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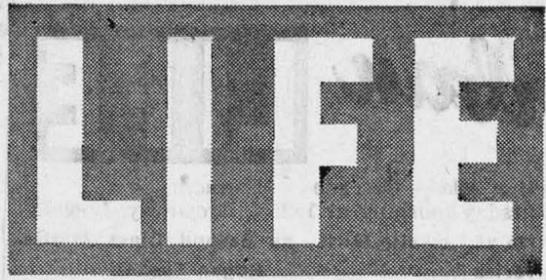
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Department of Geography  
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## The Slater Story

# Cascade Home Has Long History; Now It Will House Animal Hospital

(By Mrs. Roger Wykes, Jr.)

Near-completion of the remodeling of the old Slater home on US-16 at Cascade into an animal hospital by Dr. R. D. Siegle, Alto veterinarian, adds the latest chapter to a story that goes back well over a hundred years.

The farmland on which the building stands, most of it treeless to this day, was an Indian corn ground, according to the stories of the oldsters remembered from his boyhood by Hugh Slater, third generation of his family to live on it.

White men took possession no later than 1836, when the abstract records a deed on part of the acreage, meaning that the land was entered from the government some time prior to that date. Alexander McKinstry and Jefferson Morrison received the patent from the government in 1839.

In 1843, Joel Guild, reported to be the earliest platter of Cascade, and his brother Consider, deeded it to Stephen Hinsdale. A year later, eighty acres of it, including the building site, became the property of Asa W. Denison. In 1845 Asa and his brother brought their families to Michigan, traveling by wagon up the Gull Trail. The women and children had to wait at the Whitneyville public house for the road to be chopped out for the vehicles to Cascade, where they forded the Thornapple river. There must have been at least

## Reese Veatch Confined to Hospital

Reese Veatch, 5740 Grand River Dr., well known Ada resident, has been confined with a serious heart ailment to St. Mary's hospital. Mr. Veatch is a personal friend of many residents in the ACE area and is known to many others through the poetry he has been writing for Suburban Life since the paper began publication.

If any readers would like to send Mr. Veatch cards, they may be addressed to him in care of St. Mary's hospital, and I am certain he would be very happy to receive them. The last poem written by him before his confinement, "To My Mother" will be found elsewhere in this issue

## GRAND RAPIDS LODGE TO CONFER E. A. DEGREE

Malta Lodge, No. 465, of Grand Rapids will confer the E. A. degree at a special communication of the Ada Lodge No. 280, F. & A. M., Friday, July 15, at the Ada Masonic Temple.

A cold plate dinner will be served in the dining room at 6:30 p. m. with all Masons of the surrounding lodges invited to attend.

## CASCADE TEACHER TO HOLD SPECIAL SUMMER CLASSES

Mrs. Evelyn Lane, Cascade school teacher, will hold five weeks of special summer classes at the Cascade school, beginning next Monday, July 11. Any parents that would like their children to attend these special classes should contact Mrs. Lane at Alto 4263 for more information and to allow her to make plans on how many students to expect.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Richardson spent several days last week at their cabin at St. Helen.

a log house on the property at this time. The late Perry Denison was a cousin of Asa.

### Other Early Owners

In 1863, Gideon Denison sold to John Headley; James Flannery of Jamestown was the next owner. He sold to George Slater in 1879. The Slater family had come from Vermont in 1859, arriving at Ada by train on the brand new Detroit and Milwaukee Railway, now the Grand Trunk.

George Slater's son, Richard, became owner in 1883, the year of his marriage to Ellen Brown. He bought the half of his brother, Allen, who then purchased the house on 28th st. now occupied by his daughter, Mrs. Leo Korstange. Richard Slater died in 1944; ownership of the farm descended, on the death of his wife, in 1948 to their four children, of whom Hugh and Bessie Coger Dennett are Cascade residents. Mrs. Dennett lived in the house from 1945 until the Dennetts' new home was done a year ago. She became its owner, and sold it to Dr. Siegle last October.

The age of the present building must be determined by tradition and by internal evidence. In 1903, according to Mr. Slater, his father remodeled the house, taking off the south end, including a woodshed wing, and adding a second floor. At that time Charlie Denison, a neighbor and the son of Asa, said that the north part of the house was then seventy years old, which would mean that it was built about 1833; and that this section was an addition to a log house still older, attached to it on the south.

(Ed. Note. Mr. Denison's statement perhaps exaggerates the age, since the first white settler came to Cascade in 1836. Most likely this part of the house was constructed around 1845.)

### Old Fireplace

The log house walls were gone before 1903, replaced by conventional siding; but the original fireplace which stood at its center was a familiar object when Hugh Slater was a boy, though it was not used, being considered unsafe. And the cabin's sills of 6 by 10 hand hewn oak timbers remain to this day, as well as the floor joists of peeled logs flattened on one side with an axe, showing the outline of the old chimney. The chimney itself was torn down in 1903, but some of its hand-made brick, weathered rose-red, can be seen in the outside steps to the cellar.

The chimney was about 4 by 8 feet, Mr. Slater remembers, a third of which was the oven. Its base in the cellar was hollow and shelved for a fruit cupboard. Outside doors in the log house, and in its replacement, were located so that a horse could haul the 4-foot backlog in through the front door, go through the room and out the back door.

### South Wing

In the south wing, removed in 1903, was a dug well, 80 feet deep. A dug well was built from the bottom up; the shaft was shored with timbers as it was dug down, but the stones were laid from the bottom up. Well-digging was a craft, like carpentry or blacksmithing. This well was filled up years ago.

Other indications of the age of the building are visible during the present alterations. Four by four studding and inch-thick sheathing are a slash-sawed in  
Continued on page 2

## Begin Paving On New US-16

Work began early Tuesday morning laying the first concrete for the new, widened US-16. Forms have been laid from Burton st. to Laraway Lake Dr. and the concrete is now being poured from Burton northward.

The concrete is being poured in a 22 foot wide strip at the rate of 1,500 feet daily. Plans call for two of the 22-foot wide strips to be laid and divided by a four foot riser in the middle.

Work on the concrete will continue as fast as the crews can gravel and lay forms ahead in preparation. Local traffic will be able to use the finished part of the highway as soon as the concrete hardens.

In conjunction with the widened highway, school, township, county and state officials will hold a meeting later this month to determine specific safety measures for the crossing at the Cascade school and at the Cascade town intersection.

## Harvey Dosenberry, 87 Ada Resident, Dies

Harvey Dosenberry, 87, of Pettis Rd., in Ada township, died Saturday afternoon in Blodgett Memorial hospital.

Mr. Dosenberry had been an Ada resident for over 57 years, moving there from Pierson where he was born. He was a member of the Egypt Valley Grange.

He is survived by one son, Robert of Ada; two daughters, Mrs. Robert Judy of Ada and Mrs. Almida Simpson of Grand Rapids; a brother, William of Big Rapids and eight grandchildren.

Services were held Tuesday with burial in Fairplains cemetery.

## MARTIN SCHOOL BOARD TO HOLD ANNUAL MEETING

Martin school will hold its annual school board meeting, Monday July 11, at 8 o'clock in the school. At that time three board members will have to be elected to fill the vacancies created by the expiration of the terms of Jack Rogers, Robert Gaskell, and Peter Vanderveen.

All three of the present board members whose terms expire have indicated that they do not wish to succeed themselves in their present positions on the school board.

## News of Our Servicemen

Pvt. James Stark of Cascade is home on leave from Fort Ord, California. He will leave July 8 for New Jersey where he will take an eight week training course in the Signal Corps. Pvt. Stark who arrived home June 26, became the father of a baby boy, born June 27 at the Grand Rapids Osteopathic hospital.

Pvt. Robert J. Kleinheksel, recent enlistee in the US Army, has been assigned for basic eight-weeks' combat training with Battery A of the famed 28th Field Artillery Battalion, part of the 8th Infantry "Golden Arrow" Division at Fort Carson, Colo.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Beaver of Briarcliff Drive spent several days last week and over the holidays at their cottage at Lake Mitchell near Cadillac.

## Ada Wins Softball Game, 10-6

# Successful Holiday, No Accidents; Cascade Display Sets Fire

Fourth of July week end brought no bad accidents, some beautiful fireworks with an added touch of humor, and a good softball game to ACE residents.

The celebration at Ada, including the softball game and fireworks, brought a crowd of over 2,000 people out to watch the evening's events. The softball game between the Ada Merchants and Cascade Christian Reformed Church ended with a 10-6 score, the Ada team on the winning end. The fireworks, donated by Ada businessmen,

proved to be a spectacular ending for the evening.

If the Ada fireworks were spectacular, the Cascade celebration added its own special extra twist. Sparks from a burning "Niagara Falls" ignited an "American Flag" piece and a row of bombs and rockets which were to be the grand finale for the evening. at Cascade. Dry grass around the display caught fire, blazing up to consume a few nearby trees. The Cascade fire truck was called to the scene, but before the truck was able to surmount the dangerous hillside to the practically inaccessible location, Legion members with stirrup pumps borrowed from the fire department brought the blaze under control.

The entire incident probably constitutes a "first" for Cascade with the "water" of Niagara Falls setting the fire rather than putting it out.

## ANNUAL SCHOOL MEETING MONDAY, JULY 11

Annual meeting of Cascade school district no. 4, to be held Monday evening, July 11, at 8 o'clock at the school, is an important one. The people attending will be asked whether they want to become a fourth class district, under the new school code passed by the last legislature. The class four district in the new code replaces the present graded district, and calls for a similar five-man board.

Should the vote at Monday's meeting be favorable to the change, two additional members will be nominated and elected at the meeting.

## NEW TELEPHONES FOR CASCADE-EASTMONT AREA

Another improvement in rural telephone service is rapidly being brought to completion in the Cascade-Eastmont area by the Michigan Bell Telephone Co. Latest development is a new type of phone which allows the user to hear the opposite party without the usual ear straining, long the ban of rural phone service.

The clearness of the conversation is especially noticeable when calling from country to city and vice-versa.

Rapid dialing, and adjustment for volume of the ring, similar to the volume control of a radio and a specially designed receiver which forces the user to speak directly into the mouthpiece complete the improvements.

Plans call for the eventual changeover to the new type phones for the Cascade-Eastmont area during the coming months.

## UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH HOLDS DRIVE-IN SERVICES

The Whitneyville United Brethren Church, located on the Whitneyville rd., just south of 48th St. will conduct outdoor "drive-in" Christian Endeavor services beginning this Sunday evening at seven o'clock.

According to Dean Overhold, pastor of the church, the drive-in outdoor services will be held every Sunday evening for the rest of the summer, with special outdoor loudspeakers being erected for the public. Mr. Overhold states that anyone interested in attending these services is cordially invited.

The Whitneyville United Brethren Church was formed last spring and has been holding services in a basement church at the present location. Regular morning services are held each Sunday at 10 o'clock with Sunday school following at 11 a. m.

Mr. and Mrs. Holly Hand and her sisters, Mrs. Katherine Wilson spent the holiday week-end on a northern motor trip to the Soo and other places in the northland.

## Exchange Wedding Vows at Ada

Mr. Bentley presented his daughter in marriage. For her wedding she chose a floor-length gown of white nylon over taffeta, featuring a Bertha collar and yoke and sleeves of imported lace. Her flowers were red and white carnations, and a single strand of pearls were her only adornment.

The Maid of Honor, Miss Patricia Jane Weidenhof, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, wore an ice-blue gown of Nylon over taffeta, and carried a matching bouquet of carnations.

Attending the Groom as best man was his brother, F. Lawrence Jastifer; Gus Jastifer, uncle of the groom, and Albert Spaulding, the groom's brother-in-law, seated the guests.

A wedding breakfast for the immediate family was held in the church parlors immediately following the ceremony; and a reception was held in the church parlor in the afternoon.

For her northern wedding trip Mrs. Jastifer chose an oyster white palm beach suit with white accessories, and a corsage of red roses. Following their honeymoon the newly weds will be at home at 2511 Honeycreek road.

The bride is a graduate of Marywood Academy and is employed in the accounting department of Michigan Bell Telephone Co. in Grand Rapids. The groom a graduate of St. Patrick School, Parnell, is employed by the Kent County Road Commission.

## EASTMONT CHAPEL TO HOLD TWO SERVICES

Beginning July 10, the Eastmont Reformed Chapel which has been holding morning worship services at the Martin school since May 29, will hold two services each Sunday; the first at 10 a. m. and the second at seven o'clock in the evening. The chapel also plans to hold a Sunday school picnic at Caledonia park on Saturday, July 16. A bus will provide transportation and everything will be furnished. For a young church, the Reformed chapel reports very good response with an average of 60 in attendance each week.

Marcia Veeneman Grand Rapids spent last Friday with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Stukkie.

# Suburban LIFE

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## Slater Home

(Continued from page 1)  
narrow, rough, parallel lines, no doubt by the water-powered slash or jig saw in the mill at Cascade. Two by eight ceiling joints are oak, subflooring is ash. Old doors and baseboards are hand-made of white pine.

### Old Barn

The small barn north of the house was even earlier work, with wide planks in its walls and roofing boards from an older granary that once stood across the road. Its doors, from the same building, have hand-made nails. Stair treads are notched

into the stringers to save nails. Beams are of wonderful quarter-sawn oak, fine enough for furniture. The barn's faded red color is red ochre found locally and once a favorite to farmers.

One 4 by 6 used in the barn is from the wooden bridge that went out in a flood about 1870, and which crossed the Thornapple where the present bridge does. In the henhouse nearby is a cupboard from the old summer kitchen, solidly built to hold up the half chimney in that room; it has a top of a single plank an inch and a half thick.

Cascade Christian church has a door and frame from the Slater house; of choicest white pine, it opens from the chime room to the sanctuary.

### Kennel Plans

In remodeling the old landmark, Dr. Siegle has kept the form of the building while re-designing the interior into as complete and modern an animal hospital as possible, using ideas growing out of his sixteen years' practice of veterinary medicine at Alto. Outside walls have ten-inch siding; many windows have been eliminated to keep out heat and noise. New three-in-one shingles are tarred underneath on the windy west side. A hot

water heating system, two baths, and insulation have been installed; first floor walls and ceiling soundproofed.

Interior partitions have been greatly changed. The second floor is a one-bedroom apartment for the attendant, with modern kitchen, oak floors, a picture window of Thermopane, and its own entrance. Downstairs are a waiting room, an examination room, drug room, office, dark room-lavatory, surgery, a preparation and grooming room and two kennel rooms. One kennel room will open onto a 30 by 40 foot outdoor exercise run for boarding and training dogs with their own indoor runs and drains for sanitation. A second kennel room will be a surgery ward with 24 kennes and an emergency exit in the kennel run area.

The only familiar feature from the house as it used to be is the high wall-cabinet, which is in a partition and now opens half into the drug room and half into the surgery. Dr Siegle hopes to open the hospital about August 1.

## To My Mother

My mother's hair had lovely ringlets at her neck,  
My mother's eyes had naughty twinkles

in their depths,  
My mother's smiles made crows feet

in her cheeks,  
My mother's hands were never still lest they

should miss a chance to serve.  
Jesus called my mother home to Heaven,

many years ago.  
He said his younger angels needed help

with the baking of their cakes!  
And grumpy old Saint Peter was complaining

that his fried spring chicken  
Was rarely done to his taste!

You see, Jesus knew that my mother lived

for many, many years here below

Adored by her large family.

He knew that she was justly famed

Far and wide for her angel food cake and

Her fried spring chicken!

So He took her up to Heaven

where she is very

happy now because she has brought joy

To Jesus, His angels and grumpy old Saint Peter.

To A. L.

By Reese Veatch.

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Ruth Ann DeGood was given a surprise birthday party at Bostwick Lake by her sister, Mrs. Esther Peckham on July 2.

## Why Not Have A Board of Trade

(Editorial)

Sitting here on the "outside" looking at the businesses in the ACE area, it seems that it would be a very good idea if there were more cooperation and straight competition between businessmen in the area, rather than what so often can be termed "rivalry." Each unit within the ACE designation covers only a very small area, but taken as a group there are a large number of businesses that offer residents varied products and services. In most towns throughout our country there is a Chamber of Commerce or a Board of Trade through which business problems and questions may be channeled. Some operate successfully, some do very little.

It would be a great gesture of cooperation if all merchants from Ada, Cascade and Eastmont would bind themselves together in one "Board of Trade" that could deal with problems common to all concerned.

But many merchants and businessmen are rivals with one another rather than competitors. The true business rival to the ACE area is Grand Rapids, and a combined effort of all merchants to sell themselves, their products, and one another to the public would be more effective than individual effort in combating that rival.

A co-operative Board of Trade offers everyone advantages. It can be used most effectively to plan celebrations, to alert members of any quick money artists or chislers in town, to aid united fund drives and discourage any that are unworthy. A co-operative board can tell the people what the merchants are doing, and tell those from other areas what the ACE area offers or what it most needs.

But the rivalry between towns within the ACE area can defeat any program like this, to the detriment of all concerned. I think the ACE area would benefit most right now if such a plan were adopted. The area is in a period of dynamic growth and there needs to be a merchants group that, working together to channel that growth into effective measures, would benefit the people and themselves. Major cities now are feeling the impact of shopping centers on their outlying districts. Ada, Cascade and Eastmont can be such shopping centers. But if they don't work together for their best combined effectiveness, other places can take over. What do you think?

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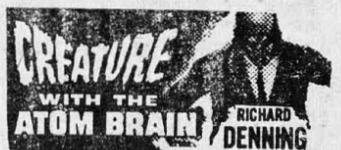


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7:30 P. M.

**Miss McCormick Weds Mr. Harring**

St. Patrick church, Parnell, was the scene June 25 of the wedding of Miss Helen Louis McCormick to Thomas George Harring. Mr. and Mrs. Edward McCormick of Ada are the parents of the bride and the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred G. Harring, Grand Rapids.

Rev. Gordon Grant performed the morning ceremony, and Miss Alice June Wittenbach played traditional wedding music, also accompanying the soloist, Miss Maxine Wittenbach and N. J. Hart.

Attending the bride were her sister, Miss Mary McCormick, as maid of honor; Mrs. Gordon Flanagan of Lowell, sister of the bride, and Miss Jean Haynes as bridesmaids. The bride's sister, Miss JoAnn McCormick served as junior bridesmaid, and Patricia Ann Flanagan, niece of the bride, was flower girl.

Mr. Harring was assisted by his brother, Gerald, as best man, and ushers were William Harring, the groom's brother, and John McCormick, brother of the bride.

Completing the wedding party were Mr. and Mrs. Robert Harley of Lowell and Mr. and Mrs. James Harring of Chicago who were masters and mistresses of ceremonies at the evening reception held at Rooker's Hall, Ada dr., after which the couple left on a northern trip. They will be home after July 10 at

and her sister, Miss Delores Lewis, attended her as maid of honor. Another sister, Rosalie Lewis and Mrs. Gladys Fredericks, of Conservation drive, were bridesmaids.

The groom's brother, Edward Hill, of Kalamazoo, served as best man, and Edward Ackerman and Earl McNeice, also of Kalamazoo, seated the guests. Little Nyla Hill, sister of the groom, was one of the flower girls, and Mary Lee and Fred Bentley, children of Mr. and Mrs. Fred

Bentley, were flower girl and ring bearer, respectively.

A reception was held in Egypt Grange Hall immediately following the ceremony, after which the newlyweds left on a wedding trip to the Upper Peninsula.

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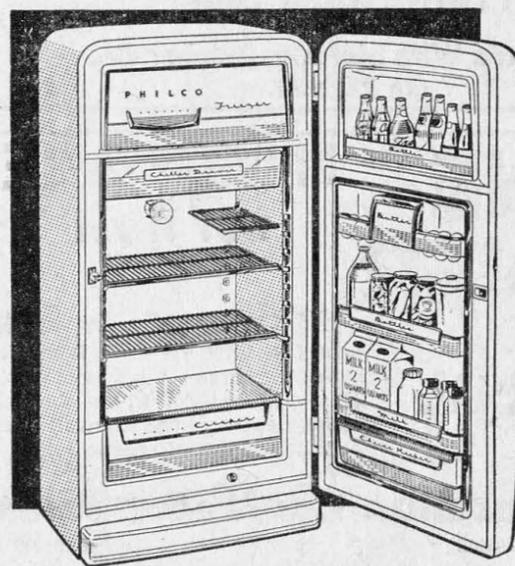
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