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Berschett, John (1864 - 1930)

Dorothy Hansmann

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BERSCHEIT, JOHN

File No. 8-102

John Berscheit was born at St. Cloud, Minnesota on January 6, 1864. His parents had come from Germany and had taken a homestead near what is now St. Nicholas, Stearns County. At the time of the Sioux up-rising, in September 1864, his father was frightened from his claim and moved to Iowa where his family grew up. The family consisted of seven children, four of whom died during a smallpox epidemic. The children were Peter, Kate, Lena, Mathew, Theodore, William and John, the second.

When John Berscheit, the second, was about twenty years old he returned to St. Nicholas and was employed as a carpenter with an older brother who had located near Alexandria.

After a few years he returned to Iowa where he married Katherine Marbach in 1886. He farmed in Iowa until 1901. He had tried to persuade his wife to come to Minnesota but this part of the country was considered very wild and she was afraid of the Indians, and refused to come so far west. He finally moved from Iowa in 1901 to Kansas where he remained two years and being unable to make a profitable living he at last persuaded his wife that Minnesota was the only place for them. This time he located in Swift County and remained until 1904 when he brought his family to Sauk Centre.

The children of John the 2nd and Katherine (Marbach) Berscheit are: John, the 3rd; Nicholas; Mary; Lawrence; Thresa, Mrs. Andrew Graves; Peter, Josephine, now Mrs. Andrew Dolence; and Anton. The children all live in Todd County with exception of John, the third, who lives near Sauk Centre.

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John Berscheit, the second, died October 9, 1930, and his wife, Katherine (Marbach) Berscheit, died in October 1932.

John Berscheit, the third, the eldest son of John, the second, and Katherine (Marbach) Berscheit, was born June 18, 1887 at Worthington, Iowa. He came with his parents, to Sauk Centre in 1904.

On November 25, 1907 he was united in marriage to Anna Reller. Anna Reller was one of a family of eleven children. Her parents, Frank and Katherine (Lackmann) Reller, were a pioneer family who located near Meire Grove.

The children of John and Anna (Reller) Berscheit are: Frances, who was born on January 18, 1909; Archie, who was born February 26, 1911 and died at the age of seven months; Clara, who was born September 26, 1912; Lawrence, who was born April 29, 1913; Raymond, who was born November 20, 1915; Marion, who was born June 18, 1917; Ila, who was born March 6, 1918 and Irene, who was born September 21, 1920.

The Berscheit family are of the Catholic faith.

Interviewed: John Berscheit, the third.
Date: February 12, 1937
By: Dorothy Hansmann

Publication Granted

TAKEN FROM THE LEGAL RECORDS OF THE STEARNS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
FOR THE JOHN BERSCHEIT BIOGRAPHY

MARRIAGE RECORD, BOOK T, PAGE 10402

John Berscheit and Ann Reller
Married at Sauk Centre, Nov. 26, 1907
By: Rev. A. Arzt
Witnesses: Nicholas Berscheit and Mary Reller