

Madison County Remembers...

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From member Loren Lindahl:

I have attached a story as to how I came into possession of three old photos. This story may not have a direct Madison County connection, except for the Winter family, but it had a collateral connection. Use your best judgment. Thanks again for all that you have done to preserve the history of Madison County.

This is a story of three photos and how they came to be in my possession through pure luck.

The Eggert photo actually came into my possession 20 or more years ago. I received it from an uncle who said he had gotten it from another relative in a pile of old photos and that he, nor any other relative could identify any of the people in the photo. The only clue was the name of the photography studio in Columbus, WI. How I came into possession of the other two photos and the identification of this photo with unknown people in it is the basis of this story.

Johann and Wilhelmina (Juedes) Nienow are buried in St Paul's Cemetery in Norfolk. They arrived in the US, through Quebec, Canada, in 1857 settling in the Ixonia/Lebanon area of WI. In the 1860 US Census, they are listed as having five children, all girls, Henrietta, Auguste, Fredericka, Bertha, and Hannah. The oldest four married in WI and the youngest girl married in NE. It is difficult at this stage of my life knowing what I now know as to when I first had knowledge of a fact or event but I knew from the obituaries of Henrietta and her husband, Frederick Kuhl, my great grandparents, that they had married each other in Jefferson County, WI in 1866 and shortly thereafter, came to northeast NE and homesteaded in Pierce County, NE, west of Pierce. I also knew that Henrietta's parents, Johann and Wilhelmina Nienow had homesteaded in the Hoskins area just inside the boundary of Wayne County, NE, Spring Branch Township at the same time so they all must have come together to northeast NE. I also knew that they had eventually given their farm to Hannah and her husband, William Winter. Eventually, I found a marriage record for Bertha and her husband, August Schuett, in Columbia County, WI, who settled in the Creighton/Bazile Mills area of Knox County, NE. I did not have any information on the two girls who stayed in WI nor did I have a maiden name for Wilhelmina or from where Johann and Wilhelmina Nienow had emigrated. I did then research the WI Historical Society website and I was able to find marriage records for Auguste and Fredericka, the two girls who had remained in WI. Auguste married Henry Niemeyer and Fredericka married Ludwig Eggert. I then searched Find-a-Grave and found burial information as to both, the Niemeyer family being mainly in the Columbus, WI area and the Eggert family being buried west of Columbus in a rural township cemetery called Hampden Township Cemetery.

The next step in this process was to travel to WI. So several years ago, just prior to the 4th of July holiday, we traveled to Watertown, WI. There, in the public library, were the records

of St Mark's Lutheran Church of Watertown. I found the confirmation records of Bertha on which were her parents' names and the maiden name of Wilhelmina, Juedes. Now I needed to find the village from which the Nienows had left when traveling to the US.

I then traveled to the public library in Columbus, Columbia County, WI in the hope of finding the answer to this question in an obituary of one of those girls who had stayed in WI as none of the obituaries of the four girls who had come to NE contained that information. From Find-a-Grave, I knew the year of death of Fredericka and Auguste, and so it was a matter of going through the weekly issues of the local newspaper to find those two obituaries. The obituary of Fredericka Eggert was the motherlode of information. It gave the village in which she was born as Wisbu, Pommern, Germany and it identified, by the number of sons and the number of daughters, her children. By looking at the photo that I had received many years' prior and counting noses, it was evident that the identity of the individuals in the photo was no longer a mystery. That was a photo of Fredericka Nienow Eggert, her husband, Ludwig, and their children. By then looking at Meyers Gazetteer, I found Wisbu to be in Kries Regenwalde.

The Hampden Township Cemetery is located approximately 6 miles or so southwest of Columbus, WI. Could the Eggerts have been farmers? I searched an old plat book for Columbia County in the Columbus, WI library and found a tract of land which indicated ownership by Ludwig Eggert. It also showed the cemetery and so I knew the location of that land relative to the location of the cemetery. It was now getting late and the next day would be the 4th of July. That would be a good day to visit the cemeteries in which the Niemeyers and Eggerts were buried as no libraries or churches would be open due to the holiday.

On July 4th, we started at the Columbus, WI cemetery looking for the Niemeyer gravestones and after finding gravestones of that family, we traveled to the Hampden Township Cemetery. There we did find many gravestones of the Eggert family. It was now late morning and we decided we would look for the Eggert farm site as indicated on the Plat that we had researched at the Columbus Public Library. We drove to the location as indicated and observed a man on a tractor mowing the farmstead and a woman on a riding mower mowing the grass in the ditch adjacent to the gravel road. We stopped on the gravel road and the woman mowing stopped and we asked if the farmstead was the Eggert farmstead. She said yes it is and we own it. I asked if we could visit and she said for us to pull our vehicle into the farmyard. We did and she followed us on the mower. When I got out of our vehicle, I had the Eggert family photo in my hand and showed it to her. She said that she had the same photo and that it was the Eggert family. Her husband then drove his tractor to our location and together they identified all of the children in the photo.

So were they related to the Eggert family? Did they live here? As we visited we learned that after Fredericka and Ludwig Eggert had died, at least four of their children had remained single and continued to live on the farm. Eventually, only one son remained alive and was in need of a housekeeper. He advertised his need and the widow mother of the man to whom we were talking and the man, then a child came to the Eggert farmstead and the man's mother became the housekeeper of the remaining Eggert son. When that son died, he willed the farm to the man's mother and she continued to live on the farm with her son. When she died, her only heir was her son and he inherited the Eggert farm. He was then married and he and his wife continued to live on the Eggert farm. In the house were all the items and personal effects of the Eggert children who had remained single and had continued to live on the farmstead. Amazingly, they had kept all of those items stating that someday some relative would come and they would give them to that person. Even more coincidental is the fact that

they do not live on the farmstead any longer, now living in Sparta, WI, approximately 2 hours from the farmstead. They lease the farm house to tenants. Because the farmstead is several acres in area, they do not require the tenants to mow the farmstead. They do that on a weekly basis, normally on a Thursday. But because the 4th of July was on a Friday, they determined to do the mowing on the holiday. If they had maintained their mowing schedule, our paths would not have crossed and this story would have had a different ending.

At the end of our visit, they invited us to come to their home in Sparta, WI, on the following Saturday, to look at the Eggert family photos in their possession including a collection of calling cards that the two spinster daughters had maintained. We agreed and said we would be at their home in Sparta on Saturday afternoon.

On Saturday afternoon, we arrived at their Sparta home. They showed us old Eggert family photo albums and the calling card collection. We did not recognize any of the people in the Eggert photo albums but we enjoyed our visit. Finally, the wife said that they had several of the Eggert photos hanging on their garage wall and would we like to view them. We said yes and we walked into their garage. There on the wall was the Kuhl family photo and the Winter family photo. They had no clue as to who those people were. I said, I know who they are. The one photo is my great-grandparents and their children, which includes my grandfather, Henry Kuhl. The other photo, I surmised, was the Winter family. These two photos, and the Eggert family photo, are all anniversary photos. The Kuhl, Winter, and Eggert families had traded them back and forth with each other. The Eggerts, with the help of our new found friends, had kept their photos and now they were



WILLIAM WINTER AND HANNAH (NIENOW) FAMILY
Circa 1903

Seated, Left to Right: William Winter; Arthur Winter; Hannah Winter, nee Nienow; Rudolph Winter
Standing, Left to Right: Emma Winter,(Leu); Richard Winter; Ida Winter, (Pofahl); Minnie Winter,(Schuett)
McMacy Photography Studio, Norfolk Nebraska

ready to come into our possession. The whereabouts of the photos that the Kuhl and Winter families had is most likely with some unknown relative. As the wife said, we have been keeping these photos in the hope that a relative would someday come and take them. That day had finally arrived. Obviously, the Kuhl family had the Eggert family photo but the identity of the people in it had been lost as the first and second generation died and the third generation had no clue as to the identity of those people.

That is the story behind these photos. With help from other relatives, I have identified the people in the Kuhl and Winter photos and the identification of the Eggert family is dependent on the memory of our friends in Sparta, WI.

If you have any questions or comments, please let me know.

Loren Irlindahl@charter.net



EGGERT FAMILY

Ludwig (Lewis/Louis) and Fredericka, nee, Nienow and Children
40th Wedding Anniversary (1906)
Columbus, WI

Front Row, (Seated) Left to Right: Lena Louise Bertha Eggert; Fredericka Eggert (Nienow); Ludwig (Lewis/Louis) Eggert; Ida Wilhelmine Franziska Eggert

Back Row, (Standing) Left to Right: Louis Carl Eggert; Karl Albert Friedrich Eggert; Hanna Eleanore Auguste (Laura) Duborg, nee Eggert; Heinrich (Henry) Johan Albert Eggert; Mathilde Wilhelmine Henrietta (Tillie) Krier, nee Eggert; Emil George Eggert; Rudolph William Eggert

FREDERICK KUHL AND HENRIETTA (NIENOW)
40TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
1906

Front Row: Henrietta and Frederick
Back Row: William Emil Richard Kuhl; Henry Julius Kuhl; Julius Augustas Kuhl; Ida Bertha
(Kuhl) Magdanz



Editor's note:

This is an interesting story and holds a lesson for all of us. Just because you don't know who is in a particular family photo—DON'T throw it away. Track down relatives, obituaries, check libraries and museums and newspapers for clues. Study the clothing and note the name of the photo studio and town. Count the persons and try to get an approximate age. Is it a wedding or engagement photo? A family portrait? These were often taken on a momentous occasion such as an anniversary or perhaps a significant birthday, or going in to or home from the military. Serendipity is an awesome tool in family research. Answers show up in the strangest places and at the strangest times.

Another partial letter from Loren Lindahl

Subject: Wilhelmine Villnow

Remember the German newspaper obituary that was in your great grandmother's (Wilhelmine Villnow) Bible about the death and funeral of my great grandfather, August Lambrecht? I have attached it to this e-mail. I had it and the inside front cover of the Bible re-translated by my German genealogists. As to the obituary, he would say the death was caused by pneumonia and not consumption.

As to the translation of the inside front cover, his translation is the second attachment to this e-mail.

Again, hope to see you again when the weather gets a little better.

Loren

— Am Willow Creek in Pierce County starb am letzten Freitag, den 16. Februar, August Lambrecht, im Alter von 50 Jahren an der Lungenentzündung, eine Gattin und acht Kinder hinterlassend, von denen sein Tod auf das Schmerzlichste betrauert wird. Die Beerdigung fand am Sonntag Nachmittag unter großer Betheiligung auf dem Friedhof der lutherischen Gemeinde dafelbst statt, wobei die Leichrede von Pastor Bremer aus Pierce gehalten wurde. Der Verstorbene war ein Nefse von Frau Friedr. Villnow bei Norfolk und einer der geachtetesten Bürger in seiner Umgegend.

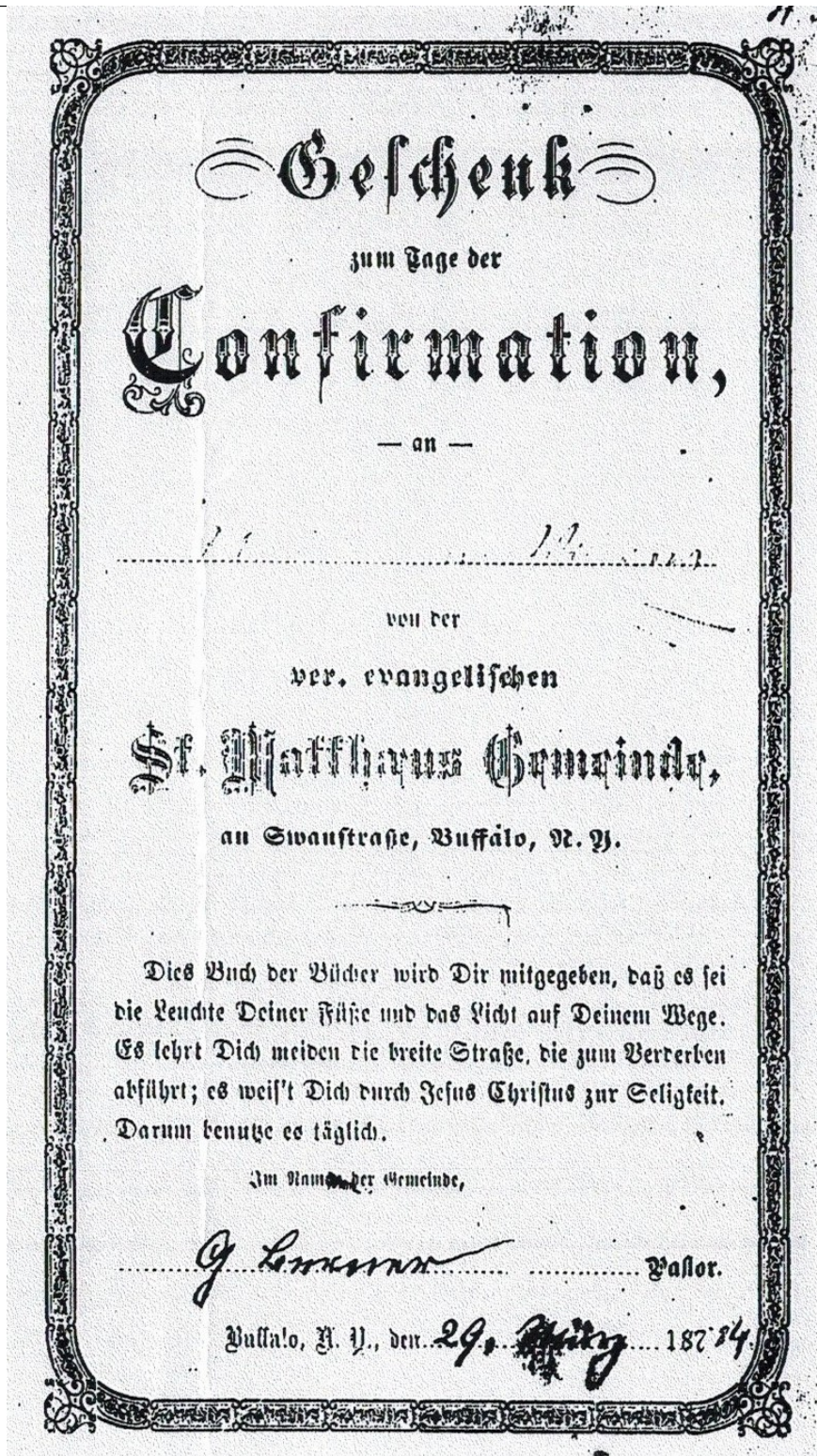
OBITUARY IN FRONT OF WILHELMINA WEGENER'S
BIBLE--PRINTED IN GERMAN--TRANSLATED BY
PASTOR WILLIAM HASSOLD

Last Friday at Willow Creek in Pierce County, August Lambrecht died last Friday, the 16th of February, at the age of 50 years of consumption; (TB) leaving behind his wife and 8 children who mourn his death. The burial took place Sunday afternoon with a large number of people present at the cemetery of the Lutheran congregation. At which the funeral sermon was preached by Pastor Bremer of Pierce. The departed was a nephew of Mrs. Frederick Villnow of Norfolk and one of the most respected citizens of his community.

Present
for the day of
Confirmation
to
[name not clear
enough]
from the
Unified Lutheran
St. Mattheus parish
at Swan street, Buf-
falo, N.Y.

This book of books is
given to you that it
may be a lamp for
your feet and a light
on your way. It will
teach you to avoid the
wide street that leads
into doom; it guides
you through Jesus
Christ to blessedness.
Therefore use it daily.

In the Name of the
parish
G. Berner, pastor.
Buffalo, N.Y., on the 29th March 1824



Queen City Rug Works --A Glimpse of the Norfolk Rug Factory

Norfolk's little known industry in the early 1900s was a rug factory. It was a simple machine that converted rags and old carpets into pretty and durable rugs—proudly advertised as 'Norfolk made'.

A few blocks south of Norfolk Avenue on 4th Street, Park Avenue area, stood a tiny building bearing the sign "Queen City Rug Works. It was Norfolk's one and only rug factory—an institution immensely practical and known only to those who make use of it.

Years ago a man here named Jim White ran a 'rug factory'. As the years increased he felt the need of help, and pressed J. M. Covert into service. At that time Mr. Covert knew more about railroading and draying than he did about rugs. He had come to Norfolk in 1888 and followed those lines until, the story goes, he entered into the rug factory. He went at the work with a determination to do everything in exactly the right way. Before long he set up a factory in opposition to his rival and former employer, and ere long bought him out. So elated was his success in rug making was he, that he decided to make cotton work gloves as a side line. He still insists that had sufficient money been at his disposal he would be independently rich today.

The little factory has two rug machines used for making ingrain rugs from old carpets and Brussels rugs. One is a ten foot machine and one a nine foot; one will make four rugs each 2 ½ by 5 feet at one time, and the other will make three size 3 by 6 feet. The machines are threaded up with the warp, a strong thread, the cost rising to 45 cents a pound, presumably due to the fact that we are involved in a great war. The machines hold about 800 threads and as they must be threaded by hand, it takes about three hours for this part of the work alone. A huge shuttle is filled with strips of carpet, which have first been cut and raveled, and cleaned by machine. As the strips are stretched across the warp a lever is turned and behold, the warp and woof are intertwined and a section of the rug is completed.

There is a rag rug machine too but it works on a different plan with a different shuttle, and currently is not in operation. After the ingrain rugs are woven they have to be sheared with a machine, which Mr. Covert calls a 'lawn mower'. It goes clip, clip over the rug and shears off the upstanding cloth. Then it is gone over with a broom, and put on the line and beaten and the fringe added, and there you have your rug!

This sort of rug making has been a boon to the economical housewife who dislikes to see anything wasted—even rags and bits of old carpets. And a rag rug may be pretty with a little care used in selecting the rags that go into it. The ingrain rugs are in many cases more beautiful than the ready-made rugs and are said to be "as the hills everlasting". They are usually not very large as are heavy and somewhat difficult to clean.

Mr. Covert still has the old-fashioned rug making machinery he formerly used, and says that the process was slow compared to the speed of today. But he says that the old rugs were of a better quality. He has been in the business for eleven years and is teaching his three boys the trade. Upon arriving the other day one fellow was tying ends. Soon two of his companions appeared and in a trice the three of them disappeared, to await the time they could work without being watched, and thus gaining a few moments of play.

It is good to see a man as interested in his work as Mr. Covert is, as he lives it, breathes it, and talks about it fervently, so that one grasps his ideas and plans for the future of the rug making industry.

The writer expressed feelings that perhaps some day everyone will awaken to the fact that all work is service, and that there is no service to God or man without toil—heartfelt, heart given and freely proffered.

The Norfolk Press, June 28, 1917, William Warneke Collection

HESTED'S

—forerunner of today's "Dollar" stores—

In the mid 1930s there was a Hested Stores on the main floor at 403 Norfolk Avenue. Before long more space was needed and by 1939-40 and for decades following, the enterprising Hested Stores Company with James A. Kelly as its manager, built its business and a following as the "dime store" at 311-315 Norfolk Avenue. True to its motto of "5 cents to \$1.00" its central location on the south side of Norfolk Avenue between Third and Fourth Streets brought in customers from all over northeast Nebraska for life's little necessities. In later years, the Holland House cafeteria opened, and often filled to capacity, it's west side of the building, as main streets coffee drinkers became regulars and often returned for lunch or just to enjoy a slice of it's superb German Chocolate cake.

For many of Norfolk's young people Hested's was a good place to have a part-time job clerking or sacking candy, after school and on Saturdays. In those days the store was open Saturday evenings, along with many other stores uptown, and it was not unusual to see cars parked early at its front doors, to pick up the girls at 9 o'clock closing time. And what a thrill it was for those part-timers to have that little paycheck.

In 1965 the entire building was extensively remodeled (the Mast Block) inside and out. Changing times altered the downtown business scene by the 1980s, so Norfolk's original and first "dime store" discontinued operations in 1984. "Hested's" could be considered the forerunner of today's "Dollar" stores.





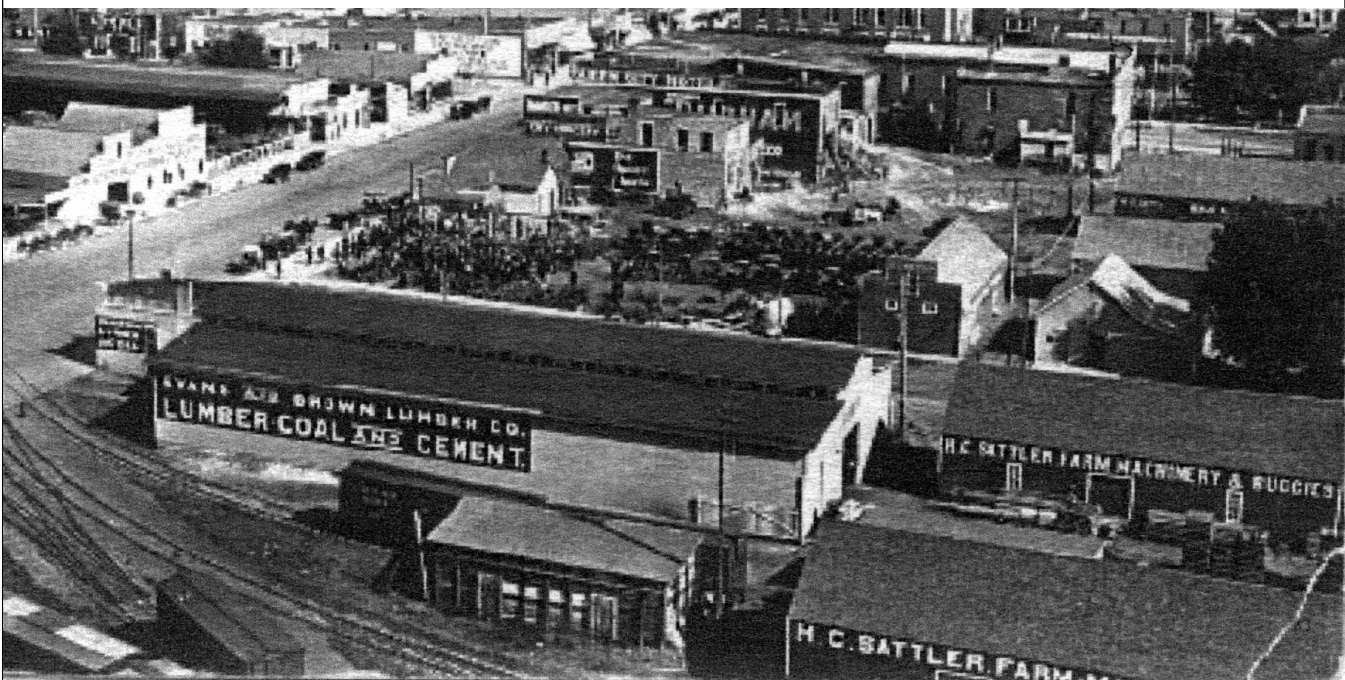
H. C. SATTLER—Norfolk Businessman Entrepreneur

Herman Charles Sattler was born in 1861 in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois. Records indicate his father was German so his father must have emigrated to America in earlier years. Herman was an ambitious young man and moved around quite a bit—he first lived in Baltimore, Maryland and graduated from college in Amherst, Massachusetts. He worked for a year with a surveying party in Mexico; then returned to Baltimore to manage Garrett Farms where he recognized the possibilities of agriculture. That brought him west and in 1883 he bought 800 acres in Pierce County, which he farmed, and raised stock for ten years.

The Maryland connections were strong and Herman married Louie Johnson in Baltimore in 1888. Their first son George William "Bill" was born in Omaha, Nebraska, November 18, 1888. William married Alice Reaney Wolfe on June 19, 1916, at St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church in Baltimore, and they lived on the farm that they owned in the Baltimore area. George William passed away in Baltimore on August 17, 1961, with burial at St. James Episcopal Church, Monkton, Maryland. Herman's son August Edmund was born November 3, 1891, in Norfolk, NE, according to his 1942 Draft Card, and at that time he worked for the Sattler Company.

By February of 1892 Herman Sattler decided Norfolk presented greater business opportunity and opened his Norfolk Trading Company at 439 Norfolk Avenue (the future Marquardt Hall). He dealt in furniture and carpets but his primary business was in a large line of agricultural implements, partnering for a short time with Charles F. A. Marquardt. That business was located westerly of where today the Chicago Lumber Company has its large lumber yard.

A year later he purchased the old Rudat Implement Business at the southwest corner of 6th and Norfolk Avenue. His business expanded during those years to include a full line of carriages, buggies, surreys, spring wagons, and various harvesting machinery, utilizing three large buildings at that former site of the Fullerton Lumber Company.



Madison County Genealogical Society
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Information: Nancy at mcgs@telebeep.com

Website: www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nemcgs/

Queries to: Karen Tiedgen Reed at ktiedgreed@conpoint.com

Madison County Genealogical Society Website is at
www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nemcgs/

Meetings generally on the 3rd Saturday of each month with exceptions at 10 a.m. at 515 Queen City Blvd., Norfolk, NE., in the Elkhorn Valley Museum and Research Center

Check with Bernice at 402-371-0543 or email at btwalters@cablone.net

Next meetings are June 16, July 21 and August 18.

Mrs. Sattler had passed away from consumption on April 7, 1893, following their marriage of only five years. Herman married again, April 26, 1900, to Annie Carton of O'Neill and they had a son, Edmund Herman and a daughter, Loulie Annie (married Louis Donovan). Less than 18 months after Herman's death Mrs. Annie (Carton) Sattler died in 1916 at the age of 42 years of heart failure...she is buried in O'Neill, NE.

Herman Sattler was a 'self-made' man who never hesitated to 'carry paper' in financial dealings in his own business. Enterprising and progressive, he continued his successful business transactions almost to the end of his days. In September of 1914, he suffered from incurable throat cancer, and sold his business to the Klein Brothers. Herman passed away October 31, 1914, age 52 years.

Herman and Loulie (Johnson) Sattler are buried in the Prospect Hill Cemetery in Norfolk, NE.

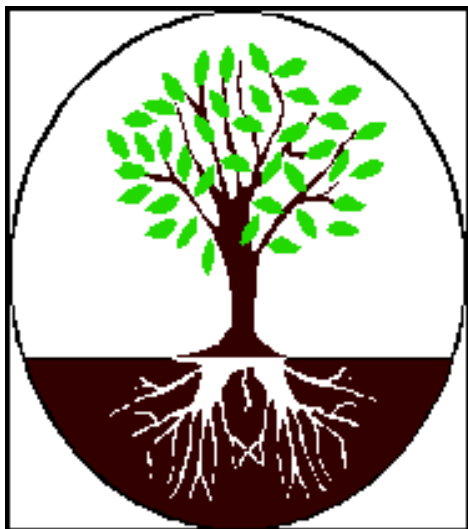
The Nebraska Grasshopper Act of 1877 was perhaps a novelty, but also a necessity considering the worst invasion of the voracious insects had just wiped out the agricultural livelihood of the entire community that July. The Act specified that "every able bodied male between ages 16 and 60 was to kill grasshoppers for two days each year during their hatching season." Failure meant a \$10 fine; a bounty was paid for each bushel of grasshoppers killed.

The swarms dropped swiftly and loudly from the sky; millions of the pests gobbled up every single leaf and stalk of all vegetables, and anything remotely edible; even tree bark and some clothes left laying about. They dug down stalks of onions and potatoes devouring all; only sorghum and some cane were left when they finished. It was heartbreaking as farmers were helpless and unsuccessful in trying to harvest grain, and machinery was clogged with the live and dead masses beaten down. Every crack in any fence or building was quickly filled with the pests; wells were covered but quilts over gardens were eaten full of holes. The females compounded their evil by laying eggs in holes they dug in ground, which hatched into future grasshoppers. Grasshoppers were a true plague of Biblical proportions for several years.

The entire Midwest was attacked by swarms of millions of the locusts and without food reserves some cases of starvation were reported in Kansas, where some families left the country as they had nothing to eat. Farm animals that gorged on the locusts were later unfit to eat. It was estimated the grasshoppers covered 2 million square miles, 100 miles wide and 1800 miles long across the land. There was no explanation for this devastation which some termed 'Biblical' punishment.

MADSON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

PO Box 1031, Norfolk, NE 68702-1031



The date on your label is your membership renewal date. Please check it and renew to save postage/printing costs.

TEMP RETURN SERVICE FIRST CLASS

There will only be one more issue of this newsletter published. That will be the July/August 2018 issue which concludes our fiscal year and our membership year. Bernice and Nancy are no longer able to continue doing the newsletter. If you have anything you want published in the last issue please mail it or email it ASAP. Nancy is putting together the project she has been working on for many years and is planning to publish it this fall. (If I can find a publisher!). I have been collecting information on the Norfolk State Hospital and its patients and cemeteries and am putting together a book of clippings and much data gathered from many sources. This may well prove to be around 300 pages. If you have any photos or stories or documents you wish to share for other researchers please contact Nancy Zaruba at ndzaruba@telebeep.com or mail to: 304 N Cottonwood St., Norfolk, NE 68701

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