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Edelbrock, Joseph (1826 - 1907)

Dean Nelson

Tresa Gruber

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EDELBROCK, JOSEPH

File No. B-323

Joseph Edelbrock was born in Duermen Westphalia, Germany March 22, 1826, son of Mr. and Mrs Anton Edelbrock. He received common school and military training and then helped his father on the farm. Joseph came to America on June 29, 1847 and went to Illinois. There he met and married Eva Barbara Marthaler. They came to Minnesota in 1854, and settled in St. Cloud on May 21, 1855, and started in the trading and merchandise business. His trading post was frequented by Indians and he enjoyed a thorough knowledge of Indian bartering and customs. This trading post was located back of the present (1936) Grand Central Hotel site. Later he moved to the corner of Washington Avenue and St. Germain. There he established a merchandise business and erected two buildings. One was used as a courthouse and jail and the other as a residence and place of business. In 1867 he tore these buildings down and erected the present one in which Thiesen and May now (1936) operate their business.

Joseph Edelbrock was a very prominent citizen and many important events surround his early life.

Father Pierz celebrated the first Mass of St. Cloud in the upstairs of Joseph's home in 1855. Here also took place the first baptism. The person Baptized was Anna Wilke.

The first school was organized and held in Mr. Edelbrock's home.

He was appointed trustee of St. Cloud in 1860 and President of the council in 1861.

In 1855 he was postmaster of Arcadia, when the North Star Mail Route was from Arcadia to Fort Ambercrombia. The mail then came to

EDELBROCK, JOSEPH

Page 2

Sauk Rapids and the only way to get it was to cross the river by boat and bring it back, the round trip consisting of three miles.

In 1856 he was appointed postmaster of St. Cloud proper. He held this position for four years and was St. Cloud's first postmaster. Joseph then centered his attention on business and the upbuilding of St. Cloud.

There were ten children born to Joseph and Eva Barbara (Marthaler) Edelbrock, but only one is still living, she is Mrs. Elizabeth Howe of St. Paul.

Joseph Edelbrock's brothers Henry and Anton, settled in St. Cloud and were also prominent in the building up of the city. The family has carried on business in St. Cloud since 1854 and is now represented by Felix Edelbrock, of the Booterie Shoe Store.

Joseph Edelbrock died September 26, 1907 and Mrs. Eva B. (Marthaler) Edelbrock died on November 26, 1923.

Interviewed: Theodore Edelbrock, Mary Edelbrock, and
Theresa Edelbrock
Date: June 3, 1936
By: Dean Nelson

Publication Granted

Edelbrock, Joseph

TAKEN FROM THE CENSUS RECORDS OF 1860

Enumerated June 1, 1860 By-- C. Grandelmeyer

Post Office -- St. Cloud

Page Number-- 4

Joseph Edelbrock	Age 34
Sex	Male
Occupation	Merchant
Born	Prussia
Elizabeth Edelbrock	Age 25
Sex	Female
Born	Bavaria
Joseph N. Edelbrock	Age 6
Sex	Male
Born	Illinois
Anna Edelbrock	Age 5
Sex	Female
Born	Minnesota
John Edelbrock	Age 3
Sex	Male
Born	Minnesota
Edward Edelbrock	Age 6 months
Sex	Male
Born	Minnesota

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FOR THE JOSEPH EDELBROCK BIOGRAPHY

DEATH RECORD BOOK B. PAGE 232 LINE 1

Joseph Edelbrock Born in Westphalia, Germany March 22, 1826
Son of Gerhard Edelbrock and Elizabeth Hultzmann
Died September 25, 1907
Age 81 years 6 months and 2 days

DEATH RECORD BOOK B. PAGE 386 LINE 1

Gertrude Edelbrock Born July 2, 1830
Daughter of Anton Kleiman
Died July 27, 1908
Age 78 years 2 months and 25 days

EDELBROCK, JOSEPH

File No. B-324

Joseph Edelbrock was born in Westphalia, Prussia, in 1826. He learned the trade of a carpenter, came to America in 1847, and lived in Chicago until 1855, when he came to St. Cloud and engaged in mercantile pursuits. He is the oldest merchant continuously in business in the city. He served as sheriff two years and as register of deeds four years. He was married in Chicago in 1852, and has six children living. A daughter, the second child born in St. Cloud, is the wife of Peter E. Kaiser.

Copied from: "In the Northwest" Page 439
Date Copied: April 2, 1937
Copied by: Tresa Gruber

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE

FOR THE JOSEPH EDELBROCK BIOGRAPHY

MARRIAGE RECORD BOOK E. PAGE 512

Peter E. Kaiser and Anna B. Edelbrock

Married at St. Cloud, July 12, 1877

By: Rev. F. Merzhian O. S. B.

Witnesses: Joseph Edelbrock and Frances Latsch

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