



An Evening with Mrs. Ruth DeLange

Ah! The pleasure of talking to truly distinguished company! I was seated at the Brown's Opera House, just before the opening of the melodrama's last evening performance when who should come and sit next to me but the charming Mrs. Ruth DeLange. She was splendidly dressed in an old-time evening gown complete with warm smiles and an 18 year old twinkle in her eye.

Mrs. DeLange was born in Grant, Michigan and moved to our community 62 years ago and is now approaching her 83rd birthday.

"Young man," said she, "you should really have allowed me to pay for my own ticket." She smiled and scolded me a little. "But, Madam," I said, "the honor is truly ours. Tell me, do you like seeing the Opera House used again?"

"Oh yes, I really think it should continue...it is good for young and old alike, and I really hope it will go strong...but next show I insist on buying my own ticket."

"No, no, no, Madam." I told her we had drawn up a list of Sparta's most distinguished people and had placed her at the top.

At the play's conclusion, I asked her if she had enjoyed herself. "Yes, it is so wonderful to see the theater opened again. Mrs. Brown (the gentlewoman for whom this Opera House was built) would be so pleased to see it cared for." She again insisted that next time she must be allowed to buy her own ticket. I told her we would "shut down the theater" before we could allow that. "The honor is ours," I said.

Western University grads

Nearly 2,750 diplomas were presented at the 1971 summer commencement of Western Michigan University held Friday, August 13. Among those graduates were the following Sparta students:

Coleen Armock, 35 Pearl, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Armock; Laura Mae Brown, 2207 15 Mile Road; Darrel W. Stark, 34 Maple, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stark; Steven C. Quay, 105 13 Mile Road, son of Mr. and Mrs. LaGene Quay; Linnea Marie Hogan, 77 E. Division, daughter of Mrs. Jane Hogan; Darrell L. Rotier, 38 Kings Blvd., son of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn L. Rotier Sr.; Gloria Ann Schaefer, 9096 Kenowa Ave., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold J. Schaefer.



Forty nine years as Sentinel Leader correspondent

FEATURE BY PAT VOGT

"The way I look at it, I'm just performing a small service for this community."

That's how Mrs. Lowell Anderson sums up her occupation as Clark School News correspondent for the Sentinel Leader, a responsibility she has carried out for the last 49 years.

Each week Mrs. Anderson spends several hours phoning friends and neighbors in the area northwest of Kent City, then sits down to her dining room table, and writes out in longhand approximately three pages of news notes of their "doings." Her column has been a standby in the paper as long as most readers can remember.

"Lowell's family had written the Clark School News for many years, and then when I married him (February 9, 1922), they told me they thought I should take over. I've been doing it every since," smiles the cheerful little mother of two and grandmother of eight.

Christina Kriger Andeson is a lifetime resident of the Kent City area, having been brought up in Barber Creek Avenue area. It was while serving as school teacher of the Clark School that she met her husband.

"He was working with a team nearby, and came down to get acquainted," she remembers.

They have lived in the spacious farmhouse on Fruit Ridge for all of their married life. Her husband is a farmer and fruit inspector.

Being a correspondent for a weekly newspaper, admittedly, is not a profitable occupation. But it has

its rewards. Through her weekly reporting, Mrs. Anderson keeps up with the highlights of her neighbors' lives. She has been reporting news of families such as the Holmgrens, Streams, Holbens, Dahls, Clarks, Nyblads, Cadwells, and Johnsons, for nearly half a century.

She says the community's population hasn't fluctuated much since the 1920's, "but there have been six new homes built on 21 Mile Road during the past year."

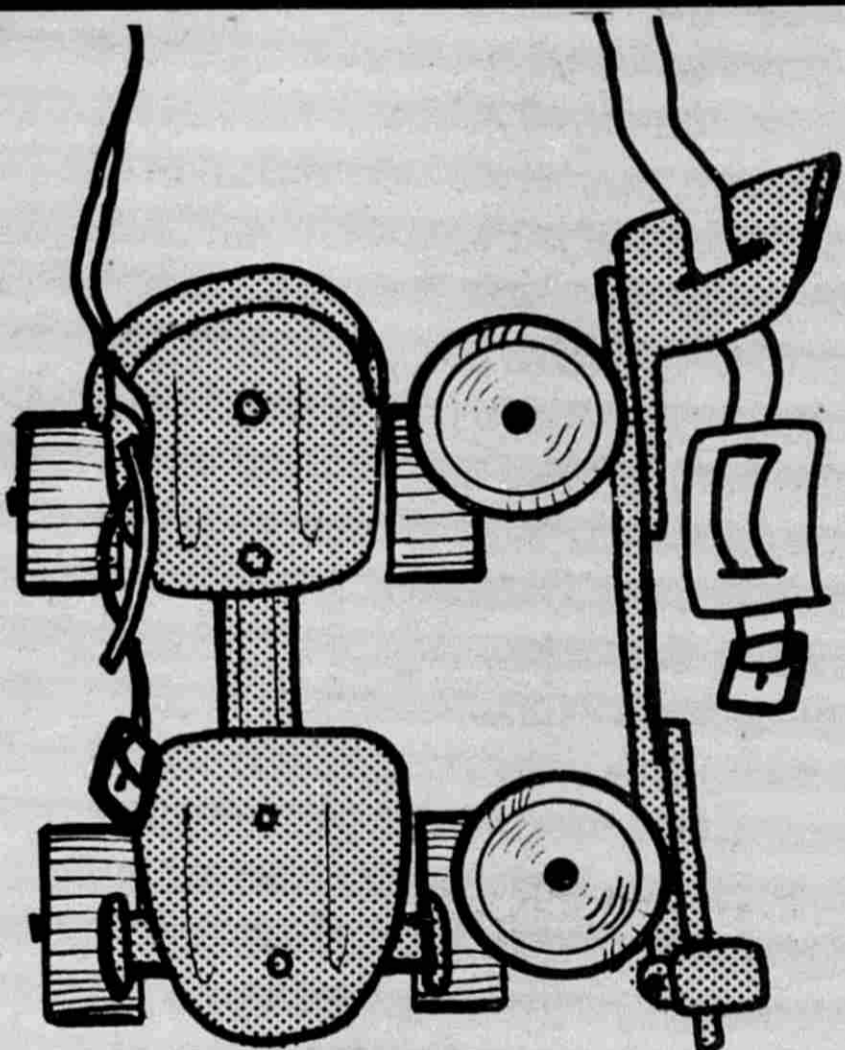
During 49 years, she says she hasn't reported much "big news," and there haven't been any big fires in the area. Several years ago she reported the closing of Clark School which had knit the community together many years ago.

Most of the news she reports concerns dinner guests, birth announcements, and the like . . . the pleasant, if unspectacular events of which most of our lives are made up.

The Andersons are members of the Mamrelund Lutheran Church. They and their two children, Oscar Anderson, insurance agent in Sparta, and Mrs. Robert Brott, Kent City, are looking forward to next spring, when the Andersons plan to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

The celebration will be delayed from February for several reasons, mainly because the weather is unpredictable that time of year, and also, the Andersons have friends they made on a visit to Sweden who plan to come for the festivities later.

Mrs. Anderson who admits to being 74 years old, hopes to continue as Sentinel Leader correspondent "for many more years."



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Mr. and Mrs. Paul Babbitt
Lynn Stark and Paul Babbitt united

A candlelight ceremony at the Sparta Free Methodist Church was the setting for the marriage of Lynn Stark and Paul Babbitt. Parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stark of Sparta and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Babbitt of Stanwood.

The bride's gown of shantung was accented at the empire waist, hemline, and on the bell sleeves by lace. A headpiece of pearl centered daisies secured the chapel length veil.

Mrs. Charles Carlson, sister of the bride, made the gown.

Candlelighters were Julie and Keely Schaefer. Janet Delamater, Marcia Babbitt, and Connie Carpenter attended the bride as maid of honor, bridesmaid, and flower girl. Each carried a basket of orange carnations and yellow pompoms to complement their light orange and white empire gowns. Attending the groom as best man, groomsman, and junior groomsman were Robert Babbitt, Darrel Stark, and Greg Babbitt. Keith Babbitt and Robert Carpenter ushered.

Rev. H. Edward Barrett was assisted by Rev. H.D.V.



Linda Sue Haaksma
Linda Sue Haaksma engaged

Mr. and Mrs. John J. Haaksma of Lake Odessa announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Linda Sue Haaksma of Wyoming to James Alan Bradford of Lowell. He is the son of Mr. J. Norman Bradford of Rockford and Mrs. Charlotte Bradford of Sparta.

The bridegroom-elect attended Michigan State University.

An October 16 wedding is planned.

Fleck in performing the double ring ceremony. Accompanying Jeanette Rosser who sang "The Wedding Prayer" and "Whither Thou Goest" was Mrs. Carl Schaefer, the organist.

Following the wedding a reception was held at the Sparta Civic Center with Mr. and Mrs. Robert Carpenter and Mr. and Mrs. Keith Babbitt as masters and mistresses of ceremonies.

Serving were Mrs. Edward Barrett, Mrs. Emory Andrus, Mrs. Carroll Carlson, Mrs. Donald Schaefer, Mrs. Charles Carlson, Mrs. Gerald Simons, and Mrs. Lowell Webster. Assisting were the hostess Mrs. R. C. Morell, Mrs. Edward Shearer, and Mrs. LeRoy Powell. Keeping the guest book were Sally Carpenter and Carla Carlson. Sherri Carlson and Lori Andrus opened gifts.

Mr. and Mrs. Babbitt are making their home in Holt following a northern Michigan honeymoon.



Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Bloom, Jr.
Julie Wagner weds Wm. Bloom, Jr.

Miss Julie Pauline Wagner and Mr. William F. Bloom Jr. were united in marriage at eight o'clock in the evening, July 24, at Mamrelund Lutheran Church. Officiating at the ceremony was Rev. Donald Johnson.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wagner of Kent City and Mr. and Mrs. William Bloom of Sparta are parents of the couple.

The bride, escorted by her father, chose a crepe gown with venise lace and green appliques enhancing the skirt and bodice of the empire floor length gown and train. A pillbox headpiece with matching accents secured the elbow length veil. She carried a colonial bouquet of yellow and white roses.

Attending the bride as maid of honor was Miss Diane Kriger wearing a lemon yellow empire floor length gown. Bridesmaids were Mrs. Robert Behler, Mrs. Jerry Ruch, sisters of the bride, Mrs. Thomas Afton, and Miss Johanna Foxworthy. They wore melon gowns similar to that of Miss Kriger. Miss Tammie Behler was flower girl for her aunt, Miss Debbie Riech, niece of the bride, and Master Scott Holland, cousin of the groom, were miniature bride and groom.

Best man was Jeff Lang. Groomsmen were Marshall Brabo, Robert Klenk Jr., and Richard and Douglas Bloom, brothers of the groom.

LEGAL NOTICE

CMC #87939-F FHA #263-057959-235

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by NANCY L. BARBER to CITIZENS MORTGAGE CORPORATION, a Michigan corporation, Mortgagee, dated September 9, 1970, and recorded on October 2, 1970 in Liber 1720, on page 957 Kent, County Records, Michigan on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Twenty-one thousand two hundred sixty-seven and 19/100 Dollars (\$21,267.19), including interest at 8-1/2% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue, at the East door of the Lobby of the Hall of Justice Building, Grand Rapids, Michigan, at 10:00 o'clock A.M., on Friday, November 26, 1971.

Said premises are situated in the City of Grand Rapids, Kent County, Michigan, and are described as:

Lot 16, Woodmere, an Addition to the City of Grand Rapids, Kent County, Michigan, Section 17, Town 7 North, Range 11 West, as recorded in Liber 45 of Plats, Page 6.

The length of the period of redemption from such sale will be 6 months.

Dated: August 23, 1971
CITIZENS MORTGAGE CORPORATION
A Michigan corporation
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