

MENOMINEE RANGE MEMORIES 40: THOMAS GEORGE SHEA-UREN, FIRST IRON MOUNTAIN WORLD WAR I CASUALTY

By William J. Cummings, Menominee Range Historical Foundation Historian



Private Thomas George Shea-Uren was the first World War I casualty from Iron Mountain. According to the telegram his mother, Mrs. Joseph (Maude) Uren, received on June 25, 1918, from Adjutant-General McCain, Washington, D.C., Private Uren was officially reported as killed in action on May 21, 1918, in Picardie, France. He was originally buried in France, but his body was later returned to the United States. His funeral, pictured here, was held on April 3, 1921, at the Central Methodist Episcopal Church, located at 112 West B Street. The flag-draped casket can be seen below the tree at the right as pallbearers are bearing it to the white hearse. This was the first motorized hearse used in Iron Mountain, and carried Private Uren's remains to Cemetery Park, where he was buried on the Uren family lot. The procession pictured above was proceeding along the 100 block of West B Street. The Iron Mountain Mercantile Company, Ltd., located at 118-122 West B Street, and the Central Methodist Episcopal Church are visible in the above postcard photograph. The postcard photograph on the following page shows the crowds gathered for Thomas Uren's funeral at the Central Methodist Episcopal Church. Note the soldiers standing at attention in the upper left corner, lining West B Street. The hill up East B Street is also visible just right of center. The Milwaukee, Chicago & St. Paul Depot is visible at the top, just right of center with the signal tower partially blocking the "Iron Mountain" sign. *[Menominee Range Historical Museum]*

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[NOTE: Dates, placed chronologically, are highlighted in boldface red letters for easier reading, and names of individuals and places are highlighted in boldface black letters to facilitate finding information.]

The 40th installment of Menominee Range Memories, a series of articles by William J. Cummings, Menominee Range Historical Foundation historian, now available on the Dickinson County Library's website, is titled "Thomas George Shea-Uren, First Iron Mountain World War I Casualty."

On **November 11**, at 11 a.m., the centennial of the end of World War I, known as the Great War, will be celebrated.

President Woodrow Wilson first proclaimed an Armistice Day for **November 11, 1919**, stating:

"To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations."

The United States Congress passed a concurrent resolution seven years later on **June 4, 1926**, requesting that then **President Calvin Coolidge** issue another proclamation to observe November 11 with appropriate ceremonies. An act approved **May 13, 1938**, made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday – "a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and

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to be thereafter celebrated and known as 'Armistice Day'."

In **1953**, an **Emporia, Kansas**, shoe store owner named **Alfred King** had the idea to expand Armistice Day to celebrate all veterans, not just those who died in World War I. King had been actively involved with the American War Dads during World War II. He began a campaign to turn Armistice Day into "**All**" **Veterans Day**. With the help of **U.S. Representative Ed Rees**, also from Emporia, a bill for the holiday was pushed through Congress. **President Dwight D. Eisenhower** signed it into law on **May 26, 1954**.

Congress amended this act on **June 1, 1954**, replacing "Armistice" with "Veterans," and it has been known as **Veterans Day** ever since.

Thomas George Shea-Uren, killed in action in **Picardie, France**, on **May 21, 1918**, was the first Iron Mountain World War I casualty. The **Thomas G. Uren Post 50 of the American Legion**, named in his honor, was established on **July 19, 1919**, and applied for permanent status on **October 8, 1920**.

Thomas George Shea, Sr., son of **Michael and Mary (McCracken) Shea**, was born in **1862** in **Negaunee, Marquette County, Michigan**.

Maude Mary Bennett, daughter of **Joseph and Roxanna (Burley) Bennett**, was born on **October 11, 1876**, in **Plymouth, Devonshire, England**. When Maud was five years old, the Joseph Bennett family came to Iron Mountain.

Thomas and Maude were married on **March 14, 1898**, in **Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin**, by **Justice Waring**. At the time of their marriage, Thomas, Sr., was the yardmaster for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad in **Norway**.



Private Thomas George Shea-Uren
[Sue (Uren) Knutson]

Thomas George Shea, Jr., son of **Thomas George and Maude (Bennett) Shea, Sr.**, was born in **Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin**, on **December 12, 1898**.

On **July 2, 1899**, **Thomas George Shea, Sr.**, died of gangrenous appendicitis at **St. George's Hospital** in **Iron Mountain**. He was buried in the **Quinnesec Cemetery**. **Thomas, Jr.**, known as **Tommy**, was less than six months old at that time.

Tommy's mother, **Maude (Bennett) Shea**, was pregnant at the time of her husband's death, and gave birth to a daughter, **Maude Ruth Shea**, in **Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin**, on

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February 28, 1900. The baby died of cholera infantum on **September 11, 1900**, in Florence, and was buried in the **Quinnesec Cemetery** next to her father.

In the **1900 U.S. Census** for Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Maud Thea [sic – Shea], 23, was listed as the head of household. She was born in **June, 1876** [sic – **October, 1876**] in England, as were her parents. Her children were listed as son **Thomas**, 2, born in **June, 1898**; and daughter **Ruth M.** [sic – **Maude Ruth**], 4 months, born in **May, 1900**.



Joseph Henry and Maude Mary (Bennett) Shea (seated) were married May 2, 1902, in Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan. Witnesses were **Lillian Holland** (standing left), Joseph's step-sister, and **William Uren** (standing right), Joseph's brother. [Sue (Uren) Knutson]

On **May 2, 1902**, 31-year-old Maude married **Joseph Henry Uren** in Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan. Joseph was born **May 10, 1874**, in Lanner, Cornwall, England [actual birthplace was **Carmarth, Gwennap Parish, Cornwall, England**].

Maude's son, **Thomas George Shea, Jr.**, was adopted by **Joseph Uren** and took the surname Uren. Not much is known about Tommy's early childhood.

By **1905**, the **Joseph Uren** family lived at **729 East B Street, Iron Mountain**, where Joseph, a blacksmith, and Maude continued to live throughout their married life.

In the **1910 U.S. Census** for Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, the **Joseph Henry Uren** family, residing at **729 East B Street**, was listed as follows: **Joseph H. Uren**, head, 34, blacksmith; **Maude**, wife, 33; **Thomas**, son, 11, newsboy; **Joseph H.**, son, 7; **William J.**, son, 5; and **James C.**, 4 months.

The American entry into World War I came in **April 1917**, after more than two and a half years of efforts by **President Woodrow Wilson** to keep the United States out of the war.

In **1917**, **Germany** decided to resume unrestricted submarine warfare against any vessel approaching British waters. This attempt to starve **Britain** into surrender was balanced against the knowledge that it would almost certainly bring the United States into the war.

Germany also made a secret offer to help **Mexico** regain territories lost in the **Mexican-American War** in an encoded telegram known as the Zimmermann Telegram, which was intercepted by British Intelligence. Publication of that communique outraged Americans just as

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German U-boats started sinking American merchant ships in the North Atlantic.

President Wilson then asked Congress for “a war to end all wars” that would “make the world safe for democracy”, and Congress voted to declare war on Germany on **April 6, 1917**.

Under the headline “Patriotic Mass Meeting: The Colonial Theatre Was Crowded With Citizens Last Evening,” the following article appeared in the **April 12, 1917** edition of the *Iron Mountain Press*:

Iron Mountain had a very warlike appearance last evening. An impromptu parade was formed, headed by the Columbian band, after which it acted as escort to Lieut. W. McNeal, of the U.S. army, and William Martin, sergeant in the U.S. cavalry, who were here to enlist men for the army.

The immense crowd wended its way to the Colonial Theatre, where a patriotic rally had been arranged by the citizens' committee, headed by Dr. Cruse, who introduced Lieut. McNeal, who explained the situation as to the war issues and called upon the loyal men of the city to enlist.

James P. Cleary, Jr., of Escanaba, sang “Dixy-Doodle” in a very pleasing manner.

Rev. James Corcoran followed in a patriotic address which was vigorous.

Lieut. McNeal made a few remarks on the matter of enlistment, stating that Iron Mountain's quota of the first call for volunteers was one hundred, of which eleven had already responded, leaving eighty-nine yet to be recruited. He gave this city the credit of being first thus far in the enlistment of men.

Mr. Cleary sang “You'll Be There,” the audience joining in the chorus with a will.

Lieut. McNeal then asked for volunteers and six responded.

After music by the band the matter of a permanent patriotic organization was discussed and it was moved and carried that such an organization be effected, and Dr. S.E. Cruse was named temporary chairman with Capt. S.J. McGregor as temporary secretary, and the following named citizens as [a] committee on permanent organization: Rev. James Corcoran, Rev. Hugh May, Rev. O.A. Johnson, Dr. J.A. Crowell, M.J. Fox, O.C. Davidson, G.A. Richards, E.F. Brown, S.J. McGregor, G.V. Carpenter, G.J. Eisele, W.G. Monroe, H. McLaughlin, W.W. Thompson, R.S. Powell, A.F. Wright, J.W. Corin, F.O. Morett, Henry Suino, J.A. Payant, Otto Arnold, H.O. Asp, R.F. Dundon, Charles Hallman, Dr. H.A. Newkirk, Henry Trepanier, A. Miench, George Irving, Jr., Mayor Neubauer and Eric Hager. The meeting then adjourned.

Following is a complete list of the young men, who have enlisted in the United States army at the local recruiting station to date with their place of residence:

Iron Mountain – Frank Nyklas, Albert Mongrain, George Tousignant, Alvin Johnson, Harvey Stefini, William Dykes, George W. Klein, Mike Mando, Valentine Basso, James Reynolds, Charles Jetty, Joseph Mergick, Robert Schwei.

Iron River – Edward Sensiba, Leonard West, Fred Van Wagner, Stio [sic – Stiv] Ochman, Arnold C. Lakonen.

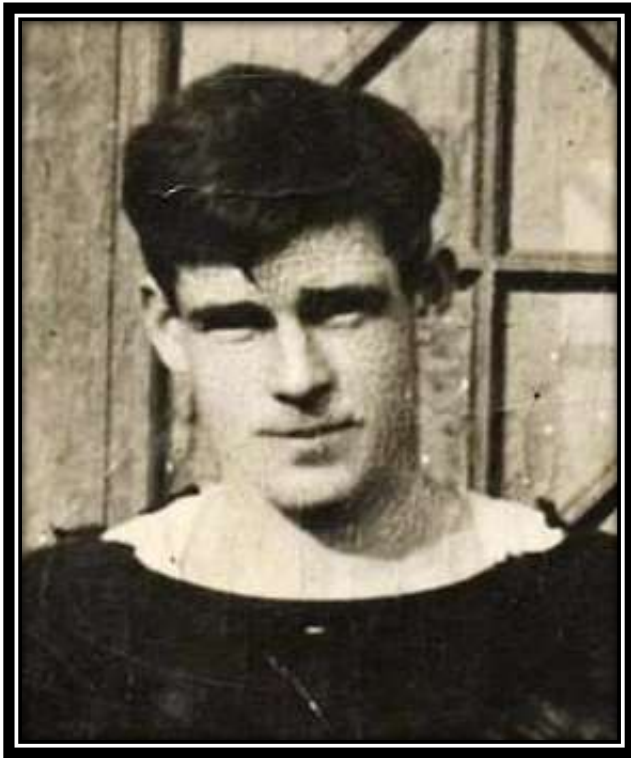
Marquette – Matt W. Nyeman.

Beacon – Victor Wentein.

Fairchild, Wis. – Clarence Sneller.

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Thomas George Shea-Uren
[detail from the 1915 Iron Mountain High School Football Team]
[Sue (Uren) Knutson]

In the announcement of his death, it was noted that 18-year-old Thomas Uren had enlisted on **April 12, 1917** which may document him as being one of the six men to enlist following the patriotic meeting held on the evening of **April 11** in the Colonial Theatre. This was less than a week after war had been declared.

His name appears on the list of twenty men published in the **April 19, 1917** edition of the *Iron Mountain Press* under the heading "Our Roll of Honor" as follows:

*The following is a list of those who have enlisted at the U.S. Recruiting station in this city, have passed the examination and are now at the **Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, Missouri**, receiving military training:*

*Frank A. Niklas, Iron Mountain.
Albert J. Mongrain, Iron Mountain.
George Tousignant, Iron Mountain.
Harvey Stefani, Iron Mountain.
George W. Klein, Iron Mountain.
Ray A. Bardwell, Iron Mountain.
Angus McLeod, Iron Mountain.
Charles J. Carson, Iron Mountain.
James Davis, Iron Mountain.
Thomas Uren, Iron Mountain.
Robert L. Schwei, Iron Mountain.
Edward Sensiba, Iron River.
John J. Peebles, Iron River.
Leonard West, Iron River.
Stiv Ochman, Iron River.
Arnold C. Lakonen, Iron River.
William Dykes, Witch Lake.
Matt W. Nyeman, Marquette.
Victor R. Wentela, Beacon, Mich.
Clarence Sneller, Fairchild, Wis.
Fred Jenderney, Butternut, Wis.*

*The total number that have enlisted here greatly exceeds the above, but a great many have been rejected for various reasons. An additional "consignment" was sent to **Escanaba** for examination last evening. The names of those who pass the examination and are sent to the training station will be added to the "Roll of Honor" from week to week.*

According to his obituary, upon enlistment, Tommy went to a basic training camp in **Arizona** and eight weeks later, on **June 10, 1917**, he left for **France**. However, according to the article in the **April 19, 1917** edition of the *Iron Mountain Press*, he was receiving training at **Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, Missouri**.

Tommy was a member of the first American contingent, headed by **General John J. "Black Jack" Pershing**, serving as a private in **Company K of the 18th Infantry**.

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**General John J. “Black Jack” Pershing
Chaumont, France, October 1918**

General of the Armies John Joseph “Black Jack” Pershing (**September 13, 1860 – July 15, 1948**) served as the commander of the **American Expeditionary Force (A.E.F.)** on the Western Front in World War I, 1917–1918.

Pershing was promoted to first lieutenant on **October 20, 1892**, and in **1895** took command of a troop of the **10th Cavalry Regiment**, one of the original **Buffalo Soldier** regiments composed of African-American soldiers serving under white officers.

In **1897**, Pershing was appointed to the **West Point** tactical staff as an instructor, where he was assigned to Cadet Company

A. Because of his strictness and rigidity, Pershing was unpopular with the cadets, who took to calling him “**Nigger Jack**” because of his service with the 10th Cavalry.

During the course of his tour at the Academy, this epithet softened to “Black Jack,” but the intent remained hostile. This nickname stuck with Pershing for the rest of his life, becoming known to the public as early as 1917.

On **March 15, 1916**, **Brigadier General Pershing** organized and commanded the **Mexican Punitive Expedition**, a combined armed force of 10,000 men that penetrated 350 miles into Mexico with the goal of capturing **Francisco “Pancho” Villa**. The expedition routed Villa’s revolutionaries, but failed to capture him.

The United States entered World War I on **April 6, 1917** on the side of the Triple Entente – the **British Empire, France and Russia**.

General John J. Pershing was officially installed as commander of the **American Expeditionary Force** on **May 10, 1917**, and held the post until 1918. On **October 6, 1917**, Pershing, then a major general, was promoted to full general in the National Army. He bypassed the three star rank of lieutenant general, and was the first full general since **Philip Sheridan** in **1888**.

As A.E.F. commander, Pershing was responsible for the organization, training and supply of a combined professional and draft Army and National Guard force that eventually grew from 27,000 inexperienced men to two armies, with a third forming as the war ended, totaling over two million soldiers.

After departing from **Fort Jay at Governors Island in New York Harbor**

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under top secrecy in **May 1917**, Pershing arrived in **France** in **June 1917**.

In a short time, transport ships had been gathered, fitted for carrying troops, equipped with radios and armed. By **June 14** the ships were deemed ready to sail.

With the threat of enemy submarines, American ships crossing the Atlantic needed protection. The commander of **U.S. Convoy Operations** was ordered to organize and begin escorting the American Expeditionary Forces to **France**.

Four cruisers, 13 destroyers, two armed yachts and two fuel tankers gathered in **New York Harbor** in **early June 1917** to serve as escorts. They would convoy 14 steamships and three navy transports to France with cargoes of soldiers, materiel, draft animals and supplies. By the end of the war, more than 75 per cent of American troops passed through New York Harbor on their way to Europe.

On the afternoon of **June 24** the convoy rendezvoused with additional American destroyers stationed at **Queenstown, Ireland**. They escorted the ships toward France, where French aircraft could be seen patrolling for submarines.

Because of U-boats off the port of **Brest**, they headed for **Saint-Nazaire** instead. The crowded troop ships arrived safely, giving the soldiers, sailors and Marines a great sense of relief.

On **June 26, 1917** the landing began with army stevedores going ashore to prepare for unloading.

Private Thomas Uren's 18th Infantry Regiment, was the second unit to land at Saint-Nazaire, following the 16th Infantry Regiment. The remaining units landed in the following order: 26th Infantry Regiment, 28th Infantry Regiment, 5th Marine Regiment, Army Field Hospital No. 13,

Ambulance Company No. 13 and Company C 2nd Field Signal Battalion. In all 14,000 U.S. Infantry troops landed.

The first units ashore marched three miles to Camp No. 1, a site hastily constructed by German prisoners of war. The mayor of **Saint-Nazaire** welcomed the Americans, who awed the citizens of the small port town. Local French bands played in honor of the Americans, and American regimental bands returned the compliment.

However, the "doughboys," as the British referred to the green American troops, were untrained, ill-equipped and far from ready for the difficulties of fighting along the Western Front.

One of General Pershing's first duties as commander of the **American Expeditionary Force** was to set up training camps in France and establish communication and supply networks.

Pershing rejected British and French demands that American forces be integrated with their armies, and insisted that the **American Expeditionary Force** would operate as a single unit under his command, although some American divisions fought under British command, and he also allowed all-black units to be integrated with the French army.

Four months later, on **October 21, 1917**, the first Americans entered combat when units from the U.S. Army's First Division were assigned to Allied trenches in the **Luneville** sector near **Nancy, France**. Each American unit was attached to a corresponding French unit.

Two days later, **Corporal Robert Bralet** of the Sixth Artillery became the first U.S. soldier to fire a shot in the war when he discharged a French 75mm gun into a German trench a half mile away.

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On **November 2, 1917**, **Corporal James Gresham** and **Privates Thomas Enright and Merle Hay** of the 16th Infantry became the first American soldiers to die when Germans raided their trenches near **Bathelemont, France**.

In **early 1918**, entire divisions were beginning to serve on the front lines alongside French troops. Pershing insisted that the American Expeditionary Force fight as units under American command rather than being split up by battalions to augment British and French regiments and brigades.

The following letter, written by **Private Thomas G. Uren** from "**Somewhere in France**" on **February 7, 1918**, provides insight into the life of an infantryman during World War I.

*Somewhere in France
Feb. 7, 1918*

For the Bunch

Dear Friends

I received your Xmas box today and sure was glad to get it I'll tell you. That candy went good after coming out of the trenches for several days. I can't tell just how many but it was enough. I expect to be back in the front line some time before you receive this letter. I have been up there twice since I have been in France, that is twice on the front line holding a sector but I have been there several times on work details, etc. I am getting to be quite an old soldier I'll tell you. In the front line twice and still kicking. This time we were only thirty yds. [yards] away from the Germans in the closest place and sixty yards at the farthest. It feels pretty nice to go to sleep knowing that there is a bunch of Germans fifty or sixty yards away waiting for a

chance to stick a bayonet in you. It sure is a great life I'll tell you. Of course you know all the sticking isn't done by the Germans either. I think we have got more Germans than they have got Americans

When we are in the front line we sleep (once in a while when we are lucky) in shell proof dugouts. They are fine places if you keep the water pumped out of them and if you can sleep in a foundry. They are built something like our underground camps we use [used] to make up around home but not half as comfortable I'll tell you. Oh I guess I'll get use [used] to it pretty soon.

Now I suppose you want a little bit about sunny France. When we first landed here the latter part of June and all the way through July on it sure was rotten weather I'll tell you all. It rained for two months straight and it got so miserable that we hated to think of our duties but that is one thing a soldier must do. No matter what kind of weather he has got to do his guard and drills and also most of the other duties. Of course he gets out of some of the minor duties but not many.

Well I must close for the time being. I will write again in a few days. Send me the addresses of the girls whose names were in that pkg. [package] and I will write to all of you.

Give my best regards to everybody in High School. I will try to do my best here in better shape than I did my duties at school. So long

*I remain
Yours truly
Tom*

*Pvt. Tom G. Uren
Co. K 18th Inf
Amer Forces
France*

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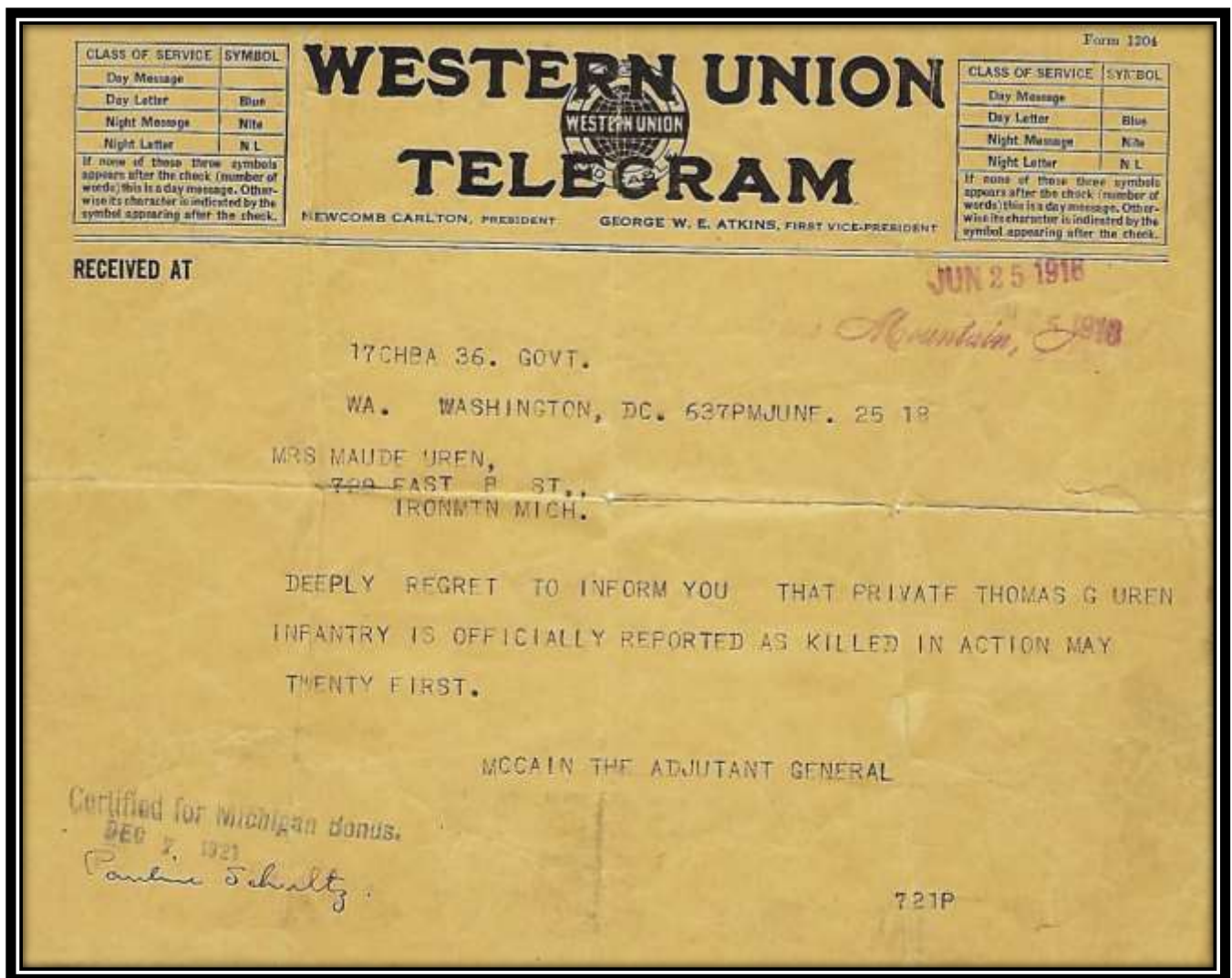
Three and a half months later, **Private Uren**, Company K, 18th Infantry, was killed in action near Picardie, France.

On Tuesday, **June 25, 1918**, **Mrs. Maude Uren** received a telegram from **Washington, D.C.**, informing her of her son's death more than a month earlier.

The telegram read: "Deeply regret to inform you that **Private Thomas G. Uren**,

infantry, is officially reported as killed in action **May 21st.**" The telegram was signed "**McCain**, Adjutant-General."

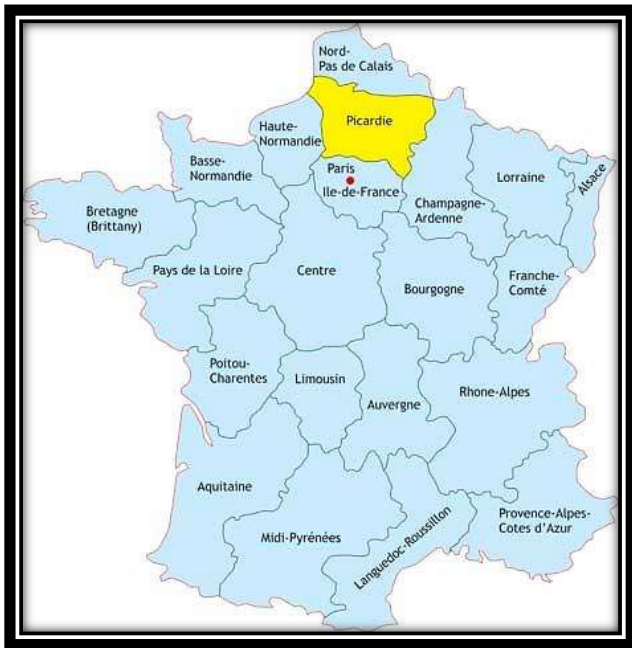
According to insurance papers filed by his mother for payment of his life insurance policy, Thomas's death was due to mustard gas and bronchial pneumonia.



This Western Union Telegram was sent to Mrs. Maude Uren on June 25, 1918, to inform her that her son, Private Thomas G. Uren, was officially reported as killed in action May 21. [Sue (Uren) Knutson]

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One of the most significant historical events to occur in Picardy was the series of battles fought along the Somme during World War I. From September 1914 to August 1918, four major battles, including the Battle of the Somme, were fought by British, French, and German forces in the fields of Northern Picardy.



Thomas George Shea-Uren was originally buried in France. When his remains were brought back to the United States, a funeral was held at the **Central Methodist Episcopal Church, 112 West B Street, Iron Mountain**, on **April 3, 1921**, and he was buried on Lot 11 in the Moghkoma Section of **Cemetery Park**. **Joseph Henry Uren, Sr.**, purchased this lot on **February 7, 1920**.

The **American Legion Post 50** was originally named in honor of Private Thomas George Uren in **July, 1919**. It is now the **Uren-Cooper-Johnson American Legion Post 50**.

An application request for a charter for the formation of an American Legion post, dated **July 19, 1919**, signed by **S. Edwin Cruse**, of Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, and sent to **George C. Waldo**, notes the **Thomas Uren Post of Iron Mountain, Michigan, Number 50**, was organized.

The following members agreed to organize and maintain the post: **S. Edwin Cruse, Carl I. Israelson, Martin D. Thomas, Charles A. Farrell, James Seibert, John Erickson, George Zaio, Goffred Johnson, Frank J. Pipp, Atelio Scollatti, Arthur H. Corey, Henry G. Hansen, Daniel J. Poisson, David Cocking and Howard Eslick**.

The **Post Application for Permanent Charter**, dated **October 8, 1920**, stated the members of the **Thomas George Uren Post No. 50** "being organized do hereby request a Permanent Charter for the above name, said name being official for this Post."

The Permanent Charter Name was **Thomas G. Uren Post 50**. Post headquarters were in the **Iron Mountain City Hall**. The names and addresses of the

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Post Officers were: Commander – **Dr. Claude William Walker**, Scandinavian Hospital; Adjutant – **Frank O. Morrett**, Commercial Bank; Treasurer – **Peter Negro**, First National Bank; Service Officer – **Robert H. Larson**, American Legion Office; Employment Officer – **Robert H. Larson**, American Legion Office; Chaplain – **Samuel William Hoyle**, Washington Street; Historian – **Robert H. Larson**, American Legion Office. There was no Athletic officer or Sergeant-at-Arms given.

The total number of members enrolled since the formation of the Post was 250. The total number of members paid up for the year 1920 was 275. The approximate number of ex-service persons to draw from was 568. The Post Dues per member were \$2.00 which were adequate to cover all forms of Post Activities and Welfare Work. Dances and other activities provided supplemental income for special expenses. No members had withdrawn on account of the dues being too high. Clubroom facilities were maintained and the Post expected to have its own building in the near future. The Post did not have a Post Paper or any form of Information Pamphlet, but planned to do so within the near future. The Post had waged two membership campaigns since its formation.

Under general information: “This Post will co-operate with the Community Committee to erect a building which will cover all fields of endeavor. At present we maintain a paid secretary who is a sickly comrade. He looks after all of the Service work etc. Armistice Day will be a big event here and will be attended by neighboring ex-service men who do not have a regular Post. We will increase our scope and territory, by taking in country towns where leadership is lacking.”

SHEA FAMILY

Thomas George Shea, Sr.
Father of Thomas George Shea-Uren, Jr.

Born: 1862, Negaunee, Marquette County, Michigan

Married: March 14, 1898, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin

Died: July 2, 1899, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan

Buried: Quinnesec Cemetery, Quinnesec, Breitung Township, Dickinson County, Michigan



Thomas George Shea, Sr.
[Nancy Swintek]

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Thomas George Shea, Sr., was born in **1862** in **Negaunee, Marquette County, Michigan**.

Son of **Michael Shea** (son of **Daniel Shea** and **Mary Sheehan**), born **September 29, 1822**, in **Kenmare, County Kerry, Ireland**; came to America in **1853** with other family members; died **October 14, 1911**, in **Negaunee, Marquette County, Michigan**; and **Mary (McCracken) Shea**, born in **1839** and died **July 20, 1867** – buried in **Negaunee Cemetery, Negaunee, Marquette County, Michigan**.

Thomas George Shea, Sr., of **Norway**, son of **Michael** and **Mary (McCracken) Shea**, and **Maude Mary Bennett**, daughter of **Joseph** and **Roxanna (Burley) Bennett**, of **Iron Mountain**, were married in **Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin**, on **March 14, 1898** by **Justice Waring**. Thomas was the yard master for the **Chicago & Northwestern Railroad** in **Norway** at the time of the marriage.

Thomas died **July 2, 1899**, at **St. George's Hospital, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan**, of gangrenous appendicitis following an operation.

He left his wife **Maude (Bennett) Shea** and son **Thomas George Shea, Jr.** His daughter, **Maude Ruth Shea**, was born on **February 28, 1900**, in **Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin**, after his death. He is buried in **Quinnesec Cemetery, Quinnesec, Dickinson County, Michigan**.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 4, Number 7 [Thursday, **July 6, 1899**], page 8, column 1

Personal Paragraphs.

Thomas Shea, yard foreman of the **Chicago & North-Western** road at **Florence**, died at **St. George's** hospital last Sunday at noon. The day previous he had been operated upon for appendicitis, but his system could not withstand the shock. The deceased leaves a wife and one child – a daughter [*sic* – a son, **Thomas George Shea, Jr.**].

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume XIX, Number 30 [Saturday, **July 8, 1899**], page 1, column 5

Thomas Shea is Dead.

Thomas Shea, the well-known yard foreman for the **North-Western** road in this city, who was operated on for appendicitis last Saturday at the **St. George Hospital, Iron Mountain**, died at noon Sunday. He was stricken with the disease about two weeks ago and his condition became so serious that an operation was deemed advisable.

The interment took place at **Quinnesec**, Tuesday morning. His father and brother from **Negaunee** were present at the funeral. Mr. Shea's death is deeply regretted by railroad men and his sorrowing wife has the sympathy of the community. Besides a wife, deceased leaves one child.

It is said Mr. Shea suffered also from an abscess caused by injuries received in a wrestling match at **Crystal Falls** a few weeks ago. He was a genial, companionable man and was well liked by all who knew him.

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume XV, Number 23 [Saturday, **July 8, 1899**], page 1, column 6

MENOMINEE RANGE MEMORIES 40: THOMAS GEORGE SHEA-UREN, FIRST IRON MOUNTAIN WORLD WAR I CASUALTY

By William J. Cummings, Menominee Range Historical Foundation Historian

Died.

Thos. Shay, a former resident of this city, died at Iron Mountain on Sunday last [**July 2, 1899**], as the result of an operation for appendicitus [*sic – appendicitis*]. Mr. Shay was born in Negaunee about 37 years ago, and was perhaps one of the best known railroad men on the range. He was an ardent admirer of all things pertaining to athletics and always disposed to do the square thing. That his familiar figure has been seen on our streets for the last time is a matter sincerely regretted by all who knew him. He leaves a wife and child in comfortable circumstances. The funeral occurred at Quinnesec cemetery, Tuesday morning, and was largely attended from all over the range.



Thomas Uren was Iron Mountain's first casualty of World War I. The American Legion Post in Iron Mountain, Michigan is named in his honor.

Thomas George Shea-Uren, Jr. Son of Thomas George and Maude Mary (Bennett) Shea, Sr. and Adopted Son of Joseph Henry Uren

Born: December 12, 1898, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin
Died: May 21, 1918, Picardie, France
Buried: Originally buried in France, but the remains were returned to the United States and a funeral was held from the Central Methodist Episcopal Church, 112 Est B Street, Iron Mountain, on April 3, 1921 – Grave 8, Lot 11, Moghkoma Section, Cemetery Park, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan [NOTE: Joseph Henry Uren purchased Lot 11 in the Moghkoma Section of Cemetery Park, Iron Mountain, Michigan, on February 7, 1920.]



**Thomas George Shea-Uren
[Sue (Uren) Knutson]**

MENOMINEE RANGE MEMORIES 40: THOMAS GEORGE SHEA-UREN, FIRST IRON MOUNTAIN WORLD WAR I CASUALTY

By William J. Cummings, Menominee Range Historical Foundation Historian

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 23, Number 6 [Thursday, **June 27, 1918**], page 1, column 6

VICTIM OF THE GERMANS.

Tommy Uren Was Killed in Battle in France on May 21st.

The Huns have claimed another Iron Mountain victim in the person of **Thomas George Uren**, son of **Mrs. Maude Uren**, of **East B street**. The boy's death is announced in the following telegram received last Tuesday from Washington by his mother:

"Deeply regret to inform you that Private Thomas G. Uren, infantry, is officially reported as killed in action May 21st."

The telegram was signed: "McCain, Adjutant-General."

The mourning relatives are assured of the sympathy of the entire community in the death of their hero, who died fighting "to make the world safe for democracy" – for you and I and for our children.

Thomas George Uren – "Tommy," as he was known by his many friends – was nineteen years of age last December. He enlisted as a defender of his country when hardly eighteen years of age – to be exact on April 12th – and has been **in France for over a year, being a member of the first American contingent, headed by Gen. Pershing**. Letters home tell of his having participated in the several battles.

After enlisting, the boy went to a camp in Arizona, leaving there for France on June 10th, 1917.

At the time of his death he was a **private in the 18th Infantry, Co. K**.

The relatives will enlist the services of **Congressman James** in an endeavor to have the remains sent home as soon as possible.

"Tommy" Uren was a likeable lad with a large circle of friends.

Maude Ruth Shea

Daughter of Thomas George and Maude Mary (Bennett) Shea, Sr.

Born: February 28, 1900, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin

Died: September 11, 1900, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin

Buried: Quinnesec Cemetery, Quinnesec, Breitung Township, Dickinson County, Michigan

Maude Ruth "Baby" Shea was born **February 28, 1900**, in **Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin**. She died on **September 11, 1900**, in **Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin**, of cholera infantum. [Cholera infantum is an acute infectious disease of infancy, characterized by diarrhea, and in severe cases by vomiting, rapid emaciation and extreme prostration. This disease is largely confined to the summer months in temperate zones, and has its acme of occurrence and mortality in the period of greatest heat.] **Maude Ruth Shea** was buried in **Quinnesec Cemetery, Quinnesec, Dickinson County, Michigan**.

UREN FAMILY

Maude Mary (Bennett) Shea/Uren
Mother of Thomas George and Maude Mary (Bennett) Shea, Sr.

MENOMINEE RANGE MEMORIES 40: THOMAS GEORGE SHEA-UREN, FIRST IRON MOUNTAIN WORLD WAR I CASUALTY

By William J. Cummings, Menominee Range Historical Foundation Historian

Born: October 11, 1876, Plymouth, Plymouth Unitary Authority, Devonshire, England; daughter of Joseph Weeks Bennett. [NOTE: Joseph Weeks Bennett died in April, 1879. His wife was left with twelve children. Mrs. Bennett died in January, 1898, in Plymouth, Devonshire, England.]

Married: (1) Thomas George Shea, Sr., March 14, 1898, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin; (2) Joseph Henry Uren, Sr., May 2, 1902, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan

Died: July 19, 1929, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan

Buried: July 21, 1929, Grave 7, Lot 11, Moghkoma Section, Cemetery Park, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan

1902, Iron Mountain, Michigan Witnesses are Lillian Holland, Joseph's step-sister, and William Uren, Joseph's brother. [Sue (Uren) Knutson]



Maude Mary (Bennett) Shea Uren
[Sue (Uren) Knutson]

The Iron Mountain News, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 9, Number 35 [Saturday, **July 20, 1929**], page 3, column 4

**MOTHER OF BOY
FORWHOM POST
IS NAMED DIES**

**Mrs. Joseph Uren Succumbs
Last Evening After
Year's Illness.**



Wedding photograph of Joseph Henry and Maude Mary (Bennett) Shea, May 2,

MENOMINEE RANGE MEMORIES 40: THOMAS GEORGE SHEA-UREN, FIRST IRON MOUNTAIN WORLD WAR I CASUALTY

By William J. Cummings, Menominee Range Historical Foundation Historian

Mrs. Joseph Uren, aged 53 years, gold star mother of the young man after whom the Thomas Uren post of the American Legion was named died at 9:15 o'clock last evening at the family home, 729 East B Street, after a year's illness from carcinoma.

Mrs. Uren was born **June 26, 1876** [sic – **October 11, 1876**] in **Plymouth, England**. She came to **Iron Mountain** when only five years of age [**1881**] and had resided here for 43 years. Besides her husband, six sons survive. They are **Joseph, William, James, Richard, Charles and George**.

Funeral services will be held at 2 o'clock Monday afternoon from the home, and at 2:30 o'clock at the **Central Methodist Episcopal church** with interment in **Cemetery park**. Members of the Women's Auxiliary and of the Daughters of St. George, of which Mrs. Uren was a member, will attend the services.

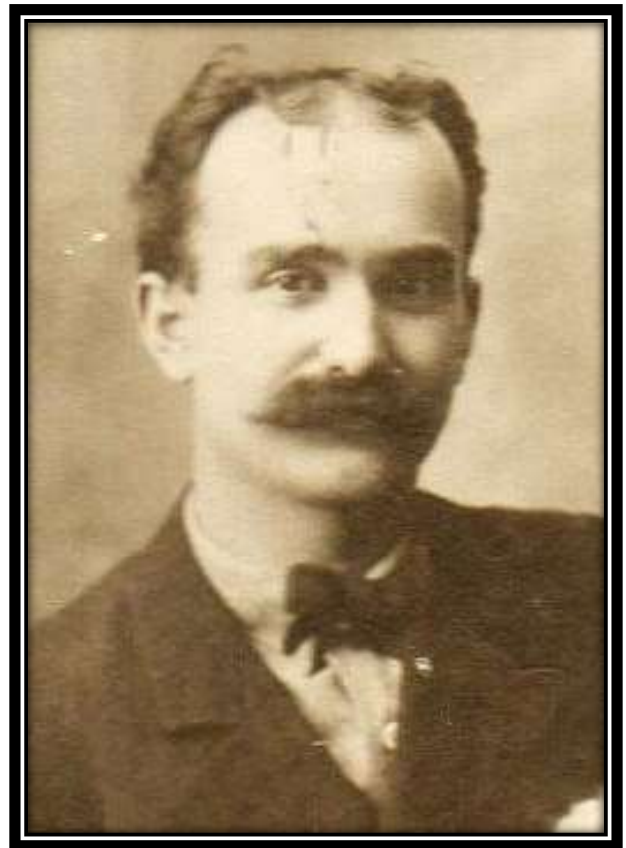
[NOTE: According to Sue (Uren) Knutson, the date of Maude Mary Bennett's arrival in the United States is uncertain. Some census records show her immigrating in 1881, in 1883 and in 1884. Since her father, Joseph Weeks Bennett, died in April, 1879, and her mother died in January, 1898, in Plymouth, Devonshire, England, it would appear that she did not immigrate to the United States with her parents.]

JOSEPH HENRY UREN, SR.

**Father of Joseph Henry Uren, Jr.,
William J. Uren, Charles H. Uren, James
C. Uren, Richard Uren, George Uren
and Step-father of Thomas George
Shea-Uren, Jr.**

Born: May 10, 1874, Lanner, Cornwall
Unitary Authority, Cornwall, England
[actual birthplace Carnmarth, Gwennap

Parish, Cornwall, England]; son of
Joseph and Mary Ann (Kneebone) Uren
Married: Maude Mary (Bennett) Shea,
widow of Thomas George Shea, Sr., on
Friday, May 2, 1902, in Iron Mountain,
Dickinson County, Michigan
Died: December 16, 1945, Iron Mountain,
Dickinson County, Michigan
Buried: Grave 5, Lot 11, Moghkoma
Section, Cemetery Park, Iron Mountain,
Dickinson County, Michigan



Joseph Henry Uren, Sr.
[Sue (Uren) Knutson]

The Iron Mountain News, Iron Mountain,
Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 25,
Number 211 [Monday, **December 17,**
1945], page 3, column 1

MENOMINEE RANGE MEMORIES 40: THOMAS GEORGE SHEA-UREN, FIRST IRON MOUNTAIN WORLD WAR I CASUALTY

By William J. Cummings, Menominee Range Historical Foundation Historian

J.H. Uren
Died Sunday
At His Home

Joseph Henry Uren, Sr., 71, 729 East B, a resident of Iron Mountain for more than 60 years, died at 4 yesterday morning after a brief illness. He was blacksmith foreman for the Oliver Mining company until he retired in 1940.

Mr. Uren was born **May 10, 1874**, in **Falmouth, England** [actual birthplace was **Carnmarth, Gwennap Parish, Cornwall, England**], and came to the United States when he was 11 [1885]. He came to **Iron Mountain** that same year and worked for some time for the Pewabic Mining company. He later went to work for the Oliver company.

Father Of Veteran

He was the father of **Thomas Uren**, Iron Mountain's first casualty in World War I and for whom the Iron Mountain Legion post, now the Uren-Cooper, was named. Another son, **William**, lost his life with the American forces in **Iceland** during the second World war.

Mr. Uren leaves five sons, **John H. [sic – Joseph H.] Uren, Jr.**, Iron Mountain; **James**, Detroit, and **Richard, Charles and George**, Iron Mountain; two brothers, **James G. Holland, Sr.**, Birmingham, Ala., and **William Holland**, this city; a sister, **Mrs. Lillian Lee**, Detroit; and five grandchildren.

Mr. Uren, an active Mason, was a member of the Iron Mountain Blue lodge, chapter and council. He also was a member of the Sons of St. George.

The body was taken to Freeman Funeral home, where it may be viewed after 8 tonight. Services will be held at 2 Wednesday at the Funeral home with the

Rev. S.D. Kinde officiating. Burial will be in Cemetery park.

Iron Mountain Cemetery Park

Lot 11 in the Moghkoma Section was purchased February 7, 1920. Thomas George Shea-Uren, Jr., who died May 21, 1918, was buried on Grave 8 on April 3, 1921.

- #3 – Charles H. Uren (no date), age 59, son
- #4 – James C. Uren, July 26, 1957, age 49, son
- #5 – Joseph H. Uren, Sr., December 19, 1945, age 71, owner
- #6 – William J. Uren, February 7, 1943, age 37, son
- #7 – Maude Uren, September 21, 1929, age 53, wife
- #8 – Thomas Uren, April 3, 1921, unknown age, son [adopted]

Thomas G., born 1898; died 1918 [Co K 18th Inf (American Legion Marker)]

William J., born February 28, 1905; died January 30, 1943 [Mich Pvt 11th Inf]

JOSEPH HENRY UREN, JR. **Son of Joseph Henry and Maude Mary (Bennet) Shea Uren, Sr.**

Born: June 26, 1902, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan

Died: September 28, 1955, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan

Buried: Block 20, Lot 27, Quinnesec Cemetery, Quinnesec, Breitung Township, Dickinson County, Michigan

Joseph Henry Uren, Jr., oldest son of **Joseph Henry and Maude Mary (Bennett)**

MENOMINEE RANGE MEMORIES 40: THOMAS GEORGE SHEA-UREN, FIRST IRON MOUNTAIN WORLD WAR I CASUALTY

By William J. Cummings, Menominee Range Historical Foundation Historian

Shea Uren, Sr., was born **June 26, 1902**, in Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan. He died **September 28, 1955**, in Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, and is buried in Block 20, Lot 27, Quinnesec Cemetery, Quinnesec, Dickinson County, Michigan.



Joseph Henry Uren, Jr.

The Iron Mountain News, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 34, Number 144 [Wednesday, **September 28, 1955**], page 3, column 6

J.H. Uren Dies After Long Illness

Joseph H. Uren, 53, 847 East I street, a lifelong resident of Iron Mountain, died this morning at Memorial Hospital, following a long illness.

Mr. Uren was born **June 26, 1902**, in **Iron Mountain**, and had been employed for the past several years at Lake Shore Engineering, Inc. He was also employed at one time at the former Ford Motor Co. plant.

He leaves his wife, **Beatrice**; three sons, **Robert, Thomas** and **Jerry**, of Iron Mountain; three daughters, **Mrs. Frank Warmuth**, of Kingsford; **Mrs. Larry Olson**,

of Niagara, and **Suzie**, living at home; four brothers, **James**, of Detroit; **Richard**, of Marquette; **George**, of Kingsford, and **Charles**, of Iron Mountain, and four grandchildren.

Friends may call at the Freeman Funeral Home beginning at 10 tomorrow morning.

Services will be held at 1 Friday afternoon at the funeral home. The **Rev. Eskil Fredrickson** will officiate. Burial will be in Quinnesec Cemetery.

The family has requested that flowers be omitted.

WILLIAM J. UREN

Son of Joseph Henry and Maude Mary (Bennet) Shea Uren, Sr.

Born: February 28, 1905, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan

Died: January 30, 1943, Fort Devens, Massachusetts

Buried: Grave 6, Lot 11, Moghkoma Section, Cemetery Park, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan



The Iron Mountain News, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 22, Number 28 [Wednesday, **May 13, 1942**], page 2, column 4

MENOMINEE RANGE MEMORIES 40: THOMAS GEORGE SHEA-UREN, FIRST IRON MOUNTAIN WORLD WAR I CASUALTY

By William J. Cummings, Menominee Range Historical Foundation Historian

In the Service

Hero's Brother Overseas – William “Bill” Uren, son of **Joseph Uren**, 729 East B Street, and brother of **Thomas Uren**, Iron Mountain hero of World War I, is believed to be with the U.S. Army in **Iceland**. Though his family has not heard from him in months, his most recent letter indicated that his outfit was headed for Iceland. The late **Thomas Uren**, after whom the Legion post here is named, was believed to be the first Iron Mountain man killed in action overseas in the first World war.



William J. “Bill” Uren was a private in the 11th Infantry during World War II.
[*Sue (Uren) Knutson*]

The Iron Mountain News, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 22, Number 248 [Monday, **February 1, 1943**], page 2, column 3

WILLIAM UREN SUCCUMBS IN ARMY HOSPITAL

Pvt. William J. Uren, 37, lifelong resident of Iron Mountain, died Saturday morning [**January 30, 1943**] at the Army base hospital at **Fort Devens, Massachusetts**, following an illness he developed while serving with the Army in **Iceland**.

Uren had lived here all of his life until he was inducted into the Army at Fort Custer, Michigan in **April 1941**. He was discharged **November 28, 1941** for being overage but re-entered the service **February 1, 1942** after war was declared by the United States.

Transferred from the Iceland Army hospital on **Dec. 7**, Pvt. Uren arrived in **Boston, Mass., Dec. 30**, after an illness of three months in Iceland.

Pvt. Uren is a brother of **Thomas Uren**, Dickinson County's first fatality in World War I and for whom the Iron Mountain American Legion is named.

Shortly before entering the army in 1942 he was employed here as a carpenter by **G.A. Gustafson**, contractor. **Pvt. Uren** was the 13th Dickinson County fatality in World War 2.

Beside his father, **Joseph Uren** of this city, 5 brothers survive. They are **Joseph, Jr.**, Iron Mountain, **Pvt. Richard Uren** of the Army Technical School, Goldsboro, North Carolina, **Charles Uren**, at home, **Sgt. George Uren** of Camp Rucker, Alabama and **James Uren** of Detroit.

MENOMINEE RANGE MEMORIES 40: THOMAS GEORGE SHEA-UREN, FIRST IRON MOUNTAIN WORLD WAR I CASUALTY

By William J. Cummings, Menominee Range Historical Foundation Historian

Pvt. Richard and Sgt. George visited their brother in Massachusetts shortly before he died. The body is expected here Wednesday morning and will be taken to the Freeman Funeral Home. Funeral arrangements have not been completed.

The Iron Mountain News, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 22, Number 252 [Friday, **February 5, 1943**], page 2, column 4

WILLIAM UREN

Funeral services for **Pvt. William Uren**, 37, who died last Saturday at the Lowell General hospital, Fort Devens, Mass., following an illness of five months at Army hospital in Iceland, and a month at Fort Devens, will be held at 2 Sunday afternoon at the Central Methodist church. The **Rev. P.L. Lomas** will conduct the service. Burial will be in **Cemetery Park**.

Members of the Thomas Uren post, American Legion, named after Pvt. Uren's brother, the first Iron Mountain soldier killed in World War I, will attend the service.

The body will be taken from the Freeman Funeral home to the church at 1 Sunday afternoon, where it will remain until the funeral hour. It may not be viewed at the funeral home.

Military services will be conducted at the grave by officers of the Thomas Uren post. Legionnaires will report at the club rooms at 1:30 Sunday afternoon.

JAMES C. UREN

Son of Joseph Henry and Maude Mary (Bennet) Shea Uren, Sr.

Born: February 3, 1908, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan

Died: July 23, 1957, Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan

Buried: Grave 4, Lot 11, Moghkoma Section, Cemetery Park, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan

The Iron Mountain News, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 37, Number 88 [Wednesday, **July 24, 1957**], page 3, column 5

J.C. Uren Dies

Of Injuries

In Detroit

James C. Uren, 49, of Detroit, former resident of Iron Mountain, died yesterday morning [**July 23, 1957**] in **Saratoga General Hospital, Detroit**, of injuries sustained when he was struck by a car Monday on a Detroit street.

Mr. Uren was born **Feb. 3, 1908**, in **Iron Mountain**, and graduated from high school here in 1927. For the past 26 years he had been employed by the Chrysler Corp. in Detroit.

He leaves his wife; a daughter, **Mari Fran**, of Detroit; three brothers, **Richard Uren**, of Marquette, **George Uren**, of Kingsford, and **Charles Uren**, of Iron Mountain.

The remains will arrive in Iron Mountain this evening on the Milwaukee Road Chippewa and will be taken to the Freeman Funeral Home. Friends may call beginning at 10 tomorrow morning.

Services will be held at 2 Friday afternoon at the funeral home. Burial will be in **cemetery park**.

MENOMINEE RANGE MEMORIES 40: THOMAS GEORGE SHEA-UREN, FIRST IRON MOUNTAIN WORLD WAR I CASUALTY

By William J. Cummings, Menominee Range Historical Foundation Historian



RICHARD UREN

Son of Joseph Henry and Maude Mary (Bennet) Shea Uren, Sr.

Born: September 11, 1913, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan

Died: October 3, 1984, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan

Buried: between Avenue 1 and Avenue 2, Quinnesec Cemetery, Quinnesec, Dickinson County, Michigan

The Iron Mountain News, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 23, Number 91 [Wednesday, July 28, 1943], page 5, column 1

Two Couples Wed In Recent Ceremonies

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon J. Burgess, 503 East E street, announce the marriage of their daughter, Miss Jeannie Estelle, to Richard Uren, son of Joseph Uren, East B street, which was performed at 5 Saturday afternoon [July 24, 1943] in the Holy Trinity church. The Rev. George Welser read the service.

The bride's attendant was Miss Vera Ruth Kezar, and Vern D. Freeman was best man.

Mr. and Mrs. Uren received guests, and a dinner was served at the Freeman cottage at Spread Eagle.

Mrs. Uren was graduated from the Iron Mountain high school and is employed in the office of Dr. Grant C. Hamm. Mr. Uren, a graduate of the Iron Mountain schools and the Actual Business college, is home on a furlough from Chatham Field, Ga., where he is serving as an engineer with the Army Air Force.

Mrs. Uren will continue to reside here with her parents.



Staff Sergeant Richard Uren served in the U.S. Army during World War II. [Sue (Uren) Knutson]

MENOMINEE RANGE MEMORIES 40: THOMAS GEORGE SHEA-UREN, FIRST IRON MOUNTAIN WORLD WAR I CASUALTY

By William J. Cummings, Menominee Range Historical Foundation Historian

The Daily News, Iron Mountain-Kingsford, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 64, Number 149 [Thursday, **October 4, 1984**], page 2, column 1

Richard Uren

MARQUETTE – **Richard Uren**, 71, of **Marquette**, died Wednesday at **Marquette General Hospital** following an illness of one month.

He was born **Sept. 11, 1913** in **Iron Mountain**, son to the late **Joseph and Maude Uren**. Prior to his retirement, he was an industrial arts instructor for over 25 years with the Marquette Public School system. He was a veteran of World War II, having served with the Army Air Corps.

Mr. Uren was a graduate of NMU, a member of Iron Mountain Lodge 388 of Free and Accepted Masons, Sharon Shrine 45 of Iron Mountain, Presque Isle Chapter 403 Order of Eastern Star and Marquette Elks Lodge 405.

Survivors include his wife, the former **Jeannie Burgess** of Marquette; two daughters, **Mrs. Gordon (Bobbi) Peterson** of Marquette and **Mrs. K.M. (Jane) Sanborn** of Dover, Ark.; a son, **Jay Gordon Uren** of Marquette; a brother, **George Uren** of Kingsford; and six grandchildren.

Friends may call at Swanson Funeral Home in Marquette from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Friday. Services will be at 7 p.m. Friday at the funeral home with Rev. Michael Foley officiating. A Masonic graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. at **Quinnesec Cemetery**. A memorial has been established at First Presbyterian Church of Marquette.



CHARLES HOWARD UREN Son of Joseph Henry and Maude Mary (Bennet) Shea Uren, Sr.

Born: October 3, 1916, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan

Died: June 23, 1976, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan

Buried: Grave 3, Grave 5, Lot 11, Moghkoma Section, Cemetery Park, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan

The Iron Mountain News, Iron Mountain-Kingsford, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 56, Number 63 [Thursday, **June 24, 1976**], page 2, column 4

Charles Howard Uren

Charles Howard Uren, 59, lifelong resident of Iron Mountain, died at 7:10 a.m. Wednesday [**June 23, 1976**] at Dickinson County Memorial Hospital, following a brief illness.

Mr. Uren was born **Oct. 3, 1916**, in **Iron Mountain**, the son of **Joseph and Maude Uren**, pioneers of the area. He had been employed at the Cohodes 24 Hour Service Station by **Harry Carlson** for the past four years.

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By William J. Cummings, Menominee Range Historical Foundation Historian

He leaves two brothers, **George** of Kingsford and **Richard** of Marquette.

Private family funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. Friday at the Freeman Funeral Home. The **Rev. Timothy Jones**, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, will officiate.

There will be no visitation at the funeral home.

Burial will be in **Cemetery Park**.

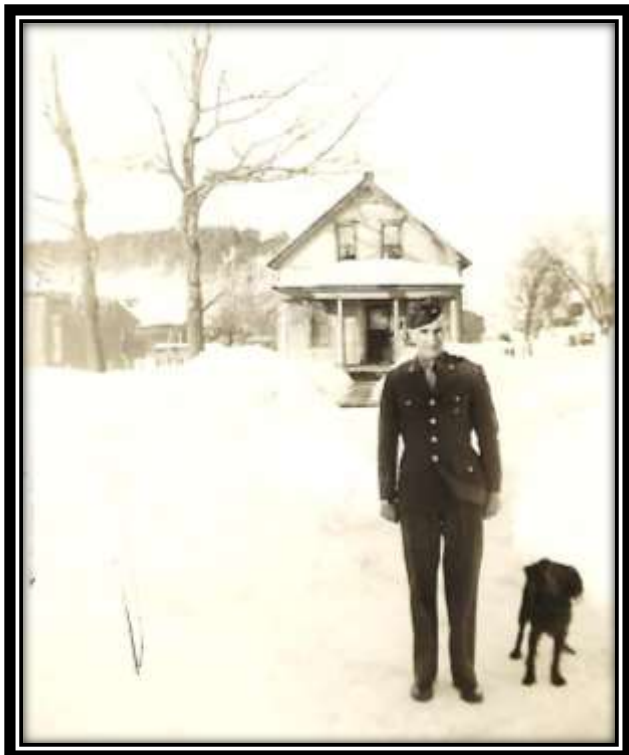
GEORGE UREN

Son of **Joseph Henry and Maude Mary (Bennet) Shea Uren, Sr.**

Born: July 13, 1919, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan

Died: October 31, 1996, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan

Buried: Quinnesec Cemetery, Quinnesec, Dickinson County, Michigan



First Sergeant George Uren posed in front of the Joseph Uren family home, 729 East B Street, Iron Mountain, Michigan, sometime during World War II. [Sue (Uren) Knutson]

The Iron Mountain News, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 22, Number 193 [Wednesday, **November 25, 1942**], page 5, column 1

Chapman-Uren Ceremony Held November 23

Miss **Marjorie**, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Edward Chapman**, 404 Cass avenue, was wedded to **Sgt. George Uren**, son of **Joseph Uren**, 729 East B street, at a service read by the **Rev. William Siegel**, pastor, at 4:30 Monday afternoon in the parsonage of **Our Saviour's Lutheran Church**.

The bride was attended by her sister, Miss **Betty Chapman**, and the groom by **Harold Sjoquist**.

A smart suit dress, of powder blue wool, was selected by the bride, who wore navy blue shoes and hat and carried a navy purse. Red roses were arranged in her shoulder bouquet. Her sister was dressed in a gold and brown crepe, with brown accessories. She had a shoulder bouquet of yellow chysanthemums [sic - chrysanthemums].

Dinner was served the bridal party at the Chapman home following the ceremony. The bride's cake was the centerpiece of the dinner table.

Sgt. and Mrs. Uren left, following dinner, on a brief wedding trip, after which they will return to Iron Mountain, where Mrs. Uren

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By William J. Cummings, Menominee Range Historical Foundation Historian

will remain. She is employed by the Wisconsin-Michigan Power company. Sgt. Uren will return to Camp Rucker, Ala., where he is stationed.

The Daily News, Iron Mountain-Kingsford, Dickinson County, Michigan, Saturday, **November 2, 1996**, page 2A, columns 1-2

George Uren

IRON MOUNTAIN – **George Uren**, 77, of 503 Everton St., Kingsford, died Thursday, **Oct. 31, 1996** at **Dickinson County Memorial Hospital**.

Mr. Uren was born **July 13, 1919** in **Iron Mountain**, son of the late **Joseph and Maude Uren**. He was a 1937 graduate of Iron Mountain High School and was a lifelong resident of the area.

Mr. Uren was a veteran of the U.S. Army during World War II and served in the Western Pacific and Southern Philippines.

He married the former **Marjorie Chapman** on **Nov. 23, 1942**. He was a graduate of Northern Michigan University and the University of Michigan in 1950.

Mr. Uren taught school at the Kingsford High School from September 1950 until his retirement in June 1984. He was an adult driver's education teacher and American history adult education teacher with the Community School system until he retired in 1984.

Mr. Uren was the Hi-Y advisor, advisor for the senior class for 19 years and advisor for the school yearbook.

Mr. Uren enjoyed woodworking, photography, gardening and loved to work around the house. He was also one of the founders of the Kingsford Heights Picnic.

Mr. Uren was a member of Our Saviours Lutheran Church, and a member of the

National Education Association (NEA), Michigan Education Association (MEA) and Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel (MARSP).

He was preceded in death by five brothers, **Thomas, Richard, James, Charles and William Uren**.

He leaves his wife, **Marjorie G. Uren**; a son, **Craig (Kathy) Uren** of Randle, Wash.; a daughter, **Marjorie (Mark) Clement** of Daggett; and three grandchildren.

Visitation will be held Sunday from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held Monday at 11 a.m. at **Our Saviours Lutheran Church**. **Rev. Stephen Cowen** will officiate. Burial will be in the **Quinnesec Cemetery**.

The Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home of Iron Mountain is in charge of arrangements.



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By William J. Cummings, Menominee Range Historical Foundation Historian

AMERICAN LEGION THOMAS UREN POST Iron Mountain

An application request for a charter for the formation of an American Legion post, dated **July 19, 1919**, signed by **S. Edwin Cruse**, of **Iron Mountain, Michigan**, and sent to **George C. Waldo**, notes the **Thomas Uren Post of Iron Mountain, Michigan, Number 50**, was organized.

The following members agreed to organize and maintain the post: **S. Edwin Cruse, Carl I. Israelson, Martin D. Thomas, Charles A. Farrell, James Seibert, John Erickson, George Zaio, Goffred Johnson, Frank J. Pipp, Atelio Scollatti, Arthur H. Corey, Henry G. Hansen, Daniel J. Poisson, David Cocking** and **Howard Eslick**.

The **Post Application for Permanent Charter**, dated **October 8, 1920**, stated the members of the **Thomas George Uren Post No. 50** "being organized do hereby request a Permanent Charter for the above name, said name being official for this Post."

The Permanent Charter Name was **Thomas G. Uren Post 50**. Post headquarters were in the **Iron Mountain City Hall**. The names and addresses of the Post Officers were: Commander – **Dr. Claude William Walker**, Scandinavian Hospital; Adjutant – **Frank O. Morrett**, Commercial Bank; Treasurer – **Peter Negro**, First National Bank; Service Officer – **Robert H. Larson**, American Legion

Office; Employment Officer – **Robert H. Larson**, American Legion Office; Chaplain – **Samuel William Hoyle**, Washington Street; Historian – **Robert H. Larson**, American Legion Office. There was no Athletic officer or Sergeant-at-Arms given.

The total number of members enrolled since the formation of the Post was 250. The total number of members paid up for the year 1920 was 275. The approximate number of ex-service persons to draw from was 568. The Post Dues per member were \$2.00 which were adequate to cover all forms of Post Activities and Welfare Work. Dances and other activities provided supplemental income for special expenses. No members had withdrawn on account of the dues being too high. Clubroom facilities were maintained and the Post expected to have its own building in the near future. The Post did not have a Post Paper or any form of Information Pamphlet, but planned to do so within the near future. The Post had waged two membership campaigns since its formation.

Under general information: "This Post will co-operate with the Community Committee to erect a building which will cover all fields of endeavor. At present we maintain a paid secretary who is a sickly comrade. He looks after all of the Service work etc. Armistice Day will be a big event here and will be attended by neighboring ex-service men who do not have a regular Post. We will increase our scope and territory, by taking in country towns where leadership is lacking."