

[Eric Weber](#)

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July 21: The birthday of Frederick J. **Dansereau** (1882 – after 7/6/1948), b. Wmsb., button maker, m. 6/3/1908 at Wmsb. Delphine [aka Josephine] E. **LaFreniere** ~1881/2-?, of N'hamp., silk worker, b. Dannemora, NY, d/o Norbert LaFreniere and Josephine **Arnauld**, both of whom were born in Canada.

The 1900 census found Fred, single, living in the home of his brother George and sister-in-law Rosie, who had no children at that time. In 1910 the census found Fred and Josephine, both 28 and married 1 year but childless, living on Edwards Street in Haydenville, where Fred was employed in the nearby buttonshop as a button cutter. (You can find additional information about the Haydenville Button Company elsewhere on the Historical Society Facebook site.)

In 1920 Fred and Josephine and daughter Alice, born in 1912, were counted at what was then #37 South Main Street in Haydenville, a two-family house. Fred was still cutting buttons at the factory on Kingsley Avenue, a five-minute walk from his home.

In 1930 the family of three (Fred's wife was called Delphine this time, but they had been married 28 years) were still living on South Main Street, though it appears they were in a different house or the house numbering system had changed. (It has changed at least once more since then, and I can't identify any of the houses by the numbers that were used in the past). Fred was still cutting out button blanks at the same shop.

Again in 1940, Fred, Delphine and Alice were found on South Main Street. Fred had, by this time, spent more than thirty years cutting tiny circles out of seashells. I wonder how he stood it. Alice, 28, was unmarried and teaching in the local grammar school. She would marry three years later.