

ROBERT STUART AND MARY ELOISE (HOPKINS) CASTETTER

If spring came but once every 60 years, instead of once a year, and burst forth with the sound of an earthquake, and not in silence, what wonder and expectations we would have. So it is in comparison with the great changes we behold in the history of Hendricks County and its citizens since the "Hadley History" was published 62 years ago. Many of the county's inhabitants' ancestors must have thought the future seemed unsure. But then it has always been; even today they, who have seen great changes, must have great hopes for our future citizens. A community is often judged by the lives of many of its members and citizens. They do share a common interest with others simply by belonging to the same community and county. These are very special because they belong to each of us.

This family history of our subjects (CASTETTER - HOPKINS) is where the past rests so comfortably with the present. Because their family is concerned with preserving the memories of their heritage, this is their printed memorial history for the past generations as well as the current living generations and to carry on unto the future generations of the CASTETTER - HOPKINS families.

Doubtless, there has been a very careful and extensive research to bring life to these records which spans a period of 200 years or more. Generations of the past, like the sturdy oaks, have stood and have passed; while today, there are three and four generations still standing in both the CASTETTER and the HOPKINS families.

Our subject, Robert Stuart Castetter has lived in Plainfield, Guilford Township, all of his life, and he has seen Plainfield grow from near 1,400 at the beginning of his life compared unto today when the population in 1975 has grown to around 9,000. This increased by one when he brought his new bride to

Plainfield following their marriage on 6-26-1938 at Brownsburg. They have continued to live in Plainfield where they own their own home. They have been, during their 36 years of marriage, a devoted couple, loving parents and doting grandparents. He, the son of Robert Schuler and Effie Mae (Stuart) Castetter, was born in Plainfield, Guilford Township, Hendricks County on 6-9-1917. The subject's father was a native of Indianapolis, Marion County, being born on 3-14-1883 to his natural parents, Samuel and Laura (Ficus) Schuler; however, at six weeks of age he was adopted by Hiram Dudley and Amanda Owen (King) Mitchell, Castetter, the latter being the daughter of Enoch West and Lucy Ann (Campbell) King. Mr. and Mrs. Enoch King migrated from Flemingsburg, Fleming County, Kentucky, with Amanda and her two young sisters, Lou Ann and Elizabeth Jane, settling in Lincoln Township in 1854. Hiram Dudley ^{CASTETTER} (b. 4-25-1842) and Amanda Owen King ~~Castetter~~ (b. 5-26-1849) were married 10-7-1880 and continued to live in Indianapolis until his death on 7-10-1902. He was a chemist and pharmacist in Indianapolis many years, making his many prescriptions "from scratch." His book of receipts is still a treasured possession of this family today. After his death, his widow lived in Plainfield with her son and daughter-in-law until Amanda (King) Castetter's death on 12-12-1932. Hiram Dudley Castetter was a veteran of the Civil War, having enlisted at Edinburg, Indiana, serving with the 93rd Regiment, 1st Division 16".

Robert Stuart Castetter, our subject, spent his boyhood days in Plainfield, fishing and swimming in White Lick Creek and when winters came, he enjoyed tramping with his dogs through the surrounding countryside woods hunting and trapping. He received his early schooling in the grade schools and attended high school in Plainfield, where he also played on the high school's football team. Upon his graduation, he went into the grocery merchandising business with Kroger Company in 1935. Learning and admiring the new business world and the wonderful people he came in contact, both customers and business staff, he decided to make grocery merchandising his career. Our subject, who, in the face of many obstacles that might have discouraged and defeated another, has forged his way to the business front by a strong inherent force with well-directed intelligence, judgment and

honesty shown in his progressive merchandising. Of the thousands of occupations which are open to citizens of this county today, the profession of merchandising is one which helps all of the county's inhabitants. He spent nearly 24 years with being in managerial positions of various Kroger stores in Indianapolis. In 1959, he went into Marsh Supermarkets, Inc., with both companies giving him the privilege of opening many new stores as manager. They are sure there have been others with a similar history in Hendricks County. Notwithstanding all this, they can be justifiably proud of the contribution our subject has given to the grocery merchandising business. His tireless service has played a vital part in his many stores' excellence throughout the years.

Robert Stuart Castetter's mother, Effie Mae (Stuart) Castetter (b. 2-3-1884 d. 12-29-1969), was the third child of William Thomas and Loucilla Rome (Williams) Stuart. William Thomas Stuart (b. 2-25-1841 d. 11-12-1929) was a native of Center Township living northwest of Danville. He was the son of James W. (b. 3-21-1811 d. 3-12-1870) and Nancy Ann (Bonnifield, Bonifield, Bonnefield) Stuart (b. 2-6-1813 d. 4-23-1875). They were both natives of Virginia, then going to Kentucky and migrated up to Hendricks County by 1835, as the Hendricks County 1850 census shows that all their children were born in Hendricks County. Those children were: Susan C. (m. John Tharp), Loucinda (single), William Thomas (m. Sarah Clark - m2. Loucilla Stuart), Sarah Ellen (m. George Arnold), Rebecca Jane (m. Simian Tinder) Mureen (Marine, Mureen) (m. Becky Jane Arnold); the eldest of these being born in 1835. Mureen (b. about 1789 d. 1849) and Susan (Hardesty) Bonnifield ^(d. 8-12-1858 - age 73 years) were the parents of Nancy Ann (Bonnifield) Stuart. Their other children were: William H. (m. Jane Janet Jelf), Thomas H. (m. Martha Jane Gatson), Nancy Ann (m. James W. Stuart (Stewart)), Pachael M. (m. John W. Brown), Elizabeth (m. -?- Smith), Matilda (m. Caleb M. Embree), Ailsey (Alcey, Alcy, Ailsia) (m. Robinson (Robertson) Russell. Mr. and Mrs. Mureen Bonnifield came to Center Township, Hendricks County in 1829.

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The parents of James W. Stuart were John and Sarah (Boone) Stuart (Stewart), who was supposed to be a sister of Daniel Boone. William Thomas, son of James W. and Nancy Ann (Bonnielield) Stuart, married Loucilla Rome (Williams) Stuart on 7-23-1879 and lived near Danville until their deaths on 11-12-1929 and 12-6-1945 respectively. She was the daughter of John Dennis (b. 9-25-1835 d. 11-30-1897) and Elizabeth Jane (King) Williams (b. 7-2-1840 d. 5-27-1914), who were both natives of Kentucky, the former was born in Clark County, Kentucky, and the latter was born in Flemingsburg, Fleming County, Kentucky. The Williams settled in Middle Townshir in 1837, moving to Brownsburg later in life. William West Williams, the father of John Dennis, was also born in Clark County, Kentucky, (b. 2-14-1809 d. 12-9-1882), while his wife, Margaret (Bradley) Williams (whose mother was supposed to be a Boone and who married William Bradley), was born on 3-16-1812 in Fayette County, Kentucky and died 1-22-1883. William West and Margaret (Bradley) Williams, having been married on 2-1-1831, made the trek to Center Townshir, Hendricks County in 1837. They were the parents of Samuel (m. Elizabeth (Turpin) Craig), James Thomas (m. Susan Mobelly), John Dennis (m. Elizabeth Jane King), Sarah M. (m. John Clark), Francis Marion (d. as child), Martha Ann (m1. Franklin Fightmaster - m2. William Wells).

The parents of William Thomas Stuart, our subject's grandfather, were still living in Hendricks County when William Thomas enlisted on 9-13-1861 in the Civil War and served in Co. H, 7th Ind. V.I. in the Union Army for a duration of three years. He was honorably mustered out 9-20-1864. Again he answered his country's call and entered the service on 2-17-1865 and honorably mustered out on 2-5-1865. After the death of his first wife, he married Loucilla Rome Williams on 7-23-1879 and became the parents of eight children, four of whom reached adulthood. Those four were Effie Mae (m. Robert Schuler Castetter), Leona (b. 5-13-1888), Gaven (b. 8-10-1890 d. 6-20-1958) m1. Geraldine Butterfill, m2. Ietecie Estes), Elsworth (b. 2-5-1895), whose wife was the late Mable (Searce) Stuart of Danville.

Loucilla Rome (Williams) Stuart's grandparents were Enoch West (b. 6-2-1812 d. 8-1-1872 and whose father came from Wales, to Virginia, then to Kentucky) and Lucy Ann (Cambell) King (b. 4-23-1815 d. 12-21-1877) who made the long trek from Flemingsburg, Fleming County, Kentucky, in 1854 and settled in Brownsburg, Lincoln Township, with their three children, Elizabeth Jane KING (b. 7-2-1840 d. 6-27-1914), who later married John Dennis Williams on 2-28-1858, Amanda Owen ^{KING} (b. 5-26-1849 d. 12-12-1832), who became the wife of ^{ml. JOHN MITCHELL, AND} ~~of~~ ^{m2} Hiram Dudley Casterter on 10-1-1880, and Lou Ann King (b. 9-6-1853 d. 6-28-1917) whose husband was Washington Arbuckle.

The John Dennis and Elizabeth Jane (King) Williams were also the parents of four children: Loucilla Rome (b. 9-1-1859 d. 12-6-1945) m. William Thomas Stuart on 7-23-1879; Martha O. (b. 9-25-1861) m. Luke Chamness; William West Williams (b. 4-13-1864) m. Mary Cowley; and Dennis Bradley Williams (b. 8-23-1868) ml. Minnie Smith - m2. Lucy Jane Warren.

The subject of this sketch, Robert Stuart Casterter, was the seventh child of eleven children born to Robert Schuler and Effie Mae (Stuart) Casterter. His brothers and sisters being: Clifford Broy (b. 10-14-1903 d. 9-29-1953) m. Elizabeth (Marshall) Woods; Elsie Mae (b. 6-12-1905 and lived one day); Marguerite Leona (b. 10-12-1906) m. Oscar A. Manning; Roy Elmer (b. 7-27-1910 d. 2-7-1972) m. Flora Archer (divorced); Leora Ruth (b. 8-25-1912) m. William Monday; Mary Annette (b. 11-19-1914) m. Paul Fields (divorced); James William (b. 8-9-1919) ml. Dorothy Marie Owens - 2m. Leeberta May Owens; Lucy Arminta (b. 10-10-1921) m. Luther Wilson; Marjorie Dean (b. 2-4-1924 d. 11-11-1928); and Thomas Eugene (b. 8-18-1928) ml. Carolyn Mae Wells ^(divorced as was his second marriage) ~~m. Charlotte~~ - 2 -

Their mother, Mrs. Effie Mae (Stuart) Casterter, was a licensed practical nurse, helping Plainfield doctors deliver dozens and dozens of babies as well as helping alleviate the sufferings of the elderly. Her husband was a painter and decorator.

During this bicentennial year in Hendricks County, the HOPKINS family shows how their ancestry is traced back to the same year that George Washington was born (1732) when Stephen Hopkins was born on 5-8-1732. He was the great, great, great grandfather of Mrs. Robert Stuart Castetter. Stephen's son, Richard Hopkins, a native of Maryland (born 1-18-1774 d. 12-21-1810, both occurring near Quantico, Maryland), was married on 12-21-1796 to Elizabeth Twilley (b. 3-12-1779 d. 8-5-1835) in Somerset County, Maryland. She was the daughter of George (b. 1743 d. 3-13-1801) and who was in the Revolutionary War) and Ann (Bradley) Twilley (b. 5-27-1745 d. 1-7-1812), and whose marriage occurred on 1-2-1766. It was through the lineage of George Twilley that Mrs. Robert Castetter, our subject, became a member of Daughters of American Revolution.

Richard Hopkins' son, William Hopkins, was born near Quantico, Maryland, on 1-17-1809 (d. 12-21-1891 in Indiana) and married Ruah Ann Harding (b. 10-26-1822 in Green County, Kentucky, d. 11-24-1907 in Indiana). They were married 10-26-1841 at Brownsburg where her parents, Aaron (b. 4-7-1780 d. 1-11-1876) and Hannah (Holleth) Harding (b. 11-30-1784 d. 11-9-1853) had migrated from Kentucky in 1833. Aaron and Hannah (Holleth) Harding's parents were Abraham (b. 9-17-1752 d. between 1818-1819) and Sarah (Moore) Harding (dates not known), and Thomas and Catherine (Hardin) Holleth, respectively. Another interesting fact is that Aaron and Hannah (Holleth) Harding were married by the same minister, Rev. Head, who solemnized the wedding of Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Castetter, our subjects, have a photostatic copy of the original, listing both couples on the same page of the names and dates of those marriages solemnized by Rev. Head between the dates of June, 1806 and April, 1807.

William and Ruah Ann (Harding) Hopkins were the parents of one daughter and five sons. The following information was obtained: Sarah Catherine Hopkins (b. 7-27-1842 c. 9-6-1826) was married two times, the first to John H. May and the second marriage was to Phillip S. Lawhead; Erastus Edgar Hopkins (b. 4-24-1844 in Indiana d. 2-20-1923) lived most of his adult years in Kansas after he married Belle Jane Hazard; Wyatt Step Hopkins (b. 3-3-1846 d. 9-26-1901, both occurring in Indiana) was married to Eliza Ann Houk; Liston Pinkney Hopkins (b. in Indiana on 1-30-1848 d. 1-2-) and his wife was Alice M. Cook; Everett Twilley Hopkins, our subject's grandfather was born on 1-19-1854 in the old Hopkins homestead a few miles north of Brownsburg and his death occurred on 11-22-1937 with interment in the Greenlawn Cemetery at Brownsburg; and Murat Warder Hopkins (b. 10-20-1857 at Brownsburg d. 12-18-1955) married Allie Montgomery.

Everett Twilley Hopkins chose as his bride on 3-2-1879 Maria Frances Burns (b. 1-27-1860 in Brownsburg d. 2-11-1932 also in Brownsburg) whose parents were John Thomas Burns (7-18-1833 d. 1-22-1885) and Parthenia Ann (Nash) Burns (b. 5-11-1837 d. 6-12-1920). Mr. and Mrs. Burns' parents were Henry F. and Sarah (Thomas) Burns and Richard and Frances (Smith) Nash, respectively.

Mrs. Maria Frances (Burns) Hopkins had two younger sisters named Dora Jane who married Charles Walker, and Lucretia Clay Burns whose second husband's name was William Brumfield.

Everett Twilley Hopkins' father, William, was a farmer as was his son, Everett, during the majority of their lives. Everett T. Hopkins served as trustee in Brown Township and was one of the trustees of the Brownsburg Christian Church for many years.

Harry Harding Hopkins, the subject's father; Frank Burns Hopkins (b. 7-15-1881 d. 4-12-1968), whose wife was Laura Amick of Brownsburg; and Mary Ludora Hopkins (b. 1-31-1886 d. 10-26-1972), who later married Clarence Virgil Edmondson of Clayton, were the three children born to Everett Twilley and Maria Frances (Burns) Hopkins. On 1-23-1910, Harry Harding Hopkins (b. 2-23-1880 d. 5-17-1967), who lived his entire life in Brown and Lincoln Townships, married Indiana (called "India" throughout her life) McKee Catterson (b. 8-28-1877 d. 11-18-1924), the youngest daughter of James Patrick (b. 3-20-1827 in Owen County, Kentucky, d. 9-25-1909 in Brown Township) and Emerine Turpin (McKee) Catterson (b. in Trimble County, Kentucky on 7-8-1834, and passed away in Brown Township on 11-15-1913). James Patrick Catterson's grandfather, James Catterson, born in County Donegal, Ireland in 1764 and died before July, 1822, came to the United States about 1794 with his wife, Mary (Henry) Catterson (born before 1775 and died between 1822 and 1830) and their four children who were born in County Donegal, Ireland. (Mary (Henry) Catterson was supposed to be sister of Patrick Henry, one of our early U.S. patriots.) One of these four children, also named James Catterson (b. 10-28-1793 d. 4-5-1841) married Sarah Wyant (b. 8-14-1803 d. 1-5-1873), who was the daughter of Jacob and Sarah Wyant. James Patrick Catterson was the fourth child of the ten sons and daughters born to James and Sarah (Wyant) Catterson who emigrated to Indiana from Owen County, Kentucky, when this particular son was four years old. They settled in Indianapolis where, years later, this son was on the Indianapolis police force and was a teacher also. James Patrick Catterson enlisted in the Mexican War in 1847 with the 5th Indiana Volunteers. In 1861, he again enlisted in giving aid to his beloved country by enlisting in the Civil War as a soldier in the 79th Regiment, Indiana Volunteers. He was wounded by a shot through his right foot. He had attained the rank of captain at the time he was honorably mustered out in 1864. He had on 11-11-1852 married Emerine Turpin McKee, daughter of William and Jane (Turpin) McKee, who later deeded their property in Brown Township, Hendricks County, to this daughter in 1860.

Patrick and Emerine Turpin (McKee) Catterson and three of their five children (two died in infancy) moved to Hendricks County in 1865 and began farming, after which six other children were born. Those children who became adults were: Mrs. Marion (Buena Zerelda) Ballard (b. 9-4-1853 d. 1-10-1941); Mrs. Simeon (Minnie Rocenia) Martin (b. 6-14-1857 d. 2-18-1881); James Siegel (b. 9-8-1861 d. 2-26-1884, whose wife was Rosa Jane Clark); Mrs. Martin (Lou Etta) Clinton (b. 6-14-1866 d. 4-14-1947); Mrs. Santford (Cora May) Ennis (b. 9-30-1867 d. 12-1-1945; Mrs. Grant (Sallie Wyant) Arbuckle (b. 7-1-1870 d. 2-20-1954); Mrs. Clarence Pearl (Emma Florence) Laycock (b. 8-6-1872 d. 12-17-1936); and Mrs. Harry Harding (Indiana "India" McKee) Hopkins (b. 8-28-1877 d. 11-18-1924).

Robert Stuart Castetter, the main subject of this article, married Mary Eloise Hopkins (b. 10-16-1915) of Brownsburg on 6-26-1938 and established their home in Plainfield, later buying a new home there. She is the youngest of of the children born to Harry Harding and Indiana McKee (Catterson) Hopkins. Her siblings are Dr. Howard Twilley Hopkins, now living in Lexington, Kentucky, (b. 12-12-1910) m. Elizabeth Leachman, daughter of Margaret (Dillon) Leachman Walls and the late W. E. Leachman of Lizton, Indiana, on 6-4-1937; William Everett Hopkins (b. 4-10-1912) m¹. Eunice Clodfelter, daughter of George and Nancy Clodfelter of Avon; m². Ethel Marie Chandler, daughter of Alex and Clara (Glendenning) Chandler of Plainfield, being married on 1-1-1947; and with the progeny being Mrs. James (Nancy Sue) Copeland, Mrs. Robert (Hazel Elaine) Schultz, and Miss Anna Hopkins; Frances Parthenia (b. 1-6-1914) married Oscar Lester English, son of Cecil and Minnie (Brown) English of Lizton, on 2-10-1935, with their daughters being Mrs. Henry (Ruth) Wagley and Mrs. Harold Joe (Mildred) Trent.

Robert Stuart and Mary Eloise (Hopkins) are the parents of two daughters: Marcia Gay Castetter (b. 10-3-1942) who on 6-25-1961 married James Arnold McCarter (b. 2-28-1941, son of Graydon and Jane (Nelson) McCarter of Indianapolis. James and Marcia (Castetter) McCarter own their home where they live in the northwest side of Indianapolis; the younger daughter, Anita Jean Castetter (b. 5-15-1947) was married on 6-23-1968 to Donald Ray Abplanalp (b. 3-8-1947), son of Elmer and Dorothy (Rohlfing) Abplanalp who lived southeast of Plainfield at the time of Anita and Don's wedding in the Plainfield Friends Church as was Marcia and Jim's wedding. Anita and Don Abplanalp bought the property where they now reside in Washington Township southeast of Avon. Marty and Jim McCarter also own some small acreage southwest of Lizton, Indiana.

Our subjects, Robert and Eloise (Hopkins) Castetter, are the proud and fortunate grandparents of five grandchildren. Robert Dale McCarter (b. 6-4-1962), Francine Deanne McCarter (b. 7-26-1964), and James Arnold McCarter, Jr. (b. 5-2-1967) are the children of James and Marcia (Castetter) McCarter. The children of Donald and Anita (Castetter) Abplanalp are Dana Lynn Abplanalp (b. 11-14-1972) and Daniel Scott Abplanalp (b. 3-4-1975).

In her early years, Mrs. Robert Stuart Castetter, a native of Brownsburg, began her schooling in a one-room school house in Brown Township which contained all eight grades. She attended this school until the death of her mother in 1924, after which she attended the grade school and high school where she graduated from Brownsburg High School in 1934. She and her husband have a few hobbies they enjoy such as travel, yard work, collecting old books, genealogy, oil painting, etc. Mrs. Castetter has been a member of various clubs, Hendricks County Art League, Gamma Chapter of Delta Alpha Gamma Sorority, Daughters of American Revolution, and for several years has been an employee in the Social Service Department of Indiana Boys' School. Her church membership is with the Friends Church in Plainfield.

As a soldier in World War II, Robert Stuart Castetter proved his loyalty to his government and United States which he admired and loved. Under Harry S. Truman's presidency, he was commended for demonstration of fortitude, resourcefulness and calm judgment to carry out the tasks he was called upon to perform. He was inducted into the U.S. Army at Ft. Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis on March 15, 1944. He took his training at Camp North Hood and Camp Swift, both in the state of Texas. He was sent overseas to the Pacific Theater of War with Co. B, 80th Chemical Mortar Battalion, to the Phillipine Islands. During his service, he received the American Theater Ribbon; Asiatic-Pacific Theater Ribbon; Phillipine Liberation Ribbon with Bronze Stars; and Victory Medal World War II. He participated in all the engagements in which his regiment participated, and with the rank of T-4 Sargeant, he received an honorable discharge on March 16, 1946, at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, and was welcomed home by his wife and daughter, Marcia. Politically Mr. Castetter is a Republican but has not taken an active part in the game of politics. He has been a member of Knights of Pythias, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Optimist Club, and he also is a member of Plainfield Friends Church.

His career over the years shows what may be accomplished by the exercise of tireless energy and upright dealings. His career has been a very busy and useful one and during all of his career, no action of his has ever brought upon him the censure of his fellow citizens and has won the respect of a large circle of friends.

Written by: Mrs. Eloise (Hopkins) Castetter
November 11, 1975