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Sartell, William L. (1866 -)

Virgil Chirhart

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SARTELL, WILLIAM L.

File No. B-1146

William L. Sartell was born June 5, 1866 in Stearns County, Le Sauk township. His parents were Joseph B. Sartell and Lucinda (Johnson) Sartell. Both parents were born in the East. His father, Joseph B. Sartell was born in Peperell, Massachusetts, January 15, 1926. His mother in Onanodago County, New York State.

Both of his grandparents were born in the eastern part of the United States, during the 1700's.

Joseph and Lucinda (Johnson) Sartell were married in Joliet, Illinois and shortly after their marriage they set out for Minnesota, traveling from Joliet to the Mississippi river by oxcart. They then traveled to Saint Paul, Minnesota by steam boat, and the journey from Saint Paul to Saint Cloud was traveled by stage coach. After arriving in Saint Cloud they at once settled in Le Sauk township.

Joseph went to work at a stage coach tavern, located across the river from their homestead. The site of the tavern was across the river from the 1936 location of the Cassino Pavilion.

Later on he built a flour mill on the Watab river just above Sartell, the old dam and mill pond is still in existance, although the old mill was destroyed by fire years ago, about 1907. The out put of the mill was about twenty-four barrels of flour a day.

When William reached the age of six or seven years he was sent to the country school. The old school site was on the river bank just south of the 1936 Cassino Dance Pavilion. He attended the Le Sauk school for about one year, his teacher was a Miss Sarah Becker. There were about twelve students. Then he went to school at Sauk Rapids for about eight years off and on ("Mostly off," says Mr. Sartell.)

He attended High School at Sauk Rapids and graduated at the age of twenty, in April 1886 with fifteen other students. Just five days

SARTELL, WILLIAM L.

before the cyclone which destroyed the Rapids.

The day after graduation he went to work for his brother driving logs down the Crow Wing river and then down the Mississippi River to the Sartell Brothers saw mill located just above the village of Sartell.

When asked if he was ever baptised Mr. Sartell said, "Well if you would call falling in the river being baptised, then I was, hundreds of times."

He followed the logging and lumber business up until six years ago, with the exceptions of a term which he served as land clerk in the County Auditor's office at Saint Cloud in 1905.

November 19, 1900 he was married to Miss Lucinda Palmer by the Reverend Parsons at Saint Cloud.

His wife was born in New Hampton, Iowa July 18, 1865, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Palmer natives of the state of Illinois.

William and Lucinda (Palmer) Sartell made their home in Sartell after their marriage and, although they had no children of their own, they adopted a daughter of Mrs. Sartell's neice. Her name is Ruby.

In 1922 they adopted three children of another neice, who had died, and have raised them as their own.

Indians were not very troublesome, but during the uprising the Sartells took refuge at Clearwater for a few days.

At one time, when food was scarce, Mrs. Joseph Sartell caught two Indian squaws stealing bread from the supply house. She promptly threw them out and chased them away.

The ferry crossing at Sartell was under the bridge which now crossed the river.

William and Lucinda (Palmer) Sartell now live in Sartell among their many friends.

By: Virgil Chirhart
Date: June 6, 1936

Interviewed: William Sartell

FROM CENSUS RECORDS OF 1860

Enumerated on June 9 -- by C. Grandelmeyer

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Line 33

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Joseph B. Sartell | Age 34 |
| Sex | Male |
| Occupation | Millwright |
| Born | Massachusetts |

Line 34

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Lucinda J. Sartell | Age 27 |
| Sex | Female |
| Born | New York |

Line 35

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Edward P. Sartell | Age 6 |
| Sex | Male |
| Born | Illinois |

Line 36

| | |
|-----------------|----------|
| Anna S. Sartell | Age 4 |
| Sex | Female |
| Born | Illinois |

Line 37

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Charles S. Sartell | Age 2 |
| Sex | Male |
| Born | Minnesota |

Line 38

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Laiton Sartell (MS-1) | Age 1 |
| Sex | Male |
| Born | Minnesota |