

(J.C.) Clarence Sheppard

SECOND GENERATION

Wy's Father and Relatives

"Shep"

James Clarence Sheppard

B: 2/6/1877, Ontario, Canada

M: 10/26/1903 Clara Aker,
Grand Forks

D: 7/11/1951 (from stroke), age
74 Grand Forks

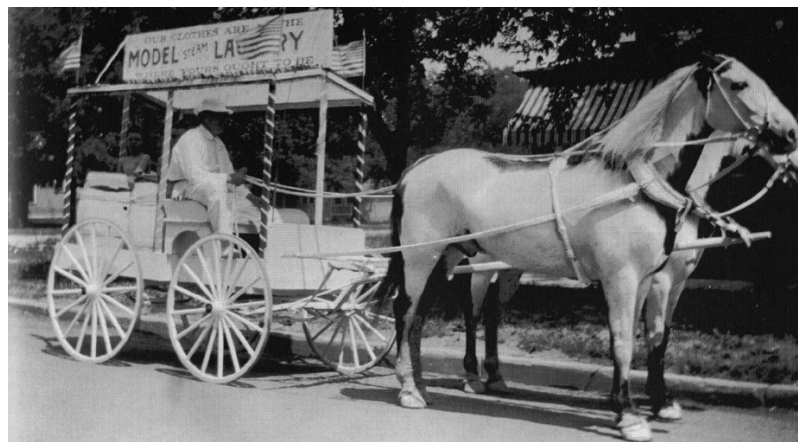


Clarence Sheppard ca 1895, ca 1920 and ca 1936

James Clarence Sheppard was known in the community as J.C. Sheppard and called Clarence or "Shep" by his family and friends.

After arriving from Canada at age 14 months with his parents, William and Priscilla Sheppard, he grew up on the family's farm near Manvel and later in Ardoch, where he received his schooling. The family moved to Grand Forks in 1891, when Clarence was 14 years old. He might have attended classes at Grand Forks Central High School but apparently did not graduate.

The second oldest of six siblings – and the oldest son -- he undoubtedly helped on the farm and with his father's drayage businesses in Ardoch and Grand Forks. At age 19, he began work as a deliveryman for the Kellogg and Tate laundry. After several years, he bought out Tate's stake and then Kellogg's interest in 1900 (probably with financial help from his father).



Model Steam Laundry horse-drawn delivery wagon, circa 1900.



Gasoline-powered trucks replaced horse-drawn wagons to make home deliveries. The truck in back is believed to be a 1913 or 1914 Ford. In foreground, Brother Caleb Sheppard is seen making home-made ice cream.

Clarence renamed the business the Model Steam Laundry and eventually moved it from 11 South 4th Street to 101 South 6th Street. Until 1902, employees included brothers George and Herbert (see below). Later, brother Caleb Sheppard was employed for most his life in the business. City directories listed Caleb's occupation variously as a collector, salesman, assistant manager and bookkeeper. Clarence's 1951

obituary stated he still held the title of president, even though he was partially retired and only worked in the office on Friday afternoons. The business was purchased by Hannah Skelly and Tony Zespy, who had worked for Shep for many years, and became a part of C&R Cleaners when that new company was organized in 1955.

**Six Helps
for Housecleaning Time**

If some kind person should come into your house around spring housecleaning time, wash and pack away all the winter blankets; clean the motor rugs that show grease spots after the winter's use; take out the summer curtains, do them up as you would, beautifully finished; and wash your feather pillows to a wonderful new fluffiness—wouldn't you be grateful?

Our modern laundry methods are at your service to relieve you of these and other details of spring housecleaning. Bundle up your curtains, pillows, rugs and other heavier pieces today and send them to us.

	Lace Curtains that Look Like New We wash your lace curtains in flannel soda, and gently steam them. Our modern laundry methods enable us to return your curtains exactly their original size, with outlines even, and all beautifully finished.
	How about those heavy Rag and Woolen Rugs? Are you going to struggle with the washing of those heavy rag and woolen rugs this spring? We can launder them for you. Save yourself, and send them to us.
	Have your Blankets Washed before Storing Of course, you will want to have your blankets washed. Why not let us do this laborious work for you? Our way of laundering them saves the nap, and keeps them soft and flannel.
	Eiderdown Quilts Laundered Expertly Our modern washing methods are ideal for your eiderdown quilts, which you will naturally want cleaned before storing. Here is another bit of heavy work that you will find it economical to have us do for you.
	Your Feather Pillows Made Light and Downy Feather pillows washed by our specialized methods are soft and downy after their bath in rich soda and drying in clean warm air currents. Put new life in your old pillows by having us wash them on laundry way.
	And those Motor Rugs? You can send your motor rugs to us also, to be washed free of the past season's grease and grime. We have special equipment for handling these extra weighty things.

OUT-OF-TOWN CUSTOMERS
Can send their work through our agencies, where there is no agent send your work in by Parcel Post.

Model Steam Laundry
J. C. SHEPPARD, Prop.

18 and 20 North Fourth St. Grand Forks, No. Dak.

Phones 179 180 OUR REFINITE JOFT WATER MAKES YOUR CLOTHES LAST LONGER. Phones 179 180

Send it to the Laundry

**We Wash Everything
But the Baby**

You will have more time to do that if you send
Your Family Wash to Us.

One Week's Wash Free

We will do one week's entire family wash—from
the home of the boy and girl winning first prize in
the Royal Better Baby Contest.

Model Steam Laundry
J. C. SHEPPARD, Prop.
Both Phones 179

Two ads for the Model Steam Laundry – Spring Cleaning tips (May 1920) and a prize offer for the winner of a city-wide retail promotion (May 1918).



Shep with his prize hunters in 1905: Left, Blue Jack, Danstone's Lady Betty, Danfields, and Countess McKinley (Topsy). Right, Countess McKinley (Topsy), Danfield and Blue Jack. Another of his prize canines was killed in a tragic fire in 1913.

Clarence as a Sportsman. When Clarence died in 1951, newspaper columnist C.D. Locklin, who had met Clarence in 1913, rightly described Shep as having been "a top figure in sports" in the area, who especially enjoyed hunting, baseball and curling.

As a hunter, Clarence bred hunting dogs -- pointers and retrievers -- that he exhibited at dog shows in the region. He also judged shows. One of



A favorite part of hunting was Clarence's cooking (and baking bread) in the field, such as on this trip near Berwick, ND in 1905

his pointers won national field trial blue ribbons for several years, and Shep was listed in the national directory of dog breeders as late as 1917.

Clarence enjoyed baseball and was an organizer of the Grand Forks club in the old Northern League. Teams traveled by train to compete with other towns in the region. He

was among the leaders who built a baseball park near University Avenue and 20th Street (now University Park) and led efforts to raise funds to keep the team in operation until the Northern League folded.

Separately he was general chairman of a baseball tournament co-sponsored by the Commercial and Merchants clubs. The promotional event attracted at least 21 teams and offered \$2,500 in gold as prizes.



Sheppard (center, in white coat) was a player or coach at age 22 of the Grand Forks Pickets championship baseball team in 1899.

Shep also was a founder and was elected first vice president of the Grand Forks Curling Club when established in 1914. He served as president from 1916 to 1922 and was a director during the entire existence of the original organization. He was one of the builders of the original rink below the Northern Pacific depot near the river and the later building erected on Washington Street. He traveled to bonspiels (tournaments) in Winnipeg, Duluth and other cities. At the time, Grand Forks also sponsored more such events than all other cities in the region combined. His curling prowess as reported on routinely in the sports pages of the *Grand Forks Herald*.

Civic and Business Involvements. O.D. Locklin's 1951 newspaper tribute, along with the newspaper obituary, explained that Clarence was one of the most active residents in civic affairs in Grand Forks. He was a leader in the Commercial Club, Rotary, the Boy Scouts and fraternal organizations such as the Elks and Masons. Among his interests was building a Boy Scout camp on Maple Lake.

In 1918 he was a candidate for a three-year term on the school board but apparently defeated. Then, in 1919, he was elected a city council alderman from the 5th ward and served one term. He later ran for the school board in 1924, but was defeated by a candidate who was an avowed member of the local Ku Klux Klan.

In the 1930 he became a trustee of the Memorial Park Cemetery, and was served as present of the board from 1933 until his death. Coincidentally, the cemetery had begun in 1878 with the purchase of 20 acres (now on its northwest corner) from George W. Aker

His 1936 profile mentions Clarence had “interests in several other business ventures.” Among these, he was an investor in the Elgin Café, 000 North 4th Street (successor to the Elgin Dairy Lunch) and partner in the Pure Water Co., which carried spring water from the Crystal Spring farm in Larimore to Grand Forks prior to improvement of the municipal water system. He was also instrumental in helping his son get into business. (See entry for K. Wyman Sheppard)

Clarence’s Siblings and Their Descendants

As the children of William and Priscilla Sheppard, Clarence and his five siblings represented the second generation of Sheppards in North Dakota.

Ella Maude, the oldest child, came with the family from Canada to Grand Forks, where she met and married farmer Charles Wesley Bateman at the turn of the century and lives their entire lives in Brenna,



*Ella Maud with brothers **Caleb (left)** and Shep ca 1920s.*

Twp. on the Bateman farmstead on extension of 32nd Avenue South west of Grand Forks

Maude’s daughter Hazel married farmer Peter Schumacher in Reynolds. Sons Lyle and Robert continued to

farm in Reynolds; in addition Lyle worked as an agent for Nodak Mutual Insurance. Sons Merle and Charles entered the pest control business for Lystad’s (now Ecolab) in Minot and Devil’s Lake, respectively. Merle later retired as the area manager for Ecolab in Fargo.

Maude’s son William and his wife Marion continued to operate the Bateman farm. Their eldest daughter, Merry, wed a U.S. Navy captain; the couple resides in Seabrook, TX. The Bateman farming tradition was on son Charlie and his wife Suellen Ringsak, who continue to reside on the farm. Today, Maud’s great-grandson Beau and his wife Kristi operate Bateman Ag, the family’s farm business that now encompasses _____ acres devoted to growing _____, _____, and _____.

Ella Maud Sheppard

B: 3/26/1875 Ontario, Canada

M: 4/2/1902 Charles Wesley

Bateman

B: 5/28/1867 Port Perry, ON

D: 3/1955 Grand Forks

D: 11/17/1952 Grand Forks

Children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren:

Hazel M. Bateman (1904-1990)

B: 9/5/1904

M: Peter Henry Schumacher (1895-1985)

Merle F. Schumacher 1928-2008

M: Joyce Pohlman 1928-2009

Dean Schumacher

M: Penny Schumacher

Wayne Schumacher

M: Lou Ann Schumacher

Laure Schumacher

M: Fritz Zirbel

Julie Schumacher

M: Fadness

See Family Search.com for details about descendants: GC8W-V1M

Lyle Peter Schumacher 1932-2014

M: Rosalie A. Schreiner 1934-

Tim Schumacher

M: Nancy Schumacher

Brian Schumacher

M: Jennifer Schumacher

Scott Schumacher

M: Elizabeth Schumacher

Laura Schumacher

M: Ricky Morgan;

Debra Schumacher

M: Jeffrey Lazur

Peter Schumacher

M: Stacy Schumacher

See Family Search.com for details about descendants: GC8W-542

Charles Schumacher 1936-2017

M: Marie Brda 1937-2010

Tamara Schumacher

M: Trent Reiersen

Vickie Jo Schumacher

M: Sorenson

Catherine Schumacher

M: Rick Soper

Shane J. Schumacher 1964-2010

M: Julie Wold

See Family Search.com for details about descendants: GC84-HM2

Robert James Schumacher c1950

M. Elizabeth Marie Griggs

William David Bateman 1911-1988

M: Marion Delphine Pederson
1913-2002

Merry Dale Bateman 1938

M: Gary Eugene Bell 1938-dec

Kathryn (Katybell) Bell

M: _____ Hames

James Bateman Bell

M: _____

Charles Wesley Bateman 1939-

M: Suellen Ringsak 1939-

William Beau Bateman 1963-

M: Kristi maiden name 1966-
Children

Herbert Elisha Sheppard

B: 4/5/1878 Ontario, Canada

M: Edith Palmer (date unknown)

B: 12/18/1884 Minnesota

D: 3/23/1976 Seattle, WA

D: 10/27/1934 Langley, Island County, WA (resident of Seattle)

Children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren:

Vivian Sheppard 1909-2005

M: Robert Edward Thoren 1913-1999

Roberta Lee Thoren ca 1944-

M: William Dean Schouten

Brent Alan Schouten 1968-

M. Patty Witt

Bryan Dean Schouten 1974-

M. Sara L. Woekenberg

Joanne Thoren 1927-2005

M/div: George Bell

Wanda Elaine Sheppard 1912-1984

M: Robert Edward Isler Sr. 1916-2004

Robert E. Isler Jr. 1947-

M: Christin M. Balke ca 1948-

Douglas Wm Isler 1974-

M: Ronna J. Harper

Barbara E. Isler ca 1952-

M. Keith B. McCain 1953-



Wy and Alice often attended family gatherings with the Batemans including this birthday celebration for Ella Maud circa 1950. From left: Ella Maud's daughter Merry Dale (Bateman) Bell, Marion Delphine (Pederson) Bateman, Charles William Bateman (about age 10), William David Bateman, Hazel (Bateman) Schumacher, family matriarch Ella Maud (Sheppard) Bateman (seated) and her husband Charles Wesley Bateman (standing), Jean Sheppard (infant), Wy Sheppard and Alice Sheppard. Photo possibly taken by son-in-law Peter Schumacher (husband of Hazel Bateman).

Herbert Elisha, family's second oldest son, left Grand Forks at age 24 when and his brother George, age 22, moved to Spokane in 1902. Few details are known about his work life, but he probably worked at either one or both of the Spokane area laundries where his brother is known to have been employed. His wife Edith was born in Minnesota and might have accompanied him. The couple spent most of their family life in Spokane, where their two daughters were born. By the 1930 Census, he had become a resident of Seattle and possibly had gone to work for his brother George. In 1934 he working as a laundry truck driver when his truck was found abandoned. He went missing for three weeks during which a \$100 reward was offered for information. His body found in Puget Sound; it was determined he had drowned.

Caleb David, was the first child of William and Priscilla Sheppard born in the United States. Caleb's claim to fame was as a noted trick cyclist who traveled and performed at special events with a vaudeville troupe known as The Metropolitans. He began with an act with his friend Edward Ackerman they developed as a teenagers. Undaunted by a broken collarbone and internal injuries Caleb sustained at an appearance near Winnipeg, in



Caleb David Sheppard

B: 3/27/1881 Ferry Twp. MD

D: 4/13/1935, age 54 Grand Forks

Never married

1901 Ackerman and Sheppard set out to reach the Pan American Exposition in Buffalo and paid their way by performing street exhibitions in towns along the way. Whether they ever made it to Buffalo is not known. Among his tricks, Caleb rode a bicycle down a set of stairs and down a ladder. In 1908 the *Grand Forks Evening Times* wrote, "Grand Forks can boast of a trick cyclist who ranks high with the best in the business. Caleb has enough comedy in his turn to make it pleasing and the feats he performs, practically turning a bicycle into every conceivable shape, is worthy of the bountiful appreciation which Sheppard received."

Caleb exhibited his trick cycling as late as 1913, possibly later. During winters in the early years when he was touring in summer as a young performer, he worked at the Model Laundry. In the 1910s, it would appear his brother was grooming him to help operate the business by sending him to state laundry operators' conventions in 1914 and 1916 (and possibly later meetings). He resided until the time of his death in the family home at 112 North Sixth Street and never married. His other notoriety was a town drunk.



Caleb (right) with fellow trick cyclist Edward Ackerman, also of Grand Forks; a later poster used to promote appearances.

Ada May Sheppard

B: 3/15/1889 North Dakota

M: Henry Mudnick

M: Charles Pascas, Lansing MI

M: William P. Polsky

B: 1886 Ramsey County MN

M: Hennepin County MN

D: 1935, age 46 or 47

Minneapolis MN (Crystal Lake Cemetery)

D: 10/19/1939, age 50 Trenton, NJ

Buried Grand Forks

Ada May, William and Priscilla's younger daughter was a popular and well-known young woman whose musical recitals, drama presentations, and attendance at social events were regularly reported in the columns of the local newspapers. At age 17 she came a salesclerk at the Benner, Begg & Garvin department store. At age 19, she lived for two years in Spokane, where her brother Herbert resided and she was employed by the Upton Hotel, probably as a housekeeper. She also was a featured model in the widely attended United Apparel show. She returned to her department store job in Grand Forks but later took a similar retailing position in Minneapolis in 1917.

The 1920 Census listed her as the single head of a household in Minneapolis with an occupation of manicurist. She was married three

times. She married Henry Mudnick in 1920; he passed away at age 30 after only three years of marriage. Five years later, Priscilla Sheppard's obituary in 1928 identified one of her two surviving daughters as Mrs. Charles Pascar of Lansing, Michigan, but no details could be confirmed. In 1930, she married William P. Polsky of Hennepin County, MN, who passed away in 1935.

Prior to an extended illness where she was treated at the municipal hospital and her death in 1939 in Trenton, NJ she was the executive housekeeper at the 250-room Stacy-Trent Hotel in Trenton. She also had been elected vice president of the New Jersey chapter of the National Hotel Housekeepers Association. Such a responsible position suggests she had considerable experience in the industry, dating back to her two years in Spokane and possibly her time in Minnesota and Michigan. However, no details are known.

George Percival Sheppard

B: 7/29/1882

M/div Christine Clark 1884-1943

M: Agnes (maiden/prior name unknown) 1896-1984

D: 5/15/1954, age 61, Corona del Mar CA (Melrose Abbey Memorial Park, Anaheim CA)

Children and grandchildren (with Christine Clark)

Lucile Sheppard 1907-1985

M: Edward T. Cahill 1908-1974

No record of children

Ruth E. Sheppard 1921-

M: Jack D. Minkler 1921-2010

Stephen D. Minkler 1948-1975

No record of marriage

Mark Shepard Minkler 1952-

M/div. Joy C. McEwen ca 1952

George Percival. After completing graded school, the youngest of the Sheppard children was employed for six years at the Keile & Ryan grocery in Crookston, and worked briefly as a collector for the his father and brother's businesses before moving to Washington state with his brother Herbert in 1902.

Upon his arrival in Spokane, he entered the employ of the Washington Laundry and later Crystal Laundry. In 1907 George then moved to Seattle and worked at two laundry firms before he established the Ideal Laundry, which was later consolidated with the Washington Laundry and Dry Cleaning Company, where he became an owner and manager in October 1917. In 1919 he was president of the Seattle area association of laundry operators and also became a trustee of the newly formed Anti-Japanese League, reflecting the strong public reactance to foreign influences following World War I.



Among his accomplishments, he was elected president of the Washington state association of laundry and dry cleaning operators. His photo (see right) appeared on the cover of the industry's *National Laundry and Dry Cleaners* trade publication in November 1921 and was accompanied by a brief profile. He also became owner and operator of the Covey Laundry & Cleaning Company from 1933 to 1946. George was married twice. He was divorced by his first wife in 1930; might have already been involved with the woman who soon became his second wife, Agnes. However, details are unknown. He retired to southern California in 1946, where he lived for 8 years prior to his death due to a heart ailment.

Because Clarence's three brothers had no male children, the Sheppard surname today is left to be carried on solely by descendants of Clarence -- namely his four great-grandsons, Dan, Aiden, Kenny and Henry.

MODEL STEAM LAUNDRY. J.C. Sheppard, Proprietor, 11 S. Fourth St. – This laundry is certainly a model of its kind. In every detail of arrangement of the interior the greatest convenience for rapid and perfect execution of work has been consulted. For cleanliness and light it has no superior, both of which are absolutely essential to the production of first-class laundry. This laundry is equipped with the most modern machinery in every department and their success is due to the superior quality of the work produced. That the management is popular, the work done of the best and that general satisfaction is given in every department is proven by the enormous patronage enjoyed. The trade extends not only throughout the city but twenty-six agencies are maintained and laundry is shipped throughout northern North Dakota and Minnesota. Eighteen experienced operators are employed. The laundry has been established four years, and the extent of the business is constantly increasing.

Excerpt from listing in Souvenir city promotion brochure (1901), p. 22. The waxing description was probably written by the publisher as a paid advertorial.

