

Thursday, October 8, 1942

Herman Sellemeyer Dies This Morning  
Prominent Retired Farmer Dies Today

Herman W. Sellemeyer, 83, prominent farmer died today. He was born July 14, 1889, the son of Ernest and Christine Oetting-Sellemeyer. His wife, the former Sevilia Kohler died September 16, 1917.

Mr. Sellemeyer was the oldest charter member of Zion Evangelical and Reformed Church of this city. He served as deacon for many years and also was trustee and treasurer of the church. He was confirmed by Rev. William Spiess at the Magley Church in 1874.

He lived in Washington Township until 1918, when he moved to Decatur.

Surviving are three daughters, Mrs. Emma Vitz, of New Bremen, Mrs. Ames Yager of Decatur (other daughters name cut off); seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Mrs. Hulda Poling of South of Decatur was reared in the Sellemeyer home. Three children, one sister and three brothers are deceased.

Funeral services will be held at 2 pm Saturday at the Zwick Funeral Home and at 2:30 o'clock at the church, Rev. L. W. Stolte of Dayton, O., officiating. Burial will be in the Decatur Cemetery.

The body may be viewed at the funeral home after 7 o'clock this evening.

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Monday, July 13, 1942

Peter Edison Sprunger Rites Held Here This Afternoon

Local High School Teacher for 20 years Hangs Self at Home Here Saturday Morning; Had Been in Ill Health for Several Months; Son Finds Body

The funeral service was held here this afternoon with Rev. Alfred Clauser officiating in the absence of Dr. C. H. Suckau, pastor of the church. He was assisted by Rev. Simon Beck of Leo. Burial was in the M.R.E. Cemetery. Music was furnished by the Mennonite Men's Chorus. The pallbearers were six members of the local high school faculty, Supt. E. M. Webb, William Spurgeon, Maynard Hetrick, Lake Glendening, Freeman Burkhalter and J. D. R. Schwartz.

Mr. Sprunger's untimely death came as a great shock to the people of Berne and community and to the members of his own family especially. He had been around the house on Saturday morning and when Mrs. Sprunger missed him, she sent their older son, Kenyon Lee, 8, to look for him. He found him in the basement and hurried back to notify his mother. The lad then ran over to the Arthur Zehr home, next door neighbor to the Sprunger's, who hurried into the basement at the boy's frantic appeal for help.

Mr. Sprunger committed the act in the furnace room of the basement. He had used his belt to fashion a noose around his neck. The other end was attached to a cross piece between the joists of the ceiling. He had apparently stepped on a box about six inches high and then kicked the box out from under him. His shoes were a bare few inches above the floor. Mr. Sprunger had a work bench in the basement and he is reported to have remarked to a member of the family that he was going into the basement for a few minutes. It is reported that he was not out of sight more than 15 minutes.

The body was cut down by Mr. Zehr. He used his pocket knife to cut the belt in two. Mr. Zehr said that life was apparently gone when he came to the scene. A local doctor was notified at once. He pronounced him dead and said that artificial respiration would have been of no avail as heart action had stopped. This statement was verified by Coroner J. Jerome Yager.

He was married to Viola Schlatter on August 5, 1927. To this union were born three sons, Stanley Keith (cut off)

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Monday, December 21, 1942

'Jim Frenchy' Dies at County Infirmary

Conrad Schlunegger, 85, better known as "Jim French," an inmate of the county infirmary for a number of years, died Sunday morning at 11:30 o'clock at the local infirmary. Born in Switzerland, he came here when a youth.

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Thursday, October 1, 1942

Wed Last Month

The marriage of Miss Fern Franz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Franz and Harold Painter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver painter, all of Berne, took place in a simple

ceremony at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon, September 5, with the Rev. David L. Eicher, pastor of the Methodist Church of Dixon, O., officiating. Immediately after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Painter took a short wedding trip from which they now have returned to make their home, temporarily, with the bride's parents. Both bride and bridegroom are employed by the General Electric Company.

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Friday, November 6, 1942

Wedding Solemnized in Athens, Georgia

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Fullenkamp of North Second Street announce the marriage of their daughter, Rosemary, to Corp. Jack Holthouse, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Holthouse of east of the city.

The wedding was solemnized Wednesday morning, November 4,, in the St. Joseph Catholic Church at Athens, Georgia, Rev. Kennedy receiving the vows.

The bride was attired in a princess style dubonnet costume velvet dress of street length fashioned with lace collar and cuffs. Dubonnet accessories and a tiara of baby mums in a matching shade completed her costume.

Witnesses to the marriage were Mrs. L. A. Holthouse and Mrs. Fred Fullenkamp, mothers of the young couple, and Corp. Eugene Wingate of Lima, Ohio.

The bride and groom are graduates of Decatur Catholic High School. The bride attended Rosary College, River Forest, Ill., and St. Joseph School of Nursing in Fort Wayne and is a member of the Delta Thota Tau Sorority.

Corp and Mrs. Holthouse haven taken an apartment in Athens, Ga., where the firmer is attending radio technician school at the University of Georgia.

**Adams County Historical Museum**

**Feb-Nov 1942 Scrapbook, image 37**

**Transcribed by Jim Cox**