

Hope College

## Hope College Digital Commons

---

Van Raalte Papers: 1850-1859

Van Raalte Papers

---

10-4-1853

### A. C. V. R.'s Application for U. S. Citizenship and Certificate of American Citizenship

George Martin

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.hope.edu/vrp\\_1850s](https://digitalcommons.hope.edu/vrp_1850s)

The original documents are held in the Albertus C. Van Raalte Collection (M300) or the Dirk B.K. Van Raalte Collection (M301) in Heritage Hall, Hekman Library, Calvin University, Grand Rapids, MI. The Van Raalte material in Heritage Hall has since been reorganized.

<https://archives.calvin.edu/index.php?p=collections/findingaid&id=264&q=>

<https://archives.calvin.edu/index.php?p=collections/findingaid&id=262&q=>

This digitized material is intended for personal research/study only. The original documents may not be reproduced for commercial use in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, without permission in writing from Heritage Hall at Calvin University. [Contact the Curator at Heritage Hall.](#)

---

#### Recommended Citation

Martin, George, "A. C. V. R.'s Application for U. S. Citizenship and Certificate of American Citizenship" (1853). *Van Raalte Papers: 1850-1859*. 386.

[https://digitalcommons.hope.edu/vrp\\_1850s/386](https://digitalcommons.hope.edu/vrp_1850s/386)

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Van Raalte Papers at Hope College Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Van Raalte Papers: 1850-1859 by an authorized administrator of Hope College Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@hope.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@hope.edu).

October 4, 1853

ACVR's application for U. S. citizenship and certificate of American citizenship. George Martin was the presiding Circuit Judge before whom ACVR appeared on October 4. The certificate is dated October 17.

Calvin College Archives: Van Raalte Collection, Box 1, folder 4.

*Calvin C. Cole Clerk  
ACVR Coll.  
Box 1, Fide 4*

State of Michigan,  
COUNTY OF OTTAWA.

ss. THE Circuit Court for said County. At a session of said Circuit Court,  
holden at Grand Haven, on the *4<sup>th</sup>* day of *October*, A. D., 18*83*.

Present, the Hon. *George Martin*, Circuit Judge, *Albertus*

*C. Van Raalte* having appeared in open Court, and having made application

to become a citizen of the United States, and having introduced the testimony of

two witnesses, by which it appears to the satisfaction of the Court, that the said

*Albertus C. Van Raalte*, has resided in the United

States for five years, and in the State of Michigan, for one year previous to the

date hereof, and having made oath in open Court (which oath, signed by said *Albertus C. Van Raalte*

is now on file), that he would support the Constitution of the United States, and that he would absolutely and entirely re-

nounce, and abjure, all allegiance to every foreign Prince, Potentate, State or Sovereignty, whereof he was before a citizen or

subject and particularly *William, King of Holland* whose

subject he has hitherto been.

The said *Albertus C. Van Raalte* is hereby now declared a citizen of the United States of America, from and after the date hereof.

STATE OF MICHIGAN, }  
COUNTY OF OTTAWA. } ss.

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of record. In testimony whereof I have

hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Circuit Court, for said County, at the Clerk's office, in Grand Haven

this *10<sup>th</sup>* day of *April*, A. D., 18*86*.

*Hermanus D. DeBers* Clerk.

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of record, in witness whereof I have hereunto  
set my hand, and affixed the seal of the Circuit Court for said County, at the Clerks Office, in Grand Haven, this *17* day of

*October*

A. D. 185*3*.

*Hayes Post* Clerk.

STATE OF MICHIGAN, }  
COUNTY OF OTTAWA } ss

THE Circuit Court for said County. At a session of said Circuit Court, holden at Grand Haven, on the *fourth* day of *October* A. D. 185*3*.

Present the Hon. *George Martin* Circuit Judge.

*Albertus C. Van Raalte* having appeared in open Court, and having made application to become a citizen of the UNITED STATES, and having introduced the testimony

of two witnesses, by which it appears to the satisfaction of the Court, that the said *Albertus C. Van Raalte*

has resided in the United States, for five years, and in the State of Michigan, for one year previous to the date hereof, and

having made oath in open Court, (which oath signed by said *Albertus C. Van Raalte*

is now on file,) that he would support the CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES, and that he would

**ABSOLUTELY AND ENTIRELY, RENOUNCE AND ABJURE, ALL**

ALLEGIANCE AND FIDELITY TO EVERY FOREIGN PRINCE, POTENTATE, STATE, OR SOVEREIGNTY, whereof he was before a citizen or subject, and particularly *William King* of

*Holland* whose subject he has hitherto been.

The said *Albertus C. Van Raalte* is hereby now declared a CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, from and after the date hereof.

STATE OF MICHIGAN, }  
COUNTY OF OTTAWA. } ss

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of record, in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed the seal of the Circuit Court for said County, at the Clerks Office, in Grand Haven, this *17* day of

*October*

A. D. 185*3*.

*Hayes Post* Clerk.

TEMPERATURES kept many but those who ventured out pretty good shooting. Conservationist said swamp areas contain quite a few migratory birds but not many. (left), making constant look over the bog of How-

ard Leeuw, Duane Brink, and Marvis Leeuw, all of Zeeland. Howard and Duane each hold up a mallard black duck for Boorman's inspection. The picture was taken Friday at 8:20 p.m. near the Waverly yards railroad bridge. Shooting closes tonight at 8:28 p.m. Sunday through next Saturday hunting opens at 6:15 a.m. and closes at 8:23 p.m. each day.

(Sentinel photo)

German ship sank near the trench-erous mouth of the St. Clair River late Friday night and its pilot was killed after a collision with an American ore carrier.

Seventeen crewmembers of the German packet freighter "Wallschiff" were rescued from the sinking ship within a few hours after the collision. The entire crew of the American ship "Pioneer" escaped unharmed.

The dead man was Capt. Harold Paterson, Toronto, Ont., who joined the Wallschiff to pilot it through the tricky inland waters on its maiden trip on the Great Lakes. Coast Guard officers here said the Wallschiff, out of Hamburg, was bound for Lake Huron and apparently cut across the bow of the Cleveland Cliffs ore carrier Pioneer. The Pioneer struck the German ship broadside and the Wallschiff sank seven minutes after the collision in 40 feet of water. Its superstructure remained partly visible above the water.

Three members of the Wallschiff crew were taken to Port Huron Hospital. Fourteen others were registered at the Vendome Hotel at Sarnia, Ont., across the river from Port Huron. Four of them, including the Wallschiff's master, Captain Thomas Nilsson, later were taken to St. Joseph Hospital at Sarnia for treatment.

The Wallschiff had been scheduled to stop at Port Huron before proceeding on to a Lake Michigan port. The Coast Guard said it apparently turned in for Port Huron and cut across the bow of the Pioneer, southbound for Lake Erie with a load of iron ore.

The Pioneer anchored on the American side of the narrow river as Coast Guardsmen continued to search for possible victims. Most of the rescued were picked up by small boats which scurried to the crash scene.

The Coast Guard said the Wallschiff was a new vessel which had sailed from Antwerp, Belgium, early last month. It docked at Cleveland, O., Sept. 27 before proceeding north. It passed Detroit at 5:25 p.m. Friday.

The Pioneer is a 9,600-ton ore carrier and was scheduled to pass Detroit at 5 a.m. today.

It was the second fatal sinking on the Great Lakes in the past six months. Seventeen men drowned May 11 when the ore carrier Henry Steinbrenner foundered in a Lake Superior gale.

The point of Friday night's collision is considered one of the most dangerous passages on the Great Lakes. The full power of Lake Huron pours millions of tons of fresh water into the St. Clair River, which twists tortuously to tiny Lake St. Clair, the Detroit River and then Lake Erie. Because of the narrow point at Port Huron, powerful eddies are formed and the current runs at more than 15 miles an hour.

started the Senate Interior committee by testifying that he revocable \$5,000 annual from Anaconda Copper Mill and opposed the federal mill ty law.

## Heat Increases Fire Danger

By United Press

Mild weather prevails much of the nation to increasing the danger of fire in the Midwest's parched lands and promising to more autumn heat record. A few showers sprang western Gulf and waste Lakes region and a cool shrouded the Pacific Coast the northern and central and northern Plains.

But in Indiana, scattering fires last week, sp lighting and spotting del equipped with airplanes expected weekend blazes. A forecast of hot, dry added to the danger. Co officers said fire potentials of southern Indian 70 points. Six points is dangerous. The fire fig they worried over water in some counties.

Iowa and Illinois threatened with week and forest fires. Cooler through some parts of but the mercury was in the 30s in other light rain was expected northern part of the at Hot weather made by and ducks lazy Friday. ing of South Dakota's hunting season.

It was expected to be blustery today with improved.

Chilly weather was in the northeast and moderate temperatures prevailed in east, where a few al Florida.

## Police Ticket Mott After Two-Car Ac

Two cars were dan day evening and the dr was ticketed for failu her car under control 3 lision at the intersect St. and Central Ave.

Mary Yeomans, 19, o 10th St. was given the fer her car heading not tral Ave., collided with by James F. Judson Plaines, Ill., heading e St.

Damage to the Ye model car was estimat and at \$150 to the model car, police said. man's car had to be t the scene.

## Ip sive

set up a right that two cars. ed when (Ubergan, ve., stall- gas sta- 1th St. 3, offered and went gas sta- to get a the delay is stalled at door of onemeyer. yer drove and gave he driver- iver Ave., owned by nder Veen arked car where it a front of was sati- e. Officers out what ated.

## 14-Year-Old Boy Told Girl to Shoot Him

CHICAGO (UP)—A high school girl said today she shot a 14-year-old boy with a pistol she thought was a toy, when he urged her to shoot him, after she refused him a date.

The shooting occurred Friday in a general science classroom as 25 classmates bent over their desks. The boy, Patrick Colletta, died in People's Hospital several hours after a .32-caliber bullet struck him above the right eye.

Bernice Turner, 14, admitted firing the pistol, which she said Colletta dropped on her desk after she refused to date him.

"You think I'm a bad boy, don't you?" Colletta said.

"Go ahead, pull the trigger. Pull it hard," she said, he told her. She did.

## Dr. Van Raalte's Anniversary Due

Sunday, Oct. 4, marks the 100th anniversary of the day on which Dr. A. C. Van Raalte, founder of Holland, Mich., became an American citizen, according to records in the Netherlands Museum.

History indicates that in becoming an American citizen, Dr. Van Raalte was following his own teachings. It is clear that at no time did he intend that the colony he started was to become a little Netherlands, and by precept and example he urged his people to become citizens of their new country. A certified copy of Dr. Van Raalte's intention to become an American citizen before Eli F. Matson, clerk of Allegan county, is in the museum's files.

Holland Township was established as a political entity in 1849 and the first election was held April 2, 1849, at which time there were 10 qualified voters in the township. Henry D. Post, who had come to Holland from Allegan, was elected the first supervisor.

Dr. Van Raalte was anxious that the new settlers take part in the township government and as soon as most of them had satisfied the resident requirements he invited the Ottawa county clerk, Henry Griffin, of Grand Haven to visit the colony to receive applications for first papers.

Griffin made the trip on foot and spent Sunday in Holland where he attended services in the log church. After the service Dr. Van Raalte told the purpose of Griffin's visit and the clerk returned with 300 applications from Holland; 100 from Zeeland and 40 from Vriesland. There were so many that he charged only half price and went home with \$70 in gold in a his pocket, quite an amount for those days.

## Funeral Monday For Crash Victim

ALLEGAN (Special)—Funeral services for William Dannenberg, 90-year-old Allegan resident who was killed in a car-truck crash Thursday afternoon a mile east of Gobles, will be held at 2 p.m. Monday from Gordon Funeral Home with burial in Oakland Cemetery.

Dannenberg and John Stegeman, 84-year-old driver of the car, were killed and Volney Ferris, 85, former Allegan sheriff, was seriously injured. The fourth victim, Ira Kinyon, 83, was in good condition today.

The pickup truck which collided with Stegeman's car was driven by Matthew Uramkin, 63, route 2, Gobles.

Dannenberg is survived by two sons, Rex of Belmont and Max of Marshall; three daughters, Mrs. Albert Besancon of Seattle, Mrs. Martin McAlpine of Walked Lake and Mrs. Carl Meutler of Grand Rapids, 12 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren; and three brothers, Tony, Gerrit and Hein of Overisel.

## Auto-Bus Crash Fatal for One

THREE RIVERS, Mich. (UP)—An auto collided head-on with a Chicago-to-Detroit Greyhound bus near here early today, killing a

Oct. 3, 1953 Meland Spelling (Evening) - pg 1



Calvin Call Archives  
Van Raalte coll  
box 1, fldr 6

STATE OF MICHIGAN, }  
COUNTY OF OTTAWA } SS

THE Circuit Court for said County. At a session of said Circuit Court, holden at Grand Ha-

ven, on the *fourth* day of *October* A. D. 185*3*.

Present the Hon. *George Martin* Circuit Judge.

*Albertus C. Van Raalte* having appeared in open Court, and having made

application to become a citizen of the UNITED STATES, and having introduced the testimony

of two witnesses, by which it appears to the satisfaction of the Court, that the said *Albertus C. Van Raalte*

has resided in the United States, for five years, and in the State of Michigan, for one year previous to the date hereof, and

having made oath in open Court, (which oath signed by said *Albertus C. Van Raalte*

is now on file,) that he would support the CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES, and that he would

**ABSOLUTELY AND ENTIRELY, RENOUNCE AND ABJURE, ALL**

ALLEGIANCE AND FIDELITY TO EVERY FOREIGN PRINCE, POTENTATE, STATE, OR SOVE-

REIGNTY, whereof he was before a citizen or subject, and particularly *William King* of

*Holland* whose subject he has hitherto been.

The said *Albertus C. Van Raalte* is hereby now declared a CITIZEN OF THE UNITED

STATES OF AMERICA, from and after the date hereof.

STATE OF MICHIGAN, }  
COUNTY OF OTTAWA } SS

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of record, in witness whereof I have hereunto  
set my hand, and affixed the seal of the Circuit Court for said County, at the Clerks Office, in Grand Haven, this *17* day of

*October* A. D. 185*3*.

*Happy Post* Clerk.