World War I veterans of Lansing, lowa

The information collected here commemorates the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day—the end of World War I—on Nov. 11, 1918, and the Lansing-area military veterans who served during that conflict.

Names for this list have been compiled from the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa;* a 1917 poster of WWI servicemen who had attended Lansing schools; a veterans roll call list compiled by John Rethwisch, 1917 and 1918 issues of the *Allamakee Journal*, memorials at Mount Hosmer City Park, interviews with current Lansing residents, local family histories at the library, and with help from the Iowa State Historical Society and the Gold Star Museum at Camp Dodge, in Johnston, Iowa.



Lansing held a day of celebration to welcome home her veterans on Oct. 8, 1919.

November 2018

If you know of corrections to be made to these stories or you have information to add, please leave your NAME and PHONE NUMBER at the circulation desk and someone from the library will contact you. Thank you.

World War I Veterans from Lansing, Iowa

Button cutters, grocery clerks, fishermen, college students, railroad men and farmhands—men from all walks of Lansing life served in WWI.

Lansing's WWI casualties

WILLIAM E. BECK

Born in June 1894 in Lansing. Enlisted in Montana Private, U.S. Army, 126th Infantry Regiment, 32nd Division, Company G Killed in action on Aug. 4, 1918.

William Beck grew up on Center Street in Lansing, attending school through eighth grade. His father was a shoemaker and his brothers Henry, who also fought in WWI, and George worked as button cutters. By 1915, William, age 20, was also a button cutter, earning \$500 the previous year. On March 16, 1918, he shipped out from New York. He was killed in August of that year and his body was eventually returned to Lansing for burial in Gethsemane Cemetery.

GEORGE HAROLD GLYNN

Born April 22, 1895, in Lansing Private, U.S. Army 125th Infantry Regiment, 32nd Division, Medical Detachment. Died of wounds on Oct 4, 1918, in France

George Glynn never married, and in 1917, when he registered for the draft, he was working near Lansing as a farmhand for George Whalen. His body was returned home and buried in Lansing's Oak Hill Cemetery.



William Beck*



George Glynn*

^{*} Photo courtesy of the Iowa State Historical Society

Learge H. Thymw was born in and died Oct 5-1918. He entired thearmy leaving Lansing apr-23-1918. He was stationed for but a few day at Camph Lowa when he was ferred to the medical officers raining Campat Fort Cell Kansal From there he was lent to Camp Merrett new paser, from which Alace on July 4-1918 he sailed for France on the Empress of British arreving France Jely 11- he at once saw believe dut

Notes included in scrapbook kept by Women's Auxiliary of Iowa American Legion Post 50 with photo of cross at Geroge Harold Glynn's original burial spot.

as a stretcher bearer, on the morn of och 4-1918 he was mortally wounded en the abdanten by a machine our bullet, during the bauto of the Argonne Louest and passed away the morning of Och-5-1918. age 23 yrs- N6 mos,.



Original photo in scrapbook kept by Women's Auxiliary of Iowa American Legion Post 50. This appears to be the cross that marked th first burial spot of George Harold Glynn.

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Form No. 784- Nov. 22.1	6, A. G. O. *g	itrike out words not ag	plicable. †Dates of	departure from	and arrival in the U.S.

ROBERT STRONG

Born circa 1894 Inducted at Camp Green, N.C., March 1, 1918 Private, U.S. Army 39th Infantry Regiment, 4th Division, Company G Killed in action, Oct. 2, 1918.

Robert Strong attended school in Lansing through ninth grade and then worked in the button factory in town. His father was a clammer. At age 20, Robert earned his living as a general laborer, bringing in \$300 that year. He shipped out to Europe aboard the *Dante Aligheri* from Jersey City, N.J., on May 10, 1918. Robert would not survive the deadliest campaign in American history. He was killed in action on Oct 2, 1918, and is buried in Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery in Romagne-sous-Montfaucon in Meuse, France.

CASPER THOMTE

Born on May 3, 1888, in Allamakee County Inducted July 25, 1918 Private, U.S. Army, S.A.R.D. Co. 9 Left U.S. Sept. 22, 1918 Landed overseas Oct. 6, 1918 Died of disease on Oct 8, 1818, in France.

Casper Thomte's family lived in Lansing shortly before and after the turn of the 1900s. His father was a wagon maker. By 1905, when Casper was about 16, the family had moved to Fort Dodge, Iowa. Casper began working as a farmhand about 1910, near Fort Dodge and in South Dakota. In 1915, he was working in Sioux County, Iowa.

By 1916, Casper was back in Fort Dodge, where he enlisted in the Army. He left for Europe from Hoboken, New Jersey, on Sept. 22, 1918, aboard the *Magnolia*. Casper died of disease just two weeks later in France on Oct. 8, 1918, and is buried in Oise-Aisne American Cemetery in Fere-en-Tardenois, France.

The Meuse-Argonne Offensive was fought from September 26 to November 11, 1918, when the Armistice was signed. It was the largest operation of the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF) in World War I. Commanded by General of the Armies John J. "Black Jack" Pershing and with over a million American soldiers participating, it was a part of the final Allied offensive on the Western Front of World War I and was one of the attacks that brought an end to the War.

It was also the deadliest campaign in American history, resulting in over 26,000 soldiers being killed in action. The number of graves in the American military cemetery near Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, France is far larger than those in the more commonly known site at Omaha Beach in Normandy.

— U.S. National Archives:



rvt.Robert Strong, Co.G, 39th.Inf., Killed in action.



Robert Strong*



Casper Thomte*

^{*} Photo courtesy of the Iowa State Historical Society

Servicemen who came home

HARTFORD AIRD

Born circa 1890

Hartford Aird's family lived in Lansing in the 1890s, where his father was a blacksmith. Hartford had moved out to South Dakota before the war and he returned there afterward. By 1940 he was a stereotyper, making printing plates for a printer in Los Angeles, Calif.

WILLIAM EBEN ALBERT JR.

Born May 15, 1899 Inducted in Nevada, Iowa, Oct. 1, 1918; Discharged Dec. 17, 1918 Company 8, Student Army Training Corps, Iowa State College

William Albert Jr. married Anita Bakewell and became a fish culturist at the state fish hatchery in Lansing after the war. Their home was on Diagonal Street, near the top of the hill above the Black Hawk Bridge.

LEONARD ALDEN ANDERSON

Born Sept. 20, 1887, in Maple Bay, Minn. Enlisted Feb. 24, 1918; Discharged May 18, 1919 Private, U.S. Army, Battalion B 206th Field Artillery Regiment, 77th Division (this info from Am Legion history; see different info from Gold Star Museum card on page 9

Leonard Anderson lived and worked near Waterville by the time he registered for the WWII draft in 1942. He died in 1957 and is buried in Waterville Lutheran Cemetery. Leonard is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.*

OSCAR ENGEMAN ANDERSON

Listed on 1917 poster of veterans who attended Lansing schools

(Sur	mme)	(Chris	tion name	()		(Army a	erai number) (Reaces W	hipe or colors	d)
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Remarks										

Whith: 2,138,773 Oscar E Anderson (Surname) (Christian name) (Army serial number) (Race: White or colored) Allamakee IOWA. Lansing (Street and house number) (Town or city) (County) Inducted Sept 18/17 * Enlisted in / Wankon Iowa † Born in 29 1/12 yrs Lansing Iowa Organizations: Co A 313 Engrs to disch Corp Feb 1/18; Sup Sgt Mch 15/18; Sgt Apr 15/18; Grades: Pvt July 13/18; Corp Sept 1/18; Sgt Sept 16/18 Engagements: Wounds or other injuries received in action: None. # Served overseas: Aug 16/18 to June 6/19 § Hon, disch. on demobilization June 16/19 Was reported. per cent disabled on date of discharge, in view of occupation. Remarks:

Form No. 724-1½, A. G. O. March 12, 1920. *Insert "R. A.", "N. G.", *E. R. C.", "N. A.", as case may be, followed by place and date of collistment. † Give place of birth and date of birth, or age at enlistment. † Give dates of departure from and arrival in the United States. § Give date.

ROBERT ARENDS

Born on Oct. 13, 1886, in Aplington, Iowa. Enlisted Sept. 18, 1917; Discharged June 15, 1919

Wagoner, 784th Dem Group, 313th Engineers

Robert Arends is listed in the History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.

GEORGE CORNELIUS ASCHOM

Born on Feb. 4, 1896, in Lansing Enlisted July 27, 1917; Discharged Aug. 15, 1919 Band Corps Cas Bet 1268th Dem Group; 135th U.S. Infantry

George Aschom and his brother Walter grew up on Lansing's Third Street. Their father ran a grocery but died when the boys were young. When George filled out his 1917 draft registration he reported that he worked as a clerk for the Kerndt Bros. Dry Goods store and that he was a musician. Indeed, he was in the Army Band Corps during the war.

In the 1920s, George roomed with John and Catherine Bakewell on Main Street. Following in their father's footsteps, George and Walter had opened a grocery and general store, Aschom Bros. They bought the stock of the R.A. Cavers general store and opened their own business in the space now occupied by Milty's restaurant. George married Edna Decker and the couple moved in with her parents on Third Street. They raised their own family there over the next decades. George died in 1972 in La Crosse, Wis. He is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa*.

"Geo. Aschom is getting along fine and will make a cracking good little soldier: clean cut and with a head good for something besides holding his collar on."

—Excerpt from a letter by Sgt. Clarence J. Wittbecker, with the 135th U.S. Inf., written at Camp Cody, N.M., Nov. 4, 1917



George and Walter Aschom, outside their store at Main and Second Streets in Lansing.

	Aschom,	George	C.	1,421	1,590	* White	Colored
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(Sursame)	(Christian usmo)	2.147.04	ther)	e *Golon
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In view of occupation he was Remarks: Date	on date of discharge, rep	ported	give reason) per o	ent disable

WALTER H. ASCHOM

Born on Feb. 15, 1891, in Lansing Enlisted July 22, 1918; Discharged March 8, 1919 Sergeant, Camp Exchange Det.

Like his brother George, Walter Aschom also married during the 1920s, to Lola Kempter. He died in 1959 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery in Lansing. Walter is listed in the History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.

WALTER JAMES "FUNNY" BAILEY

Born on Aug. 21, 1890, in Oquawka, III. Enlisted Sept. 18, 1917; Discharged May 24, 1919

Private First Class, 325th Regiment Machine Gun Company

Walter Bailey was a button cutter in Lansing before the war and enjoyed trapping muskrats, a skill he'd learned from an uncle. Walter shipped out with his regiment aboard the Karmala from New York on April 25, 1918, listing friend Sophie Krieger as his next of kin. When he returned home, he married Sophie in September 1919, set up housekeeping on Diagonal Street and resumed button cutting. In 1920, Walter was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for bravery. He and Sophie moved to N. Front Street, and by 1930, Walter was a commercial fisherman and trapper. In 1940, the census says, Walter was supporting his family by giving private boat rides and renting boats. He died in 1964 and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery. He is listed in the *History of Lansing* Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.

MATHIAS BAKEWELL

Listed on 1917 poster of veterans who attended Lansing schools



Walter Bailey

Bailey awarded for bravery

Waukon Democrat; reprinted in the Postville Herald, Friday, Feb. 6, 1920:

A large audience at Lansing last Friday night witnessed the presentation to Sergeant Walter Bailey of the American Distinguished Service Cross awarded him for bravery in action. The presentation of the medal was made by Lieut. Colonel J. E. McDonald, U.S.A., at the conclusion of an address in which Colonel McDonald reviewed the incident for which Bailey was honored by his own and the French governments:

During the American advance in the Argonne two American machine gun sections got ahead of their infantry and were forced to drop back to the infantry line for protection. Out of twenty men only four were left. The commanding officer asked for volunteers to bring back one of the machine guns and Bailey was one of the men who offered to go. Before he had gone ten feet his companion was killed, but Bailey kept on and reached the gun, finally dragging it and a German machine gun he found back to the line.

While he was working to rescue the gun he was in constant danger from German snipers and machine gunners and his mission required more than two and one-half hours to complete. For this act he was awarded the Croix de Guerre with gold star and a citation by the French government.

WILLIAM BARTHELD

Born Sept. 9, 1894

William Bartheld was a farmhand and odd jobber when he returned to Allamakee County after WWI. He later worked for Case Co. in Burlington, Iowa. William died in 1948 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery in Lansing.

LEONARD J. BARTHELL

Corporal; Co. A 55th Machine Gun Battalion Enlisted August 1918, Discharged January 1919

Leonard Barthell received a sharp shooter medal for his service.

HARRY BATTIN

Listed on 1917 poster of veterans who attended Lansing schools

CHARLES H. BATTEEN

Born circa 1889 in New Albin, Iowa Private; 166 Depot Brigade; 13 Trnch Mtr. Battery Inducted in Pierce County, North Dakota on May 24, 2018; Discharged February 1919

At the time he enlisted, Charles Batteen gave Lansing, Iowa, as his place of residence.

CARL BECHTEL

Born Oct. 23, 1895, in Lansing.

Carl Bechtel worked for a confectionary in Lansing when he came back from the war. By 1930, he was married to Leota Hand and they had a son. In 1942 he was living in Sioux City, Iowa, and working for a home loan company. He died in 1980 in Waco, Texas.

EDWARD BECHTEL

Born April 27, 1890

Edward Bechtel became a building painter and in 1942 worked for a company located at the Washington, D.C., airport.

EDWIN BECHTEL

Private, U.S. Army Enlisted 1918; Discharged 1924



Carl Bechtel

In a special meeting on March 29, 1929, Lansing Post 50 of the American Legion voted unanimously to recommend Carl for the post of Lansing post master. He was appointed Dec. 18, 1929.

(Suma)	artheld.	William C (Christian name)	2,158,085	White
Residence:	(Street and hon	Lansing	Allemakee	LUOA (State)
*Enlisted in †Born in Organizations:	Lansing Co E 35	d at Waukon Iowa Iowa 23 5/12_yr 1 Inf to Apr 4/18	s ; Co E 132 Inf	to July 24/18:
Grades:	Provis B 20 Bn	ional Regt 1 Camp US Gds to Jan_11 July 16/18; Ck J	Logan Tex to .	une 11/18: Co
Engagements:		-		-
		ceived in action: None.		_
# Served overses		_		_
§ Hon. disch. F	eb 18/19	on demobiliza	tion	_
Was reported()		per cent disable	d on date of discharge,	in view of occupation.
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Remarks:									

Form No. 724-1½, A. G. O. March 12, 1930. "Insert" R. A.", "N. G.", "E. R. C.", "N. A.", as case may be, followed by place and date of enlistment.
† Give place of birth and date of birth, or age at enlistment.
‡Give dates of departure from and arrival in the United States.
§ Give date.

HERMAN BECHTEL

Born circa 1888

Herman was a member of the Lansing Cadet Band in 1902.

ROY BECHTEL

Listed in *Allamakee Journal* among Sept. 1917 draftees

HENRY AUGUST BECK

Born on June 21, 1889, in Lansing Enlisted July 26, 1918, in Waukon, Iowa; Discharged April 28, 1919, Camp Dodge, Des Moines, Iowa Private, Company E 5th Replacement Regiment

Henry worked in the button factory in Lansing before and after the war, first as a rug driller and then as a grinder. He never married. In 1940, he was living with his sister Clara on Gay Street in Lansing—bordering what was at the time a park. She was a bookkeeper for the button works. Henry died in 1961 and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery. He is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.*

CLYDE H. BENSCH

Born January 1890 in David City, Neb.

Clyde and Julius Bensch were brothers, born in Nebraska. Before 1900, their family moved to Lansing, where their father worked as a cement mason. After WWI, Clyde strung telephone wires as a lineman. By the 1940s, he was self-employed and living in Decorah.

HENRY BENSCH

Second Lieutenant, U.S. Army Enlisted 1917, Discharged 1919

JULIUS BENSCH

Born circa 1889 in David City, Neb.

Julius appears to have lived in Sioux City after the war, but he eventually returned to Lansing and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

LLOYD E. BILLHIMER

Born on Jan. 14, 1888, in Sterling, Ohio

At the time of his draft registration in 1917, Lloyd Billhimer was working for Lansing retail merchant R.A. Cavers. His draft card showed he had completed four years of service with the U.S. Marine Corps. He had married Thelda Glynn in Ohio in 1912. After WWI, Lloyd was a photographer in West Liberty, Iowa. He died in 1937 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

HARRY FLORENCE BOHRER

Born Dec. 18, 1890

Harry Bohrer worked as a button cutter in the Lansing factory before and after the war. In the 1930s and '40s, he worked in the post office in Cicero, Ill. He never married.

LEO C. BOHRER

Born circa 1890 in Lansing. Private; U.S. Army, Company I, 350th Infantry; Co. A 125th MG Battalion Inducted in Waukon, Iowa, on Sept. 18, 1918; Discharged on Feb. 14, 1918

EDWARD ERP BROCKHAUSEN

Born July 28, 1893

Edward Erp Brockhausen was a son of Dr. Bernard Erp Brockhausen. The family lived in Lansing in 1895, but by 1905 had moved to Freeport, Illinois. Edward was attending the University of Wisconsin in 1915. He died in 1936 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

HENRY "HARRY" BRYAN

Born circa 1897 Listed on 1917 poster of veterans who attended Lansing schools

(Sumame)	(Christian name)	(Army serial number)	(Rate: /White or colored)
Residence:	Lansi	and the second s	IOWA
(Btree	t and house number) (Tow	n or eity) (Count)	(State)
Enlisted in		n Iowa Sept 18/17	-
Born in	Lansing Iowa 27 3	/12 yrs	
Organizations:	48	- 34	_
	Co I 350 Inf to	31-17 ; Co A 125	MG Bm to discl
Grades:	Pvt	_	_
Engagements:			-
Wounds on other in	juries received in action: No	mo.	
Served overseas:	journey reversed in measure. 210		
Hon. disch.	Feb 14/18 on S C	D see 11	ded - 30 - 39 :
Was reported		disabled on date of discharge,	in view of occupation
Remarks:	VERM	F/ED A. G-O. 6/9/	22 7.M

HJALMER CARLSEN

Born on Aug. 22, 1894 in Ulefoss, Norway Enlisted June 15, 1918; Discharged Dec. 14, 1918

Private, Battery A 6th Regiment F A R D

After WWI, Hjalmer Carlsen was a boarder on Diagonal Street in Lansing and worked as a button cutter at the Lansing button works. By 1930, he had married Nora Colby of Sioux Rapids, Iowa, and was employed as garage mechanic. They lived on Third Street in Lansing and had two sons. By 1940, Hjalmer was a foreman at the Iowa State Fish and Game Commission in Lansing. He passed away in 1965 and is buried at Oak Hill Cemetery. Hjalmer is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa*.



Hjalmer Carlsen

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Remarks:			

MILTON E. CARLSEN

Born on Feb. 1, 1897, in Lansing Private; U.S. Army, 163rd Depot Brigade, Company D 87th Infantry Inducted at Waukon, Iowa, Sept. 4, 1918; Discharged Jan. 27, 1919

WILL CASH

Born about 1898 in Nebraska Listed on 1917 poster of veterans who attended Lansing schools

ANTOINE CAYA

Born July 13, 1896 in Lynxville, Wis.

In 1910, Antoine Caya's family was camping on islands in the Mississippi River and making a living fishing. They lived in Lansing during the winter. When Antoine returned from WWI, he worked as a commercial fisherman and trapper in Lynxville. Later he worked at lock and dam no. 9 on the Mississippi River. He died in 1967 in Prairie du Chien. Antoine's obituary said that he had served on county conservation committees, "promoting a new image of cooperation between the commercial fisherman and sportsfishermen. He was also a leader in having fish study work on the Mississippi River."

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HUGH CAYA

Born on April 17, 1895 in Lynxville, Wis.

Hugh Caya was a brother of Antoine Caya, living and fishing on the Mississippi River islands as boys and living in Lansing during the winter. Hugh headed west after WWI and continued as a commercial fisherman, in Bismarck, N.D. He later became a dam manager there.

LEWIS CHRISTENSON

Born in 1891

Lewis Christenson and his brother Sever were school children in Lansing in the early 1900s. Their father was a railroad section hand. Education was a valuable thing to Lewis and by 1915 he was a sophomore in college.

SEVER CHRISTENSON

Born on Jan. 7, 1887 in Lansing

Before he entered military service in 1917 Sever was a railway mail clerk. The *Allamakee Journal* on March 21, 1917, said his run was from Algona to Mitchell, S.D. In 1930, Sever was still working as mail clerk for the railroad in Algona, Iowa. He died on March 8, 1937.

WILLIAM LEO COLLINS

Listed in Allamakee Journal among Sept. 1917 draftees

ARTHUR BERTRAND COOPER

Born Feb. 10, 1895, in Lansing Served in the Marines

Arthur Cooper was a farmhand when he registered for the 1917 draft. In the 1920s he worked in a blacksmith's shop and lived with his parents and siblings in Lansing. In the 1930s and '40s he lived in Rolette County, N.D. Arthur died in 1975 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery in Lansing.



Arthur Cooper Photographed in a studio in Paris, France

GEORGE ELBERT COOPER

Born Jan. 25, 1895 in Lansing Served in the Marines

Before WWI, George Cooper was a farmhand, like his brother, Arthur. In 1920, George lived in his parents' home in Lansing and was a laborer for the street department. George made his way to Santa Barbara, California, by the early 1930s, when his daughters were born. He died in California in 1974.

MARK J. CROYLE

Born on July 23, 1893, in Manchester, Iowa Enlisted July 31, 1917; Discharged July 18, 1919 Saddler, U.S. Army 133rd Infantry

Mark Croyle returned to the Manchester area after the war but did farm labor in Allamakee County's Lafayette Township in the 1930s and '40s. He is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.*

ELBRIDGE E. DERR

Born on June 12, 1890, in Colesburg, Iowa Enlisted July 16, 1917; Discharged June 18, 1918 Private, Battery A 2nd Field Artillery and Corporal, Depot Service Company 57, U.S. Army Service Corps (This info from headstone application; see different info from card at Gold Star Museum on opposite page.)

Elbridge Derr was a member of Lansing's German Presbyterian Church. He died in 1942.

JOE DOLAN

Listed on 1917 poster of veterans who attended Lansing schools



George Cooper Photographed while serving in Cuba before WWI

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LLOYD ALLEN DOLPHIN

Born on Sept. 19, 1899, in Lansing. Private First Class, U.S. Army 61st Infantry Company L

In 1910, Lloyd Dolphin, age 9, lived with his family on Center Street in Lansing. His father was a wagon driver for a grocery store. Lloyd left for the war on April 1918, arriving back in the U.S. from Brest, France, in July 1919. In 1926, he married and settled in Grand Haven, Mich., where he was a wood worker for the rest of life. He died in 1968.

GEORGE R. "RAY" DUNLEVY

Born June 4, 1898, in Allamakee County Listed on 1917 poster of veterans who attended Lansing schools

Ray Dunlevy worked as a railway mail clerk as a young man, but he became a surgeon. He died in 1990 in Los Angeles, Calif.

JOHN WILLIAM "BILL" DUNLEVY

Born on Feb. 6, 1887. Enlisted Sept. 4, 1917; Discharged Dec. 13, 1918 Regimental Sergeant Major, 19th TN. H.O. & Military Police 19th Division

John Dunlevy died in 1939 and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery. He is listed in the History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.

MARK FRANCIS DUNLEVY

Born on May 26, 1888, in Lansing Enlisted Feb. 24, 1918; Discharged March 24, 1919 Sergeant, 146 16th Depot Brigade

After WWI, Mark broke with the family tradition—his father and brothers George and John all worked for the post office—and became a printer in the Lansing newspaper office. Mark died on July 14, 1954. He is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa*.

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HARRY R. EASTMAN

Born on Jan. 26, 1896

Harry Eastman moved into his parents' home on Sixth Street in Lansing after the war. By the next war, he'd made his way to Bremerton, Washington, where he was employed in public works. He passed away back in the Midwest, in Illinois, in 1982.

ROBERT ELSINGER

Listed on 1917 poster of veterans who attended Lansing schools

HERMAN J. FELLER

Born circa 1894 in Austria Private; U.S. Army, Company I 350th Infantry; Company G 133rd Infantry, Company A 101st Infantry Inducted at Waukon, Iowa, on Sept. 18, 1917; Discharged on April 23, 1919

BERT FELLOWS, M.D.

Born Feb. 11, 1893, in Lansing

The son of Albert Fellows, a Lansing lumberyard operator, Iowa state senator, and longtime Lansing mayor, Bert Fellows became a physician. He was getting his medical training in Ann Arbor, Mich., in 1917, when he registered for the WWI draft. He practiced in Ellsworth, Iowa, during the 1920s, and in the 1930s and '40s was an eye, ear, and throat doctor in Newton, Iowa. He died in 1948, age 55.

DONALD S. FELLOWS

Born on May 14, 1898 U.S. Marines Corps.

Donald Fellows, a brother of Bert and Milton Fellows, moved back in with his parents after the war, perhaps working at his father's lumber business. He died in 1937 in Eagle, Colorado, and his body was returned to Lansing and buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

A. MILTON FELLOWS

Feb. 27, 1895 Private, U.S. Army, 27th Engineers, the only mining unit

Before the war, Milton Fellows, brother of Bert and Donald Fellows, was studying mining in Platteville, Wis. He ran a mining machine for Vinegar Hill Zinc in Baxter Springs, Kansas. By the 1930s, he had become a salesman for a gypsum company in the 1930s and lived in Minneapolis. His WWII draft registration card lists him as working for Celotex Corp. in Chicago. He and his wife were living in the Ridgeview Hotel in Evanston, Ill. Milton spent the last years of his life in Albuquerque, N.M.

LEO FERRING

Born January 2, 1897, in Lansing Private First Class; Student Army Training Iowa State College, M T Rep United 315th, Service Pk Unit 544th Inducted at Waukon, Iowa, on Aug 14, 1918; Discharged April 23, 1919

EARL FERRIS

Born Sept 14, 1895 in Waukon, Iowa

Earl Ferris's father worked at the creamery in Church, and as a young man Earl did too. Right before he went into military service, though, he was employed as hostler—looking after horses—in Waukon. Immediately after the war he lived in Burr Oak, Iowa, but by 1927, he had moved to Montana, where was a machinist in a garage. He died in 1939 in a veterans facility in California, but is buried in Montana.

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HENRY W. FITZPATRICK

Born on July 28, 1895, in Cedar County, Iowa Machinist Mate Second Class, U.S. Navy

Henry Fitzpatrick lived in Gower, Iowa, as a boy. At the time of his draft registration in 1917, he was a farm worker in West Branch, Iowa. He married Anna Gertrude Whalen in Lansing in 1926. By 1930 they had moved to Milwaukee, Wis., where he worked as a postal clerk. Henry died on Sept. 12, 1934, and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery.

JOHN FITZPATRICK

Born May 1, 1887 First Lieutenant, U.S. Army 38th Infantry

John Fitzpatrick grew up in Lansing, the son of a railroad section man. By the time the war ended, his mother had been widowed and he moved back in with her and several of his siblings. He died on Aug. 1, 1964, and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery.

JAMES FRANCIS FLOOD

Born May 1, 1887 Enlisted Feb. 24, 1918; Discharged May 26, 1919 Private, U.S. Army 132nd Infantry 33rd Division

James Flood was a farmer in Allamakee County before and after the war. His draft card in 1917 says he also worked at the sawmill in LePorte City, Black Hawk County, Iowa. Joanne Kehr remembers her father, William Kehr, writing in a letter during the war that he shared the *Allamakee Journal* issues he received in the mail with "Flood." James is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa*.

ARCHIE FOWLER

YMCA is listed after Archie Fowler's name on a 1917 poster of veterans who attended Lansing schools.

ADOLPH R. FREDRICKSON

Born on April 3, 1888, in North Dakota Enlisted Jan. 5, 1918; Discharged Dec. 20, 1918 Private SATC Army TNG Corps

Adolph Fredrickson was born to Swedish immigrants who farmed in Walsh County, N.D. He served Lansing as a physician for many years, living with his wife Alma and children on Center Street. He died on Dec. 3, 1957, and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

HUGO ANTHONY FRITZ

Born Oct. 21, 1895 Enlisted July 26, 1918; Discharged May 24, 1919 Private, Company F 5th Infantry Replacement Regiment

Hugo Fritz's family lived at French Creek in 1900. His father had recently died and his mother was raising her five children with the help of her aunt, Caroline Bench. Hugo had a twin sister, Lydia. By 1910, the family had moved into Lansing and was living on Center Street. Five years later he was working as grocery clerk earning \$425 a year. When he registered for the draft in 1917, he worked as a farmhand, supporting his mother. Despite that, he was drafted into the Army and shipped out from Hoboken, N.J. He returned on May 2, 1919, from Bordeaux, France, to New York City, aboard the ship Patricia de Satrustegui. At that point, he was with Company K of the 325th Infantry.

Hugo was single and farming for David Hurm in Layfayette Township, Allamakee County, in 1925 and 1930. A decade later, he was living in Lansing, possibly on Gay Street, across from the current high school, and working for Kerndt Bros. Hugo died in 1964 in La Crosse, Wis., and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery in Lansing. He is listed in the History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.

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MICHAEL LESTER GARIN

Born May 8, 1892, in Harpers Ferry, Iowa Enlisted Sept. 18, 1917; Discharged July 2, 1919 Private, U.S. Army Company C 109th Engineers

Michael Garin died in 1959 and is buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery in Harpers Ferry. He is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa*.

CARL FRANCIS GAULTHIER

Born on Nov. 15, 1896, in Prairie du Chien Enlisted, July 26, 1918; Discharged May 29, 1919 Private, U.S. Army Company K 328th Infantry 82nd Division

Carl Gaulthier grew up on South Front Street in Lansing, where his siblings worked in the button factory. After the war, in the 1920s and '30s, he and his brothers were all fishermen. Carl died in 1972 and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery in Lansing. He is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa*.

ERVIE GAULTHIER

Born June 6, 1889 Enlisted Sept. 18 1917; Discharged March 19, 1919 Private, U.S. Army 2nd Division

Purple Heart medal recipient

Ervie was a brother of Carl Francis Gaulthier. When Ervie returned from the WWI, he married Marguerite Ollaff in 1919. He was a fisherman the rest of life and died in 1937. He's buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

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HAROLD GAUNITZ

Born on March 2, 1891, in Lansing

Before the war, Harold Gaunitz was a shipping clerk for an iron mine and then a butcher in his father's meat market. He was a member of the Lansing Cadet Band. In 1916, Harold joined the Canadian Over-Seas Expeditionary Force for a year. After the war, he rejoined his father and a brother at the meat market, and by the 1930s he had a grocery store in Lansing. In June 1920, he had married Ethel Thompson, who was a teacher in the Lansing school. Harold became state commander of the Iowa American Legion in 1942. He died in 1967 and is buried in Lansing's Oak Hill Cemetery.



Harold Gaunitz

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HAROLD GAUNITZ HEADS VETERANS

Lansing Man Takes Place of Tracey, Who Re-Enters Army

DES MOINES, (A)—Harold W. Gaunitz, 51 year old Lansing businessman, was chosen commander of the Iowa department of the American Legion Sunday, succeeding Thomas H. Tracey of Manchester, who has re-entered the army as a lieutenant colonel.

Gaunitz was elected at a meeting of the state department executive committee held at Hotel Fort Des Moines Sunday

"Helping establish and maintain national unity should be one of the main objectives," the North Iowan declared after his election Sunday. "Our first objective—the first objective of the American people—is winning the war. And I think the spirit of the American people is going to do much in helping us through this crisis," he asserted,

Gaunitz is of German descent. His grandparents were born in Germany, "but he's 100 per cent American," his fellow Legionnaires declare.

The Lansing man is a partner with his brother in the Gaunitz Food Store. His brother, E. B., is chairman of the Iowa state conservation commission.

The new commander of the Legion was married June 8, 1920, to Ethel Thompson, a native of Lansing, and former teacher in the Lansing high school. They were engaged before World war I but waited to be married until he had returned from the war.

Gaunitz was once a surveyor in the Minnesota iron mines. Then he went to Canada and worked with a railway construction crew in British Columbia. At the outbreak of the war he was assigned to investigate and round up enemy aliens in British Columbia.

He then enlisted in the Canadian army. When the United States entered the war he obtained a release in order to enlist in the U. S. army. He was stationed at Camp Taylor, Ky., and had a second lieutenant's rank when the armistice was signed.

Gaunitz is a charter member of the Lansing Legion post. He has held all of the post offices and has been Allamakee county commander. For two years he was fourth district vice commander and for one year was district commander.



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HAROLD GAUNTTZ

—Heads Legion

Lansing Legion Pays Tribute To Charter Members

LANSING, Iowa — Forty-five charter members of the Lansing American Legion who have belonged to the post for 45 years were honored at a potluck dinner Sunday night.

They are George Aschom, Walter Bailey, Leonard Barthell, Hjalmer Carlson, Hugo Fritz, Harold Gaunitz, Arne Helle, Alphonse Hess, Theodore Kerndt, Leo Krieger, Albert Kehr, William Kehr, Alex Knutson, Rome Olloff:

Robert Protsman, Adolph Rudnick, Nichalus Rouster, William Reutkemier, Clyde Roeder Sr., Richard Stahl, Joe Sweeney, Roy Sheriff, Frank Schweinfurth, Dan Spores, James Thorsten Sr.:

George Trayer, Ralph Thorsten, Leo Underburger, Carl I Wagner, J. E. Welch, Patrick t Welch, Leo Wanger, Theodore I Weipert and Alvin Wilde.

GEORGE GLASS

Born circa 1898 in Potosi, Wisconsin Bugler; Headquaters Company 44th Artillery, Anti-Aircraft Battery Eastern N.Y., Headquarters Company 38th Artillery Enlisted on March 4, 1918 at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri; Discharged Dec. 23, 1918

FRANK W. GONYIER

Born Jan. 5, 1899, in Lynxville, Wis. Enlisted Jan. 16, 1918; Discharged Aug 11, 1919 Private First Class, U.S. Army Truck Company 4 Corps Artillery Park

Frank Gonyier was a fisherman most of his life, later on working for the state fish hatchery. In 1929 he married Beulah Burgers. Frank died in 1967 and is buried at Rock Island National Cemetery in Illinois. He is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa*.

GEORGE GONYIER

Born Jan. 20, 1896, in Harpers Ferry, Iowa Private, U.S. Army

George grew up in the fishing family on Front Street and continued in that line after WWI.

JOSEPH A. GONYIER

Born Feb. 13, 1889 in Harpers Ferry, Iowa

Like his younger brother, Geroge, Joseph Gonyier made his living fishing the Mississippi River. He died in 1927, at age 37, and was buried in Gethsemane Cemetery.

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ROBERT EMMET GUIDER

Born Oct. 4, 1892 Sergeant, U.S. Army Company A 350th Infantry

Robert Guider's father died when Robert was only 2 years old, and his mother, Lucy, continued to farm in Lafayette Township to keep her eight children fed. By 1910, Lucy and the three children still at home had moved into Lansing. Robert moved back in with Lucy on Third Street after he returned from the war and worked for the post office as a mail carrier. Robert married later in life and died in 1961. He is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery in Lansing.

ERNEST HAFERBECKER

Born Aug. 30, 1892, in De Soto, Wis. Enlisted Sept. 18, 1917; Discharged April 18, 1919 Private First Class, U.S. Army Transportation Corps

Ernest and his brother Reuben spent most of their lives in Dubuque.

REUBEN HAFERBECKER

Born Aug. 31, 1896 Enlisted May 10, 1918; Discharged Jan. 13, 1919 U.S. Navy Machinist's Mate Second Class

WILLIAM R. HANCOCK

Born circa 1891 in Warsaw, Missouri Corporal; U.S. Army, Machinists 26/18; Sergeant Company I 350th Infantry, Company B 347 Infantry Inducted at Waukon, Iowa, Sept. 18, 1917; Discharged January 29, 1919

DANIEL L. HANLEY

Born circa 1895 in Masonville, Iowa Private First Class, U.S. Army, Company I 350th Infantry, Company B 347th Infantry, Company B 312th MP, 87th MP Copany, 211th MP Company Inducted at Waukon, Iowa, on Sept. 18, 1917; Discharged on July 9, 1919

RAPHAEL T. HANLEY

Born on July 8, 1896 Private; Student Army Training C Inducted at Waukon, Iowa, August 14, 1918; Discharged Feb. 1, 1919

CHARLES I HATHAWAY

Born circa 1894 in Waukon, Iowa Private First Class; U.S. Army, Company M 349th Infantry, Company G 131st Infantry Inducted Feb. 24, 1918; Discharged June 1, 1919

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*Strike out words not applicable. † Dates of departure from and arrival in the U. S.

AKSEL H. HAUG

Born on Sept. 7, 1870, in Oslo, Norway

Aksel Haug was a lifelong military man, serving in the U.S. Marine Corps. He married Bertha Schafer. Aksel died in Lansing in 1935 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

ARNE HELLE

Born May 19, 1891, in Norway Enlisted June 18, 1918; Discharged Dec. 28, 1918

Private, U.S. Army 163rd Depot Brigade

Arne Helle worked as a section man for the railroad, becoming foreman. In 1920 he lived in Preston, Minn., but by 1925 he was living in Lansing, married and the father of three. He is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa*.

ALPHONSE HESS

Born Sept. 8, 1890, in Brooklyn, N.Y. Enlisted April 26, 1918; Discharged June 28, 1919

Private, U.S. Army 315th Engineers

Alphonse Hess moved to Lansing with his family before he was 10 years old. He was the eldest child. His parents were German immigrants. The Hess family farmed in Lansing Township, and after the war Alphonse managed the farm for his mother. His father had died before 1920 and he helped his mother raise his siblings, becoming known as "Dad" Hess. Later, Alphonse became a building painter, as his father had been in New York. In the 1940s, he lived with this mother and a sister on Diagonal Street in Lansing. He is listed in the History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.



Aksel Haug



Alphonse Hess

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OTTO E. HEUER

Born on April 18, 1895 Private, U.S. Army 163rd Depot Brigade Otto died on Oct. 14, 1970, and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

RAYMOND HIRTH

Born April 22, 1894

Raymond Hirth was the first son born to a farming family in Church. But he spent much of his life in Texas. By the 1930s, he was living in San Juan Hidalgo. He died in 1967 in Kerrville, Texas.

JOHN "JACK" W. HORNE

Born on March 2, 1897, in Lansing Enlisted May 31, 1918; Discharged July 15, 1919 Private First Class; U.S. Army Company D 28th Engineers

As a boy, Jack Horne lived on Front Street. His father kept a saloon. After WWI, he moved back in with his parents and worked as commercial fisherman. In the 1930s he moved to Third Street. By 1940, his father had died and Jack's mother was living with him. He was employed as a truck driver. Jack died on July 4, 1953. He is listed in the History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.

BERNARD HURLEY

Born Sept. 23, 1896, in New Albin, Iowa Enlisted Oct. 23, 1917; Discharged April 15, 1919 Private First Class, Troop D 8th Cavalry

Bernard Hurley farmed in Allamakee County before WWI. After the war, he continued to serve as a sergeant in the Army, stationed in El Paso, Texas. He came back to Iowa in the 1920s, married Matilda Hurm in 1925 and returned to farming. He died in 1958 and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery in Lansing. Bernard is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa*.

WILLIAM H. HURM

Born on Dec. 21, 1896 in Lansing Enlisted Sept. 5, 1918; Discharged Dec. 24, 1918 Private, U.S. Army 163rd Depot Brigade

William Hurm farmed for a while in Lafayette Township, Allamakee County, for a while after he returned from WWI. In 1942, he was living in McCook, S.D., where he was unemployed at the time. He died in 1961 and is buried in Wexford Immaculate Conception Cemetery in Allamakee County. He is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa*.

MATTHIAS D. HURN

Born on April 21, 1887, in Lansing, Iowa Private; U.S. Army Inducted at Seattle, Washington, on Sept. 4, 1918; Discharged on June 2, 1919

CARL M. JOHNSON

Born on Sept. 14, 1890, in Culbertson, Neb. Private, U.S. Army, Company K 352nd Infantry, Company B 37th Battalion U.S. Guards, Company A 38th Battalion US. Guards Inducted at Waukon, Iowa, on May 27, 1918; Discharged Feb. 4, 1919

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Nov. 22, 1919.

JOSEPH MARTINUS JOHNSON

Born Aug. 11, 1886 Enlisted April 26, 1918; Discharged June 7, 1919 Private First Class, U.S. Army 163rd Depot Brigade

Joseph Johnson lived with his parents on Lansing's Main Street in 1915, doing odd jobs. He lived in North Dakota when he was inducted into the Army on April 1918. His induction record lists him as a farmer. Joseph was discharged at Camp Dodge on June 7, 1919, with a surgeon's certificate saying he was 10 percent disabled. Soon after arriving back in Iowa, he married Fern Hessel. They raised their family in Paint Creek Township and Joseph worked as a conductor for the Chicago Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad. He died in 1956 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

NILS J. JOHNSON

Born on Nov. 25, 1893, in Lansing. Private, U.S. Army, Company H 352nd Infantry Inducted at Waukon, Iowa, June 25, 1918; Discharged June 14, 1919

WILLIAM JOOS

Listed on 1917 poster of veterans who attended Lansing schools

FREDRICK PAUL JORDAN

Born on March 22,1896, in Houston County, Minn. Sergeant, U.S. Army

Fredrick died on March 13, 1978, and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

EDWARD JULSON

Private, U.S. Army Enlisted 1918; Discharged 1918

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ANTON G. KEFFLER

Born in 1896

Anton's father immigrated to the U.S.as a young boy and by 1900 supported his large family by farming in Lansing Township.

After WWI, Anton married Leona Bush in Dubuque in 1922. By 1933, he was employed as a stereotyper in Lawrence, Kan. That year he remarried to Oklahoma native Matilda Marlatt. A year later he was dead. Anton is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery.

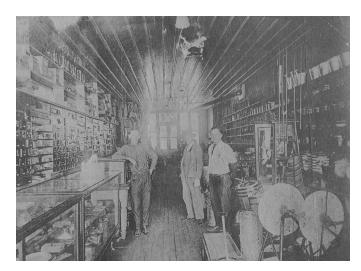
ALBERT CHARLES KEHR

Born on Feb. 18, 1896, in Lansing Enlisted June 3, 1918; Discharged March 4, 1919 Sergeant, U.S. Army Camp Quartermaster Corps.

In their teens, the Kehr brothers Albert and William, lived on Front Street, their father working as sorter in the button factory. William, five years older than Albert, was a grocery store clerk. By 1915, Albert was also old enough to clerk for a grocer. He'd made \$150 in half a year of work in 1914. Soon after the war, he married Mildred Mugge in Des Moines. They had met while he was in the service at Fort Dodge. By 1930, they were renting a house in Lansing and had two children. Albert and William had opened Kehr Bros. Hardware on Lansing's Main Street, buying out Henry Brouillet's hardware busininess in 1920. The Kehr brothers ran their store for another 50 years. A hardware business still operates in that space. Albert died in 1981 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery. He is listed in the *History of Lansing* Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.



Albert Charles Kehr



Bill and Al Kehr with henry Brouillet in the hardware store they bought in 1920.

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Paper written by Lyn Wilde, Oct. 18, 1974

Albert Kehr, February 18, 1896

History records the 1920's as the most exciting times in America. What would it have like to be young then? I interviewed my grandfather to find out what these "thrilling" years were like for him.

My grandfather volunteered to join the Army and left Lansing, Iowa, May 1918. He was stationed at Camp Dodge, Des Mines, Iowa, serving as Sgt. in the Property Division of Camp Quarter Master Corps. He remained at Camp Dodge until the end of the war and was discharged June 1919.

Disappointed because he hadn't been sent overseas he was relieved when the war ended and his older brother returned home alive, after being wounded in France. But, Grandpa's time spent in the service was not in vain for it was here that he met and fell in love with Mildred Mugge.

While stationed at Camp Dodge he attended church at Central Presbyterian in Des Moines. Service men were very special then and after church one Sunday some young people came up to welcome him. My grandmother was one of them. Their relationship was slow in developing and it was seven months until they started dating. Because of the limited money that the Army provided, they would go to movies, eat lunches, attend church gatherings and spend as much time together as possible.

After my grandfather was discharged he returned to Lansing. During their separation they visited each other as often as possible and November 2, 1921, Mildred Mugge became Mrs. Albert Kehr. They had a small evening wedding at my grandmother's home in Des Moines.

After his discharge my grandfather and his brother opened a business, "Kehr Brothers Hardware" in Lansing. The official opening was Aptil 1, 1920. They paid \$25 a month's rent which included two floors plus a basement. They handled general merchandise, such as nails (6 cents/1 lb) paint (\$3.95/gal) and appliances including stoves and ranges (\$65), heating stoves (\$45), furnaces (\$350 with installment) and handled the local plumbing. The store was open 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., six days a week and never opened on Sunday. Besides my grandfather and his brother, they had one hired man.

"Kehr Brothers" remained in business for 52 years. After the passing away of my great uncle, my grandfather sold the store to his niece and son-in-law but still keeps regular hours.

My grandparents' first home was an apartment they rented for \$12 a month, it included 5 rooms. They lived there from November 1921 until July 1924. They moved then to another apartment in the center of Lansing. Their rent then was \$15 a month for 5 rooms. This was their home from July 1924 until May 1926. By now they graduated from apartments to a house. They paid \$15 a month for 8 rooms. Their electricity bill was usually \$2.50 a month and telephone bill \$1 a month. The price of groceries was somewhat different then with a quart of milk costing 5 cents, bread 5 cents a loaf and beef running high at 40 cents a pound.

Religion has always played a very important part in my grandfather's life. He taught Sunday School for 35 years, teaching the junior high boys. Classes averaged 10 students. Sunday was God's Day for my grandfather. He never missed a church service of Sunday School class. Sunday School was held from 9 a.m.-10 a.m., church services lasted from 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. and Sunday nights there was Christian Endeavor (youth fellowship) meetings from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

The First Presbyterian Church in Lansing was good sized with approximately 100 members. My grandfather held positions as treasurer, trustee, and elder for more than fifty years. He said that services were similar to those of today but it wasn't uncommon for the sermon to be on Prohibition at least once a month. Anyone not involved with the church was thought to be from "the wrong side of the tracks." School teachers attended regularly. This was a must then. They usually taught a Sunday School class.

Besides the regular services there would be special ones on Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter. My grandpa recalls one sunrise Easter service he attended at the Parsonage. Only 36 people attended, with the weather playing an important factor. It was 0 degrees.

The Presbyterian Church had to ministers during the 1920's, Reverend Cribbs and Reverend Bottoms, both of whom were very good friends with my grandfather. Ministers then received \$00 a month and the manse was

free. This was very good wages, according to my grandfather considering the superintendent of schools made only \$120 a month.

During the 1920's my mother and aunt were born. My mother arriving July 31, 1924. She was born at my grandparents' home without the aid of a doctor. My grandmother complained of some discomfort around midnight July 30 so my grandfather called the doctor. Dr. Fredrickson said it was too early for the baby and Mildred should come over and see him in the morning. My grandpa was very concerned and went into the bathroom to change clothes so he could go get the doctor. During the process of changing clothes, he heard a baby cry. His first daughter had arrived. My aunt was born in May 1926 and in somewhat the same manner. Each time my grandmother's mother was there, much to the relief of my grandpa. During each pregnancy a girl was hired to help with the cooking, washing, and house cleaning. She moved in with them and was paid one dollar a day. Doctor's fees then were \$25, which included pre-natal care, delivery and post-partum care.

Family ties were very strong then and my grandparents got together with my Des Moines relatives on birth-days, Thanksgiving one year, Christmas and New Year's the next. They usually traveled to Des Moines by car. My grandpa purchased a used Model T for \$200 in 1926. He said the car had no heater of windshield wipers. The roads were very poor then and there were very few road maps. The only paved roads in northeast lowa to Des Moines was from Ames south. Grandpa said the roads were so poor that you were continually getting out of your car to check for flat tires.

The Christmas of 1924, they decided to take the train to Des Moines. They left at 6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve. On the way their train sideswiped a parked train wrecking the train's two coal engines. They had no food, water or heat from midnight until noon Christmas Day. They rigged up part of the train and arrived in Des Moines that night at 7 p.m. They never took a train again, my grandpa said.

For entertainment they would attend silent movies for 25 cents but this was done about twice a month. Visiting with the neighbors, a strong family unit and church ties occupied most of his spare time. But, the real excitement was excursion boats such as the Delta Queen. They could hold up to 3,000 people and it only cost 50 cents for a distance of 80 miles. It was take them up the river to La Crosse, Wisconsin, having a stop over of about 2½ hours there are then return to Lansing late that evening. You could visit with your friends, enjoy the scenery, and they even had a dance hall with live music. But, my grandfather never indulged in that. The excursion boats never ran on Sundays so grandpa took off from work to go on the trips.

Along with religion, politics has been an important part of my grandpa's life. The Lansing community has always been strong Republican and my grandfather very much so! He stayed out of politics himself, though, saying that in a small town businessmen shouldn't get involved in such things. He was very much in favor of Prohibition and said it would have succeeded if not mixed with "dirty" politics.

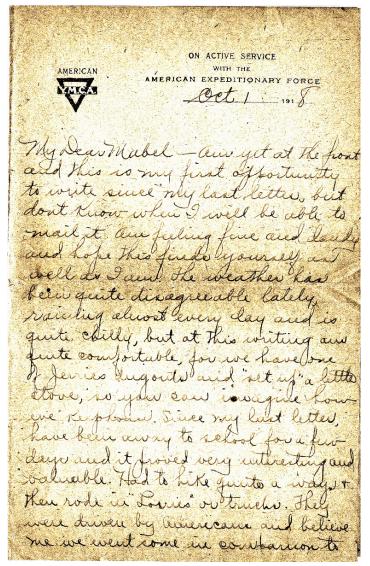
He voted for Harding, although he felt he wasn't a strong president. He told me that it was a known fact that Mrs. Harding poisoned the president because of his "other women." He said he didn't know too much about the scandals of the Harding administration because of the poor news media then.

He didn't have much to say about Coolidge except that he was a good man, didn't get into any trouble and had smooth sailing because times were so good then.

He voted for Hoover and liked him very much but felt he was hampered by a solid Democratic House and Senate. Hoover wasn't a "dictator" like Roosevelt, who my grandfather hated.

Grandpa said the Depression came upon Lansing very gradually. He said he never suffered during it, that everyone had to tighten their belt a notch but that he was very luck during those times. He was proud of the fact that Kehr Brothers ...

[Rest of manuscript not provided.]



Letter from William Kehr to his wife, Oct. 1, 1918

My Dear Mabel—Am yet at the front and this is my first opportunity to write since my last letter, but don't know when I will be able to mail it. Am feeling fine and dandy and hope this finds yourself as well as I am. The weather has been quite disagreeable lately, raining almost every day and is quite chilly, but at this writing am quite comfortable, for we have one of Jerrie's dugouts and "set up" a little stove, so you can imagine how we keep house. Since my last letter, have been away to school for a few days and it proved very interesting and valuable. Had to hike quite a way and then rode in "Lorries" or trucks. They were driven by Americans and believe me, we went some in comparison to the way the "Tommies" used to take us. Have also been "Over the Top" and it sure was some experience, the way the Tominies" used to take us! Have also been "Over the Top" and it sure was some experience, but we made good. Waded Through marshed mud etc. so you can magino exactions. But you know we were after Big game and got it. You had Jerries Throw- up their hands and ery Mercis, Randad: Some right believe med. The big gume were wire behind in, just one continued roas all the time. How could tell you more, but follow the the Papers for Lope on this Righ. It now gets dalk about 10. M, so winter will soon be upon us. By the ivay wabel, and Belle if she noticed my met are in spelling her name on the letter I will held in few weeks ago. Tell me what she said about it & what you think I it. Will Deanie gulis fel have to ring of for this time dud fe will be able to loute sooner next time Solwith the best of wishes to you're and father I rendam to Ever P.S. Leg This on the g.T. what I men

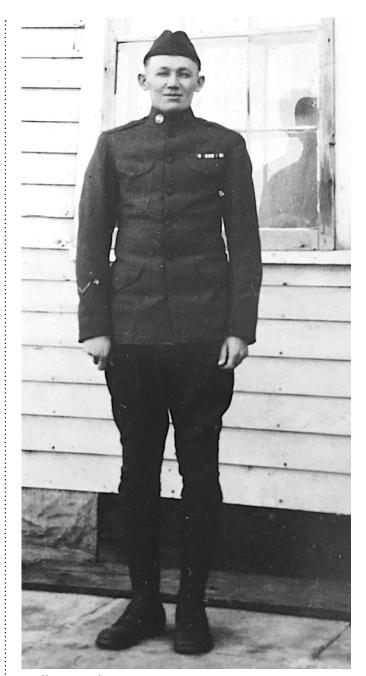
but we made good. Waded through marshes, mud, etc., so you can imagine conditions. But you know, we were after Big Game and got it. You had ought to see the Jerries throw up their hands and cry "Mercy Kamerad." Some sight, believe me. The big guns were sure behind us, just one continual roar all the time. Mable, I could tell you more, but follow the Chi (Chicago) papers for dope on this Regt. (Regiment). It now gets dark about 7 p.m., so winter will soon be upon us. By the way, Mabel, ask Belle if she noticed my mistake in spelling her name in the letter I wrote her a few weeks ago. Tell me what she said about it and what you think of it. Well Dearie, guess I'll have to ring off for this time and hope will be able to write sooner next time. So with the best of wishes to yourself and father, I remain as ever, Will.

P.S. Keep this on the Q.T. what I mentioned above. Also got official report this A.M. that Bulgaria has given up.

WILLIAM "BILL" H. KEHR

Born Feb. 18, 1891 Enlisted Feb. 24, 1918; Discharged March 3, 1919 Private, U.S. Army Company K 132nd Infantry Purple Heart medal recipient

When his turn came to ship out to the battlefields, Bill Kehr sailed on the Mt. Vernon from Hoboken, N.J., on May 16, 1918. At the front, Bill was a "runner" delivering messages on foot. Right before Armistice, he was wounded in the foot. After the war, he moved back in with his parents on Lansing's Front Street and worked for Neilanders, which owned several businesses in town including a general store and a boat store. Albert was living with the family as well and working as an express agent. By 1920 the men had opened Kehr Bros. Hardware. In 1922, William married Mabel Lindberg in 1922. They raised their two daughters on Front Street. William passed away in 1971 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery. He is listed in the History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.



William Kehr

In the letter on the opposite page, William Kehr mentions having misspelled the name of Lansing resident Belle Verdon in a letter he had written to her a few weeks earlier. William's daughter Joanne recalls that he had spelled Belle's last name "Verdun" so that people back in Lansing would know that he was in Verdun, France, thus slipping some information past the censors who read the soldier's letters before they were mailed home.

BENJAMIN KELLEHER

Listed in *Allamakee Journal* among Sept. 1917 draftees

THEODORE A. KERNDT

Born Sept. 15, 1896, in Milwaukee, Wis. Enlisted May 28, 1918; Discharged Feb. 17, 1919 Private First Class, U.S. Army Headquarters Company I COT'S

This Kerndt family lived on Center Street in the early 1900s, and father Charles was a bank cashier. When Theodore Kerndt returned from service, he was a salesman in the Kerndt Bros. Dry Goods store. He later managed the business and when the store closed in 1965, joined the Kerndt bank staff. He is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa*.

MERRIT KEVAN

Born on June 19, 1898

Enlisted Dec. 11, 1917; Discharged Feb. 25, 1919

CLYDE KINNEY

Listed on 1917 poster of veterans who attended Lansing schools

DANIEL KINNEY

Listed on 1917 poster of veterans who attended Lansing schools

PROF. H.L. KLUG

Listed on 1917 poster of veterans who attended Lansing schools

KARL KNOEPFLER

Listed on 1917 poster of veterans who attended Lansing schools

Form No. 724-14, A. G. O.

March 12, 1920.

*Insert "R. A.", "N. G.", "E. R. C.", "N. A.", as case may be, followed by place and date of birth and date of birth, or age at enlistment.

† Give dates of departure from and arrival in the United States.

† Give date.

per cent disabled on date of discharge, in view of occupation.

Was reported.

Remarks:

ALEX KNUTSON

Born on March 10, 1893 in Voss, Norway Enlisted May 18, 1918; Discharged Sept. 28, 1919

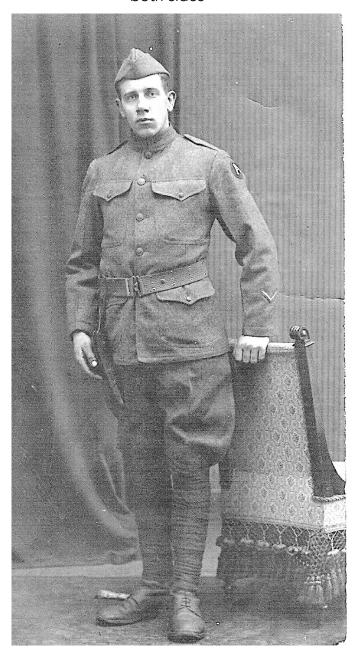
Corporal; U.S. Army 53rd Infantry 6th Division

Alex Knutson immigrated to the U.S. from Norway in 1910. Before the war, he tried his hand at the button factory, farming on the Frank Troendle farm in Center Township and clamming in Waupaca, Wis. He was farming near Elon by 1920 and married Margaret Kehr in 1925. They lived on Center Street in Lansing. Alex died in 1967 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery. He is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.* Alex's uniform, shown at right, is in the museum in Lansing's River Museum.





Alex Knutson's Meuse-Argonne medal, both sides



ENLISTMENT RECORD.

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Memoir written by Alex Knutson

Alex Knutson was born at Flatckval, Voss. Norway, on March 10, 1893. Baptized April 23. Was confirmed October 6, 1907

Attended school in Norway, but at the age of 17 years I and my younger brother, Erick, decided to come to America, and left Bergen, Norway on the 3rd day of September 1910, and arrived at Lansing, Iowa, September 17—where our sister, Mrs. Hans Lone and her family was residing. Worked in the button factory until the summer of 1914. At that time my sister and the family decided to go to Norway, on account of her husband's heart, but a tragedy happened. The boat they were on got run into by another boat in the fog, and the parents and 3 children all got lost at sea. The ship they were on was the Empress of Ireland, and the ship that hit them was the Storstad, a Norwegian ship. The ship had left from Quebec, Canada, and the tragedy happened the first night out. I started out for Quebec in hopes of finding some of them. They had 63 bodies in a morgue at Quebec, but was not able to identify any of my relatives. I then decided to go to Norway to visit my folks and also make the shock easier for them. I left Quebec the 3rd day of June, and spent the summer with my folks. In August 1914 the first world war broke out in Europe, and I had planned on coming back to the USA that fall, but it was hard to get a reservation and also dangerous to cross the Atlantic at that time as the German U Boats were sinking a lot of ships that time including passenger liners. Finally, in November, I got a reservation and got back to Lansing the later part of November. Didn't have any trouble, but it was no pleasure to cross the ocean at that time.

I started to work in the button factory again, but at New Years the button factory shut down so I went to work in the country in January 1915. The first farm I worked on was at the Frank Troendle farm. I was not used to farm work, so had a little trouble to learn how to milk the cows and drive horses, and many other things, but got used to the country life and liked it.

In the spring of 1917 I went out to Wisconsin to try my luck at clamming. My cousin John and Nils Saue went along, also some other boys from Lansing. We clammed on the Wolf and Fox rivers. That summer the U.S. got involved in World War I. I registered for the first draft at Fremont, Waupaca County, Wisconsin and was inducted into the service from Waupaca County, Wisconsin May 1, 1918, was first sent to Columbus Barracks, Ohio, and then to Camp Wadsworth, Spartanburg, So. Carolina for training in the regular infantry. Left U.S. July 5, 1918. Served in the 53rd Infantry regular Army infantry 6th Division. Had part in battles in the Geradmer sector, Vasges Mountains and the Meuse Argonne until the Armistice. After the Armistice I was assigned to the 3rd Army HG Troops American Forces in Germany. First doing guard duty and then as a corporal was assigned to the Chief Motor Transportation Office and served until the end of my enlistment. Was discharged the 18th day of September 1919 at Des Moines, Iowa.

ARTHUR KRIEGER

Enlisted 1918; Discharged 1919 Private, U.S. Army

CALVIN KRIEGER

Born on April 24, 1893, in Brooklyn, N.Y. Private, U.S. Army, Company B 57th Pion Infantry, Pk Battery 4 Corps Artillery Pk Inducted Aug. 12, 1918,; Discharged June 30, 1919

LEO STEPHEN KRIEGER

Born on May 30 1896, in Lansing Enlisted Sept. 18, 1918; Discharged May 7, 1919 Corporal, U.S. Army 350th Infantry

After the war, Leo moved back in with his German immigrant parents on North Street in Lansing. His father, Vincent, was a shoemaker with his own shop. Leo attended cooking school, graduating in 1924, and in the 1930s, worked for a grocer. He married Elsie Moellerman in 1930, and later operated a variety store in Lansing where a business called Thompson's had once operated. The variety store continues to operate, now run by the Horsfalls family. Leo died in1976 and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery. He is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa*.

FERDINAND WILLIAM LAABS

Born on Jan. 3, 1887 Private First Class, BTRY B, 1st Field Artillery

Ferdinand and Jacob Laabs grew up in Lansing, the sons of German immigrants. In 1900, Ferdinand was a resident of the Industrial School for Boys in Eldora, Iowa. On his 1917 draft registration he listed himself as an agriculturalist in South Dakota. He married Edith Bickel in Vermillion, S.D., in 1936. They divorced and Ferndinand remarried, in 1956, to Lenora Ewing. He died in Montana in 1957.



Leo Krieger

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JACOB LAABS

Born Sept. 20, 1888, in Lansing Enlisted July 28, 1917; Discharged April 3, 1919; Purple Heart Medal Reenlisted Aug. 4, 1919; Discharged April 19, 1921

Corporal, U.S. Army 502nd Engineers

Before WWI, Jacob Laabs lived with his parents and some of his brothers on Third Street in Lansing. When he enlisted in the Army in July 1917, the Allamakee Journal (Aug.8,1917) said he had "again enlisted in Uncle Sam's service" and was with the 10th Forestry Engineers at Jefferson Barracks, Mo. He had been a section hand for the railroad. Jacob returned home after finally leaving the military and was living with his brother Henry in 1925 in Allamakee County. He was living in Ruegg, Mo., and working a stone crusher in 1927, but then was in and out of veterans homes in Wisconsin, Illinois, California and Kansas, for the next couple of decades. He died Feb 24,1949, and is buried in Leavenworth National Cemetery, Kansas.

WILLARD JESSIE LANKFORD

Born May 11, 1896, in De Soto, Wis.

In 1910, Willard Lankford lived with his family on Valley Street. His father and older brothers worked odd jobs. Earlier, his father had made his living by clamming. Willard himself was a clammer living in Fremont, Wisconsin, in June 1917. Right after his service in WWI, Willard got married and the couple lived in Waupaca, Wisconsin, with his widowed brother, Albert. Willard worked in a factory. By 1925, he was living with his father, Frank, back in Lansing. A clipping from the *Allamakee Journal* of Oct 21, 1925, says Willard had been working as a border patrol rider in El Paso, Texas, the previous two years. By 1926, he and his father had

Lankford family tragedy: Willard Lankford lost his mother and three siblings in an accident on the river near Lansing in 1912. According to the Sept. 5, 1912 *La Crosse Tribune:*

Run down by her own son in a launch which he could not control, Mrs. Frank Langford of this city and three of her family were thrown from a flat scow in which they had been fishing and drowned Tuesday afternoon. One daughter was saved by the son, Albert, in the launch, but the others disappeared from view almost at once. The accident happened in Winneshiek slough, five miles south of here, near a buoy in the river known as "Drowning Buoy" from the number of deaths that have occurred near it.

The dead are: Mrs. Frank Langford John Langford, 22 Francis Langford, 4 Mabel Langford, 7

Miss Nellie Langford was pulled into the launch and saved.

The family had been fishing since early in the morning, and arrangements had been made for Albert to come for them in the launch late in the afternoon. When he ran toward them in the motorboat he lost control of the engine and could not stop it in time. The larger boat hit the scow in the middle and sank it immediately, the occupants being thrown out. All but Nellie were too far from the boat to be reached by the son at once, and by the time he had the launch under control and back on the spot where the collision took place, the four had disappeared.

The cries of Albert and Nellie brought assistance from the shore quickly, but it was too late to be of value, the bodies not appearing above the surface again. Grappling hooks brought to the surface the bodies of the three children, but Mrs. Langford's body had not been recovered up to a late hour yesterday.

The town of Lansing is horror-stricken over the tragedy, and nearly the whole population joined in the search for the bodies. The surviving members of the family are almost crazed with grief.

moved to Elkhart, Indiana. He spent the rest of his life in Elkhart where in the 1930s and '40s he had a job in a machine shop. Willard died in 1977, having retired from Bendix Corp.

PETER LARSON

Born on Sept. 11, 1891, in Norway Enlisted July 5, 1918; Discharged Aug. 11, 1919 Private First Class, U.S. Marine Corps.

Peter Larson immigrated to the United States in 1909 and within a year was employed as a button cutter at the Lansing button works. He roomed with the Valentine and Caroline Shafer family on Main Street. Peter died on April 9, 1926, and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

ALBERT LeBRESH

Born on Oct. 5, 1899

Albert LeBresh appears in the Iowa census living in Lansing in 1915 and attending school. The May 23, 1917, *Allamakee Journal* said that he had enlisted "some time ago" and was serving on the Mexican border. By 1942, he was working for a road construction company in Rochester, Minn. He died there in 1979.

JULIEN NELSON LeBRESH

Born on July 14, 1896, in Waukon, Iowa

In 1900, Julien LeBresh's family lived in Brownsville, Minn. By 1910, they were living in Houston County, Minn., where Julien's father did odd jobs to support them. After WWI, in 1920, Julien was a laborer in Waupaca, Wis. By 1930, he was a lineman for the telephone company in Milwaukee, was married with children and owned his own home. He moved to Appleton, Wis., by 1935, still working as a lineman. By the time WWII came around, he was working for a drug company. He died in 1971 in Florida.

CHARLES T. LIND

Born Dec. 2, 1888, in Lansing

In 1900, Charles Lind was 10 and living with his family in Lansing Township. His father, a Swedish immigrant, was a butcher. Charles enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1905 and over the next three years, achieved the rank of sergeant in the 5th U.S. Cavalry Troop D. By 1910, he was married and living in Muscatine, Iowa, working as a button cutter. His draft registration in 1917 says he was living in St. Joseph, Michigan, then and working at the Woods and Benoit pearl button works. He later moved to Park Rapids, Minn., where he spent the rest of his life.

ALBERT A. LOESEKE

Born circa 1886 in Guttenberg, Iowa Private, Private First Class Company A 338th Machine Gun Battalion, Company D 321st Machine Gun Battlion Inducted at Waukon, Iowa, on Sept. 18, 1917; Discharged May 26, 1919

LEWIS LONE

Born circa 1892 in Voss, Norway Private, U.S. Army; Company M 349th Infantry, Company B 5th Battlion U.S. Guards, Dev. Bns Camp Dodge Inducted on Feb. 24, 1918; Discharged Dec. 20, 1918

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JOSEPH G. LUTH

Born circa 1895 in Lansing. Private; U.S. Army, Company I 350th Infantry, Company B 125th Machine Gun Battalion, Company D 145th Machine Battalion Inducted at Waukon, Iowa, on Sept. 18, 1917; Discharged May 14, 1919

CARL CARRUTH LYTLE

Born on Jan. 21, 1880, Sterling, III. 1st Lieutenant, U.S. Army

Carl Lytle was recommended by the Surgeon General for commission in the Medical Officers Reserve Corps. He was a physician in Lansing in before WWI.

PHILIP MARTIN

Born in June 1889 in Minnesota

In 1900, Philip and a younger brother lived with their grandmother in Lansing. In 1910, it was just Philip and his grandmother living together on Fourth Street in Lansing. He worked in a butcher shop. The 1915 Iowa state census listing for him said he was working as a chauffeur.

DON McLAREN

Listed on 1917 poster of veterans who attended Lansing schools

DONALD JOHN METCALF

Born on Oct. 14, 1899, in New Albin Enlisted Oct 9, 1918; Discharged Dec. 11, 1918

In 1900, Donald and his brother Herbert Jr. lived in Lansing, where their father worked as a newspaper editor. By 1910, the family had moved to Fremont, Idaho, where Herbert Sr. was editing the newspaper. By the time Donald registered for WWI, in 1917, he lived in Des Moines, Iowa, and worked as an assistant cashier at First Trust & Savings Bank. He lived with his parents at 1453 E. Grand Ave.

The Metcalfs had moved to Ames, Iowa, by 1920. Donald studied finance at New York University and in 1928 married Elizabeth Zwart. The couple celebrated with six months in Europe and then moved in with her parents in Des Moines. Donald became a partner in the investment firm Metcalf, Cowgill & Co. In 1940, Donald was still in finance and Elizabeth was a columnist for the Des Moines newspapers. Her column was called "The Front Row." Donald went back into military service in 1942 at Harvard Naval Training School in Cambridge, Mass., and served in WWII until November 1945. He died in 1983 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery in Lansing.

HERBERT GAUNITZ METCALF

Born May 1, 1898, in Lansing

The 1918 yearbook for Highland Park College in Des Moines, shows that Herbert was president of the Mechanical Engineer's Society. He was also president of the school's Dionysus Dramatic Club. The motto of the club, which had just been organized that year, was "Vita sina litteris mors est," "Life without literature is death." He was also associate editor of the yearbook. Later that year, at the time he registered for WWI, Herbert, age 20, was an inspector at brake shoe business in Erie, Pa.

After the war, Herbert was an orchestra musician in 1920, when the family lived in Ames. Five years later he had married and moved to Davenport, Iowa. There, he was general manager at Lee, Higginson & Co., a Boston-based investment bank, and lived in the Hotel Blackhawk. In 1926, he was named head of the Quincy Trust Firm and moved to Quincy, Ill. By the early 1940s, Herbert and his wife were living in Rock Island, Ill.

WILLIAM MEYERS

Born on April 6, 1899 Corporal, U.S. Army Enlisted 1916; Discharged 1919

William Meyers died on Sept. 7, 1974, and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery.

MYRON ANTHONY MILLER

Born on Nov. 7, 1897, in David City, Neb. Enlisted in Parris Island, S.C., Feb. 28, 1917; Discharged Sept. 30, 1919 Private First Class, U.S. Marines Awarded good conduct medal

Myron Miller is listed in the History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.



Herbert Metcalf

JOHN E. MILLER

Born circa 1883 in Pipestone, Minnesota Inducted at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, on Nov. 23, 1912; E T S Nov. 22, 1919

PROF. J. MOBERG

Listed on 1917 poster of veterans who attended Lansing schools

JOSEPH M. MULHOLLAND

Born circa 1890 in Lansing, Iowa Private, U.S. Army, Headquarters Company 349th Infantry Inducted at Waukon, Iowa, on Feb. 24, 1918; Discharged June 10, 1919 (Same person as below?)

MONTIE J. MULHOLLAND

Listed in *Allamakee Journal* among Sept. 1917 draftees

MICHAEL J. MULLARKEY

Born circa 1887 in Lansing Private, U.S. Army, Machine Gun Company 351st Infantry, Company D 315th Engineers Inducted at Waukon, Iowa, on April 26, 1918; Discharged on June 16, 1919

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FRANCIS L. MURPHY

Listed in *Allamakee Journal* among Sept. 1917 draftees

WILHELM FREDERICK NACHTWEY

Born on April 1, 1896, in Lansing

When he registered for WWI, Wilhelm Nachtwey was a fisherman, working for Joe Gonyier. He played in the Lansing Cadet Band and his draft card said he'd had three years at St. Thomas College in Minnesota. After the war, in 1920, he was living with his cousin Franz Nachtwey's family on Main Street in Lansing. By 1930, Wilhelm was married and living in Chicago. He was an inspector for a hotel. Ten years later, the family had settled in Downers Grove, Ill., and he was a custodian for the post office.

WINFRED "WIN" NACHTWEY

Born on Nov. 9, 1889, in Lansing Enlisted June 14, 1918; Discharged Dec. 20, 1918.

Private, U.S. Army Chemical Welfare Service, Gas Defense Service

Winfred Nachtwey married Lois Siglin in Bruce, Wis., on the day he enlisted in the Army. When Win returned to the U.S., the couple moved to Rusk County, Wis., and then to Apollonia, Wis., where they farmed. Win was school board clerk for several years and the first school bus driver in Bruce, driving for 17 years. He died in 1961.



Wilhelm Nachtwey



Winfred Nachtwey

ALFRED G. NELSON

Born Nov. 17, 1886, in Lansing Corporal, Sergeant; U.S. Army, 163rd Depot Brigade, Company A 87th Infantry Inducted at Great Falls, Montana, on July 26, 1918; Discharged on May 23, 1919

CHARLES EDWARD NELSON

Born May 3, 1885, in Lafayette Township, Allamakee County Enlisted July 30, 1918; Discharged Feb. 8, 1919 Private, U.S. Army Company D 12th Division 212th Engineers

Charles Nelson was a farm hand at age 15 in Lansing Township. He married Daisey Ollaff in 1907 in Lansing. In the early 1940s he was remarried and working for the Works Progress Administration in Muskegon, Michigan. Charles died in 1959 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery in Lansing.

EDWARD NELSON

Listed on 1917 poster of veterans who attended Lansing schools (Same as man listed above?)

JAMES B. NELSON

Born on Feb. 9, 1891, in Lansing

James Nelson grew up on Pearl Street in Lansing. In his late teens he worked in the button factory with an older brother.

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WILLIAM HENRY NELSON

Born June 15, 1892

In 1900 William Nelson lived with his family, including younger brother of Charles Edward Nelson, in Lansing Township. In 1910, he married Myrtle Olloff, but she passed away in November 1918. When William registered for the WWI draft, he was age 26 and self-employed as a fisherman. He said on his draft card that he was supporting his parents. By the time he registered for the WWII draft, he was living in Ferryville, Wis., and working through Freeman Co. Will died in 1955 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

FRED H. NOHLGREN

Born circa 1895 in Wichita Falls, Texas Private First Class, U.S. Army, Company C 9th Infantry, Company C 48 Infantry Enlisted at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, on Feb. 23, 1917; Discharged on Dec. 7, 1918

WALDEMAR NOLL

Born on June 26, 1893, in Lansing

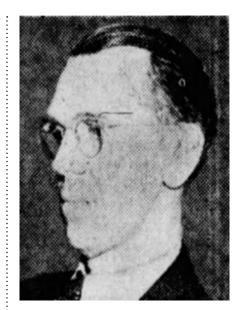
Waldemar was born into a farming family. In 1915, age 22, he was a freshman at the University of Iowa. His 1917 draft card said he was a liberal arts student. A listing of students in the Iowa City paper that year said he was studying physics. He would later write a letter to the editor to the Louisville, Kentucky, newspaper telling people that in a storm, it's best not to seek shelter under a tree, which could attract lightning.

After the war, he married and by the time WWII came around, he lived in Berea, Kentucky, and was chairman of the physics department at Berea College. Waldemar earned a master's degree at Ohio State University and a doctorate at Iowa State University. In addition to Berea College, he taught at Red Oak Junior College and Wake Forest College and North Carolina Wesleyan College. He died in 1968.

GEORGE JEROME "ROMEO" OLAFF

Born on Sept. 19, 1894 Enlisted May 27, 1989; Discharged Sept. 8, 1918 Private, U.S. Army Company D 163rd Depot Brigade (This info from Am Legion history; see different info on Gold Start Museum card, opposite)

George "Romeo" Olaff was a brother of Daisey and Myrtle Ollaff, who married brothers and veterans Charles and William Nelson. Romeo was a fisherman and button cutter before he left for military service. When he returned, he moved back into his parents' home with most of his siblings and went back to fishing. By 1930, he and his new wife, Imogene Lowe, owned their own home on Wall Street in Lansing. Romeo died in 1972 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery. He is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa*.



Waldemar Noll

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industrial # R	AND DECEMBER	C. Induct	ed at Wau Yo	n, Ia		on_May	27, 19 18
Place of birth:	Lansing	La	Ag	e or date o	d birth: _2	6 8/12	yrs
Organizations 1916; 10	served in, with Co 163	dates of assign	ments and tra	nsfers: GC	1, 352	Inf to	June 21
Grades, with d	late of appoint	ment: Pvt					
Engagements:	none						
Wounds or oth	er injuries rece	eived in action:	None.				
		16 to † 7.6, 19.18				. to †	
honorably dis In view of occ	upation he was	te) s, on date of dis	charge, reporte	d66	£/37	per cen	t disabled.
Remarks:		<u> </u>					
Form No. 724 Nov. 22,		* Strike out werds	not applicable.	† Dutes of de s—7880	parture from e	od arrival in	the U.S.

CLEMENT ORRBEN

Born on Nov. 21, 1896 Private, U.S. Army Enlisted Sept. 4, 1918; Discharged Dec. 28, 1918.

Clement grew up on Pearl Street in Lansing. His Swedish immigrant father was a button cutter, his older sister taught in a country school and his older brother was a buckle grinder at the button works. Clement attended all four years of high school and then attended Iowa State College. In 1918, when he enlisted in the Army, he was a sophomore. Clement returned to live with his family right after WWI and in 1924 married. The couple lived in Arkansas in 1935 and by 1940, were in Fort Worth, Texas, where he worked as a soil scientist for the Agriculture Department. He later moved to the Washington, D.C., area. He died in 1982 and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.



Clement Orrben

		Clement L.			* White * C	pletted.
(Sur	name)	(Christian name)	(Army serie	The second second		
Residence:	Box 82	Lans ing	- Gullau	capell	IOWA -	-
	(Street and house	number) (Tos	en or city)	(County)	(8	itate)
Dollars Bank	N C FE I	C. *Inducted at	Waukon Ia		on Sept	4 10 18
Place of birth:	Lansing	la-	Age or date	of birth: No	21/96	
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	200 201	21.10 40 07.00	A			
Engagements:						
Wounds or other	injuries receive	d in action: None.				
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Served overseas f Honorably discha	rom None arged on demob ation he was, or	to t	28/18	, 19		isabled.

	Pete	rson	T homas	2,	.57,658	* White	* Colored.
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Raddamos			Lansin	Al:	lamakoe		IOWA
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Organizations :	second in with	dates of as	signments and	transfera:			
Grades, with d	ate of appoint	ment: p	18/18				
			an Ammona	0			
Engagements:	So	mne;men	res-vicoum				
		dual is not	on None				
Wounds or oth	er injuries reco	ived in acti 10/18 to	on: None.	19 from †			
Wounds or oth Served oversea Honorably disc	er injuries reco s from + May charged on der	ived in acti 10/18 to nobilization	on: None. † May 22/ Jun	19 from †	10.19	to †	
Honorably disc	er injuries reco s from + May charged on der	ived in acti 10/18 to nobilization	on None	19 from †	10.19	to †	

THOMAS PETERSON

Born circa 1889 in Sabula, Iowa Corporal; U.S. Army, Company C 351st Infantry, Company A, 129th Infantry Inducted at Waukon, Iowa, on Feb. 24, 1918; Discharged on June 2, 1919

PEARLEY JOHN PETTIT

Born in 1893 in Soldiers Grove, Wisconsin U.S. Army 35th Engineers, 826th TC

Pearley Pettit left for the European battlefields on Jan. 20, 1818, sailing from Hoboken, N.J. He came home after WWI aboard the *Zeelandia*, arriving in New York on July 31, 1919. He listed his brother, Vern Pettit of Farmersburg, Iowa, as his next of kin. Pearly married Margarite Lane in 1920 in Buchanan, Iowa. Ten years later they were living in Clayton County and John—he was using his middle name by this time— was a farm worker. He died in 1941 and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery.

LAWRENCE POWELL

Listed on 1917 poster of veterans who attended Lansing schools

ALBERT F. PROTSMAN

Born on March 11, 1895, in De Soto, Wis.

When Albert "Abby" Protsman returned from service in WWI he was a cutter at the button factory. By the time the next war came around he had four children living with him and his wife, Fern, and was listed in the census as working on his own account. Abby is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.*

OSCAR BENJAMIN "BEN" PROTSMAN

Born Jan. 31, 1888, in De Soto, Wis.

Oscar "Ben" Protsman was the older brother of Albert and Robert Protsman. They all grew up on Pearl Street and worked in the nearby button works. Like his brothers, he spent time in Waskish, Minn., where their father Willard had a homestead. Oscar married in 1916 to Rosa Newell. When he was drafted, he was working as a clammer in Fremont, Wisconsin, and he and Rosa had a daughter. After the war, Oscar also bought land in Waskish. He bounced around a bit in the next few years, working as machinist in Madison, Wis., and cutting buttons in Fremont. For a while in the mid-1920s Oscar and Rosa came back to Lansing, but by 1930 they had moved to Oregon. They remained there until the early 1950s, Oscar working various jobs. He died in 1971 in Lansing and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.



Albert Protsman



Oscar Protsman

(294)	roame)	(Christian na	me)	(Army serial pas	mbar)	Vhite *Colored.
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Engagements: Wounds or other Served overseas i	injuries received	in action: N	ione.	from †	to †.	

ROBERT "BOB" EDWARD PROTSMAN

Born in De Soto, Wis. Enlisted Sept. 19, 1917, Bemidji, Minn.; Discharged April 19, 1919 Private, U.S. Army Company M 162nd Infantry Purple Heart medal

Robert Protsman worked as button cutter before WWI just as his brother Albert did after the war. When he registered for the 1917 draft, Bob was running a boat in Waskish, Minn., where he had purchased land. After he returned from military service, Robert married Joanna Moller in 1921. He earned his living as a commercial fisherman and river ice harvester. Bob was the ice house foreman at Lansing Fisheries. He died in 1971 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery. Bob is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa*.

GEORGE RELLIHAN

Born on Feb. 2, 1896 in Lansing Corporal, U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps.

George Relliham grew up in Lansing. His Irish immigrant father, who was a plumber, died when George was young. In 1910 George was living with his mother, Kathryn, and two sisters on Second Street. Kathryn is listed as having no employment, but George's sister Mary worked in a general store. After WWI, George found work in Tama, Iowa, as a plumber and in 1925 he had moved to McGregor, Iowa. In 1930, a George Rellihan from Iowa was at the Jefferson Barracks and U.S. Veterans Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri. The census said he had worked as a tinner in the Quartermaster Corps. His 1942 draft card says he was at that time working for the meat packer Armour at its Union Stock Yards in Chicago. He had married a woman named Ellen. When George died, in 1973, was a widower, employed as a custodian in a café in Paramount, Los Angeles County, California.



Robert Protsman

Letter from a Lansing Regular

Letter written by George Rellihan in Yuma, Arizona, Dec. 26, 1917. It ran in the Allamakee Journal.

Dear Old Pal Joe: I know it has been a very long time since I heard from you but I have been very busy of late around the camps and then between acts I work at the Quartermaster's office, so I am quite busy. I have been doing lots of plumbing work the last three months but I have got most everything in that line finished up at the present time.

The commanding officer called me in his office the other day and told me I was to be made Corporal. I am just waiting for my warrant to come back from the southern department. I will jump men with three or four years service but I tell you Joe in the regular army it is not like in the national army.

A person does not get to be made a corporal or sergeant in seven or eight weeks as you have got to deliver the goods and show them you are there like a clock. I don't know how it ever came that the commanding officer ever picked me from 150 men. I told him to let some of the older men have it but he said, "nothing doing, they can't deliver the bacon," so I expect within a few weeks I shall be wearing the stripes.

I expect to work in the Quartermaster's office as one of the corporals who works there is going to an officers' school some time next week. If I get in steady I sure will have lots of work as I will have all the ordinance work to do.

Say Joe, I wish you could see me teaching school. You see we have post school two hours every day for a few foreigners and a few American born citizens that never had much schooling so I was appointed to teach the 4th and 5th grades. I sure make the boys snap out of it. All my pupils call me "The Land-loving U Boat."

Well Joe, how did you spend Christmas? All the boys here seemed to enjoy themselves very much as every one of them received many lovely Xmas packages and then we had a fine dinner, consisting of roast turkey, oyster dressing, mashed potatoes, candied sweet potatoes, corn, peas, fresh vegetables raised here in Yuma, such as radishes, lettuce, cucumbers, celery, sliced tomatoes, pickles, olives, two kinds of cake, raisin and mince pies, fruit salad, apples, oranges, bananas, candy, grapes, coffee, grape juice and then to top it all off a big 10-cent cigar. All the officers sat down to the tables with us and after the meal was over the commanding officer gave us a little talk, and in it were very good "comps" to all the boys in the company.

We have a great football team as we cleaned up the Yuma Indians last Sunday 12 to 0 and they are sure bad ones to beat as every man on their team outweighs ours by 25 pounds. Say Joe, I sent a picture of the company home. If mother did not show it you just go to the house and ask to see it as it sure is some picture.

Well Joe I suppose you are freezing up by this time but when it comes to the weather I don't think the winter climate can be beat here. The days are really hot and when I go out to do any work I have my sleeves rolled up, but today at 10 o'clock the temperature was 80 degrees. You might think I am kidding you but it is straight from the handle. The nights are chilly and a person can wear a sweater well enough but we all sleep with the tent rolled up. Well Joe I don't know any more news to write so will close. Wishing you and the rest of the folks a happy new year.

EDWARD REVOIR

Born on Aug. 8, 1888 Enlisted May 27, 1918, in Waukon; Discharged Jan. 12, 1919 Private, U.S. Army Company M 88th Infantry

Edward worked as a farmhand in Lafayette Township, Allamakee County, before WWI and worked as a hired hand immediately afterward as well. Within a decade he had married Nellie Manning and was farming on his account. Edward died in 1941 and is buried in the cemetery at Wexford Immaculate Conception Cemetery.

EDWIN RISER

Born April 16, 1898, in Lansing

By 1910, Edwin's family had moved to Minneapolis. His father, Henry, was a dentist.

AMOS S. ROBBINS

Born circa 1896 in Dubuque, Iowa Mechanic, U.S. Army, Battery F 3 FA Enlisted at Fort Thomas, Kentucky, on May 25, 1917; Discharged on June 26, 1919

CLYDE HENRY ROEDER

Born on Oct. 18, 1891, in Lansing

Clyde grew up in Lansing, where his father was a button cutter. In 1915, at age 23, he married Charlotte Englehorn. He, too, was a button cutter at that time. By 1917, he had enlisted in the Army and was stationed in Huachita, N.M. According to the July 11, 1917 *Allamakee Journal*, Charlotte visited him for a month in June 1917. In 1920, he and Charlotte were living on Front Street and he was still a button cutter. By 1930, Clyde was the proprietor of a poolroom in Lansing. Some people around Lansing now still remember him as a pool shark. Clyde died in 1968 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery in Lansing.



Edward Revoir

(Surname)	Robbins, Amos 3 1,299,191 white	114
(surname)	The state of the s	1)
Residence:	Gen Del Lansing allamackee IOWA	
(8)	reet and house number) (Town or city) (County) (State)	
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†Born in	Dubuque Iowa _ 21 3/12 yrs	_
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Grades:	Mec June 11/17 _	-
_ Engagements:		_
Wounds or other	injuries received in action: None.	
1 Served overseas:	July 14/18 to June 19/19	
§ Hon. disch.	June 25/19 on demobilization	
Was reported	O per cent disabled on date of discharge, in view of eccupati	on.
Remarks:		-
Form No. 724-13/2, March 12, 1908	A. G. O. *Insert "R. A.", "N. G.", "E. R. C.", "N. A.", as case may be, followed by place date of enlistment, † Give place of birth and date of birth, or age at enlistment, ‡ Give dates of departure from and arrival in the United States. ‡ Give date.	and ant

	21/4
	Roeder, Clyde H 747,873 White
(Surname)	(Christian name) (Army serial number) (Race: White or colored)
Residence: (Str	rest and house number) (Town or city) (County) (State)
* Enlisted in	RA Jefferson Bks Mo Aug 20/15
† Born in	Lansing Iowa 23 10/12 yrs
Organizations:	Tr M 12 Cav to Nov 27/17; Co B 2 MP 3 Div Ths
	to Jan 17/18; Co A 3 Am Tn to July 22/19; Co A 2 Inf to disch.
Grades	Ck Apr 20/17; Pvt_1 cl Sept 4/17; Pvt Apr 10/18;_ Pvt 1 cl May 1/18; Corp Dec 1/18; Pvt Mch 12/19:
Engagements:	
	injuries received in action: None.
‡ Served overseas:	Nch 16/18 to June 2/19
§ Hon: disch.	Juno 4/20 abolishment Ra R
Wasreported	O per cent disabled on date of discharge, in view of occupation.
Remarks	

DELBERT DEWEY ROGGENSACK

Born July 1, 1898, in Lansing Enlisted Oct. 1, 1918; Discharged Dec. 13, 1918

The 1915 census shows Delbert attending school at age 16. He'd had two years of high school at that point. When he returned from the war, he moved back in with his parents and siblings on Main Street in Lansing and got a job as a railway mail clerk. Five years later, Delbert and his new wife, Ruby Belle Waters, were living on Allamakee Street in Waukon. They paid \$30 a month rent. The 1925 Iowa State census stated that Delbert had attended one year of college.

Delbert and Ruby were still in Waukon—with a couple of children and Ruby's mother living with them—in 1930. Delbert was then a salesman for an oil company. By 1940, the job had taken him to Burlington, Iowa. But Delbert's 1942 draft card shows he'd come back to Waukon and was an express clerk in Lansing. Delbert died in 1972 in Elkader. He is buried in Lansing's Oak Hill Cemetery.

GEORGE ROGGENSACK

Born on March 17, 1901, in Lansing

George Roggensack grew up living on Main Street in Lansing. His father, Carl, had a barbershop. In 1920, he was age 18, living with his family and working as an assistant agent in the railway's express office. By 1925, he had a wife, Irene, and a son, and they were living in Des Moines. He lived during the 1930s in Cedar Rapids and was a sales manager for Rosenbaums. George passed away in 1976 and is buried in Highland Memory Gardens Cemetery in Des Moines.

	Hoggensack De.	lbert Dewey	5,250,016	White * Colored.
Residence:	Lansing (Street and house number) (Town or		Allamakee	IOWA (State)
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lace of birth:	Lansing Iowa	Age	or date of birth:	July 1 1898
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JAMES JUDSON ROSENCRANS

Minnesota Quartermaster Corps

A James J. Rosencrans lived in flat 16 of 419 S. 11th St. in Minneapolis in 1918 and 1919. The city directory listed his employer as the U.S. Army. He died on July 3, 1927, and is buried in Gethsename Cemetery.

GEORGE MAT SCHELLHAMMER

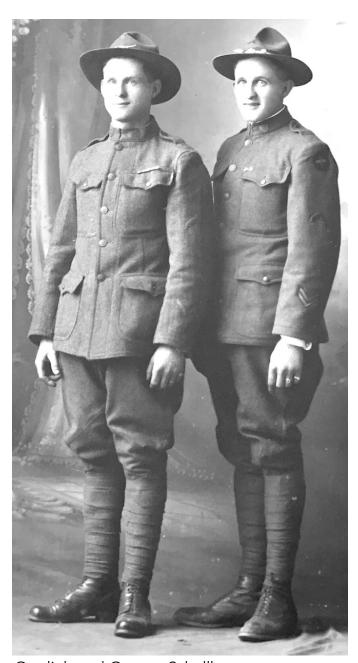
Born on April 2, 1893, in Postville, Iowa

George Schellhammer and his brother Gottlieb were born in Postville but by 1905 their family had moved to Center Township, where they farmed. In 1915, age 21, George was a farmhand. He married Minnie Uren in 1919 and by 1930 was supporting her and their five children by doing odd jobs. By 1940, George was a widower raising his four youngest children. When WWII came around, he was living in Church and working for a relative as a carpenter. George died in West Bend, Iowa, in 1990, and is buried in Lansing Ridge Cemetery.

GOTTLIEB CARL SCHELLHAMMER

Born on May 8, 1888, in Postville, Iowa Enlisted May 27, 1918; Discharged June 14, 1919 Private, U.S. Army Company I 352nd Infantry 88th Division

Gottlieb Schellhammer shipped out on the *Ulysses* on Aug. 16, 1918, from Brooklyn, N.Y. He returned aboard the *Pocohontas* in May 1919. In the late autumn that year, Gottlieb married Ada Bechtel in Lansing's German Presbyterian Church and they moved in with his family. Later in the 1920s, Gottlieb and Ada moved into a frame house at the corner of Dodge and S. Fourth Streets. They lived there for the rest of their lives. He worked as a carpenter, building a warehouse behind Kehr Bros. Hardware in 1935, among other



Gottlieb and George Schellhammer

things. Gottlieb and Anna had no children. He died in 1962 and she died twenty years later. Both are buried in Lansing Ridge Cemetery. Their house was torn down after Ada died. Gottlieb is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa*.

AMBROSE L. SCHOBERT

Born on May 12, 1901, in Post Township, Allamakee County, Iowa Private, U.S. Army

By 1910, Ambrose Schobert's family was living in Lansing Township, where his parents worked odd jobs and an older brother was a section hand for the railroad. Ambrose had nine siblings. After WWI, he lived with his parents and siblings in Lafayette Township and worked as a farmhand on someone else's farm, called "working out." In 1936, Ambrose married Hazel Chanssee in Cook County, Illinois. The 1940 census shows them living in Chicago, where he found work as a laborer through the WPA. Ambrose died in Mankato, Minnesota, in 1969 and is buried at Ft. Snelling National Cemetery in Minneapolis.

EDWARD FERDINAND SCHOBERT

Born on Jan. 21, 1894, in Lansing

Edward was the youngest child in his family. In 1900, he and his family lived in Lansing. His father, Michael, was a barber. In the 1910 census, the family was living on Third Street. Edward registered for service in 1917 at age 24. He was a clerk for the Dubuque Electric Co. at the time, but listed his home address as Lansing. In 1922, he married Josephine Cabral and they moved to California. By 1925, when their first child was born, the family was living in Lathrop, California. The 1930 census shows Edward working as a mail carrier in Castoria, Calif. The 1936 and '38 San Joaquin County, Calif., directories list him as a farmer, but by 1942, Edward was the postmaster in Lathrop, California. He died in 1963 in Lathrop.

ELMER G. SCHOBERT

Born on Jan. 21, 1899, in Postville Enlisted June 2, 1918; Discharged July 9, 1919 Private, U.S. Army Troop K 7th Cavalry

Elmer and Ambrose Schobert were brothers. When Elmer came home from the war he worked as a farm laborer. In the early 1940s he lived in Waterloo and enlisted in the Reserve Corps for WWII, August 1942 to June 1943. He died in 1970 in Lansing and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery in Lansing.



Edward Schobert

OTTO J. SCHOTT

Born circa 1884 in Iowa

Otto Schott is listed on the 1917 poster of WWI veterans who attended Lansing schools. In 1935 and '40, Otto was living on Wilson Avenue in Chicago and had a private medical practice. He was divorced. He died in Lansing on July 4, 1970. His obituaries in the La Crosse and Madison newspapers said he had a widow, Gladys, and a daughter in Milwaukee. Some current Lansing residents recall Otto having had a shady past in Chicago and Wisconsin.

FRANK W. SCHWEINFURTH

Born Dec. 21, 1888, in Lansing Enlisted Feb. 24, 1918; Discharged May 29, 1919 Private First Class, U.S. Army Company A 130th Infantry, 33rd Division

Frank Schweinfurth enlisted in the Army at Waukon, Iowa. He was transferred to Houston, Texas, and assigned to his unit. He went overseas on May 16, 1918, aboard the *Agamemnon* and served in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive. Back in Iowa after the war, Frank lived with his mother in Lansing and became a county road patrolman. He died in 1965 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery. Frank is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa*.

CARL FRED SWEINFURTH

Born May 29, 1895, in Lansing Enlisted July 26, 1918; Discharged Nov. 9, 1919 Private, U.S. Army 31st Infantry

In 1920, Carl lived with three brothers and his mother on Third Street in Lansing. The men all worked as teamsters for the livery barn in town. He married Bernice Bellows in 1928, when he lived in Church. By 1942, his draft registration card said he was farming for Otto Riser. He died in 1978 in Waukon and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery. Carl is listed in the History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.

MARTIN F. SEELEY

Born on May 9, 1895, in New Albin, Iowa Enlisted May 29, 1918; Discharged June 24, 1919 Private, U.S. Army Transportation Corps, 54th Company

Martin Seeley spent his boyhood in New Albin, the son of a fisherman. He married Lydia Sweeney on May 8, 1918, just before enlisting in the military. After WWI the couple lived in Dubuque and Martin was a service manager at Mathey Chevrolet. By the time he filled out a draft registration card for WWII, Martin and Lydia were living in Fort Crook, S.D. He worked for the Fort Crook Quartermaster Motor Base. Martin died on Aug. 24, 1951, and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

(20)	Sweinfurth Frank William 2,158,174 * White * Colored.
	A A A
Residence:	(Street and house number) (Town of cats) (County) (State)
* STATE OF STREET	C. *Inducted at Waukon Iowa on Feb 24 1918
Place of birth: .	Lansing Iowa Age or date of birth: 28 2/12 y
Organizations se	rved in, with dates of assignments and transfers; Co E 351 Inf tp Apr 4/18; Co A 130 Inf to disch
	Fyt 1c1 Mch 1/19 Somme; St Mihiel; Meuse-Argonne
Wounds or other	rinjuries received in action: None.
Served overseas:	from May 16/18 to † May 20/19 from † to † to † to † to
W	arged on demobilization May 29/19 19
Honorably disch	-d1 1 2 2 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Honorably disch	ation he was, on date of discharge, reported per cent disabled.

LEROY "ROY" FRANCIS SHERIFF

Born Sept. 14, 1895, in Allamakee County Enlisted Aug. 14, 1918; Discharged April 9, 1919 Private

Roy Sheriff grew up in the French Creek area of Allamakee County. When he registered for the 1917 draft, Roy was a laborer at the Eagle Point Lime Works in Dubuque. He had married Amanda Spande in 1915 and they had a child. Roy worked as a farm laborer when he first returned from the war. At some point he and Amanda divorced and Roy married a woman named Emma. He and Emma got a house on Wall Street in Lansing before 1935 and he was listed in the 1940 census as a laborer. The couple lived in Dubuque in the mid-1950s. Roy died in 1967 and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery. He is listed in the History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.

FRED SICKLES

Born on April 11, 1891 Enlisted Aug. 29, 1918; Discharged March 4, 1919 Private, U.S. Army Machine Gun Company, 20th Infantry

Fred married Jessie Bolinger in Waukon on Nov. 28, 1925. Five years later, Fred and Jessie had a three-year-old son and an infant daughter and were living in Lafayette Township. Fred worked in a sand pit. He died on June 11, 1956, and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

GEORGE SELMER SIMONSON

Born April 25, 1890

George Selmer Simonson died in 1970, retired from the railroad. Before WWI, he was a member of the Lansing Cadet Band.

CLARENCE C. SMITH

Born on Aug. 15, 1900, in Wisconsin Private, U.S. Army

Clarence Smith appears to have lived his whole life in Wisconsin, largely in Rib Lake. He earned a degree in dentistry from Marquette University in about 1923. Clarence died on Dec. 6, 1966, in Westby, Wis., and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

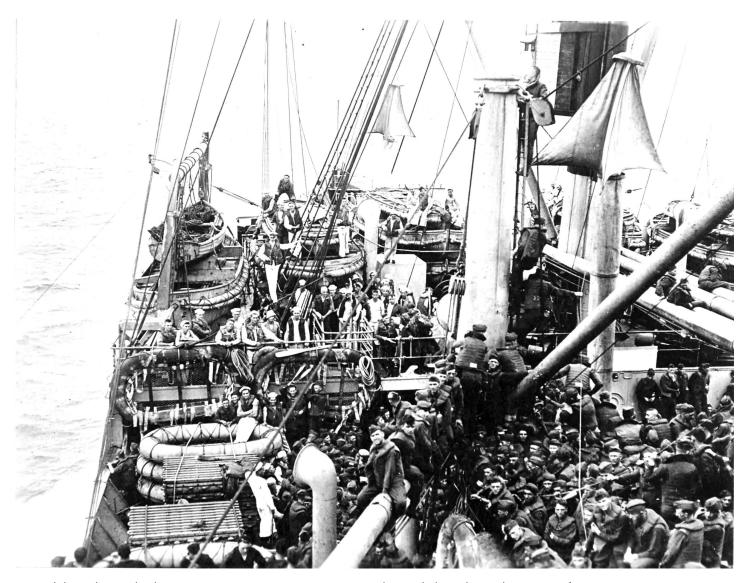
WALTER SHERMAN SMITH

Born Dec. 25, 1891, Prairie du Chien, Wis. Sergeant, U.S. Army 331st Field Artillery, 86th Division

Walter Smith was a button cutter in Lansing at the time of his death, Nov. 26, 1932, and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery.



Selmer Simonson



Ingvald Sorlie sailed to Europe on June, 15, 1918, aboard this ship, the *Leviathan*.

Ancestry.com. U.S., WWI Troop Transport Ships, 1918-1919 [database online]

INGVALD SORLIE

Born April 19, 1896, in Lansing Enlisted Feb. 1918; Discharged June 21, 1919 Private, U.S. Army Company A 32nd Engineers

In 1915, Ingvald Sorlie was 17 years old and in his fourth year of high school in Lansing. His 1917 draft card said he had attended the Iowa Agricultural College for one and a half years. He departed for Europe on June 15, 1918, aboard the *Leviathan*. When the war ended, Ingvald departed from Bordeaux, France, on 27 May 1919, on the *Susquehanna*. He arrived in Newport News, Virginia. Shortly after he returned to the U.S.,

Ingvald worked in a sawmill in Bellingham, Washington. But he sought help for health troubles over the next decade. He was admitted to a veterans home in Sawtelle, California, in 1922 and again in 1925. He was discharged the second time in July 1926. His admission card for the veterans home listed him as single and with a long list of health problems. By 1930, Ingvald was back in Lansing, living with his mother and siblings and working on a stock farm. He died in 1934 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery in Lansing.

EARL FRANCIS SPINNER

Born on Aug. 3, 1894 Enlisted Jan, 24, 1918; Discharged Jan. 23, 1922 Private; U.S. Marine Corps Reserve

Earl Francis Spinner grew up in a large family at Lansing's Fourth and Main Streets. His father was a blacksmith. By 1920, Earl's father, Frank, ran an automobile garage and Earl worked there as a mechanic. He lived at home with his parents and younger siblings. Ten years later, Earl was an assistant foreman on a railroad crew, still living in Lansing. In 1942, his WWII draft card said he was married and employed by the hospital in Hines, Illinois. Earl died April 3, 1956, and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery.

LESLIE PETER SPINNER

Born Jan. 4, 1896

In 1910, 13-year-old Leslie lived with his family on Main Street in Lansing, attending the Catholic school. His father operated his own blacksmith shop. In 1915, Leslie was attending college. After the war, he returned to his father's home. At that time, his father was a wagon maker. Leslie worked for the Iowa State Fish and Game Commission in Lansing.

He married Catherine Doyle of Oak Park, Ill. The 1925 Iowa census shows Leslie still living with his parents and siblings in Lansing, but by 1930, Leslie, his wife and a brother lived in Oak Park, Ill. Leslie and Catherine were both working for a railway, he as a mail clerk and she as an operator. Leslie died in 1959 in Oak Park.

DANIEL SPORES

Born on Feb. 22, 1888, Menominee, Wis. Private, U.S. Army Company E 134th Infantry

Daniel Spores was born in Wisconsin but had moved to Lansing before WWI. He came home from Europe after the war aboard the *Finland*, leaving St. Nazaire, France, on Dec. 18, 1918. By the time he was 53, he and his wife Ada had seven children and were living on Front Street in Lansing. The 1940 census lists no occupation for Daniel, but two years later he was working in Lansing for the Northwest Tie and Lumber Comany. He died in Lansing on Dec. 26, 1966, and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

RICHARD HENRY STAHL

Born Oct. 18, 1895, in Rossville, Iowa Enlisted June 24, 1918; Discharged April 8, 1919

Richard Stahl married Vernie Rush in December 1927 in Waukon. They then moved to and worked for the Ed Roach farm in Jefferson Township. Richard and Vernie rented their own home in the township by 1935. His 1942 draft card says Richard and Vernie were living in Lansing and he worked for D.F. Wolfe. Richard died on April 7, 1985, and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

GUY STRONG

Born July 19, 1892, in Minnesota

Guy Strong's father, James, supported his family by clamming in 1900. By 1910, Guy's father had died and Guy and his brother Henry were living with their mother, Anna, in Lansing. Guy worked as a farmhand. Anna died in 1914. During WWI, Guy served in the Panama Canal Zone. He lived in Fond du Lac, Wis., after the war and then in Sheboygan, where he married Dorothea Middlestadt in 1931. They had a daughter in 1932, and Guy died in 1933, age 40.

MERLE "BABE" STRONG

Born on July 12, 1889, in La Crosse, Wis. Enlisted July 5, 1918; Discharged May 8, 1919 Private First Class, U.S. Army Company D 306th Machine Gun Battalion

After the war, Merle Strong rented a home on Valley Street in Lansing with his wife, Julia, and children. He worked in the box factory. In the mid-1920s they lived in Lafayette Township, but by 1940, the family owned a house on Wall Street in Lansing and Merle was working as a laborer. A couple of years later he was was employed by Ehrlich's Fisheries in Lansing. Merle died in 1957 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

He is listed in the History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.

JOSEPH H. STRUB

Born July 17, 1896, in Lansing Private, U.S. Army, Student Army Training C Company A Iowa State A & M College; Headquarters Company 14 Regiment FA Replacement Draft Camp Jackson, S.C. Inducted at Waukon, Iowa, on Aug. 14, 1918; Discharged Jan. 26, 1919

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LEO CARL STRUB

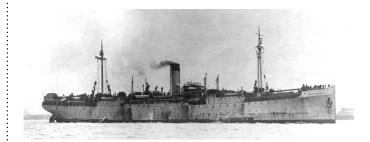
Born Dec. 11, 1898, in Lansing Enlisted June 28, 1918; Discharged Sept. 8, 1919 Seaman, U.S. Navy 2C Great Lakes, III.

In 1910, 11-year-old Leo Strub lived with his family in Lansing Township. His father worked on a grain farm. Leo married Kathryn Corrigan in Harpers Ferry in 1922 and supported their family by farming in Lansing Township. He died in 1984 and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery. Leo is listed in the History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.

JOSEPH P. SWEENEY

Born on May 16, 1897, in Lansing Private, Battery C 2nd Trench Mortar Battalion

Joseph Sweeney lived in Lansing Township as a boy. His father was a mason doing cement work and an older brother was a button cutter. At age 19, Joseph was a general laborer in Lansing. He went to the battlefields aboard the *Cardiganshire*, leaving Boston, Mass., on May 29, 1918. He returned on the *Santa Paula*. Living in Dubuque after the war, Joseph married Clara Fishback in 1927. Between 1935 and 1940, Joseph and Clara moved to Rock Island. He worked as an engineman at the U.S. Arsenal. They had a son and a daughter at that point. Joseph died on Jan. 2, 1972, and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery.



The Santa Paula, which brought Joseph Sweeney back from France.

RICHARD EBEN THOMPSON

Born in March 1893, in Lansing Purple Heart medal recipient

Richard Thompson was a triplet with sister Ruth, who died as an infant, and brother Reuben. Their father was a farmer at the time. In 1910, the family lived on Diagonal Street in Lansing. Before WWI, Richard was a ranch worker in Malta, Montana. When he returned from the war, he lived with Reuben and Reuben's wife, Dorothy, in Malta, where the men worked as farmhands. Dorothy taught school. In 1930 Richard was a lodger in town working as a post office clerk. In 1932, he married Vera Tuttle in Kalispell, Montana, and continued to work at the post office into the '40s. He remained in Malta the rest of his life and died there in 1968.

NORBERT R. THORNTON

Born June 6, 1893 Enlisted April 9, 1918; Discharged Dec. 23, 1918 1st Lieutenant, U.S. Army Civil Engineers-RES

Norbert Thornton was a son of Dr. John Thornton, and grew up in the ornate home on Diagonal Street now known as the Thornton House Bed and Breakfast. He worked as a civil engineer for the railroad in Chicago immediately after WWI and married Roberta Campbell in Vancouver, Wash., in 1934. Norbert's obituary in the Seattle Daily Times, Oct. 24, 1956, says that he was a draftsman for the Northern Pacific Railway. Norbert died in Tacoma, Washington. He had arrived there in the 1930s from Vancouver, Wash., where he was resident officer of the Civilian Conservation Corps. He belonged to the Holy Name Society and the Seattle Council of the Knights of Columbus.

Richard Thompson's family owned the Mount Hosmer land that became the park and war memorial. He sold it to the lowa Legion in 1922 for \$3,000.

Form. No. 794-1, A. G. O. *Strike out words not applicable. † Dates of departure from and arrivel in the U. S.

3-3960

Nov. 22, 1919.

JAMES WILLIAM THORSTEN

Born Sept. 23, 1896, in Minneapolis, Minn. Enlisted Sept. 4, 1918; Discharged Jan. 27, 1919 Wagoner, U.S. Army 87th Infantry

After serving in WWI, James Thorsten was a laborer on the Hirst family farm in Lansing Township. He later operated a stock farm. James died in 1979. He is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.*

RALPH SYDNEY THORSTEN

Born July 16, 1894, in Lansing Enlisted June 15, 1918; Discharged June 9, 1919 Private First Class, U.S. Army #429 Motor Supply Train

When he registered for the WWI draft, Ralph Thorsten, age 22, listed himself as a self-employed painter and decorator. After the war, he married Lonna Ferring and worked as a fish culturist for the state hatchery. Ralph died in 1973 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery. He is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.*

ROY THORSTEN

Born circa 1895

Back from his service in WWI, Roy Thorsten married Mabel Kirkeby in Waukon, Iowa. It was 1923 and he was working as a painter in Lansing.

ROBERT WARREN THORSTENSON

Born on Nov. 17, 1894, in Lansing Enlisted Dec. 5, 1914 Private First Class, U.S. Marine Corps Company A 1st Battalion 6th Regiment 4th Brigade 2nd Division

Robert died on July 10, 1957. He lived at 606 Day Street in Decorah, Iowa, at the time. He is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

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Control of the Contro

MERLE THOMPKINS

Listed on 1917 poster of veterans who attended Lansing schools

CARL E. TOLLEFSON

Born March 15, 1895, in Lansing Enlisted, July 26, 1918; Discharged May 27, 1919 Private, U.S. Army 163rd Depot Brigade

When Carl Tollefson returned from military duty, he worked on his father's farm in Center Township and continued in farm work through the next decades. He is listed in the History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.

WILBER TRAYER TOWLE

Born circa 1901 in Elkport, Iowa

In 1910, Wilber lived with his family on Front Street in Lansing. His father was a station agent at the railroad. After the war, Wilber returned to live with his family and in 1920 was working as a coal passer for the CM & St. Paul railway. He married Mildred Walker in 1925 in Cuyahoga County, Ohio. He was working as civil engineer at the time. Wilber died in Ohio in 1970.

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*Strike out words not applicable.

† Dates of departure from and arrival in the U.S.

GEORGE B. TRAYER

Born Nov. 3, 1898 1st Lieutenant, U.S. Army

In 1910, George lived with his mother on Main Street. In 1930, George and a sister lived together in Lansing and he worked as a trackman for the railroad. A decade later, when George registered for the WWII draft, he was married and working for the Forest Service and living in Alexandria, Virginia. George retired before 1942 and moved back to Lansing.

HAROLD RECTOR TREWIN

Born in May 1890 in Lansing Lieutenant, 135th Aero Squadron, fighting on the Western Front

In 1910, at age 10, Harold lived in Lansing, where his father was a lawyer. He later earned college and law degrees from Dartmouth College and, in 1915, the Iowa College of Law. He was a lawyer with his own practice in Cedar Rapids and a wife and child before the war. The Nov. 28, 1917, Allamakee Journal reported, "In a list of men from the officers' training camp at Fort Snelling, Minn., who are to receive commissions we notice that of Harold Trewin, son of J. H. Trewin, formerly of Lansing. He will receive a commission as First Lieutenant in the Infantry Reserve." Harold returned to his practice in Cedar Rapids after the war. He died in 1942 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery in Lansing.

The Oct. 30, 1946, Allamakee Journal

reported: "Messrs. George Trayer and J. Hall of Alexandria, Va., came last week on a vacation visit with relatives of the former. As is his usual custom George wanted to be here for the opening of duck hunting Saturday and which was exceptionally good this year, nearly every hunter getting his limit of seven birds that day."



Harold Trewin

Learn more about the 135th Aero Squadron on the opposite page.



135th Aero Squadron with their famous mascot dog, Rin Tin Tin, (front row, center) Croix de Metz Aerodrome, Toul, France, November 1918.

The 135th Aero Squadron, which included Lt. Harold Trewin among its members, was a United States Army air service unit that fought on the Western Front during World War I. The squadron was assigned as a Corps Observation Squadron, performing short-range, tactical reconnaissance over the IV Corps, United States First Army sector of the Western Front in France, providing battlefield intelligence. In combat, the 135th was the first Air Service unit equipped with the all- American made Dayton-Wright DH-4 aircraft.

The 135th Aero Squadron, which included Lt. Harold Trewin among its members, was a United States Army air service unit that fought on the Western Front during World War I. The squadron was assigned as a Corps Observation Squadron, performing short-range, tactical reconnaissance over the IV Corps, United States First Army sector of the Western Front in France, providing battlefield intelligence. In combat, the 135th was the first Air Service unit

LEO F. TROENDLE

Born Sept. 1, 1892, in Minnesota Private, U.S. Army Company I 130th Infantry Enlisted Feb. 14, 1918; Discharged May 29, 1919

In 1900, Leo lived with his family in Minneapolis, where his father was a butcher. By 1910, Leo was working as a hired man in Center Township, Allamakee County. Right after his discharge from the Army, he returned to Allamakee County and married Marie Ferring. They farmed in Makee Township in the 1920s and '30s. Leo died in 1937, at age 44, when he fractured his third and fourth cervical vertebrae as he was stone breaking while working in his granary, according to his death certificate. He is buried in St. Mary's Cemetery, Lycurgus.

LEO TULLY

Born May 25, 1889

At age 11, Leo lived in Lansing with his widowed mother and siblings. He was the youngest of five children. His oldest brother, Martin, was a saloon keeper. By 1910, he lived alone with his mother on Main Street in Lansing and worked as a barber. His 1917 draft registration shows that he was still a barber in Lansing employed by C.M. Roggensack. He returned to Lansing, living with his mother again and working as a barber again. In 1922 he was barbering in Dubuque and he married Gertrude Wagner. He had his own shop in 1930 and '40s. He died in 1962 in Dubuque.

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LEO UNTERBERGER

Born on June 12, 1889, in Lansing Enlisted May 10, 1918; Discharged Feb. 20, 1919 Private First Class, U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps

Leo Unterberger grew up on a farm in Linton Township, Allamakee County. Immediately after WWI, Leo returned to Lansing and worked as a salesman at the Model Clothing Store, which his brother-in-law Frank Hilkins managed. The store stood where the Main Channel restaurant and lodging is today. Leo lived with Frank's family as well, on Main Street. Between 1925 and 1930, he married Muriel Miles and they had two children. They had two more children by 1940 and Leo was still with the clothing store. Leo died in 1973 and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery. He is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa*.

JOSEPH VERDON

Born on May 15, 1890 Private, U.S. Army 163rd Depot Brigade

At age 5, Joseph lived with his parents John and Madeline and nine brothers and sisters in Lansing. His father was a general laborer. Five years later, his father was gathering clams for a living. There were 11 children in the household. By 1910, Joseph and three siblings still at home were all working at the button works. On May 20, 1918, Joseph married Florence Protsman. He was a fisherman. The couple lived on South Third Street in Lansing by 1920 and had their first child, Harold. Through the 1930s and '40s, Joseph supported his growing family by cutting buttons, fishing and other labor. At the time of his registration for the WWII draft in 1942, he was employed by Ehrlich Fisheries. Joseph died on Nov. 3, 1965, and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery.



Joseph Verdon

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Inside the Model Clothing Store

HARRY SAMUEL VIER

Born Aug. 27, 1893, in Lansing

In the late 1890s and early 1900s, Harry Vier's father, was a barber in Lansing. At age 6, Harry lived with his parents, a younger sister and his grandmother on his mother's side. By 1910, the family had moved to Mason City and Harry had found work there as a stenographer by 1914. Through the 1920s he was a salesman for a publishing company in Des Moines. He spent a short time in Chicago, but in the 1930s, clerked at a newsstand in Des Moines and lived in the YMCA. By 1940, he had moved back to Mason City. The 1930 census indicates he was a WWI veteran.

HERBERT EUGENE VOLKERT

Born Jan. 8, 1897, in Lansing Private First Class, U.S. Army 163rd Depot Brigade

Herbert Volkert's father was a painter in Lansing in 1900. By 1915, Herbert was also employed as a painter. The previous year he had earned \$700. After the war, he moved back in with his parents, George and Jennie, on Main Street and continued to work as a painter with his father. The three of them were still together in 1930. But by 1940, Jennie had been widowed, remarried and widowed again. She and Herbert were living in Orleans, in northwest Iowa, where he worked for a resort cottage. When he filled out his WWII draft card in 1942, he and his mother were living in Spirit Lake, Iowa, and he was still working as a painter. He spent the last 27 years of his life in Shreveport, Louisiana, where he died in 1971. He had worked for a boat landing and was a member of American Legion Post No. 14.

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LEO GEORGE VOLKERT

Born Jan. 11, 1886, in Lansing

Leo Volkert was an older brother of Herbet Volker. He spent most of his life in La Crosse, Wis., working as a clerk in the railway express office. Leo died in Madison, Wis., in 1962.

CARL N. WAGNER

Born on Aug. 1, 1894

Enlisted Sept. 17, 1917; Discharged Jan. 9, 1919 Sergeant, U.S. Army 163rd Depot Brigade

Carl Wagner grew up on Main Street in Lansing. His father first ran a saloon and then a grocery store. When Carl returned from military service, he became a rural route mail carrier. In 1938, he married Mary Burke. Carl died in 1967 and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery. He is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa*.

E.H. WAGNER

Superintendent Listed among on the 1917 poster of WWI veterans who attended Lansing schools

GUSTAVE C. WAGNER

Born Dec. 15, 1890, in Lansing Enlisted July 26, 1918; Discharged July 19, 1919 Private, U.S. Army Headquarters Det. A.S.C.

The son of German immigrants, Gustave Wagner and several of his brothers and sisters continued to live with their aging mother on Lansing's Main Street in the 1940s. He died in 1955 and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery. He is listed in the History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.

WILLIAM F. WAGNER

Born on Aug. 5, 1898.

William Wagner married Adeline Hammer. He died on Nov. 21, 1978, and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery.

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SAM WALKINGDAY

Born 1891 in Wisconsin

Sam Walkingday made his living as a trapper. He died on Feb. 5, 1919, in McGregor, Iowa, after he was hit by a train, and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery.

ERNEST R. WALTER, REV.

Born April 17, 1895 Enlisted July 26, 1918; Discharged June 2, 1919 Private, U.S. Army Cas. Det. #607

Ernest Walter is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.*

FRED C. WEBER

Born on Aug. 13, 1886

Fred Weber died in July 1988 in Lansing. He is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery. He is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa*.

WILLIAM F. WEBER

Born Aug. 7, 1891, in Lansing Enlisted Fe. 24, 1918; Discharged April 28, 1919 Private, U.S. Army Ordnance Dept.

William Weber died on Nov. 5, 1963. He is listed in the History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.

This item about Sam Walkingday appeared in the Marshalltown, Iowa, *Evening Times-Republican* on Feb. 7, 1919.

"McGregor—Sam Walkingday, a Winnebago Indian, was run down by a Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul train north of here and suffered a fractured skull. Walkingday was totally deaf and consequently did not hear the train approaching. He's a full blooded Winnebago Indian and received his education at Carlisle. His home is in Nebraska, but he came to this district a few years ago and since that time has occupied his time in trapping. It was on such an expedition that the accident occurred. His brothers have been notified and are at the bedside. He is not expected to recover. Walkingday was 28 years old."

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Form No. 724-1½, A. G. O. March 12, 1930.

THEODORE H. WEIPERT

Born on July 24, 1895, in Allamakee County Enlisted May 10, 1918; Discharged June 26, 1919 Private, U.S. Army Company E 34th Infantry

Before WWI, Theodore Weipert worked as a farmhand. He returned to Lansing after his military service and in October 1919 married Florence Strub. He was first employed as a teamster, but in the 1930s and '40s worked as a clerk in the Aschom Bros. store on Lansing's Main Street. Toward the end of his life, he moved to Marquette to be with his daughter. Theodore died in 1968 and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery. He is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa*.

JOHN WELCH

Born circa 1897 in Ferryville, Wisconsin Corporal, U.S. Army; Company M 11th Infantry, Company M 5th Infantry Enlisted at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, on April 27, 1917; Discharged June 20, 1919

THOMAS WELCH

Born circa 1899 in Ferryville, Wisconsin Private First Class, U.S. Army; Company E 11th Infantry

Enlisted at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, on April 17, 1917; Discharged July 26, 1919

BERNARD H. WELLENDORF

Listed in *Allamakee Journal* among Sept. 1917 draftees

Bernard Wellendorf started the Model Bakery in 1912 in the building next to the now empty plaza at the corner of Main and Third Streets. Four generations of Wellendorfs went on to operate the business.

Form No. 724-1, A. G. O. Sarike out words not applicable. *Dates of departure from and arrival in the U.S.

ADAM B. WENDEL

Born on Sept. 4, 1988, in Lansing, Iowa Private, U.S. Army; 163rd Depot Brigade, Compay D 313th Engineers Inducted at Waukon on May 27, 1918; Discharged on June 15, 1919

FRANK EDWARD WENDEL

Born June 3, 1887, in Allamakee County Private, U.S. Army Company F 62nd Infantry

Frank and Harry Wendel were sons of German immigrant farmer William Wendel. In 1900, the family was living in Lansing Township and the boys were in school. But by the time Frank registered for the 1917 draft, he was farming in Montana. A Wendel family history written by Jamie Marie Teff says Frank "was kind of a free spirit. He never married and moved about. He was a trapper by trade and while trapping in Wyoming he also homesteaded 160 acres. He later moved to Tampa, Florida, and lived out his years there." Frank died in 1966 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery in Lansing.

HENRY "HARRY" WENDEL

B. circa 1891 in Allamakee County

By 1920, Harry Wendel had married, started a family and was farming near Eagle Valley Township, Todd County, Minnesota. He married Rhoda Sarff and they adopted a son, Wildref. They farmed there for the rest of their lives, Henry passing away in 1961.



Frank and Harry Wendel

STANLEY FRANCIS WILD

Born March 9, 1897, in Lansing Township, Allamakee County Enlisted in the Navy March 8, 1918; Discharged Dec. 6, 1919

Stanley Wild's father was a farmer. In the first decades of the 1900s the family lived in Lansing Township. In 1930, Stanley was a boarder with the George Johnston family in Ferryville, Wis., selling livestock. Stanley died in 1975 and is he is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery in Lansing.

ALVIN ARTHUR "IG" WILDE

Born Jan. 18, 1897, in Lansing Enlisted March 11, 1918; Discharged Jan. 8, 1919 Private, U.S. Guards, unassigned

Before WWI, Ig Wilde was a cement block maker in New Albin, Iowa. After the war, he returned to Allamakee County, married Ruth Steele and began working in a grocery store. He later owned Wilde's Shoe Store in Lansing. He and Ruth raised their family on North Front Street. Their son John served in the Air Force in World War II, but disappeared in the Bermuda Triangle. He had been engaged to Norma Kehr. His son Mitt still lives in Lansing. Ig died in 1970 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery. He is listed in the History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa.



Alvin Wilde

JOHN WILLIAMS

Listed on the 1917 poster of WWI veterans who attended Lansing schools

JOHN R. WIRTH

Born on Aug. 2, 1897, in Harpers Ferry Enlisted July 26, 1918; Discharged Oct. 18, 1919 Private First Class, U.S. Army Cas Det 1581 Demobilization Group (This info taken from Am Legion history; see card below for different info from Gold Star Museum card.)

John Wirth lived on Center Street in Lansing and worked as button cutter between the wars. John died in 1967 and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery. He did not marry. John is listed in the *History of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion, Lansing, Iowa*.

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ARTHUR EUGENE WITTBECKER

Born Sept. 4, 1893, in Lansing Sergeant, U.S. Army

Six Wittbecker men were members of the Lansing Cadet Band, including Arthur Wittbecker. He was also mentioned in the Aug. 15, 1917, *Allamakee Journal* as being a bugler in the Minnesota National Guard. He eventually retired from working for the railroad. Arthur died in 1966 in Ramsey County, Minn., and is buried at Ft. Snelling National Cemetery.

FRANKLIN GENE WITTBECKER

Born July 30, 1886 Enlisted April 15, 1914 1st Lieutenant, U.S. Army Company H, stationed at St. Paul, Minn.

Frank Wittbecker played in the Lansing Cadet Band in the nineteen teens. Before WWI. he served under General Pershing in Texas on the Mexican border during the Mexican revolution. He also served as a sergeant in the National Guard in Minnesota. During WWI, he was in charge of a camp of German prisoners of war in France. When the war had ended, Frank ended up in Arcadia, Florida, as closing officer at Carlstrom Field in 1919. He stayed on there and in 1922 he married Jessie Mildred Brown Bell, a widow. Frank started a sheet metal business in Arcadia. Like his father and grandfather, he was a tinsmith. Frank entered military service again for WWII as captain of the home guard in Arcadia. He was also a member of the Selective Service Board for DeSoto County, Fla. Frank died in 1958.



Arthur Wittbecker



Franklin Wittbecker

Art and Frank Wittbecker are mentioned in their brother Clarence's letter on the following pages. In November 1917, they were all together at Camp Cody in New Mexico and "feeling great."

"Rack" writes home

Sgt. Clarence J. Wittbecker, HDQR Co. 135th U.S. Inf. Tells of Soldier Life in the South

Camp Cody, N.M., Nov. 4, 1917

Dear Linas: I am afraid I'm a little ungrateful to you folks but I honestly have been all fired busy since we hit here. We all appreciated the "cats" on the train and the boys all know where Lansing is now. You know the surest way to a man's heart is through his stomach, and of course we split all the eats about a dozen ways. In the army everyone does it and it is one of the features of army life that makes its memories so dear to all the old-timers in the service. It is a great equalizer and any man who can't stand the "gaff" is just naturally out of luck.

We had a pretty decent trip down although it was tiresome. Stopped at Dubuque and Davenport for short parades and spent all afternoon and evening in Kansas City, Mo. I was prepared for most anything in the line of country here, as I figured that there could be no worse place on earth to live in than Llano Grande, Texas, where we were last year. But I'll take it all back.

Don't think that there are no girls down here or that we are lonesome. Girls are as plentiful here as 10 ft. cactuses are at 7th and Wabasha streets, St. Paul. It was only two weeks ago that I saw one pass by on a saddle-horse about two miles away. And there are really a lot of people here about as big a crowd as you will find in Como Park on a rainy Monday night in September. Can't walk ten feet without talking to yourself. And it is so lively here that the gay life is beginning to tell on us. Hope they send us to some quiet town like St. Paul to freshen us up a bit before we go across. New Mexico is really a great place—in it's place. That was a grand idea of the gent who put us in the southwest. It certainly keeps reminding us of the Twin Cities—it is so different. The climate here is peculiar to say the least, and that is expressing it much more mildly than I usually do. The days are hot and the nights are cold. We have had several nights when water in the tents would freeze. And when the wind blows the sand is kicked up till a Minnesota blizzard looks like a piker in comparison. One doesn't need to travel to see the country. Just sit in your tent door and one day it blows past from the north and next day the southern part of the state blows back up north. We'll have plenty of "grit" when we get out of here.

You know it is a soldier's prerogative to kick at everything that he gets and we all exercise it, believe me. But at that it is a grand old game. It's a man's game, and it seems mighty fine to stand up at Retreat and salute the old "Star Spangled Banner," and believe me, you get to know what it means, too.

We have started our intensive training and begin our third week of it tomorrow morning at 5:15 a.m. And it is nothing if it isn't intensive. Lots of physical exercises and they are fine. Also a lot of study. I have 62 men now in Hq. Co. and within a week or so will have over 300, the new war strength. I say "I have them" because I have to listen to their tales of woe, settle arguments, get 'em up in the morning, keep 'em busy all day and shag 'em all to bed at night. And then when I have nothing else to do I have to get out all the company correspondence, keep the records, study my own dope and make out pay rolls, etc. Last week I went to bed at about 2 a.m. every

morning and up at 5:15. Don't always run over time but about one-third of the month it is like that. But we'll sure as h—I lick old Kaiser Billy till he'll wish he never got fresh with Uncle Sam's row boats.

We are in what is known as the Sunset Division, which means that we'll be on the job every day, and just as the sunset is the beautiful part of the day, so will the old Sunset Division make the rest of this old army admire 'em. All from Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska and the two Dakotas; corn-fed and "rearin' to go."

Geo. Aschom is getting along fine and will make a cracking good little soldier: clean cut and with a head good for something besides holding his collar on. Frank and Art are feeling great, as I am also. We are feeding good, working hard and have to behave.

And when the 135th "goes over the top" they are going to be all there. Every man takes his training seriously. The Kaiser must be licked and there won't be anything left undone that will help the old 1st. Minn. keep her fine record clean. And if some of us "go out" while we are doing it, as some of us will, we'll at least let the Fritzies know that they were fighting. We have [the] biggest regiment in size in the whole U.S. Army; no man less than 5 feet 6 inches nor under 130 lbs weight. We are all proud of our outfit and are working to make it a better one all the time.

Must ring off and write to the St. Paul folks. Don't have much time to write so have to use what I can. Am getting the *Journal* right along and it is just like a letter to us all. Give our thanks to the bunch who waited up all night to say hello and good bye. Those little things like that all help ... With love—"Rack"

The Lansing Cadet Band, directed by "Slats" Wittbecker performed on the steamboat *J.S.* the fateful night of June 18, 1910. The *J.S.* was one of the most luxurious boats on the river and had a large ballroom and bandstand on the second floor. The *J.S.* had no passenger staterooms, the space instead was devoted to the large dance floor and bandstand.

According to WisconsinShipwrecks.org:

"While the J.S. was traveling on the Mississippi River between LaCrosse, Wisconsin and Lansing, Iowa at Bad Axe Bend with between 1,100 and 1,500 passengers on board, a young boy notified a crew member that smoke was coming through the planks of the hold. After attempting to extinguish the fire, it was decided to evacuate the passengers to Bad Axe Island. So Captain George Nichols nosed the vessel close to the island. A man confined to the ship's jail in the hold supposedly set the fire (he died in the fire). The boats North Star and Harriet towed the J.S. out into the river to make it easier to put out the fire, but to no avail. The vessel burnt to the waterline. The J.S. was then towed to the Wisconsin side of the river and beached about two miles north of Victory, Wisconsin. Rescued passengers were ferried to Genoa, Stoddard, and DeSoto, Wisconsin by numerous boats."

The man in the ship's jail may have been the only one to perish in the flames. Linas's niece, Joanne Kehr recalls that the band director later sued the steamboat company for the loss of the band's instruments and uniforms.

CLARENCE JAMES WITTBECKER

Born May 3, 1891, in Lansing Enlisted June 20, 1916; Discharged Sept. 12, 1919

Band Sergeant, U.S. Army Headquarters, stationed at Minneapolis; during WWI, 1st Lieutenant 39th Infantry 4th Division

In 1900, Clarence and his brothers Frank, Linus and Art lived with their parents and siblings in Lansing. Their father was a clerk in the auditor's office and three older brothers worked at the button factory. Clarence played trombone in the Cadet Band. By 1910, the family had moved to St. Paul, Minn., where father William worked in the sheet metal industry. Clarence, nicknamed "Rack," married Susan Hatch in El Paso, Texas, during the war in August 1818. By 1920, they had moved to West Saint Paul, Minn., and Clarence was an insurance agent for Fire & Marine. In 1940, they were living in Fergus Falls, Minn., and Clarence was an agent for St. Paul Fire Insurance. He died in 1948.

LINAS "SLATS" WITTBECKER

Born Jan. 8, 1880 in Pecatonica, Illinois

In the early 1900s Linas Wittbecker was the director of the Lansing Cadet Band. He married Minnie Lindberg in 1901. When WWI came around, he was still a band master and was a salesman for the button works in Lansing, work he continued after the war. Linas and Minnie moved to St. Paul, Minn., before 1925, and Linas supported them as a musician and then as a music teacher. Minnie died in 1934 and Linus remarried. He died in 1955 in St. Paul.



Clarence Wittbecker



Linas Wittbecker

JOHN E. WOODARD

Born on Aug. 16, 1881, in Bryan, Ohio Enlisted April 6, 1917; Discharged Sept. 13, 1918 Cook, U.S. Army Company G 135th Infantry

John Woodard came to Lansing as a young man and worked in the button factory. After WWI, he was one of several boarders with the Beck family on Main Street in 1920. He continued at the button works until his death from pneumonia in January 1937. He is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery.

ARTHUR C. YOUNG

Born on Aug. 24, 1895, in Lansing Enlisted Feb. 25, 1918 U.S. Army 131st Infantry 33rd Division

Arthur was the youngest son of a stock farmer in Lansing Township. He graduated from Lansing High School in 1913 and began farming with this father. After he enlisted in the Army he spent fifteen months overseas. On his return to Lansing, Arthur hired out as a farmhand, living with his brother and his family in Lafayette Township, Allamakee County. In 1922 he married Mae Erickson of Humbolt, Iowa. Within a couple of years, the young couple bought land near Auburndale, Wis., and set about making improvements to their new home.

Arthur would die tragically just a few years later. According to family history posted on the Find A Grave website, in 1925 Arthur death was helping to shingle the roof of a house his parents were going to move into nearby. Scaffolding gave way and both Arthur and his father fell. Arthur's neck was broken and his skull fractured in the fall. Arthur was buried with full military honors in Oak Hill Cemetery.

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COUNTRIES BOOK								

WILL R. YOOS

Born Sept. 5, 1986, in Lansing Private First Class, U.S. Army; 62nd Regiment TC, 86th Company TC Inducted at Minneapolis, Minn., on May 18, 1918; Discharged July 8, 1919.

Lansing-area women who served in WWI

ANNA KATHRYN STEGER

Born on April 18, 1890, in Lansing Reserve Nurse, Army Nurse Corps.

Anna Steger with parents and siblings on Lansing's Bench Street in 1910. Age 20, she worked as a buckle mounter at the button works. The census that year lists no occupation for her parents, but another of her siblings worked at the button factory, one was a well driller, another did odd jobs, and another worked in a milliner's shop. In the ensuing five years, Anna trained as a nurse at St. Francis School of Nursing in La Crosse, Wis., and was working as a nurse in Lansing in 1915. She reported earning \$800 the year before.

Anna traveled to the WWI European theater on the *Olympic*, departing from New York on Nov. 16, 1918. The *Imperator* brought her home, leaving from Brest, France, and arriving in Hoboken, N.J., on July 13, 1919. Anna was living with three sisters in their parents home in Layfayette Township in 1925. She worked in Wausau, Wis., as a visiting nurse in 1930 and by 1937 was a city nurse in Rhinelander, Wis. She died in June 1978, in Wausau, Wis., where she lived with two of her sisters. She was buried in Lansing's Gethsemane Cemetery.

If you know of more women who served in any capacity in WWI, please leave your name and number with the Meehan Memorial Public Library and someone will contact you to gather information.

CATHERINE A. WAGNER

Born on Oct. 8, 1878 U.S. Army Nurse Corps

Catherine Wagner's father, Henry, was a saloon keeper in Lansing. In 1900, age 22, she and several brothers and sisters were living with their parents in Lansing. In 1905, Catherine had moved to Woodbury, Iowa. By 1915, she was working as a nurse in Lansing, and had earned \$1,000 the previous year.

After the war, Catherine returned from Europe aboard on the *Mobile*, arriving from France at Hoboken, N.J., on July 27, 1919. In 1925, Catherine again lived with her parents and nine other unmarried brothers and sisters in Lansing. She died on Dec. 26, 1963, and is buried in Gethsemane Cemetery.



Citizens of Lansing, Iowa, celebrated in the streets when peace was declared, Armistice Day, Nov. 11, 1918.





Lansing's Sept. 18, '17 Quota. Photographer V. Ahlstrom



Escorting "Our Boys" on their way. Sept. 18, 1917. Photographer V. Ahlstrom

Parade photos courtesy Main Street Lansing.



A banner with rows of stars hangs over Lansing's Main Street.



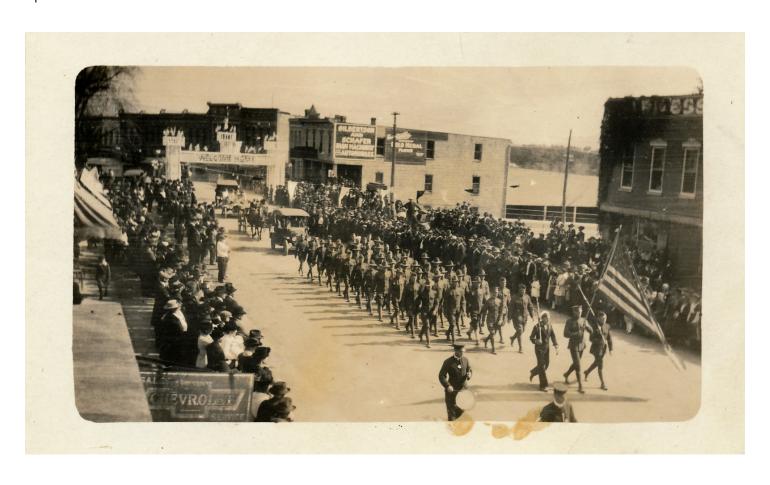
Lansing welcomed home its soldiers and nurses with a day of celebration on Oct. 8, 1919. Parade units passed through this specially built arch.







Catholic school children walk in the welcome home parade for the enlisted men and women, starting up Main Street from Front Street.







Among the women who enlisted in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps were at least two Lansing-area residents.









A touring WWI tank was part of the Lansing celebrations on Oct. 8, 1919.

Poster boards were part of a program at Meehan Memorial Lansing Public Library on Nov. 12, 2018.

This exhibit commemorates the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day—the end of World War I—on Nov. 11, 1918, and the Lansing-area military veterans who served during that conflict.

America and World War I

Buffered by the Atlantic Ocean, the United States stayed out of the Great War when it began in 1914. But that changed when Germany sank the British ocean liner Lusitania, attacked U.S. merchant ships and tried to recruit Mexico to join its side.

On April 6, 1917, the United States declared war on Germany and began sending some 2 million troops to battlefields in Western Europe. More than 116,000 of them died during six months of active combat, but their sacrifice tipped the balance of the war in favor of the Allied Forces.

By fall of 1918, Germany was in an untenable position. Its primary cohorts – Austria-Hungary and the Ottoman Empire

 had abandoned the battlefield, and its civilian population was starving and exhausted after more than four years of global warfare.

Short on manpower and supplies, it faced imminent invasion. On Nov. 11, 1918, German leaders boarded a railroad car near Compiegne, France, and signed an armistice agreement. World War I was over.

In the end, trench warfare and the first use of machine guns and chemical weapons brought unprecedented death and destruction to Europe. More than 9 million soldiers died and 21 million were wounded. Another five million civilians died from disease, starvation or exposure.

Iowa's Enlisted Men and Casualties

In 1919, a year after World War I ended, the Iowa Legislature created the Iowa War Roster Commission to compile a list of all the Iowa soldiers, sailors and Marines who served along the Mexican border and in World War I between 1916 and 1919. Accordingly, the commission published the following statistics in the Journal of the Senate on January 15, 1929:

- 114,217 Iowans enlisted in World War I
- 54,147 lowans served overseas
- 3,576 Iowans gave their lives

These numbers reflect those who entered the service from the state of lowa.

In 1973, a fire at the National Personnel Records Center destroyed 80% of Army records from World War I. In 2017, the State Historical Society of Iowa began a project to digitize existing collections and research Iowa's World War I casualties. The following numbers reflect the best information available at the time this display was created, in 2018, and reflect those who entered service from the state of Iowa, in addition to native Iowans who entered the service in another state or country:

- 4,088 Iowan casualties
- 58 Iowans were originally reported as casualties but did, in fact, survive



Men from Lansing who enlisted in September 1917 line up for a photo on Main Street. The man at far left may be Mr. Ehrlich, who owned the fish market at the time. Next to him is Albert "Abbie" Protsman.

Of those Iowan casualties . . .

- 3,733 served in the U.S. Army
- 233 served in the U.S. Navy
- 67 served in the U.S. Marines
- 17 served in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps, Red Cross and YMCA
- 33 served in the Canadian Army
- 5 served in the British Army

Lansing memorializes veterans on Mount Hosmer

Iowa Legionnaire, July 3, 1922:

Will dedicate Lansing hills to war heros

At a meeting of citizens held at the council chamber the matter of providing some suitable and substantial memorial for the soldiers and sailors of the world war was discussed at some length. It was the general concensus of opinion that the memory of the boys who made the supreme sacrifice, as well as those who went forth so willingly and loyally when God and humanity called, should ever be cherished and held dear as the city's pride.

Some places show their appreciation of the valor of the boys by building memorial halls, arches or community club houses in their honor, but here in Lansing we have a natural and most significant memorial, built by Nature's God and everlasting, in Mt. Hosmer* and two adjacent hills, embodying a tract of about fifty acres, and looking down an altitude of nearly 500 feet upon the city nestling at its base.

* WWI veteran Richard Thompson's family owned land that became the park and war memorial. He sold it to the Legion in 1922 for \$3,000.

"Motion made and seconded that the three points in the Memorial Park be named as follows: The point to the West, Beck Point; the point to the South, Strong Point; the point to the East, Glynn Point. Motion carried."

—Notes from Regular Meeting of Lansing Post No. 50 American Legion—May 5, 1923



Mount Hosmer Memorial Park circa 1930



Mount Hosmer postcard

Mt. Hosmer points named for 3 men

WILLIAM E. BECK

Born June 1894 in Lansing Private, U.S. Army 126th Infantry Regiment, 32nd Division, Company G Killed in action on Aug. 4, 1918



GEORGE H. GLYNN

Born April 22, 1895, in Lansing Private, U.S. Army 125th Infantry Regiment, 32nd Division, Medical Detachment Died of wounds on Oct 4, 1918, in France



ROBERT STRONG

Born circa 1894 Private, U.S. Army 39th Infantry Regiment, 4th Division, Company G Killed in action on Oct. 2, 1918



Iowa State Historical Society photo:

A warm welcome home



World War I ended Nov. 11, 1818, but the men did not come home immediately, as the soldiers, sailors, Red Cr nurses and doctors and other military personnel served out their terms of enlistment. Lansing's veterans trickle back to lowa or elsewhere in the United States through most of 1919. The town's citizens were finally able to celebrate the return of their veterans with a full day of events on Oct. 8, 1919.

Soldiers and Sailors HOMECOMING CELEBRATION

Oct. 8, 1919

PROGRAM OF THE DAY

10 a.m.: Ball Game—New Albin vs. Mays Prairie 11:30 a.m.: Aeroplane Exhibition flight. Music by Band during flight

1 p.m.: Grand Civic Parade including Soldiers and Sailors of all wars

1:30 p.m.: Explanation of the new road law by a competent speaker

1:45 p.m.: Address by Hon. John F. Doherty of La Crosse. Wis.

2:15 p.m.: Ball Game—Waukon vs. Lansing During the afternoon ball game various races and games will be provided on Main Street for the amusement of those not caring to see the baseball game.

4:15 p.m.: Aeroplane Exhibition Flight **4:45 p.m.:** Games and races on Main Street

5 p.m.: Retreat

5:30 p.m.: Free Supper for Soldiers, Sailors and their ladies, and for Red Cross Nurses and their

partners, at Parish Auditorium 7 p.m.: Band Concert on River 7:45 p.m. Fireworks on River

8:30 p.m.: 2 big dances, excellent music. Jazz Dance at McCabe Hall; Old Times Dance at Parish Hall

Doughboys, Gobs, Devil Dogs, Red Cross Nurses, Red Cros Doctors, veterans of all wars and their partners, also Gold Star parents are admitted to everything free.

All service men are requested to bring their metal tags or discharge papers. We'll be glad to have you wear your uniform but if you don't care to do so then bring your tag or discharge papers. A recruiting officer will be here on this day and he will distribute Victory Buttons to all service mer presenting discharge papers. You cannot get these Bronze Victory Buttons without your discharge papers.

Aeroplane will make passenger flights at all times of the day except while engaged in the Exhibition Flights and during the afternoon ball game. If you are not satisfied with staying on the ground, here's your chance to fly over the most beautiful spot in Iowa for a nominal fee.

*The Allamakee Journal reported the following week that the weather had been ideal. The ballgames were won by Mays Prairie (11-3) and Lansing (5-1). In the evening, an electric lighted barge conveyed the Lansing Band up and down the river in concert. Two things went awry: A spark from the fireworks set off on an island across from town fell into the box of fireworks and "they went off in a heap." Also, the aeroplane failed to show up due to mechanical troubles.

Lieutenant Harold Trewin, born in Lansing in 1890, served with the 135th Aero Squadron,

a United States Army air service unit that fought on the Western Front during World War I.

The squadron was assigned as a Corps Observation Squadron, performing short-range, tactical reconnaissance over the IV Corps, United States First Army sector of the Western Front in France, providing battlefield intelligence. In combat, the 135th was the first Air Service unit equipped with the all-American made Dayton-Wright DH-4aircraft.

The squadron returned to the United States in June 1919 and became part of the permanent United States Army Air Service in 1921, being re-designated as the 22nd Squadron (Observation).

—Wikipedia



A Dayton-Wright DH-4 No. 4 flown by the 135th Aero Squadron



Harold Trewin



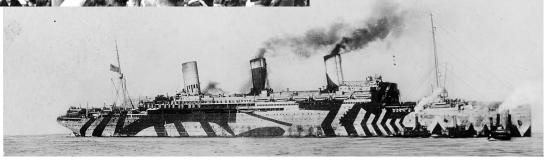
135th Aero Squadron with their famous mascot dog, Rin Tin Tin, (front row, center) Croix de Metz Aerodrome, Toul, France, November 1918.

By air and by sea



Private Ingvald Sorlie, born in Lansing in April 1896,

departed for the European front aboard the *Leviathan* on June 18, 1918. The *Leviathan* was formerly a German liner known as the *Vaterland*. It had a carrying capacity of 12,000 troops.



Alex Knudson, a Norwegian immigrant to Allamakee County, had returned to Norway to visit his parents in 1914 and when he tried to return was held up because the war had begun. A few years later, after the U.S. entered the war, Alex enlisted in the Army, serving in the 53rd Infantry 6th Division. Here is an excerpt from a memoir he wrote years later:

"In August 1914 the first world war broke out in Europe, and I had planned on coming back to the USA that fall, but it was hard to get a reservation and also dangerous to cross the Atlantic at that time as the German U Boats were sinking a lot of ships that time including passenger liners. Finally, in November, I got a reservation and got back to Lansing the later part of November. Didn't have any trouble, but it was no pleasure to cross the ocean at that time...."



ON ACTIVE SERVICE bein quite disagreeable lately cally, but at This writing and Then rode in Lories on truels. were driven by traverecause an

A memoir and a message from the front

This is the first page of a letter that Bill Kehr wrote to his wife, Mabel, from the Western Front in France in 1918. He was a private in U.S. Army Company K 132nd Infantry. Shortly before the armistice, Bill was wounded in the ankle while carrying out his duties as a runner, delivering messages on foot during battle. He was awarded the Purple Heart medal as a result.



Read the complete memoir and letter in the binder that accompanies this exhibit.