

Heart Attack Fatal To Harold Spaulding

Every employee and patient at the Gowanda State Hospital was stunned at the news when they learned that Harold Spaulding died of a heart attack on Thursday evening, September 17th.

He is survived by his wife and two daughters, Linda, 10 years old and Jean, 7.

Mr. Spaulding started work at the Gowanda State Hospital April 1, 1941 as a farmer, but was transferred to Motor Equipment Repairman February 1, 1949, and was appointed to the position of Motor Vehicle Foreman November 1, 1952.

At the hospital he was a member of the Civil Service Association and served as a member on the board of directors as well as in the membership committee. He was also a member of the main arage bowling team in the hospital bowling league.

At home in his community in Cottage Mr. Spaulding was a very active Grange member. He was assistant steward, master several times and a past master of the Cottage Chapter. Both he and

Mrs. Spaulding were Grange members for many years. Mr. Spaulding has received several degrees. In the Cottage Interment was metery with ating. His h him at th bearers: Roy, Donald Hi ald Berg ar

Elmer E

COTTAGE—80, died Sunday the Rest-Moor Otto.

He is survived sister-in-law, M Spaulding. Cot had made hi years; three n Mr. Spaulding member of C

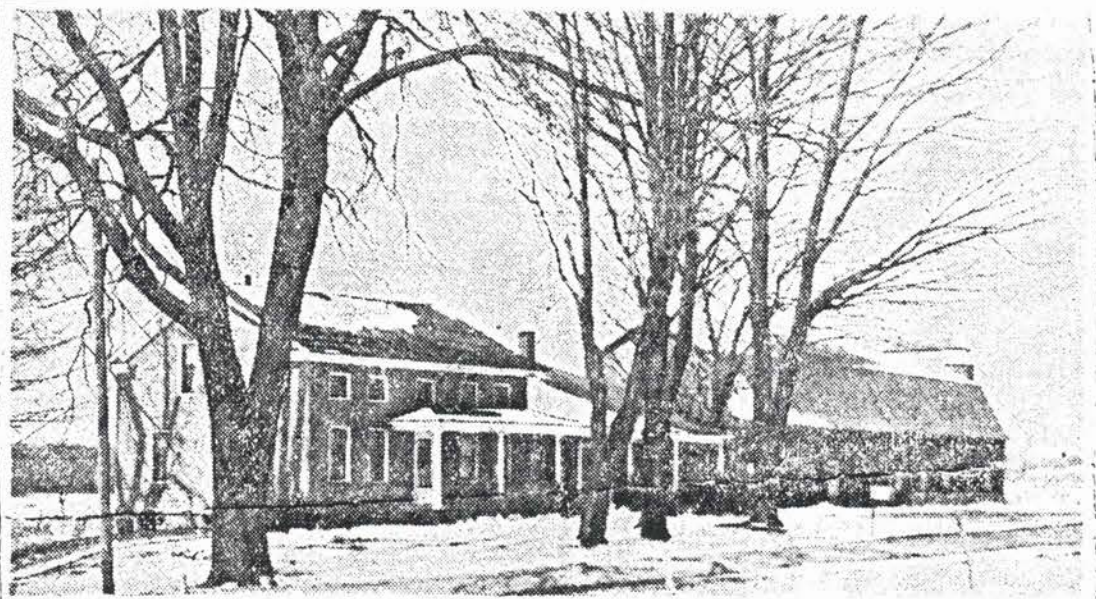
Funeral ser 2 P.M., Wedn Funeral Home

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COTTAGE LANDMARK FOR 136 YEARS—This is the farm home, built in 1841, and modernized dairy barn on the Albert L. Spaulding farm at Cottage, which has remained since 1817 in the Newcomb family. This house probably was modelled by its builder after another Century Farm home, that of the Libbey family at Balcoms Corners. Mrs. Spaulding is a member of the third generation of Newcombs on the farm. —Curtis Photo

No. 107 in a Series:

Family Century Farms

The Post-Journal's
FARM FAMILY PAGE

For 136 years, the Newcomb family farm has been a landmark at Cottage, north of South Dayton on the road to Gowanda.

The farm, owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Albert L. Spaulding, is primarily a dairy farm, and Mr. Spaulding says that in the 50 years he has operated it, he has purchased only three cows. The farm now has 19 head, all adult cows.

Assisting in the operation are their son, Harold, and Mr. Spaulding's brother, Elmer, who have repurchased some of the original Newcomb land and who also keep about 600 layers. At various times sheep and maple products have been major industries on the farm.

Its history dates to Thomas Newcomb, Mrs. Spaulding's grandfather, who was born in 1799 at Argyle, N.Y. He came to Cottage in 1817 and purchased the original 282 1-2 acres from the Holland Land Company, and is listed among the earliest settlers of the Town of Dayton.

He built a log house, and began to clear the land. The forest trees were felled into long piles similar to windrows and burned, and the stumps which were removed were placed in line to form stump fences.

In October, 1823, Thomas Newcomb married Sylvia Cooper, who was born in Vermont but probably had moved with her family to the Leon area. They had six children: Jane, Emeline, Amos, who died when a child; Edwin and George.

Sylvia died Jan. 27, 1837, and in July the following year Thomas married Deborah Farnsworth.

Home Built in 1841

In 1841, Daniel Libbey, then 21, built the present house on the Spaulding farm. Libbey was a grandfather of Mrs. Spaulding and of Miss Mabel Libbey and Mrs. Vern Woolley, Balcoms Corners, whose farm was Family Century Farm No. 95 in this series.

The similarity in appearance and interior plan of the Libbey and Spaulding houses suggests that Daniel Libbey used the Libbey home as a plan for the one he built for Newcomb. The builder of the Libbey house, the first frame

house in the Town of Villenova, is not known.

The barns probably were built at the same time. The main section is 120 by 30 feet, and probably was the cow barn. Another, the original horse barn, 40 by 30 feet, was moved by Albert Spaulding to form an "L" with the large section, and a gambrel roof was built over the entire barn.

The youngest son, George, enlisted in the Union Army Sept. 30, 1862. He was captured by the Confederates, and starved to death in Libby Prison, Richmond, Va. He left a son, also named George.

The two girls married and moved west. The family knows of three of Jane's grandchildren, named Hubbard, now living, two at Portland, Ore.

Thomas Newcomb died in 1874, leaving his property to his son, Edwin, and grandson, George. Edwin received the buildings and 115 acres, and George was left the remainder. Thomas' widow, Deborah, died Sept. 15, 1881.

Land Returns to Family

Edwin married Annie Libbey, Daniel's daughter, March 2, 1881. They had one daughter, Velma, Mrs. Spaulding, born March 5, 1885.

George raised sheep on his section of the farm before he sold it and moved west.

Velma married Albert L. Spaulding, Colden, Sept. 17, 1902. Edwin Newcomb died in June, 1925, leaving the property to his widow, Annie, who in turn left it to Mrs. Spaulding at her death in September, 1935.

Mr. Spaulding purchased 16 acres, and his brother, Elmer, bought 22 acres of the land originally owned by George. The farm is operated as one 150-acre unit by the brothers and by the Spauldings' son, Harold.

Harold, born Dec. 20, 1909, married Dorothy Sandy, Cottage, in May, 1932. They have two children, Linda, 9, and Jean, 6. In 1934 Elmer

gave a half acre of his land to Harold, who has built a home across the road from the family homestead, and Elmer and Harold operate the poultry business in addition to helping with the dairy work. Elmer lives at the family home.

Pioneers in League, Grange

Albert joined the Dairy-men's League Oct. 1, 1916, when the Oakes Local was formed. Mr. and Mrs. Spaulding have 50-year Grange pins: Mrs. Spaulding has been a member of Cottage Grange for 54 years, joining at 14, and Mr. Spaulding has been a member for 51 years.

Mrs. Spaulding has been treasurer of the Grange and of the Ladies Aid, and a trustee of Perrysburg School District No. 9, for many years.

The house occupied by Edwin, which stood north of the family home, was separated by Mr. Spaulding, and part was added to the main house to form a woodshed. The rest was converted into a sugar house, which burned many years ago. The sugar house was rebuilt, but no sugar has been made for the past four or five years.

The main house has seen other changes from time to time. Albert H. Libbey, Mrs. Spaulding's cousin, built the porches about 40 years ago, and these also follow the style of the Libbey home. A large chimney in the center of the house has been removed, and there has been some rearrangement of rooms.

Owners of the century farm have seen many political changes. The Town of Dayton was separated from the Town of Perry in 1835, and the township line was drawn along the northern boundary of the farm.

Cottage, at the time the farm was founded, was known as West Dayton. It later was called Slab City, and when a postoffice was established there in 1850, it first earned the name Cottage.

(Douglas Johnson collection)