

The Coates Family History Part 4 – Gone Too Soon

Next is Arthur's sister Adelaide Coates. She was born on November 16, 1872 in Colchester. No other documents were available for Adelaide. There is significantly more information about Adelaide's sister Almish Cora Coats. She was born on November 6, 1873 in Colchester. She married twice. Her first marriage was to George Hurst. They had two children named Clara and Henry George. Clara was born on February 3, 1897. Sadly, she passed away at the age of 11 (some records say 12 or 13) on January 19, 1909. A brief obituary for Clara appeared in *The Amherstburg Echo* which says "Clara, only daughter of George Hurst, died on Tuesday following an illness of consumption. She had been living with Mrs. John Clay, a relative for some time. The funeral took place on Thursday. She was twelve years of age." The reason she is listed as living with Mrs. John Clay (Cora's sister) is because Clara's father George and mother Cora had passed away at this point. I will get to that shortly. Clara's brother Henry George, according to his marriage record was born on January 23, 1900 (some records say 1899). He married Edith Hackler in St. Joseph, Indiana. George married twice. He also married Rose Wade, the daughter of Paul Wade and Beulah Carpenter, on January 29, 1927 in Elkhart Township, Indiana.

I mentioned previously that George and Cora passed away before 1909 when their daughter Clara passed away. George passed away in 1899. His obituary from *The Amherstburg Echo* appeared on March 31, 1899 and says "After suffering six months with an attack of consumption, George Hurst, passed away Thursday of last week. The funeral was held on Sunday at 10 o'clock a.m., services being conducted in the church by Rev. J.H. Alexander, after which interment took place in Gilgal cemetery. The deceased was only 28 years of age. He married Cora Coats some three years ago and she with two children, one 2 years of age, the other

just six weeks, are left to mourn. Of his own family are left three brothers and two sisters – Hilliard, of Harrow, Emery and Henry, of Detroit; Mrs. Marshall, of Ann Arbor, and Matilda, of Detroit. They were all home to the funeral. The following friends carried the remains to the grave: - Will Currans, Jesse Currans, John Mulder, Mr. Baylis, Allie Mulder, Wylie Grier.”

Following George Hurst’s death, his wife Cora (Reynolds) married a second time to James Norman Hurst, the son of Jonas Hurst and Harriet Marshall. James Norman and Cora had at least four children. I was able to find documents for two of their children: Edward and Albertus. Edward was born on December 13, 1900 in Colchester South, while Albertus was born on December 31, 1901. Albertus or ‘Burtis’ sadly passed away at the age of 10 in June of 1912 in Amherstburg.

Cora (Coates) Hurst passed away on November 2, 1904 at the age of 36. Her obituary shares the tragic circumstances of her death. It says “Mrs. Norman Hurst died very suddenly at her home in this township Wednesday morning, aged 36 years. She had been ill for three weeks and Tuesday gave birth to a child prematurely. The deceased was the youngest daughter of Milton Coates and was married five years ago. Besides the husband four children are left. The funeral will be held this (Friday) afternoon.”

It appears that several years after Cora’s death, Norman was living in Ohio. He appears in the 1920 Census for Toledo, Ohio as 53 years old and it says he moved to the US in 1919. He is also listed as a Labourer who does ‘General Work.’ Norman died a few years later on March 3, 1924. His death record also indicates that Norman moved back to Essex County because his address is listed as Amherstburg. His obituary was printed in *The Amherstburg Echo* on March 7, 1924 and says “Norman Hurst, a native of this township, died at Amherstburg on Monday, aged 56 years, following a two weeks decline after a stroke of paralysis. The funeral was held there on

Wednesday afternoon to Rose Hill cemetery. Deceased was a son of the late Jonas Hurst and spent most of his life here. The last few years he was in Toledo, coming from there to Amherstburg at Christmas. He was twice married but both wives are dead. One son survives him, also three brothers and three sisters, all of whom are living in Amherstburg.” His obituary mentions that Norman married twice, but I was not able to find the name of his second wife.

What we publish is not a complete history of any family and is based on the documents that are available. We welcome photos and information to fill in the gaps. See you next week for part 5.