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Loesch, Nicholas B. (1868 - 1934)

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LOESCH, NICHOLAS B.

File No. B-816

Nicholas B. Loesch was born on November 14, 1868 in Maine Prairie township. He was the fourth child of Nicholas and Anna Loesch who were among the first settlers in Maine Prairie.

Nicholas Loesch Sr. was a native of Luxemburg, Germany. He started for America in 1854. In 1855 he started for Minnesota with a party of eight young men. They were among the first to pass through the canal at Sault St. Marie. They pushed their way through swamps and woods and finally reached Saint Paul. From there Nicholas Sr. came to Saint Cloud. He took a homestead in Rockville township, but allowed his right to the homestead to lapse. He finally secured a site in section three, near Pearl Lake in Maine Prairie township. Here he erected a log cabin, and with a yoke of oxen and a cow he started his career of farmer. He marketed his produce in Saint Paul, making the journey with an ox team. The trip took six days to complete. Nicholas Sr. was active in civic affairs and held special interest in the schools and churches. He helped to build the Catholic Church on Jacob's Prairie, and also the church at Luxemburg Postoffice, in Saint Augusta township. Later he assisted in building the church at Pearl Lake. Nicholas Loesch Sr. died March 17, 1913. The children of Nicholas and Anna Loesch Sr. are Michael, Margaret, Kate, Lena, Nicholas B., Henry, Peter, Casper, Anna, Mary, Elizabeth, John, and an unnamed infant who died at birth.

Nicholas B. Loesch son of the above mentioned received his education in the public schools of his community.

In 1900 he married Miss Odelia Meyer, daughter of George and Helen Meyer. Odelia was born on January 7, 1874 in Germany. She received a very good education and later taught school in and around Munich, Germany, the capital of Bavaria. Odelia Meyer taught, for the most part, in private homes and many times came into contact with the nobility. She

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taught for two years in Budepest, in the home of a Graf, who in rank is higher than a Baron. Odelia's father, George Meyer, operated a hardware store and was also a Band Master. After he acquired considerable wealth he came to America. George Meyer, with his three daughters settled in Villard, Minnesota and later came to Pearl Lake in Stearns County, Minnesota.

Odelia Meyer married Nicholas B. Loesch in 1900 at Pearl Lake. Father Wernick performed the ceremony and Mary and Henry Loesch were the attendants.

Nicholas B. and Odelia (Meyer) Loesch lived on a farm for thirteen years. In 1913 they came to Saint Cloud where Nicholas worked in the employ of the Postoffice, until a year before his death in 1934. He was buried at Pearl Lake cemetery after funeral services at Saint Mary's church.

Nicholas B. Loesch was a member of the Holy Name Society.

Mrs. Odelia (Meyer) Loesch is still living at 315 Sixth Avenue South, Saint Cloud.

Interviewed: Mrs. Odelia (Meyer) Loesch
Date: June 18, 1936
By: Tresa Gruber