

# CASS COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter October 2019

## OCTOBER MTG: THURSDAY, 24

The October meeting of Cass County Genealogical Society will be in the meeting room at Atlantic Public Library on Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1 pm.

Roll call is: A Halloween experience or story.

The program will be given by Mary Rendleman Gilchrist. She will share her experiences in writing her book "**The Rendleman Family Tapestry**" – *The Warp and Weft of the Rendleman and Dodge Family Fabric*.

Maybe you will be motivated to add to your "book."

LaVon

## Do you hear about Herring?

Do you hear people talk about the Herring Building? It has been the home of various businesses since 1910. It was built to house the Atlantic Automobile Company established by Clyde Herring. The showroom featured elaborate chandeliers, huge plate glass windows and potted plants..



An article from Atlantic News Telegraph:

## **WORK PROGRESSING ON NEW ATLANTIC AUTO CO. BUILDING**

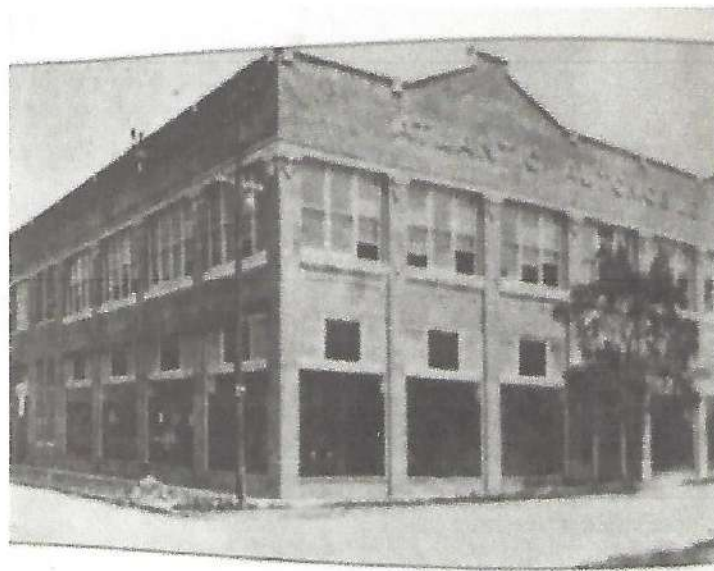
The new Herring building on third and Poplar Street is now rapidly nearing completion. The workmen are putting on the roof and placing the windows.

Four of the large piling supporting the roof sank several inches when the ground was thawed by the spring weather of the last two weeks, necessitating the placing of larger piling.

The work is handicapped at the present time by the inability to secure gravel and other necessary materials and by the lack of carpenters.

Foreman Sievort stated that the rulings of the unions in regard to apprentices was the cause of a big share of their trouble. The contracting firm of Weitz & Son employ from twenty-five to one hundred bricklayers the year round and are only allowed one apprentice.

At the present rate of progress the building will be ready for occupancy about the first of May.



Ford cars were shipped on the railroad without many parts. They were uncrated, wheels attached and towed to the building, put on elevator to an upper floor where assembly was completed. There was space to drive them around the space. The building filled half a block and cost \$200,000.

## Note From Mary



### HERRING, Clyde LaVerne, (1879 - 1945)

Senate Years of Service: 1937-1943  
Party: Democrat



Captain U.S. Senate  
Herring's Office

HERRING, Clyde LaVerne, a Senator from Iowa, born in Jackson, Jackson County, Mich., May 3, 1879, attended the public schools; moved to Detroit, Mich., in 1897, served as a private in Company D, Third Michigan Regiment, in the Spanish-American War; moved to Colorado Springs, Colo., and engaged in ranching 1902-1906, moved to Massena, Iowa, and engaged in agricultural pursuits 1906-1908; entered the automobile business in Atlantic, Iowa, 1908-1910; moved to Des Moines, Iowa, in 1910 and continued in the automobile business; during the First World War served with the Iowa National Guard on the Mexican border; unsuccessful candidate for Governor of Iowa in 1920; unsuccessful candidate for election to the United States Senate in 1922; member of the Democratic National Committee of Iowa 1924-1928; Governor of Iowa 1937-1937, elected as a Democrat to the United States Senate for five terms beginning January 3, 1937, but did not qualify until the expiration of his term as Governor, and served from January 15, 1937, to January 3, 1943; unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1942; senior assistant administrator in the Office of Price Administration 1943; resumed the automobile business in Des Moines, Iowa; died in Washington, D. C., September 15, 1945; interment in Glendale Cemetery, Des Moines, Iowa.

How often do we say "Nothing exciting ever happens in our small town or county"? I found it rather exciting to learn a former Cass County resident became the Governor of Iowa and served other political offices. I decided to do some research on his family. LaVon has already told you about the business he built here in Atlantic and Des Moines. I want to uncover information on his family. According to his obituary published in *The Atlantic News Telegraph* on Sep. 17, 1945, Clyde L. Herring was born May 3, 1879 on a farm near Jackson, MI., the son of James G. and Stella Addison Herring. He attended a one-room school. He married Miss Emma Pearl Spinney of Mobile, AL. on Feb. 7, 1901. They married in Detroit where he was employed as a watch repairman. Emma Pearl was the daughter of A. B. and Emma Cook Spinny. Her father was a physician and a large land owner in Victoria township Cass County, IA.

The newlyweds lived in CO. for 5 years until moving to a farm near Massena. Surviving are the widow, two sons, Capt. Clyde Edsel Herring of Camp Meade, Md., and LaVerne Herring of Washington, D. C., a brother Ernest E. Herring of Atlantic. As stated above, C. L. Herring is buried in Glendale Cemetery, Des Moines, IA.

The obituary for J. G. Herring, father of C. L. was published February 12, 1945 in *The Atlantic News Telegraph*. J. G. was born at Tecumseh, MI. on Nov. 12, 1856 the son of David and Mary Herring who were native of England. Mr. Herring was married in

Tecumseh, MI. to Estelle Mae Addison. The couple moved to CO. and in 1907 moved to Atlantic. Mr. Herring was engaged with his sons, Clyde and E. E. Herring in the automobile business. James G. Herring was a former member of the Atlantic City Council. Survivors are the two sons C. L. Herring and Ernest E. Herring of Atlantic. Mrs. Herring and a daughter, Mrs. W. E. Wissler of Atlantic preceded him in death.

While searching for information on the Herring Family I stumbled upon an article in the *Telegraph* dated June 11, 1945. It was written by E. P. Chase. **CAPTAIN HERRING TELLS OF EXPERIENCES AS WAR PRISONER** Washington, D. C. --Among the 10,000 GI's home from the European theatre of war who landed in New York Sunday were several hundred Iowans. One of the number was Capt. Clyde Edsel Herring, somewhat of a favorite person with former U. S. Senator Clyde L. Herring, his dad. Capt. Herring did not talk much about his service and referred to his prison camp experiences only when urged. A lot of marching in bitter cold weather, during which his feet were frostbitten, riding in cold box cars for days without food and harrowing experiences made up part of the record. At the landing (in NY) Capt. Herring was in charge of a number of war prisoners. Herring reported food was always scarce and when Red Cross boxes did not arrive, Americans went hungry. In prison camp Capt. Herring met a Capt. Eldridge who lived in Atlantic as a boy. I assume he is the son of Dan Eldridge, once manager of the old Atlantic Opera House.

Among other G.I.'s returning with Herring were Capt. Don Wilkinson of Atlantic. (If you are interested in reading this article in its entirety, it can be found in the newspaper archives on the library home page mh.)

Another interesting news article was found June 20, 1934 in the *Telegraph*. Des Moines—LaVerne Herring, 30, son of Gov. Clyde L. Herring of Iowa and the former well known resident of Atlantic, is a machine gun guard on a truck carrying liquor to Iowa's state-owned stores, it was learned today. He is employed by a transfer company hauling the liquor for the state liquor control board. Although he has not yet been told what the pay will be, he likes the work, his mother said. He lives here at his parents' home with his new bride, the former Mrs. Theola Housh.