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Brown, Frank E. (1857 -)

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BROWN, FRANK E.

File No. B-172

Frank E. Brown was born in Wayland, Steuben County, New York, on September 27, 1857. He was the youngest son of Justus G. and Alisso (Trembly) Brown.

Only on one occasion did Justus G. Brown ever leave the state of New York. He made a trip to Michigan and bought a farm. For some reason or other, he could not get the deed on the farm, so he returned to his home in New York that same year. Justus G. and Alisso (Trembly) Brown lived their entire lives in New York and also died there.

Justus G. and Alisso (Trembly) Brown had four sons and two daughters: Albertus L. (deceased); Mary (Brown) Halbert, who lives in Indian Falls, New York; William is living in Friendship, New York; and Frank E. who lives in Paynesville, Minnesota.

In 1878, at Bolivar, New York, Frank E. Brown married Lavinda (McCutcheon) Wilson, daughter of Robert McCutcheon, and widow of C. C. Wilson. Lavinda (McCutcheon) (Wilson) Brown had, by her first marriage, one son, Robert C. Wilson. Lavinda (McCutcheon) (Wilson) Brown was born on August 31, 1855 in Towanda, Bradford County, Pennsylvania.

In the fall of 1878, Frank and Lavinda Brown and son, Robert Wilson, came to Paynesville, Stearns County, Minnesota, where they rented their first land. In 1882, Frank purchased eighty acres of land in Section 22. Later on, he bought more land in Sections 21 and 22 until he had two hundred and twenty acres in all.

Frank Brown says that when he moved out to his farm in the woods, some of the town people gave him just three years in which to starve out. He went to work to clear the land and built a home for his family. At the end of the three years, he was still on his farm and making a success

of it.

In the evenings, Frank would tell Lavinda that in the years to come, people would be moving in around them, and clearing the land, so that in time they would be able to see the train pass from their home. As the years passed this really did happen. When Frank Brown and his family left their farm, they had neighbors all around, and they could see the train as it passed.

When Frank and Alisso (Trembley) Brown came to Paynesville, Minnesota from the east, it took them from Monday morning until the following Friday night to reach their destination. They came by train as far as St. Cloud, and from there on they traveled by team.

If they needed some supplies they couldn't get in Paynesville, they had to go to St. Cloud for them. This trip, in those days, took two days. They stopped over night at the Payne House, located at Rockville, Minnesota.

As the community grew, Frank Brown saw the need of a school in which the children could get their education. In 1892, after running into many difficulties, School District Number 162 was organized. To the present day, this school is referred to as the "Brown School." The officers of this school were: George Conrad; C. D. Hudson; and Frank Brown. The school was located near the south line of the Brown farm. Ida Brown, a relative, was the first teacher, and there were fourteen children attending school the first year.

Frank E. served as member of the school board of District Number 162 for thirty-five years. He did all he could towards the betterment of his community. Whenever there was need of a new road, he took it upon himself to see that it went through.

Frank Brown was greatly interested in the Nursery business. He took great pains to grow the best nursery stock he could. His place was known as the Elmwood Farm, and from here he shipped nursery stock to different parts of the country. The shrubs and flowers he grew were beautiful.

The culture and care of bees was also one of Frank's interests. He served as superintendent of the Minnesota State Experimental Station, located in Paynesville, for a great many years.

The Brown family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and Frank was active in both the Sunday School and church work.

Frank and Lavinda (McCutcheon)(Wilson) Brown had four children: Jennie M; William Edwin; Charles G; and Inez B.

Jennie M., was born in Paynesville township, June 3, 1879. She married W. G. Movus and they live at Mohall, North Dakota. They have four children: One child is dead, the others are Irma, Vivian and Forest. There is one adopted daughter, Inez.

William Edwin, was born in Paynesville township, Stearns County, Minnesota in January 27, 1882. He married Leueise Siverling on March 11, 1905, at Bowbells, North Dakota. Leueise Siverling was born March 25, 1884, at Carpenter, Iowa. William Edwin and Leueise (Siverling) Brown have four children: W. Goodwin, was born September 6, 1907, at Hermit, North Dakota. He married Nerma Larsen, daughter of J. T. Larsen, on June 2, 1934. They live in Minneapolis, Minnesota; Ione B. was born January 11, 1909 at Paynesville; Beatrice L., was born December 18, 1911, at Paynesville; and Charles Edwin was born April 25, 1922 at Paynesville.

BROWN, FRANK E.

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William Edwin Brown purchased a farm in Section 22, Paynesville township, from Bert Jackson, in 1908. He and his family are still living on this same farm.

Charles G. Brown was born in Paynesville township, Stearns County, Minnesota, January 25, 1886. He married Nellie Klampe, daughter of Robert and Othelia (Schwenke) Klampe of Paynesville on March 30, 1908. They have three children: Frank E., and W. Edgar born in Paynesville, and Maxine I. born in St. Paul, Minnesota on August 17, 1920. Charles G. Brown is a minister of the Methodist Church. He is located at Toleda, Oregon at present. He preached in St. Paul for four years, and in Wisconsin for fourteen years.

Inez Brown, was born in Paynesville township, Stearns County, Minnesota, on April 1, 1894. She married Emmett Jones and they live at Clarks, South Dakota. They have two children: Corinne and Audrey.

Robert Wilson, son of C. C. and Lavinda (McCutcheon) Wilson was born in New York state. He came west with his mother and step father in 1878.

Lavinda (McCutcheon) (Wilson) Brown died December 14, 1931. She was laid to rest in the Paynesville cemetery.

On November 25, 1932, Frank E. Brown married Mary Wagner at St. Cloud. Mary was the daughter of Herman and (Reihke) Wagner of Paynesville, Minnesota. Frank and Mary (Wagner) Brown are residing in Paynesville, Minnesota.

Interviewed: Frank Brown
Date: April 5, 1937
By: Clarence Chisholm

Publication Granted

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FOR THE FRANK E. BROWN BIOGRAPHY

MARRIAGE RECORD BOOK Y. PAGE 13635

Emmett B. Jones and Inez B. Brown

Married at Paynesville, June 21, 1916

By: Rev. Hampton G. Kishpaugh

Witnesses: W. E. Brown and Mrs. W. G. Morins

MARRIAGE RECORD BOOK U. PAGE 10849

Charles G. Brown and Nellie M. Klampa

Married at Paynesville, March 30, 1909

By: Rev. Avery G. Parks

Witnesses: Mrs. N. E. Brown and Mr. W. E. Brown

MARRIAGE RECORD BOOK 10 PAGE 21241

Frank E. Brown and Mary Wegner

Married at St. Cloud, November 25, 1932

By: Peter C. Bettendorf Justice of the Peace

Witnesses: Elsie Gossweiler and A. A. Lippsmeyer

DEATH RECORD BOOK X PAGE 17 LINE 510

Lavinda Brown, Born in Pennesylvania, August 31, 1855

Daughter of R. McCutchoen and Lavinda Hart

Died December 14, 1931

Age 76 years 3 months and 13 days

BROWN, FRANK (ADDITION TO BIOGRAPHY)

Frank Brown passed away at his home in Paynesville, Minnesota early Friday morning October 20th, 1939. Funeral services were conducted from the Dunton funeral home and the local Methodist Church, with Rev. George Haggans of Excelsior, a former local pastor, in charge, assisted by Rev. Charles B. Paney. Burial was made in the family lot in the Paynesville Cemetery.

Date: October 31, 1939
By: Clarence Chisholm
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