

# **HARRY ELSON DURLAND**

## **GLIMPSES OF HIS LIFE**

**A COLLECTION OF PAPERS  
AND  
PHOTOS  
1888-1949**



**Compiled By His Daughter  
Mary  
For His Family  
2004**

THIS BOOKLET CHRONICLES THE LIFE OF HARRY ELSON  
DURLAND THROUGH PHOTOS AND PERSONAL PAPERS

The cover is Harry as a child of two.  
Note the dress and long curls.

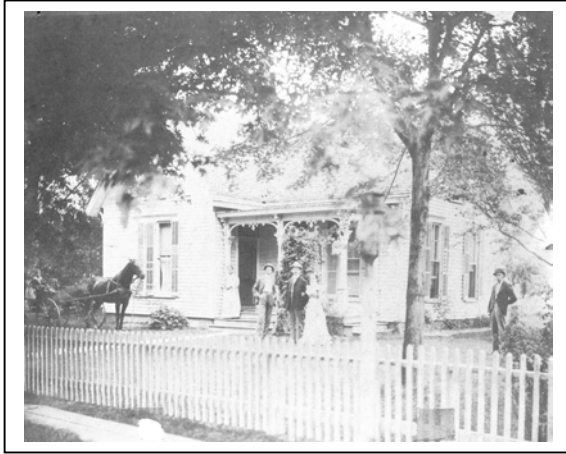
# FLORA, ILLINOIS





# FLORA

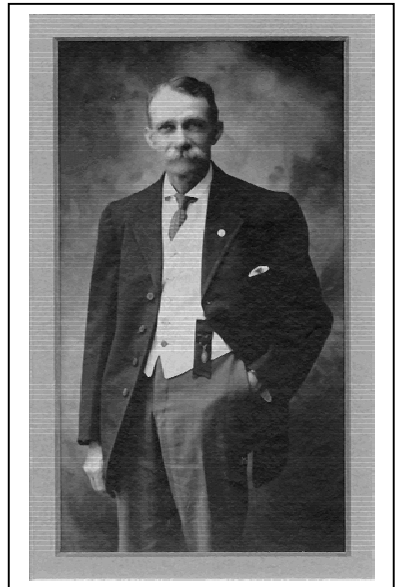
Harry Elson Durland was born on July 4, 1888 in Flora, a very small town in southern Illinois.



*(A 1900 photo in the Clay County Historical Society of the James Durland House)*

Harry's father was James Youngs Durland who was 38 years old at Harry's birth. He was not a very tall man in comparison to his two brothers William and Maurice.

Harry's grandmother, who lived to be 92 years old, was Mary Ann Crane of British and German ancestry.





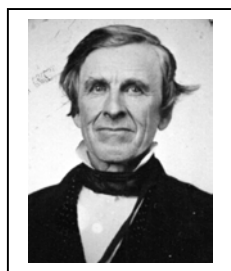
Harry's mother was Rebecca Free who was 40 years old when Harry was born. She was very active in the Methodist Church in Flora and her favorite quotation was

*"Laugh and the world  
laughs with you. Cry  
and you cry alone."*

Rebecca was the youngest of nine children of William and Mary Elizabeth Free.

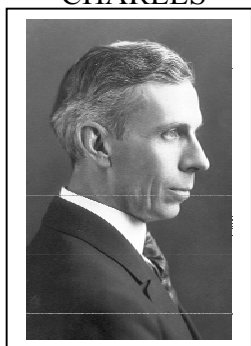


Harry's  
Grandmother Mary  
Elizabeth Elson and  
Grandfather William  
Free



Harry was the youngest of four brothers but the brother before him born in 1886 named George died when he was six years old of diphtheria. So when Harry was born in 1888 his eldest brother Charles who was born in 1872 was sixteen years old. Oscar was born in 1876 so he was twelve when Harry was born.

### CHARLES



OSCAR  
and  
HARRY  
about 2  
years old.  
Note curls  
on Harry.



## HARRY AT AGE THREE



This was the style of the day for young boys. Take note of the high button shoes and the plaid skirt. There is Scotch Irish in Harry's genes. Harry had blue, blue eyes and strawberry blond hair.

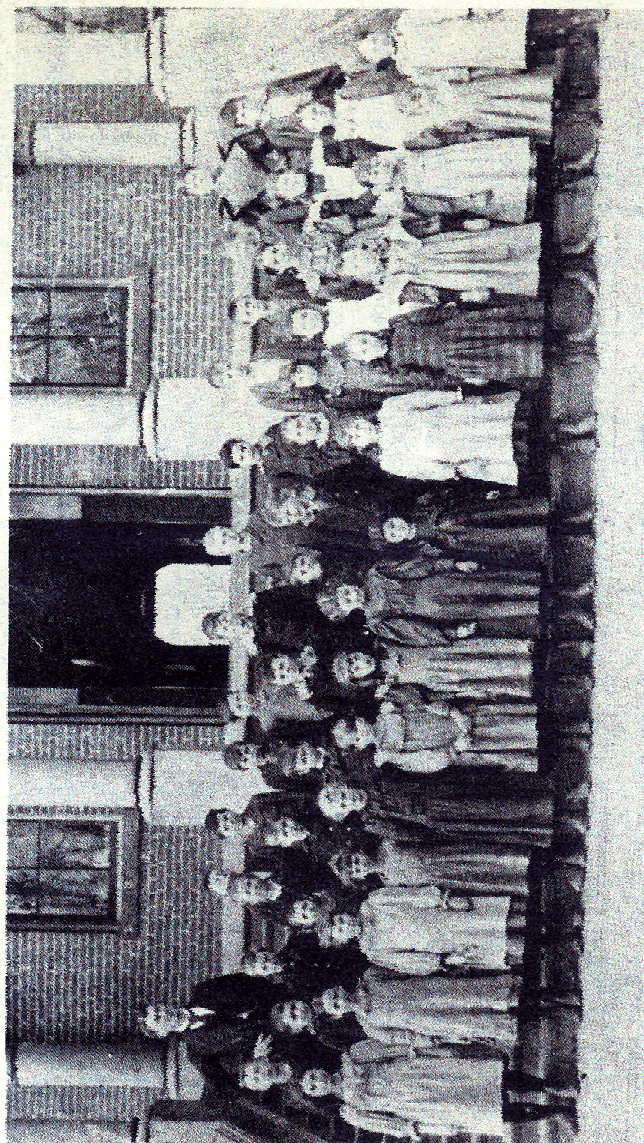
## HARRY AND HIS FAMILY



Harry at about six years old. Note the large collar and big bow. He seems to be wearing a suit.



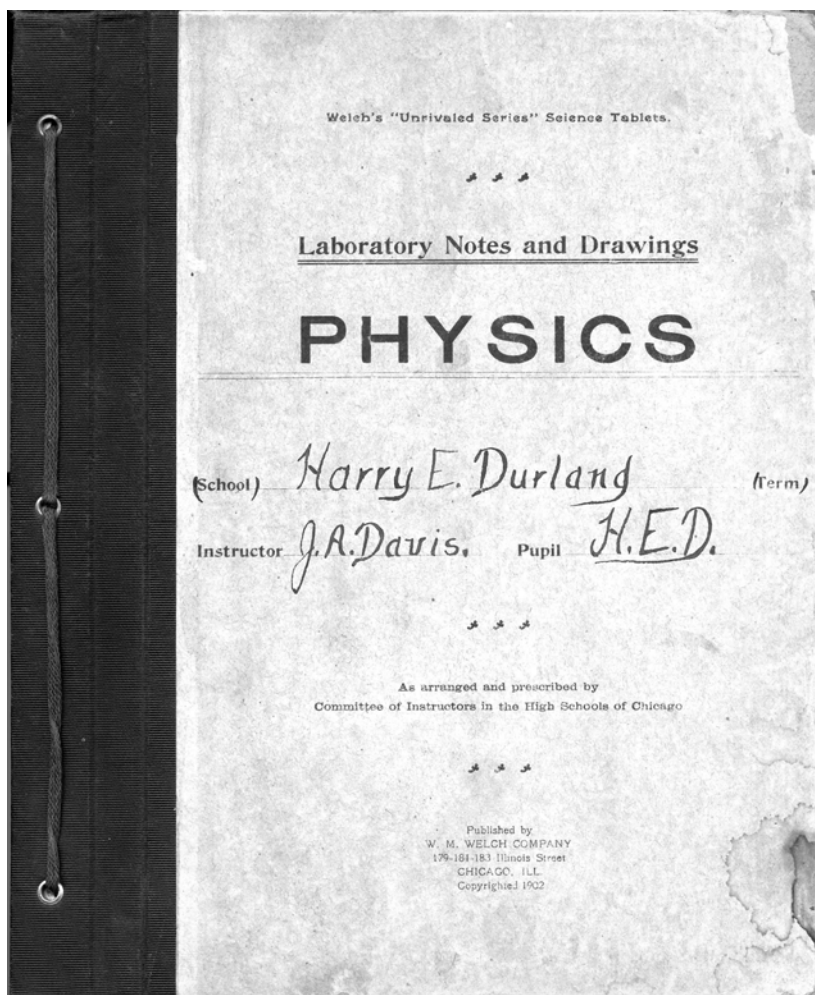
This is a picture of the grade school in Flora. Harry would be in the picture unless he wasn't at school that day. Can you find him?



*Flora Grade School 1898.*

The following pages are 2 high school workbooks of Harry. Although the books are not dated, these exercises must have been done between the years of 1903 and 1907. The latter is the year Harry graduated. This makes these notebooks almost 100 years old. Take note of Harry's distinctive handwriting, which was very individualistic for a young teen.

## THE PHYSICS WORKBOOK



## PAGES FROM PHYSICS 100 YEARS AGO

Chapter I

1. What causes physical phenomena?
2. Name the three classes of forces?
3. What is molar force? Give examples.
4. Name the kinds of molar forces, and define each.
5. What is a molecular force?
6. Name the three primary measurements (proper measurements).
7. What are the two systems of measurement?
8. " is the English unit of length? Define.
9. " the standard yard in the U.S.?
10. " the practical unit in the English system?
11. What is the French or metric unit?

Introductory.

What is physics?  
 It is the object of the study?  
 It is physical phenomena?  
 " the true why to study physics?  
 " matter? How may we know it?  
 " a substance? Illustrate.  
 " a body?  
 " an atom? A molecule?  
 Illustrate by an original exercise.  
 It is a corpuscle? How is it put from an atom?  
 It is a physical unit of matter?  
 " the chemical unit of matter?  
 Large is a molecule? Give some

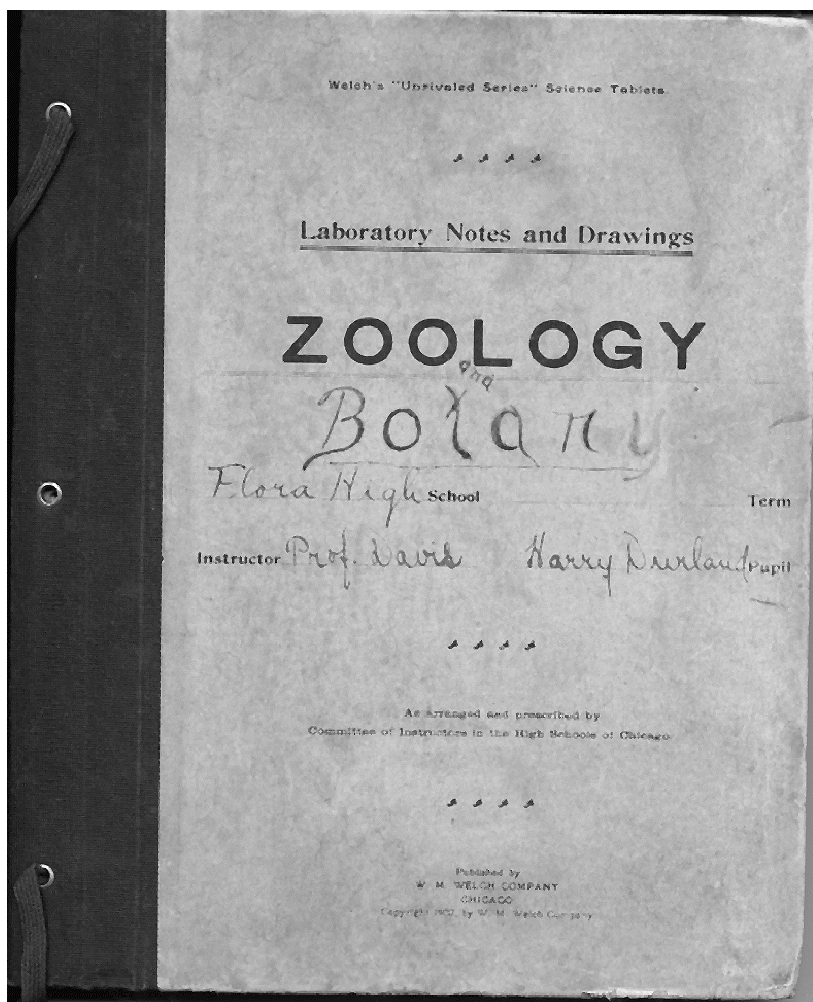
II. Work and Energy.

1. What is meant but work?
2. Explain formula  $Work = FS$ .
3. How many units of work is there?
4. What is an erg?
5. " " a foot poundal?
6. " " a kilowatt-hour?

III. Falling Bodies.

1. What gives a uniformly accelerated motions?
2. Explain formula 19.
3. What is a freely falling body?
4. Name the methods used in measuring the velocity of a falling body.
5. Explain the direct method.
6. " Galileo's "
7. " Atwood's "
8. " formulas 20, 21, 22.
9. Draw and explain paragraph 61.
10. What is a projectile?
11. " 3 forces act on a projectile?
12. " is random or regular?
13. " the path of a projectile, (parabola).
14. What is the time of a projectile.
15. Explain a) Bodies thrown horizontally  
 " b) Bodies thrown vertically upward  
 " c) Bodies thrown at an angle.

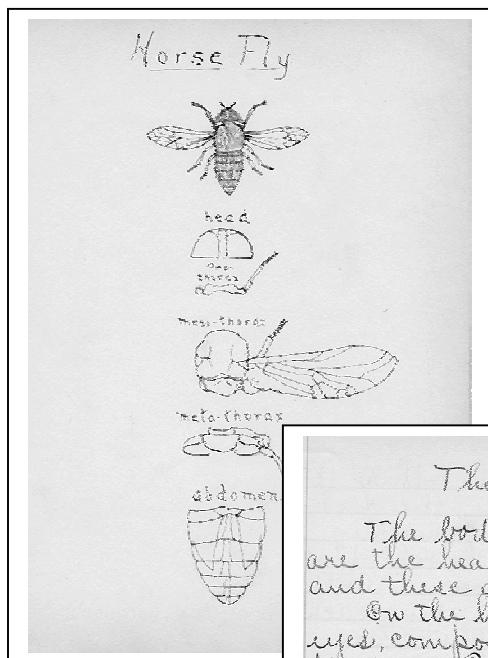
THIS WORKBOOK COMPRISES BOTH  
ZOOLOGY AND BOTANY





## ZOOLOGY

Note the difference between the title of the illustration and the information.



### The House Fly.

The body divisions of the fly are the head, thorax and abdomen and these are all plainly seen.

On the head are the compound eyes, composing most of the head divisions. Between the eyes on top of the head is one ocelli and just below this is another, and on the front side of the head is another ocelli.

The antennae are two in number and are very small, pointed, appendages stiffer in texture than any insect studied.

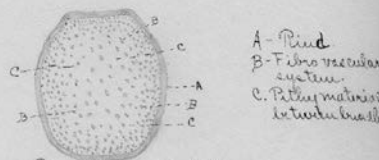
The tongue or proboscis is a modification of all the mouth parts of the fly. The palpi, appendages attached to the lower lip; the labellae, a large flap attached to the tip end of the proboscis; the sheath, a part between the head and the labellae; the lancets or parts within the sheath.

The legs have five divisions, coxa, trochanter, femur, tibia and tarsus; the tarsus is composed of

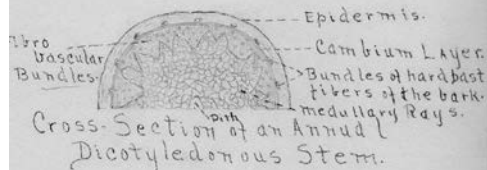
## Botany.

1. What is a plant?
2. " " an organ?
3. " " biology?
4. " " botany?
5. " " morphology?
6. Name the things studied under this head.
7. What is plant physiology?
8. " " botanical geography. Geology?
9. " " systematic botany? (~~the part of~~)
10. " " plant ecology? (" " ")
11. " " economic botany?
12. " " the true way to study botany?
13. " " tissue?
14. Why study the living plants?
15. In the study of the Squash seed (Pg. 6) each one do as the author suggests, and write answers to-----
16. Wh
17. end
18. "
19. Name
20. Why is th

## Botany.

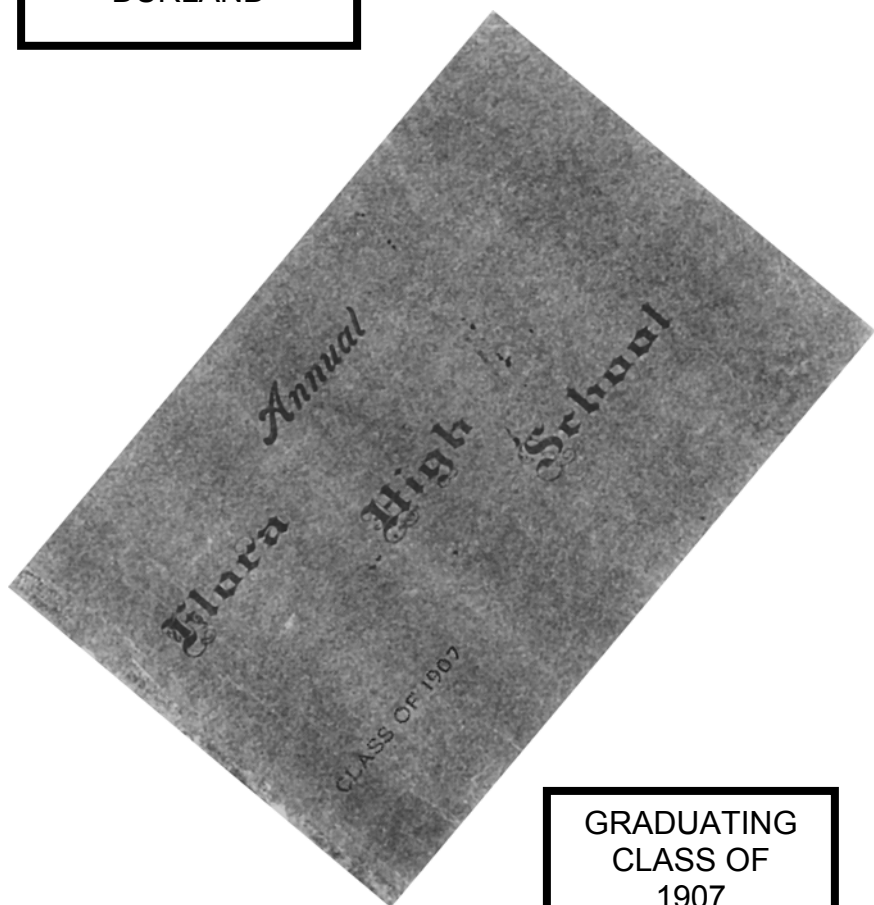


Cross-Section of Stem  
of Indian Corn.

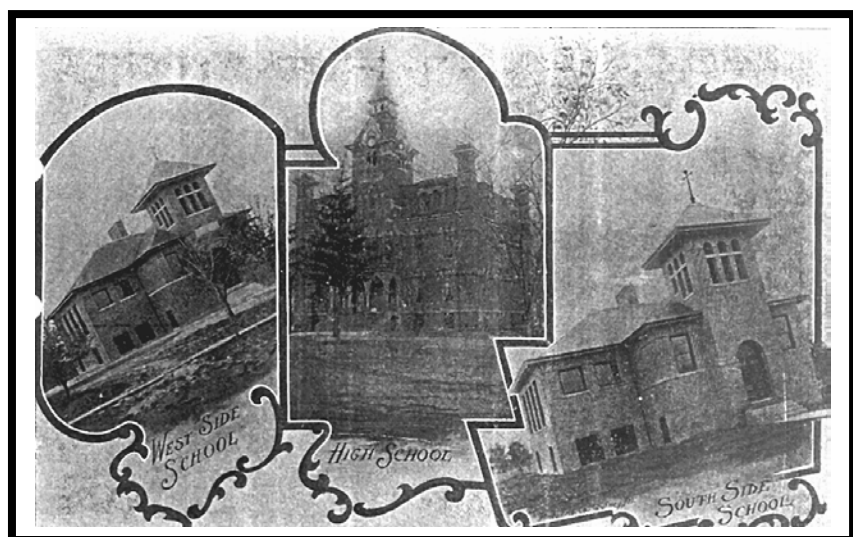


Cross-Section of an Annual  
Dicotyledonous Stem.

EXCERPTS FROM  
THE HIGH  
SCHOOL ALBUM  
OF  
HARRY E.  
DURLAND



GRADUATING  
CLASS OF  
1907  
IN  
FLORA,  
ILLINOIS



Twenty-Third Annual Commencement  
OF THE  
**Flora High School**

Carnegie Hall, Flora, Illinois, Thursday Evening,

MAY TWENTY THIRD, Nineteen Hundred Seven.

BACCALAUREATE SERMON, First Presbyterian Church, Sunday Evening, May Nineteenth.  
CLASS NIGHT, Carnegie Hall, Wednesday Evening, May Twenty-Second.

FLOWER—Red Carnation.  
COLORS—Red and White.  
MOTTO—"Honor Waits at Labor's Gate."

## EXCERPTS

### Class History.

\*\*\*\*\*

GEORGIA ROGERS AND LUCY ELKOD.

two gold medals in the high-school contests for declamation and expects to make use of her accomplishments in the future, as Lysle Dickerson has engaged her services as leading lady and Mary Ellis' as prima donna in his theatrical troop which will first exhibit before her majesty, the queen of England, July 4, 1907.

Harry E. Durland, the hero of this sketch, entered school when but a wee child and has been so devoted to his work that he has completed his course of study and is ready to be graduated at the age of fifteen. He is a bright and cheerful boy, perfectly contented with himself and the world. He has a strong personality and wonderful magnetic power which he uses to the best advantage in charming the girls. He also has great faith in himself and expects to accomplish wonders in the future. He often says that if he had lived in ancient times he might have conquered the

world with a certain Cleopatra by his side.

Second in intellect is Isabelle Smith, who was born on a beautiful summer day. This, by the way, was the most important event of her life. Owing to her personal attraction and her various accomplishments, she figures conspicuously as the belle of her class. Her display of superior knowledge was accidentally revealed to the class on one particular occasion when the instructor asked her to define "space." After studying for a few moments, she looked up with a puzzled expression on her face, and replied that she had it in her head but could not explain it. She is very calm and deliberate and never juggles or plays tricks with her understanding.

Lysle Dickerson, the pride and joy of the class, is a simple-hearted, noble-minded boy, all alive with enthusiasm and full of delicate sensibility, but free from every sort of affectation. His principal attain-

### Class Prophecy.

\*\*\*\*\*

MARY ELLIS AND EFFIE FAIRCHILD.

While going out of the corn field we accidentally ran over the stump of an old tree and upset our devil's chariot which caused a slight break in the steering gear, and we were compelled to walk to the nearest settlement to obtain the necessary repairs. Upon arriving in the village, we were directed to the only hardware establishment of which the place boasted, conducted by one who was skilled in the hardware business from his infancy. After purchasing the desired articles, which came to twenty-three cents, we handed the proprietor a

half-dollar and waited exactly one hour and twenty minutes while he labored with pencil and paper calculating the amount of change we were to receive. Knowing as we did that there was only one person in the whole world who was so extremely slow at figures, we recognized the mathematician of our class, who as you all know is Harry Durland.

# CLASS CALENDAR

## Calendar.

HARRY E. DURLAND.

### SEPTEMBER.

3. School opened with twelve Seniors on roll. The new teacher was "sized up" and various opinions formed.

4. Our course of study was laid out, and we began our tasks with light hearts, but before the year is gone some hearts may be changed to heavy ones. Clyde received the first "bawling."

10. Prof. Thrall caused a general moving of seats. The best of friends must part.

### OCTOBER.

1. Senior Gill started the new month in his usual way; sleeping.

4. Some one absent-mindedly suggested a foot-ball team, but after summing up the boys of the high school the heaviest was found to be Senior Dickerson with 118 pounds avoirdupois and so the foot-ball question was abandoned.

20. All Senior boys were casting their eyes toward a certain Sophomore girl.

31. Halloween—Dorothy entertains.

enormous sum of ten cents each, to help buy new chairs for the laboratory.

20. At last some one has found out Miss Hanon's middle name, but as space will not permit me to write it, I regretfully leave it out.

30. The hope of getting the new chairs was abandoned, as the Seniors couldn't rake up their dimes.

### DECEMBER.

3. Practice began in earnest for the Senior play.

5. William gave an interesting talk on "Free Trade."

20. The Senior play, "The School Ma'am," was staged and was a great success in every way.

21. I present our remembrance "rat."

Two week for vacation. Wonder why?

### JANUARY.

7. Second term begins. Prof. Davis is now living in a house "built for two."

8. The Seniors having mastered everything in Geometry, took up the difficult subject of Arithmetic.

15. Mary served light refreshments this morning; nabiscoes and dill pickles.

16. The Physics class made a tour of the basement to study the working of the furnace.

23. The Virgil class skipped four lines. Wonder why!

26. The "black list" was started—Seniors regard it as the work of a black hand.

31. William and Effie were caught play-

high school?

4. Senior class meetings begin.

6. A whispered consultation took place among the teachers this morning.

7. Carolyn attempted to instruct her class-mates in mathematics.

12. Dorland "snorted" and immediately left the assembly room.

14. Valentine day.

22. Lysle celebrated Washington's birthday by moving to the front.

25-28. Bissey "The Busy Photographer" kept busy by the busy Seniors.

28. Georgia and Lucy "went away back and sat down."

### MARCH.

6-9. Isabelle is teaching the primary department and has taken the opportunity to review some on Arithmetic.

12. Immediately after school the girls rushed frantically toward Senior Gill, and he was seen peacefully distributing among them his latest photographs.

13. Jessie stopped writing during class time; cause, a severe look from Prof. Thrall.

20. There was a great deal of commotion this morning when it was found out that Clyde had repaired the electric machine and had spent twenty-five cents out of his own pocket for "bees-wax" to accomplish it.

3. The "Judkin's Bunch" is no more.

4. Time for athletics is drawing near and the Senior boys are doing over (in their minds) the "stunts of last May."

5. Some valuable editions (especially for boys) were donated to the high school library.

8. There is some talk of staging "The School Ma'am" at Clay City.

15. "Checking up" day.

23. Harry's advice to the Juniors: Gather ye knowledge while ye can, Old time flies like an electric fan.

30. Georgia and Lucy, the class pets, were detained after school for spontaneous giggling.

### MAY.

1. Clyde's only consolation through the long weary school hours has been in the appropriate little song entitled, "Please go away and let me sleep."

9. Lysle purchased a new collar and

tie for commencement.

17. Seniors dismissed, in order to prepare for the different functions.

19. Baccalaureate sermon.

21. Junior-Senior banquet.

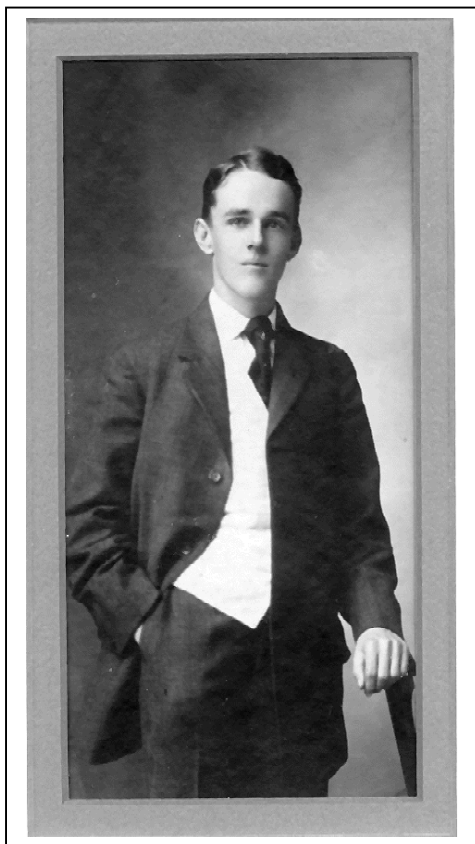
22. Class night.

23. Commencement.

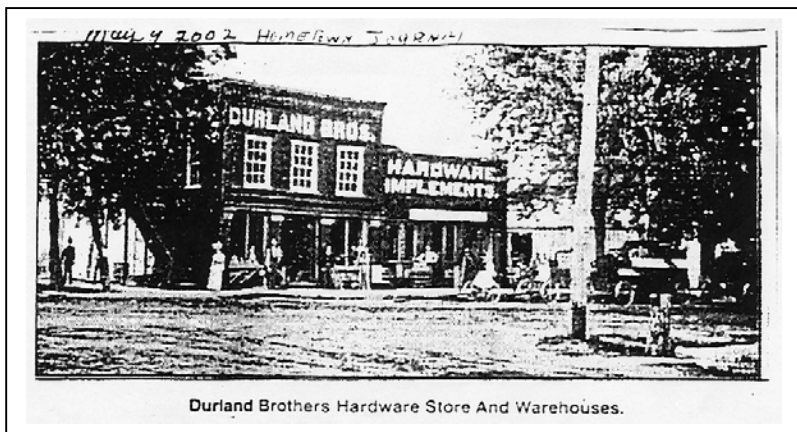
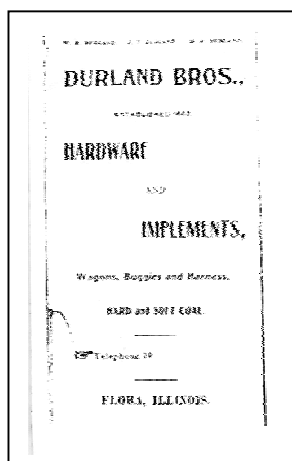
S-k-i-d-o-o.

I love the ending.  
"Skidoo"

## PICTURE OF HARRY AFTER HIGH SCHOOL BEFORE HE WENT TO CHICAGO



Harry's high school graduation picture and when he was working in the hardware store.

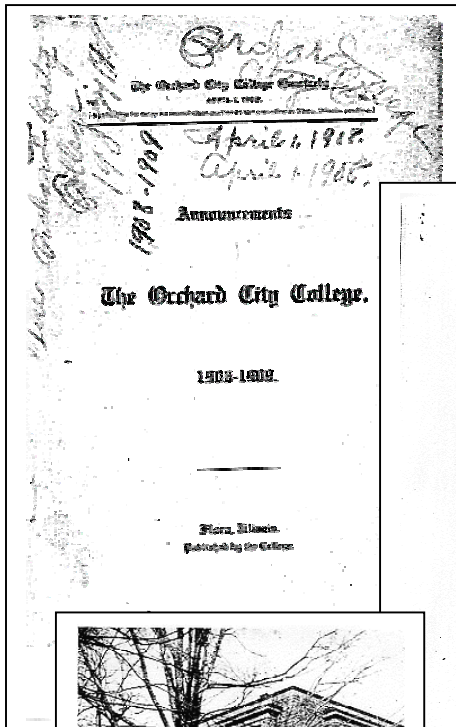


Durland Brothers Hardware Store And Warehouses.



# ORCHARD CITY COLLEGE

There is a family legend that Harry attended a business school before he left Flora. That business school would be The Orchard City College. The following pages give insights into the prevailing school in Flora. It possibly could be compared to the community colleges of 2004.



## ADMISSION OF STUDENTS.

It is always best for the student to enter College at the beginning of the Fall Term in September. That is the time for laying out the year's campaign of study. It is the time of greatest anticipation and interest, and to be present and participate with teachers and school-mates in the organization of the new term is of great value to the student. If trequently happens, however, that this is impossible, therefore students may enroll at any time when it best suits their convenience. (It is well to write to the President of the College beforehand. On arriving at Flora students should come directly to the College where they may find help in securing boarding places, rooms, etc.

No examinations will be required to enter the school and students may select the studies they desire to pursue. Later, if advanced standing is asked for, the student will be required to pass an examination necessary to secure the promotion.

No student who is not of good moral character will be admitted to the college. Proper decorum is always expected. Indeed, the history of the school reflects high honor upon the young men and women who have been students here. They have so conducted themselves as to win the highest esteem of all who have known them. Cases of discipline are almost unknown at The Orchard City College because the school is practically a self-governing institution. The class of young people who attend school here are seeking that intellectual improvement and culture necessary to success in their life-work; they are here for business, and no others are wanted. In all departments the accomplishment of work is the object and in many respects the daily routine resembles that of a regular business office.

In all the departments the presence of the pupils is required during the regular school hours. Absence from the general exercises and classes will not be allowed and habitual tardiness will not be tolerated. Training in the prompt performance of school duties is as important as the attainment of knowledge. It is the requirement here, as in all schools, that the tuition fees be settled at the time of admission to the college classes. However, in cases of necessity, payment of part of the tuition may be deferred by special arrangement.



Orchard City College in Flora was founded in 1888.



# PRACTICAL EDUCATION

## Course of Study

### THE ORCHARD CITY COLLEGE

#### Nineteenth Year

#### COLLEGE EXPENSES.

##### BOARD.

Students secure good boarding places in private families. By this means the very disagreeable experiences of club and dormitory life with their uncertain influences are avoided. It is true however, that sometimes members of the same family rent either furnished or unfurnished rooms and board themselves at greatly reduced rates. Board in private families includes table board and furnished room with heat and light, so that all of the conveniences of home life are obtained. Many of the best families in Flora board college students and the accommodations are excellent. Rooms may be rented and students whose homes are not too far away may bring some supplies with them, and, adding a little by moderate purchases at the stores and bakeries, board themselves at a very low cost.

##### BOARD IN PRIVATE FAMILIES.

Rate for full week, - - - - - \$2.25 to \$3.00  
Rate for short week, (Monday to Friday) - - - - - 2.00 to 2.50

##### RENT OF ROOMS.

Rate for unfurnished rooms per week, - - - - - 20 to 35 cents.  
Rate for furnished rooms per week, - - - - - 50 cents to \$1.00

##### BOOKS AND SUPPLIES.

Most of the Books, Tablets, Practice Paper, Pencils, Erasers, etc., may be obtained at the college office at minimum cost. Sometimes it is possible to procure second-hand books at about one-half the publishers' prices. An approximate estimate for the school-year in each department is given herewith.

##### NORMAL.

Text-books, Tablets, Laboratory Materials for one school year of 36 weeks \$5.25 to \$7.50

##### SCIENTIFIC.

Text-books, Tablets, Laboratory materials per year \$8.00

##### BUSINESS.

Text-books, Book-keeping, Business Blank-books, Commercial Blanks, Paper, Tablets, Ink, Pens, for one school-year of 36 weeks about \$5.00

##### SHORTHAND.

Manual, Tablets, Paper, Pencils, for one school year of 36 weeks \$2.50

##### TYPEWRITING

Manual, Practice-paper, Erasers year \$1.50

##### PENMANSHIP

Journal, Paper, Pens, Ink, etc. \$1

Since Harry would be living at home the room and board would not apply. Note all the tuition rates.

#### COLLEGE TUITION RATES.

Money which is paid for tuition in securing a practical education is well invested—it will return dividends many fold the original outlay. It has a subtle influence upon the character and life of the student which does not obtain in the free public schools. The sub-conscious feeling of responsibility for the money used and the necessity of personal application to study in order to make good for the expense incurred is a spur which constantly prompts the student to put forth his best efforts to master the work before him.

The rates of Tuition at The Orchard City College are much cheaper than other schools offer. Owning its property, thus avoiding the high rents which prevail in the city, as well as other heavy items of expense, accounts for the difference in favor of this school.

##### PREPARATORY.

Tuition for Term of three months—twelve weeks \$12.00

##### NORMAL.

Tuition, three school-months—twelve weeks - \$12.00

##### SCIENTIFIC.

Tuition, three school-months—twelve weeks - \$12.00

##### BUSINESS AND PRACTICE.

Tuition, three school-months—twelve weeks - \$25.00

##### SHORTHAND AND TYPEWRITING.

Tuition, three-school months—twelve weeks - \$25.00

##### PENMANSHIP.

Tuition, three school-months—twelve weeks - \$15.00

##### SCHOLARSHIPS.

When payment of the entire tuition for a school year is made; that is payment for three terms at the time of enrolling as a student, an allowance or discount of ten per cent. is deducted from the total amount.

## ADMISSIONS ADDRESS

This admissions address was in the Orchard College  
Announcements of 1908-1909

### ADDRESS

#### TO AMBITIOUS YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN.

##### VALUE OF EDUCATION.

History reveals no parallel to the business activity of the first years of the twentieth century. During the first part of the nineteenth, just after the close of the Revolution, the people were spreading themselves over vast areas of heretofore unoccupied lands. Then the chief business was the making of farms and the locating of cities. Then the call everywhere was for young men and women strong of arm and true of heart to fell the forests and to engrove the prairies. Sturdy people were needed to open and cultivate the richest soil of earth and to prepare the way for yet another revolution. Not freedom from the tyranny of unjust rulers—that the brave men and women of '76 had already accomplished—but freedom from the tyranny of poverty, when the common people should live in better houses and eat at tables more sumptuously spread than those of kings and princes of former times. Thanks to the courage and fortitude of the men and women of the nineteenth century, the primeval forests and virgin prairies have been changed into millions of the richest farms the world ever saw.

The Twentieth century opens to find that the value of farm lands of this country is represented by figures whose meaning the mind fails to comprehend. The report of Secretary of Agriculture, Wilson, for 1895 shows that the products of the farms for the year amount to the stupendous sum of six and a half billions of dollars. This means more money-value taken from the soil of the farms of the United States in one year than all of the gold that has been dug from the entire earth since the days when Columbus landed upon these shores. Farm crops demand transportation to market. The old, sleepy days before steam when Lincoln and his comrades floated their farm produce from Illinois down the Mississippi to New Orleans, then by sheer force of their strong arms, pushed their boat and its return cargo against the current back up the mighty river, proved that if the farms prospered, a better way must be devised. Scarcely a third of a century had passed when yet another wonderful and mighty revolution swept away the tyranny of muscular labor of man and beast. Man's inventive genius triumphed over the forces of nature. The evolution of the steamboat, locomotive, electric-telegraph, sewing-machine, mower and reaper, traction-engine and threshing, roller-process flour, the electric light, the electric motor and car, the electric telephone, the typewriter, and phonetic shorthand has accomplished bewildering results in the vocations of men. O mighty change! The plank boat with Lincoln's arm for propelling power seeking a market at New Orleans, has become the "ocean greyhound" entering every port on every ocean, and speeding back 'gainst wind and tide

with the commerce of all nations of the earth. The dirt road and weary ox and horse pulling the crop from the farm to the market town a hundred miles away live only in memory. They have been replaced by the lightning express rushing like a resistless tornado, from the ports of the Atlantic across the continent to the ports of the Pacific. Over the entire land lies a steel net work of rails reaching farm, hamlet, village and city. Every where is seen and heard the flying train and the shriek of the locomotive. The roar of shop and factory vibrates throughout the land. Millions of men and women are enlisted in the armies of the employed citizenship of this greatest country. Their wage scale is princely in its proportions when compared with that of any other period or any other people.

The great need and search is for bright young men and women who are qualified to do skillfully and accurately the immense volume of correspondence and accounting which modern methods in business necessitate. It is useless for young people to expect to "get on in the world" as their parents and grandparents did. The world has moved and events do not shape themselves after the slow order of former times when a seven years' apprenticeship was the open sesame to business preferment, promotion and partnership. Skill requires, not years of slavish unpaid service, but ample and well directed training; and training is the function of the school. Hence it becomes the duty of every parent who has the well-being of son and daughter at heart, to provide the means whereby a good practical education may be obtained. It must of necessity become the ambition of every earnest young person to acquire such a thorough education as will give promise of success in whatever line of business activity he may choose. Right here the Business College offers its services. No other school or institution can usurp its place. Its mission is to supplement the common school work by providing just the kind of instruction and training most needed to make practical all that a young man or woman knows.

The mastery of a new thought or idea gives a pleasure, a soul elation, unknown to stupid minds. So a knowledge of shorthand with its easy

accomplishment which opens new a person to every opportunity in a throbbing, busy life. One thing however is an assured fact; no man or woman with untrained, uncultured mind can succeed. These are days of fierce competition and the inexorable law of evolution - "the survival of the fittest," never more truly obtained than in modern business. Young people who are qualified in the fundamentals of education and trained in the duties and arts of the business office, may go out into the world fearless as a knight errant in the olden days, and like him, conquer every foe and overcome every obstacle, till they achieve that full measure of success which is sure to crown every intelligent well-regulated life.

Let us urge upon young men and women the necessity of acquiring a practical business education. You may never go to the great city to serve as a stenographer or book-keeper, but remember, business is no longer confined to the city. The smaller towns and even the open country are humming with manufactories and traffic, and even the farm calls for the best business methods. No matter what the sphere in life you may occupy, you will have use for a sound business education. It will always put you in the front rank and advance you to places and positions of honor and trust among your fellow men.

PICTURE  
POSTCARD  
SENT  
TO HARRY AT  
THE  
HOME OF HIS  
BROTHER  
CHARLES

Note the year  
1909.



Harry was still at home in Flora in 1909 because he was in the census of Flora in 1910. This could indicate he was a student at Orchard College in Flora 1909 while working in the hardware store with his father. Perhaps he was visiting Charles who lived in River Forest.

JAMES DURLAND  
FAMILY

Charles in back.

Cora Clark, HARRY, Oscar  
(cousin)

Fannie, wife of Charles

Edwin and Harold (sons of  
Charles)

Rebecca  
(mother of Harry)

James (father of Harry)



# CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

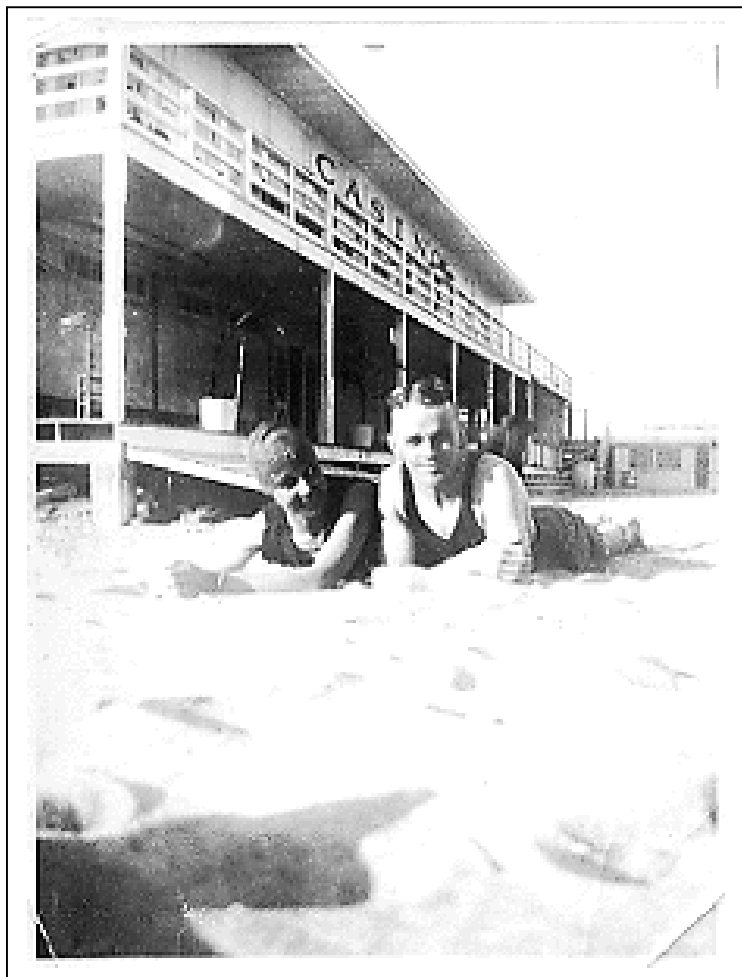


## CHICAGO

In 1916 Harry was in Chicago. Up to now there is no record of when he left Flora but it must have been between the years of 1910 when he was still at home unmarried and 1916. In Chicago he rented a room and boarded with Josephine Heimer, who was the sister of Minnie Schueneman. Through this connection he became acquainted with Henry Schueneman, son of Minnie. The picture below is dated 1916.



In Chicago Harry, through his friend Henry Schueneman, met Henry's sister Elvera. Harry and Elvera became good friends. Below is the only picture of that time of their lives.



Elvera was working at the music store Lyon and Healy, downtown in the Chicago Loop and Harry was working in the office of R.M. Grant and Co., a firm that sold municipal bonds. His office was also downtown in the Loop. A courtship began.



## THE LETTER

May 13, 1917.  
My dear Mother —  
your good  
letter received, and although  
it was written in haste, I  
you know I was mighty  
glad to receive same. Tell  
Curt Wagner I will anxiously  
be letter in person one of these  
few days. Sorry Mother that  
you have been having trouble  
with those feet and you  
know I would do almost  
anything to help you but all  
the doctors we have ever  
interviewed seem at a loss  
to know just what to do.

The final days of the  
courtship are  
chronicled in this  
letter to his mother  
dated May 13, 1917.

Mother is Rebecca  
Free Durland. She  
was confined to a  
wheelchair with  
arthritis.

Keep moving around as  
much as possible so as to  
help your circulation and  
get outside on nice warm  
days.  
Now Mother I was not  
aware that it was necessary  
to send Mr. Richardson money.  
I have been sending him  
something each month in order  
to help with this expense and  
he no doubt is paying his  
if not I want you to let  
me know, or if Mr. Richardson  
is not satisfied with his  
present wages and has asked  
for more let me know. We

Rebecca must have  
asked Harry for  
money.

Pages 3 and 4 of the letter.

3

do not want to lose him if you are satisfied with his work because women of his type are hard to secure. Mother, I have a little secret to tell you and I do not want you to feel bad and I know you will not. I am engaged to Elvera Schueneman and if nothing prevents we will be married next month. She is the finest in the world in my estimation and you are going to like her. For the present we are going to live with her father and

The secret. Why was it a secret? Harry was 29 years old and Elvera was 24 years old and certainly old enough to get married. They planned to be married one month from the engagement.

This was very unusual at that time to allow his bride to continue working. Harry promises his mother that the two of them will visit her in Flora very soon.

4

Mother - Elvera has a very nice position and one that she does not want to give up for awhile, in fact, she has a verbal contract to remain there until next January and she likes her work so I guess I will have to let her continue as a bread winner for that length of time. I will try and get down to see you before the big day and if not we will be down very soon after. Now Mother I want you to feel that you can ask me for

Pages 5 & 6 of the letter.

Note the phrase “taking unto myself a wife.” This was 1917 and WWI had started. Harry writes that business was bad and that was the reason he had not been to Flora to visit his mother. Also, he says, getting married takes more expense. At this time he was probably still living with Josephine Heimer whose home was also on Hermitage, the same street that Elvera lived on two or three city blocks away. The reference is in the next page.

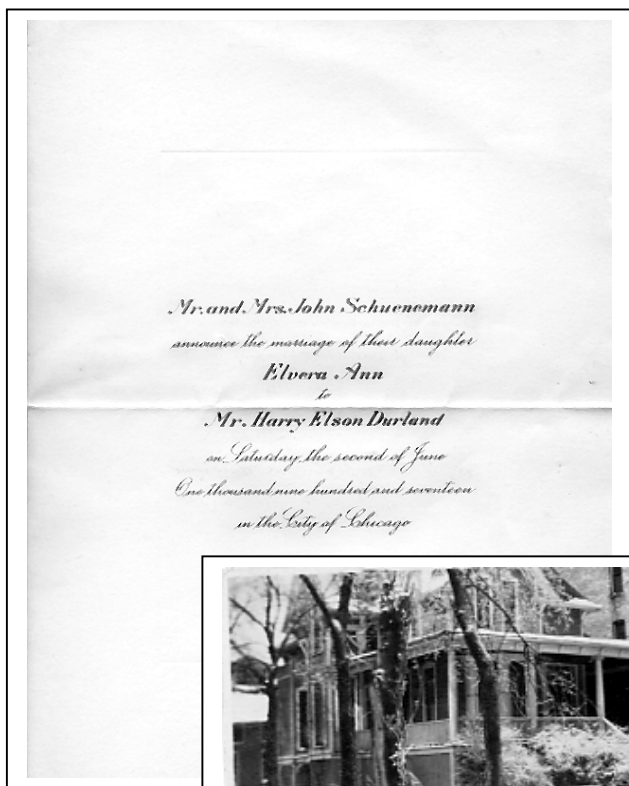
5  
anything and at any time  
and although I am taking  
unto myself a wife you  
can count on me doing  
all I can for you and  
will get down to see  
you as often as I have  
in the past. Business  
has been so bad recently  
that you will forgive me  
for not having been  
down soon. And then  
getting married does put  
me to a little extra expense.  
Mother, I have found the  
girl I want and will  
no doubt be much better.

off with her to look after  
Nana. Will write you  
again soon and when I  
see you will tell you  
all about my plans. Will  
be down to see you now  
before long. Mr. Heimer  
wants to be remembered  
to you. It is possible  
that I will bring your  
new daughter-in-law down  
about the middle of next  
month.  
With lots and lots  
of love.  
Harry

How fortunate the family is that this letter was kept by Elvera. It is possible to recognize Harry's love for his mother and his concern for her well-being.

## AND SO THEY WERE MARRIED

At that time in 1917, non-Catholics could not be married in the church so Harry and Elvera were married in Our Lady of Lourdes Rectory. Unfortunately neither Elvera nor Harry talked about their wedding, what guests attended, or who the witnesses were. It is certain that John and Minnie were there and also Elvera's brothers. Harry's brothers might have been there also but there is no record of it even though Charles lives in River Forest.



Harry and Elvera lived in the house of Elvera's parents at 4440 Hermitage Avenue in Ravenswood, Chicago but world conditions would soon affect their marriage in a very short time.

# HARRY'S DRAFT REGISTRATION FOR WW1


1	Full name	Harry Elson Durland
2	Date of birth	July 4, 1888
3	Place of birth	Natural born
4	Where born	Flora, Ill.
5	What is your occupation?	Bond Salesman
6	Do what business?	R. M. Grant & Co.
7	Address	111 W. Monroe St.
8	What is your race?	Caucasian
9	What is your height?	5' 7"
10	What is your weight?	140 lbs.
11	What is your eye color?	Blue
12	What is your hair color?	Dark
13	What is your skin color?	Fair
14	What is your signature?	Harry Elson Durland
15	What is your date of registration?	June 5, 1917

Unfortunately these copies are not clear but the information from the microfilm on the left reads:

NAME	Harry Elson Durland
RESIDENCE	4440 N. Hermitage Ave.
DATE OF BIRTH	July 4, 1888
CITIZEN	Natural born
WHERE	Flora, Ill. U. S.
OCCUPATION	Bond Salesman
EMPLOYER	R. M Grant & Co.
ADDRESS	111 W. Monroe St.
RACE	Caucasian

The next lines have to do with the military to which he answered none. Then his signature. On the right is his physical description: medium build, blue eyes. The rest is not legible but the most interesting notation is the date, June 5, 1917. Remember he was married on June 2 but according to law he had to register.

# HARRY'S INDUCTION FOR MILITARY SERVICE

	
<b>Order of Induction into Military Service of the United States.</b>	
<b>THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,</b>	
To	<u>Harry E Durland</u> <small>(Christian name.)</small> <small>(Surname.)</small>
Order Number	<u>272</u> Serial Number <u>1570</u>
<b>Greeting:</b> Having submitted yourself to a local board composed of your neighbors for the purpose of determining the place and time in which you can best serve the United States in the present emergency, you are hereby notified that you have now been selected for immediate military service.	
You will, therefore, report to the local board named below	
at	<u>Chicago Local Board No. 59</u> <u>1757 Wilson Ave., Chicago,</u> at <u>11 A.</u> m., <small>(Place of reporting.)</small> <small>(Hour of reporting.)</small>
on the	<u>15</u> day of <u>October</u> , 19 <u>18</u> , for military duty.
From and after the day and hour just named you will be a soldier in the military service of the United States.	
<u>W. H. Henderson</u> Member of Local Board for _____	
Report to Local Board for	<u>Chicago Local Board No. 59</u> <u>1757 Wilson Ave., Chicago.</u>
Date	<u>10-12-18</u>
<small>Form 102a. P. M. G. O. (See Sec. 107, R. S. H.)</small> <span style="float: right;"><small>2-4115</small></span>	

Note the date of induction when Harry will be in the Military. He had been married a little over a year.

# INSTRUCTIONS

To be inclosed with each order into military service (Form 1028) sent to a selected man.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL MEN SELECTED FOR MILITARY SERVICE AND ORDERED TO REPORT TO A LOCAL BOARD FOR MILITARY DUTY.

The day and hour specified on the Classification List of this Local Board, and on the order and notice of induction into military service which accompanies this notice for you to report to this Local Board for military duty is the time that marks your actual obligation as a soldier of the United States.

Failure to report promptly at the hour and on the day named is a grave military offense for which you may be court-martialed. Willful failure to report with an intent to evade military service constitutes desertion from the Army of the United States, which, in time of war, is a capital offense.

Upon reporting to your Local Board, you will not need, and you should not bring with you, anything except hand baggage. You will not be permitted to take trunks or boxes with you on the train. You should take only the following articles: A pair of strong comfortable shoes to relieve your feet from your new regulation marching shoes; not to exceed four extra suits of underclothing; not to exceed six extra pairs of socks; four face and two bath towels; a comb, a brush, a toothbrush, soap, tooth powder, razor, and shaving soap. It will add to your comfort to bring one woolen blanket, preferably of dark or neutral color. This blanket should be tightly rolled, the ends of the roll should be securely bound together and the loop of the blanket thus formed slung from your left shoulder to your right hip.

You should wear rough strong clothing and a flannel shirt, preferably an olive-drab shirt of the kind issued to soldiers.

NOTE.—Local Boards may have prepared, in the form of a rubber stamp, and stamp in below or on the back hereof any special instructions such as a direction to request permission to eat and spend the last night at home, as it may desire to give.

Chicago Local Board No. 59  
1757 Wilson Ave., Chicago.

(Stamp in designation of Local Board.)

2-4116

P. M. G. O. Form 1028A

Notice the instructions in the third paragraph. "You should take only the following articles; A pair of strong comfortable shoes to relieve your feet from your new regulation marching shoes; not to exceed four extra suits of underclothing; not to exceed six extra pairs of socks; four face and two bath towels; a comb, a brush, a toothbrush, soap, tooth powder, razor and shaving soap. It will add to your comfort to bring one woolen blanket, preferably of dark or neutral color. The blanket should be tightly rolled, the ends of the roll should be securely bound together and the loop of the blanket thus formed slung from your left shoulder to your right hip."

## HARRY'S ENLISTMENT RECORD


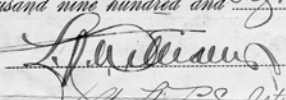
ENLISTMENT RECORD.	
Name: <u>Harry Elson Durland</u>	Grade: <u>Private</u>
Enlisted, or Inducted, <u>Oct 15</u> , 1918, at <u>Chicago Illinois</u>	
Serving in <u>First</u> enlistment period at date of discharge.	
Prior service: * <u>None</u>	
Noncommissioned officer: <u>Never</u>	
Marksmanship, gunner qualification or rating: * <u>Not qualified</u>	
Horsemanship: <u>Not mounted</u>	
Battles, engagements, skirmishes, expeditions: <u>None</u>	
Knowledge of any vocation: <u>Salesman</u>	
Wounds received in service: <u>None</u>	
Physical condition when discharged: <u>Good</u>	
Typhoid prophylaxis completed: <u>Nov. 9, 1918</u>	
Paratyphoid prophylaxis completed: _____	
Married or single: <u>Married</u>	
Character: <u>Excellent</u>	
Remarks: <u>W. H. D. L. Evans, Indiana under G.O. #1111</u> <u>1918 or G.O. #115 W.D. 1914</u> <u>Entitled to travel pay to Chicago Illinois</u>	
Signature of soldier: <u>Harry E. Durland</u>	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-end;"> <div style="text-align: left;"> <p>Chicago, Ill. <u>DEC 5 1918</u></p> <p>Paid in full \$ <u>52</u></p> <p><u>May. G. M. C.</u></p> </div> <div style="text-align: right;"> <p><u>2nd Lieut. Inf. U.S.A. A.</u></p> <p><u>C. F. J. A. T. S.</u></p> </div> </div>	

\* Give company and regiment or corps or department, with inclusive dates of service in each enlistment.  
 † Give date of qualification or rating and number, date, and source of order authorizing same.

His time in the Army was very short. Austria-Hungary surrendered 4 November 1918 and the Armistice was declared on 11 November when Germany surrendered. Without having seen any foreign service, Harry was honorably discharged December 5, 1918 after serving only from October 15. He was entitled to \$2.92 travel pay from Evanston, Illinois to Chicago, and was paid \$60.00 for time spent. Most interesting was the notation on his Enlistment Record – “Character: Excellent.”



# HARRY'S HONORABLE DISCHARGE FROM THE ARMY

<h2 style="margin: 0;">Honorable Discharge from The United States Army</h2>	
	<div style="font-size: small;"> STATE OF ILLINOIS  HENDERSON COUNTY, No. _____  FILED FOR RECORD September 27, 1919  10:11 AT "11" O'Clock a.m.  AND FILED RECORDED IN BOOK 10  OF Disch. Rec. PAGE 21  Carter Edginger  RECORDED </div>
<b>TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:</b>	
<p><i>This is to Certify, That Harry E. Leonard</i>  <i>† 4533912, Pvt. U.S.A. 7th Div. Union Evanston, Illinois</i>  <b>THE UNITED STATES ARMY, as a TESTIMONIAL OF HONEST AND FAITHFUL</b>  <b>SERVICE, is hereby HONORABLY DISCHARGED</b> <i>from the military service of the</i>  <b>UNITED STATES</b> <i>by reason of E.T.L. per Tel. A.G.O. Nov. 27, 1918.</i>  <i>Said Harry E. Leonard</i> <span style="float: right;"><i>was born</i></span>  <i>in Federal</i> <span style="float: right;"><i>in the State of Illinois</i></span>  <i>(When enlisted he was 30 years of age and by occupation a Salesman)</i>  <i>He had Blue eyes, Brown hair, Dark complexion, and</i>  <i>was 5 feet 5 1/2 inches in height.</i>  <i>Given under my hand at Evanston, Illinois, this</i>  <i>25th day of December, one thousand nine hundred and Eighteen</i></p>	
<div style="font-size: x-small;"> Washington, D. C. APR 16 1919  Paid \$60 under Act of Congress approved  February 24th, 1919.  C. E. GRAY,  Major, Q. M. Corps </div>	<div style="text-align: center;">   <i>C. E. Gray</i>  <b>Commanding</b> </div>
<div style="font-size: x-small;"> Form No. 525, A. G. O.  Oct. 9-16.  2-2554 </div>	
<div style="font-size: x-small;"> *Insert name, Christian name first; e. g., "John Doe."  †Insert Army serial number, grade, company and regiment or arm or corps or department; e. g., "1234567," "Corporal,  Company A, 1st Infantry," "Sergeant, Quartermaster Corps," "Sergeant, First Class, Medical Department."  ‡If discharged prior to expiration of service, give number, date, and source of order or full description of authority therefor. </div>	

After his discharge from the Army, Harry returned home to Hermitage Avenue. It may have been at that time that he began to work for Morris Mather and Co., another municipal bond brokerage house on LaSalle Street in Chicago. Two daughters, Mary and Jane, were born at the Ravenswood address.

## HIS FIRST HOUSE

With two daughters, Harry and Elvera decided to buy a house. They purchased the bungalow on the golf course in Evanston. Harry's Army uniform still hung in the closet of the new house.



The family of four, Harry, Elvera, and the two girls, Mary and Jane lived in this house until Harry was offered a big promotion if he would move to New Orleans, Louisiana. So he sold the house in Evanston and took his family to New Orleans. Because it was hot in the summer, the family would rent a house in McHenry, Illinois where Elvera's parents now lived. The picture on the right is Harry's family in 1926 with Elvera's parents John and Minnie Schueneman in New Orleans. Another daughter, Mitzi, was born while the family lived there. However, Harry decided to move back to Chicago. There another daughter, Joan, was born.



## McHENRY, ILLINOIS



## UNFORTUNATE CIRCUMSTANCES

In 1928 Harry and Elvera and their four girls were living in Evanston when Elvera's father, John, passed away. That left her mother, Minnie Schueneman, alone in McHenry. This was very difficult for Elvera as she was very concerned about her mother. She would call every day but the journey to McHenry was too long at that time to make it very often. Consequently, Harry and Elvera decided they would buy Minnie's home in McHenry and Harry would commute by train every day to his office on LaSalle St. in Chicago. The train ride was only an hour from Chicago and at that time there was a Club Car whereby the trip home was a "happy hour" much to the chagrin of Elvera. The picture of the house is the way it was before the Durland family moved in and added a new kitchen and changed the porch.

*(This picture  
is from  
around 1927.)*



The other unfortunate circumstance was the U. S. economic situation. The depression of 1929 was affecting the municipal bond business of Harry so these two unfortunate events changed the lives of the Harry Durland family. Harry was not unhappy with the move to McHenry. He had been reared in the small town of Flora, which was very much like the ambience of McHenry, Illinois. So in 1931 the lives of the family of Harry Durland changed dramatically.

## HARRY'S HOBBIES

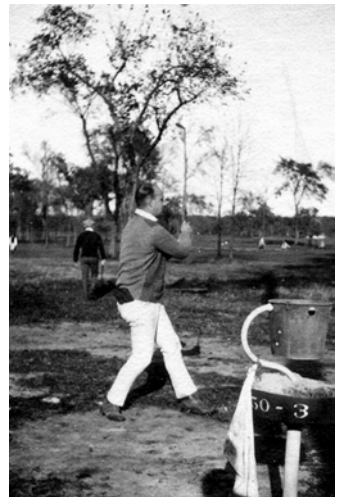


Harry's favorite hobby was fishing. Every year in the month of August or September when the hay fever season began Harry and Elvera would go up north to Fin and Feather Lodge, Wisconsin.



This picture is from a home movie but it shows the passion of a fisherman.

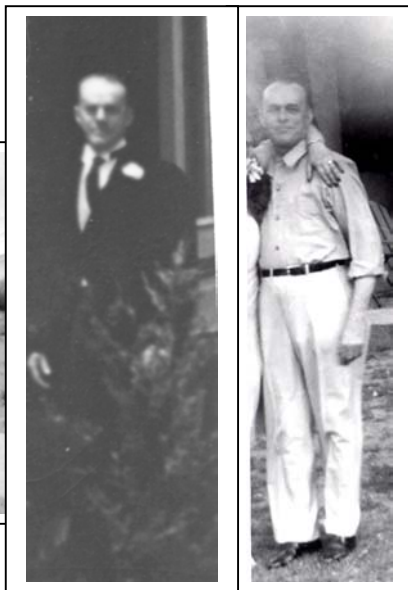
Harry's other hobby was golfing. These two pictures are of two of his golfing buddies but they are unidentified.



## MISCELLANEOUS IN HARRY'S LIFE

Before and after wedding of  
Mary. Note the quick change  
in attire! 1941

Photo with his  
teenage daughter  
Mary



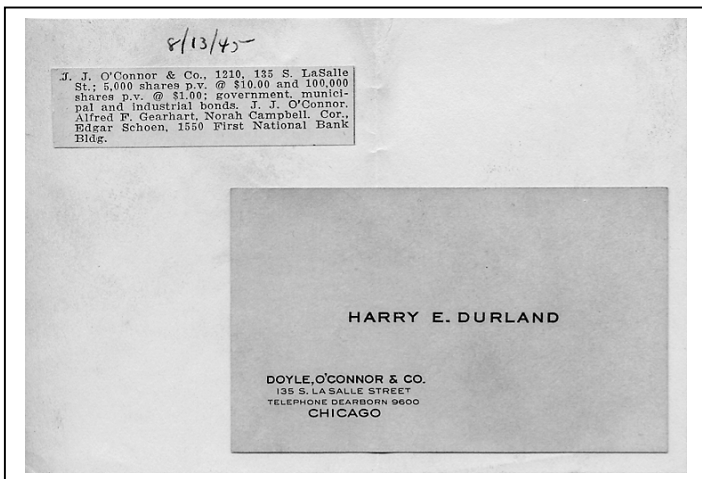
Big Snow  
of 1936



After a brief respite with Hanna Engineering as Personnel Manager, Harry returned to his original calling, that of a municipal bond salesman for Doyle, O'Connor & Co. He was commuting again from McHenry

to  
Chicago.

This was  
not to last  
long in  
Harry's  
life.



# MISFORTUNE

Misfortune stalked Harry, for in late 1945 Harry had a stroke that paralyzed his entire right side and affected his speech. Elvera knew she would not be able to care for him at home so she appealed to the Veterans Administration to get him admitted to a veterans' hospital. She had to fight hard, appealing to the American Legion, the Veterans Administration, and the Congress of the United States. All seemed to be lost but finally she won her case and Harry was admitted to the veterans' Hines hospital in Hines, Illinois.



## VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

### HOSPITAL

Hines, Illinois  
April 21, 1947

YOUR FILE REFERENCE:

IN REPLY REFER TO: H-13-D  
C- 5 290 768  
DURLAND, Harry E.

Mrs. Elvera Durland  
401 Riverside Drive  
Mc Henry, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Durland:

Your husband, Harry Durland, was admitted to this hospital for treatment August 29, 1945. He has been carefully examined by our medical staff, and is considered to be seriously ill. As it is the policy of the Veterans Administration to keep relatives informed of any change in the veteran's condition, it is believed advisable to write you at this time.

You may be assured he is receiving every possible care and attention, and should alarming symptoms develop, you will be notified by wire.

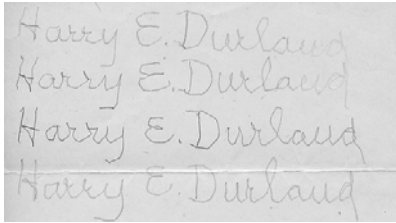
Very truly yours,

*C. J. Connelly*  
C. J. CONNELLY  
Registrar



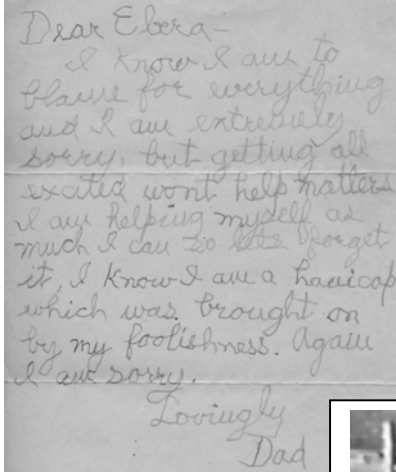
## HARRY AT HINES

Harry did his best at Hines. Elvera visited him every Sunday. He practiced his signature with his left hand and he even tried to write a journal.

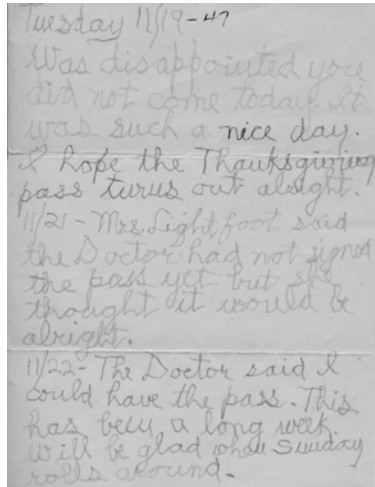


Harry E. Durland  
Harry E. Durland  
Harry E. Durland  
Harry E. Durland

His most poignant attempt at writing was this note to Elvera.



Dear Elvera-  
I know I am to  
blame for everything  
and I am extremely  
sorry, but getting all  
excited won't help matters.  
I am helping myself as  
much I can so I can forget  
it, I know I am a handicap  
which was brought on  
by my foolishness. Again  
I am sorry.  
Lovingly  
Dad.

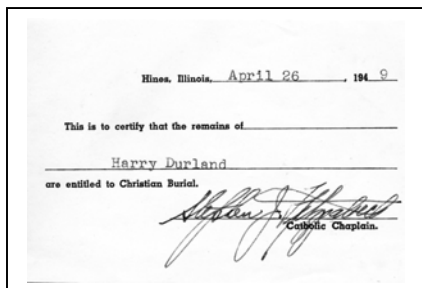


Tuesday 11/19-47  
Was disappointed you  
did not come today. It  
was such a nice day.  
I hope the Thanksgiving  
pass turns out alright.  
11/21 - Mrs. Lightfoot said  
the Doctor had not signed  
the pass yet but she  
thought it would be  
alright.  
11/22 - The Doctor said I  
could have the pass. This  
has been a long week.  
Will be glad when Sunday  
rolls around.

He even tried to learn to walk again. This photo, though indistinct, is from a movie reel which has been converted to DVD. On the left is Elvera and his granddaughter Suzanne Kauss.



This obituary brings us to the close of these glimpses in the life of Harry Elson Durland, a good man with many admirable qualities and dearly beloved by his family and friends.



Last picture taken  
Christmas 1947

Harry died April 25,  
1949

## FRIENDS MOURN DEATH APRIL 25 OF HARRY DURLAND

The family and many friends of Harry Elson Durland this week mourn his death, which occurred on Monday, April 25, 1949, at Vaughn veterans' hospital. He had been confined there since August 25, 1945, where his condition grew more critical in recent weeks.

The deceased was born on July 4, 1888, at Flora, Ill. He was a graduate of Flora high school and of Orchard City college.

For more than thirty years Mr. Durland was a LaSalle street business man handling municipal bonds and during the war years acted as personnel man for Hanna Engineering Works. The Durland family moved to McHenry in April of 1932.

Survivors include his widow, Elvera Schueneman Durland; four daughters, Mrs. Mary D. Kauss of Wonder Lake, Mrs. Jane D. Kidder of San Jose, Calif., Mrs. Mitzi D. Griffith and Joan Durland of McHenry; also five grandchildren, Maribeth, Suzanne and Virginia Kauss, Michael Kidder and Howard Griffith.

Mr. Durland was a member of Royal Arcanum, Modern Woodmen of America and was active in the growth and progress of the local American Legion post.

The body is resting at the Jacob Justen Sons funeral home until 10 o'clock this Thursday morning, when it is being taken to St. Mary's church for funeral services. Burial will be in the church cemetery.



***HARRY ELSON DURLAND***  
***Glimpses Of His Life***

***Compiled by Mary Durland Kauss***  
***Edited by Jerry Larkin Jr.***