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Hohman, Jacob L. (1859 -)

Virgil Chirhart

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Chirhart, Virgil, "Hohman, Jacob L. (1859 -)" (1936). *WPA Biographic Summaries*. 529.
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HOHMAN, JACOB L.

File No. B-574

Jacob L. Hohman was born May 15, 1859 in the township of St. Cloud. His parents were Ludwig and Anna (Mueller) Hohman of St. Cloud. Jacob Hohman was baptised in St. Mary's Church of St. Cloud by Father Cornelius. Jacob attended school at District 47 on the Luxemburg road. One of his teachers was John Doerner and the school house was made of logs. After finishing grade school Jacob Hohman attended the Normal school of St. Cloud from 1877 to 1881.

Graduating 1881, Mr. Hohman taught school in District 105, situated between Luxemburg and Eden Valley. His class was composed of about thirty-five students.

In 1899 Jacob Hohman met Miss Anna Trautlein, a native of Fountain City, Wisconsin. She was born on May 9, 1874, daughter of Henry and Frances (Shellhaunes) Trautlein. On April 11, 1899 they were married by Father Metzler at Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Returning to St. Cloud, Jacob Hohman and his wife took up housekeeping. Mr. Hohman continued to teach, this time in District 47, the old school that he had attended as a boy.

Some of his students are prominent men of St. Cloud today, among them are: Judge Roeser, Peter Juenemann, Martin Rengel, Frank Graven, J. L. Streitz and John Fox.

Six children were born to Jacob and Anna (Trautlein) Hohman. They are Leo, who is Father Othmar, in the Bahama Islands; Paul, Alphonse, Ida, Marie and Regina, all are living. There are eight grandchildren.

Mr. Hohman taught from 1879 until 1916, a period of twenty-six years. During his spare time he attended the St. Paul School of Art and also had private instructors. He is a skilled artist and model maker and has followed this line almost all of his life along with his teaching.

Jacob Hohman remembers the Indian uprising in which many whites were killed near New Ulm. However the Indians were stopped near Paynesville, so they did not reach St. Cloud. At this time St. Cloud had a population of about 3,000 people. At the time of this uprising Jacob Hohman was about five years of age, but he remembers how people flocked into St. Cloud to escape from the Indians.

From 1916 to 1929 Jacob Hohman was employed at the Great Northern car shop at Waite Park. He has been making his home in that town ever since.

Attached to this biography is an autobiography copied from the handwritten manuscript of Jacob L. Hohman.

Interviewed: Jacob L. Hohman
Date: May 6, 1936
By: Virgil Chirehart

Publication Granted

TAKEN FROM THE CENSUS RECORDS OF 1860

Enumerated on July 20, 1860 -- By C. Grandelmeyer

Post Office -- St. Cloud

Page No. 108

Ludwig Hohman	Age 40
Sex	Male
Occupation	Farmer
Born	Bavaria
Anna Hohman	Age 36
Sex	Female
Born	Bavaria
Margaret Hohman	Age 13
Sex	Female
Born	Prussia
Joseph Hohman	Age 11
Sex	Male
Born	New York
Alphonse Hohman	Age 6
Sex	Male
Born	New York
Peter Hohman	Age 3
Sex	Male
Born	Minnesota
Jacob Hohman	Age 1
Sex	Male
Born	Minnesota

Waite Park, Minnesota

January 7, 1937

By Jacob L. Hohman

I was born in 1859 on my Parent's farm in the Town of Saint Cloud, about 3 miles from the then Village of Saint Cloud. My Parents had come from Buffalo N. Y. and settled on a homestead. I was six years of age to see the last soldiers of the civil and Indian wars return.

I well remember the sore plight displayed by the appearance of the scattering few who marched in thru main street. I noticed that some had canteens dangling from their knapsacks, while others had tin cups instead, and some had had even earthen drinking vessels.

During the war my parents, remaining on their newly started farm, while nearly all pioneer settlers had fled to St. Cloud on account of the great Indian "scare" experienced many thrills, expecting any minute the approach of hordes of red men from the more southern Indian reservations. Up to that time the Objibways were a rather friendly lot. Many came to our house to bring game for the exchange of bread.

Meat was scarce in those days, and my mother told me that one day when two of the Indians had gone, she went out to the lean to summer kitchen and noticed two of the cured hams had gone too, but she caught up with one of them and pulled his blanket off, when the one in the lead noticed the tussle his partner had gotten into he threw the ham away and the other one followed suit to obtain his blanket.

While my Parents remained alone at the farm they thought themselves in constant danger of oncoming fierce Sioux Indians. One night, Mother saw some weeds swaying in the night breeze, and thinking the redskins had arrived called Father who, shotgun in hand rushed out, but no Indians could be seen. After the much talked of Indian "scare" had passed, some of their tribe came to St. Cloud to spend the 4th of July with us. War paint and mustangs not missing. At the so-called "Pine-Garden the celebrants had erected a flagpole, and this pole, a few Indians had selected to see which one could circle the pole on his pony with outstretched hand nearest to the pole. All the while their war-whoops were shouted.

Coming into town for these and other occasions by ox team my brothers and I were placed in the rear of the wagon box, our seat was a bundle of hay, and it served our purpose well.

The squeaking of the ox carts as they came in regular trains I heard for miles in the distance of St. Cloud. The squeaking of these carts which were all of wood, and not an iron bolt or nail in its construction was caused by the wooden axle and the wooden hub of the wheel.

When I was about seven years of age I saw the first R. R. train come to St. Cloud, which had about 3,000 inhabitants at the time.

It was a great day for St. Cloud when our city was placed on the Rail Road map.

There were at that early time three settlements to make up our town, namely Lower Town, Middle Town and Lowery's northern town. As time unites us all, so did it likewise with St. Cloud

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE

FOR THE JACOB L. HOHMAN BIOGRAPHY

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Place of Birth</u>	<u>Father's Name</u>	<u>Age</u>
1. Jacob Hohman	Jan. 28, 1900	St. Cloud	Jacob Hohman	39
2. Jacob Hohman	Jan. 28, 1900	St. Cloud	Jacob Hohman	32
3. Mary Hohman	Feb. 7, 1904	St. Cloud	Jacob Hohman	41

<u>Mother's Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Book</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1. Anna Trantlein	27	(1900)B10	238	1	
2. " "	27	(1900)B10	239	2	
3. " "	33	(1904)B14	8	3	

BIRTH RECORD BOOK C. PAGE 110 LINE 3

Paul Hohman Born October 14, 1906

Son of Jacob L. and Anna Trantlein

Father's age 47 Mother's age 32