

St. Cloud State University

The Repository at St. Cloud State

WPA Biographic Summaries

University Archives

7-6-1937

Kutzer, Ferdinand (1868 -)

Walter B. Haupt

Follow this and additional works at: <https://repository.stcloudstate.edu/wpabio>

Recommended Citation

Haupt, Walter B., "Kutzer, Ferdinand (1868 -)" (1937). *WPA Biographic Summaries*. 725.
<https://repository.stcloudstate.edu/wpabio/725>

This Interview is brought to you for free and open access by the University Archives at The Repository at St. Cloud State. It has been accepted for inclusion in WPA Biographic Summaries by an authorized administrator of The Repository at St. Cloud State. For more information, please contact tdsteman@stcloudstate.edu.

KUTZER, FERDINAND

File No. B-753

Ferdinand Kutzer was born July 3, 1868, in Calmet County, Wisconsin, the son of Anton and Elizabeth (Folks) Kutzer.

Anton Kutzer was born in Austria, Germany, and came to America with his parents, who emigrated here about 1849. The trip across the Atlantic was made on a sailing vessel, and due to unfavorable winds, the trip consumed nearly two months. After landing in New York, the family at once came west to Wisconsin, where they purchased a tract of wild land from the government. Since the land was covered with a dense growth of timber and brush, the first crops, which consisted of potatoes and wheat, were sown where ever there was room around the stumps. During the first few years the family endured many hardships, often existing on potatoes and water.

Anton Kutzer assisted his parents with the work on the farm until the time of his marriage. He was married to Elizabeth Folks, daughter of another pioneer family who had migrated to America from Prussia, Germany, about the same time the Kutzer family arrived.

After their marriage they also purchased land in Wisconsin and started farming. A few years later however they moved to North Dakota where they continued to farm until retirement. Both died and are buried in North Dakota.

Anton and Elizabeth (Folks) Kutzer are the parents of twelve children: Hubert and Frances died at an early age. Mary, now deceased married Jacob Burg and they resided in both Wisconsin and North Dakota, where he followed the occupation of a farmer. Nine children survive.

KUTZER, FERDINAND

Page 2

Gertrude married Math Winkel, both now deceased. Mr. Winkel was a liquor agent for 35 years, two children survive. Catherine married John Burg and they resided on a farm in South Dakota; she died at an early age and five children and the husband survive. Annie, now deceased was Mrs. John Ahrens of Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin, she is the mother of three children. Rose married Jake Schillinger, both now deceased; they resided on a farm in North Dakota, and are survived by eight children. Anthony married Mathilda Schmitt, and they reside on a farm near Fairmont, North Dakota, they have four children. Jacob married Thresa Kraus and they reside on a farm near Fairmont, North Dakota, they have four children. Julia married Jake Sweitler and they reside on the west coast. Ferdinand, who heads this sketch.

Ferdinand attended school in Wisconsin and as a young man assisted his father with the work on the farm.

January 27, 1891, Ferdinand Kutzer married Thresa Taubel daughter of Frank and Anna (Lenz) Taubel of Cherico, Wisconsin. There were five children in the Taubel family. Frank now deceased, resided in the State of Washington; Josephine, now Mrs. Ed. Perry of California; Joseph of Etteps, Wisconsin; and Mary, Mrs. Charles Ahrens, now deceased in North Dakota. Thresa, born November 14, 1872, attended school in Cherico, Wisconsin and for several years was employed in Cherico, until her marriage.

After the marriage, the couple made their home with Mr. Kutzer's parents for a short time and then moved on a farm near Red Lake Falls, Minnesota. A frost ruined the first crops and so they returned to North Dakota, where after five years of renting, Mr. Kutzer purchased a farm.

KUTZER, FERDINAND

Page 3

In 1918, Ferdinand Kutzer purchased a farm two miles north of Albany, where they resided until their retirement in 1927, when they moved to the Village of Albany, where they reside today.

Ferdinand and Thresa (Taubel) Kutzer are the parents of five children;

Clarence, born April 17, 1894, married Genevieve Sodder, and they reside on a farm near Fairmont, North Dakota.

Leo, born January 14, 1898, married Bernice Terrel, and they reside on a farm near Fairmont, North Dakota.

Louise, born February 21, 1901, is Mrs. John Beatty of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Henry, born September 21, 1902, married Marie Kleber of Melrose, Minnesota and they reside in Chicago where he is employed.

Frank, born September 14, 1908, married Mary Ebenstein, and they reside on a farm north of Albany.

There are twenty grandchildren.

Interviewed: Ferdinand Kutzer
Date: July 6, 1937
By: Walter B. Haupt

Publication Granted

Interviewed in German

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FOR THE FERDINAND KUTZER BIOGRAPHY

No Legal Records in the Stearns County Court House