

# Albert W. Wood (1844-1911)

BY C.W. LATTIN

Albert W. Wood was born on his family's farm in the Town of Carlton to William and Maryann Wood on Jan. 22, 1844. He received his early education through the rural school system. Growing up on the farm he engaged himself as a young man in the fruit growing business along with his father.

Through his interest and dedication to the propagation of fruit orchards, he developed one of the most outstanding fruit farms in the area. He owned more than 200 acres of fruit growing land in this area most of which was located as part of the family homestead located on Route 18 between Route 98 and Sawyer Road. For

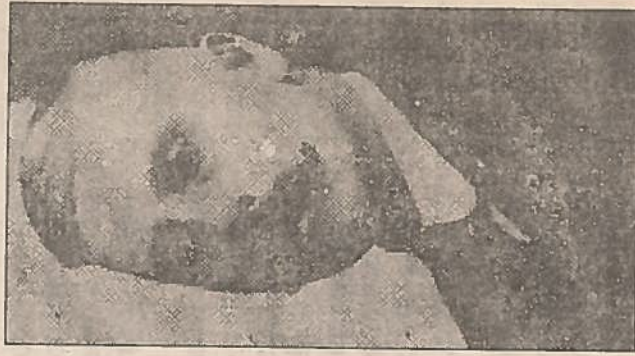
several years the state had portions of his farm for experimental orchard work. This involved students from Cornell Agricultural College and the Geneva Experiment Station visiting his orchards for study.

The 1913 Orleans County Atlas indicates that the Wood Farm known as "Green Lawn Fruit Farm" had 112 acres of apples and pears, there being 4,663 pear trees, 2,927 apple trees, also 362 quince trees and 24 peach trees. The apple varieties consisted of Baldwin, Russet, Twenty-Ounce, Borkens, McIntosh and Reds. Pear varieties included Bartlett's, Kieffers and Dutchess. German prunes also were cultivated.

The atlas also indicates that

the farm residence contained 26 rooms and was equipped with gas, hot water, bathroom and central heat. The gas would have been in the form of acetylene used for illumination as electric power had not yet been distributed to that area of Carlton.

Aside from Mr. Wood's accomplishments as a farmer, he was very active in community affairs. An impressive list of organizations follows. He was a member of the American Pomological Society and the Western New York Horticultural Society, an organizer of the State Fruit Growers Association, member of the Orleans County Fruit Growers Association, the Orleans County Pioneer Association, Waterport



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Grange No. 1050, director of the Orleans County National Bank and thirty-second degree Mason belonging to Renovation Lodge No. 97 F and A.M., Orleans Chapter No. 175 R.A.M., Genesee Commandery, Knights Templar of Lockport, Damascus Temple, Order of the Mystic Shrine of Rochester and was active in the New York State Fair Association.

Politically, he was active in the Democratic party. Albert Wood's funeral in 1911 was solely a Masonic one and he is buried in Mount Albion Cemetery. He left his wife, Lucia, and a daughter, Mrs. Carl Bird.