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### Berg, Christian (1869 - )

Dean Nelson

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BERG, CHRISTIAN

File No. B-97

Christian Berg was born March 6, 1869 in Norway, son of Ole and Carina Berg. He attended grade school as a young boy and worked at odd jobs during his spare hours.

In 1884 Christian came to America and settled in St. Cloud, Stearns County, Minnesota. Christian came here to find employment and better living conditions. The first few years he worked at odd jobs around St. Cloud including teamster work. In 1893 Christian purchased a farm in Fair Haven township and started in the agricultural industry.

This farm was eighty acres of heavy timber and the only building was a log house. As farm implements and stock, Christian had only a plow, a scythe, one horse with harness and a buggy. This was meager equipment to start a farm with, but with perservance Christian gave his entire time and energy to hard labor. His first move was to hitch up the horse to the buggy and drive over to Maine Prairie. He encountered a well-to-do farmer at this location by the name of William Wilson and managed to get him interested in the buggy.

As the hours wore on Christian finally emerged from Mr. Wilson's farm riding his horse and leading a very good milk cow. Having made a satisfactory trade this was the first and most important step in securing the necessary stock for a farm. After securing a cow Christian began clearing land and opening it for cultivation. With inadequate equipment this was a very difficult job. For twenty years Christian worked hard and built a very modern and up-to-date farm, adding several plots of land until he had about 160 acres. In 1914 he sold this farm and came to St. Cloud. He erected a home at 25- 3rd Avenue Northeast, and has since lived in retirement here.

BERG, CHRISTIAN

Christian Berg married Maria Hempke on March 17, 1893 in St. Cloud, Minnesota.

Maria (Hempke) Berg was born in Marsberg, Germany March 8, 1869, daughter of John and Arnstina Hempke. She came to America in 1883 with her parents who settled at Maine Prairie, Stearns County, Minnesota.

Two Christian and Maria (Hempke) Berg were born four children: three deceased, the living is Carrie E. at home.

Interviewed: Christian Berg  
Date: December 10, 1936  
By: Dean Nelson

Publication Granted

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE

FOR THE CHRISTIAN BERG BIOGRAPHY

MARRIAGE RECORD BOOK N PAGE 159

Christian Berg and Mary J. Hoemke

Married March 17, 1893

By: Rev. J. Kienholz

Witnesses: E. A. Mostue and A. M. Hoemke