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### Schaefer, Leo (1862 - 1915)

Nick P. Kruchten

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Among Stearns County early settlers and pioneers we find Leo Schaefer.

Leo Schaefer was born November 6, 1862 in Lalkowy West Preusen, Neybush Germany son of Joseph and Mary Schaefer.

Joseph Schaefer and family came to America on April 19, 1878. The crossing of the Atlantic was made in thirteen days on the steam boat Welland. The Schaefer family landed in New York on April 14 and five days later came to Saint Cloud, Minnesota where Joseph Schaefer settled on a farm in Section 32 Saint Cloud township, and he operated this farm until 1890.

Leo Schaefer received his education in the public schools of Germany and when they arrived in Stearns County he also attended country school in District #37 and his instructor was George Hansen.

Leo Schaefer, when he was sixteen years old, started work for his father on the farm, and continued until he was twenty-six years old. Then he was married and continued to work for his father for twelve years. In 1890 Joseph Schaefer gave his son, Leo Schaefer the farm consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, which Leo farmed a few years. He then bought eighty acres more and farmed his entire farm successfully until 1922 when he retired, and moved into Saint Cloud, Minnesota to his family home on 318 Sixteenth Avenue North.

Leo Schaefer was married June 26, 1888 to Othelia Schultz, daughter of Joseph and Anna Schultz of Gilman, Minnesota. The marriage took place in Saint Mary's Catholic Church of Saint Cloud, Minnesota and was performed by the Reverend Father Severin Gross.

To Leo and Othelia (Schultz) Schaefer were born nine children, eight are living, Joseph Schaefer, employed by the Great Northern Railway, Saint Cloud; Anna, (Mrs. John Kedwroski) John Kedwroski is a factory foreman in New Jersey; Mary, (Mrs. Frank Schaefer) Frank is employed in a stone quarrey

SCHAEFER, LEO

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in Saint Cloud, Minnesota; Johanna, (Mrs. John Seigmund) John Seigmund is a stone polisher in Wausaw, Wisconsin; Leo Schaefer, a farmer in Saint Augusta township; Balvina, (Mrs. Maurice Ulgner) Maurice Ulgner is a fireman for the Great Northern Railway Company; John Schaefer, is employed by the Great Northern Railway, Fargo, North Dakota; Frank Schaefer, is a farmer in North Dakota.

Joseph and Anna Schultz, father and mother of Mrs. Leo Schaefer, were natives of Germany and came to America in 1884 and settled on a farm in Gilman, Minnesota where they resided until their death. Joseph Schultz died in 1923, and Anna Schultz died in 1932. Both parents were buried in the Catholic Cemetery in Gilman, Minnesota.

Joseph Schaefer died December 17, 1915. Mary (Schultz) Schaefer died July 2, 1916. Both were buried in Calvary Cemetery Saint Cloud, Minnesota.

Interviewed: Leo Schaefer  
Date: July 2, 1936  
By: N. P. Kruchten

Publication Granted