

Orleans County Historical Association

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Orleans County Historical Association

INTERVIEW

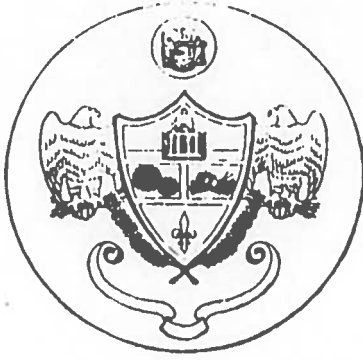
Mrs. Dorothy Roberts Cox
115 Roseland Avenue
Medina, New York 14103

Dorothy Roberts Cox was born May 12, 1896.

Interviewed by Helen McAllister of Medina, September through
October 1982 with a total of five visits by H. McA.
Dorothy R. Cox died unexpectedly on December 7, 1982.



Mrs. Dorothy Roberts Cox



Orleans County Historical Association

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

The purpose of this project is to collect information about the historical development of Orleans County by means of tape-recorded conversations with people whose experiences reflect the county's growth.

These tapes and transcriptions will be preserved as educational resources and possible publication (all or in part).

I hereby release this tape and transcription to the Orleans County Historical Association.

Dorothy R. Coy
Signed

Sept 3 '82
Date

Understood and agreed to:

Helen M. McAllister
INTERVIEWER

9-2-82
Date

For the Orleans County Historical Association, Sept. 2, 1982, Helen McAllister of Medina, N.Y. is interviewing Mrs. Dorothy Roberts Cox of 115 Roseland Avenue, Medina, N.Y.

- C My father's name was Richard Roberts and he was born in Llanystumdwy, Wales. ... My mother's name was Catherine Jones and she was born in Pencraig Sarn, North Wales. I should have given you the name of my father's home which is Penbaunt (NOTE: Mrs. Cox corrects this, off tape, to Henfelin). This means the end of the bridge. The Welsh people use the name of their home rather than their surnames. My father would be Robert Penbaunt. (NOTE: This has not been changed to Henfelin as it should probably be. Throughout the transcript there may be minor errors which will remain due to the untimely death of Mrs. Cox soon after this interview). My mother would be Catherine Pencraig.
- Mc Do the Welsh people still do that today?
- C A great deal, yes. But originally that's the way people's names were designated. That's why you have five or six Williams' and they are not related at all. They have changed over the years. The British Government made them adopt a surname which they didn't have before. Therefore they took their given names and added an S. That's why you have Williamss, Robertss, Joness, Hughss, Edwardss, etc.
- Mc Dorothy, could you tell me about when your parents came over to America?
- C Well, they came when they were about in their early twenties. My father was born in 1863 and my mother was born in 1865, so it ~~a~~ would be the early 1980's. They eventually met in Utica, N.Y. where my father's sister was living.
- Mc What brought your father to this country, Dorothy? What was his trade?
- C Well, he could cut stone, and he always said there was nothing you could do, as a young man in Wales, except work on a farm, or go to sea. He didn't want to do either of those things, so he decided to try America.

He came over as a stone cutter and worked in stone quarries in several places. I can only recall several places:

- C New London, Conn., New Lampertville, New Jersey, Alexander Bay area, and somewhere in the midwest; I don't recall.
- Mc Then your folks were eventually married?
- C They were married in Rome, N.Y. The records were all destroyed by fire, as so often happens.
- Mc How did they happen to come to the Medina area?
- C Because of the quarries! My father bought the house at 119 Maple Avenue. He bought it from Robert Bates, who later built a home adjacent to the present Super Duper (store).
- They were married in 1895 and came immediately to the home on Maple Avenue which my father had previously purchased. They paid \$1,500. for a home and two and a half acres of land, and they had a balance mortgage to pay off; about \$600.
- Mc Dorothy, when were you born?
- C I was born May 12, 1896. ... I started school at the age of six, plus four months, at the Elizabeth Street Street School which was a two-room school. Grades one and two were taught by Estella Letts, in one room. Grades three and four, in the second room, were taught by Katherine Tuohey. Of course there were two outside outhouses (Note: H.Mc. interjects: "or Chick Sales, as we sometimes called them"). One for boys and one for girls. There was a large playground at the back. We brought our own lunch and ate at the school. I walked the distance from Maple Avenue to Elizabeth Street School and returned.
- Mc How did you get across the canal, Dorothy?
- C At that time a bridge crossed the canal at the end of the roadway in front of the stone house which is now occupied by the Blisset family. That's on State Street, at the foot of Elizabeth Street and that was a short-cut. Later I attended school at the Oak Orchard School. At that time we walked along the west bank of the canal and crossed another bridge which was at the end of Church Street.
- Mc That bridge is gone now too. When the canal was widened, they took it down. What grades were in the Oak Orchard School?
- C Grades five and six. Ella Donnahur taught grade five but I have no recollection of who taught the sixth.
- Mc I think you are doing very well to remember any of them!

C ... From there I went to the Old Academy building for grades seven and eight . That building has since been demolished but remanents of it can be found in different places in Medina. One fine example is in the basement (wall) of the home on 113 Roseland Avenue. ... The man who supervised the laying of that stone was an Italian. A very handsome, tall Italian who was named Nenni. I am very sure that was his name but I can't prove it. His family later moved to California and one of his sons, I understand, is a musician out there.

Mc A lot of kids, in those days, quit school at the eighth grade, but you did go on, Dorothy?

C I had the kind of mother who insisted that I have an education, so from there I went to the lovely brownstone building which faced South Academy Street. There I finished my four years of high school and graduated in 1914. I went back for one year in order to have the credits in Physics for entrance to Brockport (State Teacher's College). That year is what we call Post Graduate, or P.G., which we never hear of nowadays; but that was the happiest year of my life!

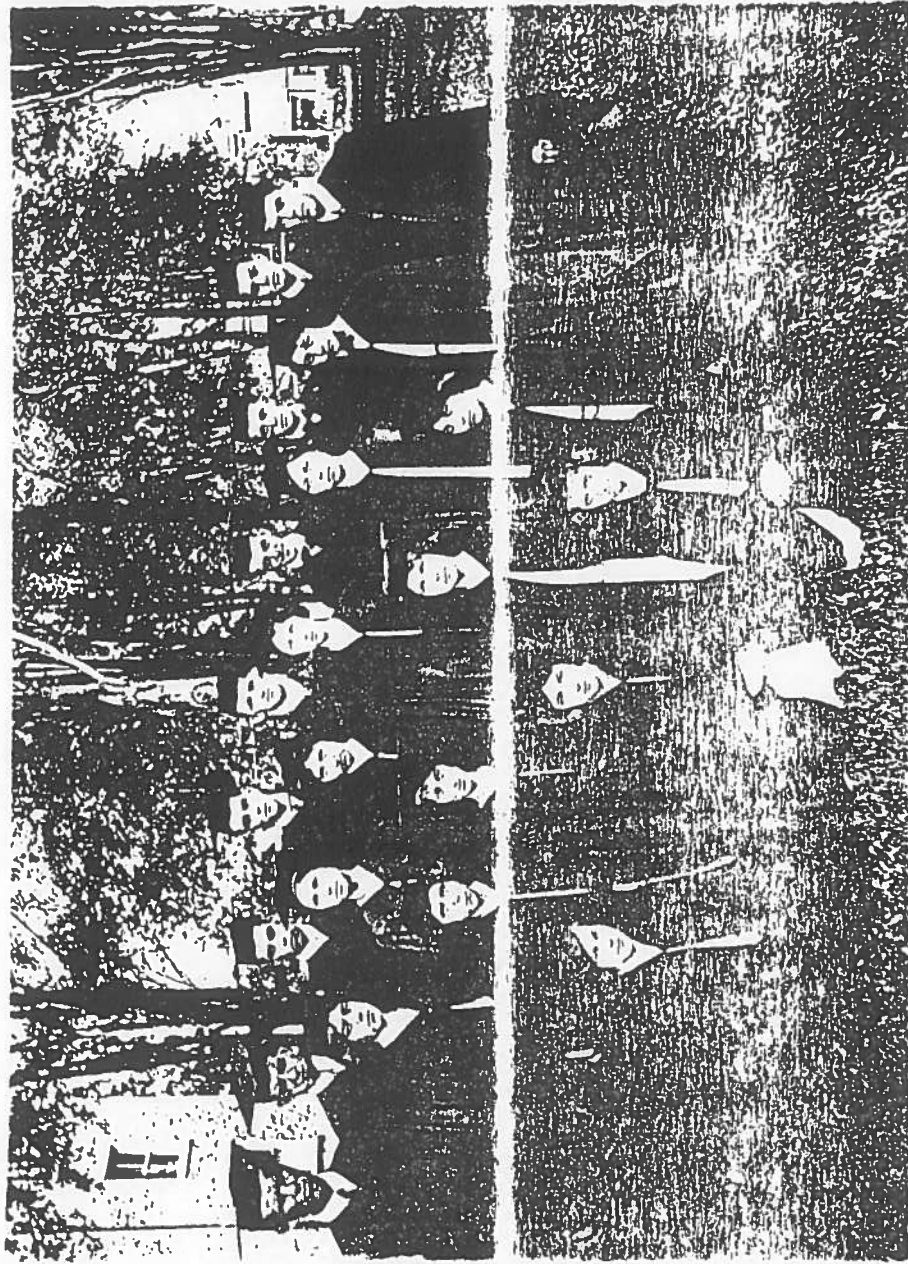
Mc That took you up to 1915, and you then went to Brockport for two years?

C Yes, I went to Brockport for two years and graduated in 1917 as an elementary teacher with supposedly a Life Certificate to teach through the sixth grade.

It was in April of my senior year that World War I was declared. Shall I say that America joined World War I, which had been in operation for a year or two previous.

My first teaching job was in Roslyn, Long Island. The Superintendent of Schools of Roslyn came to Brockport with the head of a Teacher's Agency, who was a close friend of his. The Roslyn Superintendent selected several teachers and we could have the position if we would pay the fee to this Agency. I was advised that it would be more profitable to pay the Agency the \$50.00 fee and take a position on Long Island than to take one in western New York because opportunities and promotion would be greater. So, that is what I did.

Cook 3/2



MEDINA HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 1914

Medina High School Class of 1914

- Row 1 (kneeling in front) : Hildred Newell, Helen Hutchinson,
Winifred Applin
- Row 2 Starr Overholt, Dorothy Roberts (Cox), Mildred Mead,
Etla Hebrer
- Row 3 Hazel Arnett, Lorraine Miller, Pearl Hall, Agnes Brown,
Gertrude Soucie, Olive Fink
- Row 4 Albert Tompkins, Revenue James, Reginald Coe, Robert
Munson, Harry Wells, Robert Richmond, Hugh Whipple,
Donald Poler, Gerald Willis

C My initial salary was \$650. for the year. Of course, with the deduction of the Agency fee this amounted to \$600.. BUT, I paid about \$8.00 a week for my room and my meals, so I had a few dollars left. Not much, but I bought some new clothes!!

Mc What about your contract as a teacher?

C The contract very definitely said that it would be null and void if I should be married during that period.

Mc ... Was your personal life (~~other~~ ~~than~~ than stated above) your own, or did they watch what you did?

C I think we were very free, really. Later on there were restrictions up here (in Medina). The teachers couldn't go out of town on the weekend, and things like that. But that wasn't true on Long Island and it wasn't True here until we had the Depression. It came with that.

Mc So, your first teacher's experience was during the War. Did you help the government sell War Bonds, Dorothy?

C We sold War Bonds, we plucked ducks that someone had shot! (laughter). The teachers spent hours plucking these ducks which were to be sent over to Mineola, to the Army. We took Red Cross courses in first aid, of course. I remember being invited into New York (City) to one of the most fashionable Night-Clubs by the President of the Bank. There were several of us, to dinner and the show, in payment for our work and for selling the (War) Bonds.

Mc Was this all a part of the Neighborhood House?

C The Neighborhood House was the place where we plucked the ducks, where we took the Red Cross courses, and anything else we did towards the War effort.

Mc Did you have a chance to date any of the service men? As a young attractive woman, I imagine that you did!

C That was a very exciting period. Men who were in the service and were stationed at Mineola would contact a girl that they knew and then they would come over and they would bring two or three other officers. They had to be officers, at least Second Lieutenants. They wore the leather leggings (puttees), and a silver bar on their epaulets. Of course we wouldn't want to be seen with an ordinary Private with the cloth

leggings! (Note: off tape there is considerable discussion about dating and the clothing worn, etc. Mrs. Cox was very careful about what she said on tape. In fact, to conduct the two hours of taped interview, five visits were required by Mrs. McAllister. However, it should be noted, Mrs. Cox was always gracious and a most willing subject). We would go into New York City. I could mention two or three: Donald Poler, who was relation to Marshall Loke (NOTE: see the transcript of Marshall Loke for in-detail memories of old Medina, people, places, etc.) came over with a man whom I had known in Brockport. They had gotten their "wings" at Cornell. We had quite a few dates with them, but as it so happened, you'd have a few dates and then he would be gone. Then someone else would come over. George Ryan, from Brockport, came over.

Mc What did you do on a date, go to dances?

C We had dances in private homes. We had a victrola and danced, and had light refreshments. But they were always in private homes. Another one who would come over from Medina was Ellwood Mack. His father had a drug store in Medina over the years, and he was a graduate of Dartmouth College. Mr. Morrison was a graduate of the University of Michigan; Donald Poler was a college graduate and we thought we were the "cat's meow", travelling around with these Lieutants!(laughter)

Mc What about when the Armistice was declared?

C Well, the Armistice was declared just at the height of the Influenza epidemic, so I never did get to New York (for the celebrations). Several of my friends did go in that night, but I was in bed with the flu. In fact I was in bed for a full month! But they had a wonderful Board of Education. They gave us our full pay for that period. Practically every teacher in the school system had it. Some had it earlier and some had it later.

Mc You were lucky that you survived! Dorothy, after your two years in Long Island, did you change jobs?

- C With the blessing of my Superintendent, because he thought it was a wonderful opportunity for me, I went into New York and took the train up to Pelham and was interviewed and accepted the position as a teacher in the Hutchinson School in North Pelham. I taught there for five years and then was unfortunate enough to have appendicitis. I did not teach for a year. I was in the hospital for five full weeks with a tube in my side because Penicillin had not been invented then.
- Mc Your appendix had been perforated, right?
- C It was perforated. I had, believe it or not, two nurses: a night nurse and a day nurse, working , each one, for 12 hours for \$50.00 a week! One came on (duty) at seven in the morning, and the other came on (duty) at seven in the night. Our total bill was \$975., which included the surgeon's fee, and the nurse's care, and the hospital room. This was in Mount Vernon Hospital.
- Mc This was in the fall of 1923. Times have really changed! Did you come back to Medina after that, Dorothy?
- C I came back about Thanksgiving Day. I was wheeled through Grand Central Station (in N.Y.C.) in a wheelchair. My mother had come down, in the meantime, so we took a sleeper (on the train) from Grand Central up to Medina. In those days you could board your train in New York City, the car would be shunted off in Rochester, and connected with the (Niagara) Falls Branch. You could stay right in your compartment, in the sleeping car, let's put it that way, until you came to Medina.
- Mc Those days are gone, I hope not forever!
- C Oh, I'm afraid they are.
- Mc So then you came back to Medina. Had your parents moved to Roseland Avenue then?
- C Oh they had moved here much earlier! They moved here in 1911 when my father built this house.
- Mc Did you stay here, with your mother and your father and recover here? Or did you take a trip, Dorothy?
- C I stayed here to recover until the following fall, probably October, when I went to Florida with Mrs. Morgan who lived on Frank Street. She had a shop in a hotel in Miami.

C She had a shop where she employed about twelve women who were seamstresses and she designed the clothing.

Mc I know it was "the thing to do" to go to Florida at that time, but why did you go to Florida, Dorothy?

C I went because Dr. LaVern Waters thought I might be susceptible to tuberculosis. In fact he had sent me to Rochester for an x-ray. There were no x-rays in Medina at that time. I remember that it cost my parents \$25.00 for an x-ray, plus the trip to Rochester. They found that the lungs were alright but the doctor still thought that the winter in the warm climate would be beneficial. While there I did a number of odd jobs: I addressed envelopes for the Chamber of Commerce; I addressed envelopes for a new paper that was being established there - a tabloid by Wm. K. Vanderbilt, Jr; I worked at a booth at the Fair for a couple of nights. Then I was able to get this position at Miss Harris' Private School. I walked about a mile out to the school from Maimi, and if I wanted to go to the school early enough in the morning, I could have my breakfast there for free. If I wanted to come back in the afternoon, I could have my dinner for free. And I have NO idea what my salary was!

Mc What was the school like, Dorothy?

C The school was outdoors and each grade was on a pavilion of wooden base, screened in and circular. Something like our gazebos. Among the pupils was one I remember. She was the granddaughter of William Jennings Bryan, who had a home very close to Miss Harris' School on Biscayne Bay. Occasionally we would see William Jennings Bryan walking in that neighborhood.

Mc After you left there, did you teach in Scarsdale?

C I left there in the spring. At that time everyone came North at the end of March. You just had to go North!! On the way home, I stopped in at the Teacher's Agency on Fifth Avenue and was interviewed by the Superintendent of Schools of Scarsdale, New York, Mrs. Underhill. I was offered a position in the Scarsdale School which I accepted. I taught there for one year.

C Then I had such glowing ^{accounts} by friends of mine who had gone to Cleveland to teach that I made an application out there and was accepted as a first grade teacher at Shaker Heights School. This was a suburb of Cleveland, Ohio. I was able to live downtown after the first of the year in Allerton House, which was solely for young people who were working. It was built by a man in New York City who wanted to have some place for young people, particularly college people, who were working. This was to be sort of a substitute for dormitory life. There were six stories: a certain number for women and a certain number for the men. There was an elevator for the men and one for the women so that there was no connection between the floors occupied by the men and those occupied by the women. It was run in a very high grade fashion. They had a lovely library.

(end of side 1 of tape #1)

C In 1927, with my mother's encouragement, I decided to go to Columbia University and take one year's work.
 Mc Then, I understand, you taught at Long Island for three years?
 C I taught way out, at the extreme end of Long Island, for three years. We were exactly 90 miles from New York City, and 90 miles from Boston, and were able to cross from Greenport to New London and drive up to Boston as easily as we could go into New York City. Perhaps that is immaterial. Then I left Southout (spelling?) and went back to Columbia for a full year again. Following that I accepted a position at a private school: The Columbia School for Girls, in Rochester, in September of 1937. In February 1938 my mother died, but I continued to teach in Rochester and commuted by train for the rest of the school year. I would leave Medina at seven o'clock in the morning and I would arrive back in Medina at seven o'clock at night. My father would take me down to the train in the morning and he would meet me at night.
 Mc That made for quite a full day!

This was a time of anxiety for the entire world with war in the offing, but you decided to take your first trip over to Wales, Dorothy?

C Yes, a trip over to Wales to see my family!. In fact I had saved \$600. to go to Wales when I had that operation for appendicitis. That's where that trip went!

So, I left here in August and travelled by train to Toronto, then by train to Montreal; took the boat, the Montross, to Liverpool. From then on I stayed with members of my family at Liverpool and at North Wales. While we were at North Wales, at Cricket which is within sight of that famous Harliff Castle about which The Men of Harliff (sp??) is written, and there my cousin took me over to the home of David Lloyd George. War had been declared just a short time before that and he had just arrived by train. He was very much perturbed about the Chamberlain government and unpreparedness, and he didn't appreciate meeting me at all!! In fact, he was rather rude. But Mrs. David Lloyd George was very, very gracious. She took me into the home and showed me the different rooms.

Mc This must have been very exciting for you Dorothy, for you told me earlier when we were talking, that your father and David Lloyd George grew up together, as young boys.

C Yes, they grew up together in the little town of Llanystumdwy. David Lloyd George's uncle was insistent on his having a good education and it was that uncle who really shaped his life and gave him the opportunity for an education so that David Lloyd George could become what he did: the Prime Minister of England. ... I arrived there on a Thursday, and Sunday morning we all gathered around the radio at my grandfather's home and listened to England's Declaration of War. ... That was three days after I had arrived! Well, immediately I received correspondence from the Embassy. I was told that I would have to return on an American ship. (Note: America had not as yet entered W.W.I, therefore the American ship would be neutral and assure safe passage... they hoped).

Mc You were allowed to stay on and complete your visit? Did the people in the countries where you were visiting have to have rationing, or blackouts, or anything like that?

C I wouldn't say that they went on rationing. I have no recollection of that, but they did have to go on a blackout immediately. There was a great rush to buy black material to hang

inside your windows so that you could have a light on in the house; but that was only in certain rooms, you see. I remember that my bedroom didn't have the blackout curtains. I remember going up there and undressing in the dark. I remember driving over the country road with practically no light, just a little crack, a slit, in the headlights.. and looking out all over the country and not a light visible anywhere.

Mc How long were you over there, Dorothy?

C I was there almost six weeks. ... I had been told about the wonderful American boats - the cargo liners - and I was advised to come home on a cargo liner. I had put in an application for an American liner the very day I had arrived, before the war was declared. I received my reservation almost immediately. It was just a miracle because at least I did have a chance to get home. We weren't given a berth, a state room, or designated any spot we could call our own. But we had the ticket to get on the boat! You took your chances. I was one of five people in a small state room, reserved for the crew. I was more fortunate than a lot of the people who had to sleep in lounges. They set up bunks in the women's lounge and in the men's lounge.

Mc Soon after you came back to the United States, we were in the war too.

But Dorothy, before we get into more of that, I'd like to hear more about your father.

You have said that your father came over to America from Wales to work in the stone quarries. When did he get his business on East Center Street (in Medina) and from whom did he buy the business?

C He bought it from Thomas Platts, who had previously been in business with his brother, John. I think that John Platts had died. Then my father went into business with Thomas Platts and eventually bought Thomas Platts' business, in 1919 I believe. It was called The Platts Monuments. My father was called an engraver, I suppose. He did the lettering on the stones. You could find a great many of them. I could point out many stones in Boxwood Cemetery, and many in Mount Albion (Cemetery) in which he did the engraving.

Mc Thomas Platts kept in business with your father?

C Yes, for a while and then my father bought his share. This was located on East Center Street. At the present time it is next to Lisa's Diner and the building that is occupied for one day a week by Vincent White. At the present time Vincent White owns it. I sold it to him a few years ago.

Mc I believe that you have a very nice picture of your father and your mother in front of the store?

C Yes, I do have a nice picture of my mother and my father and of my dog before the store. I hope that you can use that picture, Helen.

I would like to say something more about the ship. It was a cargo liner, supposedly carrying one hundred passengers. But we had two hundred passengers. We had to sit at Liverpool, sit on a tender (a small boat) for probably two to three hours, waiting to get on board. After we were on board, the ship sailed and docked at Belfast where we were not allowed to leave until daylight. The ship was completely blacked out. Passengers were not allowed to leave the ship, not even to get a newspaper, and not even to light a cigarette on deck. So in the morning we started out and we had to travel in what was called a "neutral lane" because at that time the United States was neutral. A large American flag was painted on each side of the ship's hull, and the American flag was flying at the top of the mast with the spotlights on the deck below turned up towards those flags, so there would be no mistaking our ship for a neutral ship.

On board there were about five people who had been rescued from the (ship) Athena which had been torpedoed on the northern coast of Ireland the first Sunday night that war was declared. Those people, there was a man who walked the deck all night; there was a family of about a man and a mother and a ten year old girl who had been rescued separately ; there was a woman by the name of Mrs. Roberts who had just come up from the dining room and was on deck when the torpedo hit. She felt that her life was saved because she was up on deck. If she had been down in the dining room a few minutes longer, she would have had no chance to escape.



(See page 10.)



Robert's home on Maple Avenue... in the "English Settlement"
(See page 20 -)

C That was a very interesting thing. Then when we did arrive at Boston we were given the privilege of leaving the ship at Boston or going on to New York. I disembarked at Boston. Our passports were immediately taken away from us.

Mc Why was that?

C I don't know. I suppose it was so we could not travel abroad anymore although the United States was not at war. I still don't understand that because a passport was granted to you, supposedly good for five years. Ours were taken away. This was in the fall of 1939.

Mc Dorothy, will you tell us how you became reacquainted with the man who (eventually) became your husband?

C Well, as I have said before, I came back to Medina in 1938 and did a little substituting in the local schools, and then I was in Curry's Store one day and Mr. Curry asked me if I would like to come there to work. I always liked retailing, so I accepted the job. Curry's was a dress shop, located about half way up the block from the four corners on the west side of the street. A few years later it was moved up to the location where it was when it closed. That was near the Diana Theatre - which Mr. Curry said was to be the theatre district.

I used to eat lunch over to the Maple Leaf (restaurant) and Mr. Cox used to wander in at that same time. So we started eating lunch together. He had known me since I was probably 12 years old. After awhile, he took me out on a few dates and in September 1944 we were married.

His name was William Henry Cox. It seems that there were several Williams in the family, so the family decided they didn't want any more Williams - so they called him Harry. He went by the name of Harry Cox. Few people knew that his name was William H.

Mc At that time, did Mr. Cox have the Jewelry Store?

C Mr. Cox had had a Jewelry Store since 1911 when he moved here from Rome, New York after completing a course in engraving at the Rochester School of Engraving. Through that school he heard of the store in Medina, which was for sale. He came up on the street car and contacted the owner, Mr. Frary (sp?)

- C and bought the store. At that time it was only half of a store because Phillip Brust, the tailor, had the other side. In later years, Mr. Cox moved to a space which I think is now occupied by Knights Real Estate. Then a woman named Kit Sweeney died - I think she died. I'm not sure if she died or is still living. He bought the store from the estate of Jessie Ferguseon (sp?) who taught for a great many years in New Jersey. I am not sure what year he bought that building. He later sold it to John Limina, the present owner.
- Mc You helped out by working in the store. I remember seeing you in the store, Dorothy.
- C Oh yes. I enjoyed myself very much working there. I had had a bit of experience. I broke away from teaching a couple of times. I had one year's experience in the millinery department of Lord and Taylor in New York City, on Fifth Avenue, where I had charge of the display for the department. I was allowed to go downstairs and pick out the gloves and handkies and the scarves and all the accessories that went with a hat. Then I'd come up and decorate in the department.
- Mc That was when people wore hats!!
- C Yes! Absolutely! We had two hat departments: we had a regular one, and a French Hat Department.
- Mc How was working in the jewelry store different than teaching? Harder on the feet, right?
- C Yes, it was much harder on the feet but after awhile, you know, you become a little bit fed up with just talking to children. It was rather nice to talk with adults. Then too, I had had quite a bit of training while I was at Lord and Taylors. We would have conferences; we would have talks on merchandising; talks on color; talks on material. And that experience was good . It carried over.
- Mc Can you remember anything that happened in the Medina Jewelry Store - when the American Legion came to town, for instance? You were telling me (off tape) something about that.
- C We were very fortunate. We were never held up (robbed), although my husband used to anticipate it. He would go across the street to eat his lunch at the Maple Leaf, and sit where he could keep an eye on the store in case anything happened.

C Our only bad experience was when the Legion Convention came to Medina. We were staying over the weekend at our cottage at the lake and our daughter rushed down early in the morning and said, "Your windows been broken!" Someone had thrown a beer bottle through the plate glass window and shattered it, spilling the beer on the chest of silver, on the background. But my husband didn't believe in carrying too much insurance so he gladly paid the bill for the new plate glass. He figured he was way ahead.

Mc You were very fortunate that you weren't held up. Today that seems to be the thing to do!

C In 1956 my husband retired, sold the store to the Scirto Brothers. In 1957 we went to Wales and England. He had relatives in England, and I had relatives in Wales. (Note: off tape there was a great deal of conversation concerning the fact that Wales and England are very different places, the people, customs, etc). We spent about six weeks over there at that time. We sailed from Montreal and returned by way of Montreal. By going that northern route the distance is shortened. But it was an eight day trip which I enjoyed. We left here in the middle of May and sighted icebergs. For 24 hours we had to sail through soft, crushed ice. The boats have to slow down because if they didn't, the steel plates on the side of the ship would be injured by the broken ice.

Mc While you were in Wales, were you able to find any relatives, or the old homes you had heard about?

C Well, this was just going back to Wales because I just went over the route which I covered the first time. My two cousins met us at the boat and hustled us through customs. We picked up a taxi and went to my cousin's home in a suburb of Liverpool. We made our headquarters there. From there we made these short trips: down to the southern part of England, Summerset and Schie (sp??.. sounds like Suchie), and we spent some time with a cousin of Harry's. He took us around that part of the country and then we came back up to Liverpool. From Liverpool we made a short trip over to Ireland, by air. Then we went to another part of Wales which was near Canaveral Castle (sp?) and stayed with a Grippa Perry (sp??) family. He is the one who is now a script writer for B.B.C.

- C That was the home where the Prince of Wales visited. (Note: See the accompanying news-clips).
- Mc Tell me about the Prince of Wales going to this house.
- C This was the first visit that any member of the royal family had made there in 600 years.
- Mc How did the Prince of Wales happen to go into your grandmother's home?
- C I am not sure except it might be through this Grippa Perry (sp?) who writes for the B.B.C. (British Broadcasting Corporation), because his brother, at Bangor University, was the man who had taught the Prince of Wales a few sentences in the Welsh language. It might have been through that combination. ... Of course it rained! They were supposed to have a picnic outdoors but it rained, as usual, so they had the buffet lunch in my grandmother's dining room. This was in 1969 that the Prince had gone there.
- C In 1970 my husband died after a fairly short illness and he was buried in Rome, New York next to his first wife, Elizabeth Edwards. The Edwards family have a very large plot in that cemetery.
- Mc Dorothy, you have been very active in community affairs. Would you tell us some of the things in which you have been involved?
- C I became involved with the first Girl Scout Council in Medina. Some of the members I remember particularly: Augusta Chater (sp?), who now lives in Soco, Maine; Mrs. John Shoemaker, Sr., Mrs. Mildred Rosenkrans; Addis Hartt - the sister of Ethel Helmkamp ; Christine Trippensee - the wife of the Superintendent of Schools ; and Marcia Skinner. Those are the only names I can recall quickly. But, we did found Girl Scouting in Medina and we had our office upstairs, in the building which was destroyed by fire at the corner of Main Street and East Center Street.
- Mc What was the approximate date of the Girl Scout Council?
- C I would say possibly 1945, or 6, or 7. Somewhere along in there. It was after I was married, I am sure.

..... End of tape #1, side 2

First Royal visit for 700 years

Now it is Charles, the interviewer

THE USUAL roles were reversed when the Prince of Wales came to Wales on an unheralded visit yesterday to make a short film about the Welsh countryside.

Instead of being asked questions Prince Charles did the asking at three villages.

The film is to illustrate the theme which he is urging through the work of his Countryside Committee for Wales.

Prince Charles arrived in a helicopter of the Queens Flight at Aber, near Bangor, where he went to Madryn Farm, the home of Mr Ifor Wynn Jones, a leading Welsh farmer.

They walked round the farm and Prince Charles questioned Mr Jones closely about the problems facing agriculture in North Wales.

Then the helicopter took the Prince together with his equerry, Squadron Leader David Checketts and Dr Tom Pritchard, secretary of the Prince's Countryside Committee, to Sarn, a little village on the Lleyn peninsula.

Welsh greeting

There he interviewed Mr Gruffydd Parri, a fifty-three-year-old school-teacher. He questioned him on the Welsh rural scene. He is the brother of Dr Thomas Parry—the brothers spell their surname differently—who was until this summer Principal of the University College, Aberystwyth, where the Prince learned to speak Welsh.

Mr Parri, head of the English department at the 17th century grammar school at Botolphog, South Caernarvonshire, said: "The Prince is an extremely able interviewer. I think some television interviewers had better watch out."

The helicopter landed on a level fifty yards from Mr Parri's farmhouse. The Prince greeted Mr Parri and his family in Welsh: "Sut ydych chi" (How are you?).

Mr Parri, a well known scriptwriter and author of a Welsh travel book said: "From the word go, Prince Charles put me at ease. He questioned me in detail about the country area I have lived in for the past 20 years.

"Obviously he is carrying out his promise at his Investiture to become interested in the life of the people of Wales and their background. He has a genuine interest in us."

Plan spoilt

Wind and drizzle spoilt plans to entertain Prince Charles to a picnic lunch in a field fringed in the distance by a view of the tip of the Lleyn Peninsula and of Cardigan Bay. Instead a buffet was laid on in the oldest room in the farmhouse.

Then the Prince flew across Cardigan Bay, over

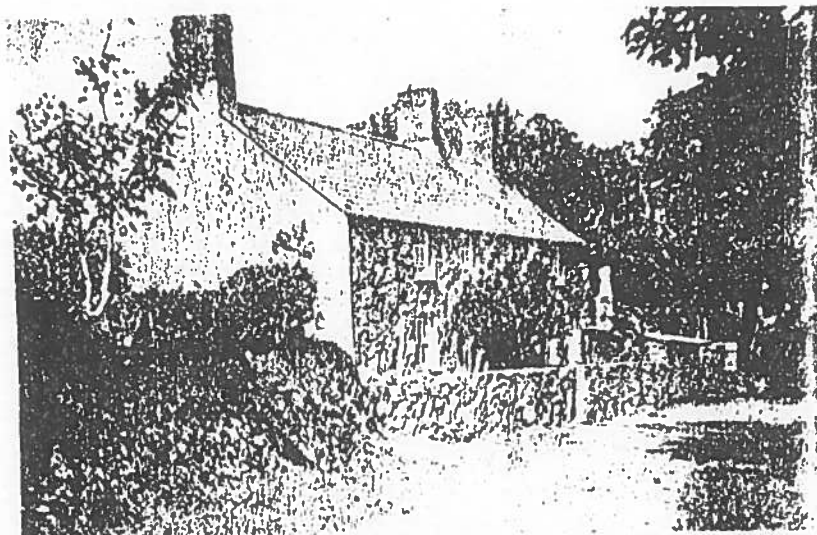
Aberystwyth, to nearby Peniwen. The helicopter landed at Tan-y-frynnon, the farm of seventy-five year-old Mr Dafydd Edwards.

Tan-y-frynnon is not only a big hill farm with cattle, sheep and ponies, but is a working museum of Welsh agriculture for Mr Edwards keeps there a wide selection of old farm implements of days gone by.

Prince Charles put many questions to him about the way things have changed and was particularly interested in Mr Edwards' work in breeding Welsh ponies and the comeback they are making.

Later Prince Charles rejoined his helicopter and left for Cardiff.

He will arrive by helicopter at Prestatyn raceway this morning for the start of his two-day visit to Denbighshire and Flintshire.



Grandmother's Home, Wales

This is Helen McAllister in Medina, New York interviewing MRS. DOROTHY ROBERTS COX of Medina, New York.

This is TAPE 2.

Mc Dorothy, would you tell us other Medina activities that you have been interested in ?

C At one time, believe it or not, I headed the Fund Drive for the Girl Scouts and spent hours up in the back bedroom counting pennies and dimes and nickels and covering areas that other people did not cover. I have been a member of the American Association of University Women, in fact I am a charter member. I don't think there's another one left in Medina at the present time. I belong to the Wildwood Twig.; The Presbyterian Church. For a few years I did volunteer work at the hospital. In fact I was working at that hospital when Susan Knights was born which was in 1942. So off and on over the years I have done volunteer work at the reception desk.

Mc We are sitting here talking at your lovely home at 115 Roseland Avenue and you have said that this house was one of the first, if not the very first new house to be built --

C It was the first new house that was built on this property on Roseland Avenue. That was in 1911. My father bought two lots, one facing Roseland Avenue, the other facing Ensign. Shall we say a few words about these streets: Roseland Avenue was named after the wife of Mr. Meade who was the man who sold this property. Ensign Avenue was named after a member of his family. Worthy was named after a member of this family and of course Meade was named after himself and Elwood was named so. Each street was named after a member of the Meade family. In later years the Mead family moved out to California.

Mc What was Mr. Mead's business ?

C I don't that he had a business. I don't know but what he inherited this big farm.

Mc Is he the one who had the grandiose name of "Brooklyn Heights" for this whole area ?

C I don't know whether that was his idea or whether it was the promoters idea, but it was known as a new development called "Brooklyn Heights". No one remembers that. It never stuck. It was very quickly forgotten.

Mc Except that there were brochures out on it.

C We only find it in the ad for the one day sale and it may be in the search of the property. My searches are in the safe deposit box so I can not refer to them right now. The people who settled on this street were mostly of English origin, second generation. The first house on the north side was built by Mr. Fisher, who was a carpenter and builder. The next house was built by Dan Bigelow. The third by Ralph Roberts who was an electrician. The fourth by John Miller who was a builder and contractor and who sold it immediately to the Warren family. The house next to mine was built by Mr. Miller for his own occupancy with the idea of an apartment on the second floor for income when he retired.

Mc Is that the house that has the unusual basement ?

C That house has a beautiful stone basement which was taken from the old Academy School and I think laid by a handsome Italian, I believe by the name of Nenni but I can not prove that. # 115, of course, is this home. The next home beyond was built by Clare Waterson and his wife. Mrs. Waterson is at Orchard Manor ^{Nursing Home} at the present time. The next house was built by a family by the name of White, and the one beyond that was built by this same John Miller, a very large house occupied by Brinsmaids. The Millers had only one daughter and she died during the flu epidemic. So this left the two of them and they decided that house was too large so that ~~it was~~ when he built the house at 113 and sold the large house. From then on I couldn't quite tell you who occupied the homes, who built them, but across the street the house was built by William Taylor who later had the Taylor Furniture Factory. He had three

daughters and a son who were raised there. The house east of there was built by Mr. and Mrs. James Bacon. That would be the father and mother of Armond Bacon, and Barbara. The one beyond that was built by Arthur Waterson who was a supervisor, I think he was called, at the S.A. Cook Building on East Avenue. The one beyond that was built a Bennett family on a piece of property that my father sold to them, a lot that he sold to them. The next one built by a big policeman named William McGinn. It has since been sold and occupied by the Warren family. Beyond that was one built by the Billingshams and one built by Mr. Balcerzak with the idea of using it himself but later sold to the Payjack family. The Payjack children grew up in that home. About the last one up there was built by the Parker family. The daughter, Tiny Parker, had a beauty shop for several years. The one at the very end of the street on the south side was built by Mr. Ward.

Mc I think you remember remarkably well. You probably remember when the Timmerman house was moved. (See Loke transcrip

C I remember that a Timmerman house where their children grew up was located about where the cannon is on the State Street Park. I have no idea why it was moved but it was moved to the corner of State Street and Ensign Avenue where it is now located. As years went by these back streets began to be developed, Ensign first and then Worthy and then Elwood, and today they are pretty much built up.

Mc Is the building that was the Elizabeth Street School, is that now a private dwelling ?

C Yes, the old Elizabeth Street School is now a private dwelling, it was a red brick building years ago but it had been painted white and I think it is a two family apartment house.

Mc Dorothy can you remember when the sewer line was first put in and you no longer had to rely on backhouses ?

C I do not remember when. I remember incidents. I remember it being difficult to go downtown when State Street was so torn up. I do remember that we had an outhouse at this house for a very short time. I also remember that my father had to pay to have the street paved with concrete.

(NOTE: Photo of Timmerman house : page 31)

See
page

He had to pay his half. And then of course the sidewalks were put in and he had to pay for the sidewalks, and then there was the sewer and then there was the water.

Mc Can you remember before the sidewalks were put down as they are now ?

C I think I do. I think when I was in high school there was no sidewalk.

Mc Do you remember catching the trolley out here on East Avenue ?

C Oh, do I remember catching the trolley - - that's how I got to Brockport. At the corner of State Street and East Center.

Of course over the years things have changed and now we are more cosmopolitan. We have people of Polish background, we have people of Italian background, in fact we have a Polish refugee family living in the small house that was moved to Roseland Avenue from some area of the farm. Due to the fact that we have so many different backgrounds this street is no more a neighborhood street. At one time it was very much of a neighborhood. If there was trouble in one family the other families came through and helped, but today someone can be very ill on this street and no one else on the street knows anything about it. We all keep to ourselves very much.

Mc I think this is a way of life in almost every neighborhood.

C It could be, yes.

Mc Each home has its own swimming pool, etc.

C And we lock our doors, we don't leave our doors open for our neighbors to walk in.

Mc Even though we have good police protection in Medina.

C This is true. But it is "to each his own" and each one minds his own business and pays no attention to the others. It's a bit sad.

I could list the names of the people who originally bought lots on this street. All of them did not build but most of them have their roots in a section called "The English Settlement" which extends from the Horan Road to the Erin Road and forms the boundry of the Village of Medina. There was the Waterasons, the Bacons,

Mc Grey ?

C Two families of Watersons. Of course there was the Roberts. I would be willing to bet that there were about ten people who had their roots in that area of Medina, who bought their lots on this track of land. But some of them decided not to build and later sold them to someone else who did.

At the northern boundry of the Village of Medina there is a section which was better known as "The English Settlement" because it had been settled originally by English people from the east coast of England and they had built their homes approximately 120 years ago. The first house was owned by Grandma Greenacre. Her first husband was a Waterson. Grandma Greenacre was a Midwife and she attended the birth of a great many of the children who were born in that area. In fact I was one of Grandma Greenacre's babies.

Mc Is that right! When a midwife helped with the delivery, was there usually a doctor present too?

C I don't think so.

Mc That's interesting.

C The house next to the Chippendale, or Grandma Greenacre's home, was built was Robert Bates who owned a small quarry on the Horan Road. At the foot of the hill was a home of Mr. and Mrs. James Grey and Mrs. Grey was the daughter of Mrs. Salina Bacon who lived on the Erin Road just around the corner. The house at the corner of Erin and Maple Avenue was occupied by a family by the name of Romp.

Right now I am giving you the names of the homes on the south side which was incorporated in the village. On the north side beginning at the corner of the Horan Road we have the family by the name of Beza, a Polish family. Their house was a more recently built, more modern, and I remember they lost a little eight year old boy when I was about the same age. He died of diphtheria.

Then we have a couple of homes owned by families named Romp. Next to that would be the Harmer house, William Harmer. His wife was the sister of George Garrett. Across from the Grey home was the home owned by Harmer,

Charles Harmer. Then there was a little street which went north from Charles Harmer's home called Cherry Street. I do not remember the names of the people who lived on Cherry Street, but west of the Harmer house was one owned by a family named Novitski, I believe that's the spelling. Our place consisted of two and a half acres. There was a number of apple trees, pear trees, plum trees, good size pasture land, a half acre of pasture land. When I was small we owned a cow, one or two pigs, some chickens, and later a pony - - and a pony cart.

Mc Did you ever ride in the pony cart ?

C I rode in it yes, but I never could drive it because this pony was a very high strung little mare.

Mc Was the pony cart something just for the fun of it or did your folks really use it for transportation ?

C You would use it for transportation. It was built apparently of wicker; heavy, heavy wicker and it was in the form of a square. The driver rode at the front and the passengers could ride at the side and the back. It had seats all around the four sides as I remember.

Mc Was there a covering over the top ?

C No covering over the top.

Mc So it would be a good weather vehicle ?

C I don't know. I suppose we took the rain in our stride. We probably never drove it in the winter. You see this is all very hazy in my mind.

Mc Do you remember if your parents put the pony in what was called horse barns ?

C Oh we had a large horse barn. That's where we put our cow too.

Mc I mean when you went downtown in Medina shopping.

C I don't think we did. I think we just went up to town and came back. I have no recollection of putting it in a barn. I don't know how we went to church. I don't know what happened to the pony while we were in church.

Mc I guess they may have called them drive barns rather than horse barns and there were a number of drive barns around Medina.

C Then there was such a thing in those days as a livery, you've heard of the livery stable. That's where they rented the animal.

Mc Tell us more about The English Settlement.

C There isn't too much that I can tell you except they came apparently all about the same time and just settled in there, and then they built a little meeting house. I said at one time that they had a small church but in speaking to Mr. Bacon he calls it a meeting house. But that was burned before I was born and a house owned by a Harmer family was built on the foundation of that little meeting house.

Mc As a child living here in the English Settlement, Mrs. Cox, did you feel any discrimination against you ?

C I think I felt a bit of discrimination. I think people in that neighborhood ~~they~~ did resent my father and mother. They resented them because apparently my father was aⁿ excellent workman. He cut the stone and we lived in winter off the estate, as you call it, because we had our cow, we had our pig, we had our chickens and plenty of fruit canned and it is surprising how well you can live when you have all those things supplied and know how to handle them. I think I was very well fed as a child. There was always plenty of milk and there was pork and there was canned fruit. Apparently I had my vitamins.

Mc Were there other families from Wales that lived in The English Settlement ?

C No, they were all apparently right from the same spot on the north east coast of England. In fact they were from fishing villages. I don't know why but I can remember them being called "Herring Chasers". There were other families in that neighborhood. They weren't confined to Maple Avenue exclusively because there were some Bacons on the Horan Road north of Maple Avenue and there were two or three families south of the intersection of Maple and the Horan Road. There was a family by the name of Brigham for one. Mr. Brigham looked like some of our young people today. He had a heavy beard and the children were frightened of Mr. Brigham because of the beard. I remember very well being threatened by my mother - - "Mr. Brigham would get me if I didn't behave."

fences to divide the properties. We had another one around at the back of our property too. In fact that whole piece of land was bounded by stone walls and they were apparently built by Mr. Bates.

Mc Did most of the people who lived in The English Settlement work in the quarries ?

C All of them worked in the stone quarries in the beginning. Later they began working over in the foundries. Also some of them began working at S.A. Cooks small factory. In fact the Waterson boys, Clare and Arthur and Leo, all started working when they were 14 to 16 years old and all three of them I believe worked at the S.A. Cook factory. Arthur Waterson, Velma Conklin's father, later became superintendent of the new factory on East Avenue, the new S.A. Cook factory. He is one who started working when he was either 14 or 16 years old.

Mc That was quite common in those days.

C Young people worked and they weren't getting into mischief at night. Their parents knew where they were. They were home asleep because they were exhausted from their days work. There was practically no crime among our own young people. The only crime we had in those days was among the Italian people and that was confined to their own people. They quarreled among themselves but they never interfered with anyone else.

Mc Since your parents were from Wales and this was The English Settlement, did you have Afternoon Tea ?

C Oh, no. My mother used to make scones.

Mc Is that a Scottish biscuit ?

C I don't know, it probably is. I've never tried to make them but I can remember Mother making them for tea in the afternoon. But we had no occasion. Life was more grim but we always had our tea for our own meals. On Sundays we used to have coffee. Only on Sundays.

Mc Did most of the women stay at home ?

C Always the women stayed at home. I don't know of any woman who left her home.

Mc Even if they didn't have children they stayed at home ?

C Apparently. But they all had children. That was the thing; you married and you had children, and some of them

- C Then on the Erin Road, you see, there was another Bacon family related to the Grey family. In fact Mrs. Heitz's mother was a Bacon. She was Emma Bacon and married a Grey. (NOTE: See transcript of Helen Heitz).
- Mc Most of the houses were built of wood?
- C Entirely of wood, and with several chimneys because they probably had a stove in more than one room. I know we did. We had a large iron stove in the kitchen and then we had one of those beautiful big round "oaks" they were called, in the living room and the pipe went up through the ceiling to warm the bedroom upstairs.
- Mc Dorothy as we continue talking about The English Settlement which is a part of Medina and no longer called the English Settlement and you lived there as a young girl, you and I went for a drive the other day and went down through there, and there are still some stone walls that border a number of properties. What do you remember about those?
- C I do remember that there was a stone wall from the corner of our lawn all the way down the road as far as perhaps the Heitz's family home is, and then there was another stone wall running north and south which was a boundary between our two acres and our half acre. There were stone walls from there leading on into the Erin Road where the Bacon family lived. I would be able to go down to the end of our pasture lot, climb over the fence, over the stone wall, and go on over to the Salina Bacon home on Erin Road. Those stone walls have disappeared. I'm not sure where our stone wall went but I have a suspicion that my father used that stone for our basement of this house. He cut it.
- Mc This house on Roseland Avenue?
- C Yes.
- Mc You said that there were various sizes of stones used?
- C The stone used in the fence was all sizes. It was stone found on the surface of the ground and they called them "hard heads" — Round stones. I suppose they were probably deposited by glaciers. There were a great many of them on the surface and they were collected and built into stone

died trying to prevent themselves from having the children after they thought they had too many. In fact I could cite two cases like that.

Mc They would try their own abortions ?

C I would imagine so, something like that, yes.

Mc When your father worked in the stone quarry as a young child, did you often go to him and take his lunch to him or lemonade ?

C During the summer in the hot weather my father was a great lemonade drinker. I've often thought he certainly had his supply of Vitamin C. I used to walk over to a little quarry on the Horan Road which was just around the corner really from our place, very often, and take my father a big pitcher of cold lemonade.

Mc Do you remember the ice wagon delivering ice ?

C Yes, I remember our oak ice box. I think we had it in The English Settlement, I'm not sure, but I know we had it after we reached - - but I know we had an oak ^{ice box} ~~refrigerator~~ that loaded from the top here on Roseland Avenue for a number of years and I remember when we bought our first refrigerator and that was in the 1930s. Ralph Roberts, an electrician, lived down the street and he took my mother and father and me and a guest I had from Long Island, he took us all to, I think, Buffalo to pick out our refrigerator.

Mc In The English Settlement the number of Polish families kept coming in didn't they ?

C They did later but they've never had more than two families. The one on the corner of the Horan Road, the Viza family, and then this Novitski family. I never knew what became of them. I never heard anything of that family. I think they drifted to Buffalo. But the same two families really are the only ones on Maple Avenue. But then if you turn the corner and went up the Erin Road today you have a great many Polish families but previous to that they were all Irish. That's why it was called Paddy Hill. The Irish people settled on that road long before the Polish did. The Irish, as you know, were brought here to work on the Erie Canal.

Mc How did they get along with The English Settlement people ?

C They did. But as they died off the Polish people bought

those homes and became almost entirely Polish. No more Paddy Hill, it became a Polish street. Pleasant Street, which is right across from the bridge over here, is supposedly about a Main Street of Medina at one time. Did you know that ?

Mc No.

C A friend of mine, Mary Raymondjack, lives over there and I was talking to her the other day and she said: "You know this was supposed to be Main Street." And her little stone house is practically the first house that was ever built in Medina. I wish you could talk to her because I think she could tell you some things about the past.

Mc Maybe that can be worked in.

Paddy Hill was for the Irish and this changed and became Erin Road ?

C No, the official name was always Erin Road but colloquialism called it Paddy Hill.

Mc You said they had their own school ?

C They had a little white school house over there. I could almost point it out to you. A woman by the name of Miss Dillon taught in that little white school house. It was a one room type of school house.

Mc Was that just for the Irish children ?

C No, for whoever lived on that road and that was in operation when I was over here at Elizabeth School. Instead of having those children come to the Elizabeth School they had their own little school over on the Erin Road.

Mc Was St. Mary's School or the Polish School going at that time ?

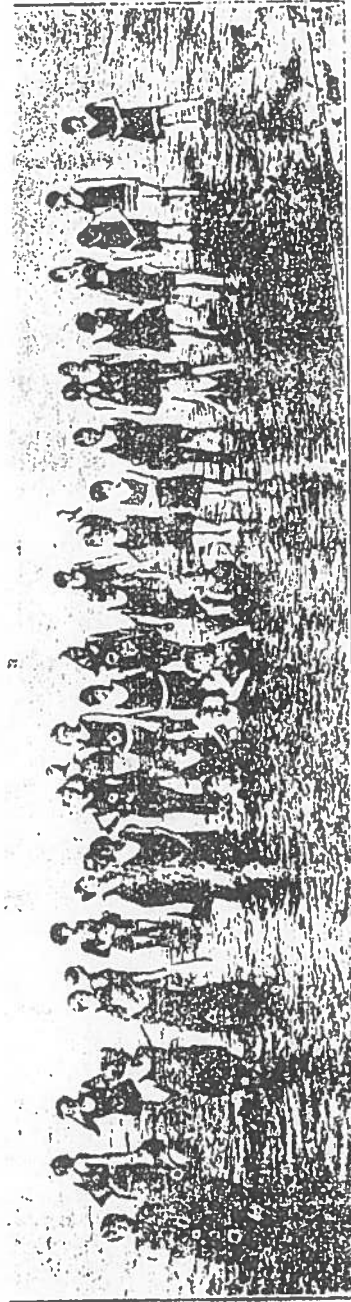
C I don't think there was any such thing in those days. They came into being later.

Mc Would you tell us what you remember about Camp Nundawaga ?

C I can tell you when Camp Nundawaga was first established I was a tent leader at first. We would have about six girls in each tent with one tent leader besides and for two or three years I was a tent leader and then in 1923 I was the Camp Director. At that time there were 75 girls at the camp. The director of community work was there at the camp at the time we were there. The boys always came for two weeks earlier than the girls and as it happened they

CAMP NUNDAWAGA

A Summer Vacation Training Camp operated for the benefit of Boys and Girls of Medina and Vicinity by Medina Community Service Work. Located North of Millers, on Shore of Lake Ontario.
SEASON 1925.



Girls Camp Enrolling the Girls

MEMBERSHIP ROLL GIRLS' CAMP 1925

Number of different girls registered for Camp season: Louise Wheeler, *Marjorie Hawkins, Evelyn Greene, Dorothy Greene, *Dorothy Bell, Helen Hartz, *Eleanor Smalley, Alice Bates, *Verna Wheeler, *Jane DeVicq, Francis Bentley, *Hazel Bartlett, *Mary Covell, Marjorie Bryde, *Lucile White, *Francis Stevens, Gertrude McDermott, *Delight Wolf, Eleanor Salisbury, *Jane Nagel, *Laura Rowley, Mary Burchell, Virginia Beebe, *Gertrude Broughton, *Francis Hall, *Barbara Munson, *Maecia Muns, *Margaret Brady, Florence Boyle, *Louise Mackey, *F. Cherta Allis, *Catherine Fumacch, Edna Meland, *Margaret Ehrman, *Pauline Hise, Eleanor McGuffee, Jessie Babbett, Edna Elsom, Violet

Axtell, Alice Sanborn, Helen Venema, Mildred Cady, Gladys Foote, Grace Joy, *Elizabeth Jensen, *Marcia Brown, *Dorothy Warren, *Jeane Brodie, *Dorothy Ehrman, *Mary Lodge, *Lillian Boyle, *Janet Whedon, *Sibyl Waters, *Henrietta Jeffery, *Margaret Crandall, Ruth Schalber, *Josephine Coe, Mae Hunter, *Ruth Austin, *Lorraine Snell, *Eleanor Goodwin, Ruth Goodwin, Bernadine Parker, Helen Stocking, *Margaret Stocking, *Elizabeth Rumsey, *Emily Packard, *Virginia Peterson, *Flora Pusson, *Margaret Pusson, *Marion Darrone, Mary Irwin, *Ruth Neff, Jane Vosler, Shirley Baldwin, Ruth Larson, Beryl Weber, *Helen White, *Margaret Foster, *Ruth Moulton, Dorothy Hoyer, Elizabeth Hayes

Elva Sandersen, Frances Holmes, Harriet Chapman, Gertrude Holmes, *Gertrude Arnett.

*Camp Diploma *First Year Award

GIRLS' CAMP

Dorothy Roberts --- Medina
Miss Douglass --- Medina
Catherine Whipple --- Medina
Helen Hutchinson --- Medina
Lucy McNail --- Alton
Betty McFadden --- Middleport
Alice Wheeler --- Middleport
Marjorie Henner --- Medina
Gertrude Skinner --- Medina
Dorothy Rice --- Medina
Harriet Chapman --- Medina
Margaret Buck --- Buffalo
Elizabeth Warren --- Buffalo



"SITTING UP" EXERCISES

SWIMMING CLASSES

One of the features of camp life most enjoyable to the campers, and most beneficial to them also, was the daily classes in swimming under competent leaders.

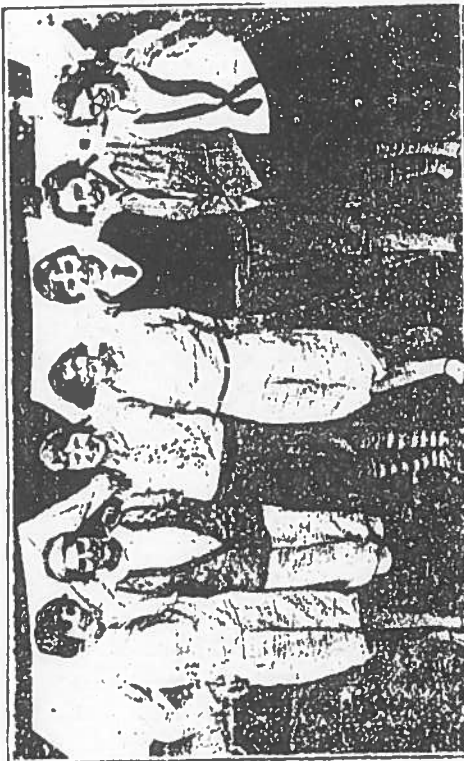
The swimmers were divided into three groups:

The elementary class, which consisted mostly of the younger boys who were learning the first rudiments of how to swim.

The beginners class was the second group, in which those who were able to swim slightly but not expertly were being taught the art in a more detailed manner.

The expert swimmers were the third group, and here all the boys and girls being expert swimmers spent most of their time in various water frolics.

All of the above classes were under the supervision of expert swimmers and the entire lesson each was supervised from the shore by Chief Seabrook and his assistants.



TENT LEADERS—1925 GIRLS' CAMP

1925 GIRLS' CAMP

Activities and Report by Secretary
On Work Accomplished

July 22—August 12, 1925

EDUCATIONAL CLASSES		
Nature Study	18	1004
First Aid	18	1004
Physical Education	19	1000
Bible Study	19	1004
Basket Making	18	325
Camp Shade Making	18	350
Archery	3	26
Camp Leadership	18	1004
Carpentry	14	280
SPECIAL EVENTS		
Work Trial	1	68
Water Race	1	72
Relays	2	52
Masquerade Party	1	72
Working Services	3	200
Talk by Dr. Croft of Albany	1	12
Camp Pageant	1	50
Stunt Nights	6	360
Play	1	100
20 girls were taught to swim	20	1261
class of 35 non-swimmers.		
Actual camp attendance of girls:		
During first week	-----	61
During second week	-----	63
During third week	-----	61

BOYS CAMP FEATURE INDIAN PAGEANT

Over three hundred visitors viewed the Indian Pageant at Camp Nundawaga July 22nd, and enjoyed the historical spectacle which was performed in pantomime by the boy campers as the closing event of their three weeks of camp life at Nundawaga.

The pageant was opened by Dr. William McFadden, of Middleport, specialist in Indian lore, who explained in detail the formation of the League of Nations, which was the subject of the pageant.

Dekendewedi, a Wyandotte Indian from the Algonquin County, impersonated by "Eggs" Ross, was discovered approaching a new land in a canoe from the lake. After building his council fire for the night, this Indian, Dekendewedi, was ambushed by the local Indians of that vicinity; but the result of the ambush was a friendly conference and council, as a result of which the idea of the Council of the League of Nations was conceived by Dekendewedi.

Runners were sent to each of the neighboring tribes, the braves of which arrived in separate groups and held independent councils to discuss the subject of the formation of the league. Favorable action was taken by each tribe in the matter of joining the league and the general council between the tribes was then held to approve the formation of the league.

Impersonated by Carl Wolff, who was the eloquent spokesman for Dekendewedi, dominated the council, and as a grand finale the league was formed and the tribes dispersed to their various hunting grounds.

The Oneida Tribe was headed and coun- ciled by Chief Bob Crisp; The Mohawks by Chief Benny Goldman; The Cayugas by Chief Charles Salbury; The Onondagas by Chief LeRoy Gaze; and The Senecas by Chief

Immediately following the closing of the pageant, the camp was evacuated by the boys and sixty girls' campers took possession.

July 1 to July 22, 1925 EDUCATIONAL CLASSES

	Total
Bible Study	19
Woodcraft	1098
First Aid	449
Nature Study	449
Camp Leadership	449
Life Saving	180
Campercraft	449
	64
	2904

SPECIAL EVENTS

Morning services	3	180
Water Carnival	2	125
Fencing Services	2	250
Track & Field Meets	2	120
Minstrel Show	1	68
Indian Pageant	1	300
Stunt Nights	5	300
Roast	1	60
Shadigee Hike	1	52
	19	1455

18 boys were taught to swim from a class of 19 non-swimmers.

25 boys in life-saving class.

Actual Camp attendance:

During first week	50
During second week	62
During third week	61
	183

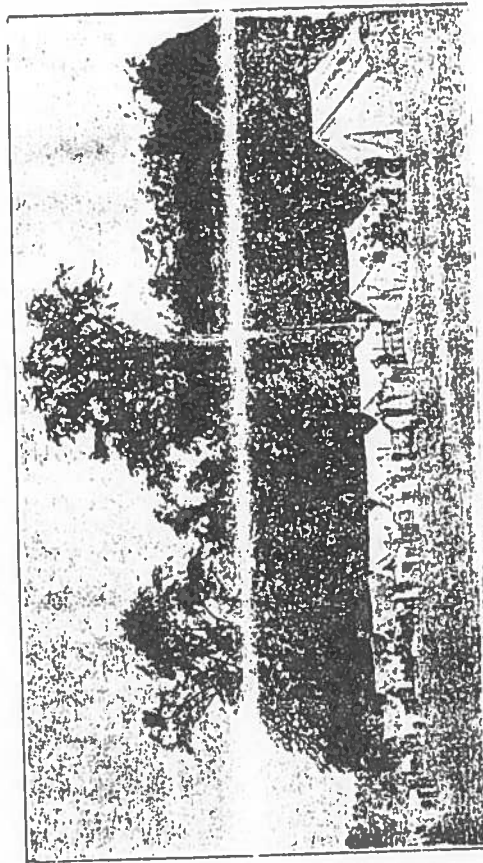
Number of boys from each place:
Medina 54, Albion 17, Holley 4, Middleport 9, Knowlesville 1, Waterport 1, Buffalo 1.
Total, 87.

Number of business and professional men who addressed boys at Campfire: 12.

The following people gave special treats to the boys: Dr. Trolley, Mr. VanStone, Mr. Bickle, Mr. Posson, Dr. Tanner, A. B. Potter, Mr. Fitzgibbons, Mr. and Mrs. Thiel, D. A. Barnes, Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Thiel, J. D. Lott, Mr. Raymond, Watson Barry, Irving Rowley, Robert Newell, H. LeBaron Hartt.

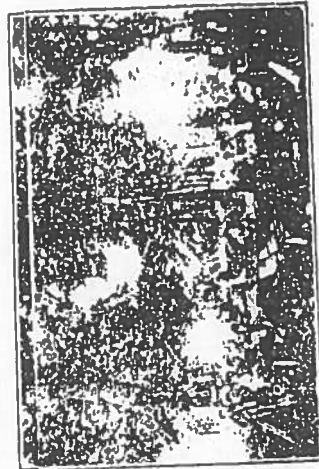
CAMP LEADERS

BOYS' CAMP	Medina
Harold Waters	Medina
John Watt	Medina
Jim Menke	Medina
George Horner	Medina
Fred Ryan	Medina
Joe Fay	Medina
Ray Mattoon	Medina
Robert Cree	Rochester



1925 BOYS' CAMP RAISING THE FLAG

win, Robert Robinson, Gordon Swartz, ckes, *Franklin Waters, *Kenneth Crapman, *Carlton Waters, *Bernie Goldran, *Adrian Koss, *Neiman G. et al, Sanley Hill, *Jack Curvin, Preston Mytil, *Charles Cook, Hervey Hill, John Burgoon, *Donald Raymond, Robert Hoyer, Daniel Bennett, John Lent, Delmont Mallison, Gordon Richards, *Leigh Standish, Arthur Whittleton, James Payne.
*Camp Diploma
**First Year Award
***Cadet Emblem



MEMBERSHIP ROLL BOYS' CAMP 1925

Number of different boys registered for Camp season:

Hamilton Watson, LeRoy Gaze, *Vincent White, Smith Munson, Robert Nagle, Donald Sheret, Watson Lobbett, Wilson Palmer, Daniel Quirk, Francis O'Donnell, *Judson Gilbert, *Robert Crisp, *William Mackey, Howard Eisenhauer, James White *Daniel Mahar, *David Jensen, *William Beedom, Homer Brown, *Donald VanStone *Charles Payne, William McKenna, James Finn, Bernard Hart, Edward Burchell, Herbert Pictler, Walter Holmes, Richard Menke, Robert Menke, Donald Shaw, *Adrian Fitzgibbons, Glenn Howard, ***Wilford Grattrick, William Spears, Charles Montgomery, Fierman Butts, William Mahar, Donald Tillman, *Harold El-Burchell, ***Jerome Skinner, Harold Elsom, ***A. J. Eaton, Charles Shanley, Howard Elsom, ***Charles Salisbury, *Karl Shultz, *John Bundock, Fletcher Johnson, *Brace Harris, Stanley Woodside, *Arthur Woods-ton, Edward Siple, Robert Towsey, *Nel-son Sears, *Edward Sears, Donald Bregge, *Leigh Bowman, Robert Orcutt, *Donald Johnson, *Harry A. Foltz, Maurice Sher

would strike better weather than we did in August. We were more apt to have rainy weather. Besides having these tents there was a large building which housed the kitchen and was sort of a conference room and we would go up to that building for our meals and then if we had any social activities they took place in that. During bad weather, on rainy days, we would do craft work there. We had a director of craft work who was one of our teachers and we made baskets and we worked with raffia and also we did sewing and we did some knitting. We had a first aid class.

Mc This was not a part of the Girl Scouts or Boy Scouts was it ?

C I don't think we had ever heard of Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts at that time. They came to town later. But we had very fine instruction in the arts. One year when I was a tent leader I taught the first aid. We would bandage and take care of the girls ankles and so forth. At that time we were fed by a woman who was quite a noted catereress in Medina and our food was excellent.

Mc Do you remember her name ?

C Mattie Cook. At night we would always have a campfire and circle around the campfire and Mattie Cook would have fresh popcorn for us in large tin basins and during our meals we would have potato salad with real cream. We had delicious food because of Mattie Cook. In fact I have some of her recipes yet. As time went on the Depression came and some of our short-sighted fathers sold that campsite which was really a very sad thing to have happened.

Mc Where was Camp Nundawaga located ?

C It was located on the farm occupied by a family named Teal. We had a lane which ran down to the water and we were just to the west of the Thirty Mile Lighthouse along the shoreline of Lake Ontario. They sold it off after these men of Medina had gone down there and worked and built those floors for the tents. They had built the buildings. They had put in flush toilets and practically all that work was done by volunteers, prominent men of Medina. Whoever sold it I don't know, I wasn't here at the time and I don't know who was responsible. They should hang their head in shame for it! It's some sort of a Bible school or something now.

Mc During the Depression time a lot of ^{such} things happened.

- C I know but they could have hung onto that. They might have paid a little of the taxes on the property, but there couldn't have been anything else.
- Mc Someone was probably frightened and just moved too quickly. This little newspaper you have "The Community Service Bulletin" we'll photo-copy and put with your interview so that other people can see this. I see lots of familiar names from Medina and some pictures and I'm sure no one will recognize anybody.
- C In the later years Mr. Barnes came over here from Canada. Mr. David Barnes was the community leader and he worked with the boys for several years before he decided to retire and go into business. In 1923 Mr. Barnes taught several of us how to wind wires around a oatmeal carton and make a little radio. In fact I made one. We were able to get a panel of hardwood and I had it set up in our dining room and it operated with a large car battery. So we had a radio in 1923 built by Mr. Barnes and Dorothy Cox ✓
- Mc That was about when radios first came it wasn't it ?
- C Yes.
- Mc Was there a YMCA here at one time that he was a part of ?
- C Way, way back there was a Y. Almost before my time. Because some of the Slacks, there were two or three Slack boys, and they were fairly prominent in that but they were grown men when I was a small child. I don't know what ever happened to the YMCA.
- Mc But David Barnes was not a part of that ?
- C Oh no. He was community boys, definitely.
- Mc And community boys was not Boy Scouts or Boys Brigade ?
- C No. I wish there was someone who could tell us more about that.
- Mc When you said David Barnes went into business, it was the furniture business ?
- C Right. After he had been with the boys community work for a number of years he finally, I believe, went into partnership with Mr. Hartt.
- Mc Then he went into the funeral business ?
- C Right. They combined, they still continued to have the furniture store and the funeral business too.
- Mc Then eventually Mr. Barnes had that and then Walt Tuttle with him.

Community Service Bulletin

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NOV. 7, 1925

VOL. I. No. 1.

1925 History of Camp Nundawaga

For many years Camp Nundawaga, located on Lake Ontario, at Thirty Mile Point, has been successful in promoting a constructive outdoor program for the boys and girls of Medina and vicinity. This year it was very gratifying to the Committee and Community Secretary to find such a splendid response for admission to the Camp.

It was decided early in the season to operate the Camp this year two weeks longer than any previous season. This made possible the boys going for the first three weeks and the girls for the last three weeks. It was doubtful whether or not enough enrollment could be secured to operate three weeks, but such a splendid response and eagerness for the longer period was shown that the Camp period was filled completely and many camps a from long distances had to be refused a place.

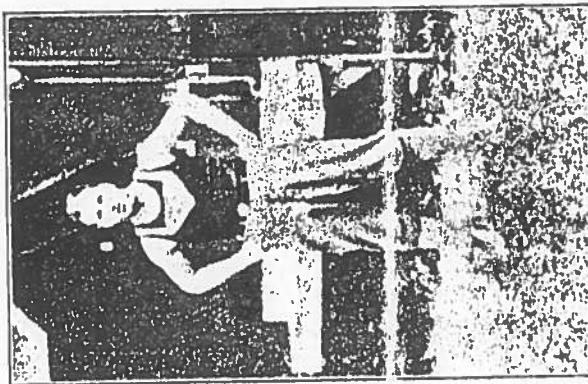
Many improvements were installed this year by the permanent Camp Committee, headed by Mr. Watson F. Barry and Mr. Homer A. Webb. The Directors worked untiringly to get all in readiness for the opening of Camp July 1st and installed the best type sanitation useable for camping purposes. The road was repaired and a new fence was put in so as to make more convenient the approach to the Camp.

Each year the equipment has been added to until Camp Nundawaga affords one of the best equipped Camps in the western part of this State.

Many have suggested that Camp be operated next year for four weeks, which speaks for itself the reputation the Camp has made for itself in the heart of the boys and girls who attend.

BOY SCOUTS

Under the direction of D. A. Barnes and Mr. Kenline there has been connected a piece of Boy Scout work. These men have met these boys each week and have planned for them a real program of scouting, which



"CHIEF" SEABROOK

Chief Seabrook, as Secretary and Manager of the Medina Boys' Community Work, comes to Medina with every qualification of thorough training and rich in experience in handling problems having to do with the welfare of boys and girls.

Chief has his office and headquarters in the Postoffice Building, on the first floor, and the boys and girls, as well as the grown-ups, of Medina and vicinity are always welcome there. Everybody should know Chief Seabrook.

WHAT THE COMMUNITY WORK FOR THE BOYS AND GIRLS OF MEDINA IS.

For the past twelve years the Community Boys' Work of Medina has been functioning here, making an enviable record. Medina in its splendid program of Community work for young people has been quoted, and many have been here to investigate the program for the smaller towns.

COMMUNITY SERVICE BULLETIN

Through the generous contributions of the great number of citizens of Medina and vicinity who responded so enthusiastically to the recent drive for funds, the splendid Boys' and Girls' Service Work will go on for another two years.

The scope of the activity of this work is becoming so great and the accomplishments so far reaching that the directors have deemed it wise to keep the contributors and the public generally informed constantly about the work by issuing each quarterly period of the year a review of the work accomplished during the preceding quarter, together with the treasurer's report and the prospective program for the next quarter.

This, the first issue of the Bulletin, is devoted largely to a report on the summer camp for boys and girls—Camp Nundawaga.

The present Board of Directors of the Community Work are as follows: Homer A. Webb, Erwin Rands, J. C. Fosson, William J. Krompart, Fred C. Tillman, Dr. Harry F. Tanner, Alonzo L. Waters, H. LeBaron Hartt, David A. Barnes, Watson F. Barry, William L. Bennett, Frank S. Howard, John W. Lincke, Ernest Hart, Dr. W. R. Trolley, William Darrone, F. M. Puler.

The officers of the Board are as follows: President, H. LeBaron Hartt; Vice President, Dr. Harry F. Tanner; Secretary, Alonzo L. Waters; Treasurer, F. M. Puler (filling out term of F. C. Tillman, resigned).

The Committee Chairman are as follows: Educational, Dr. Harry F. Tanner; Industrial, Erwin Rands; Recreational and Social, Dr. W. R. Trolley; Physical, F. M. Puler; Religious, D. A. Barnes; Advertising, Ernest Hart; Permanent Camp, Watson F. Barry; Camp Activity, Homer A. Webb; Community Extension, Alonzo L. Waters.

The Community Work Plans for the Fall and Winter Season

The Community Secretary presented to

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Under the direction of D. A. Barnes and Mr. Kenline there has been connected a piece of Boy Scout work. These men have met these boys each week and have planned for them a real program of scouting, which means so much to a boy from the age of 12 to 16. Many tests have been passed by the boys in ranking higher in scout craft. The Troop has met in the American Legion rooms, through the courtesy of the American Legion, and also at the State Armory, through the courtesy of the Armory officers.

Last Spring your new Secretary organized a Scout Troop. It was found that now there are two Scout Troops in Medina, with the possibility for even more. The boys met at the Community Office for their weekly meetings and instruction. The Troop was reorganized for the Fall and Winter work, following a summer's program at Camp Nundawaga.

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Its platform is to co-operate and assist any agency which is functioning for constructive betterment. It teaches a boy and girl to do right and to restrain them from doing wrong. That it is cheaper to prevent the crime than to cure the criminal. That every community should give its boys and girls the best of supervision and care. That only the child's supervision can be brought about by community cooperation, and to these aims and ideals the program herein described and planned for the coming Winter months is in every way constructed to help the boy or girl to make the best of their life.

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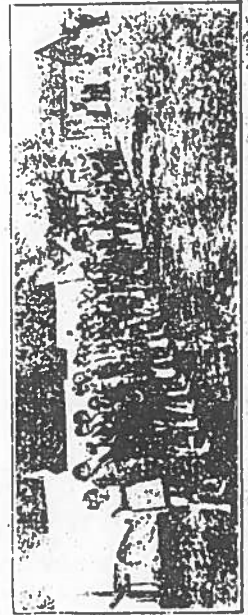
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The Community Work Plans for the Fall and Winter Season

The Community Secretary presented to the Board of Directors a two years' policy of work covering many wide and varied lines of activities.

This program was unanimously adopted by the Board, and the Bulletin from time to time will give its friends the outline of the work to be presented here. The program provides for the boys and girls from 10 years old up, and an effort will be made to promote the work at these ages. Scouts from 10 to 12, to organize Boy Scout Troops, and other programs wherever the need may be for the boys from 12 to 16. To continue the present High School Boys' Club, to develop the new Junior High Club as a permanent organization, to take a large delegation of Medina boys to the Ohio Boys' Conference at Niagara Falls, to promote a Father and Sons' Banquet, to organize a Boys' Club for the unemployed young men of this community, to organize an adequate organization for the younger girls from 10 to 12 years of age, to organize and develop the Camp Fire Girls or the Girl Scout Movement, which ever satisfies the need best, to organize a Business and Professional Women's Club for the girls engaged in business, to promote a Mother and Daughters' Banquet.

These are just a few of the many plans that are involved in the two years' program as planned by the Board of Directors and the Community Secretary.



1925 GIRLS' CAMP

- C He went into business with Mr. Barnes and then apparently bought the business himself eventually, probably after Mr. Barnes died. That funeral home was located on Pearl Street and it is the former home of Charles Swett.
- Mc I recently learned, from correspondence with Marshall Loke, that in this Charles Swett garage (which is now at the Tuttle Funeral Home) ~~that~~ at one time there was a large like lazy-susan where they would drive their car in the drive-way, into the garage, and then if they wanted to go out - -
- C You know that is called a turn-table because they use those on the railroad. The train coaches go in and are turned around and headed the other way.
- Mc Mr. Swett had one in his garage.
- C I had no idea about that. That's a lovely house.
- Mc This is about winding up our interview and since today is October 21st we know that election time is fast coming upon us. What do you remember about elections years ago ?
- C I remember practically nothing except the large posters people had in their windows with pictures of the candidates. I do remember McKinley and I do remember Teddy Roosevelt and it seems to me after McKinley, shortly after McKinley died, there was a picture of "The Three Martyrs". Do you remember Garfield, Lincoln and McKinley.
- Mc And those were placed in windows ?
- C I believe they were. It seems to be I've seen them or else I'm just thinking I saw them in the school building or something or that sort. But I do have the very faintest recollection of the return of the veterans from the Spanish American War. There was a large parade down Main Street and I was carried by my father to watch that parade. He carried me on his shoulders to watch that parade. I also remember the World's Fair at Buffalo which was in 1901. That's the place where McKinley was shot. We had newspapers perhaps but news did come slowly and I remember exactly where I stood when Alice Neal's father told me that McKinley had been shot.
- Mc That would have been Clare Waterson ?
- C Yes, he told me. They say we remember instances if we were highly tense and that those memories will stay with

- us. Like I remember being in a bank in Roslyn, Long Island when the news came through that Teddy Roosevelt had died. I remember right where I stood at the time.
- Mc Was there a parade in Medina at the end of World War II ?
- C There could have been but I wasn't here. I was on Long Island.
- Mc Medina has recently celebrated 150 years and we certainly had a big parade then.
- C We certainly did.
- I forgot to say that those homes in The English Settlement are at least 120 years old if not older.
- Mc A real part of the history of Medina.
- Mrs. Cox, thank you ever so much for this interview, I appreciate it and I know that future historians will.
- C I feel that I have only said about half as much as I should have and after you go home I'll think of a great many more things that I should have said.
- Mc Thank you.
- - - - -

Pages 16 - 30 transcribed and typed

by Lysbeth A. Hoffman, Lakeside Bluff, Waterport, N.Y.

Pages 1 - 15 transcribed by Mrs. Helen Mathes of Barre.

Pages 1 - 15 retyped, with some editing, by Helen McAllister,
of Medina, N.Y.

All xeroxing and compilation by H. McAllister.

It should again be noted that Mrs. Cox's death was very unexpected and that the interviewer (H. McAllister) has therefore been unable to verify the spelling of names, etc. All pictures and news clippings are thru the courtesy of Mrs. Dorothy Cox.

Mrs. Cox Dies **12/7/82 At Erie** **Medical Center**

Mrs. Dorothy R. Cox, 86, of 115 Roseland Ave., died Monday at the Erie County Medical Center.

Mrs. Cox was born May 12, 1896 the daughter of the late Robert and Catherine (Jones) Roberts.

Mrs. Cox was a graduate of Columbia University in New York. She had taught school on Long Island, and in Rochester. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church of Medina, a Grey Lady at Medina Memorial Hospital, a member of the Association of American University Women, and she was active in the county of Orleans in Child Welfare.

Her husband William Henry Cox died May 31, 1970.

She is survived by distant relatives in Wales.

Friends may call Wednesday (2-4, 7-9) at the Barnes-Tuttle Inc. Funeral Home, 226 Pearl St. where a funeral service will be held Thursday at 11 a.m. The Rev. John Francisco, Jr. will officiate and burial will be in Mt. Albion Cemetery, Albion.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Journal Register Camp Fund.



Mrs. Dorothy Roberts Cox



The Timmerman Home