

DISCLAIMER

This biography is a rough draft and a work-in-progress.
The research has not been completed, so there may be errors and omissions.
Please return to Tuscania1918.org in the future to see if a revised and
finalized version is available.

Abbreviations:

b = born

d = died

F: = Find A Grave (www.findagrave.org)

NOK = next-of-kin

TUSCANIA

Selsing, Arlon Peter
1892 WI – 1975 WI



DOUBLE GOLDEN WEDDING

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Callahan, left, Plainfield, and Mr. and Mrs. Arlon Selsing, Wautoma, celebrated their golden wedding together Sunday at the Grange hall in Plainfield.

Couples wed in double rite, join in golden anniversary

An open house at the Plainfield Grange hall on Sunday honored the golden anniversary of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Callahan of Plainfield,

and Mr. and Mrs. Arlon Selsing of Wautoma.

The two couples were married June 23, 1920, at the Plainfield Methodist parsonage by the

Morris. In addition to membership in the Masonic lodge at Wautoma, he is a member of the Consistory and Shrine of Madison.

Rev. G. Stanley Joslin.

The Callahans have always resided in Plainfield. He is a brother of Mrs. Selsing, the former Mabel Callahan, and their parents were the late Mr. and Mrs. David Callahan. Mrs. Callahan is the former Martha Weyneth, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Weyneth of Plainfield.

Both Mr. Callahan and Mr. Selsing are survivors of the sinking of the Tuscania in World War I. They are members of the American Legion Posts in their respective communities.

The Selsings resided in Milwaukee after their marriage and then returned to Wautoma where he served as custodian at the Waushara County courthouse for 28 years. He is the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Louis Selsing of Mount

Sunday's festivities were planned by the children of the Callahans for their parents and the Selsings who had no children.

The children are: Mrs. Carl Adams, Bancroft; Mrs. Marjorie Sullivan, Stevens Point; Mrs. Nelson Garret, Menomonie Falls; Mrs. Robert Allison, Wisconsin Rapids; David, Milwaukee; Charles, with the Navy at Santee, Calif.; Mrs. Harold Bartels, Wautoma; Mrs. Terrance Sullivan, Milwaukee; Gerald, Rudolph, and Walter, Hancock. There are 26 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Corsages and boutonnières worn by the couples were gifts of the Callahan children and grandchildren.

Fellow Tuscania survivors of Tuscania married in a double wedding - Arlon Peter Selsing & Walter Guy Callahan (the brother of Arlon's wife Mabel Callahan) - "Wisconsin Rapids (WI) Daily Tribune"

Tuesday 30 June 1970 p. 15 -

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/243536133/?terms=selsing%20tuscania&match=1>



11—CORPORAL ARLON PETER SELSING—Wautoma, Wis., Route 2. Born October 18, 1892. Son of Lewis and Sarah Selsing. Enlisted June 27, 1917, at Wautoma, Wis., Co. L., 5th Wisconsin Infantry; Camp Douglas; Camp McArthur, 107th Supply Train, 32nd Division; Co. F., 2nd Supply Train, 2nd Division. Corporal, July 24, 1917. Overseas, Jan. 24, 1918, Tuscania, 18 months. Battles: Chateau-Thierry, Soissons, St. Mihiel, Blanc Mont, Meuse-Argonne. Discharged Aug. 15, 1919, Camp Grant.

Arlon Peter Selsing – “The Honor Roll of Waushara County”
<https://sites.rootsweb.com/~wiwausha/honorroll/honorroll.html>



Charter Members

Four charter members of the Wautoma American Legion Wolman Post No. 317 honored at a dinner-meeting Saturday evening were, standing, Frank Schultz, left, and Harry Turner, and seated, Edwin Rose and Arlon Selsing. The local post was organized in 1921.

—Northwestern Wautoma Bureau photo

Arlon Peter Selsing is seated in front at right - "Oshkosh (WI) Northwestern" Tuesday 20 May 1969 p 26 - <https://www.newspapers.com/image/246848902/>

SELSING ARLON PETER		C 20479672	
Corp Co F 2 Sup Tn		K	46 531
Wautoma Wisc		A	1 621 620
SS	251 074	Died	T 195 506 F
Born	10/18/92	R	
Enl	7/15/17	Dte	8-15-19
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		I	

U. S. VETERANS BUREAU
MAIL AND RECORDS
Form 7202--Rev. Sept., 1926

INDEX CARD

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:W31Z-SXMM>

12	Arlon Peter	{	Trd 18 Oct. 1892	Lars Selsing
		{	4 Dec. "	Sigri Selsing

Baptismal record at Mount Morris Holden Lutheran Church – born 18 Oct 1892, baptize 4 Dec 1892 – parents: Lars & Sigri Selsing. https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/2827704:60722?tid=&pid=&queryId=c2c153a1545461231a551b2c28711dea&_phsrc=hFB54642&_phstart=successSource

Wife:

"History of Lincoln, Oneida, and Vilas Counties Wisconsin"

Compiled by George O. Jones, Norman S. McVean and Others. Printed in 1924 by H.C. Cooper, Jr. & Co., Minneapolis-Winona MN. ill. 787 pages. The first two hundred pages are history of the three counties, the remainder of the book is biographies.

Biography

Callahan, Matthew J. an active and progressive farmer of the town of Harrison, was born in the village of Wautoma, Waushara County, Wis., June 13, 1884, son of David and Mary (PARKER) CALLAHAN. The father a native of Ireland, came with his parents to Wautoma, Wis., before the Civil War, and it was there that in early manhood he married Mary PARKER, who was born in Waushara County, Wis., her parents having come west in the sixties. They had eight children, of whom Matthew J. was the first born. The others were: Loren, of Nekoosa, Wis.; Clarence, of Wautoma; Maud, now Mrs. John WAGNER of Wautoma; Walter of Milwaukee; Melvin, of Racine, Wis.; Mabel, now Mrs. Arlon SELSING of Wautoma, and Allen, also of that place. Matthew J. CALLAHAN acquired his education in the common school at Wautoma and about 1901 began to be actively engaged in farming. For nine years he operated the home farm, and the, leaving it, worked one year at the plumber's trade in Wautoma. On Sept. 16, 1912, he was married to Erna BUSCHKE, who was born in Waushara County, Wis. May 11, 1890, daughter of Julius and Augusta (SCHMUDLACH) BUSCHKE. Her parents were of German descent, and the mother is now living at Coloma, Waushara County, the father having died in that county about 1890. They had ten children, eight of whom are still living. In 1913, the year after his marriage, Mr. CALLAHAN came with his wife to Lincoln County and they resided for a year in Tomahawk, where he worked in a mill. In 1914 he rented a farm (now the Archibald farm) on State Highway No. 63, 15 miles northeast of Tomahawk, and operated it until 1915. He then bought 62 acres of wild land in Section 18, town of Harrison, Lincoln County, 11 1/2 miles northeast of Tomahawk on Highland Flats. Here he erected a house and other necessary buildings, intended to be temporary, and moving on to it, began operations. He has 35 acres cleared, has a fair operating equipment, and is doing general farming and dairying. He is a hard worker and is getting results, his wife also doing her part in the management of the household. They have six children: Doris, born Dec. 29, 1913; Duard, Dec. 25, 1914; Opal, Oct. 16, 1916; Walter and Wallace (twins), July 19, 1918, and James, Aug. 6, 1922. The family affiliate religiously with the Lutheran Church and in politics Mr. CALLAHAN is Republican.

Transcribed by Susan Swanson, from pages 582; History of Lincoln, Oneida and Vilas Counties Wisconsin; Compiled by George O. Jones, Norman S. McVean and Others 1924, H. C. Cooper, Jr. & Co

<http://www.wigenweb.org/vilas/hlov/callahan582.html>

WAUTOMA — Arlon Selsing, 82, of 307 N. Scott St., died Sunday at his home after a lingering illness.

Mr. Selsing was born on Oct. 18, 1892, in Mt. Morris, son of Louis and Mabel Selsing. He married Mabel Callahan on June 23, 1920, in Plainfield.

He was deputy sheriff for 20 years, and worked as a custodian for Waushara County for 28 years.

Mr. Selsing was a member of American Legion Post 317, Masonic Lodge, both of Wautoma, a 32nd degree Mason and the Zor Shrine, Madison. He served with the United States Army during World War I and was a survivor of the sinking of the troop ship Tuscania.

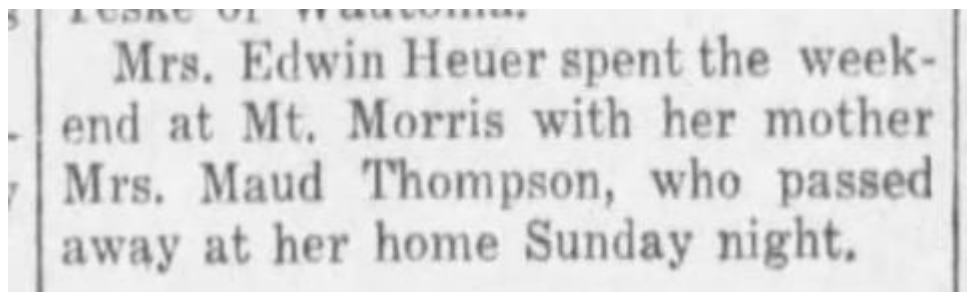
He is survived by his widow and one sister, Mrs. Sadie Gaylord, Berlin.

Services will be held at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday at Grace United Methodist Church, Wautoma, with the Rev. James Saunders officiating. Burial will be in the Wautoma Union Cemetery.

Friends may call after 4 p.m. Tuesday at Ayars Funeral Home, Wautoma, and from 12:30 p.m. Wednesday until the time of services at the church. Masonic services will be held at 8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home. Military rites will be conducted at the grave.

Obituary of Arlon Peter Selsing – “Oshkosh (WI) Northwestern” Monday 23 Jun 1975 p 25

Siblings:



Mrs. Edwin Heuer spent the weekend at Mt. Morris with her mother Mrs. Maud Thompson, who passed away at her home Sunday night.

Death of **sister Maud Selsing Thompson (1873-1944)** – “Wisconsin Rapids (WI) Daily Tribune” Wednesday 5 Jul 1944 p 6

Sister Anne Marie Selsing Thompson (1878-1950) - https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/collection/1030/tree/82294893/person/36460316939/media/0c3ba246-ce7e-43d3-ba3f-84a5cf0e47b2?_phsrc=hFB54651&_phstart=successSource

MRS. MABEL LARSON
Mrs. Mabel Larson, 88, of Wautoma, mother of James Larson, principal of James Madison School, died Friday evening at the St. Agnes Hospital, Wautoma.
Mrs. Larson was born in Waushara County on July 16, 1881.
Survivors include three other sons, Clifford and Lawrence, Wautoma and Arleigh, Stanford, Conn., and one daughter, Mrs. C. Gebhar, Oakfield.
Funeral services will be at the Mt. Morris Holden Lutheran Church, Wautoma, at 1:30 p.m. Monday. Burial will be in the church cemetery.
Friends may call at the Patterson Funeral Home, Wautoma, after 4 p.m. Sunday.

Mrs. Mabel Larson

WAUTOMA — Mrs. Mabel P. Larson, 88, Wautoma, died Friday at St. Agnes Hospital Fond du Lac.

She was born July 16, 1881, in Waushara County, and was married to Lewis Larson on May 2, 1900.

She was a member of the Women's Relief Corps, Wolman-Minskey post 312 American Legion Auxiliary and the Mt. Morris Holden Lutheran Church and its Ladies Aid.

Survivors are a daughter, Mrs. Clifford Gelhar, Oakfield; four sons, Clifford and Larry, both of Wautoma, James of Sheboygan, and Arleigh, Stamford, Conn.; one sister, Mrs. Sadie Gaylord, Wautoma; a brother, Arlon Selsing, Wautoma; 18 grandchildren, and 17 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Monday at 1:30 p.m. at Mt. Morris Holden Lutheran Church, the Rev. Merle Ries officiating. Burial will be in the parish cemetery.

Friends may call at Patterson Funeral Home after 4 p.m. Sunday until 11 a.m. Monday, and thereafter at the church until time of services.

Death of sister Mabel P. Selsing Larson (1881-1970) – left: “Sheboygan (WI) Press” Saturday 16 May 1970 p 4 – right: “Oshkosh (WI) Northwestern” Saturday 16 May 1970 p 9

Sadie L. Gaylord

WAUTOMA — Sadie L. Gaylord, 103, Wautoma, passed away Monday, Aug. 16, 1993, at Juliette Manor, Berlin.

She was born Oct. 31, 1889, in the town of Mount Morris, the daughter of Lewis P. and Sarah Olson Selsing. She married Ross Gaylord June 2, 1909. He preceded her in death Dec. 12, 1941.

She and her late husband farmed in the town of Marion for many years. After husband's death, she moved to Wautoma. She had been a resident of Juliette Manor since 1973. She was the oldest member of Mount Morris Holden Lutheran Church and was a charter member of the Wautoma American Legion Auxiliary.

Survivors include one son, George (Bernice) Gaylord of Wautoma; one daughter, Ruth (Melvin) Volbrecht of Montello; five grandchildren, Michael (Pauline) Fitzpatrick of Reno, Nev., Terry Fitzpatrick of Colorado Springs, Colo., Sharon (John)

Graf of Reno, Nev., Roger (Ruth) Volbrecht of Madison, the late Larry (Randa) Volbrecht of Rochester Hills, Mich., and David Gaylord of Weyauwega; six great-grandchildren, two great-great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents; one daughter, Sara G. Fitzpatrick; one grandson, Larry Volbrecht; two brothers, Arlon Selsing and George Selsing; and three sisters, Maud Thompson, Molly Thompson and Mabel Larson.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 19, in Mount Morris Holden Lutheran Church, with the Rev. Carmala Aderman officiating. Burial will be in the Marion Cemetery, town of Marion.

Friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday (today) at the Leikness Funeral Home, Wautoma, and from 10 a.m. until the time of services Thursday at the church.

Obituary of sister Sadie Lucille Selsing Gaylord (1889-1993) – "Oshkosh (WI) Northwestern"
Wednesday 18 Aug 1993 p 11

Name: Arlon Peter Selsing

Name variations:

Military:

On Tuscania: 107th Supply Co. C - corporal

Serial number: 251,074

Entered service from: Mount Morris, Waushara WI

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: Arlon P. Selsing

Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": father Louis Selsing, Mt. Morris WI

Returned from war on: "Leviathan" Jul 1919

Sailed on return ship as: Arlon P. Selsing

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: father L.P. Selsing, Wautoma WI [says "initials only" for father] (cpl, Co. F, 2nd Supply Train)

World War I draft registration (1917): as Arlon Peter Selsing - b. 18 Oct 1892 Mount Morris Twp WI; res: Route 2, Wautoma, Waushara WI. Single. Cream carrier, Henry Thompson, Mount Morris, Waushara WI. Tall in height, medium build.

National Tuscania Survivors Association (1939): 1939 NTSA: Wautoma WI - 1955 WI Survivors: Box 221, Wautoma WI

World War II draft registration (1942): as Arlon Peter Selsing - b. 18 Oct 1892 Mt. Morris Twp WI; res: Wautoma, Waushara WI. NOK Samuel Bluthe, Wautoma WI. Employed by Waushara County, Wautoma, Waushara WI. Height: 6' – 172 lbs.

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Enlisted: 15 Jul 1917

Discharged: 15 Aug 1919

Address: Wautoma WI

Rank/unit: corporal, Co. F, 2nd Supply Train

Birth & death:

Born: 18 Oct 1892 Mount Morris Twp, Waushara Co. WI

Died: 22 Jun 1975 Wautoma, Waushara WI

Find A Grave record: 110270627 – presence on Tuscania indicated in text

Burial location: Wautoma, Waushara WI

Cemetery: Wautoma Union

Tombstone: veteran flat: CPL US Army WWI

Father: Lewis (Lars) Peter Selsing, 25 Jan 1846 Norway – 16 Feb 1930. Waushara Co. WI
Son of Peter & Martha Selsing [also found as Ole Pederson Selsing & Ragnilde Torsteinsdatter]. Veteran of the Civil War; member of the GAR {Grand Army of the Republic}. Buried in Mount Morris Holden Lutheran Cemetery, Mount Morris, Waushara WI.
Find A Grave: 113568068

Mother: Sarah (Sigri) Andersdatter Olson Selsing, 13 Oct 1854 WI – 1 Oct 1948 Waushara Co. WI. Daughter of Anders Olsen & Kari Lansdaatter Rutlin. Buried in Mount Morris Holden Lutheran Cemetery, Mount Morris, Waushara WI.

Find A Grave: 113568033

Parents' marriage: 25 Dec 1872 Waushara Co. WI

Spouse: Mabel Alice Callahan Selsing, 18 Nov 1895 Wautoma, Waushara WI – 7 May 1979 Wautoma, Waushara WI. Daughter of David William Callahan & Mary Belle Parker. Her brother Walter Guy Callahan (1893-1975, F: 456176911) was a fellow "Tuscania"

passenger & survivor along with her future husband, Arlon Selsing. Buried in Wautoma Union Cemetery, Wautoma, Waushara WI.

Spouse Find A Grave: 110270612

Marriage: 23 Jun 1920 Plainfield, Waushara WI.

Children:

Siblings:

- Maud Caroline Selsing Thompson, 26 Dec 1873 Waushara Co. WI – 25 Jun 1944 Waushara Co. WI. Maud was born on Christmas Day, her parents' 1st anniversary. Married in 1894 to Henry Olaus Thompson (1869-1918, F: 60434974), the son of Johan Tollefsen & Julia Christine Alfsen. Henry's brother Adolph Thompson married Maud's sister Anne Selsing. Buried in Mount Morris Holden Lutheran Cemetery, Mount Morris, Waushara WI. F: 60435261
- Peter A. Selsing, 1876 – 1877. Buried in Mount Morris Holden Lutheran Cemetery, Mount Morris, Waushara WI. F: 100201832
- Anne (Anna) Marie ("Molly"/"Mollie") Selsing Thompson, 13 Feb 1878 Mount Morris, Waushara WI – 9 Sep 1950 Waushara Co. WI. Married on 1 Dec 1897 in Waushara Co. WI to Adolph John Thompson (1872-1963, F: 60385618), the son of Johan Tollefsen & Julia Christine Alfsen. Anne's sister Maud Selsing married Adolph's brother Henry Thompson. Buried in Mount Morris Holden Lutheran Cemetery, Mount Morris, Waushara WI. F: 60385669
- Mabel P. Selsing Larson, 16 Jul 1881 Waushara Co. WI – 15 May 1970 Wautoma, Waushara WI. Married on 2 May 1900 to Lewis J. Larson (1864-1941, F: 100201720). Buried in Mount Morris Holden Lutheran Cemetery, Mount Morris, Waushara WI. F: 100201722
- Sarah Louise Selsing, 17 Nov 1884 Waushara Co. WI – 24 Aug 1886 Waushara Co. WI. Baptized 14 Dec 1884 in Mount Morris Holden Lutheran Church. Her parents were listed as Lars Pedersen Selsing & Sigri Andersdatter. Buried in Mount Morris Holden Lutheran Cemetery, Mount Morris, Waushara WI. F: 100201835
- Sadie Lucille Selsing Gaylord, 31 Oct 1889 Mount Morris, Waushara WI – 16 Aug 1993 Berlin [Green Lake or Waushara Co.] WI. Wife of Ross Cole Gaylord (1884-1941, F: 86435669) whom she married 2 Jun 1909. Buried in Marion Cemetery, Wautoma, Waushara WI. F: 108037877
- George Olin Selsing, 2 May 1897 WI – 15 Feb 1970 Milwaukee, Milwaukee WI. Husband of Zita Marie Kelley (1897-1952, F: 137788637). Buried in Hancock Cemetery, Hancock, Waushara WI. F: 137788610

Notes:

Pre-war:

Baptized at Mount Morris Holden Lutheran Church, Waushara Co. WI on 4 Dec 1892. His parents were listed as Lars & Sigri Selsing.

Wartime:

"Manitowoc (WI) Pilot" Thursday 14 Feb 1918 p 3 – among the WI survivors of Tuscania:
Selsing, A.P., Mount Morris WI

Post-war:

"Wisconsin Rapids (WI) Daily Tribune" 30 Jun 1970 p. 15 & "Stevens Point (WI) Journal" 30 Jun 1970 p 10 - photo - In a double wedding on 23 Jun 1920 at Plainfield WI Methodist parsonage, Arlon Selsing (son of Mr. & Mrs. Louis Selsing of Mount Morris WI) married Mabel Callahan, sister of his fellow Tuscania survivor Walter Callahan. Mabel & Walter were children of Mr. & Mrs. David Callahan. The other couple married was Mabel's brother Walter Callahan & Martha Weyneth. On 28 Jun 1970 both couples celebrated their 50th wedding anniversaries at the Plainfield Grange Hall. After their wedding, the Selsings lived in Milwaukee WI. Arlon was custodian of the Waushara County WI courthouse for 28 years. Arlon & Mabel had no children. Both men were American Legion members.

Obituary:

Social Security number: 391-18-9441

Censuses:

1880 Marion, Waushara WI

Louis P. Selsing, 32 Norway, parents b. Norway, farmer

Sarah, 25 WI, parents b. Norway, keeping house

Maude, 6 WI

Anna, 2 WI

1885 WI state census – Mount Morris, Waushara WI

L.P. Selsing – household of 1 male [i.e. Lewis] & 5 females [i.e. his wife Sarah & daughters Maud, Anne, Mabel & Sarah, who dies in 1886]. Five of the household were born in the U.S. [his wife & 4 daughters] and 1 member was born in Scandinavia [Lewis].

1895 WI state census – Mount Morris, Waushara WI

Lewis Selsing – household of 2 males [Lewis & son Arlon] & 4 females [wife Sarah & 3 daughters: Anne, Mabel & Sadie, as Maud was married]. Five of the household were born in the US [wife & children] and 1 member was born in Scandinavia [Lewis].

1900 Mount Morris, Waushara WI

Lewis P. Selsing, 52 Norway, Jan 1848, parents b. Norway, married 26 years, emigrated 1863, in US for 37 years, papers filed, stone mason

Sarah, 45 WI, Oct 1854, parents b. Norway, gave birth to 8 children, 6 are living

Sadie L., 10 WI, Oct 1889, in school

Arlan [sic] P., 7 WI, Oct 1892, in school

George O., 3 WI, May 1897
 & boarder Martha S. Skinner, 22 Wi, Nov 1877, teacher (school)

1905 WI state census – Marion, Waushara WI
 Lewis Selsing, 58 Norway, parents b. Norway, farmer
 Sarah, 50 WI, parents b. Norway
 Sadie L., 25 WI, laborer [her age is indexed incorrectly as 55 years]
 Arlon P., 12 WI
 George, 8 WI
 [for the children: father b. Norway, mother b. WI]

1910 Mount Morris, Waushara WI
 Lewis P. Selsing, 65 Norway, parents b. Norway, in 1st marriage, married 37 years,
 emigrated 1860, naturalized, stone mason, working out
 Sarah, 55 WI, parents b. Norway, in 1st marriage, gave birth to 8 children, 6 are living
 Arlon P., 17 WI, farm laborer, working out
 George O., 12 WI

1920 Mount Morris, Waushara WI – most of the data is too faint to read
 Lewis P. Selsing, 73 Norway, emigrated 1863, naturalized 1870 (?)
 Sarah, 64 WI
 Arlon P., 27 WI
 George O. ?/B. ?, 22 Wi

1930 Wautoma, Waushara WI
 Arlon P. Selsing, 37 Wi, father b. Norway, mother b. WI, age 27 at 1st marriage, janitor,
 county court house, WWI veteran
 Mabel A., 34 Wi, parents b. WI, age 24 at 1st marriage, operator, telephone office
 & mother Sarah Selsing, 75 WI, parents b. Norway, widow
 1940 Wautoma, Waushara WI – same house in 1935
 Arlon Selsing, 47 WI, janitor, county court house
 Mabel, 44 WI

1950 wautoma, Waushara WI – Marie St.
 Arlon P. Selsing, 57 WI, janitor, court house
 Mabel A., 54 Wi