



NEWSLETTER

IXL Historical Museum • May, 2005

Preserving Hermansville's History



Hermansville Bank Robbery—May 31, 1932

Excerpt from the Menominee Herald Leader, June 5, 1932.

Modest, clear thinking Doris Behrend, Powers telephone operator, was disclosed Sunday as one of the chief foes of the Hermansville bank robbers in their flight Tuesday.

Miss Behrend knew Sheriff Edward Reindl was at Wilson and when she received first notice of the Hermansville holdup she flashed a warning to Sheriff Reindl, who was informed within a



few minutes of the robbery.

Miss Behrend then called the State Police Post at Iron Mountain and began a systematic series of alarms to nearby villages to be on the lookout for the getaway car of the bandits.

When the sheriff's office and state police requested that a telephone alarm be broadcast they learned that they had been anticipated and the work was already done.

The three captured and held here for participation in the bank robbery are the Kunasiewicz brothers Edward, 19, and John, 18, and Frank Jacobinski. The latter's brother, John, believed to have been the fourth member of the quartet in the Hermansville job, is being hunted in the wooded district between Sagola and Amasa.

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www.hermansville.com

Hermansville History...

The Office Building, currently the Museum, was built in 1882... finished in the spring of 1883.

IXL HISTORICAL MUSEUM UP-DATE

Although the Museum is closed after Labor Day except for possible tours, there are still some activities that do occur over the winter months.

We had our Annual Christmas Dinner at the American Legion Hall on Friday evening December 3rd. The Legion Auxiliary prepared delicious food, and once again the Whitens Musicians entertained us, MC'd by Russel Whitens and featuring his sister, Jolaine, a talented singer. A fun time was had by all.

This was also the year for our Museum's bi-annual "Old Fashioned Christmas Open House". At our meeting in November there was a discussion as to whether or not to continue with this event because of all the work involved and the uncertainty of the weather. However, we were unable to think of a suitable substitute program in which the school children could be involved. Therefore, we did proceed with the "Open House" for another year. Fortunately, we did have a good number of visitors on the first day, Saturday, December 11th, and we did have a good number of generous donations, which were much appreciated and which made the effort worthwhile. Unfortunately, on Saturday night we had quite a snowstorm, which blocked a number of roads, although Eugene Arduin and Alan Whitens did manage to clear access to the Museum in time for opening. Our volunteers and musicians all managed to appear, but only a few

visitors braved the piles of snow to come to the museum that day. The elementary school children had made unique decorations for the Christmas tree downstairs, and we did have the elementary school classes visit the museum over the next three days before we took all the decorations down. On the whole, most of us felt that the project was worth doing.

Our Museum Board had two unscheduled meetings, one on January 31st to discuss problems connected with the possible donation to the Museum of the Wilson Depot from the Naser Oil Company in Powers, and the other one on February 28th for more discussion concerning the depot but also to discuss applying for a grant from the Michigan Department of History, Arts and Libraries, which we had just learned was being offered. We are hoping to use this grant to help us to begin to construct a pole building in which to display some of the larger historical items, some of which are outdoors and some of which are stored in other buildings in the community. We are also submitting an application for a grant from the Hannahville Community for help with this same project.

A regular Museum Meeting was held on April 11th. Since Bruce Andrews had submitted his resignation from the Museum Board of Directors last fall, there was a need to fill this vacancy. The search for a possible replacement re-

vealed that our Hermansville Librarian, Laurie Riedy (Mrs. Kim Riedy), would be willing to serve. She was therefore appointed to fill out Bruce Andrews' term which expires next October, at which time she could be elected to serve a term of six years in accordance with the Museum By-laws.

Other items discussed at this meeting were plans for a Chili Supper, at which we hope to start signing up volunteers to fill our calendar for the summer season, plans for cleaning the museum and plans for possible attendance at the Northland Consortium meeting in Marquette on May 21, 2005.

It should be mentioned that our number of museum memberships has been dropping considerably. Therefore, we are urging everyone to "Tell a Neighbor, Tell a Relative or Tell a Friend" to join our Museum membership. All we ask is \$5.00 per person per year or \$10.00 per family. Benefits of membership include visitation to the Museum any number of times during that year and also includes a subscription to our Museum Newsletter.

Any donations of cash are also much appreciated and are put to good use in helping us to preserve our area history.

History of Luft's Advertiser

In the late 1930's and 1940's a young bachelor ran a grocery business in Hermansville. His name was Herman P. Luft. He also had an interest in printing. An older brother had a small printing press that Herman used to print a flyer listing his grocery specials. Other business people in Hermansville asked if he would print their ad on the back of his grocery flyer. After a few years the printing business was becoming larger so Herman decided to discontinue selling groceries and began printing the "Luft Press" (as it was titled at that time) on a regular basis in the early 1950's. This small paper continued to grow over the years until Herman died in 1964.

Following the death of Herman P. Luft in 1964, his brother Fred's wife, Irene Luft, decided to try running the business as a part time job. She changed

the name to "Luft's Advertiser", and with the help of her husband and children, Leroy and Darlene, and a former employee of Herman's, Arthur LeBombard, she successfully continued to build the printing business into a substantial enterprise. As the years went by and her children left home Irene found the business too much to handle on her own, even though her daughter-in-law, Mary Luft, and son-in-law, Ken Bertolini, were helping out at this time.

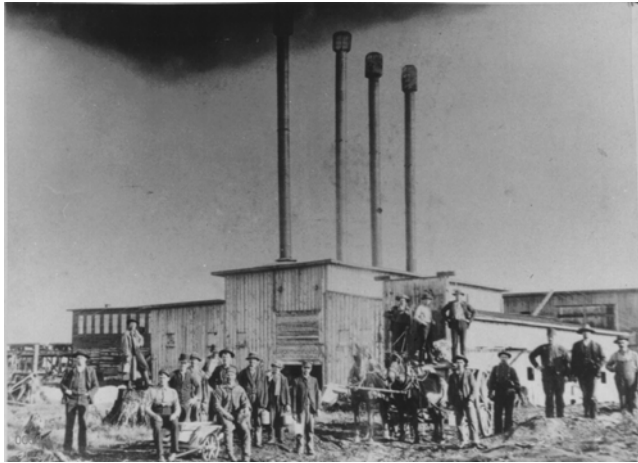
In 1976 Irene Luft's daughter and son-in-law, Darlene and Ken Bertolini, took over the business on a full time basis. With the help of their children, David Keith, Darin, Kyle; nephew, Aaron; and David's friend, Brett, the business continued to grow and thrive.

From the beginning, the type was hand set one letter at a time and the paper

was printed by hand, fed one sheet at a time into the press. In 1999 a change took place in which the set-up was done by computer and printing was done by digital duplicator. The assembly and folding of the pages continues to this day to be done by hand at the kitchen table.

At the end of this year, Darlene and Ken Bertolini will be retiring and the business will be taken over by their son and daughter-in-law, Darin and Vicki (Bellefeuille) Bertolini. Darin and Vicki have purchased the former Christenson Building Supply building on Third Street in Hermansville and the printing business will be moving into this building as of January 1, 2005. With luck, hard work and the support of advertisers and readers, this story will continue well into the future. . . . From "Luft's Advertiser".

A Glimpse of the Past



Sawmill #2 about 1888.



Linden Street



Hotel Herman was built on the corner of Main and Second St. in 1888 and burned on June 24th, 1890, the day of its completion. Construction cost totaled \$8,927.97.



Old Pine Shingle Mill crew at the second #1 mill. George Marchaterre, Bill Maves, Bill Hartnett, Mike Hartnett, are some of the crew



Loading logs about 7 miles east at Farnum. Loading logs on the Soo Line with the old Austrian Loader.



One of the first cottages...built around 1880, known as the Radford House. This picture was taken around 1887.

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We're on the web!

www.hermansville.com

Preserving Hermansville's history with the help and generous support of people like you!

Baby Advice

Excerpts from "Baby Advice 1915 For the Mother of Margaret Berry

The following excerpts are taken from "Baby Advice", a booklet compiled in 1915 for a baby shower given prior to the birth of Margaret Berry to the then Methodist Church pastor, Rev. Herbert Berry, and his wife. Contributions were requested from guests at the shower, in rhyme when possible.

How To Bring Up a Baby K.H.D.

I can give very little advice about how to bring up a baby. Although my family is small, I have had quite a variety of dispositions to train, but my experience is this. I have walked the floor and cried with them till I would have given them a dose of paregoric, if any had been handy.

Mrs. J.B. Grant

In bringing up babies, the best thing to do is copy the old woman who lived in a shoe or else let the man train the baby.

Raising Babies Anna Radford

About raising babies I don't profess to know very much; but I confess if I should need advice some day, I'll ask for rules and then obey the advice of many friends so wise who have children of every size. You ladies here today I'm sure would their aches and pains always cure and make my babies in health secure.

Advice from Mrs. Besse F. Porter

Be it William, Elizabeth, Joseph or Nell, he'll wake up some night and begin to yell. Now don't rock the cradle or walk the floor, or Baby some other night will cry for more.

Mrs. Hartnett:

Don't spare the rod and spoil the child.

Murdock Mack Earle

The Ladies are all writing advice to your ma about how to treat you in the near by and by but take it from me - six months experience I've had - when you want to be carried, fed, rocked, or held just open your mouth and scream, kick, even yell until mother cries "Heavens!" and father says - - give that child what he wants or my interest I'll sell.

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