

St. Cloud State University

The Repository at St. Cloud State

WPA Biographic Summaries

University Archives

6-17-1938

Bruns, Casper (1832 - 1918)

Ann Kramer

Follow this and additional works at: <https://repository.stcloudstate.edu/wpabio>

Recommended Citation

Kramer, Ann, "Bruns, Casper (1832 - 1918)" (1938). *WPA Biographic Summaries*. 171.
<https://repository.stcloudstate.edu/wpabio/171>

This Interview is brought to you for free and open access by the University Archives at The Repository at St. Cloud State. It has been accepted for inclusion in WPA Biographic Summaries by an authorized administrator of The Repository at St. Cloud State. For more information, please contact tdsteman@stcloudstate.edu.

BRUNS, CASPER

File No. B-177

Casper Bruns was born December 15, 1832 in Dingenburg, Prussia Germany. When he was twenty years old he came to America with his mother and they settled on a farm in Missouri where they lived for seven years. Then they went to Wisconsin where they rented a farm and lived there for six years.

Casper Bruns served in the Civil War for five years. After the war they came to Minnesota and settled on a farm in Freeport. At that time there were only twelve families living in Freeport.

The trip across the ocean was an incident in their lives that was not easily forgotten as the trip took about four months. The people had almost given up hopes of ever reaching America. The trip to Missouri and Wisconsin were made by train, and from Wisconsin to Freeport by ox cart.

The main crop was wheat, as blue stem wheat was about all that would grow. The grain was cut with cradles, and threshed with a threshing machine operated by horsepower.

Casper Bruns cut ties that were used to build the St. Paul Minneapolis and Manitoba Railroad later the Great Northern Railroad. He cut cord wood and hauled it to Melrose where he sold it for one dollar a cord, and this dollar per cord had to be taken out in trade as they received no cash for anything.

Casper Bruns was married in 1865 to Catherine Gabel. They have three children:

John, was born in 1866 and died in 1902.

Joseph, was born September 27, 1868, is married to Anne Bishoff and has fifteen children, four of which are dead. The living are: Mary, was

BRUNS, CASPER

Page 2

born December 28, 1895 is married to Christopher Lund and has one child. They live in Grand Forks, North Dakota. John, was born October 22, 1896, lives in Nelrose., William, was born April 3, 1899, and lives at Melrose. Albert, was born January 1, 1904, is married to Margaret Fuch and has one child, they live in Melrose. Frances, was born August 4, 1908 and lives in Minneapolis. Lawrence, was born September 17, 1910 and lives in Grand Forks, North Dakota. Mildred, was born in March, 1912, is married to John Tish and they live in Minneapolis. Eugenia, was born May 6, 1914, is married to Norman Moen and has one child. Sylvester, was born April 10, 1916, is in the C. C. C. Camp at Two Harbor. Celia, was born October 17, and works in Minneapolis. Raymond, was born December 4, 1918 and lives in Melrose.

Alvina Bruns was born December 25, 1870, is married to Frank Hubert and they live in Albany. They have no children of their own but have adopted two.

Casper Bruns died November 10, 1918. His wife Catherine (Gabel) Bruns died February 15, 1899. They are both buried in Freeport.

Interviewed: Joseph Bruns
Date: May 12, 1907
By: Ann Kramer

Publication Not Granted

TAKEN FROM THE LEGAL RECORDS OF THE STEARNS COUNTY
COURTHOUSE FOR THE CASPER BRUNS BIO.

DEATH RECORD, BOOK 1903-A-12, Page 135

John Bruns born in Wisconsin April 7, 1867
Son of Casper Bruns and Katherine Brenicke
Died August 28, 1903
Age 36 years, 4 months, 27 days

MARRIAGE RECORD, BOOK N, Page 457

Joseph Bruns and Anna Bischoff
Married at Freeport, May 1, 1894
By: Reverend Jerome Heider
Witnesses: Nic Mertes and Mike Bischoff

DEATH RECORD, BOOK 1899-A9, Page 108, Line 138

Katherine Bruns died Feb. 17, 1899
Age 66 years.

DEATH RECORD, BOOK K,)Page 10, Line 317

Casper Bruns born in Germany Dec. 25, 1832
son of John Bruns and Anna Bremeke
died November 10, 1918
age 85 years, 11 months

*

No Census records in Stearns County Courthouse

BRUNS, CASPER

Second interview to affirm or correct information in biography as compared to information as listed in the legal records in the Stearns County Court House.

AFFIRMED: Birth of John Bruns, 1866 is correct as stated in the biography.

CORRECTION: Death of John Bruns 1903 is correct as stated in the legal records.

Reinterviewed: Joseph Bruns

Date: June 17, 1938

By: Ann Kramer