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Kotowski, John (1857 -)

N. P. Kruchten

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John Kotowski one of Stearns County's early settlers was born in Lalco, Mavey, Germany, June 10, 1857 son of Frank and Marcella Kotowski.

John Kotowski received his childhood education in Germany attending the rural and public schools until he was fourteen years of age, and then John Kotowski started to work at the plastering trade for a number of years. When he was twenty-three years old he decided to come to America as people said then, "The Promised Land."

John Kotowski came over the Atlantic ocean on the steam ship John Lessing in fourteen days and nights arriving in New York, March 3, 1879. From there he went to Pennsylvania, where he worked in the coal mines for a few years, and then John Kotowski decided to come west. He settled in Saint Cloud, Minnesota in July, 1881.

John Kotowski, being a plasterer by trade, was employed by Gruber and Porwoll contractors, for this firm he worked fourteen years. In 1895 John Kotowski started in the contracting business for himself and continued to operate his business successfully until 1929 when he retired at the age of seventy-two.

John Kotowski was married on November 17, 1879 to Marguerete Julia Stucka, daughter of John and Julia Stucka of Pennsylvania. To John and Marguerete J. (Stucka) were born three children, Adam Kotowski, a mechanic in a furniture store at Saint Paul, Minnesota; Joseph Kotowski, quarry foreman in Saint Cloud, Minnesota; Anna (Mrs. Edward Sherrwood) of Ohio, a professional golfer.

Besides their three children they have seven grandchildren, and four great grandchildren.

Interviewed: John Kotowski
Date: July 7, 1936
By: N. P. Kruchten

Publication Granted

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE

FOR THE JOHN KOTOWSKI BIOGRAPHY

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Place of Birth</u>	<u>Father's Name</u>	<u>Age</u>
1. A. J. Kottowski	Mar. 5, 1883	St. Cloud	John Kotowski	
2. Joseph Kotowski	Feb. 6, 1885	St. Cloud	John Kotowski	

<u>Mother's Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Book</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1. Juliana Kitowski		A	567	17	
2. " "		B	31	37	