

From "Business Biographies" in the Farm Bureau News, Sept. 7, 1933:

The Farm Bureau News was published by the Island County Farm Bureau in Oak Harbor, WA between 1920 and 1950.

MRS. EMMA HOWELL

Meeting the public and making strangers feel at home is the specialty of Mrs. Emma Howell, proprietor of the Oak Harbor Hotel. Managing a hotel is her work and her hobby combined.

Mrs. Howell has had nearly fourteen years of hotel experience and has been at the Oak Harbor Hotel since January of this year. She worked formerly in the Central and Starwana Hotels at Coupeville.

"Strange to say, I enjoy my work just as much as any sort of recreation," Mrs. Howell said. "Meeting new people, Cooking good meals and keeping the hotel cheerful and home-like give me a great deal of pleasure."

Mrs. Howell Was born in Minnesota of Irish parents—a coincidence that elicits considerable good-natured teasing from her friends, she admitted. The Sullivan family moved west and lived in Eastern Washington for a while and then came to Whidby Island when Emma was 13 years old. There were nine other children in the family--five girls and four boys.

She was married to Tom Howell in 1917 and they lived in Coupeville where her husband still operates a barber shop, until this spring. The Howells have two children, a boy and girl both of whom are attending school.

Mrs. Howell is the third proprietor of the Oak Harbor Hotel, which has been operating here for more than twenty years. It was originally a dwelling and was built over as a hotel.

"I certainly like Oak Harbor for its climate and its people," Mrs. Howell added.

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