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Koch, John (1886 -)

Virgil Chirhart

Tresa Gruber

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KOCH, JOHN

File No. B-713

John Koch was born January 21, 1858 in Libert County, Indiana, just eight miles from the shores of Lake Michigan. His father, Mathew Koch, was a farmer and woodsman by trade. Both Mathew and his wife, Christina (Brown) Koch, were born in Germany.

In the Mathew Koch family were eleven children: Mary, Anne, Regine, Christine, Helen, Katherine, Andrew, Nicholas and John, two boys Andrew and Joseph died in infancy.

Andrew went to Montana and worked on the range about 1921 and no word has been received from him since. All efforts to locate him have failed.

John received some education in Indiana, but because of sickness he was unable to attend school for more than one year.

In 1871 Mathew Koch moved his entire family to Minnesota, where he bought a 160 acre farm near St. Nicholas, Luxemburg township, Stearns County.

John, who was fourteen years old at that time, attended a German school near St. Nicholas, taught by Theadore Bauder. This school he attended for only a few months.

In 1883 John Koch was married to Katherine Lehman, born April 19, 1862 near Jacobs Prairie. Her parents, John and Lucy Lehman, were both born in Prussia, Germany, coming to this country at an early date. After the death of John Lehman, Lucy Lehman married Anton Labonda.

After the marriage of John and Katherine (Lehman) Koch, the young couple bought an 80 acre farm in Luxemburg township near St. Nicholas. John put up a frame house and a log barn, here they lived until 1935, the year of Katherine (Lehman) Koch's death.

KOCH, JOHN

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To John and Katherine (Lehman) Koch were born seven children: Lucy (Mrs. Frank Weber) living in Dillwarth, Minnesota. Christine (Mrs. Leo Langren) living in North Dakota. Agnes living in Fargo, North Dakota. Helen (Mrs. Nicholas Grassman) living in St. Cloud, Minnesota. Edward of Dassel, Minnesota. Leo living on a farm near Minneapolis, Minnesota. Andrew of Wayzata, Minnesota. There are fifteen grand children and one great grand child.

John Koch is now living in the St. Rapheals Home for the aged.

Interviewed: John Koch
Date: November 4, 1936
By: Virgil Chirhart
Publication Granted.

FROM THE CENSUS RECORDS OF 1860

Enumerated on June 18, 1860 -- by C. Grandelmeyer

Post Office-- Clinton

Page No. 41

John Lamann (Lehman)

Age 32

Sex

Male

Occupation

Farmer

Birth Place

Prussia

Lucy Lehman

Age 23

Sex

Female

Birth Place

Prussia

Anna Lehman

Age 2

Sex

Female

Birth Place

Minnesota

(Living in the household of Anton Labonda)

FROM THE CENSUS RECORDS OF 1860

Enumerated on June 18, 1860-- by C. Grandelmeyer

Post Office- Clinton

Page No. 41

Anton Labonda

Age 38

Sex

Male

Occupation

Carpenter

Birth Place

Prussia

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FOR THE JOHN KOCH BIOGRAPHY

MARRIAGE RECORD BOOK G. PAGE 221

John Koch and Catherine Lehman

Married at St. Nicholas, November 7, 1881

By: Rev. Jos. M. Vill

Witnesses: John Shuman and Mary Koch

KOCH, JOHN

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.

CORRECTION:

Marriage of John Koch and Catherine Lehman on November 7, 1881 is correct as stated in the legal records.

Reinterviewed: John Koch
Date: Dec. 1, 1937
By: Tresa Gruber