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Brauch, Nicholas (1865 -)

Dean Nelson

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Mr. Nicholas Brauch was born at St. Augusta, Stearns County Minnesota on July 13, 1865. He was the son of Nicholas and Mary Brauch.

The subject of this sketch attended the St. Wendelin parochial school at Luxenburg. After completing the studies at this school, he attended the Sauk Centre Business School under the instruction of Father Cogan for one year.

Having finished his education Mr. Brauch returned to the home farm at St. Augusta to assist his father with the work on the farm.

Mr. Brauch married Katie Grein, daughter of Harry and Mary Grein of Main Prairie. Katie was born April 14, 1867. She attended school for five years at Rockeville and Maine Prairie. Father Paul of the St. Wendelin church officiated at their marriage in 1893. Mr. Nicholas Brauch and his bride started farming in Maine Prairie Township. During the first year they spent on the farm there was a terrific tornado which completely demolished numerous farm buildings, and the churches at Pearl Lake and Cold Spring.

In 1895 Mr. and Mrs. Brauch moved to St. Cloud. At this time they started in business operating the Grand Union Hotel which was located on the west corner of sixth avenue north and first street. At that time the McCormick Harvester and Machine Company was located across the street from the Hotel. The Star Livery Stable operated by Ben Fearing was also across the street. The Farmers Market was located immediately back of the Hotel.

Mrs. Brauch stated at the interview, "Business was very good in those years. Mr. Westerman, salesman for the McCormick Harvester and Machine Company, went out to the farms in the surrounding territory and sold farm implements. Due to the lack of daily

transportation from St. Paul to St. Cloud this farm machinery would arrive all in one days shipment. Mr. Westerman would always notify us at the hotel ahead of the time the machinery would arrive so we could prepare for the large number of farmers that would come to stay at the hotel until they could claim their respective purchases.

Due to the lack of stable space there would be teams of horses three and four lanes wide from the Great Northern tracks to St. Germain Street. When these busy days were over I was usually so tired that I could hardly move my arms. The farmers believed in liquid refreshments and eating in those days; I believe the automobile has taken away the glory of the horse and buggy days."

In 1902, Mr. and Mrs. Brauch left the hotel business and moved to North St. Cloud. The next year they purchased the Boyd property located at first street and third avenue South. There were five brick houses standing around the edge of this property, and in 1906 they erected a frame house in the center of this lot. Fire drove them from their home in 1910, and the reconstruction of the entire interior was necessary before they could move in.

They have resided at this location ever since, and have been respected landlords of their renters in the other five houses.

Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Brauch have five children, Ethel, Harold, Valeria, Mrs. Gust Parent, and Mrs. Joseph Gans. They have eight grandchildren.

Interviewed Mr. and Mrs.
Nicholas
Brauch
April 30, 1936
by Mr. Dean Nelson

TAKEN FROM THE CENSUS RECORDS OF 1860

Enumerated July 16, 1860 By- C. Grandelmeyer

Post Office -- St. Cloud

Page No. 94

Nicholas Brauch	Age 36
Sex	Male
Occupation	Farmer
Born	Luxemburg
Margaret Brauch	Age 23
Sex	Female
Occupation	_____
Born	Luxemburg

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE

FOR THE NICHOLAS BRAUCH BIOGRAPHY

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Place of Birth</u>	<u>Father's Name</u>	<u>Age</u>
1. Valaria Brauch	Apr. 18, 1907	St. Cloud	Nick Brauch	42
2. Harold Brauch	Nov. 30, 1904	St. Cloud	Nick Brauch	40
3. Baby Brauch	Jan. 3, 1896	St. Cloud	Nick Brauch	30

<u>Mother's Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Book</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Remark</u>
1. Kate Grien	40	C	419	1	5th child
2. Kate Grien	38	(1904)B14	346	3	4th child
3. Kate Grien	29	(1896)B6	311	2	(Marie)

MARRIAGE RECORD BOOK N. PAGE 228

Nicholas Brauch and Catherine Grien

Married June 20, 1893 at Luxemburg

By: Rev. Paul Rettenmaier O. S. B.

Witnesses: Harry Brauch and Mary J. Weber

MARRIAGE RECORD BOOK 6" PAGE 18816

Gust J. Parent and Margaret M. Brauch

Married September 1, 1927

By: Rev. M. N. Kremer

Witnesses: Felix G. Parent and E. Brauch

MARRIAGE RECORD BOOK 1 PAGE 15348

Joseph J. Gans and Marie Brauch

Married June 8, 1920

By: Rev. Leo. Gans

Page 2

FOR THE NICHOLAS BRAUCH BIOGRAPHY (Con't)

Witnesses: Margaret Brauch and John N. Libert