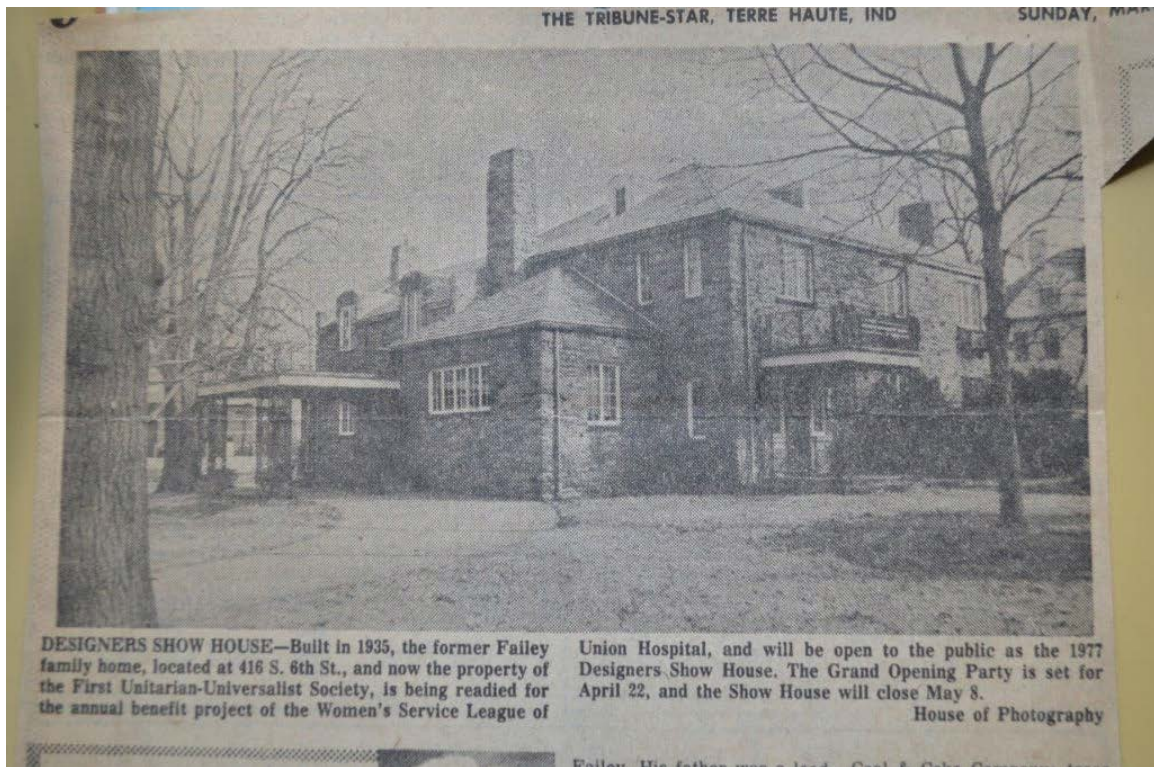
Hoylande's apartment was described as ordinary, not fancy. That is not to say she did not have nice things. On the wall hung two lithographs by George Bellows. Barrister book shelves around the room were filled with books. She was also said to keep some of her gold jewelry in Yardley Red Rose Soap boxes. There were also family pieces from Denune Avenue decorating her home. Books, lots of books adorned her home. Hoylande's intellect far outshined her worldly goods.



Hoylande's Bellows

(With permission from Mary Frances Daugherty)

Hoylande married late in life. The man chosen was a fellow scientist in the Toxicity Laboratory at the University of Chicago. Hoylande had been a close friend of his wife, now deceased. His first wife was said to have invented "the morning after pill." He was Crawford F. Failey, originally from the Indianapolis, Indiana area. Crawford was wealthy. His money was from Polaroid stock. Numbers floating around the friend and family gossip mill were from \$14,000,000.00 to \$30,000,000.00.



The Former Failey Family Home

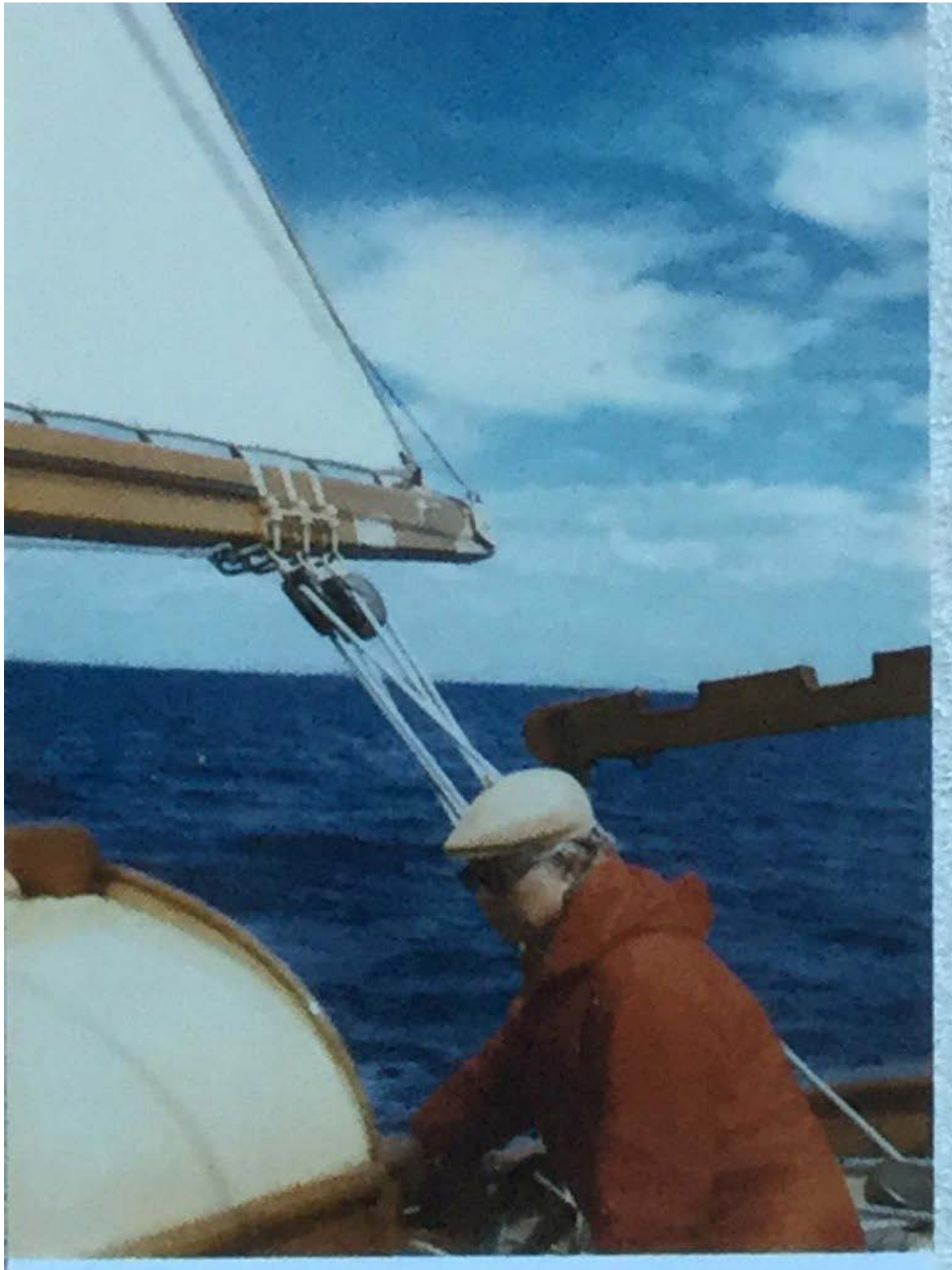
Once they were married, a move was in order for the couple. Both had many belongings. They purchased two apartments on 61st Street in Chicago. A door was constructed to join the apartments.

Crawford had a flat bed river boat and a yacht. Both Hoylande and Crawford loved to travel. The yacht was docked in Denmark. From there they would sail the Mediterranean and Aegean Seas. The yacht was staffed with a crew to meet their needs. While cruising, they dined on fine china and ate with sterling silver flat ware.









Hoylande on the yacht

In the 1960's a son of Hoylande's cousin traveled on the ship with them. In the mid-1970's, Hoylande asked another cousin if his daughter would like to travel on the yacht with them. His response was that she would be unable to go, as she had no source of income in order to pay for casual expenses in their travels.

The flat bottom boat was believed to have been donated to be used for scientific research. The yacht was sold to a friend. While sailing off the coast of North Vietnam, the friend was captured and held prisoner as a spy, by the North Vietnamese. The man's mother begged for his release. He was ultimately released but North Vietnam kept the ship. Was he a spy? Who knows?

Crawford had models made to scale of the flat bottom boat and the yacht. They were among Crawford's prize possessions. Upon his and his wife's death, the models were given to the son of a friend.

Hoylande was generous with friends and family.

In 1931 Hoylande, sister Hilda, and other family members were visiting at 1968 Denune Avenue for Christmas. Johnny (age 5), Jack's boy and his family were there from across the street. After he opened his gift from his grandfather, he was relieved. It was a pin light flashlight. He said, "I was afraid it was a pen and pencil set." Little Johnny spoke too soon. The next gift was a pen and pencil set from Hoylande. It is expected, as studious as was Hoylande, she would have thought a five year old boy would have been thrilled upon receipt of a new pen and pencil set.

Many years later, Johnny's older brother, Harry received a mattress from Hoylande. She was a practical woman who gave practical gifts.

As an adult, Johnny sold motorcycle parts for his brother, Harry. When in the Chicago area, Hoylande welcomed Johnny to stay at her apartment. He was always welcome to stay, even when she was not at home. Hoylande would just mail her Uncle Roy; head of registered mail in Columbus, Ohio; the key to her apartment and he would deliver it to Johnny. One trip, when Hoylande was home, Johnny brought his young, pregnant wife along for a visit. While there, Hoylande purchased Georgia a lovely, striped maternity dress. Sometime after Johnny and Georgia's daughter, Margaret, was born, Hoylande sent the gift of a Madame Alexander Doll named Maggie. It was a much nicer gift for the little girl than a pen and pencil set that her father received some thirty plus years before.

Hoylande also sent other cousins' children gifts every Christmas. Cousin Mary Frances, believed Hoylande was touched that the children were adopted.

As a wedding gift to a cousin's daughter, Hoylande purchased everything on the bridal registry, a welcome gift indeed for a young bride.

When a close friend requested the money to purchase a house, Hoylande provided. This was not the only home purchased for another. She also bought her mother a home.

Hoylande was beloved by many. She had 5 namesakes. Of all of her namesakes, there was one with whom she was particularly close, Hoyland H. Ricks.

Hoyland's mother was an administrative assistant to Hoylande for three years. His mother was 26 when he was born, his father 30. Lois, his mother, would take her new baby to Hoylande's. When Lois completed her Master's Degree, she acquired a teaching position. Hoyland's father was a social worker. Hoyland H. continued to visit Hoylande almost every weekend.

Johnny remembered seeing the baby on one of his motorcycle parts sales trips. Some years later Johnny saw the "baby" again. No longer a baby, a 12 year old boy, was visiting Hoylande. Hoylande told Johnny that young Hoyland was interested in motorcycles and she wondered if Johnny would take him along to see the motorcycle shops. Johnny was happy to oblige.

Once, young Hoyland took a friend to visit Hoylande. Hoyland, then 12, recounts that his friend still remembers this special visit.

Over the years, Hoylande bought Hoyland special things that he could not afford. She gave him a shirt that he had been wanting. She also gave him an anatomy model. She took him to museums, to the zoo, to the Nut Cracker Suite, and made him grilled cheese on toast. She bought his tickets for his first plane ride with his father to go to the Detroit Zoo. She also bought the tickets for his second plane ride to Los Angeles, California. Hoyland was 9 years old. It was a trip to visit his maternal grandmother. He once received a post card from Hoylande when she was in Greece. He never spent the night in her home, nor did he travel on the yacht. Hoylande attended all of Hoyland's graduations, elementary school, high school, and college.

Hoyland remembers Hoylande as a practical dresser. She wore dresses to her ankles, not fashionable. She was also said to have worn white tennis shoes with a nice dress to family funeral. She occasionally wore a beret. Hoylande was of average build, not fat or thin. She was about five foot, three inches tall. She was quiet and pleasant, never cranky or difficult. Hoyland's unspoken message from Hoylande was "do unto others."

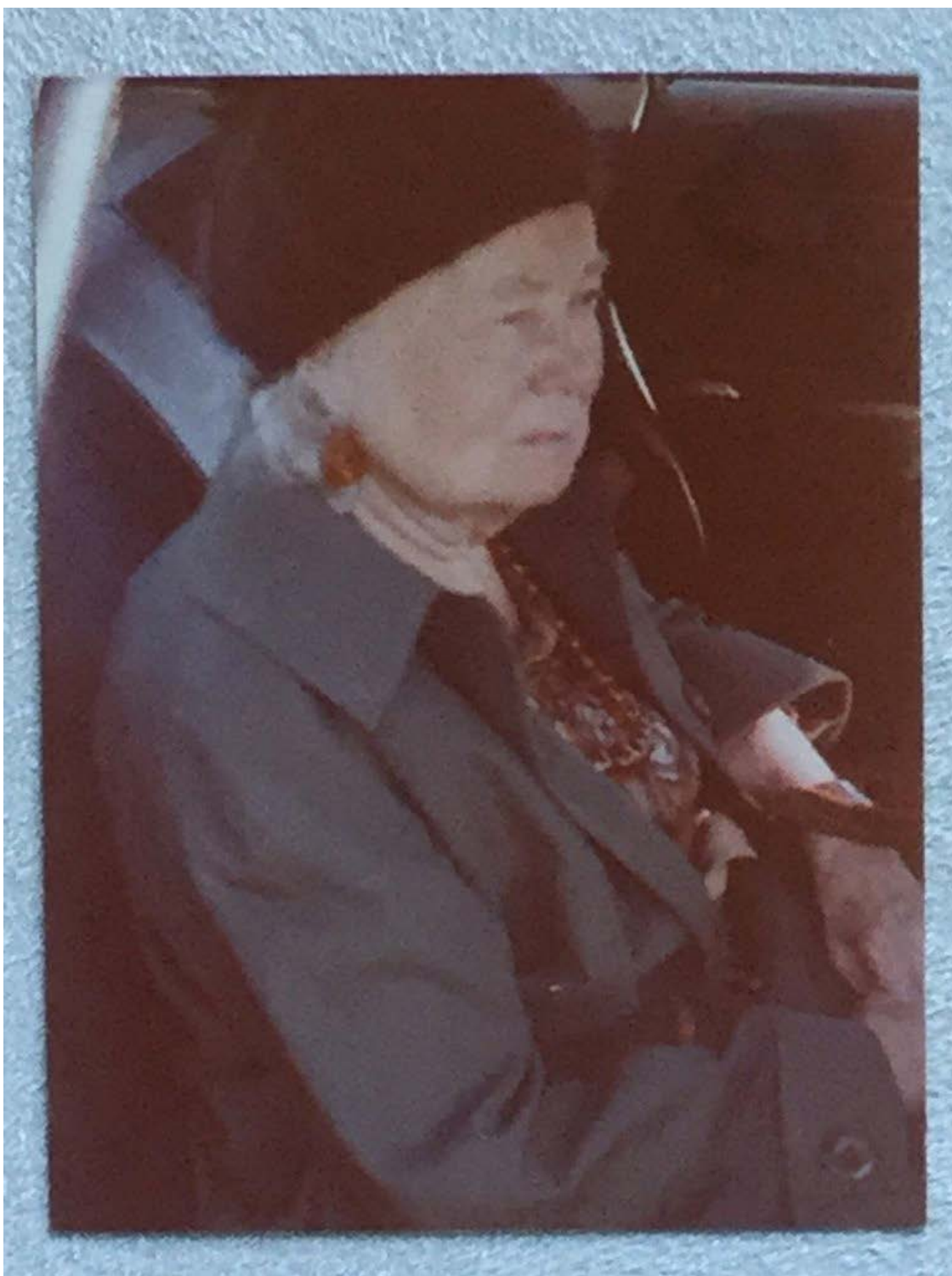
Hoyland grew up focused on sports. Baseball was his passion. Until he was 21 years old he wanted to be a professional baseball player. He was aware that Hoylande was related to Cy Young, a very famous baseball player. Though that was his dream, he went to college as did his parents. After his graduation from college, he became a substitute teacher in Los Angeles for a brief while. He hated it. He looked into plumbing school but that would have been a three year wait for a five year program. He then decided to go to medical school. Hoylande never pushed Hoyland in his career choices. She paid for medical school.

As far as Hoyland knew, Crawford was the only man in Hoylande's life. When Hoylande decided to marry Crawford, she told Hoyland and his mother. She told them he was a wealthy man, worth \$30,000,000.00. Despite her new marital status, Hoylande and Hoyland remained in close contact. Crawford took him to dinner once and would come out to say "hi" to Hoyland when he visited, then go back to his room. Crawford was always cordial. While in college, Hoylande wrote Hoyland, Hoyland called her from college. After living in L.A. Hoyland returned to Chicago.

When Crawford passed away in 1981, Hoyland's wife, an attorney assisted Hoylande in answering questions of the complicated nature of his estate.

When Hoylande was approximately 81, she began experiencing some symptoms of depression; antidepressants were prescribed. She was later hospitalized for hormone replacement. Near that time she also had a bad fall on the ice. A series of mini strokes also plagued Hoylande. She could no longer work. She lost all energy but she continued to have a good appetite. Toward the end, she was not herself. She went to a psychiatrist. She was on medication. Hoyland was not sure if that contributed to her behavioral change. Hoyland stayed with Hoylande for a month when she was sick. He would carry her to the bathroom. She then moved back to her home for 24 hour care. She died of a culmination of things, in her home with a helper. She was found in her chair, slumped over a tray. Hoyland was at a swim meet with his children when he was told of her death.





Hoylande

Following Hoylande's death on January 12, 1986, Hilda contested the will. Hoyland had never met Hilda. According to Hoyland, the estate was divided into ninths. Hoyland was to inherit five ninths of \$100,000.00. There were 7 others to inherit. Hilda chummed around with Hoylande's attorney, maybe trying to influence him. There was a visitation at 1:00 and the funeral at 2:00 at Bond Chapel at the University of Chicago on January 16, 1986. In the program was a writing by Hoyland Sokalski, a namesake of Hoylande D. Young Failey. It was a fitting tribute to a remarkable lady.



Hoylande

*Life Long by Hoyland Sokalski*

*When one examines a plant and calls it, say, a flower or a tree; that is not the whole truth of the plant.*

*Any plant is the entire experience of its existance from the making of the seed to the death of the plant.*

*To call any part - the seedling, the branch, the leaf, etc., at the whole is a fallacy, a denial of that whole - which necessarily includes all its parts and stages.*

*So it is with man - man is not infant, or youth, or maturity; not old age. He is the entire process of himself. This includes growth in the physical, intellectual and spiritual areas; for each of these are a portion of the complexity of the man.*

*When one considers a total man, one must consider not only his weaknesses but also his strengths. If his total picture shows some weaknesses and some strengths it means that he is human.*

*If the entire movie of his life shows a predominance of strengths used to overcome weaknesses and to go on and do good both for himself and for others, then that man should be looked upon and honored as a good man. Much care should be taken of him by other good men.*

*Only so shall society persevere and be made better.*

*Hoyland Sokalski -1984-*

There was a second service for Hoylande, a memorial at the Riverside Cemetery in Columbus, Ohio. The name sakes were not told of this service. Despite that, Hoyland did attend the service. Hoyland drove a Cadillac Seville and placed a single rose on her coffin. A final, sweet good bye to his Fairy God Mother.

## Hilda Pearl Young

2. *Hilda Pearl Young, b. at Linden Heights, Franklin County, Ohio Monday 20 March 1905. Lovable, energetic and a fearless lover of animals. She entered the Linden School in Sept. 1911 and was promoted to Third Grade Feb. 1912 with a record of excellent and good. Age 6 years. (Fannie wrote this of her second grandchild, Hilda.)*



Hilda





Hilda and Grandpa (J.B.)



Hilda and a puppy

Sisters, like snow flakes, no two are exactly alike. Both were distinct individuals, although both were achievers. Their paths were unlike other women of their day. Neither Hoylande nor Hilda were particularly supportive of "Woman's Lib." There was nothing they could not do. Well, maybe not. Hoylande could not drive. She hired a driver. On the other hand, Hilda drove a stick shift, always a stick shift.

Both Hoylande and Hilda began their formal education in September 1911 at Linden School. Hoylande graduated from Indianola High School in 1917. Hilda began high school at Indianola the following fall. Hilda attended one year at Indianola High School and the next three years she attended North High School. She graduated in 1921 at age sixteen. Hilda was not yet an adult upon completion of high school. From June 1921 until September 1923 she attended Ohio State University while living at home. September 1923, at the age of eighteen, Hilda left for Fontainebleau, France in order to attend school at Ecole Beaux-Arts. She completed a Degree of Honor at Ecole Beaux-Arts in September 1924.

# THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

## PASSPORT



### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting:

I, the undersigned, Secretary of State of the United States of America, hereby request all whom it may concern to permit

*Hilda Young*  
a citizen of the United States safely and freely to pass and in case of need to give her all lawful aid and protection

This passport is valid for use only in the following countries and for objects specified, unless amended.

*France, Gibraltar, Italy, British Isles, Scotland*

The bearer is accompanied by

*Travel*



Given under my hand and the seal of the Department of State at the City of Washington, the day of *May* 1924, the year of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and fortieth.

*Charles E. Hughes*

#### PERSONAL DESCRIPTION

Age *17 years* Mouth *small*  
Height *5 ft 4 in* Chin *pointed*  
Forehead *medium* Hair *brown*  
Eyes *blue* Complexion *fair*  
Nose *straight* Hair *full*  
Distinguishing marks  
Place of birth *East Linden, Ohio*  
Date of birth *Mar. 20, 1905*  
Occupation *Student*



*Hilda Young*

No. 164183



No 161

GOOD ONLY FOR 6 MONTHS FROM DATE AND NOT TO BE RENEWED

**EMBASSY**  
OF  
**THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**  
AT  
*Rome, Italy*

**TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING:**  
I, the undersigned, *[Signature]*  
*(Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America at Rome)*  
of the United States of America, hereby request all whom it may concern to permit *Hilda Young*  
a citizen of the United States, safely and freely to pass and in case of need to give her all lawful aid and protection.  
This passport is valid for use only in the following countries and for objects specified, unless amended.

*Italy, France, Greece, and Switzerland*  
NAME OF COUNTRY  
*Study and travel*  
OBJECT OF VISIT

The bearer is accompanied by *nobody*

I give under my hand and the Seal of the Embassy of the United States at *Rome, Italy*, the *27th* day of *June* in the year *1944* and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and forty *eight*th.

*[Signature]*

PERSONAL DESCRIPTION.

Age <i>19 years</i>	Mouth <i>small</i>
Height <i>5 ft 4 in</i>	Chin <i>oval</i>
Forehead <i>medium</i>	Hair <i>brun</i>
Eyes <i>blue</i>	Complexion <i>fair</i>
Nose <i>straight</i>	Face <i>full</i>
Distinguishing marks	
Place of birth <i>East Linden, Ohio</i>	
Date of birth <i>March 20, 1905</i>	
Occupation	

*Hilda Young*  
SIGNATURE OF BEARER

*Hilda Young*

Hilda's passports



Though not strictly "education", Hilda was educated in genealogical study under the tutelage of her mother. Upon her 18th birthday, she received a letter from the Massachusetts Society of Mayflower Descendants notifying her that her name was transferred from the list of "Minor Life members" to "regular Life members." This allowed her to vote at meetings of the society. It is believed that this made Hilda very proud though not exactly an accomplishment of her own.

France became Hilda's first destination as an adult, an extraordinary life adventure for a young woman. She attended Ecole Beau-Arts, an institution with a very rich history, located across the Seine from the Louvre. The school was established in 1648. In 1816, it merged with Academie d' architecture. There were new innovations in the field of Architecture when Hilda attended Ecole Beau-Arts. After the devastation following World War I, building construction was of great concern. There was a need to rebuild the devastated areas. The school focused on both the science and culture of Architecture. According to the fineartamerica online site which was selling reproductions of the poster advertising the annual ball, the school also had a "much deserved reputation for nudity, debauchery and all manner of wild goings on." There was an annual ball at des Beaux-Arts. One would hope Hilda was there.



Hilda



### Hilda

While Hilda was studying in France, she took a trip to Italy. She wrote her grandmother the following letter from Rome:

*Roma*

*May 8, 1924*

*Dear Grandma,*

*I just received your letter a few days ago. The mail has been in great confusion since elections and is just now beginning to be straightened out. I was delighted to hear from you and to know you were in good healthy [sic] and that although East Linden is off the map that 2066 was still there.*

*It was dreadful about the pigeons. What do you think could have happened to them? There are three or four here at the villa but they are just common ones. But there are nightengales here that sing incessantly at night. Sometimes they even wake you. There is a little Genny Wren nesting in a palm tree. They are darling little birds scarcely larger than a humming bird. The roses are in full blossom.*

*But its sad how quickly flowers have their seasons here. The wisteria was in gorgeous blossom but lasted less than a week. The German Irises are of the past also. The red roses are a most glorious color. I suppose the Dorothy Perkins are out in Columbus and the Irises. It turned warm very suddenly here and although the wind is extremely refreshing the sun strikes down and scorches the little flowers.*

*During the "Holy Week" and even before not to mention afterwards.- The entire German nation flocked to Italy. It was impossible to search out even on the remotest and best hidden streets a spot where there were not people flocking around. It was necessary for them to sleep on the church steps as all the hotels were full at the first ten thousand eight hundred machines full started on their way from Germany when the Stalin government demanded that the "hurd" be kept at home. They say American tourists are most important but they can not compare with the insolent German. Most of them have left now but its just after a big thunder storm.*

*Holy Week was very lovely here. The churches here were all decorated in flowers and festoons. In the Greek Catholic Churches in Constantinople they say it was even more interesting. One Friday the ephigy of Christ is carried about the streets in deepest awe. It is placed in a sepulcher and on Saturday it is carried away and the people rush around calling "Christ has Risen." They eat so much for weeks before but on Sunday feast on lamb and etc. The lambs are killed in the streets and they say as every family has one and they live so closely together, that the streets in places are running in blood. Now I must say arrivastella, for now.*

*Love, Hilda*

*P.S. Thank you very much for the xmas money and forgive me for neglecting to mention it before. Love Hilda*



Hilda front and center with what appears to be fellow student travelers

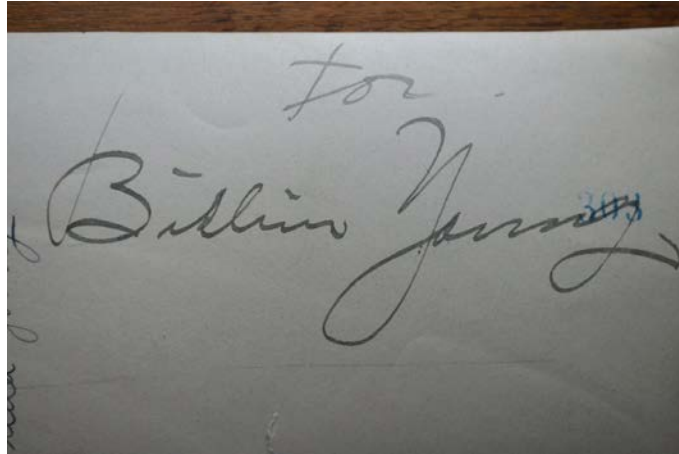


Hilda went hunting.





Hilda on the right



Perhaps Hilda had a nickname.



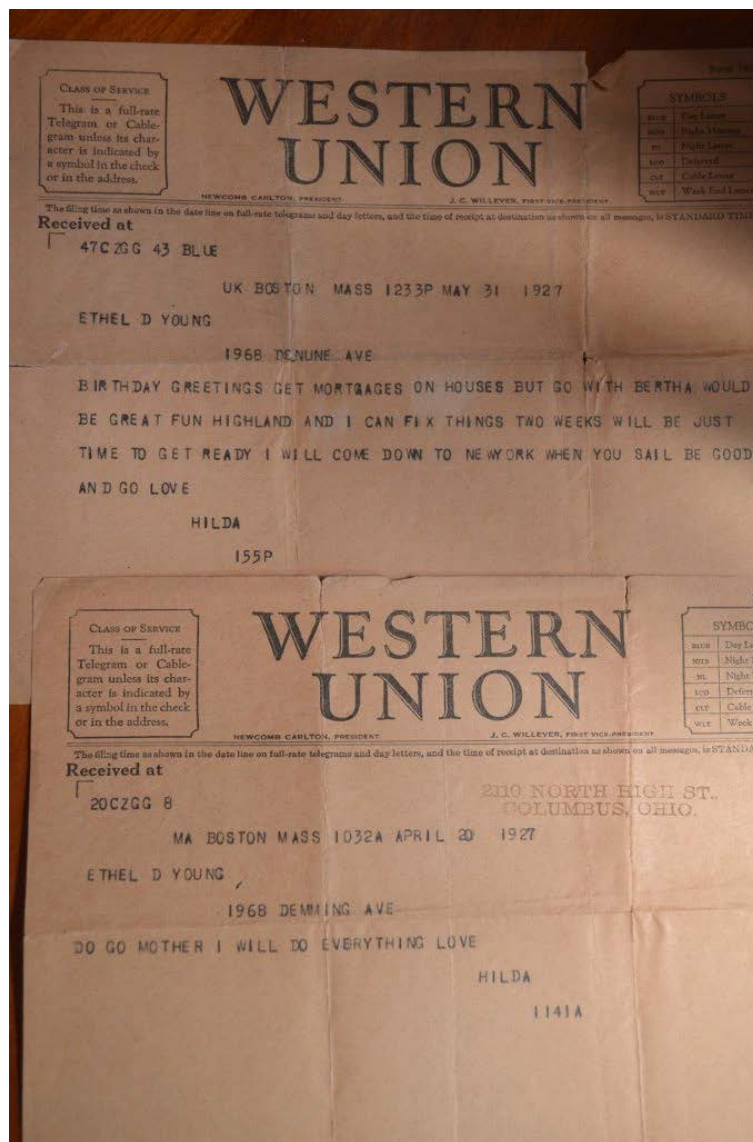
Hilda

On the back of the above photo, Hilda wrote:

"Now she spends her idle hours  
Reading French and  
picking flowers.  
For to gamble now is wicked  
Tho it never was before!"

Hilda

After her completion of L'Ecole de Beaux-Arts, she attended a year at Massachusetts Institute of Technology from September 1924 until June 1925. Although little is known of her stay in Boston, she worked with Strickland-Blodgil-Law in Boston Massachusetts as a draftsman and later a designer from June 1926 to May 1930. During that same time frame Hilda worked with Raymond Hood and Godley at New York, New York as a draftsman from June 1927 to November 1927. She remained there for what appears to be several years as she sent to telegrams to her mother while in Boston.



One would expect that they were words of encouragement to travel for her mother, as Hilda was finding great joy in her own.

Following her stay in Boston, Hilda returned to 1968 Denune Avenue in order to complete her Engineering Degree at Ohio State University. She received her degree in June 1931. While back in Columbus she was baptized at the Trinity Church and confirmed at the same Episcopal Church.

Young cousin Margaret, from across the street was visiting Hilda while she was drafting. Young Margaret wanted to watch but Hilda sent her home saying, "Go home. This isn't an orphanage." Hilda did not mince words. She could also be quite kind and attentive. Hilda gave her young cousin, Margaret, a crocheted beanie. She sketched pictures of Margaret, Johnny and Harry.

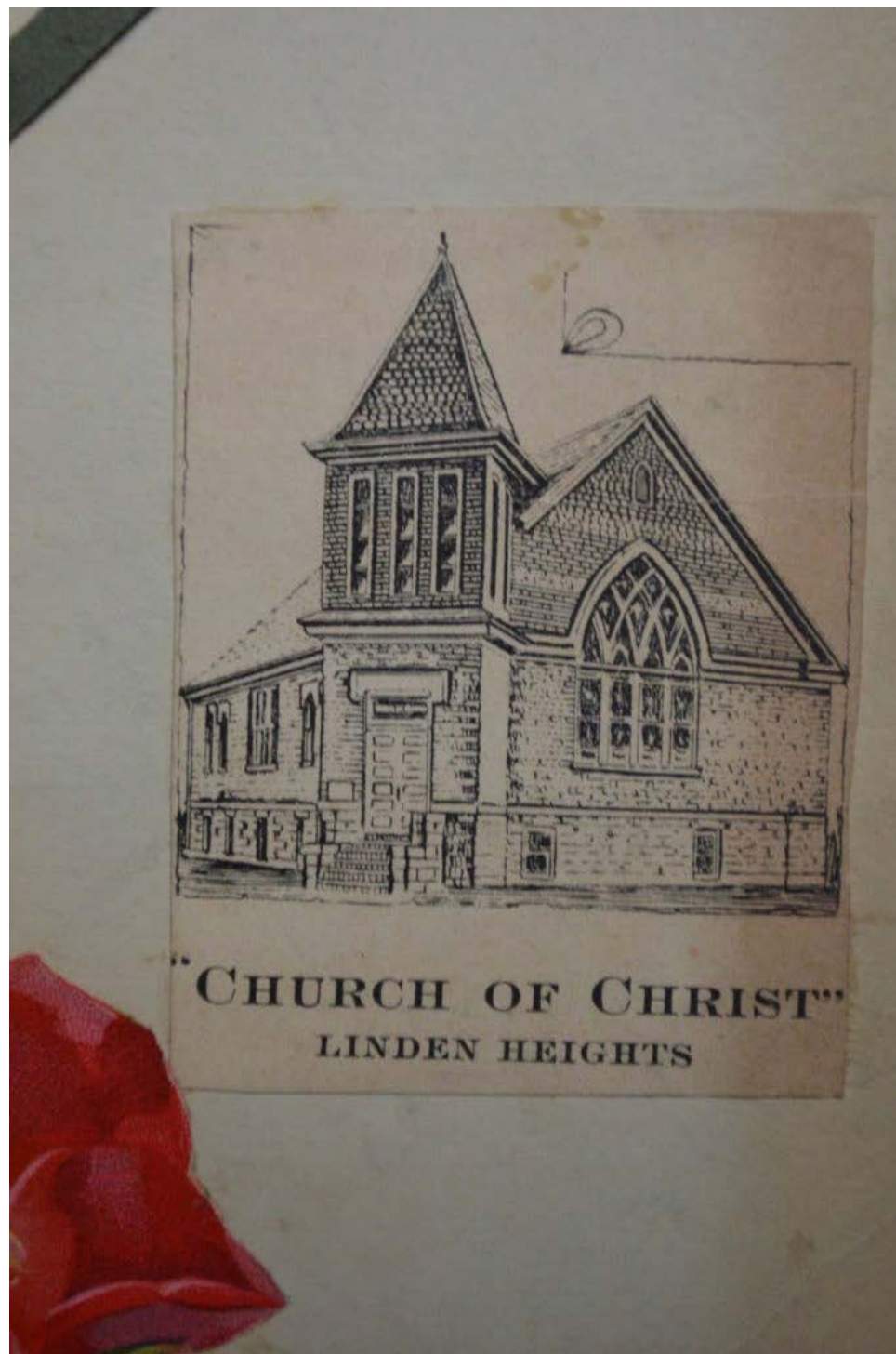


Johnny





Margaret



Designed by Hilda

Degree complete, Hilda was then off to Chicago, no doubt for the love of her "big" sister and the "big city."

The two architects she listed under references were, Charles St John Clubb at Ohio State University and Paul Burt, her immediate supervisor at the Pure Oil Building in Chicago. She remained in Chicago for a year, or so. While in Chicago she worked with Thielban & Fugard as a draftsman and designer from April 1934 to February 1936.

In 1937 Hilda applied to the State Board of Examiners of Architects in Ohio for a Certificate of Qualification to Practice the Profession of Architecture in the state of Ohio by Exemption "A." Her first application was sent and received on January 6, 1931. Another application was received on August 19, 1937, with a certificate and application fee of fifteen dollars paid on the same date. Her application was approved on January 27, 1938 and a temporary certificate was issued on February 28, 1938. Hilda wrote on her *Application for a Certificate of Qualification to Practice the Profession of Architecture in the State of Ohio* under work engaged in other than Architectural drafting or practice: "during depression times I was working in Commercial Ad-Information Department-Center of Progress Chicago - and in the Building Man. business - Pure Oil Building - Chicago"

In February 1936 Hilda moved to Los Angeles, California and began working with Gordon B. Kaufman as a draftsman. She worked for that firm until March 1937.

In March 1937 she was working with Harold Spielman in Los Angeles, California as a designer.

Hilda's cousin Johnny remembered meeting H.D. Smith, Architect, who designed the Ohio State University's Stadium and St. John's Arena. Johnny said, "You may know Hilda Young." He replied, "She's famous, First woman to graduate in Engineering from OSU." (1928) Johnny said it was actually someone else but he was impressed that H.D. Smith knew who she was.





Hilda

In April 1939 Hilda lived back at 1968 Denune Avenue, perhaps before and perhaps after. She and her mother received a letter from Hoylande on the 19th at that address. In the letter Hoylande stated, "there is no time to write two separate letters what with getting the washing done and listening to the neighbor's radios - so I'll do one jointly. I made arrangements to move over into Dearborn, 1036 N., on Saturday or Sunday - a one room with bath and pullman Kitchenette facing North like this room - and then I broke the news to Madam. It will be more expensive and far more ideal but it will be nice to be away from here." From the letter it is believed that she had just returned from a visit home the day before writing. On this day Hoylande had returned to work. Her work day was less "soothing" than her visit home. She wrote, "Everybody wanted something and there was difficulty about Mr. Wagner's request. Fortunately for me the other searchers went to lunch and I was the one who stayed 'til it was located." The "it" is not known but this reference shows Hoylande's dedication and perseverance. Hoyland also wrote, "As soon as I get my check cashed I'll send Hilda some. It was for the full amount and it is not fair that she should be the one to loose [sic] all her pay." It appears that both women were working at Pure Oil at the time.

Papa, J.B., had died in April. It is believed that Hoylande had been home for his funeral.



Many of the undocumented years of Hilda's life is a bit of a blur, a mystery. She was an artist, and adventurer, and strong willed with a thick shell, for protection no doubt.

For someone tough, what should they do but join the military. Hilda did. Graduation exercises of the officer training school for the Marine Corps Woman's Reserve School was held at Camp Lejeune, New River, North Carolina on November 15, 1943.

Second Lieutenant, Hilda Young, MCWR, received her order to report to Camp Lejeune November 11, 1943. She was found to be physically fit for duty. She was assigned to duty in the Division of Aviation. November 16, 1943 she reported to 4944 Navy Building, Washington DC. She was ordered to temporary duty on February 18, 1944. She departed Washington D.C. on February 22nd on a government plane for Cherry Point, North Carolina. February 27th she departed Cherry Point, North Carolina by way of Private Conveyance to Rocky Mt., North Carolina. February 27th she departed Rocky Mt., North Carolina by rail for Washington DC. July 25, 1944 she was granted a leave of absence for six days. September 28, 1944 Hilda was ordered to report to Bureau of Aeronautics, Navy Department for temporary duty with the Air Station Branch of that bureau for a period of about three months. Upon completion of temporary duty, she was to resume regular duties. On January 22, 1945 she was to stand detached from her present station and duties and proceed to her home. She was authorized to wear civilian clothes during this period. On February 15, 1945 she was relieved from active duty. She was entitled to mustering-out pay. She was paid mustering out pay and her Commandant expressed appreciation of her service.

Hilda declined participation in the celebration of the First Anniversary of the Marine Corps Woman's Reserve that February and stated in her regrets, "Continuing to serve the Marine Corps, the marine Corps Woman's Reserve and the principle for which they stand - with faith and earnestness toward an early termination of this war - Lieutenant Young regrets that the obligation of dignity toward the Architectural Profession, makes it impossible for her to appear at official public functions until such time as through military accomplishment she has been able to achieve rank more commensurate with professional standing- and obliterate the rating imposed by Camp Lejeune." That same month Hilda received the following letter:

*3 February 1947*

*My dear Lieutenant Young:*

*Your readjustment to the life of a civilian has, I hope, been fully accomplished, and with as little difficulty as you experienced in adapting yourself to military life when you came on active duty.*

*No one is more familiar than I with the essential role which you of the Reserve assume in the War. Together we accomplished our missions, however difficult they may have been. Together we developed the Marine Corps into the finest of all fighting forces. It could not have been done without you. Your patriotism and fine devotion to duty have been an inspiration to the officers and men who shared the responsibilities for final and complete victory.*

*In the cares and responsibilities of civil life, please carry with you constantly the recollection of your kindship with the Marine Corps. We always think of you as one of our own.*

*Please accept my personal and official thanks and my best wishes for your continued success.*

*Sincerely yours,  
A. A. Vandegrift.  
General, USMC,  
Commandant of the Marine Corps.*

*Second Lieutenant Hilda Young, USMCR  
1968 Denune Avenue  
Columbus 3, Ohio*

No one really knows about the work done by Hilda while she was on active duty in the Marines. It is suspected that it was very important, not unlike her sister's contribution to the war effort. Throughout her life, Hilda occasionally wore her blouse from her Marine uniform.



Hilda

Hilda is believed to have been married two, three or four times, and perhaps married to one man twice. Her Uncle Jack said she'd marry an old man with one foot in the grave. I am not sure that was quite true as there is evidence of at least a couple divorces. It is not known with whom, if anyone, she spoke of her marriages or divorces. That would be apart from her attorney. Below is the first record of divorce:

*State of Missouri )*  
*) SS*  
*County of St Louis)*

*IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, OF ST LOUIS, MISSOURI*

*HILDA HEISLER, Plaintiff*

*VS*

*Case # 184571 Division #3*

*JOHN C. HEISLER, Defendant*

*ACTION FOR DIVORCE*

*Plaintiff states that on the 6th day of April, 1948, in the County of St Louis, in the State of Missouri, She was lawfully married to the defendant; that plaintiff continued to live with defendant as his wife from and after the day and year aforesaid until the 9th day of August 1948, that during all the time plaintiff faithfully demeaned herself and discharged all her duties as the wife of defendant and at all times treated him with kindness and affection, but that the said defendant wholly disregarding his duties as a husband of the plaintiff has offered such indignities to the plaintiff as to render her married life with the defendant unbearable and her condition in life intolerable in this that for some time prior to the 9th day of August, 1948, plaintiff suffered improvoked, verbal assaults of abuse, profanity, and indiscriminating accusations, of defendant arising from unrestrained temper, emotion, jealousy and imagination, and without reason defendant would direct abusive, malicious remarks statements and accusations before friends and acquaintances, in public and private places were alienated and estranged, and has utterly destroyed plaintiffs [sic] safety and peace of mind.*

*Plaintiff states that the offences were committed in the state and during the period of residence of plaintiff and defendant of this state.*

*Plaintiff states that there were no children born to the marriage.*

*Plaintiff states that she is now a resident of the County of St Louis and State of Missouri.*

*Plaintiff therefore prays to be divorced from the Bonds of Matrimony contracted as aforesaid with the defendant and that the Court make an order restoring her maiden name Hilda Young, and for such and further orders and judgments in the premises as the Court shall deem just.*

*Hilda Heisler  
Plaintiff*

*Sylvan G. Powell  
Attorney for Plaintiff*

By November the divorce was final. There were two letters from her attorney following the divorce. Those will be confidential between Hilda and her attorney. It is believed that Hilda received alimony, which would be in keeping with her Uncle Jack's theory. It is believed that her first husband may have been a stock broker.



There was also rumored to have been a number of boyfriends. One of said boyfriends was to have been in Saudi Arabia. Hilda was issued a passport on February 18, 1949. Hilda said while in Saudi Arabia you could not drink water so you drink champagne. An Italian aircraft had bombed Dhahran in World War II. The US was taking oil out of Saudi Arabia and reportedly wanted to leave something behind. Hilda obtained a six month visa from the Consulate of the United States of America in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. It was valid for a single journey to Lebanon on August 8 1949. Hilda was in Saudi Arabia on business. She was designing apartments and her foreign address listed was Arabian American Oil Company, 200 Bush Street, San Francisco 4, California. They were also to be notified in case of death or accident. One should expect that AAOC knew how to get a hold of Hilda's family. Maybe there was a man friend who had the contact information. Her passport stamps indicate that she was in Saudi Arabia from about June to September, perhaps time enough for a tryst.



Hilda's Passport

## **1952 (or 1953), A year with Hilda and Ethel**

Hilda was quite a traveler. It is difficult to say exactly when and where Hilda moved to her homes around the country and world. She traveled for work, pleasure, love, education, and she encouraged others to travel. She was also welcoming and hospitable to those who traveled to see her.

Sometime following her time in the Marines, Hilda worked in Los Angeles. Ethel was living with Hilda in 1953, or was it 1952. There is some confusion in Ethel's diary as it says in the beginning it is 1953 and at the end it says it will be 1953. The following is known from Ethel's diary. As of at least February 23 of that year, their address was 535 South Curson Street, Los Angeles 36 California. She said it was the nicest place she ever lived. Ethel made few notations in her diary in January. She made mention of her blood pressure being high throughout the year. There was also mention of a fall, perhaps in January that led to her move to California. That year and maybe more, Hilda was working and caring for her mother.

In late February and early March, Hoylande visited. Ethel and Hoylande went to New Orleans for a couple of weeks. They spent a great deal of time on Royal Street shopping.

On March 25th, back in California, Ethel awoke. She mentioned that it would have been Norve's birthday. She wrote, "There is usually something that happens that sets this day aside but today I can not think of a thing, unless it was because Hilda mailed my letters to London." Ethel did not mention who she wrote in London, but she had a great deal of communication with those in England regarding genealogy. Perhaps it was a genealogical inquiry.

They had regular visits with Ethel's sister, Marguerite, or "Rite" as they called her. Throughout July they also had a visit at Rite's with sister Adelaide or "Add". It is suspected that Add had placed another advertisement in the newspaper for someone to drive her to California. John, believed to be the driver, joined them all for lunch. Hilda and Ethel also had regular visits with Sophia Brous, who worked in wardrobe for a movie studio and was also from Linden. They shared meals and some holidays with Sophia and her husband.

Late October and early November was a difficult time for Ethel and Hilda. Hilda's work had been very slow. It is believed that Hilda went for a job interview in

Sacramento in late October wearing a new suit with a silver necklace with opals. Ethel commented on how nice Hilda looked. Ethel did not want to move to Sacramento. It was too far from the familiar things Ethel loved. Ethel wrote of needing to go home (Linden) before Hoylande was to come for a visit. She was depressed as was Hilda. Ethel wrote on November 12th, "Hilda is so down. I wish things would clear up. I simply can not stand this indefiniteness much longer. I think it has had me down for some time." Their dear friend, Sophia, had surgery for appendicitis November 14th.

A trip to San Francisco on November 17th seemed to brighten their spirits. Rite considered going with them but decided to stay home. Both women had their hair done and then they were off for the airport. They stayed at the Chevalier Hotel, close to the airport. They then went to Stewarts and the Jade House, where they admired wonderful jewelry. They also went to Gumps to see more jewelry. Ethel wanted all of the lovely jewelry. At Stewarts there was a strand of emeralds. They were not very large but they were sparkling and alive. The next day they went to Gumps where they saw large brown/red jade beads. The string was \$300.00. How Ethel loved the jewelry and San Francisco. She wrote, "It is a wonderful place full of the loveliest things. There was a string of emeralds, the white jade so pure and lovely, the red jade like a lot of puree marbles, the red coral and I must not forget the old diamond earrings. All so lovely. What did I like best. [?] Why must I leave any of them? WHY WHY WHY." She dreams of them. While there they ate on Powell Street where they make the best pancakes, Swedish, in the world with bacon and loganberry syrup. Ethel enjoyed this meal very much.

Ethel wrote and received letters from her nephew and his wife, Harry and Betty; her brother and his wife, Roy and Ethel-Roy; her daughter Hoylande; and others. She very much looked forward to their letters. She was particularly anxious to hear from Harry as he was to pay her the money he had borrowed to start his business. She received a check for \$3,000.00. After a discussion with her daughter, much of the money went to Hilda. Ethel did lament a bit about having previously given her daughter two houses. It is difficult to like the finer things and not have enough cash to have it all.

Most daily routines were similar. Hilda off to work, Ethel listened to soap operas, and in the evening they would go to the Farm Market, an antique store, the auction house and other places in search of treasure. Hilda cooked and cleaned when she was not working. Ethel mentioned Hilda's sweet bread, biscuits, shrimp, tomato sauce and garlic bread; and how she enjoyed the food Hilda prepared.

There was great joy, support and caring between the women of Denune Avenue. They spent time together regularly, though far away from home. Ethel was always so happy to see Hilda return after a day of work. When daughter Hoylande left from visits, Ethel wrote how she hated to say goodbye. She wrote how lovely was the home Hilda provided and what a treasure she was. One supposes they also loved jewelry and their excursions to find it. Ethel mentioned with great regularity in her diary of lapis beads, jade beads, amethyst beads, rose quartz beads with ruby matrix, coral and diamond earrings, and her gold chain that could not be found in the safe deposit box in Chicago. Jewelry also exchanged hands between the women. Jade bracelets were being given to Hilda from cousin Jane, Add's daughter, for the house plans she was drawing for Jane. These two bracelets had been purchased in China by Jane's father while on his travels. Ethel loved those bracelets and had offered to buy one from Jane. Ethel did wear one of those bracelets when Hilda was at work and made note in her diary, "They are wonderful." This year Hilda sold her grandmother, Fannie's, diamond sunburst pin. Ethel had also purchased, this same year, a very nice diamond ring. She stated in her diary, "I think it is much nicer than the one Rite has that was Mama's."

Ethel made no New Year's resolutions as she wrote in her diary, "Tomorrow will be the first day of January 1953. I will make no resolutions. I am past all that." They drove to a friend's for dinner and then drove to Pasadena to see the Rose Bowl Parade Floats. They stayed in the car but according to Ethel, they had a very good view.





Hilda

In the early 1960's or perhaps the late 1950's, Hilda and her mother, Ethel, went on a trip around the world by way of a freighter ship. Hilda kept a list of the jewelry purchased on their trip. The list included "green/lavender beads from Proventown \$300.00, Mama bought the white jade in Koolong, I bought the long blue beads in Hong Kong \$60.00, I bought the smokey jade in Hong Kong \$50.00, I bought the light green jade from Soloman Wallace, Mama bought the lapis beads in the Farmers Market, had them strung on gold wire in L.A. - by the woman from whom April bought my ring." The list was kept by Hilda with an appraisal for a solitaire diamond ring, brilliant, weighing 1.8 carats in a Tiffany style platinum mounting valued at \$3,350.00. When Ethel became blind and was no longer able to care for herself, she stayed with Hilda in Arizona. In January 1965, perhaps before and after, Hilda was living in Tucson, Arizona. Ethel had, again, been staying with Hilda. Ethel died January 22, 1965.

In 1963 and 1964, perhaps longer, Hilda lived in Worthington, Ohio on Toll Gate Square in a condominium. While living there, she sketched and painted pictures of her cousin Johnny's two children. Johnny's daughter Margaret recalls going to sit for her painting. Hilda prepared a meal of chicken and dumplings. Margaret had never had dumplings. Several years later her cousin, Mary Francis' son would occasionally go to Hilda's after high school. Hilda served him wine with his dinner. Mary Francis didn't tell her husband, a minister.



Sketch of Margaret by Hilda

Some insight is given to Hilda's goings on in the 1960's through letters from others. Hoylande wrote her Aunt Add on March 6, 1966. In the opening of the letter Hoylande told Add that she had received many things from Hilda at Christmas time. One might guess that there had been other correspondence about Hilda's status. Hoylande also thanked her Aunt for what may have been a wedding gift to Hoylande and Crawford. Hoylande stated, "Slowly I have been getting unpacked. We have uncovered a picture which you painted and we are delighted. We think the painting is interesting and would be pleased to have it on our walls no matter who the artist but we are also proud to know that you did it. Thank you from Crawford and myself." Hoylande went on in her letter to update Add on her last visit with her sister. "Hilda was here last weekend. She appeared very tired when she arrived, better when she left. She was in good spirits. She has bought a condominium Townhouse on N. High in Worthington and she is pleased with it. She planned to move this weekend. A yard for Sheba! (Hilda's Afghan Hound) More later. Love to you, Hoylande." One might guess the family was concerned. Hilda was alone. She had taken such good care of her mother. Hoylande was worried that her sister was tired. One worries about a loved one's health, physical and emotional.

Add received two more letters in May regarding her niece. May 6th and May 18th Ethel "Roy", as she was called (Uncle Roy's wife), wrote sister-in-law Adelaide. Ethel "Roy" wrote, "Dear Addi, Please do not feel that I don't think of you all the time for I miss you so much. When are you coming back? Hurry up. Never see Hilda and she does not call up. Not friendly. Going around with other people no time for us. Hope you got my card from N. Y. Called Jane (Add's daughter) and she was fine." Ethel wrote again, "Dear Addi, Excuse me for sending you the same kind of card again. But I wanted to tell you I was thrilled to hear from you. When are you coming back? I am so homesick for you. Never hear a thing from Hilda. Glad everything is good with you. Hope you sell your house. Did you get my card from N. Y.? We had such a good time. Nice to have a change of pace. Blenn (Add's brother) told me to tell you he would get you accordingly. Love E." One may guess that Ethel missed the company of her niece, Hilda.

On July 4th, 1966 Adelaide received another letter giving some insight into Hilda's circumstances. The letter was sent from New Edgartown, Massachusetts. The letter had been sent to Tucson, Arizona but Add had since returned to the school house. The letter was forwarded to Add in Columbus. "Dear Adelaide, Quite a

contrast no doubt, between your hot dry Tucson and the pleasant north end breeze which is assisting us almost not at all from Newport to Martha's Vinyard. It has been hot in New York and here abouts for days. We are fortunate to be on the water with out rain or fog zigzagging our way to New Bedford. Crawford's nephew and his wife are on board. I was with Hilda for a few days when she came from the hospital. It is no fair to be so helpless - and for three months - but she has her usual good humor. She is already working. Bind brings material to her and picks it up. And she can make jokes. Faithful Sheba is both a joy and a problem. She must be fed and walked. Hilda can not do it and Sheba is a bit mistified of the old ladies who are subsisting. Hilda received the roses after I departed. She told me when I telephoned. She was delighted. We were both mystified by the Tucson address but Marguerite telephoned and answered one of our questions. How long do you expect to be there? That she did not know. Keep active, cheerful. Paint and have fun. Love, Hoylande"



Hilda's passport 1967

Both Hilda and cousin Margaret lived near one another in condominiums in Worthington for at least 4 years in the 1970's. They kept company with one another during that time. On one occasion Margaret drove Hilda to pick up a friend of Hilda's and the friend's husband. Margaret was taking them to Delaware,



Ohio. Margaret recalls Hilda's Louis Vuitton luggage in sharp contrast to the very bad hotel where they stayed. Margaret and Hilda also took a trip to Arizona. Margaret drove Hilda's 924 Porsche and Hilda would scream "Butch" when Margaret shifted into the wrong gear.

Hilda spent some time in the hospital and she had Margaret check on her condo. Fleas covered Margaret's legs. Butch, the large terrier, had a flea problem.

The Tubac Artist Colony was Hilda's home for about three years in the 1970's. It is located in Tubac, Arizona about 40 miles south of Tucson, Arizona. It has been a destination for artists since the 1930's. One would expect that this stay involved a lot of sketching and painting.

If there was money trouble for Hilda, no one really knows. She worked, she moved and she married. She did not give the appearance of having such trouble. She received two other letters near that time which gives a little insight into her financial circumstances:

*Crawford F. Failey  
Apartment 930 S  
1450 East 55th Place  
Chicago, Illinois 60637*

*January 9, 1974.*

*Dear Hilda,*

*In my will I left you \$100,000 to each of four friends. I hope that you will not be so selfish as to make it necessary for me to die before having the pleasure of making a little gift. Accordingly, with Hoylande's approval The Prudential Insurance Company is drawing up an annuity to pay you \$825.00 per month for the rest of your life. The Continental Bank here will pay the gift tax on it. The checks can be sent either to you at home or deposited in your bank account by the Prudential. Which would you prefer?*

*Love,  
Crawford*

*Columbus Ohio*

*Oct 8 1974*

*Enclosed please find check for \$500.00 Do not look for more until I cross the river Jordon.*

*Resp*

*Roy R. Denune  
1645 Aberdeen Ave  
Columbus Ohio 43211*

*PS- Please do not get me anything for Christmas.*

Hilda's second husband was said to have owned a Chrysler agency. No one is quite sure where they were married but when Hilda returned to Ohio, she had a brand new Chrysler, but no husband. She was married to her third husband in the 1970's. He was said to have been a college professor by the name of Allen W. Warren. Hilda's cousin Burrell once met him with Hilda in a Barnes and Noble Book Store. He was referred to by Burrell as a "hippy" college professor who wore a suit coat over rumpled clothing. He is believed to have taught at Kenyon College. Burrell said he looked like Steve Bannon from the Trump administration. It is believed that they divorced in 1975. Hilda's brother-in-law sent Hilda the following letter in reference to her marital troubles:

*June 18, 1975*

*Dear Hilda –*

*It would be farther from my thought that money had anything to do with your marital troubles.*

*But - I can now tell you one thing: Just after you got married I called up and asked to speak with Allen in order to congratulate him. The answer was that "he would pray for me." Without knowing anything about him, hippy or not, I at once said to Hoylande "It's a crying shame that a lovely intelligent artist like Hilda can get mixed up with a man who is not even 'housebroke.'"*

*Sufficient unto the day are the day's evil things.*

*Love,  
Crawford*

Hilda had style. Even in her senior years she dressed with a flair. She wore hats- flat black hats with a tassle and a black snakeskin fez that she wore with a red cape. While on a visit with cousin Johnny she had Johnny's daughter, Margaret, accompany her and her dog, Butch, to a local dress shop in order to purchase a dress for an upcoming event. Hilda selected a black lace dress that was quite form fitting. Hilda was in her seventies.

Hilda was supportive of other artists. Cousin Johnny's son, another John, was quite an artist. While still in high school, Hilda looked over some of his work and purchased a sketch he had done of his sister, Margaret. Hilda had it mounted and framed and had it hung in her home.



The sketch of Margaret by brother, John Denune, purchased by Hilda

By 1975, Hilda had moved to Gambier, Ohio (location of Kenyon College). She was reportedly married to the hippy college professor near this time.

On March 7, 1975 Hilda received a letter from cousin Jane addressed to Mrs. Allen W. Warren. She opened the letter with this, "I thought you had a holy terror of flying - but now I suspect you have a holy terrier," a reference to Hilda's fear of heights and Butch, Hilda's dog. Hilda once took a trip with another cousin, Wilbur and his wife Daisey, through the mountains. Hilda was quite fearful driving in the mountains. Near this time, Wilbur and Daisey's son inquired as to why Hilda never had any children. Hilda replied that she feared that a child could have been afflicted with epilepsy. Her father, Norville, is believed to have been an epileptic. Hilda went on to tell Tommy that she had a "back alley abortion" some thirty years prior to his question. Fear is powerful.

She also received a letter on July 16, 1975 from sister Hoylande. Hoylande was writing from on board MS Gripsholm of the Swedish American Line. Hoyland enquired of Hilda's up coming trip to India and Nepal. Hilda was to stay in the same hotels as Hoylande in both New Delhi and Benaras. She wondered why Hilda had chosen Nepal. She said "I think you will find the trip a bit rugged but very rewarding." She instructed Hilda to take her camera. Hoylande made mention in her letter that she and Crawford were going to the ballet and opera in Russia and London. Crawford had brought his guitar on the trip. She wrote of cruise ship rumors. Ships in disrepair, some going to dry dock. She had heard that the Italian cruise lines were to be sold to the Russians saying, "That will be the day when all these pleasure loving capitalist Americans spend their time and money on Russian cruise ships." Hoylande finished her letter saying, *"There is a slight possibility that I may go back to work. There are feelers out but I have not decided. Crawford says it will probably give me more interesting activities. It is not a full time thing but demanding about 100 days/yearly in time attending meetings, mostly in Washington. And now days everything in the open, public hearings. The reason I have been approached - Woman's Lib and the move to get more women in meaningful places in government. Not enough women with experience. I don't know that there is any real interest in women in government in Washington. Dixie Lee Ray has resigned. I think she should have done so earlier. They certainly down graded her and then described the change as a promotion. She tried it for a time and then said "No more""* describing it as it really was. Nothing said about what Hoylande planned to do."



In late 1984 Hilda had dinner at cousin Johnny and his wife Georgia's home. She was given a pot holder that Georgia had quilted. In a thank you note to Johnny and Georgia, Hilda wrote, "Entering '85 with all kinds of resolutions. I am determined to find your 17 Baron (Magna Carta) for John Jr. (Johnny's son) You have done such a magnificent job deliniating the descent - looking back - do you think time has glamorized our back ground - we are not holding our own - or will this era be just as glamerous several hundred years down the road."

Following Hoylande's death in 1986, while emptying the apartment, Hilda found the letters that had been sent to Hoylande by their mother, Ethel. Ethel did not go with a whimper. She wrote letters to Hoylande with disparaging remarks of her daughter, Hilda. Hilda was close to her mother. It is not easy to be a care giver and one might expect that Ethel offered an extra challenge. This was a harsh blow to dear Hilda.



Hilda

While living in Gambier, Ohio and visiting her cousin, Wilbur, Hilda finished her life adventure. Bold, flashy, and fun, she had created what she was to create. She had loved, loved and lost. She was her own person, unique. To be in her presence was not to be forgotten. In others she had seen the diminishing and deterioration of life. Her grandmother, her mother, and her sister preceded her in death. Immobility, blindness, and dementia were not for Hilda. She went into the bathroom and she did not come out. Medication overdose was suspected. No one would ever know. Hilda was 83 years old.

Hilda donated her body. Half of her estate was left to the Plymouth Foundation. The other half was left to the Salvation Army. Her pictures and paintings were left to a cousin. The executor of her estate, an attorney, allowed the family to "purchase" the remainder of her belongings. An informal "auction" was conducted by her cousins to disperse her personal possessions. Her oriental rugs and her diamond were not included in the disbursement.

## The End

Now going the long way around, back to the day Fannie died. Fannie had not been well. She had broken her hip. As Fannie convalesced, Ethel helped care for her mother. On the day of Fannie's death, Ethel went to town. On her return trip, Ethel stopped by the Chapmans', their neighbors. She told the Chapmans, "If anything happened to Mama, they can't blame me because I've been in town all day." What do you know? Something had happened to Mama. She was dead. The coroner was called, family friend, Dr. Rudy. On the death certificate he wrote under cause of death, "complications from a fall and broken hip." It seemed strange, what Ethel had said earlier in the day. The undertaker made visit to the home of Jack, Fannie's youngest. Johnny, Jack's son, was home when the unexpected visitor came by 1961 Denune Avenue. It is hard to say if he visited 1968 Denune Avenue or any other of Fannie's children. The undertaker told Jack, "Your Mother didn't die of natural causes." He wanted Jack to open an inquiry. No inquiry was opened. I suppose there was enough conflict. There was enough grief at the loss of such a remarkable lady. After the first several drafts of this family memoir were written, Johnny, Jack's son, shared that both, his mother, Jack's wife, Barbara, and Ethel Denune, Elias' wife, had also been responsible to care for Fannie. Was it that Jack did not want to implicate Barbara. What really happened? Mama was gone.

## Afterword

I have but three questions from this bit of our family's story: 1. What happened to the Duvall / Denune slaves and their ancestors? 2. What is the cause of Fannie's death? and 3. What happened to Arthur Ferris and his ancestors? I hope one day we have all the answers.

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Photo of Barbara Denune, Ellis 1919

Photos of Hoyland and Hilda Young, taken by Myers Photo Co., 112 1/2 S. High Street, Columbus, Ohio

Photo of Hoylande Young, circa 1920, taken by A Carte-de-visite by Bachrach

Painting of Ethel Denune by Fannie Fern Ferris Denune and the George Bellows Lithographs, Courtesy of and with permission of Mary Frances Daugherty