

LECTURE PROGRAMS

by BRUCE ALLEN KOPYTEK



AUTHOR & LECTURER

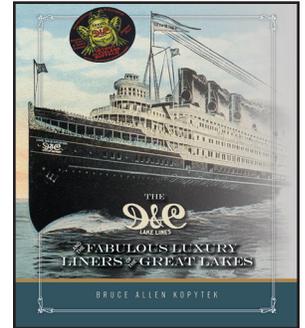


Hamtramck, Michigan born Bruce Allen Kopytek nurtured his love of history while achieving two degrees in Architecture from the University of Detroit. He built a career that lasted forty-five years and resulted in a number of significant buildings spread throughout the world. In retirement, Bruce launched Editions BK, LLC in 2022 to publish books on topics that have fascinated him throughout his life, remembering the high standards bestowed upon him by his parents, who taught him faith, education, accomplishment, and culture above everything else. After writing several books for other publishers, this volume comes after the wild success of his *Hudson's: Detroit's World Famous Department Store*, now in its third printing. His wife Carole has been his ever-supporting partner in all these endeavors and the couple lives in Rochester Hills, Michigan.. When not at home writing and designing, Bruce is most likely poking around some very old (and beautiful) place in Europe. At home, he is often to be found laughing at the antics of the couples' two crazy twin cats named Gigi and Mimi.

TOPICS

THE D&C LAKE LINES and the FABULOUS LUXURY LINERS of the GREAT LAKES

- 45 min. to one hour
- Live or remote via ZOOM



The Great Lakes have always been one of America's most precious and beneficial natural assets. Whether for commerce or recreation, the lakes and the straits that connect them have imparted a special character to the communities along their banks and beyond.

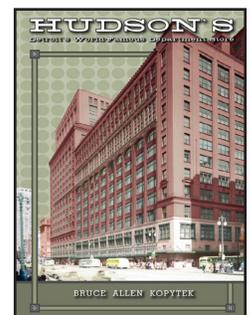
Step aboard and take a look at the fascinating world of steam travel in the first half of the twentieth century, when majestic luxury liners were a regular sight on this, one of the world's great waterways.

On the voyage, you'll meet the genius naval architect that directed the design and construction of these vessels, the businessmen that commissioned and operated them, and the passengers who enjoyed the sumptuous comforts they provided to travelers.

Look back in amazement at a glittering world of steam, speed, and luxury that has all but disappeared from our lakes and rivers today—and along the way, enjoy a greater understanding of these forgotten wonders of our maritime heritage.

HUDSON'S: Detroit's World-Famous Department Store

- 45 min. to one hour
- Live or remote via ZOOM



Do you remember a time when shopping was an adventure? When a bus ride downtown ended at an enormous red-brick store with glittering window displays? Do you reminisce about riding smooth, shiny escalators from floor to floor, or having a Maurice Salad in a gracious, hushed dining room high up in the sky? Maybe you enjoyed hunting for bargains below street level, or browsing for books in Detroit's largest book shop? Maybe you recall the smell of exotic fragrances wafting through the air on the sumptuous first floor of Hudson's, Detroit's World-Famous Department Store. If you do cherish memories like these, come join architect and historian Bruce Allen Kopytek as he leads you on an intoxicating journey of exploration through this lost Detroit landmark. Along the way, you'll discover the rags-to-riches story of Joseph L. Hudson, the culinary delights of Hudson's restaurants, and the stories of people that made it all happen – right here in Michigan.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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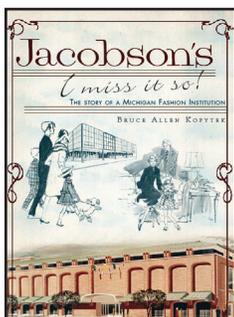
by BRUCE ALLEN KOPYTEK - *Continued*



TOPICS

JACOBSON'S – I Miss It So!

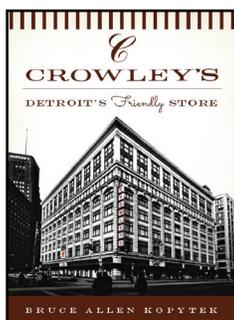
- 45 min. to one hour
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Once upon a time, Michigan had its own deluxe specialty store, where a retail genius put his unique ideas into practice and gave customers a peerless social, shopping and dining destination. Come along with author Bruce Allen Kopytek on a journey of discovery to visit Jacobson's once again. Enter its marvelous stores, experience its uncommon customer service, and meet the people who made it all happen, from its humble beginnings in 1868, through its journey across the Midwest and into Florida, until its heartbreaking demise in 2002. Along the way, unlock the secret as to why it was so well loved, and why it remains so profoundly missed to this day.

CROWLEY'S – Detroit's Friendly Store

- 45 min. to one hour
- Live or remote via ZOOM

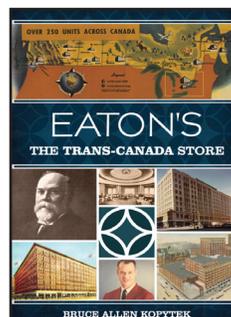


Crowley, Milner & Company was a family-owned favorite of Detroit shoppers and an alternate to Detroit's enormous J. L. Hudson Company. Many shoppers appreciated Crowley's for its friendly service and attention to their needs, in particular Detroit's so-called 'Shawl Trade', Polish, Italian, and Irish families who had immigrated to Detroit and lived just beyond the city's core. Just turn any page to see why Crowley's was so special to Detroit and the people who enjoyed shopping there. No wonder they called it "Detroit's Friendly Store."

ENDORSEMENT

- Thank you so very much for a wonderful program yesterday! Honestly, it was one of the best that I have hosted at CMPL – patrons raved about it and turned out in droves!

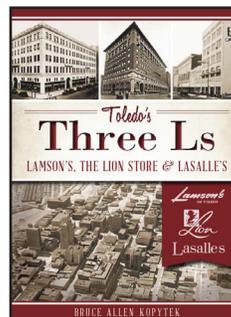
– Phil Skeltis, History Librarian, Clinton-Macomb Public Library,



EATON'S – The TRANS-CANADA Store

- 45 min. to one hour
- Live or remote via ZOOM

Eaton's wasn't just Canada's largest and most well-known department store – it was an icon of Canadian culture. From the day of its founding in 1869, through its famed catalogue to its large stores which spread from coast to coast across Canada, Eaton's offered something for everyone, and did it all in grand style. Relive the days when this remarkable store was a fixture in every Canadian province, serving customers with a distinctive personality and unique character which has all but vanished from the Canadian retail scene.



TOLEDO'S THREE 'L's – Lamson's, The Lion Store & Lasalle's

- 45 min. to one hour
- Live or remote via ZOOM

Remember the days when shopping meant white gloves, suits for men and leisurely lunches in tearooms? Toledo, an industrial powerhouse and Ohio's third-largest city, once had it all, and Lamson's, the Lion Store and Lasalle's were where it all happened. Reminisce with author Bruce Allen Kopytek about a time when these three great department stores dominated Toledo's retail scene and offered their customers anything they could want.

Revisit their downtown competitors like Tiedtke's, B. xR. Baker, Milner's and Stein's, that also added their own touch to Toledo's life. Through written history, photographs and personal recollections, a whole lost era comes to light—an era when business was personal and local, shopping was more of a cherished event rather than a chore.

Beloved actor and TV personality Jamie Farr, born in Toledo, Ohio, related his experiences in these stores to the author and conveys his appreciation of an era fondly remembered by anyone who experienced the apogee of Toledo's great department stores.