



MR. and MRS. LLOYD BONN

### *Bonns celebrate 50 years*

IONIA — Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Bonn of Ionia will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 17th at the Masonic Temple in Ionia from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The celebration will begin with a small prayer service by the Rev. Timothy Gillette.

The couple requests no gifts.



Sentinel photo by R. C. Gregory

Lloyd and Catherine Bonn, left and center, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary Sunday with a reception; a surprise guest at the reception was Malvin Howell, right, Lloyd's half-brother. The two men had never met.

## Brothers meet at 50th reception

IONIA — Sunday was a big day for Lloyd and Catherine Bonn of Ionia and not only because they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with an open house.

A surprise guest at the wedding was a half brother of Lloyd's — a half brother Lloyd had never met.

The half-brother, Malvin Howell, who will be 78 next month and is a retired baker who lives in Mecosta, and Lloyd were aware of each other's existence. They were brought together, Howell said, "after some genealogy work my son (Robert) did."

Lloyd, who will celebrate his 74th birthday next month, and his brother were separated as children and Malvin was adopted. While they had other brothers and sisters, they are, Malvin said, "the only two left.

"THIS HAS been quite an experience," he said.

Lloyd, who worked at Oldsmobile in Lansing for 30 years before retirement, and Catherine Bonn were married in New Salem, Pa., on the 22nd of August 1936. The reception, sponsored by their family, "is a couple of days early."

Long-lived marriages mark the half brothers' lives. Malvin said, "It surely is a nice day for Lloyd and Catherine. I'm in my 55th year of

marriage, so I can appreciate how he feels."

A large crowd of friends and relatives greeted the Bonns at the Masonic Temple. "We've had so many people come," Catherine said, "I can hardly believe how many."

WHILE HOWELL has one son, Richard, who lives in Adrian, three grandchildren and two great grandchildren, the Bonns have five children, six grandchildren, and one great grandchild.

Their children are Evelyn (Bonnie) Jackson of Saranac,

Garner Bonn of Portland, Margie Stafford of Flint, Jacqueline Bonn of Kalamazoo and Sandra Bonn of Grand Rapids.