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### Baalson, Austin E. (1864 - 1930)

Melba Peterson

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BAALSON, AUSTIN E.

File No. B-40

Austin Baalson was born in Spring Grove, Houston, County, Minnesota, on May 12, 1864. He was the son of Ellen and Kari (Ostenson) Baalson, the first settlers of North Fork township.

His parents moved to North Fork by an ox-drawn covered wagon and arrived there on July 4, 1865.

Austin attended the district schools in North Fork, then attended school at the Willmar Academy and at the Grove Lake Academy under Professor D. J. Cogan.

In 1889, Austin purchased his father's homestead where he lived the remainder of his life. He was then married to Caroline G. Gandrud. She was born in Iowa on October 10, 1867. Five sons were born: Reverend Elmer Baalson of Parks Falls, Wisconsin; Prof. George Baalson of Black Duck; Bertram of Duluth; Reverend Arthur of Shevlin; and Henry of Brøten.

Caroline G. (Gandrud) Baalson died April 21, 1904. She is buried in Big Grove cemetery.

On February 16, 1907, Austin Baalson married Clara Augusta Bente, a daughter of Ole and Mary Bente. She was born on October 11, 1867. Three girls were born to Austin and Clara (Bente) Baalson. They were: Cora, Manda, and Orene, who is dead.

Austin Baalson died on September 14, 1930. He is also buried in Big Grove Cemetery.

Interviewed: Mrs. Jargine (Baalson) Swenson  
(A sister of Austin Baalson)  
Date: August 2, 1937  
By: Melba Peterson

Publication Granted

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE  
FOR THE AUSTIN E. BAALSON BIOGRAPHY

NoLegal Records in the Stearns County Courthouse