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### Schallert, Rudolph (1861 - )

Walter B. Haupt

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SCHALLERT, RUDOLPH

File No. B-1164

Rudolph Schallert was born on August 26, 1861, on a farm near Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Rudolph Schallert is the son of Karl and Sophia (Koenaman) Schallert, who lived on the farm which is now operated by Otto Christen, a son-in-law of Rudolph Schallert.

Karl and Sophia Schallert were born in Germany and were married there. While in Germany, Karl Schallert was employed as a laborer on a farm, where he was obliged to work long hours for which he received a small wage.

In the year 1852 Karl Schallert, after becoming dissatisfied with conditions in Germany and filled with a desire to some day own his own home, left Germany and came to America with his family.

During the trip across the Atlantic, which took ten weeks and three days, a son and a daughter died and were buried at sea.

After arriving at New York, the family at once migrated west to Wisconsin, where they rented a small farm near Milwaukee where they lived for several years and then moved on a farm near Johnson's Creek, Wisconsin. While here two children died of diptheria .

In the year 1872, Karl Schallert sold his farm in Wisconsin and with his family, set out for Minnesota, in a covered wagon drawn by a team of horses. After a trip of nine days, the family arrived at the home of Reinhard Richter, located near Two River Settlement, (Now the village of Albany) where they stayed during the first winter. The Richter and Schallert families were neighbors in Wisconsin and the Richter family had migrated to Minnesota about a year previous.

While there, Mr. Schallert purchased a homestead site from

Peter Emils, in section eight, town of Farming.

Since there were no roads to the homestead, the first work was to cut a cartway to the land and then erect a log house.

In the spring an acre and a half of land was cleared and was ready for cultivation. On this land Mr. Schallert sowed wheat, which at harvest time yielded 35 bushels. The threshing was done with the aid of a flail during the first years, later on the Christen Brothers bought the first threshing machine , operated by horsepower.

Since the land was completely covered with a dense growth of trees and brush, only two to three acres were prepared for cultivation from year to year.

The only complete crop failure that occurred during the early days was due to the grasshoppers who made their appearance the second year Mr. Schallert made the following remarks about the scourge, " One day, just as we were about to harvest the grain, it looked as though a storm was coming up, but instead of rain clouds, they were swarms of grasshoppers that came in such droves that they completely hid the sun. Before we could do any harvesting they consumed all the grain and then ate every green particle of grass in the pastures and even the leaves on the trees. One day while in the field I laid my jacket on a bundle of grain and forgot to bring it in the house that evening, the next day when I went out to get it, all I found was the buttons, the jacket having been eaten by the grasshoppers. It seemed that the only thing that they left was iron and stone. Even fork and shovel handles were ruined by them. The next spring we put in our crop as usual, thinking that the eggs they had laid would not hatch because we had a rather severe winter, but just as the grain started to head out, the ground was alive with them and they again

consumed the complete crop. Peas were the only crop that escaped their ravages. In those days the settlers also grew their own tobacco, and this was also destroyed, one kind, a strong tobacco, we thought would not be harmed but it was also completely ruined, but the grasshoppers who partook of it died."

During the time of the grasshopper scourage, the Schallert family made their living by hunting and trapping. The game that they shot was traded at the stores for whatever they needed.

Before the grasshopper scourage, wheat brought from 80 cents to \$1.00 a bushel, but after the scourage, crops yielded so abundantly that wheat dropped to 35 and 45 cents a bushel.

Shortly after the arrival on the homestead, Karl Schallert traded his team of horses for a team of oxen. "The reason for this, Rudolph Schallert explained, "was horses needed oats if they were put to hard work and oats were scarce because only a few acres of land were available for planting, and these acres were needed for crops that could be traded for food and clothing. Oxen, on the other hand were slower, but needed no oats, after a days work they could be turned loose to find their own feed in the woods."

Rudolph Schallert was eleven years of age at the time the family moved to Stearns County. Because the family never lived near a school during the time he was of school age, he never had a chance to attend.

On April 8, 1877 he was confirmed at the Immanuel Lutheran Church by the Rev. Karl Menke.



From the time he was able, he helped his father with the work on the farm, until the time of his marriage when he took over the place.

Concerning "good times", Mr. Schallert remarked, "There were no dance halls in those days so the only times we would dance when the neighbors got together and bought a keg of beer and danced in the house. The Christen brothers usually furnished the music. At first they played on flutes which they had brought along, but later on they were able to also buy a violin. At these get-to-getheres everybody had a good time, because we never tried to outdo one another."

On March 9, 1886, Rudolph Schallert was united in marriage to Maria Emilie Mayerly, daughter of John and Fredericka (Holifer) Mayerly of Eden Lake Township. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Johannes V. Brandt in the Immanuel Lutheran Church Farming Township. The witnesses were, John Haman, William Lemke, Armanda Schallert and Dorothea Bayer.

Karl Schallert died in May, 1910 and his wife, Sophia, died September 19, 1908. Both are buried in the Lutheran Cemetery in Farming township. Two children, the son Rudolph and a daughter, Mrs. Albert Schmitt of St. Cloud survive.

Rudolph after operating the homestead, for a number of years, during which time he improved the place, with modern buildings, retired and moved to the village of Albany, where he built a home. After several years in the village he again returned to the farm where he resides today with his wife. The farm being operated by the son-in-law, Otto Christen.

Rudolph and Maria Emelie (Mayerly) Schallert are the parents of thirteen children. Albert, Amelia, and eleven who died in infancy.

Amelia, born July 12, 1890, married Otto Christen on January 8,

SCHALLERT, RUDOLPH

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1907, in the Farming township Immanuel Lutheran Church, Rev. Nauss performed the ceremony. The witnesses were Carl and Elizabeth Lemke and Martin and Thresa Christen. They have six children. At present they operate the farm of Rudolph Schallert.

Albert, born April 10, 1902, married Isabelle Christen and they have three children.

Interviewed: Rudolph Schallert  
Date: May 5, 1937  
By: Walter B. Haupt

Publication Granted

TAKEN FROM THE LEGAL RECORDS OF THE STEARNS COUNTY  
COURTHOUSE FOR BIOGRAPHY OF RUDOLPH SCHALLERT

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MARRIAGE RECORD, BOOK I, Page 484

Rudolph Schallert and Mary Mayerly  
Married at Farming, March 9, 1886  
By Reverend Johannes M. Brandt  
Witnesses: John Hamann & Wm. Lemke  
Amanda Schallert & Dorothea Bayer

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MARRIAGE RECORD, BOOK S, Page 10064

Otto Christen and Emilie Schallert  
Married At Farming, Jan. 8, 1907  
By Reverend Henry Nauss  
Witnesses: Martin Christen & Elizabeth Lemke

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MARRIAGE RECORD, BOOK 4, Page 17111

Albert Schallert and Isabella Christen  
Married at Farming, January 7, 1924  
By Reverend Henry Nauss  
Witnesses: Mabel Christen & Fred Schallert

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DEATH RECORD, BOOK B, Page 299, Line 2

Sophia Schallert, born in Germany, Aug. 5, 1826.  
Daughter of Gotlieb and Louise Kinemann.  
Died September 23, 1908.  
Age 82 years, 1 month, 18 days.

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DEATH RECORD, BOOK C. Page 103, Line 1

Carl Schallert, born in Germany, Dec. 15, 1817.  
Son of Gotlieb and Louise Kuenemann  
Died May 13, 1910  
Age 93 years, 4 months, 29 days.

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BIRTH RECORDS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE OF BIRTH</u>	<u>PLACE OF BIRTH</u>	<u>FATHER'S NAME &amp; AGE</u>
Amelia	July 12, 1890	Farming	Rudolph 28
Arthur	July 1, 1892	Farming	Rudolph 40

\*

<u>MOTHER'S NAME</u>	<u>BOOK</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>LINE</u>	<u>MOTHER'S AGE</u>
Mary	B	178	30	24
	B2	65	18	28
Mary	1892			

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