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Perkinson, Charles E. (1870 - 1938)

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PERKINSON, CHARLES E.

File No. B-1027

C. E. Perkinson was born on the homestead of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. B. Perkinson, in the Fairy Lake community on April 24, 1870.

His parents came to this community among the early pioneers.

During young manhood C. E. Perkinson was engaged in railroad work in Montana, and he spent several winters in the lumber camps of the northern part of Minnesota.

On July 24, 1892 C. E. Perkinson and Anna Meinke were united in marriage at Park Rapids, Minnesota, and they located on the T. W. Mann farm near Westport. When Wm. B. Perkinson retired from farming, C. E. Perkinson took over the operation of the homestead.

In 1906 the family moved into Sauk Centre and C. E. Perkinson went to West Union where he was employed as grain buyer for the Erwin Elevator Co. He worked there for two years and returned to Sauk Centre and was engaged as grain buyer for the Lee-Gingery elevator. Sometime later he entered into partnership with Ben Vogel in the operation of a dray line and also owned and operated the blacksmith shop now the property of Lee Johnson.

After disposing of his blacksmith shop he went to work for the Central Minnesota Power and Milling Co. then under the management of Sid Merryman. During the first Christmas of his employment with that company, Mr. Merryman presented him a ring which he constantly wore. He was employed as engineer at the mill for twelve years, and then engaged in the feed and seed business with his son, Clifford. He erected a building across the street from the Lampert Lumber Co. in 1928.

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He later sold to the Farm Service Stores and the building was moved to their property near the Great Northern depot. He and his son were employed by that company, Mr. Perkinson being the manager and grain buyer. In 1932 he purchased the Pangburn Seed Store on Main Street, and operated that business until two years ago, when he went to New Mexico to spend the winter with his daughters, Clarice and Florence.

C. E. Perkinson was elected as a member of the city council in 1915, to fill the un-expired term of William Pangburn. He was re-elected in 1916 and completed the term. He was a member of the council at the time the municipal light plant was inaugurated.

Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Perkinson: Clarice and Florence who live at Albuquerque, New Mexico; Clifford who died in 1933, Floyd who died in 1914 and one daughter who died at Alburquerque, New Mexico.

C. E. Perkinson died at Sauk Centre July 22, 1938 and is interred in Greenwood cemetery.

Interviewed: Merle O'Brien
Date: July 28, 1938
By: Dorothy Hansmann