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Sperl, Robert (1878 -)

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SPERL, ROBERT

File No. B-1262

Robert Sperl was born on June 7, 1878 on a farm east of Albany.

Robert Sperl is the son of John and Elizabeth (Fuchs) Sperl, who resided on a farm three miles east of Albany.

John Sperl was born in Blace Bezirk Haslow, Grise Belson, Bohemia on June 20, 1843. He migrated to America in the spring of 1865. The trip was made on a sailing vessel, and landed at New York. While there he was told about the Indians outbreak in Minnesota, but this did not stop him from coming to the state.

For a short time he was employed at St. Paul as a carpenter. In the fall of the same year he filed on a claim in the township of Avon, section 18, three miles east from where the village of Albany now stands.

During the first five years John Sperl lived alone. On October 4, 1872 he was united in marriage to Elizabeth Fuchs. The ceremony was performed in the Catholic Church at Avon, Minnesota. The wedding party was required to walk five miles through the woods to the church.

Elizabeth Fuchs was born in Bickenberg Kreis, Bittburg Rhine Provence, Germany, the daughter of Henry and Katherine (Grossman) Fuchs.

In the year 1872, she came to America with a brother and sister, Peter now residing on a farm near Albany, and Mrs. Daniel Knipes, who resides in Duhuth, Minnesota at present. They came immediately to Avon where an uncle, Bernard Berg, resided on a farm, and Elizabeth made her home there until her marriage to John Sperl.

As an early pioneer, John Sperl and his wife endured many hardships in establishing a home that would provide for them a comfortable livelihood.

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Surrounded by wilderness Mr. Sperl made his trail to the nearest trading posts which were St. Joseph and St. Cloud.

There were countless Indians in Stearns County at that time, but after the county became more settled they moved northward. Although Mr. Sperl never had any serious trouble with the Indians, there were times when they partook freely of his crops, until he protested and threatened them, which put fear into them and they finally fled. Mr. Sperl often recalled the time when he would walk to St. Joseph and return home with a sack of flour on his shoulders, a distance of about twelve miles. Despite these adversaries he developed his homestead into one of the finest dairy farms of the township.

In the summer of 1911 he retired and moved to the village of Albany and built a home there. Here he lived in retirement until his death which occurred May 27, 1916, his life's work well done. Elizabeth (Fuchs) Sperl died November 25, 1927.

John and Elizabeth (Fuchs) Sperl are the parents of eleven children, John B., Peter, Christ, Robert, Aloys, Barthel, John, Math, Joseph, Mary and Alice.

Alice, married Jacob J. Krebs Junior and they reside on a farm north of Albany. They have six children, Evelyn, Victor, Ralph, Leona and Martha, Werner a twin brother of Victor, died in infancy. Jacob Krebs Junior died August 31, 1931.

Joseph, a veteran of the World War, died November 15, 1929.

Peter, married Margaret Ress of Avon, and they reside in Portland, Oregon.

Christ, John B., and Math live at Albany, Minnesota.

Aloys, married Frances Wohletz and they reside on the home farm. They are the parents of seven children: Hysinoth, Frances, Alexander, Sylvester, Angeline, Adelhide and Aloys Junior, deceased.

Barthel, is employed at Orr, Minnesota

John, married Mary Solinger and they reside on a farm near Black Duck, Minnesota. They are the parents of eight children: Susie, deceased Alice, Oswald, Annie, Margaret, Marcella, Eugene, and John Junior.

Mary, married Nich Thielman and they reside on a farm near Avon. They have ten children: Robert, Oswald, Alice, Leo, Clarence, Catherine, Leonard, Anna, Francis and Yrette.

Robert Sperl, son of John and Elizabeth (Fuchs) Sperl, attended school in the village school until district 149 was organized, this school was near his home and he then attended school there. His teachers were, Joseph Lommel, Jacob Lemm and Katie Wimmer. From the time he left school and for some years after Robert Sperl helped his father with the work on the farm and then attended Normal School at St. Cloud for two terms. He next was employed by Frank Schmid of Avon where he was clerk in the Schmid store for five years.

From Avon he went to Wales, North Dakota where he managed a store for Kelley and Schnieder for one year.

In the spring of the next year he made a trip to the State of Washington but was unable to find employment and so he returned to Minnesota and worked at the Mahoney Mine at Hibbing for a few months.

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In the fall of that year, Robert Sperl was united in marriage to Mary Blenker on November 26, 1907. Father Eugene O. S. B. performing the ceremony. The attendants were, Henry Blenker, Alice Sperl, Joseph Sperl and Elizabeth Blenker.

After his marriage Robert Sperl was employed at the Blenker Store at Albany for 17 years and then resigned and became manager of the Farmer's Cooperative Association of Albany a position he held for five years. He resigned and purchased the Blenker Store building and opened a general merchandise business which he still operates today.

Robert and Mary (Blenker) Sperl are the parents of five children, Rosella, Lucille, Juletta, Marie and Genevieve.

Rosella, married Al Hanauer and they reside in Albany where Mr. Hanauer operates a garage. They have two children, Patricia and Robert.

Juletta died at the age of twelve, September 18, 1924.

Lucille, Marie and Genevieve are at home.

Interviewed: Robert Sperl
Date: March 19, 1937
By: Walter B. Haupt

Publication Granted

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FOR THE ROBERT SPERL BIOGRAPHY

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Place of Birth</u>	<u>Father's Name</u>	<u>Age</u>
1. John B. Sperl	Sept. 21, 1873	Avon	John B. Sperl	
2. Christophe "	Nov. 27, 1876	"	" " "	
3. John R. "	June 7, 1878	"	" " "	
4. Aloys Sperl	Jan. 18, 1880	"	" " "	
5. John Sperl	Sept. 29, 1883	"	" " "	
6. Mathias "	Sept. 19, 1885	Albany	" " "	
7. Mary "	Aug. 11, 1887	Avon	" " "	
8. Maria E. "	Apr. 22, 1889	"	" " "	46
9. John Joseph "	Feb. 13, 1891	"	" " "	47
10. Rosella K.E."	Aug. 6, 1908	Albany	Robert Sperl	
11. Luella Sperl	Oct. 30, 1910	"	" " "	33
12. Julita E. "	July 29, 1912	"	" " "	34
13. Mary E. Sperl	Jan. 11, 1915	"	" " "	36
14. Genevieve A. "	Dec. 31, 1919	"	" " "	40

<u>Mother's Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Book</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1. Elizabeth Fuchs		A	97	28	
2. Elizabeth Fuchs		A	221	17	
3. Elizabeth Fuchs		A	303	7	
4. Elizabeth Fuchs		A	387	3	
5. Elizabeth Fuchs		A	533	15	
6. Elizabeth Fuchs		B	10	32	
7. Elizabeth Fuchs		B	76	13	
8. Elizabeth Fuchs	41	B	140	11	
9. Elizabeth Fuchs	42	B1 1891	2	4	

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSEFOR THE ROBERT SPERL BIOGRAPHY

<u>Mother's Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Book</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
10. Mary Blenker		C	446	1	
11. Mary Blenker	30	D	1	7	
12. Mary Blenker	30	F	1	15	
13. Mary Blenker	34	I	2	2	
14. Mary Blenker	38	M	12	458	

MARRIAGE RECORD BOOK D. PAGE 299

John B. Sperl and Elizabeth Fuchs

Married at Avon, October 22, 1872

By: Rev. Wolfgang Northmann

Witnesses: Peter Fuchs and E. M. Grossmann

MARRIAGE RECORD BOOK Z PAGE 14396

Jacob J. Krebs and Alice Sperl

Married at Albany, April 30, 1918

By: Rev. A. Straub O. S. B.

Witnesses: Joseph Sperl and Katherine Krebs

MARRIAGE RECORD BOOK W. PAGE 12814

Aloys Sperl and Frances Wohletz

Married at Albany, September 1st, 1914

By: Rev. A. Straub

Witnesses: Frank Wohletz and Elisa Sperl

MARRIAGE RECORD BOOK T. PAGE 10398

John Sperl and Mary Solinger

Married at Albany, November 28, 1907

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FOR THE ROBERT SPERL BIOGRAPHY

MARRIAGE RECORD BOOK T. PAGE 10398

By: Rev. P. Eugene Woerdehoff O. S. B.

Witnesses: Math Sperl and Anna Schops

MARRIAGE RECORD BOOK T. PAGE 10388

John Robert Sperl and Mary Blenker

Married at Albany, November 26, 1907

By: Rev. P. Eugene Woerdehoff O. S. B.

Witnesses: Henry J. Blenker and Alice Sperl

MARRIAGE RECORD BOOK T. PAGE 10139

Nicholas Thielman and Mary Sperl

Married at Albany, May 21, 1907

By: Rev. A. Straub O. S. B.

Witnesses: John Sperl and Lucia Thielman

DEATH RECORD BOOK X. PAGE 6 LINE 177

John Jacob Krebs, Born in Minnesota, February 11, 1889

Son of Jake Krebs and Kathryn Hanley

Died August 31, 1931

Age 42 years 6 months and 20 days

DEATH RECORD BOOK T. PAGE 10 LINE 239

Joseph Sperl, Born in Minnesota, February 13, 1891

Son of J. B. Sperl and Elizabeth Fuchs

Died November 15, 1927

Age 36 years 9 months 2 days

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FOR THE ROBERT SPERL BIOGRAPHY

DEATH RECORD BOOK I. PAGE 20 LINE 199

John B. Sperl, Born in Austria, January 19, 1843

Died May 27, 1916

Age 73 years 4 months and 8 days

DEATH RECORD BOOK T. PAGE 10 LINE 248

Elizabeth Sperl, Born in Russia, May 17, 1849

Died November 29, 1927

Age 78 years 6 months and 12 days

DEATH RECORD BOOK Q. PAGE 9 LINE 223

Juletta Elizabeth Sperl

Born in Minnesota, July 29, 1912

Daughter of Robert Sperl and Mary Blenker

Died September 18, 1924

Age 12 years 1 month and 20 days