

BROOM FACTORY AND CHAIR CANING

Founded by Ralph Slutterhoffer sometime after 1906, by a blind man.

Mr. Slutterhoffer was born in 1881 and in an explosion at the Lime Kiln in 1906 lost his sight. He attended a school for the blind in southern Michigan and when he returned founded the Broom Factory and Chair caning Business, on Charlevoix-avenue, Petoskey, Mich.

He raised a garden, canned his own fruits and vegetables ~~xxxx~~ He lived alone and was known to shingle his roof in the middle of the night which amazed his neighbors .

After his death in 1952 his daughter, Esther (Mrs. Burt) Kurburski took over the chair caning business. She lived north of Harbor Springs. In 1960 she moved across from Jays Market (now Martins Fruit Market). She died in 1977 and the business is now carried on by her ~~daughter~~ grandson and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Wilburt Kurburski who live at 6211 Middle Village Road, Harbor Springs, Mich.

(note: Burt Kurburski, husband of Esther, lives at Riverview Terrace Apts. on Bridge-st.)