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### Damm, Hans (1857 - )

G. P. Bunt

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Hans Damm was born in Norway in 1857. He grew to manhood in his native country and was married their to Sophia Anderson. They came to the United States in 1882 and settled in St. Cloud, Stearns County, Minnesota.

Hans Damm is a butcher by trade and in 1883 was appointed State Meat Inspector. This position took him throughout the state.

Hans and Sophia (Anderson) Damm have five children: Alfred who lives in Chicago, Illinois. John and Siguard who live in Washington. Harry and Mary Damm live in St. Cloud.

Harry Damm is a barber by trade and is one of the oldest barbers in business today. Harry learned his trade from Paul Fred-leather. Later he went into business for himself. The locations of his shop were Brauch building, Long building in 1919, St. Cloud Hotel in 1916, and at present his shop is located at 21½ Sixth Avenue South.

Harry Damm is an extensive traveler. In 1909 he sold his business and made a trip to his native land, Norway. In 1914 he went to the west coast where he remained for several years, returning to St. Cloud in 1916. He remarked, " Money in the olden days was much easier to get than it is now if one went out and worked for it. I made my money by buying lots on sixteenth avenue south for \$25.00. I held this property until it increased in value. I paid about \$2.00 taxes on each lot. When I sold these lots I received from \$500.00 to \$700.00 for each one."

"I recall", Harry said, "the wooden sidewalks in St. Cloud, and the unpaved streets. Much different from our pavement and cement walks of today. There used to be small fruit stands made from old

boxes these operated during the summer. They are another of the old sites that are now gone."

Harry Damm has never married. He lives with his aged parents at 133 First Avenue North East, St. Cloud, Minnesota.

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Interviewed: Harry Damm  
Date: May 21, 1936  
By: G. P. Bunt

Publication granted

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